

Nancy Travers, college pottery instructor discusses the ups and downs of her craft. Travers said pottery has lost much of the popularity it had in the sixties. "The gas crunch in addition to Inflation has forced many potters to go out of business," she

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said. Right, a group of rusting cans dangle from atop Nancy's rafters. Above, an exterior view of Nancy's studio.

Exhibit begins

The Clackamas County Courthouse Art Exhibit will begin a new four-month showing of paintings by local artists, Oct. 17.

Those artists wishing to display their works should bring them framed and ready for hanging (eye hooks on each side of the frame) to the courthouse between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Oct. 17.

The exhibit is sponsored by the College County Art Project. For more information contact the College's Community Services Office, 656-2631, ext. 209.

Potter splits studio with barn animals

By Kelly Laughlin
 Of The Print

Nearly every potter's dream is to own his or her own studio. For Nancy Travers, College pottery and humanities instructor, her studio is nearly a barn.

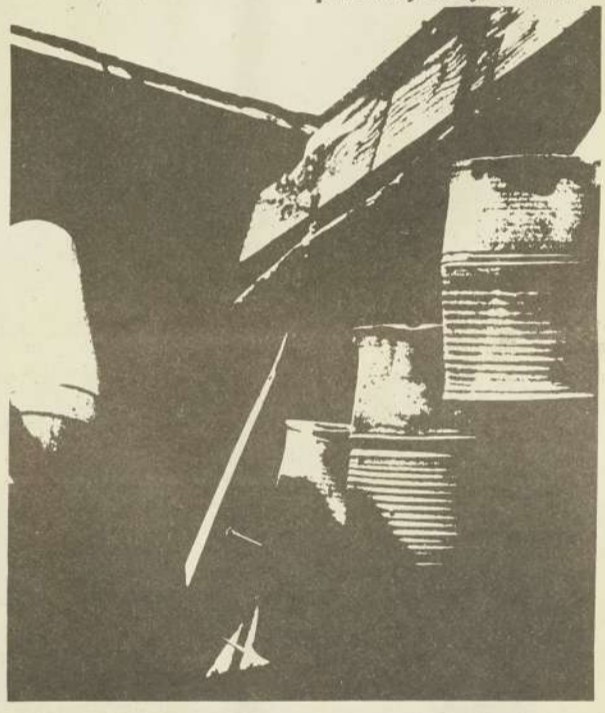
Actually, half a barn. The half-a-century-old building is now a semi-stable above her sideyard, with one end the home of her daughter's white Shetland pony, Joshua, and the other side, the domain of a loom, several potters wheels. Against the wall, bags upon bags of clay.

But unlike most potters opening up their first studio, her first order of business had little to do with clay, or even the least feeling of the earth taking shape beneath her fingers. Instead it was a pitchfork that she so laborously took in hand, and "shoveled all the rotten hay out," she said.

After her smelly task was completed, Travers built the kiln, which stands just outside the barnyard studio door, and later a procession of improvements slowly took place: a stove, a weaver's loom, some lights, potter's wheels, and her part Siamese cat Raymond, who wanders freely from barn to studio. "The studio's kind of been a natural outgrowth of my need for a space to keep my supplies in, and work when I'm not at the College."

What could be more natural than to change a barn, or at least half a barn into a studio. While the studio possesses many of the qualities of a barn twice its age, its ricketiness doesn't seem to bother Travers much. "It serves its purpose," she said. "The structure may be poor, but you can bet I'll use it until the wind blows it down."

photos by Duffy Coffman



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