

Historic  
Barns Of  
Southeastern  
Idaho:  
A Self-  
Guided  
Driving Tour

A Project of the Bear River Heritage Area



## Self-Guided Barn Tour

**WELCOME** to the Bear River Heritage Area's self-guided driving tour of historic barns. We hope you enjoy it. You can drive the tour in large chunks, or in bits and pieces. There are two rules that will make the tour more enjoyable and safe for you and others:

**1. PLEASE OBEY ALL TRAFFIC LAWS AND DO NOT BLOCK OR SLOW OTHER TRAFFIC. ALWAYS PULL COMPLETELY OFF THE ROAD.**

We have tried to choose only barns where there is a safe place to do this. If you don't see the barn on your first pass, continue driving until you find a safe place to turn around and come back. Keep an eye on your mirrors: do not slow or stop traffic while looking for the barns.

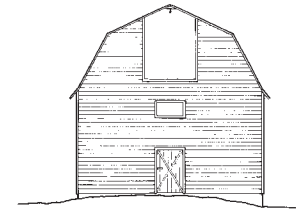
**2. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY.** You are not invited onto the property of any barn owner. All private barns on the tour can be viewed from the shoulder of the road, a side road, or a turnout. Please do not open closed gates, climb over fences, or damage property. Climbing fences causes damage that costs the landowner money to repair. If such damage or other problems occur, landowners will withdraw their permission for their barns to be listed in this guide, and a wonderful experience will be lost to the public. Please respect landowners' property and rights.

*Suggestion: Take along a pair of binoculars to view buildings that are far from the roadway.*

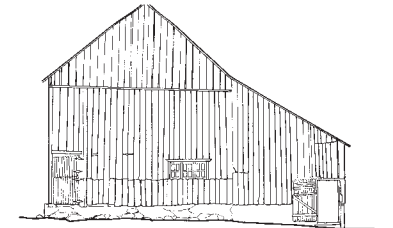
**Note to GPS users:** You may use the included GPS coordinates to guide you to the barns. All coordinates are for the viewpoint and were taken in WGS84 datum. Please be aware that you will not be able to get all the way to the barn, because this would require you to enter the owners' property, which is prohibited on this tour. Consider the coordinates a general guide, and use them to help you locate the best viewpoint for each barn.

**Your favorite barn may not be listed in this book.** There are several possible reasons for this: (1) the owner may not have given permission for us to list the barn, (2) the building may be located in an area that we did not consider safe or accessible for barn viewing, (3) we may not have been able to locate the owners or fit into their schedules for an interview, or (4) we just didn't get to it because of the sheer numbers of old barns and the limits of our time and funding. Still, we hope you will learn some things from this tour that will help you understand many of the barns you see in your travels, whether they are part of this tour or not.

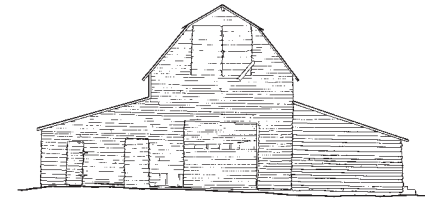
## Barn Roof Types



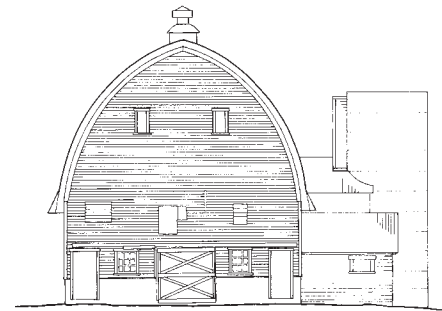
0 5 FEET  
Roof Type: Gambrel



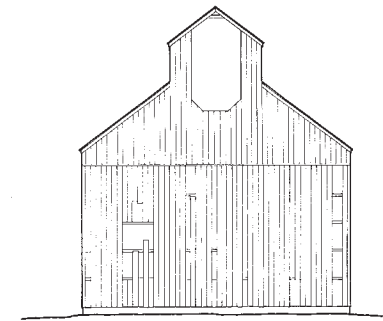
0 5 FEET  
Roof Type: Gable with shed roof attached



0 5 FEET  
Roof Type: Gambrel with shed roof attached on north and south side



0 5 FEET  
Roof Type: Arch



0 5 FEET  
Roof Type: Monitor



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## Introduction

In southeastern Idaho, barns are a mainstay of the landscape. Their stark outlines rise from surrounding fields; even those that are beginning to lean or that have fallen tell of a way of life not very familiar to most Americans today. Ever since the first white settlements were formed in the 1860s, agriculture has been the predominant economic activity of this region, though the type of agriculture varies with the area, and the barns and outbuildings reflect this variation.

The oldest permanent settlements in Idaho are in this part of the state, beginning with Franklin, which was established in 1860 by Mormons moving northward from Utah Territory. In 1863, Mormon settlement also expanded into what is now Bear Lake County. In Caribou County, the Soda Springs area's first white settlers were Mormon dissidents, followers of Joseph Morris known as Morrisites. They followed Colonel Patrick Connor to the area in May 1863, four months after Connor and his troops had decimated an encampment of Shoshone Indians near modern-day Preston in what is now known as the Bear River Massacre. Oneida County, to the west, was settled primarily by Welsh Mormons in 1864.

While mining and railroading have been important to this region, it is farming that has had the largest impact on the landscape. The settlers of the 1860s immediately began farming, learning quickly that different parts of the region required different approaches to agriculture. This, along with ethnic influences from the various groups of settlers, has resulted in a rich variety of barn types.

The oldest existing barns in southeastern Idaho appear to have been built around the 1870s. Prior to that, small sheds were used for a variety of purposes. The multipurpose barn, a more expensive and time-consuming structure to build, came later. The location of barns across the landscape also tells something about the history of the region. In the earliest Idaho settlements, a pattern known as the Mormon village was used. Homes, barns, and other outbuildings were clustered in towns, with fields and grazing lands situated outside the town limits. As the Mormon town building era subsided, the Mormon village concept was abandoned and scattered homesteading took its place. Thus the Idaho Mormon landscape consists of very few Mormon villages (mostly in the Cache and Bear Lake valleys) and a large number of self-contained homesteads, with houses, outbuildings, and fields all situated within each homestead's 160 acres. Houses and barns were farther apart, and towns became more diffused, with only small business areas serving many outlying farms.

### Types of Barns

Until the early- to mid-twentieth century, most barns were built from traditional knowledge rather than from set plans. Ethnic and regional backgrounds of builders, the local climate and geography, and a farmer's particular needs all influenced how a barn was built. In general, there are some "types" that exist in this region, but there are also infinite variations on types as well as many barns that do not fit any particular type.

In typing barns, it is important to remember that the floor plan and how the barn functioned are in many ways more important than the exterior features. With some exceptions, most barns and outbuildings in southeastern Idaho fall into one of the following categories: (1) sheds and small outbuildings (2) early buildings reflecting influences external to this region, i.e., ethnic or other regional influences; (3) Intermountain barns; and (4) twentieth-century specialized barns.

### 1. Sheds and small outbuildings

Small sheds, stables, chicken coops, and granaries were among the earliest buildings built by southeastern Idaho farmers. Very few of the early ones still stand; however, a structure often known locally as a half-barn, stable, or shed exists on many farms in the area. This is a shed with a roof that slopes only in one direction, looking like a lean-to without the main barn to lean against. Some of these were built as predecessors to full barns that never got built. Others are the last remaining vestiges of old barns that have been torn down, while some were simply built to stand alone. Some of these half-barns are attached to open-sided hay sheds.



### 2. Early buildings reflecting influences external to this region

Three early barn types that appear to be influenced by designs from other regions have been identified by architectural historians: the English barn (Number 5), the raised-foundation barn (Numbers 8, 9, and 10), and the Scandinavian log barn (Numbers 32 and 34). The English barn is a gable-roofed rectangular building with large doors in the middle of the two long sides. Inside, it is divided into three bays. There is a cluster of raised-foundation barns in the Franklin area, and they were all built by the same two families. The Scandinavian log barn can be seen most often in Bear Lake County, where many settlers came from northern Europe.

### 3. Intermountain barns

This barn type can be seen throughout this region. Generally, it has three sections—a large central hay storage bay with a gable or gambrel roof, and two lean-to "wings," one for horses and one for cows. Some versions of the barn have only one lean-to, and others have three, with the third being on the back gable-end of the barn. The most common construction techniques for these barns were post-and-beam or balloon framing. In post-and-beam construction, the weight of the building is carried on a few very large posts supporting heavy horizontal beams. In balloon framing, the weight is carried by many light studs in the wall topped by small beams or "plates." (please see Numbers 1, 15, 19, 23, and 46 and the center illustration on the inside front cover for examples of Intermountain barns.)

The Intermountain barn evolved around 1890 – 1910 to meet the needs of farmers in this region. The door was in the gable end of the building, thus reducing the chance of snow sliding from the roof onto anyone entering or exiting the barn. The new technology of the Jackson fork allowed farmers to load hay to great heights in a ground floor or second-floor storage area. Keeping the hay under the roof of a barn kept it more accessible, unfrozen, and drier than keeping it in open-air stacks did.

*Above: A half-barn in Grace. Photo by Angela I. Nielson.*



## Introduction

Some barns, especially those that came after the Intermountain barn, incorporated openings in the second-story loft floor that allowed workers to drop hay directly into mangers below.

### 4. Twentieth-century specialized barns

As farming in this region moved away from small subsistence operations to larger specialized ones, barns changed to meet their needs. One common type of specialized barn, found mostly in the southern part of this four-county area, was the dairy barn (Numbers 26, 37, and 39). Plans for these barns often came from magazines, journals, extension agents, and the like, so they were not “vernacular” architecture like their predecessors, which were built mostly from community knowledge. Most dairy barns featured large second-floor haymows, and the roof lines were modified from straight gables to gambrel or bow-truss styles to allow more hay storage there (please see diagram on inside front cover). On the main floor, which was usually cement so that it could be hosed off (this was a requirement for Grade A milk certification beginning in the mid-twentieth century), you would find wood or metal stanchions to hold the cows in position during milking, as well as a variety of feeding, milking, and waste removal systems.



Barns, regardless of general style, are often adapted to the topography of the sites on which they are built. In particular, there are several bank barns, or barns built into hillsides so that part of the lower story is below grade, and the second story may be accessed from

ground level on one side. Examples of bank barns can be seen in Numbers 2, 20, 38, and 47.

### Not Barns, But . . .

There are many other structures that serve the changing needs of the agricultural community in the region. In a few locations, you can still see several types of hay derricks standing in fields. These machines made of heavy poles were used for piling loose hay into stacks that would remain in the field all year. There was an art to stacking hay so that it would shed water and not soak it up. Some farmers enhanced their incomes by building derricks for others.

As farm technology has changed from being horse-driven to being machine-driven, the need for stable space has disappeared, and the need for space to accommodate baled hay and machinery has increased. The Intermountain barn, with its central bay for hay storage, has thus been trimmed down, losing its side sheds and even its walls, leaving an open-sided tall hay shed that keeps rain and snow off the baled hay but leaves it accessible from all sides (Number 40). These can be seen

throughout this region. One of the major builders of hay sheds was Liberty Lumber and Building, based in Liberty, Idaho.

Instead of small stables for one or two teams of work horses, farmers have adapted older buildings or put up pre-fab metal sheds large enough to house several types of machinery as well as a repair shop. Just as the horse was the nineteenth-century farmer’s most valuable asset, today’s farmers invest thousands of dollars in farm machinery, which, like draft horses, needs to be sheltered from the elements when not in use.

One of the most striking farm buildings in Idaho is the potato cellar, found frequently in Caribou County (Numbers 27, 28, and 29). Older potato cellars appear to be all roof, with the eaves of the long gabled roof coming almost to ground level. This is because much of the building is below grade, providing a constant temperature of forty degrees Fahrenheit for the storage of potatoes. In most potato cellars, there is an entrance in the gable end large enough to accommodate a truck and the potato piling equipment. In recent years, the design of potato cellars has changed to a rounded, Quonset-hut style.

Another specialized building found in northern Cache Valley is the pea vinery. At one time, peas were an important crop, and these small buildings with open sides were built to separate peas from their vines before they were sent to canneries. In the vineries, discarded pea vines were stacked in one area to ferment into silage, and farmers who had brought peas there could come in the winter and pick up silage to feed their cows (Number 11).

Various types of granaries can be seen in the region, ranging from the early settlers’ wood buildings to more recent corrugated metal ones. A few of these are noted in the tour as adjuncts to barns. The large granaries in Soda Springs (Number 30) are early forerunners of today’s large grain bins and elevators.

Quonset-style buildings are also popular in southeastern Idaho. True Quonset huts, in which the rounded metal creates both walls and roof, and modified Quonsets, in which a rounded metal roof is placed on top of vertical masonry walls, can be seen



throughout the area. The Quonset hut originated with the military in England and the United States during World Wars I and II and was created as an inexpensive, lightweight, and portable structure that could be put up by untrained people. The style caught on after the war, and people began using them for a variety of purposes. Interestingly, one of the local builders, Les Dahle, used bent wood to create the ribs of the round-roofed structures rather



*Left: Wooden stanchions in the Floyd and Nell Hess barn (Barn Number 4) loosely held cows’ heads in place during milking. Above right: An inside-out style granary on the site of Barn Number 44 in Bennington. Above left: A modified Quonset in the Whitney area.*



than the curved metal used by the Navy. Watch for both Quonsets and modified Quonsets on farms throughout this region.

Another common use of metal in southeastern Idaho is the sheathing of barn exteriors with galvanized metal. The harsh winters of the area have prompted this action—the metal protects the walls from deterioration and also helps seal them against the wind. Some buildings have metal sheathing only on one side—usually the north or the wall facing the prevailing wind. Others are completely covered with metal.



### Farm Technology

Technological changes affected barn design. The most widely-accepted changes in technology seem to revolve around hay storage. Feed for livestock in a horse-driven society was as important as gasoline or electricity is today. The longer the winter and the more animals you had, the more hay you needed to store, and it was labor-intensive work to bring it in. The oldest technology for stacking hay in this region was



the hay derrick that allowed farmers to build haystacks in their fields. But when enclosed hay storage and the Jackson fork came along, all of that changed. This triangular contraption with long, sharp tines ran along a track in the gable of the barn. It was moved by a series of pulleys and a rope attached to a horse, usually ridden by a child. A wagon full of hay was pulled up next to the barn under the overhang where the end of the Jackson fork track was. The fork was lowered to

the wagon, its tines guided into the load so it could pick up a large amount of hay, then the horse pulled the fork up and into the barn. People inside the barn helped locate where the fork was to drop the hay, and with a flick of a rope, the fork “tripped,” dropping the hay onto the stack inside the barn. Workers then spread it out into an even stack. Hand signals and shouted instructions were used for communication between the workers at the wagon on one end of the barn, the horse rider at the other end of the barn, and those inside.

Another important technological development in farming had to do with milking cows efficiently. Milking has to be done twice a day, every day. Most small farmers had between three and eight cows. The development of widespread electric power allowed the development of milking machines that sucked the milk from the cows’ udders. The earliest milkers were called bucket milkers, because the milk was deposited in a bucket and had to be poured by hand into ten-gallon milk cans, which were then taken to a cooling room. Later systems involved piping that took the milk directly from the cow to a large refrigerated tank in a room or a shed at one end of the barn. Farmers who could afford these

Grade A upgrades could soon buy more cows and become more specialized.

Removing animal waste was a distasteful task that technology helped alleviate. Many small barns that had milking areas had raised wooden floors for the cows to stand on while being milked. Wooden stanchions closed on their necks, preventing them from moving too much during milking. The wooden floor was just broad enough to accommodate the length of a cow, allowing waste to drop onto the dirt area behind it, usually covered with clean straw. The waste could then be shoveled out of the barn. In some barns, the waste was shoveled into a long bucket that ran along a ceiling-mounted track to an area outside, where it would be dumped. Later, when cement became a commonly used material, dairy barns had cement floors with gutters positioned behind the milking area. Waste could be swept into the gutters, which carried it out of the barn, and the whole floor could be hosed off.



We invite you to take a leisurely trip into this region’s agricultural history by visiting the sites of the barns in this book. The scenery of southeastern Idaho is beautiful, so enjoy the ride.



*Upper left: A sheep barn completely sheathed in metal in Liberty. Lower left: A Jackson fork hangs in the rafters of an old barn. Upper right: Milking with a bucket milker. Photo courtesy Idaho State Historical Society, 1158-28. Lower: Building a haystack with an overshot hay stacker. Photo courtesy Idaho State Historical Society, 74.75.19.*



# Oncida County Map

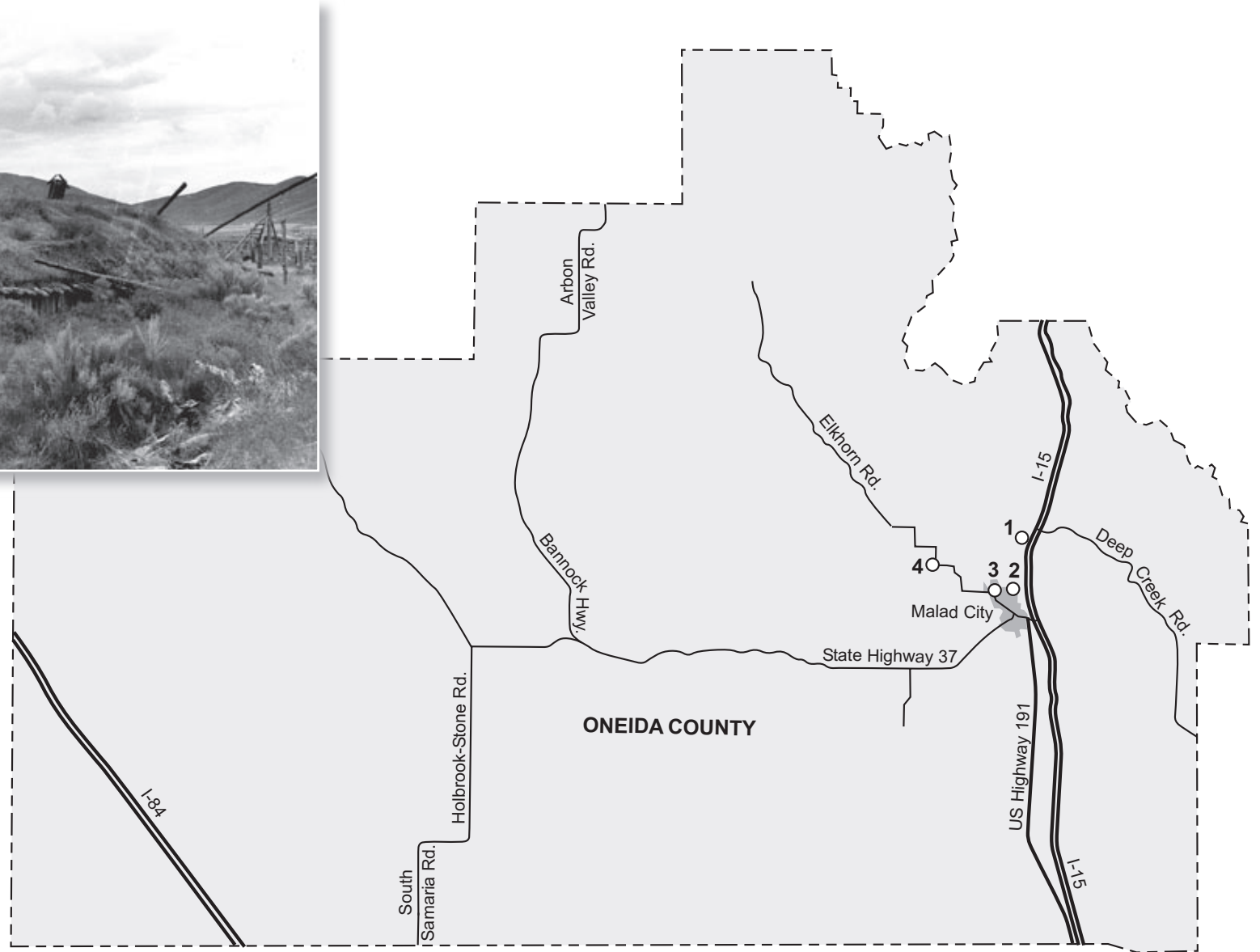


Photo: A sod-roof shed in Samaria. Photo courtesy of the Idaho State Historical Society, 72-100.261A. Photo 1972 by A. A. Hart.



