

**D** is for Dutch Barn. In colonial times, the Germans and Dutch who lived in the Schoharie Valley built very large, sturdy barns known today as "New World Dutch Barns". Livestock such as cattle, oxen, and horses were kept inside, but the barn was most importantly used to thresh and store grain. Threshing is a process that separates the actual grain from the stalk or "chaff". This can be done by gently beating the small grains from the chaff with a flail on the barn floor. Another method is having horses walk in a circle over layers of stalks, their hooves breaking the grain from the chaff.

