

THE AMERICAN BARN A DISAPPEARING AMERICAN ICON

Barns are the story of America; from pioneer times to our modern rural landscape.

The American barn is a quickly-disappearing icon of our country. When rural life in America dominated, barns varied in style and purpose but there was one element they all shared. Each was built with common sense, a specific intent, and economy. Early barns were more important than houses because without an agricultural building to protect the animals or the crops, early settlers had few ways to survive.

Sadly, many of these barns are falling into disrepair or being knocked down as more and more land is developed. With the demise of the American barn, we lose a part of our story.

In February 2007, The Coleraine Historical Society launched "The Barns of Colerain" Project to identify, photograph and record the history of barns in Colerain Township. Project Manager was Glenn Welch and his team members were JoAnn Bertram, Mary Burdett, Peg Lohstroh, Sandra Shea and Clare Weinshenker. Within 2 years, they had identified and documented 64 barns on 46 separate properties.

Some of the barns go back to the early settlers and immigrants in the Township. The types of barns that were built varied based on the settler's country of origin. There were no blueprints or guide books for building barns. Knowledge of barn-building passed from generation to generation, so people built what they knew from their home country and that was what they built in America.

Many Colerain Township barns are BANK BARNS, which are found in Southern Germany. The Bank Barn is built into the hillside with entrances on 2 different ground levels; and is best suited for the hilly terrain of Colerain. The location of the barn in relation to the farmhouse, a ridge, a creek or a road also tells a historical story.

The Township is home to 2 semi-famous barns: a 2003 Ohio Bicentennial Barn on the Fideldey Farm on East Miami River Road; and one of the few remaining Mail Pouch Barns in Ohio, located on Old Colerain Rd.



There are still many more "Barns of Colerain" to be researched and documented.

To volunteer for this project, contact Chris Henson at colerainehistorical@outlook.com

BARNs OF COLERAIN PRESENTATION

For information and family history of some of the most iconic barns in Colerain Township, please join the Coleraine Historical Society on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 as they present a PowerPoint presentation on "Barns of Colerain Township".

Light refreshments at 6:30pm, followed by FREE Program at 7:00pm.

Location: Northwest Community Church - 8735 Cheviot Road in front of Colerain High School. For more information check CHS website:

www.colerainehistorical-oh.org

BARNs THROUGHOUT COLERAIN TOWNSHIP



COLERAIN
1794 225th ANNIVERSARY 2019



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