

Chesapeake Fishing Shanty Conservancy



What Is An Ark Boat?

The Rock Hall Fishing Shanty (aka ark boat) is a significant and unique survivor of an important period in Rock Hall and Chesapeake Bay history. Our's is one of very few remaining Chesapeake Bay fishing

shanties. There were once hundreds of them up and down the Bay, used as shelters by waterman while they worked on the water, away from home.

Our Goal

Our goal is to return the ark boat to its original appearance and form, circa 1885-1930. As an important historic property, its treatment is guided by the Secretary of Interior's Standards for

Treatment of Historic Properties, specifically the



Standards for Historic Vessel Preservation Projects. The restoration is nearing completion. We hope to promote public awareness through lectures, tours, exhibits and public displays.

Restoration Process

Currently the ark boat restoration is nearing completion. While repairing the interior we strive to maintain in place the original artifacts including flooring, galley, window & door placement.

A Long Journey



original salvage 1993



1993 - 2021



2025 -almost ready

Get Involved!

For more information and detail, please use your phone camera on the QR code and click on the yellow link to go to the website.

If you would like to volunteer, please fill out the form on the website.

Please Donate

Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. A mobile trailer is needed that will serve to make the ark boat available for public viewing.



410-639-2478 21096 Chesapeake Ave. Rock Hall, Maryland 21661 web: https://fishingshanty.org

email: info@fishingshantv.org