The country school—rarely painted red as popular imagination has it, but usually just one room with many grades—was the mainstay of early education in America. The Country School Association of America (CSAA) is dedicated to preserving these remaining icons of our heritage and fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of schooling in earlier times.

Photos by CSAA member Gloria Hawkins
A nonprofit organization made up entirely of volunteers, CSAA offers a variety of programs and resources to keep alive the memory of the vital role country schools played in educating our youth for adulthood and to be productive citizens of our democracy.

A diverse group of history enthusiasts and re-enactors, preservationists, educators, museum docents, descendants of students who attended these schools, and other interested individuals, CSAA holds a yearly conference in different spots across the nation to share information about schools’ varied history and to highlight current preservation efforts and living history programs. We publish electronically both a journal and newsletter detailing research, memories, and success stories. We also offer a range of grants and awards to encourage and recognize notable and worthwhile endeavors in support of preserving the history of country schools. And our National Schoolhouse Registry showcases particularly illustrative buildings with handsome markers.

Help preserve and share this wonderful history. Membership is open to anyone. ■ Join today by visiting our website: www.CountrySchoolAssociation.org