## Oneida County Barns

### 1 Tovey Intermountain Dairy Barn Malad, ca. 1912

The location of this gambrel-roof Intermountain dairy barn lent itself to public view, so the roof of the barn once doubled as a billboard inviting people driving along the interstate highway to stop and “Eat at Earl’s Cafe” in Malad. In the early 1900s, when the dairy boom was underway, this and many other large state-of-the-art barns were constructed using kits or sections that were prefabricated on the ground and then hoisted into place.

The barn has a cement foundation with the inscription “November 16, 1912.” It is thought that this is the date that construction was completed. The lean-tos on east and west housed the milking parlor and horse stalls. A large central bay supported by giant squared timbers is open to the ceiling. The lofts are over the lean-tos on each side. The south one-third of the central bay is enclosed to create a tack room, and the large sliding doors on the south side provide access to this area.

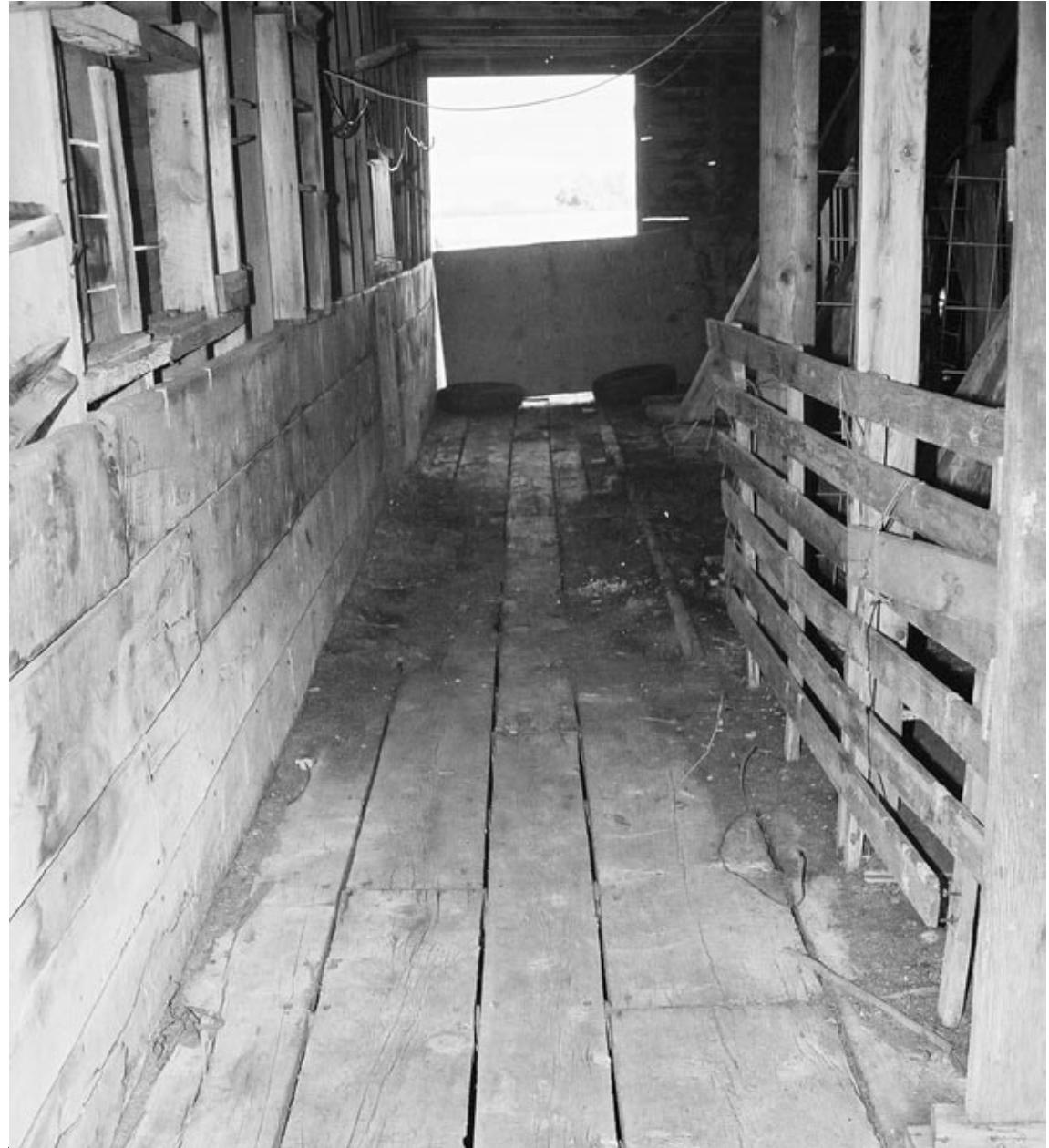


Hay was loaded into the barn with a Jackson fork, which still hangs from its railing in the rafters. The original roof had wood shingles that were later replaced with metal.

Morgan Tovey once served as the sheriff of Malad. He and his wife Gwenfred, who were members of Malad’s large Welsh population, moved onto the farm in about 1930 and lived here until Morgan died in 1973. The barn was not exclusively a dairy barn, but the Toveys milked a few cows by hand and separated the cream from the milk, which went to the creamery in Malad. They milked Shorthorn cows, which were not the usual dairy cow, but they were happy with the results. Morgan always made a point of getting a prize bull and keeping it with the herd to keep it as pure as possible.

The family raised a few chickens, pigs, and geese. Their six children worked on the farm and participated in 4-H projects. In the barn, they made up plays and performed them on the top of the tack room roof. Some time after World War II, a traveling painter came by and offered to paint the barn for fifty dollars if the Toveys would buy the linseed oil for the project.

After Morgan and Gwenfred, their son John and his wife Myrna ran the farm until 1973, when the present owners bought it. The barn is used to store a little hay and provide shelter for Angus beef cattle.



*Above: Board flooring in the west lean-to.*

*Address:* 325 E. 3000 N.

*Viewing directions:* View from 3000 North, looking north.

*GPS Coordinates:* 42°13.695 N. 112°14.330 W. (viewpoint)





## Oneida County Barns

### 2 John Erramouspe Barn Malad, ca. 1930

John Erramouspe, a Basque immigrant from Southern France, came to America in the mid-1880s. At that time, many Basques were coming to America in search of a new way of life, hoping to find better opportunities. John first came to California to herd sheep, then moved on to Idaho. He was among the many Basques that made the Idaho sheep industry famous. John married Jeanne Elesonde in 1920 and bought this Malad farm.

While sheep ranching was his main occupation, John also raised other crops to support his family. In the late 1930s he built this small barn and used it for sheltering livestock and storing hay. The farm's five acres were used to grow alfalfa. A small orchard produced apples, plums, apricots, and raspberries to be sold to passers-by. The family also raised chickens, pigs, and cows for their own subsistence. John's three sons helped milk the cows at home and herd the sheep out on the range. His youngest son, Mike



Erramouspe, now maintains the historic buildings and grows two crops of alfalfa hay each season.

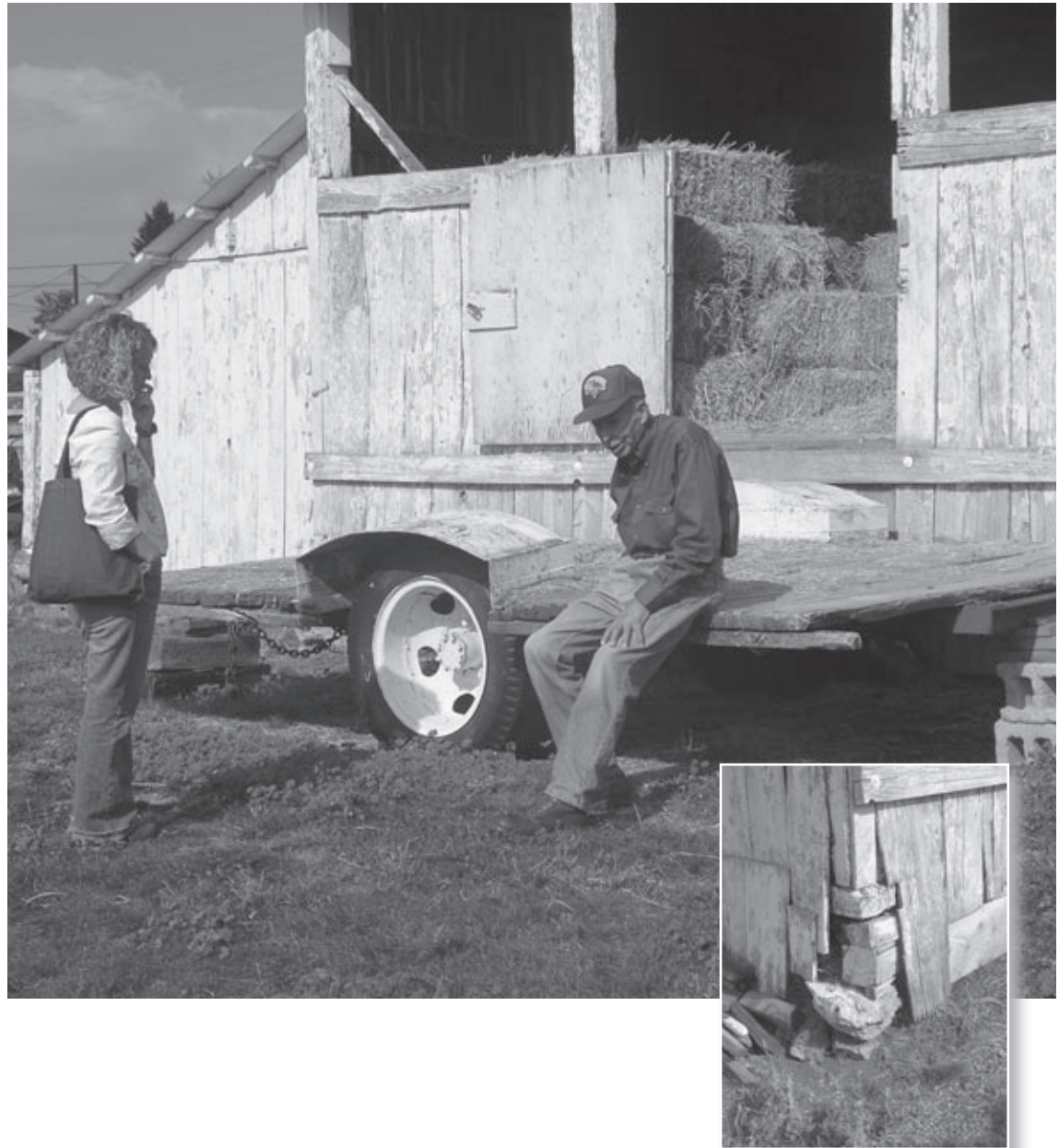
The fact that the barn is banked into the hillside makes the main bay accessible at ground level from the north side through two openings into which loose hay could be tossed. Mike now rolls an old hay wagon up to the lower south side in order to load baled hay. There are lean-tos on each gable end of this barn. The lean-to on the west side served as a manger in John's time, with room for a few cows and hay. Mike modified the barn for its present use by closing off this lean-to and now uses it and the shed on the east side for equipment storage. The rock foundation is also visible on the south side of the barn.

On the northeast corner of the property is a historic log house, now converted for use as a shed. The cabin was built before the barn; there is no foundation, and the years and weather have taken their toll. The logs were harvested from "Power House," a small power plant property northwest of Malad. The chinking between the logs is plaster. On large doors opening into the shed, Mike paints in red the dates of the years he painted the shed. It is convenient to keep a record right on the spot—Mike says the historic buildings are due for another painting in order to help them last.

Address: 668 North 200 West

Viewing directions: View barn from 700 North.

GPS Coordinates: 42°12.012 N. 112°14.947 W. (viewpoint)



Above: John Erramouspe visits with fieldworker Rachel Gianni on the south side of the barn. Inset: Rocks support a corner of the barn.



## Oneida County Barns

### 3 Ed "Sawdust" Williams Log Barns Malad, early 1930s

In the 1930s, Ed Williams had a homestead west of Malad in Daniels. He was well known for his work with sawing lumber for himself and others, and got the nickname "Sawdust."

In the early 1930s, Ed built four small barns on this site for his daughter and son and their families. He harvested the logs from the canyon by himself and built the barns with the help of his son and son-in-law. Each family had two barns, and they were used in the same way—one barn was used as a chicken coop and the other was used for milking cows. No one is sure where Ed got the design for the barns, one of which has since been torn down. The lower cribs are built with horizontal logs, and the upper halves are of vertical sawed lumber. The gambrel roofs made a spacious area above for the hay loft. Over the years, improvements were made to the barns. The chinking between the logs has been replaced, the barns were wired for electricity, and new stanchions were installed. The old roofing was replaced with metal. Ed had similar barns on the family homestead in Daniels.



His daughter Faye said "We had more barns than we knew what to do with!" Faye and her husband Earl made their whole living from this site and a 360-acre farm ten miles west of town. Haying on that farm was done with a team of horses, and put up in the west barn in town with a Jackson fork. Their son Gene recalls the work of milking eight cows in the barn by hand. The barn held four cows at a time. In spring the job of barn cleaning and manure spreading fell to him.

Faye and her daughter Gaylene raised chickens and sold the eggs in town. In the summer during haying season, Gene rode the derrick horse. Hired hands slept in the granary on the 360-acre farm, and Faye cooked their meals and brought coffee and fresh pies out in the afternoons. In her spare time, in order to have time with Earl, Faye rode sidesaddle on a horse alongside him as he plowed the fields. Plowing with horses was quiet enough to carry on a conversation, and the ride gentle enough that she could knit or crochet sweaters for her two children as they went along.

*Address:* 575 N. 600 W. (Follow Bannock Street, which becomes 600 West)  
*Viewing directions:* View from 600 West looking northwest.  
*GPS Coordinates:* 42°11.860 N. 112°15.714 W. (viewpoint)



*Above: The barns exhibit corner notching that appears to be a cross between square and double notching.*



## Oncida County Barns

### 4 Floyd and Nell Hess Farmstead Malad, ca. 1940

Thomas Mark Kent was a prominent builder in Malad who built many barns, houses and hay derricks. Although he had access to sawed lumber, he also built with logs well into the 1950s. Tom's brother-in-law, Floyd Hess, had him build the structures on this site in about 1940 through 1946. They include a cinder block garage, a log chicken house, an octagonal stacked-two-by-four granary with attached log shed, and a log barn with a lean-to.

Floyd's son Robert Hess was about thirteen years old at the time and helped in the building. Robert says that his Uncle Tom "was just a good carpenter and intelligent man, good at mathematics, who built without electricity with just a saw, an ax, and a hammer. The cement for the foundations and flooring was mixed in a hand-cranked cement mixer and poured by hand."



The ceiling inside the chicken barn has chicken wire stretched over log rafters. Straw bales were stacked on top of this ceiling, and the insulation kept the chickens warm in the winter.

The Hesses stored wheat and barley in the granary and in bins inside the attached log shed. The barn on the southwest end of the site has stanchions that were used for milking cows by hand and a lean-to on its west gable that was used as a calving shed. During World War II, Robert was allowed to keep the money from selling the milk after enough for the family's needs and for butter and cheese was taken out.

In about 1951, the Hesses sold the farmstead to Ray and Erma Clark and moved into town where they could have a new home and indoor plumbing. The Clarks raised four children here and used the sturdy log buildings to store hay and to milk a few cows until about 1985. The site has stayed in the Clark family; the buildings are used for storage and have been preserved through the installation of metal roofing.

