

Michigan Barn Preservation Network
*Promoting appreciation, preservation and rehabilitation of Michigan barns,
farmsteads and rural communities.*

**“Barn of the Year” Nomination
2017 Application**

Every year, the Michigan Barn Preservation Network (MBPN) wishes to honor those who make the extra effort to maintain their historic barn with integrity. It also recognizes that barns must adapt in order to survive, so it seeks as well to honor those who have modified their barns in a sensitive, creative manner to accommodate an alternative use; and that a corporation may have more resources on hand with which to do the work than an individual farmer. To reflect these variables, the MBPN has developed the following award categories:

- 1) Continuing Family/Private Agricultural Use
- 2) Family/Private Adaptive Use
- 3) Non-Profit Agricultural or Adaptive Use
- 4) Commercial Agricultural or Adaptive Use

The Michigan Barn Preservation Network (MBPN) invites you to submit your nomination for a “Barn of the Year” designation in one of the four categories listed above. In order to be considered, we must receive a completed application (see attached) by March 24, 2017.

A nominated barn can, but need not be owned by the applicant. The application may be completed by the property owner, a contractor, a neighbor or relative, or anyone else who has a specific interest in the barn being nominated and who has the property owner’s permission to do so. Barns nominated in previous years may be nominated again.

In order to qualify, a barn must retain its integrity as a barn, regardless of use. The nature of most changes (if any) should be in concert with the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation, (see www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation/rehab/index.htm, this a standard not a code.) although it is permissible for a barn to have been moved or to have received a new foundation.

Barns will be judged for completeness of information presented in this application, sensitivity and integrity of repairs or modification, visual appeal, creativity, thoroughness of work and effort expended to repair and maintain the barn. The winning nominations will be presented an award at the MBPN annual conference on May 5 & 6, 2017.

Please provide your information and photos in hard copy format for display and sharing, and in electronic format on a CD or thumb drive for archiving. Please label each page with an identifying name (e.g., yours or the barn’s).

Nominations must be postmarked by March 24, 2017.

Mail a complete application to:

MBPN Barn of Year Committee
11530 Peach Ridge Ave.
Sparta, MI 49345

For additional information, contact Keith Anderson, Chair, MBPN Barn of the Year Committee at (616) 540-6701 or (klanderson42@gmail.com).

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Owner Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Member of MBPN? Yes No
Need not be a member to be eligible

Barn Information:

Barn Name: _____

Address _____

Township _____

County _____

Original address (if moved) _____

Township _____

County _____

Applicant Information (if not owner):

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

Member of MBPN? Yes No
Need not be a member to be eligible

Date of construction _____

Other significant dates (e.g., date of addition, major change, move, etc.)

Name of Builder (if known) _____

Name of original owner _____

Category of Submission:

Please select one--

___ Continued Family/Private Agricultural Use

___ Family/Private Adaptive Use

___ Non-profit Agricultural or Adaptive Use

___ Commercial Agricultural or Adaptive Use

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WRITTEN NARRATIVE

Using additional sheets, please address as much as possible the following:

1) Description.

Describe the exterior of your barn: what shape does its footprint have (please include the length, width and height of the building, if known). What materials are used for the foundation, walls and roof? What kind of roof does it have—gable, gambrel (hip) or something else? Does it have an access ramp? A walkout basement level? Are there any decorations present (cupola, brackets, painted arches, etc.) that are not readily seen in the photographs? Is there an associated (paved? fenced?) barn yard? Describe any other unique features?

Describe the interior of your barn: how is it framed (logs, hand-hewn timbers, 2x4s, etc.)? How many bays does it have (a bay is the space between vertical support posts along the length of the building; most barns are three or more bays in length). Are a granary, stanchions/gutter system, or other features present? Any unique features?

2) History.

Please describe as much history of the barn and the associated farm as possible. Include date of construction, names of builder, original and subsequent owners, dates of ownership, dates and kinds of changes to the barn, past and present uses (with dates, if possible). You may tabulate some of this information if you prefer. Please also list other farm buildings present and those which have been removed.

3) Barn Rehabilitation.

Describe the work done to preserve the barn. Please be detailed. Has the barn been lovingly maintained throughout it's life? Or was there a major rehabilitation project undertaken? What was the nature of the work?

PHOTOS (limit of 24)

Please provide photos as listed below. Photographs should be high quality digital images or high resolution scans suitable for reprint, enlargement and display. Attach a description of each photograph with relevant explanations. It would also be helpful if you could provide a map depicting where the photographs were taken.

- 1) **Exterior Photos** to include: Front, Left elevation, Right elevation, Back elevation, Oblique angle, Unique features
- 2) **Interior photos** to show framing and other construction details and unique features
- 3) **“Before” and “after” photos** if applicable.
Please note: PHOTOS WILL NOT BE RETURNED.
(Your submission indicates approval and permission for photo use by the MBPN)

MBPN Survey

Please fill out and submit with your application the **Michigan Barn and Farmstead Survey Project** form found on the MBPN Website (www.mibarn.net), select the Resource tab, the Michigan Barn and Farmstead Survey form. Additional information and guidance with the survey form can be found at the **Michigan Barn & Farmstead Survey website**.