The Barn by Vandam

A past Editor of ANESTHESIOLOGY, Leroy D. Vandam, M.D., certainly enjoyed creating artworks associated with an earlier Baystater, celebrated etherizer W. T. G. Morton (1819–1868). When Morton was 8 yr of age, his family home in Charlton, Massachusetts, burned to its foundation. By the time a replacement home was erected nearby (as seen in Vandam watercolors Morton House I and II), Morton’s family had already moved to the Waters-Morton House, which Vandam also painted at least twice. So, unlike the buildings in Vandam’s other watercolors, this weathered barn (above) stands on the actual birth site of Morton. Owned in 1857 by J. Lamb and in 1898 by F. F. Prenier, this 19th century English-style barn has been remodeled for gable-end access. Painted by Vandam in the 1980s, this watercolor was acquired by the Wood Library-Museum in September of 1993. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image also appears in the Anesthesiology Reflections online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

George S. Bause, M.D., M.P.H., Honorary Curator, ASA’s Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology, Park Ridge, Illinois, and Clinical Associate Professor, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. UJYC@aol.com.