Address: 2112 North 3100 West

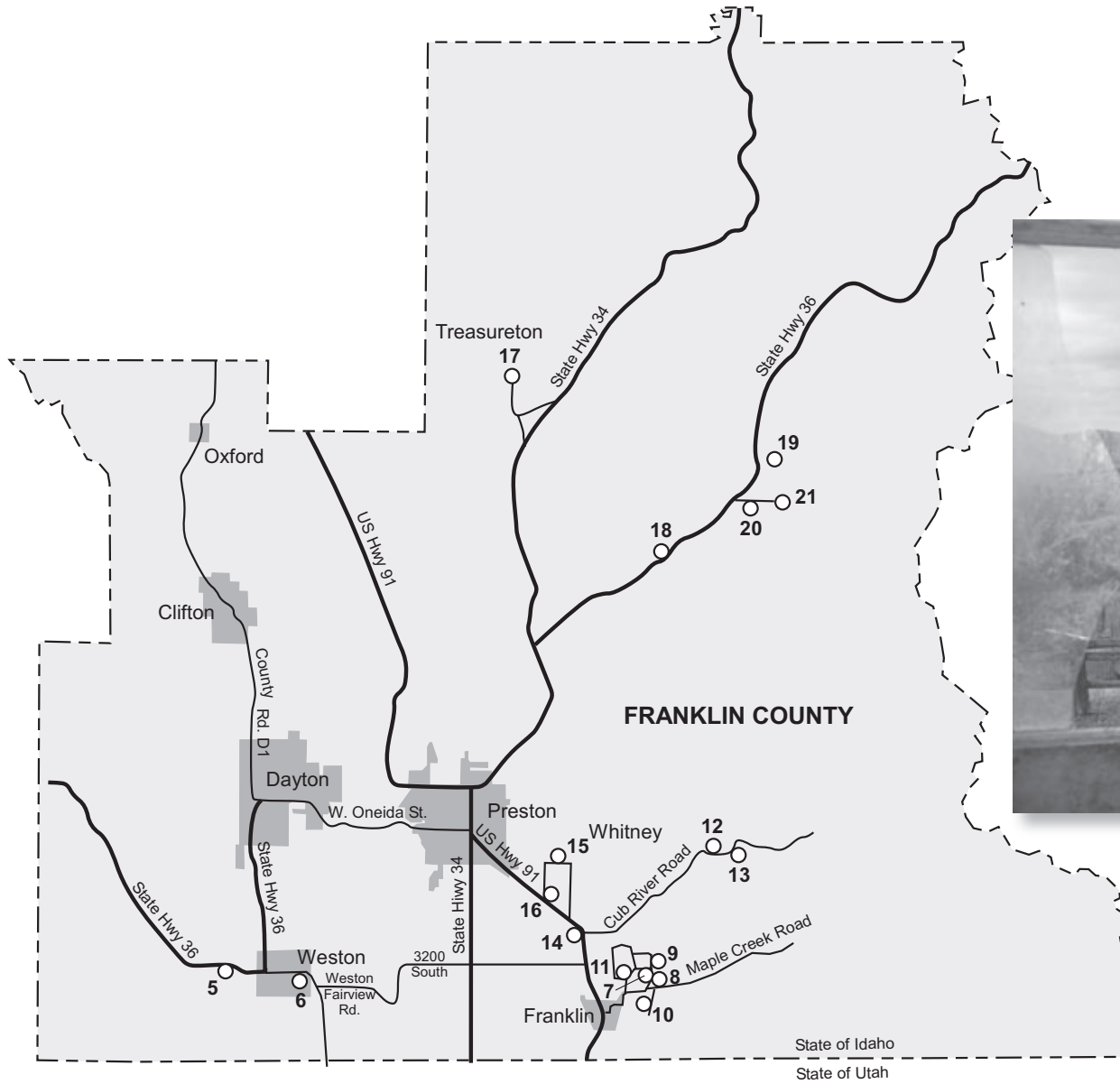
Viewing directions: View from 3100 West.

GPS Coordinates: 42°12.903 N. 112°18.402 W. (viewpoint)



*Above top: Fieldworker Ron Goede holds open the manger door on the southwest barn where cows were milked. Above bottom: A view of all of the historic structures on the site.*

# Franklin County Map



*A view of the agricultural landscape from inside the Martinus/LaMonte Larsen barn (Number 20), Mink Creek.*

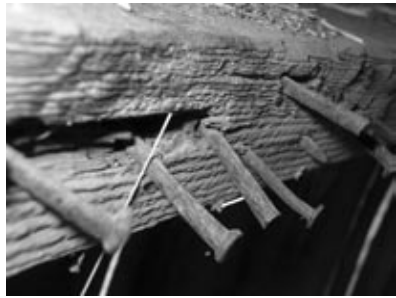


## Franklin County Barns

### 5 Ferdinand and Lars Fredrickson Barn Weston, ca. 1870-1885

Danish immigrant Ferdinand Fredrickson came to Utah in the early 1860s ahead of his wife and children, who arrived in 1865. First settling in Hyde Park, Utah, they soon moved to Weston and homesteaded at the west end between the area known as Cedarville and “the String”—a route leading north to Dayton. Their son Lars, born in 1857, would have been twelve years old at the time.

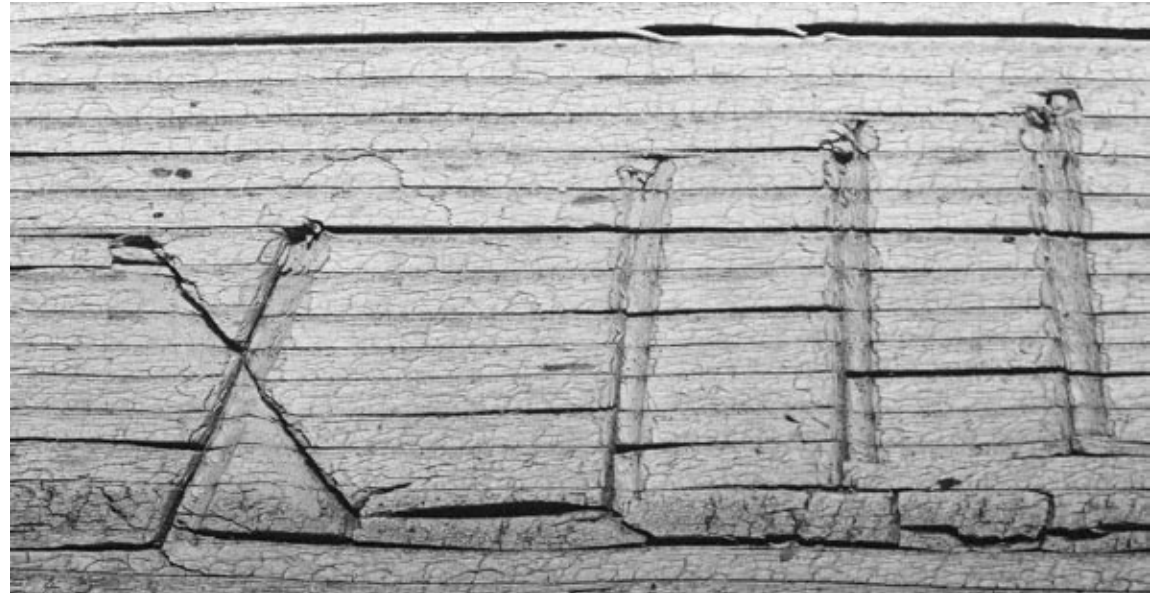
Descriptions of everyday buildings such as barns are often overlooked in historical writings of early settlements. Clues to the year built and to the ethnic origin of this barn may be found in the materials used, the floor plan, and inscriptions on the timbers inside. Square nails and a recycled telephone or telegraph pole found in this barn are items that were in use in the west in the late 1800s.



Although Ferdinand and his son were Danish, the floor plan of the Fredrickson barn resembles that of an English barn with its large doors in the eaves side and its center aisle, flanked on both sides by bays for stock animals and hay. Originally the barn was enclosed on all sides and later modified to accommodate the addition of a lean-to milking parlor in place of the south elevation. The north side drive door still exists on this barn, and evidence of another door can be seen in the posts and beams where the south wall was. The year “1885” inscribed in a cemented portion of the foundation outside the present lean-to indicates that Lars probably made modifications to his father’s 1870s barn in that year.

The joinery inside the barn has scribe rule marks used in aligning the timbers. At the ends of timbers that were to be joined, projections called tenons and corresponding holes called mortises were cut and marked with Roman numerals for assembling the barn later. The inscriptions are called “marriage marks.” They were usually made on the outside faces of timbers to be covered with siding later. Because of the removal of the siding of the south wall, the inscribed posts and beams are visible for us to learn from today.

Kevin Ashby, the present owner, uses the barn to store hay. He replaced the old lean-to with one with a lower peak so that light could come into the main bay through the opening above the lean-to and below the main roof.



*Left: Square nails protrude from a timber in the barn. Above top: Marriage marks on a timber aided in joining pre-selected barn timbers.*

Address: 3293 South 5600 West  
Viewing directions: View from 5600 West.  
GPS Coordinates: 42°02.459 N. 112°00.745 W. (viewpoint)



## Franklin County Barns

### 6 George Hansen and Luther Fife Barns Weston, ca. 1923

In the spring of 1923, George Hansen decided that he needed a barn to hold his livestock, and his mail cart, buggy, and sleigh. George contracted with his neighbor, Luther Fife, who lived on the site just west of his, to build the barn. Luther was known as a master builder and had helped with other buildings in Cache Valley. After Luther finished the barn for George, he decided that he wanted a barn, too. Using the same templates for the arched roof that he had made for George's barn, he built a second barn just like his neighbor's, only it was about half as wide and shorter in length.

George's son Karl wrote about how he helped decide what kind of barn to build, and gives details of the construction:



"Early that spring in 1923, Dad and Luther Fife, and me some of the time, went in Dad's model T Ford all around the Cache Valley Farms looking at different barns. They jointly decided on one with a round roof, gently curving downward and having small eaves on the tailing roof. Some of these type barns can be seen in

the Richmond, Utah area yet, and it was down there that they finally got the design they wanted."

In the early stages of construction of the barn, Luther Fife laid out some templates for the curved stringers of the barn's roof, and his men nailed them together. They didn't have any electric saws and all of the wood was cut by hand. When each template copy was finished, they used ropes, block and tackles, braces, and lots of muscles to get the curved stringer in place. It was then anchored down and tied until the next one could be put up. The only piece of machinery that was driven by motor power was a cement mixer, and this was powered by a gasoline engine that sometimes stopped at a crucial time, and they had to resort to manpower.

Both barns provided shelter for horses and cows and stored a large amount of hay in their spacious lofts. George let the town kids use the loft of his barn for boxing. Karl would sweep out the hay dust in the loft and help in the making of a makeshift boxing ring. The only drawback to the boxing ring was that spectators had to crawl up the loft ladder to see the action.

Address: 283 East Depot Street

Viewing directions: The George Hansen barn is located behind the current owner's house at 283 Depot Street. It is best to view the barn from 100 South. The Luther Fife barn can also be seen from this viewpoint.

GPS Coordinates: 42°02.106 N. 111°58.267 W. (viewpoint on 100 South)



*Left: Photo by Angela I. Nielson. Above: The gracefully curved bottom edge of the roof may have been practical in directing water away from the foundation, or it may have been simply decorative.*



## Franklin County Barns

### Wright/Woodward Raised-Foundation Barns Franklin, early 1900s

The Wright and Woodward families were part of the early Mormon migration that established Idaho's first town of Franklin in 1860. As in other Mormon settlements, a fort with log cabins and shelter for animals was built first. The first months of life in Franklin were centered on obtaining logs from nearby forests for this purpose, then farmland was laid out for the settlers to begin the work of raising crops.

At the turn of the century, barns began to appear outside the town where large tracts of farmland existed. These accommodated small dairy herds and the storage of loose hay.

Along two stretches of 4000 East, five large dairy barns with raised cement foundations and gambrel roofs were built by the Wright and Woodward families. Thought to be derived from English barns of the nation's colonial period, the barns are sometimes called *raised-foundation* or *basement barns* because of the low-ceilinged bottom story with cement walls that form a foundation for a large-open hay loft above. The space underneath the loft was used for sheltering the dairy herd and work horses.

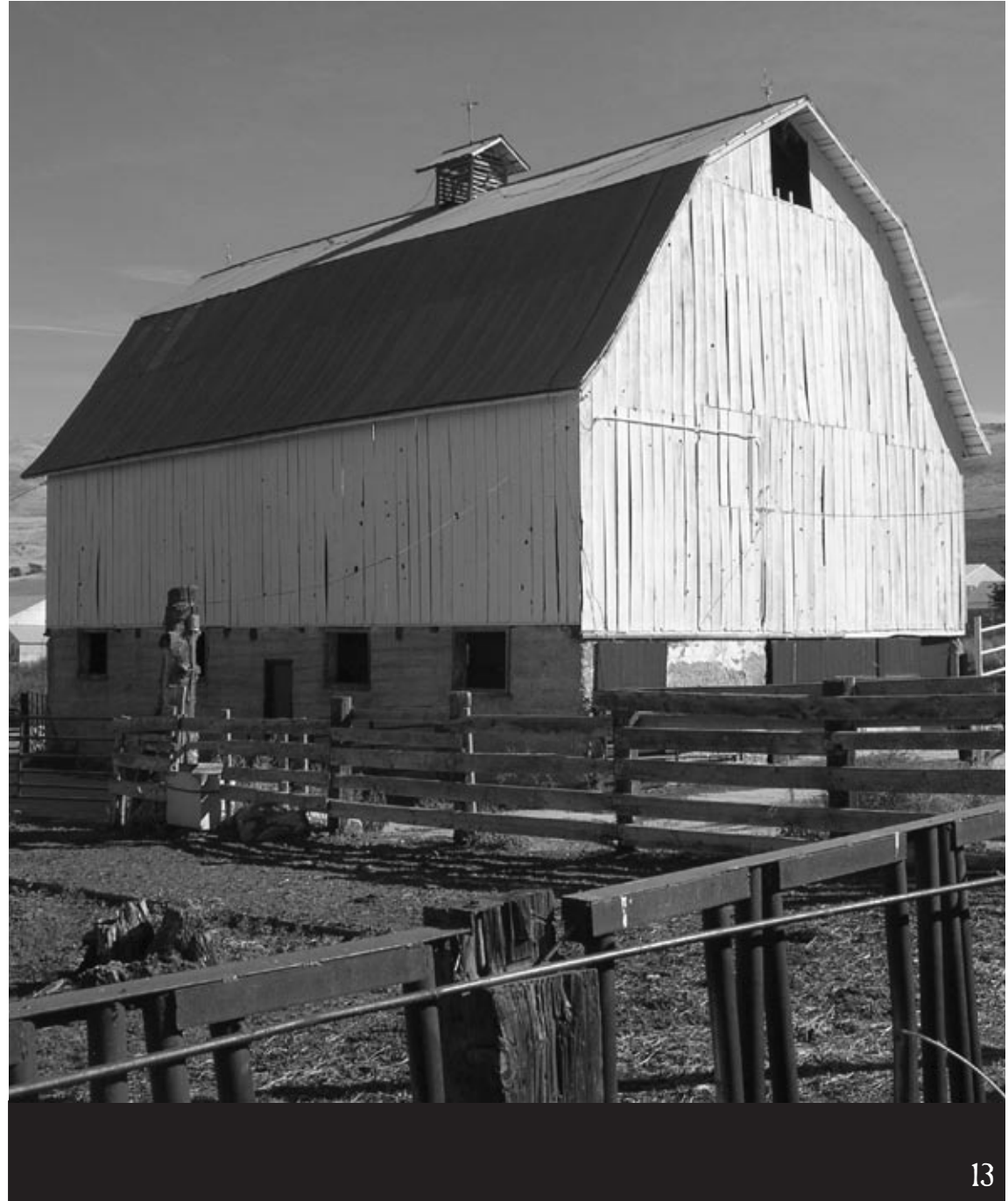
The close proximity and similarity of these barns is a good example of the passing along of a folk form of construction perhaps known to the family's English grandparents, and the sharing and adaptation that occurs in a different time and place.

Unlike the English raised barn that has a ramp to access the second story loft, these barns have no outside access to the hay mow except through the use of a Jackson fork. Instead of using stone for the raised walls of the foundation, the use of cement, usually mixed by hand, is a reflection of the barn's later western adaptation.

#### 7 Samuel Wright Barn Franklin, ca. 1912-1913

Possibly the earliest of the raised-foundation barns in this area, the Samuel Wright barn may have set the example for the others to follow. It was built for Samuel, son of early homesteaders William Tweedy Wright and Maria Brown Wright, by the Lowe twins, James and John, who did the framing, siding, and roofing. The story goes that the twins would be high up on scaffolding working on the framing and they would disagree about how to proceed. They would climb down from the scaffolding, argue for an hour, then climb back up and continue working.

Concrete for the high foundation walls was mixed by hand using gravel from the creek and a hand-cranked cement mixer. The concrete was pulled up the scaffolding in a wheelbarrow and poured into the forms. The job was completed over a period of days, and the lines where cement was added day by day are still visible. The 38-foot beams on the inside came from Maple Creek Canyon. The barn has mortise and tenon





## Franklin County Barns

joints and pegs that are still visible in some places. Originally, the barn had a shingle roof and a cupola. It was painted white in the 1950s and received a new roof in 1965. The barn sheltered about fifteen dairy cows on the east side, and horses on the other. Later, after the Wrights built a new milking barn, calves were kept in the barn and the herd grew to eighty head.

The current owner, a great grandson of Samuel, has put a great deal of time, effort, and expense into the rehabilitation of the barn. When he bought the place, he tore down other dilapidated farm buildings and used the lumber to renovate the siding on the barn. The barn was painted bright white again as part of the rehabilitation.

Address: 3848 South 4000 East (To get to 4000 East, turn right on Maple Creek Road at the intersection of Maple Creek and Feedmill Roads.)

Viewing directions: The barn is on the west side of 4000 East.

GPS coordinates: 42°01.937 N. 111°46.742 W. (viewpoint)

### Woodward Barns Franklin, ca. 1914 to 1915

William and Rebecca Woodward homesteaded in Franklin and had three sons: Garnet, Cecil, and Ivan. Each of the brothers had raised-foundation barns built starting in about 1914. It is possible that they were built by the same builders that the Wrights used. The barns were used for sheltering draft horses, milking dairy cows, and the storage of hay. When the dairy industry demanded a larger operation, the Woodwards quit milking and began to excel in the egg business. Ivan's barn burned down in 1985, and now Garnet and Cecil's barns are owned by Ritewood Eggs.

#### 8 Cecil Woodward Barn

Address: 3863 South 4000 East (To get to 4000 East, turn right on Maple Creek Road at the intersection of Maple Creek and Feedmill Roads.)

Viewing directions: View from 4000 east looking east.

GPS Coordinates: 42°01.911 N. 111°46.733 W. (viewpoint)

#### 9 Garnet Woodward Barn

Address: 3543 South 4000 East (To get to 4000 East, turn right on Maple Creek Road at the intersection of Maple Creek and Feedmill Roads.)

Viewing directions: View from 4000 east looking east.

GPS Coordinates: 42°02.303 N. 111°46.739 W. (viewpoint)







## Franklin County Barns

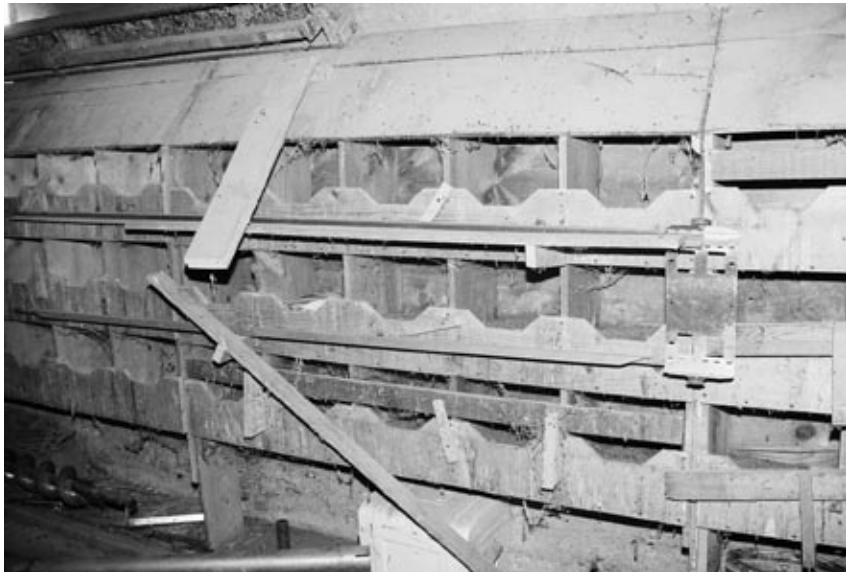
### 10 George Lorenzo Wright Barn Franklin, before 1920

George Lorenzo Wright, another son of William and Maria Wright (please see Barn Number 7), built this barn some time before 1920. Judging from its similarity to the other raised-foundation barns, this would seem correct. A sister of Ramon Wright, the current owner, recalls the tradition of having an Easter picnic in the barn if it snowed on that holiday. Children climbed precariously up to the rafters to hang upside down from the cupola. After the dairy industry declined, Lorenzo's son Gerald raised 300 chickens inside the barn in wooden cubbies. Later he and his son Ramon increased the flock from 5,000 to 20,000. Gerald died in 1965, and in 1969 the Ramon Wrights merged with the Woodwards to form Ritewood Eggs. Historic poultry houses and outbuildings can still be seen alongside modern buildings.

Address: 3987 East Maple Creek Road

Viewing directions: View barn and other historic buildings from the south end of 4000 East, off of Maple Creek Road.

GPS Coordinates: 42°01.492 N. 111°46.728 W. (viewpoint)



*Left: Wooden cubbies that housed chickens. Above: The barn shares the site with, left to right, historic two-story poultry houses, a half-barn (in front of the poultry houses), and a granary.*



## Franklin County Barns

### 11 Del Monte Pea Vinery Franklin, ca. 1920 to 1930

As far back as the Civil War, technology for the home preserving of foods by pressure cooker canning existed. In 1870, commercial canneries employed some 6,000 persons nationwide in at least 100 known canneries. This grew to 50,000 workers by 1890 in 1,800 factories.

Canning peaked in Utah and Cache Valley in the 1920s, influencing farming in the southeastern Idaho area as well. Del Monte located several pea vineries in Franklin County that functioned until some time in the 1950s. Many southeastern Idahoans remember the experience of growing, harvesting, and processing peas for Del Monte.

One third-generation farm owner in Franklin remembers the harvest as one that couldn't wait. When the peas were ready to harvest, they had to be cut at night so they wouldn't wilt. Working with a team of horses, the pea vines were mowed and loaded onto a wagon with a pitchfork. Early the next morning the vines were taken to the pea vinery in Franklin and thrown into several hoppers. The hoppers separated the peas from the vine. On one end of the hopper was a person who stacked the vines, and on the other end the peas came out and were loaded into pea boxes. These were taken to the cannery and weighed so the farmer would know how many peas he had harvested. This was done in early July, and if conditions were just right, the farmer could plant a crop of barley on the same ground the peas had been planted in and harvest barley in the late fall.

The pea vines were left in the stacks at the vinery until they fermented into silage. In the winter, the farmers could go and pick up silage to feed their cows. The amount they could take was determined by the weight of their pea harvest. Pea silage and beet pulp were two ways that farmers fed their cows at little or no cost.

The best stories relating to the growing and harvesting of peas have to do with eating them. While one Mink Creek native was astonished to see an uncle eat peas from a butter knife, another Whitney native says that "the sweetest thing in life is to get up at sunrise, while the dew is still on the pea vines and sit out there and eat young peas, fresh off the vine."

Address: Southwest corner of 3800 South and 3400 East

Viewing directions: At the intersection of Feed Mill Road and Maple Creek Road, turn north on Feed Mill Road. The sign says "Ritewood Feed." View the pea vinery from 3400 East.

GPS Coordinates: 42°01.870 N. 111°47.520 W. (viewpoint)





## Franklin County Barns

### 12 Glen and Amy Bowman Barn Cub River, ca. 1947-1951

Following military service during World War II, Glen and Amy Bowman moved back to Cub River to establish their home on the site homesteaded by Glen's father, Albert "Bert" Bowman. Because of the many natural springs that crop up on the farm, Glen sometimes calls it "Brookdale Ranch."

For four years, the Bowmans lived in their garage while building their new home and barn.

To build the barn, Glen first visited barns in Richmond to see what he wanted. He observed how the framing was done. "The plans for this barn were in my head," he says. Next, he needed lumber. Dead trees could be

harvested in Franklin Basin for free. It took all of the year 1947 for Glen to cut the trees using a cross-cut saw. The lumber was milled at Wade and Leonard Christensen's sawmill in the basin.

The foundation for the barn was dug with a pick and shovel and the dirt hauled away in a wheelbarrow. Next they poured the concrete foundation. Glen and Amy worked together to assemble the framing and the two used a ladder to haul the cross-beams up. Glen would say to Amy, "Come up here and hold this beam," and she would climb up and hold the beam until he had it secured. The central haymow was built first, then the lean-tos were added later.

Hay was loaded into the barn and stacked floor to ceiling using a derrick horse and Jackson fork. Glen had to climb a ladder to open the hay doors. When the barn was full of hay, a "Mormon" hay derrick was used to stack hay outside the barn. The Bowmans milked cows until Grade A dairy requirements became mandatory in the 1950s.

Later they raised sheep and sent the wool to Brigham City. The Bowmans still raise a few sheep and shear them every summer with the help of their son. They keep the sheep camp (a wagon used as quarters for a sheepherder) just for fun. It can often be seen parked next to the barn.

Address: 5787 East Cub River Road

Viewing directions: View from north side of roadway a little east of the barn.

GPS Coordinates: 42°05.912 N. 111°44.141 W. (viewpoint)



Above: A "see-saw" type Mormon hay derrick on Cub River Road.



## Franklin County Barns

### 13 Clifford Sharp Barn Cub River, ca. 1950

Joseph Sharp, born in 1864, owned this farm at one time. He farmed with horses and used a Jackson fork in an earlier barn on this site. In a lean-to near the old silo, cows were milked by hand. In 1941, Joseph sold the farm to his son Clifford, and the old barn stored hay and sheltered a small dairy herd for ten more years.

In 1950, Clifford and his wife Vaudis wanted to increase the size of their dairy herd, and a new barn was designed and built in place of the old one. The unique diagonal siding seen on the present barn was used on several Cub River barns in the same time period. Diagonal siding was nailed to vertical framing and provided the advantage of stabilizing a barn as wind and weather beat upon it through the years.

Clifford harvested logs in Franklin Basin, where they were sawed into the proper lengths and sizes for rafters, braces, studs, and siding. They were hauled down to the farm, and Otto Gregory, a brother-in-law, helped build the barn. Clifford was determined that the new barn would sport a chopper and a blower to load the hay rather than a Jackson fork, and later a baler and an elevator were used.

As soon as the barn was finished, Clifford planned a milking parlor to meet Grade A dairy requirements. There were no blueprints to follow. At night Clifford would lie awake thinking through the design problems, and by morning he would know what to do. An old receipt dated October 4th, 1955, verifies that his creative thinking not only resulted in Grade A dairy certification, but an efficient building that would become a model for other small dairies. Groups guided by the county dairy inspector often visited the Sharp barn to watch as four cows at a time were conveniently milked from a shallow pit that placed the milker lower than the cow. The milk was pumped through a system of pipes to be strained into steel cans, and later into a stainless steel bulk tank. The Sharps eventually increased their dairy herd to fifty head of Holstein cows and sent the milk to be processed at Cache Valley Dairy.

With a large family of seven girls and one boy, the Sharps raised chickens, sold eggs, grew their own wheat, barley, and alfalfa, and ran their dairy for several years. Today this site, with its historic and modern buildings side by side, is still in the family. The barn is used for storing small bales of hay used for cattle feed and for general storage. Restoration efforts are underway.

Address: Just east of 6058/6048 East Cub River Road, south side of roadway

Viewing directions: Pull over to the shoulder of Cub River Road; view the barn to the southeast.

GPS Coordinates: 42°06.243 N. 111°43.815 W. (viewpoint)



## Franklin County Barns

### 14 Doney/Panter Barn

Between Franklin and Whitney, ca. 1940

Elias Doney homesteaded the land in this area that later became called by locals "Buttermilk Curve" because of three dairies that operated here during the dairy boom. Elias had four sons that inherited pieces of the homestead after he died. His son Grant worked the farm that this gambrel roof barn occupies today. Grant's son LaDell is probably the one who had the barn built in the early 1940s. Another son built the barn across from it on 2800 South.

Everyone owning a barn during this period used it for milking a few cows, storing hay, and keeping a few chickens and pigs. The Doney's also had modern loafing sheds for sheltering the dairy herd. The gambrel roof on this barn was designed for storing large amounts of hay, and the cables that are still inside show that a Jackson fork was used. The cement silo at the southeast corner was used for storing silage for stock animals. This barn combines horizontal tongue and groove siding all around the base, and vertical siding above that.



A closer look at the seams of the cement foundation and the siding between the lean-to and the main bay indicate that this barn may have been built in stages. The siding on the lean-to also shows V-shaped cuts where it was either pieced or earlier openings were closed. This may have been the design of a "half barn," a shed with a roof sloping in only one direction that was built to store hay and shelter animals before a main bay was added. The floor plan of the barn features gable entrances, a center aisle flanked with places for cow stanchions on either side, a calving pen and loft above. The lean-to was used for the stabling of horses.

The current owner is serious about the preservation of the barn. Since purchasing the property in 1990, he has cleaned out the interior and wants to stabilize the roof. As long as the silo remains stable, it will be kept. Today, the barn is used for storing hay for a few head of beef cattle. The barn's loft has for several years been home to two great horned owls that produce a brood every year and keep the barn free of pigeons. The Panter family enjoys protecting the habitat of this magnificent bird.

Address: 2727 South 2400 East, between Franklin and Whitney

Viewing directions: View the barn from 2400 East or 2800 South.

GPS Coordinates: 42°05.912 N. 111°44.141 W. (2800 South viewpoint)



*Above top: One of the V-shaped seams on the lean-to. Above bottom: Cement flooring and gutters for waste removal were requirements for a Grade A dairy.*



## Franklin County Barns

### 15 George Taft Benson Jr. Barn Whitney, ca. 1898

Four generations of the Benson family have lived on this farm. George Taft Benson, Jr., was a grandson of the first Bensons that came to Utah in 1847 with the first Mormon pioneer wagon train. In 1885, as a young boy, he moved with his parents to Whitney, where his father homesteaded this site. George T. Benson, Jr., married Sarah Dunkley in 1898, and they built the house and this Intermountain barn. They had eleven children, including Ezra Taft Benson, who later became U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under President Dwight D. Eisenhower and served as an apostle and president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The story of the Benson farm is recalled by the last living Benson child, Lera Benson Whittle, born in 1907. The Bensons raised sugar beets, wheat, and alfalfa. Like many farming families, they had a garden with fruits and vegetables, raised chickens and pigs, and were in the dairy business. An apple orchard provided several varieties of apples. Every evening, someone was sent to the cellar to get apples, and everyone ate an apple while they were doing homework or reading the scriptures.

Fifteen cows were hand-milked by the Benson boys. Lera recalls her job of riding a little pony out to the pasture to bring the cows to the barn. "I'd drive them home and the boys would hook them up, each one in a stall, fastened onto their necks, and then they would put the hay down out of the barn right into the manger and they would eat hay while they were milked." The Bensons farmed with horses and kept them in the barn on the opposite side from the cows. George "always kept his horses clean and beautiful. And in the winter he'd braid their tails and turn them up and tie them. In the summer we would ride to church in a big white-topped buggy."

Lera says that raising sugar beets was "an everlasting job on the farm." All the children helped in the planting, plowing, hoeing, weeding, thinning, and topping of fifty acres of sugar beets. The process began in early summer and ended in October when the beets were taken to the factory.

During the Depression, the next generation of Bensons was forced to sell the herd of registered dairy cows. For several years they raised sheep and then went into the cattle business. The old barn still played a part in their lives, from storing hay and beet pulp to providing a strong beam for a rope swing that children loved to swing on. The current Benson has girded up the structure of the barn with metal cables and wooden beams to make sure it lasts another generation.



Address: 2003 East 800 South

Viewing directions: View from 800 South.

GPS Coordinates: 42°04.916 N. 111°49.641 W. (viewpoint)



## Franklin County Barns

### 16 A. C. Hull Barn Whitney, ca. 1916-1922

Robert McClellan Hull and his wife Mary Ann Chadwick farmed in Franklin and Whitney before moving in 1875 to this homestead in Whitney. They had a large family of ten children. Eventually, this area came to be called "Hull's Crossing." The main street into Whitney bears this name today.

Robert died at the age of fifty, and Mary Ann and her children managed the farm after that. As each of the children married, they received a tract of land. A. C. Hull and his wife Ella Maughan took over this portion of the farmstead, and a brother LeRoy farmed an adjacent section. In about 1916 to 1922, the brothers built matching barns on each of their farms, using lumber harvested from Cub River Canyon. LeRoy's barn later burned down. The arched roofs of the barns were designed to carry a maximum load of loose hay. They had modern stanchions and were considered state-of-the-art dairy barns.

A.C. and Ella had eight children. Their oldest son Tom managed the farm from the time he was sixteen years old while his father worked on other ventures. Forty head of cows were milked in the barn. They milked by hand at first, then later used Surge bucket milkers.

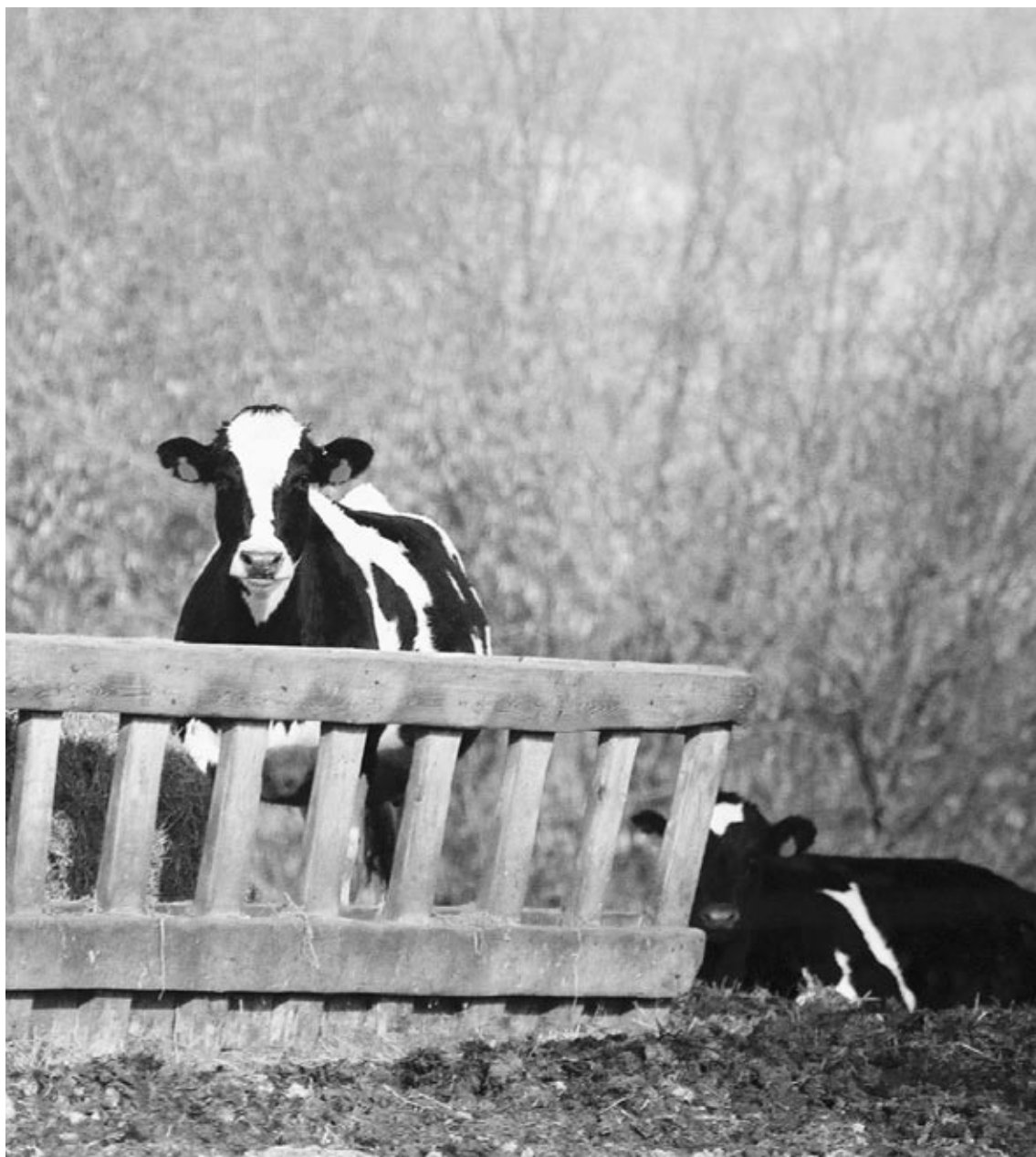


The barn provided memorable opportunities for both work and play. The job of shoveling manure, as well as other chores, fell to the children. After their chores were done, they rode calves rodeo style in the barn and made swings with the ropes of the Jackson fork. Several people took their turns falling off the barn or from places inside. Tom fell from the main loft window while doing some work on the Jackson fork and was knocked unconscious. The children suffered various falls inside and one flew out a lower window from the rope swing, but everyone survived. The large ventilators on the barn roof provided places where two children could hide.

Tom and his younger brother Robert partnered on the farm until Tom's retirement. The farm has remained in Robert's family to the present time and has been designated as an Idaho Century farm. His son and grandson, both named Robert, currently milk eighty cows in the modern dairy barn. The Hulls also raise 200-300 head of beef cattle and grow alfalfa and barley.

The original wood shingles on the barn were replaced with tin. Once, because the roof of the barn swayed, the trusses were reinforced from the inside. The old barn is used for storage and office space.

Address: "Hull's Crossing" 1503 South 1600 East  
Viewing directions: View from 1600 East.  
GPS Coordinates: 42°04.113 N. 111°50.254 W. (viewpoint)



*Top: A Holstein cow poses for the camera at one of the movable mangers that allow the farmer to change the gathering places of cows, thus fertilizing different areas of the pasture with their manure.*



## Franklin County Barns

### 17 Malcolm Denton Barn Treasureton, ca. 1890s

Treasureton, named after its first postmaster, a Mr. Treasure, was settled in 1868 by Mormons following the orders of Brigham Young. It was rough country to farm and live in. Accounts of early life tell about the heavy snows, rocky ground, coyotes, and snakes. A member of the community was appointed to hunt game for the people to survive on while they established the settlement.

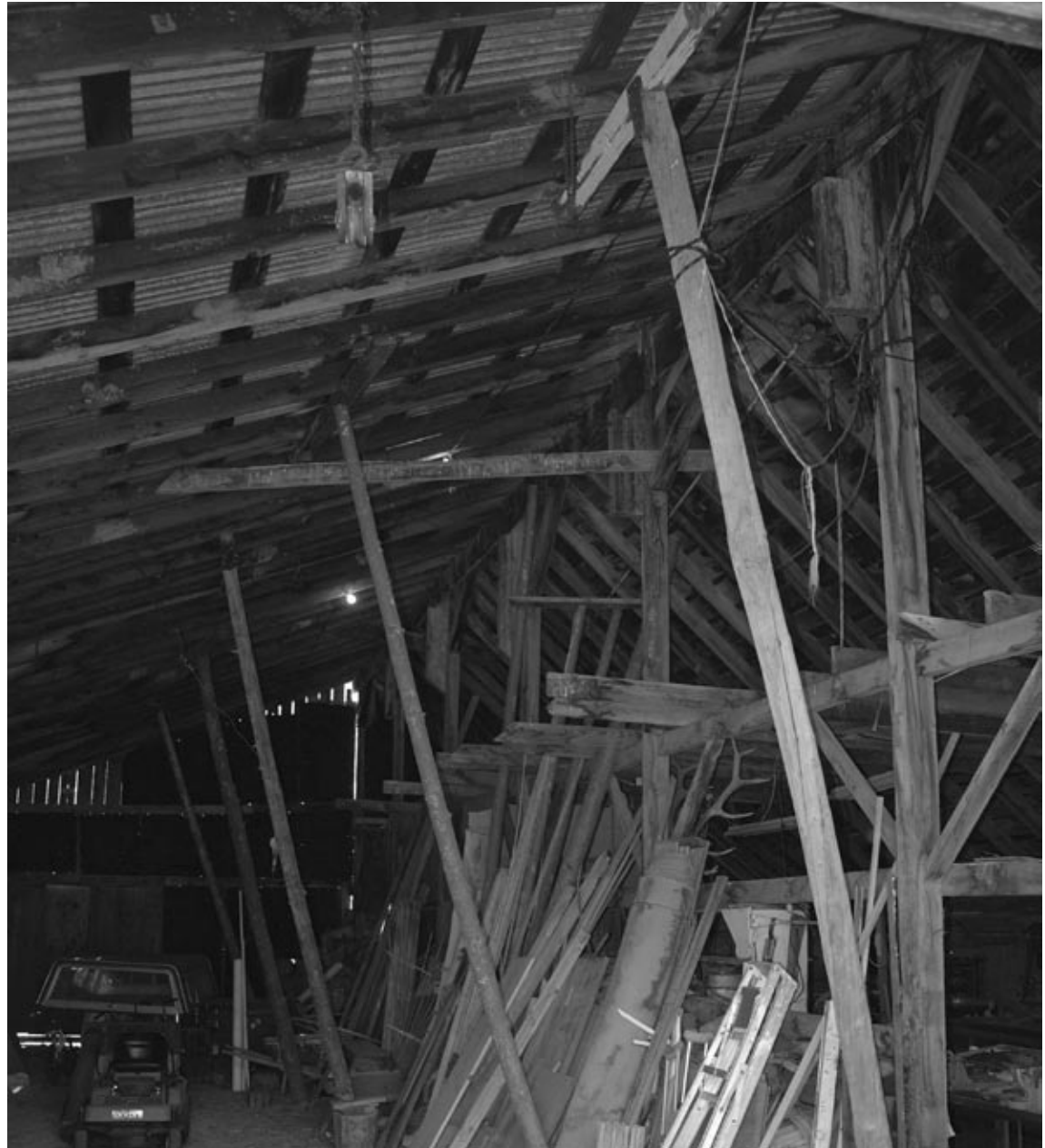
William "Billie" Griffiths was born in Coventry, England, in 1867 and came to the United States with his parents when he was fifteen. They came first to New York, then to Salt Lake, then to Clarkston in Cache Valley. In 1890, William married Maggie Smith from Clifton, and from there they moved to Treasureton to homestead this site. Nine children were born in the original home that used to be at this site. Later, the family moved to Smithfield. There have been two or three owners of the farm since then. John A. Cole owned it soon after the Griffiths, and Ida Beth Denton's father, Dick Ward, bought the farm in 1937. It has belonged to Ida and her husband since Dick retired.

It is thought that an original smaller section of the barn was built in the early 1890s. Family records indicate that historically, it was an all-purpose barn, where cows and horses were sheltered and where hay was stored. The Dentons milked a few cows, raised wheat, alfalfa, sheep, and pigs. Malcolm expanded the barn to meet modern needs. Adding a lean-to on the west side required a change in the pitch of the roof, so one side is steeper than the other. A lean-to on the lower side of the barn sits on the area that used to be the barnyard for the dairy cows, which entered the barn on that end to be milked. Sheep were sheltered in here after the family quit the dairy business. Every winter, Malcolm would install tall T-shaped posts inside the barn to give extra support to the roof under heavy snow. Metal sheathing on the north side protects the wood from the weather.

Address: 10085 North Treasureton Road

Viewing directions: View barn from North Treasureton Road.

GPS Coordinates: 42°16.805 N. 111°50.785 W. (viewpoint)



*Above: The diagonal posts are the T-shaped supports that give the roof extra strength in winter.*





## Franklin County Barns

### 18 Fred Egley Barn Mink Creek, ca. 1913

Swiss immigrants Peter and Elizabeth Egley came to Mink Creek in about 1879 and homesteaded this site on a knoll where their fruit trees and berries would benefit from the sun's first morning rays, and where they could harvest wild grass hay for their stock animals. A nearby stream provided fish to eat, and they owned a few sheep and cows. Their son, George Frederick (Fred), eventually built this gambrel roof barn on the



slope of the hill and added open mangers to the south side, where cows could loaf in the barnyard and be fed loose hay conveniently from the barn.

Fred drove a team of horses on local dam projects, and on the farm, milked several cows by hand. About fifty gallons of milk in ten-gallon milk cans were

picked up every day and taken to the Sego plant in Preston. Fred went out of the dairy business in the 1950s, and his son Bryce, who learned to operate bulldozers as a young man at home and in the Army, worked on construction jobs and helped on the farm for many years, eventually taking over the farm after his father. Bryce and his son Kent continue to raise hay today, making the farm continuously family owned. The barn has been modified to be completely filled with baled hay.

Another building, the old Glencoe Ward church on the hill south of the highway, holds still more hay. It was transformed into a hay barn in the 1960s, when Bryce bought it on bid. Bryce says that back when the church house was being built "my dad sold that ground to (the Mormon church) for one dollar and other valuable consideration." It was decided that the "valuable consideration" was the privilege of working on the building. Today it stands for many good memories of activity in the Glencoe Ward, and is a practical storage space for the hay crop.

Address: 4713 East Hwy 36, Mink Creek

Viewing directions: View barn from wide shoulder on north side of the highway.

GPS Coordinates: 42°11.930 N. 111°45.988 W. (viewpoint)



*Left: The barn as it appears from the road. Above: The view from the house—the hay crop exceeds the capacity of the barn. Inset: The old Glencoe Ward church now used for hay storage.*

## Franklin County Barns

### 19 Alvin Petersen Intermountain Barn Mink Creek, early 1900s

Annie Christena Larsen and her husband Peter Tony Petersen raised nine children on this site, which was homesteaded by Annie's parents in about 1877. In 1903, Peter left his eldest son, fifteen year old Alvin, in charge of the farm for a couple of years while he was away on a mission for the Mormon Church in Denmark. In 1909, when Alvin was twenty-five years old, his parents moved to Logan and he purchased the farm.

Alvin built a sawmill and this Intermountain barn and ran both operations profitably for many years. Alvin hired help to milk cows while he ran the sawmill, powered by Mink Creek, in order to provide quality lumber for local families. In the

late 1920s or early 1930s, the sawmill was destroyed by fire and was not restored.

No other members of the Petersen family have lived at this site, but the current owner, here since 1974, has made a substantial contribution to the preservation and use of the barn. Growing up in Mink Creek, Dick Jensen observed horse-powered farm work and neighbors helping each other during the harvest. When his dairy was active, he milked thirty to thirty-five cows in stanchions in the north lean-to of the barn. When pipelines and cooling tanks took over he went out of the dairy business to raise quarter horses. Like many farmers, Dick also had another job—he drove the school bus for thirty-five years.

Today, Dick focuses his energies on raising horses, hay, and cattle, and still relies on a good team of horses to feed his cattle during the winter. He says that in comparison to a tractor that can break down or get stuck in snow, "a team of horses will always start." Modifications that have been made on the barn include replacing old wood floors with cement and opening up the back of the barn to accommodate large bales of hay.

The historic granary seen on the northwest corner of the property is constructed of stacked two-by-fours—a building technique common in the late 1800s and early 1900s that creates tight strong walls, able to withstand the pressure of hundreds of pounds of stored grain. A bee board kept on the south gable end of the granary is tended by a local retired farmer interested in raising bees.

Address: 6968 East Mink Creek Parkway

Viewing directions: View barn from either side of East Mink Creek Parkway.

GPS Coordinates: 42°13.544 N. 111°42.090 W. (viewpoint)



Top: Bucket milkers hang on the wall of the milking parlor. Bottom: A closeup of the corner of the granary showing the joints of the horizontal 2x4s.

## Franklin County Barns

### 20 Martinus/LaMonte Larsen Barn Mink Creek, ca. 1946

Mads Martinus Larsen was born in 1886 in Glencoe. His parents were born in Denmark and an older brother was born on the ship *Nevada* as it made its way across the Atlantic Ocean to America. Martinus married Anna Matilda Birch, and in about 1919 they purchased this site and began farming, raising a family of five children.

The earliest buildings on this site included a chicken coop, an "animal only" barn and a "cow barn" or lean-to shed for milking cows. An earlier hay barn was torn down and eventually replaced with the current main bay. This was begun while Martinus was still alive and completed by his sons a few years after his death. After their mother retired from the farm, it was sold to son LaMonte, who made his living the way his parents had. LaMonte farmed with horses well after the advent of tractors, preferring the dependability of horses for farming on the rocky slopes of Mink Creek.

The barn is banked into the hillside, necessitating that the cement foundation walls range from five feet high on the north to one foot on the south. Inside, the floor plan reflects the slope of the hill. Placing the loft over the lower north end made it more accessible for hay removal from the inside, and the downward slope of the floor in the west-flanking manger allowed for easier removal of animal waste. Hay was loaded into the barn with a Jackson fork from the south end and piled in three areas inside the barn for distribution into the mangers on the west side.

The outside covering of the barn features diagonal siding, seen frequently throughout southeastern Idaho. The appeal of the diagonal siding was that it stabilized the walls and structure of the barn, making it less vulnerable to leaning. LaMonte was always proud of the new technology of the structure inside this spacious gambrel roof barn. The double curbs and laminated rafters without heavy cross timbers allowed the storage of larger amounts of loose hay, even though the overall size of the barn remained compact.

In the *Mink Creek Book of Remembrance*, LaMonte's wife Violet wrote: "We live in the old home that was previously owned by Monte's father. We have a few milk cows, some pasture land and raise hay and grain. We have worked hard, put in a lot of long hours, but have been well paid for our labors as we reap our harvest each year. Hay is selling for \$50.00 a ton, grain for \$3.42 a bushel and milk for \$9.00 a hundred this year. ..."

La Monte's son Glade is the third generation to own the barn.

Address: The barn is situated on the hill southwest of the intersection of Birch Creek and North Capital Hill Roads.

Viewing directions: View barn from Birch Creek Road.

GPS Coordinates: 42°13.563 N. 111°43.049 W. (viewpoint)



Large photo: The fieldworker's dog, Cisco, checks out a spacious horse stall. Upper inset: The uphill (south) side of the barn from which hay was loaded, showing the slope of the land. Lower inset: The view from the road on the downhill side.



## Franklin County Barns

### 21 Dwight Wilde Barn Mink Creek, early 1900s

The Dwight Wilde barn at the east end of Birch Creek Road sits on ground homesteaded by John Barfus in the late nineteenth century. It has been owned by two generations of the Barfus family and two generations of Wildes. The barn used to have a gambrel roof that accommodated loose hay loaded with a Jackson fork. As time and weather took its toll, Dwight re-engineered the roof to its present gabled configuration.



The barn now has openings on the east side for a hay elevator to load baled hay, and man and animal doors on the north side. The inner structure features three main cribs and braced mortise and tenon and wood peg joinery. A room under the south loft that was used for raising chickens has a log ceiling and cement flooring.

Jay says “that barn used to be the center of our lives here on the farm. We milked the cows and kept the horses there and spent all summer putting hay up there and all winter taking it out.” When Jay was a boy, they used loose hay and farmed with horses. That’s how he learned how to ride a horse. Controlling a derrick horse “takes some pretty good coordination, when you stop and think about it. The action is on opposite ends of the barn and there had to be some coordination.” Jay says he can still hear his dad shout gruffly, “Go ahead!” when it was time to move the horse.

Many barns in southeastern Idaho display the brand of the owner. Jay put his father’s brand on the barn in remembrance of him. The significance of the brand is more practical than full of meaning. When his dad bought the farm in the 1930s, he found an old branding iron. It was a six with a quarter-circle over it. This brand was no longer available to use, so he turned it upside down and flattened the quarter circle out to the “V” under the nine.

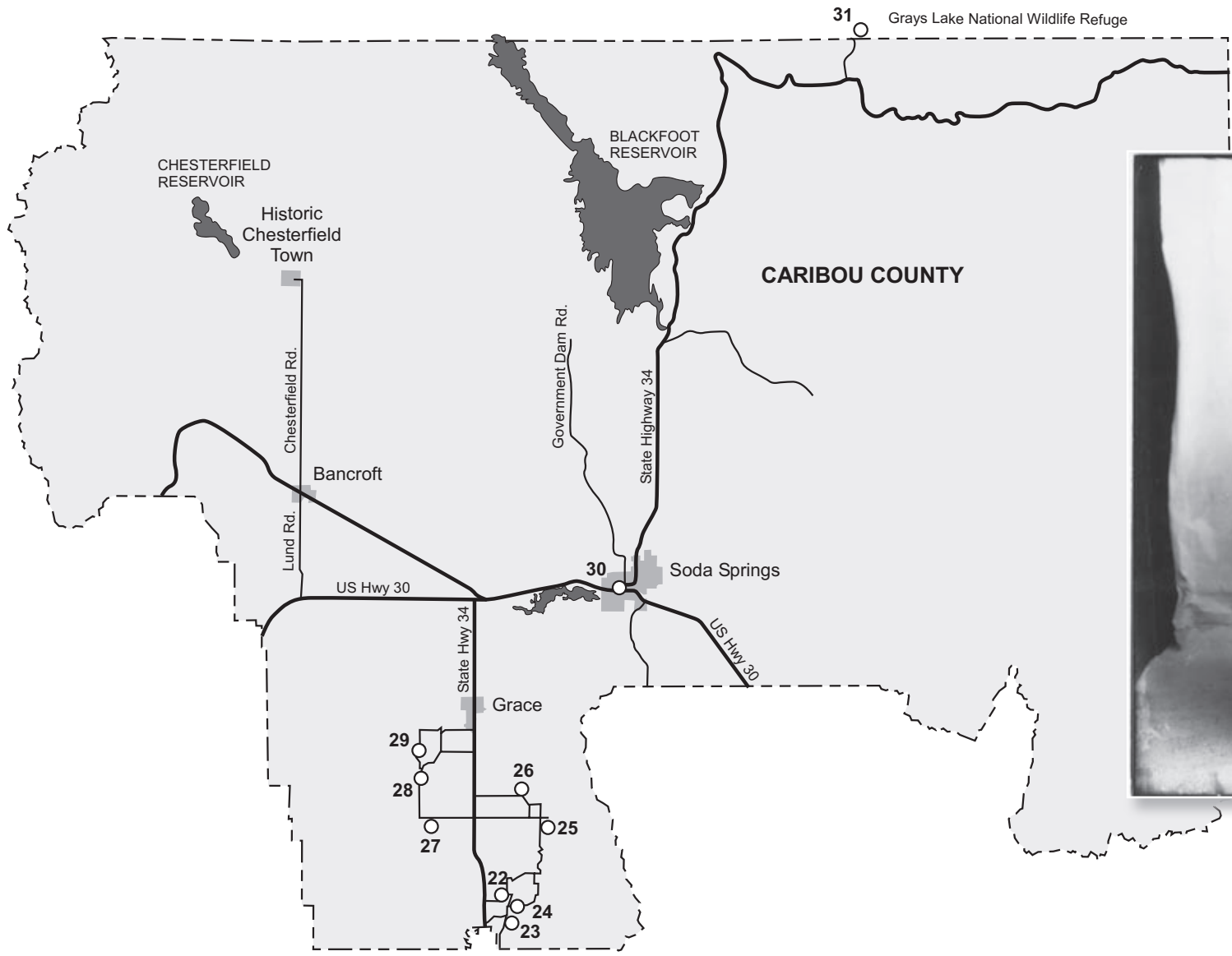
Currently, the barn is used for storing hay for quarter horses that accompany Jay everywhere in his work as a cattle rancher. Jay believes in utilizing this rocky ground for what he says it is best suited—cattle grazing. Sound practices like managing perennial grasses and intensive grazing and moving of the cattle have helped to conserve the soil and ensure healthy pastureland. In the fall of each year, Jay is out on the range doing what he loves best—working with his cattle on horseback and getting them rounded up for the move to their winter range in Glenn’s Ferry.

Address: 7188 East Birch Creek Road  
Viewing directions: View from East Birch Creek Road.  
GPS Coordinates: 42°13.559 N. 111°42.086 W. (viewpoint)



*Left: A view of part of the barn’s post and beam construction, which features huge timbers to support the weight of the barn, joined with wooden pegs. Inset: The barn before its roofline was modified. Photo courtesy Jay Wilde.*

# Caribou County Map



Inset: "One Hill of Potatoes." Photo courtesy of the Idaho State Historical Society, 73-221.1662. Bisbee, photographer.

## Caribou County Barns

### 22 Michael Mickelson Monitor Roof Barn Lago, early 1900s

Michael Mickelson was eight years old in 1881 when he came with his parents from Denmark to Gentile Valley. His parents, Antone Peter and Bergetta Mickelson, homesteaded near this site. When Antone died nine years later, Michael took care of his mother and six siblings, making sure they had enough to eat. Michael also had a sawmill in Ant Canyon east of here, sheared sheep, and milked cows for a living. He married Sarah Emaline Harris in 1899.

In about 1910, Michael and his step-father built this monitor-roof barn on the bluff above Trout Creek. There are only a few monitor-roof dairy barns in the Intermountain West. The monitor roof is most often seen in manufacturing buildings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The raised section inside the ridge of the rooftop allows more natural light and ventilation inside the barn. The monitor housed the track for the Jackson fork, leaving more space available inside the loft. Michael's youngest son, Franklin Michael, born in 1921, describes the barn in detail:

"The barn is 60 x 30, and thirty-two feet to the top. Going in the north end, there was a small passage on the left to get to the front of the stalls to feed the horses. Then there were two double stalls for teams, with oat boxes for each horse, and one single stall. On the right side was a harness room and the single stall with a double stall next to it. Then there was a sliding door to seal off the cow barn from the horse barn. There were cow stalls on the left, three feet wide, and their heads were not locked in. There was a chain at the rear of each cow. There were eleven stalls and a walkway to go to feed them.

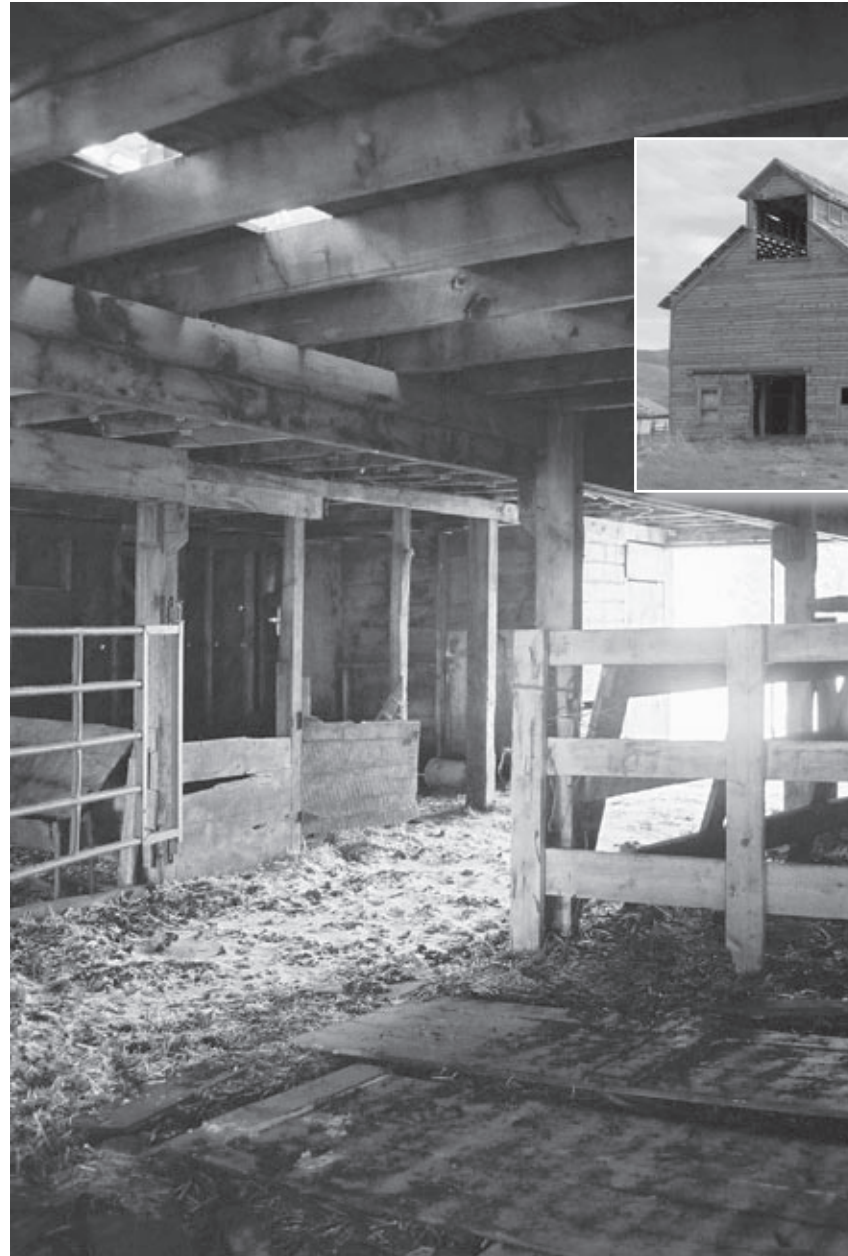
"On the left side was a box stall and a grain bin. Then the southwest corner was a garage. I remember our old Essex as a rag top, and then our 1926 Buick Master Six, with snap-on Isinglass side panels, if you had to keep out the rain. This was later changed to pens for our sheep, or to use to give birth to their lambs. The grain bin was also converted and a few years later, the cow stalls and sheep pens were reversed and we put in cow stalls on both sides facing center. After I was married I reversed it again, and poured a concrete floor. In 1951, I built the block wall barn (Grade A milk barn) and converted the old cow stalls to calf pens."

The tongue-and-groove siding on this barn makes it more wind-proof, yet its position on the hill may have been intended to catch winds coming out of the canyon, providing good ventilation through the louvers on the monitor roof.

Address: On the bluff near 2163 North Lago Road

Viewing directions: View barn from North Lago Road.

GPS Coordinates: 42°26.993 N. 111°42.443 W. (viewpoint)



*Large photo: A view of the interior of the barn looking northwest. Small photo: A view of the exterior from the viewpoint. Photo by Angela I. Nielson.*

## Caribou County Barns

### 23 John Peter Sorensen Intermountain Barn Lago, before 1900

John Peter Sorensen emigrated from Denmark in 1869 with his parents and settled in Bear Lake County. He met and married Sena Catherine Mikkelsen in Logan in 1879. When they first moved to Lago to homestead, they lived in a two-room log cabin, where they had their first four children.

As their family grew to fourteen children, they raised hay, oats, wheat, barley, range cattle, hogs, sheep, milk cows, and chickens. They had a garden and an orchard with apples, crabapples, blue plums, gooseberries, English currants, and small sweet pears. In the summer they harvested continuous crops of hay. The children could earn twenty cents a day working during the haying season. John had a small store at the house where he sold candy, nuts, and soda water. This was later sold to W. H. Bassett when he became postmaster. It became the first general mercantile store and post office in Lago.

Inside the large Intermountain barn the hay was put up with a Jackson fork. There were stalls for horses and stanchions for milking, as well as a machine shop. John also had a blacksmith shop, a butchering gallows, a granary, corrals, and sheds on his farm. For income he butchered meat for neighbors, made repairs on equipment, milked cows, put up his own and other people's hay, and drove a team of horses for the Bassett Brothers Stage Lines.

The younger children were allowed free time after completing their assigned chores and spent many hours outdoors and playing in the barn. Once, the girls got into mischief in the barn when they left their sister Florence hanging from the rafters on a hay-rope swing and ran away. Frightened, she tried to think of how she could get off the swing, climb onto the roof, and jump down, but before she had to do it, her sisters relented and let her down safely.

In 1906, just a few years after finishing a new fifteen-room house for his family, John died suddenly of a gall bladder attack. With the oldest children doing the heaviest work, Sena Catherine stayed on the farm until about 1916, then sold the farm to her oldest son and moved to Logan.

Some time in the early 1920s, Harry Steele, a former freighter from south of Salt Lake, made a three-way trade with the Sorensens and another family to acquire the Sorensen property. The farm was passed on to one of his children and has remained in the Steele family ever since. The current owners have restored the historic house and continue to ranch and farm. The Steeles registered the Sorensen's "S Quarter Circle" brand, and it has been painted on the cupola of the barn for many years.



Address: 168 Lago-Liberty Road  
Viewing directions: View from Lago-Liberty Road  
GPS Coordinates: 42°26.382 N. 111°42.073 W. (viewpoint)

*Top: An itinerant photographer photographed the Sorensen family in front of the barn around the turn of the century. Photo courtesy of Virginia Sorenson Parker. Bottom: A photo of the barn today. The family brand can be seen on the cupola. Photo by Angela I. Nielson.*



## Caribou County Barns

### 24 Charles H. Bassett Livery Barn Lago, ca. 1900

Charles H. Bassett and his wife Mollie Lee moved from Salt Lake City and acquired water rights in Trout Creek (later named Lago), Idaho, in 1878. Charles persuaded his half-brother William to join him there in establishing homesteads. Eventually other Bassett brothers had ranches in Lago, so that the area was sometimes called Bassett Valley.

William established a mercantile store in Trout Creek and was the first postmaster. He wanted to rename the area "Sego" because of the abundance of sego lilies, but when he filed the application, the writing was misread. It was registered as Lago, and the name stuck.

At this time, railroads were expanding into the region. Where they were not yet established, people traveled by stagecoach. A grandson of William writes in his memoirs that Charles "had difficulty making a living on the homestead so he took a temporary job on the new Utah-Northern Railroad coming into Idaho. At this time the scenic wonders of Yellowstone Park were becoming well known all over the world, and the Bassett brothers saw the need for a stage line to carry passengers, freight, and mail from the railhead at Beaver Canyon [near the present towns of Spencer and Dubois] into the park... ."

In the *Daily Salt Lake Tribune* of April 23, 1882, the Bassett brothers advertised their service. It was said to be the shortest and best route from the railroad to the "Eden of America." The round-trip fare for the 100-mile trip to Fire Hole at Yellowstone was twenty-five dollars, and included meals and lodging for the nine-day excursion. The Bassett Brothers Stage Lines operated twenty-five coaches and surreys from 1882 to 1903.

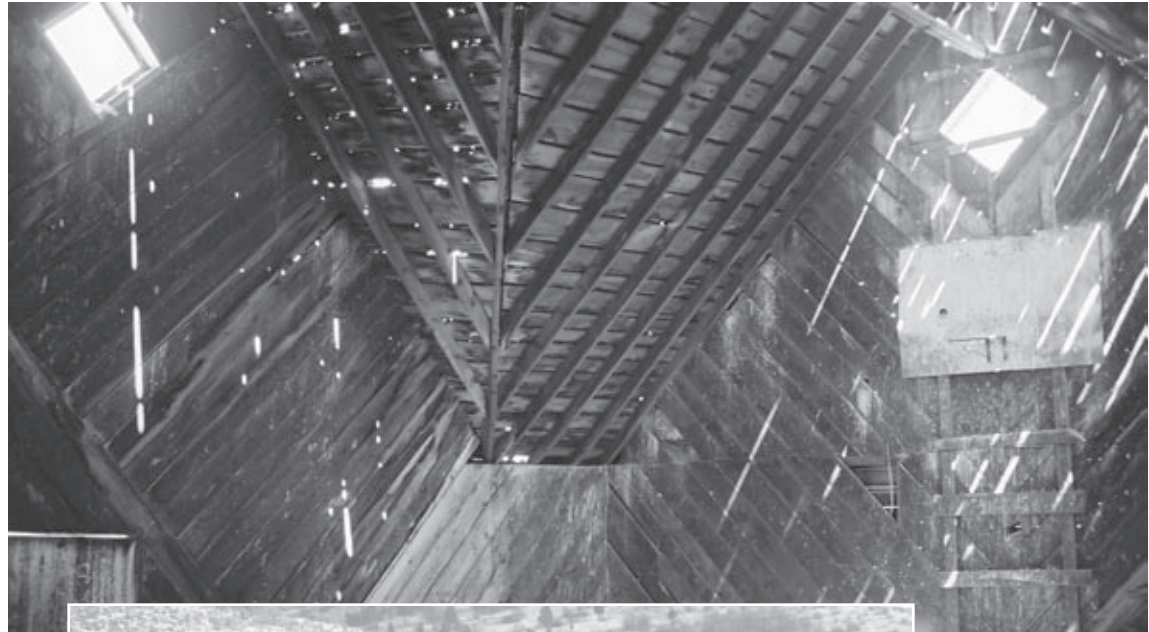
Charles had the large home, a cattle barn, and other farm buildings built on this site. The cattle barn no longer exists. The cross gables of the remaining barn, rarely seen in the Intermountain West, are a reflection of gothic revival architecture that was popular in the United States from 1840 to 1880. In the Midwest there are numerous cross-gabled barns, often designed for horses. Charles used this barn as a livery stable. It has a wooden floor in the center, flanked by several horse stalls on the sides. The north and south walls of the barn are doubled for greater warmth inside. The inside layer is placed on the diagonal, and the outside layer is tongue and groove siding.

Originally hay was loaded into the spacious loft with a Jackson fork from the west end and forked through openings in the floor for the horses below. The "73" on the outside of the barn was the registered Bassett brand.

Address: 241 North Lago Road (Extension)

Viewing directions: View barn from the north on North Lago Road, or from an extension of North Lago Road going south along the east side of the site.

GPS Coordinates: 42°27.143 N. 111°41.855 W. (viewpoint on North Lago Road)



*Upper: The diagonal siding on the interior can be seen in the loft. Lower: A view of the barn in winter photographed by Angela I. Nielson.*





## Caribou County Barns

### 25 Joe Clegg Barn and Granary Bench, ca. 1927 and 1949

Joseph Clegg and four of his brothers settled here near where their parents, Benjamin and Anna Jane Williams Clegg, homesteaded in 1885. Joe was a self-taught builder of farm structures. His sons note that their father's carefully thought-out design is what has helped the barn last throughout the years. It was built in about 1927. Later, in about 1949, he built the forty-foot-high granary. The timbers used for all of the historic buildings were Douglas fir harvested from forests up Cheatback Canyon east of the farm.

The sturdy bracing inside the loft is created by large 4' x 4' timbers that are heavily bolted at 45° angles to 10' x 10' support timbers that go all the way to cement footings in the ground. This bracing supports heavy cross timbers that divide the hay loft into four usable sections. The barn roof still has the original metal covering; wood shingles were never used.

There are three main areas inside the ground floor. The center consists of a large open area that was used to wean and pen newborn calves and receive loose hay from an opening in the loft. Three teams of work horses and a few horses for riding were stabled in stalls on the west side of the barn. The east end of the ground level contains two rows of stanchions used for feeding and milking eighteen Holstein cows. Joe Clegg designed these stanchions to open and close simultaneously in one operation.

The Clegg children were required to help with various chores on the farm. When Joe's son Keith was a young boy his job was to sit on the derrick horse and guide it back and forth to operate the cables to the Jackson fork.

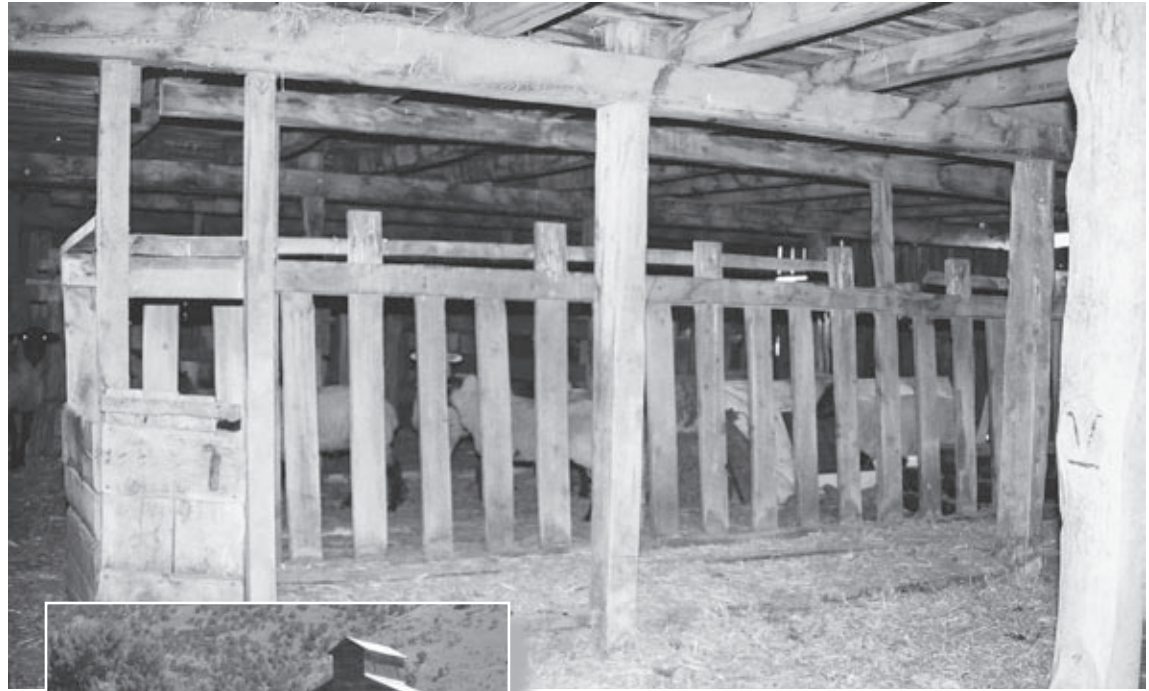
Joe milked eighteen cows by hand for many years and did most of the farming with teams of horses until about 1940, when he got his first rubber-tired tractor. In the early 1940s, Joe installed a Surge milking system and operated his dairy until about 1960 when modern-day milk cooling methods became a dairy farm requirement.

The granary was always considered a prized possession of the Joe Clegg farm. It was constructed using 2 x 4 boards stacked flat and nailed tightly together with 16-penny spikes to make a smooth, waterproof, and strong wall. The granary contains four large grain bins. A free-standing vertical chute houses a large belt with over 100 grain cups attached that, when rotating, would continuously scoop grain from a pit located at the bottom of the chute to the top, where the grain would then be channeled to one of the four bins. The monitor-shaped cupola at the top is primarily for ventilation.

Address: 598 Bench-Lago Road

Viewing directions: View barn from Niter-Bench Road.

GPS Coordinates: 42°30.166 N. 111°40.279 W. (viewpoint)



*Top: Sheep can be seen behind the old wooden stanchions in the barn. Inset: The site as seen from Niter-Bench Road. Bottom: A view of the barn from the southeast.*

## Caribou County Barns

### 26 Elvin Hubbard Arch-Roof Dairy Barn Niter, ca. 1947

A Jackson fork was never used in this barn, identified with the "Quarter Circle over EH" brand. The arched-roof dairy barn was banked into the hillside and has a convenient space along its north side where a load of baled hay could be lifted into the loft from ground level.

The twentieth century development of light-weight balloon framing allowed for the expansion of the hay loft without heavy supporting timbers that took up space. Arched-roof dairy barns were sometimes packaged in kits and shipped from the east, but local carpenters also figured out how to build the curved trusses. Elvin Hubbard built his barn in 1947, probably with the help of a local builder. Charlie Hubbard sawed the logs into lumber in his saw mill up Cheatbeck Canyon, just south of here off Niter-Bench Road.

Elvin's son Neil remembers that his father milked between thirty and forty cows. For a long time they used bucket milkers and ten-gallon cans. They would strain the milk and put it in a cement water bath to keep it cool. The milk would then be picked up daily by a milk truck and taken to a local processing plant. Later, they modernized and got a big compressor-cooled tank that could hold 75-100 gallons of milk. The milk pick-ups were then spread out to three or four times a week. Finally they went to a pipeline milker until his father sold the cows and quit the dairy in 1974.

Today, Neil is a full-time farmer, cattleman, and potato grower. The potatoes are stored in the modern cellars south of the old barn. The top of the barn now houses machinery and the bottom provides space for cattle to get in out of the weather.

This farm is on the edge of the area where dairy farming dominated the landscape. From the Niter store on to the south, the soil is not as well suited for growing potatoes, so dairying was the primary pursuit.

Address: 2274 Benchview Drive

Viewing directions: View from Benchview Drive looking north.

GPS Coordinates: 42°31.084 N. 111°41.206 W. (viewpoint)



*Above: The barn has metal stanchions, which were a modern version of the wooden ones found in older barns. Note the manger behind the stanchions so the cows could feed during milking.*



### The Idaho Potato: A Success Story

Idaho's favorable soil and climate conditions have made it one of the world's leading producers of potatoes. Although potatoes were introduced here as early as 1837 by Presbyterian missionary Henry Spalding, and later by Mormon colonists, certified seed potatoes are a recent development in the Grace area. In the 1960s, seed potato growers expanded, and under Idaho's seed potato certification program, Grace potato growers have become some of the nation's top seed potato suppliers.

Don't miss stopping by one of Grace's potato cellars in the fall, watching the plentiful harvest being sorted and stored, and picking up a supply of Idaho's finest and freshest root crop.

### The seed potato: a delicate laboratory plant

The process of growing potatoes starts behind the scenes in the laboratory. Tiny sprouts called microtubers are propagated under strict standards to develop stock that is free of virus, fungi or bacterial contamination. When these are ready, they are transferred to a greenhouse until they grow into minitubers. These are about the size of your thumb, and the grower has to plant thousands of them. The age of each year's seed crop is identified in generations. The first delicate generation of tubers grown from the minitubers are called nuclear. It takes a few years to increase the nuclear stage in volume until the grower has enough of these to sell.

Other growers prefer to start with later generations such as G1 to G3 to sell to others who need these. Seed generations can go up to the G6 level, but earlier generations closer to the greenhouse pose the least risk of disease. Planting is in April to May of each year. Cutting machines cut the seed potato into chunks that are loaded into planters.

About twenty-five hundred pounds of cut-up seed potato are planted per acre, and the yield is usually 30,000 pounds per acre.

### Roguing

Roguing is the process of weeding out inferior or diseased plants from the potato field to ensure a high quality potato crop. Roguing in the potato industry is a job that cannot be assigned to one person or to a special piece of equipment. Workers must learn the art of roguing through on-the-job experience and be willing to put in long days of labor from sunup to sunset, walking up and down the rows of potato hills in the heat of a July day. It takes about one year to train a reliable roguer, one of the most valuable assistants to the potato grower, whose livelihood and reputation depend on producing disease-free seed potato that can be shipped all around the nation.

### Harvesting

It used to be that harvesting and sorting of potatoes was a community event. In the fall, youth were released from school to work on the potato harvest. Their mothers and other women worked in the fields, too. People gathered for long hours of hand sorting and loading



into the cellars and also bagging potatoes in burlap sacks for shipment. Now, tractors called side diggers turn up rows and rows of potatoes that are then gathered up by large harvesters and funneled into ten-wheeler trucks driven alongside. Women often drive the ten-wheeler trucks.

### At the cellar

Immediately after harvesting the potatoes, the trucks arrive at the cellar loaded with 30,000 pounds of potatoes that are let out of the back on to the "even-flow," which channels them onto the "clodhopper" at an even rate. The clodhopper sorts all the dirt clods out and sends them to a large dump truck. There is a person sitting at this point to catch any stray potatoes from going in with the dirt clods.



From the clodhopper the potatoes go to a sorting table, where a crew further sorts them, discarding any rotten or improperly sized potatoes. (The average size should be about twelve ounces.) From the sorting table, the potatoes go into the "piler", which piles a giant mountain of potatoes into the cellar starting from back to front. The pile rises as high as the thirty-five foot ceiling of the cellar.

The potatoes must be stored at a temperature of 40° F. in order for them to last through the winter without breaking dormancy. The temperature and humidity of the cellar are controlled with huge fans that are monitored by computers in the newer cellars. Large pipes blow air through the potatoes to help keep them dry and cool.

### Certifying and shipping

Each season, the grower must send samples of his seed potato to labs to be analyzed and certified as disease-free before being shipped out in the spring. Samples of potatoes are sent to labs to be checked at different intervals during the season. Cellar inspections in the winter ensure that conditions are right to maintain dormancy of the potato crop. A final certification takes place at the time of shipping from the cellar. If it cannot be sold as certified seed, these potatoes can be sold to a processor right away to be used for French fries, dehydration, or hash browns.



Left: The harvester and ten-wheeler truck working side by side. Above upper right: Mario Medina Aguina at the even-flo as it channels potatoes to the clod-hopper. Above left: The piler builds a mountain of potatoes inside the cellar. Lower right: Potato cellar with cinderblock front.



## Types of Cellars

We know through archeological research that human beings have been using underground or partially-underground storage of food for millennia. In more recent history, explorers and pioneers used caves that stayed cold all year or buried food in pits covered with straw and loose soil. The root cellar and the walk-in cellar are man-made versions of these.

Cellars built for the storage of large amounts of potatoes came into use in the early 1900s. Loose or baled straw was laid on top of pole rafters, and the roofing material on top of that. Roofing material could be wood shingles or tin. Dirt was piled up on the sides and even on top as in the case of a sod roof. Another interesting feature is the cellars' placement on the landscape at angles to catch prevailing winds that could help in cooling.

There are several different roof types in cellars that have developed since 1900. Today, the Quonset hut dominates the industry. The use of computerized humidity and temperature controls assure the grower that potatoes will be held at the proper temperature from harvest time to shipping time, anywhere from March to May.

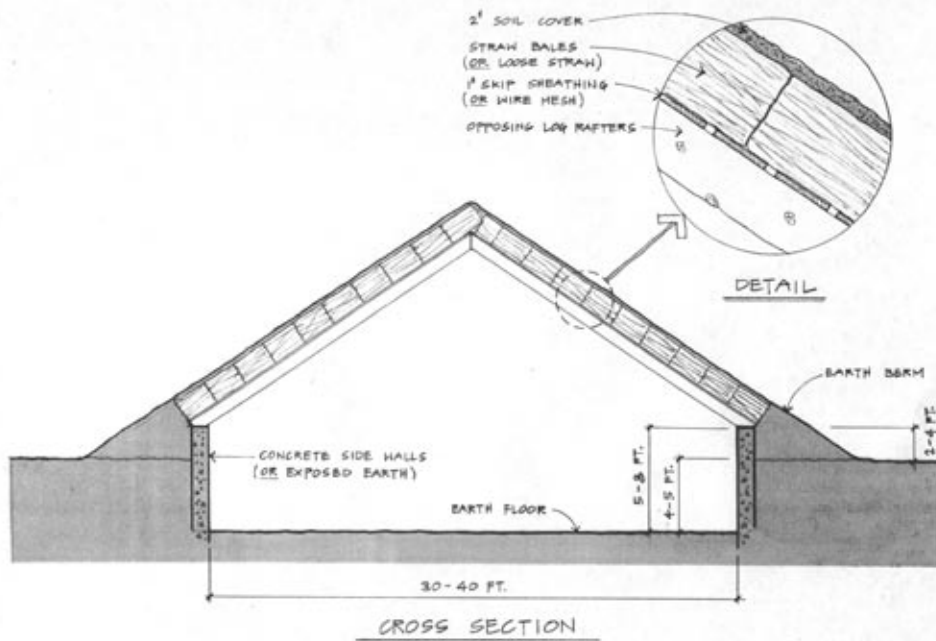
Almost everyone in this region has a version of this recipe to take to parties or funerals:

### Party Potatoes

Dolores Gilbert

8 medium potatoes	2 cans cream of chicken soup
1 cube margarine	2 cups medium cheddar cheese
1 pint sour cream	1/3 cup chopped onion
1/4 to 1/2 cup canned milk	

Cook onions in margarine until tender, add soup and half of the cheese and sour cream and canned milk. Shred potatoes and other half of cheese, layer all ingredients with cream of chicken soup. Top the casserole with crushed potato chips, *Chicken in a Biskit* crackers or corn flakes. Put in 9 X 13 pan and bake at 350° for 45 minutes.



Left: Section of a typical Idaho straw bale potato cellar, ca. 1950. Architectural drawing by Martin Hammer, DSA Architects, 2002.



## Caribou County Barns

### 27 Miles Brothers Farms

#### Straw Bale Potato Cellar with Gabled Extension Niter, ca. 1950-1955

Older potato cellars like this one were often called “pole cellars” because of the lodgepole pine timbers that were used for the rafters. This cellar was built in about 1950-1955. It has straw bales on top of the poles and a tin roof. The gabled entrance on the front helps keep the temperatures inside stable and provides a space for the fuse box. In the back of the cellar are fans that automatically go on and off to help keep the temperature at about forty degrees—it is more difficult to control the conditions in an older cellar than in newer ones. In the spring, the potatoes will be shipped out of this cellar sooner than those stored in a new cellar so they won’t break dormancy and start to sprout.

The Miles Brothers raise Russets, Ranger Russets, and Shepody potatoes. About 15,000 hundredweight (abbreviated as cwt), or 750 tons, of potatoes can be stored in this older cellar, and about 50,000 cwt, or 2,500 tons, in the new cellar. Usually if people drive by in mid-September to early October, they can see the potato harvest going on. In about March they can see potatoes being loaded for shipment, and sometime in May the next crop is planted.

Address: 1997 Niter-Bench Road

Viewing directions: View looking south from Niter-Bench Road. During harvest season, please stay back out of the way of equipment.

GPS Coordinates: 42°30.211 N. 111°44.476 W. (viewpoint)





## Caribou County Barns

### 28 Gilbert Farm Straw Bale Cellar Grace, ca. 1970

Don and Dolores Gilbert have been growing potatoes for over thirty years on 400 acres of this Idaho Century farm, which was established by Don's ancestors in 1879. They also raise hay and barley and run a beef cattle operation on this large family farm.

Dolores grew up on a farm in the Bench-Niter area. Alongside her father, Orson Clegg, she drove the derrick horse, bagged grain on the harvester, drove the truck while he unloaded hay for the cattle, and even drove the truck to town to unload pigs onto the railcars. In the spring of 1944, Orson planted his first crop of potatoes, but before he could harvest them, an early winter covered the fields with a blanket of snow. Orson died suddenly that December, and the potatoes stayed under the snow all winter long. In the spring, when family and friends gathered to help harvest the crop, they were amazed to find that the potatoes had not frozen.

In the early days of Grace's potato industry, most of the work was done by hand. Seed potatoes were cut by hand and loaded into a planting machine. Planting and digging machinery was pulled by tractor. At harvest time, young women gathered in the fields to fill wire baskets with thirty-five pounds of potatoes. Burlap bags were filled with the contents of three wire baskets, and men threw the bags onto a flatbed truck. At the cellar, the bags were dumped by hand into a piler that conveyed the potatoes into the cellar for long-term storage.

Don had this straw bale, gable-roof cellar built in about 1970. It measures 50 X 250 feet. Poles for the cellar came from Island Park, Idaho. Only poles that had a twelve-inch base and at least an eight-inch top could be used. The poles were laid up to form the A-frame of the roof and rough boards were laid across them. Straw bales eighteen to twenty-four inches thick were laid on top of the framing. Instead of dirt on top, tin was used for the final covering of the roof.

Reminiscent of the all-dirt roofs of older cellars, dirt and grass banks rise up on either side of the A-frame to further enhance the cellar's efficiency. The cellar can hold 50,000 hundredweight sacks, or about 2,500 tons, and can hold the temperature at about 40° F. all winter. Across from the older cellar are three modern Quonset cellars that are insulated with polyurethane and are environmentally controlled with computer technology.



Address: 1805 Grace Power Plant Road

Viewing directions: View cellars from roadway through farm. (Use caution on slippery dirt roads during winter months.)

GPS Coordinates: 42°32.198 N. 111°46.748 W. (viewpoint)

*Large photo: Fieldworker Ron Goede talks with Don Gilbert in front of the straw bale cellar.  
Inset: Bales of straw are placed at the doors in winter to provide insulation.*



## Caribou County Barns

### 29 Johnson/Varley Farms Quonset Cellar Grace, ca. 1989



When the Johnsons aren't out tending to potato vines or potato harvest, they are out planting or harvesting their red winter wheat and barley. Harold Varley started raising seed potatoes after about 1948 when he moved to Grace from Aberdeen. In about 1960, when Norm Johnson married Harold's daughter Nina, he made a decision to go into potato growing instead of a medical career. He never regretted the decision to raise seed potatoes, a career in which he can involve his family. His son Nick joined him in the family business in 1997 after returning from a two-year mission for the LDS Church and attending college at

Brigham Young University, where he majored in agribusiness.

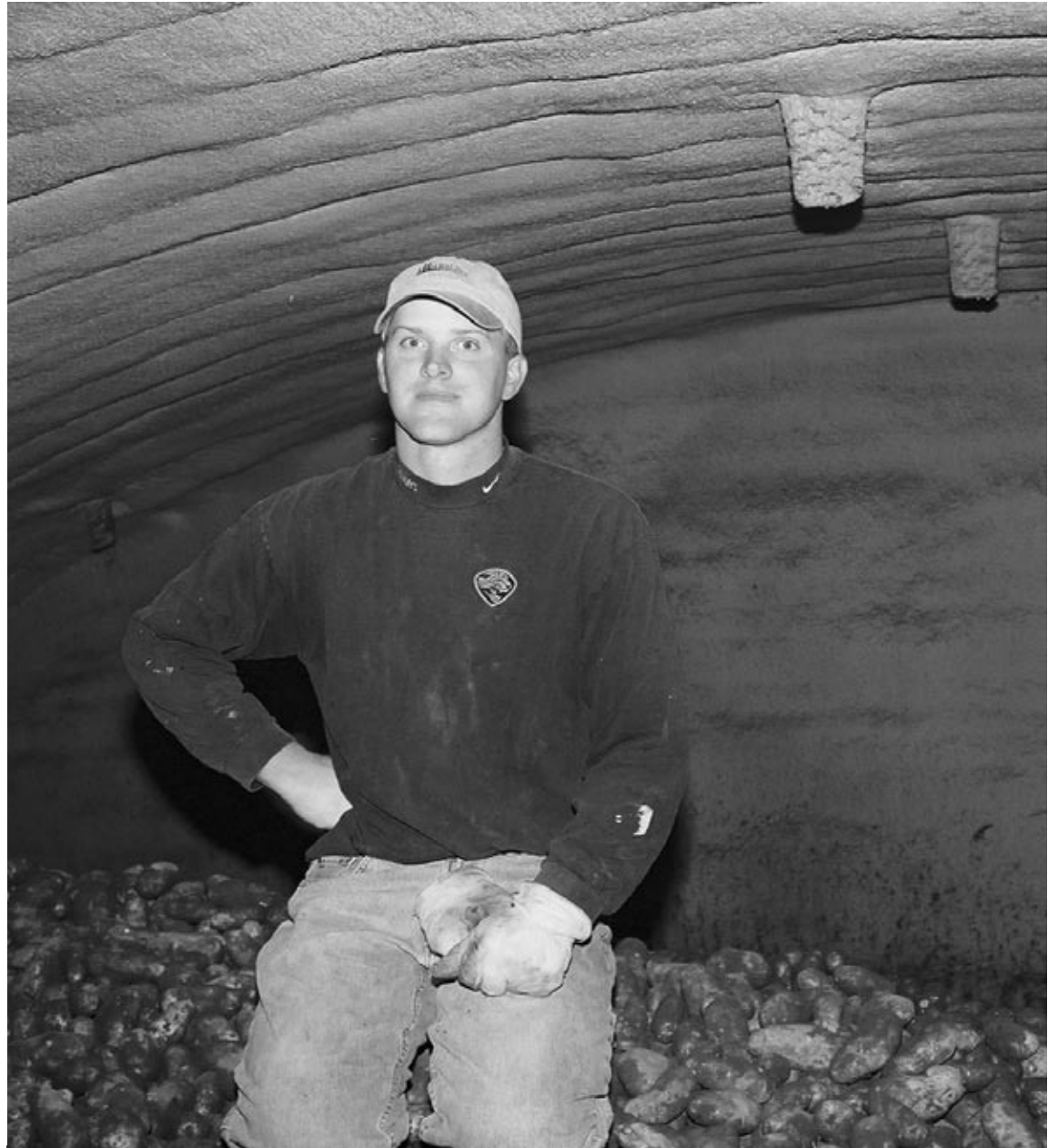
The Johnson's cellar is an example of a recent development in the design of potato cellars. The Quonset hut is an offshoot of World War II architecture and is used extensively in southeastern Idaho for potato storage. The cellar environment is regulated with computerized temperature and humidity controls. The "plantum" is a long tunnel running the full length of the cellar that leads you to the back of the cellar. A steep stairway provides access to the top of a thirty-five foot mountain of potatoes. Once, while checking things up there, Norm's wallet slipped out of his back pocket and got lost in the pile of potatoes and was not found until spring.

Norm says some of the challenges of potato farming are frost, cost fluctuations, weather, and disease. They have to keep the fertilizer balanced, and the insects out. From the first of March until the first of November they are involved in the growing and harvesting of the potatoes, and then all winter long they are going over the equipment and getting it ready for the next season. Out in the field, Norm communicates with his crew by way of radios and cell phones. That way he has the ability to run around town, take care of various errands and problems, and still keep in touch with what is happening out in the field. In the fall you can watch as the Johnsons and their crew put Burbank potatoes in the cellar for winter storage.

Address: 905 Varley Road

Viewing directions: View from Varley Road looking east. During harvest season, please stay back out of the way of equipment.

GPS Coordinates: 42°32.895 N. 111°46.786 W. (viewpoint)



*Above: Nick Johnson kneels on a thirty-foot pile of potatoes inside the cellar.*



## Caribou County Barns

### 30 Hans Sorensen Grain Bins Soda Springs, ca. 1940s

Born in Denmark, Hans Sorensen moved to Soda Springs from The Dalles, Oregon, in 1925. He was a wheat and barley farmer and built these granaries in which to hold his grain while negotiating better prices for his product. He originally built three hexagonal bins, twenty feet high, with a capacity of 10,000 bushels each. Shortly after, a fourth one was



constructed with almost the same design. Each granary is set on a two-foot concrete foundation, and the siding is made with two-by-six and two-by-four boards laid flat.

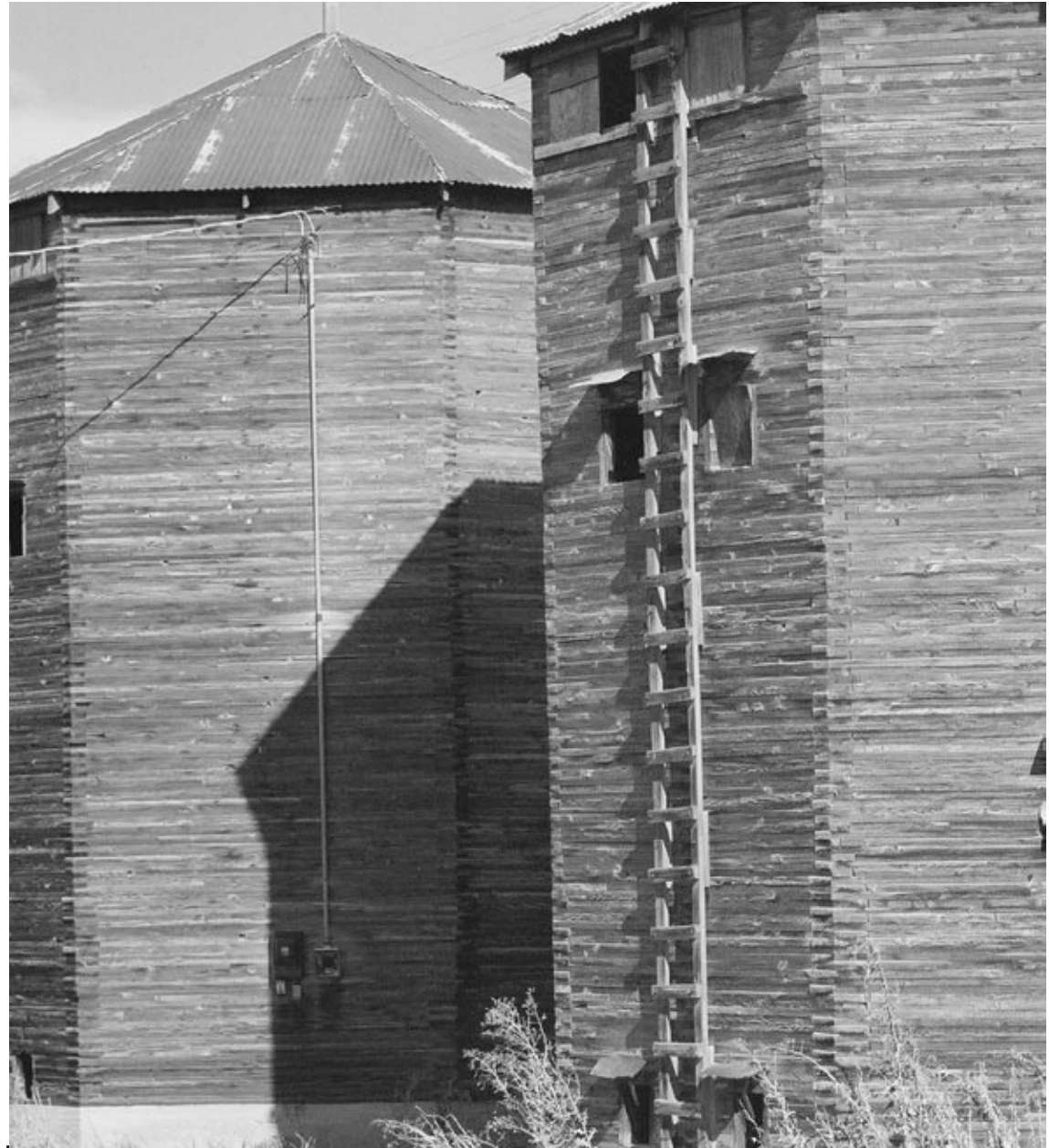
Initially, the grain was blown in, but this system was eventually replaced with augers. Because the walls were not airtight, the grain could breathe

easily and was kept fresh. The Sorenson grain bins are no longer in use, but stand as a beautiful reminder of the work that went on here in the center of town in the 1900s.

Address: 80 South and 100 East

Viewing directions: View grain bins from the intersection of 100 East and the railroad crossing.

GPS Coordinates: 42°39.435 N. 111°36.038 W. (viewpoint)







## Caribou County Barns

### 31 Grays Lake Guard Station Four-Horse Barn Wayan, 1933-1934

This is the site of the original Grays Lake District Ranger Station of the Forest Service. Improvements were made to the property in 1910 that included the addition of a five-room log house, a log barn and a shed. There was pasture for horses “fenced with two miles of four-wire barbless fence...and twenty-five acres were plowed for crops to support the ranger station,” according to a Forest Service historical report.



From 1910 to 1988, adjacent sections of land were added to the property, and various buildings were built and torn down until this was no longer deemed a strategic location for any work scheduled for the Caribou National Forest. During the era of the New Deal, the site was downgraded to a Guard Station, and the original log barn was replaced with the present barn, a Plan R4-11 four-horse barn.

Architectural plans illustrate the four stalls for horses, a rodent-proof room with grain bins and a loft with hay door and hay chute. The shiplap siding was painted according to Forest Service standards, which designated certain colors to go along with certain environments.

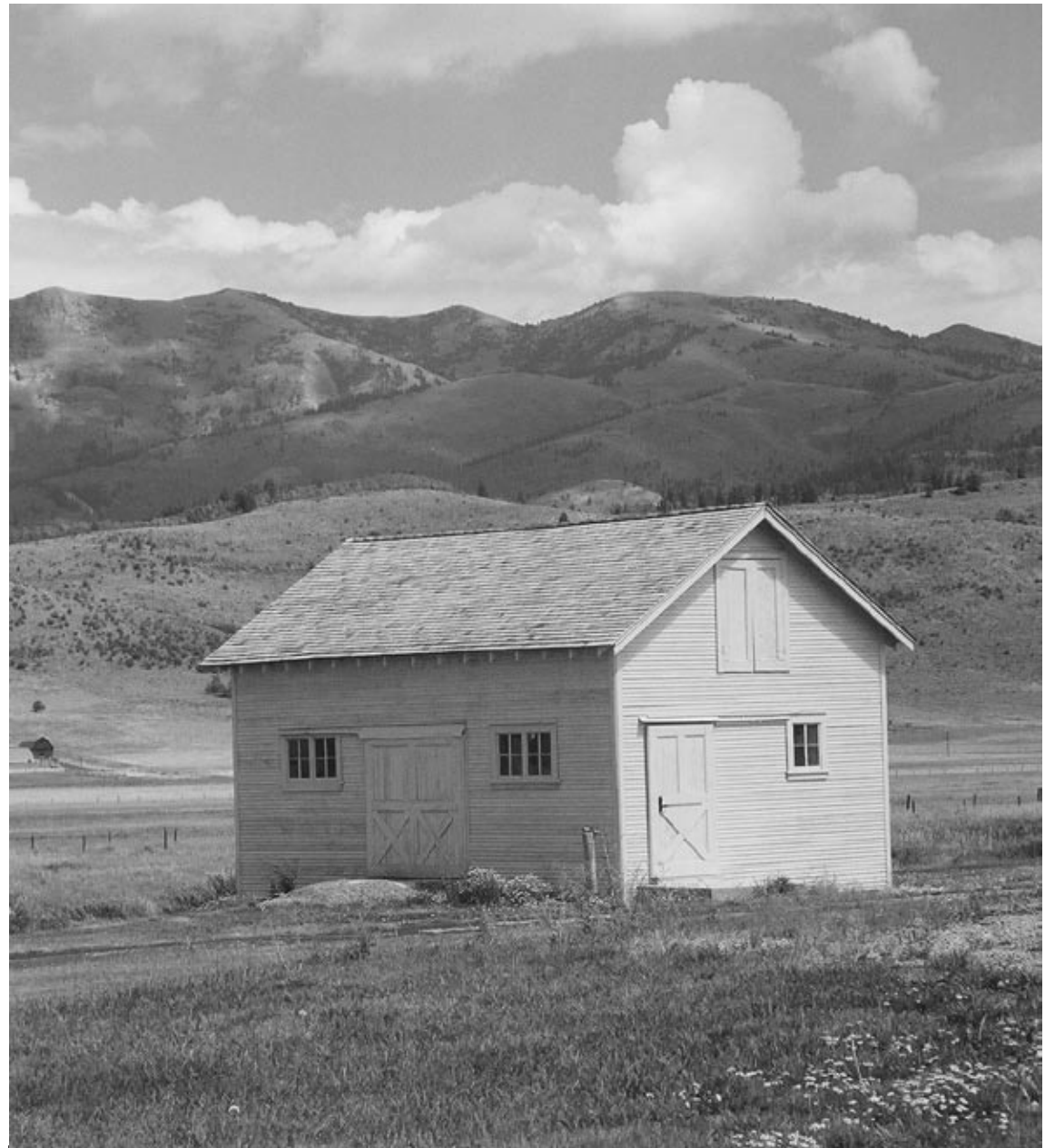
Horses were an important part of the work of a forest ranger. Up until the 1920s, Forest Service workers still preferred horses as the main mode of transportation. Forest Service architectural historian Richa Wilson wrote that forest rangers “... must thoroughly know the country, its conditions, and its people. They live in the Forests, often in localities far from settlement and sources of supply. The Ranger must be able to take care of himself and his horses under very trying conditions; build trails and cabins; ride all day and all night; pack, shoot, and fight fire without losing his head. ...”

At one time the Guard Station barn was recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, but no further action was taken. This site is now owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and serves as the headquarters for the Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

Address: 74 Grays Lake Road

Viewing directions: View from the parking lot of the Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

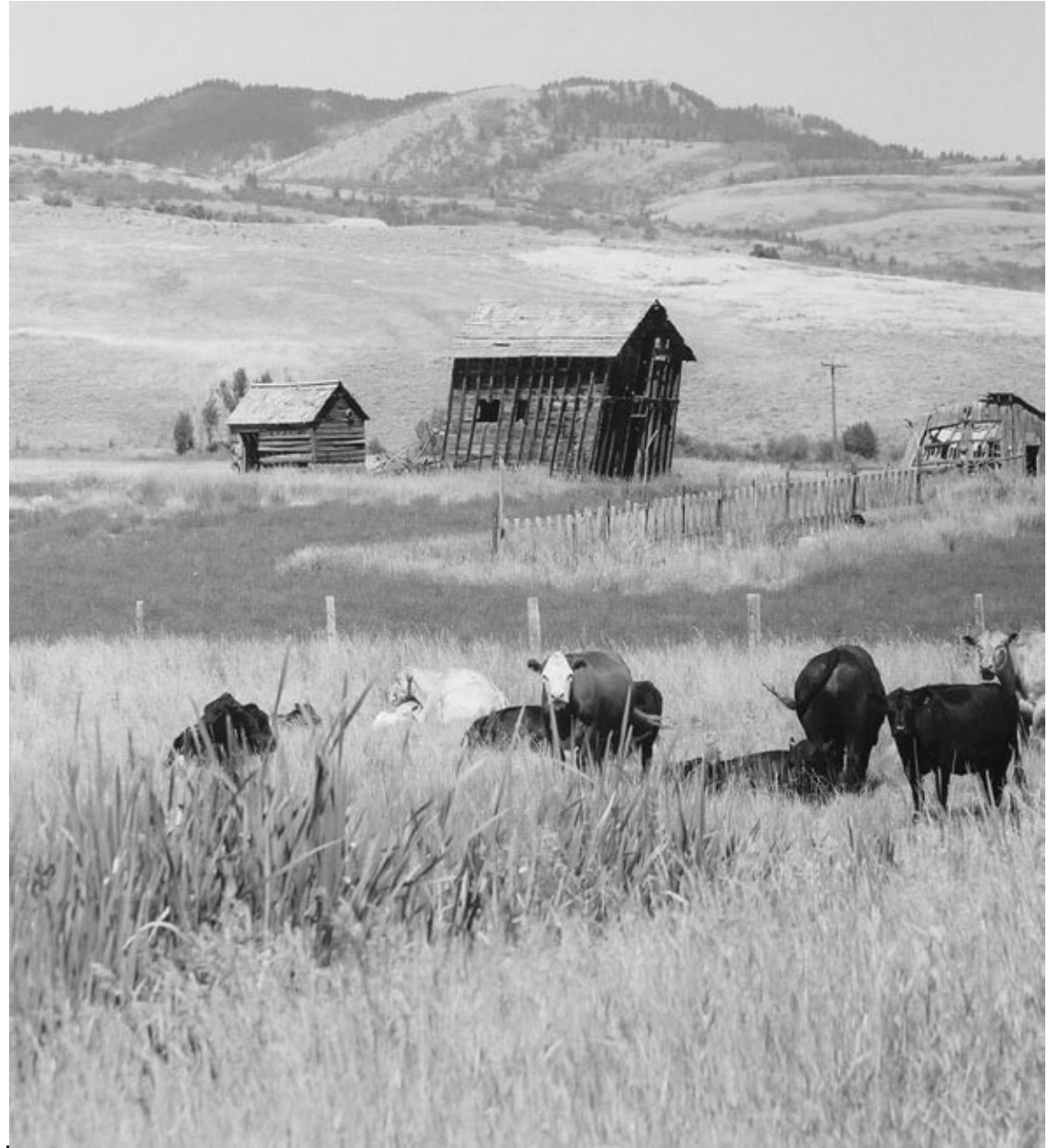
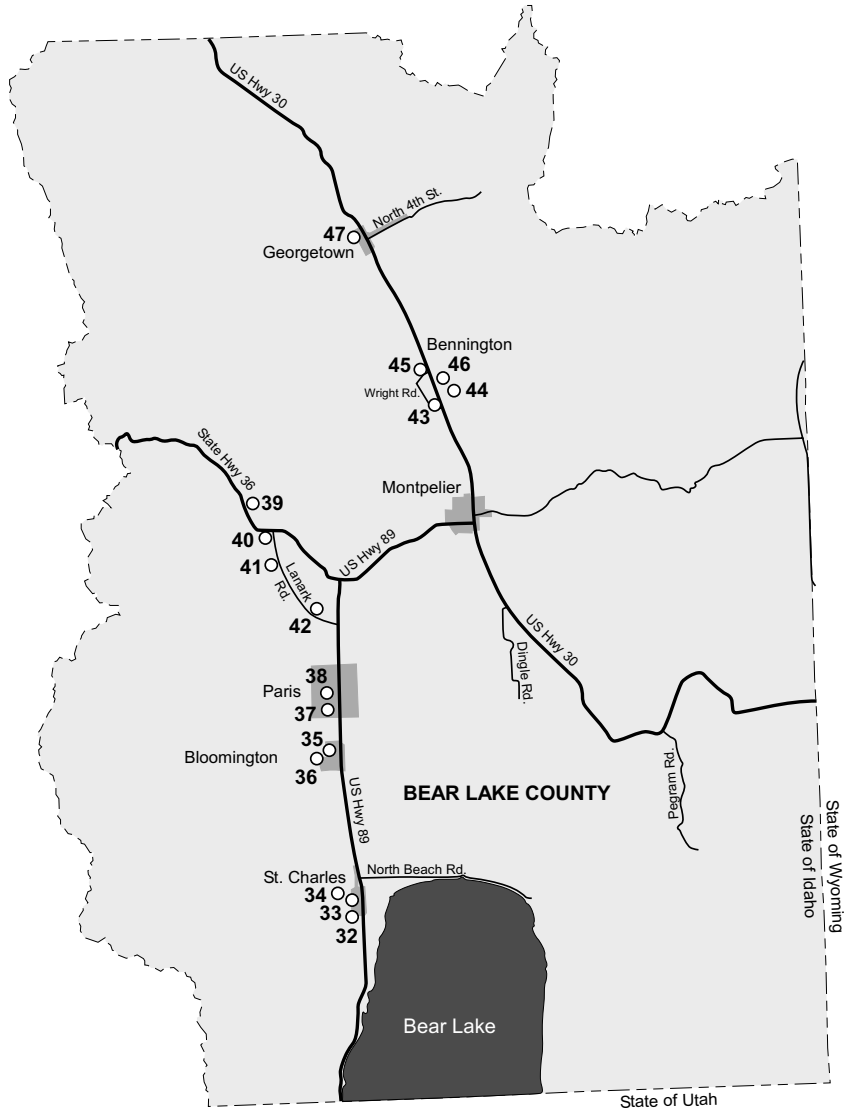
GPS Coordinates: 43°01.851 N. 111°22.638 W. (viewpoint)



*Left: The mud nests of barn swallows fill the eaves of the building in summer.*



## Bear Lake County Map



*A leaning granary in the Liberty area.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 32 John W. Brewer Barn St. Charles, about 1880

This barn and several others like it are common in Bear Lake County where builders used horizontal log construction with tight-fitting joinery.

Logs for this barn were sawed flat on the sides, and left rounded on the top and bottom. Short lengths of quartered poles were sometimes used to fill in spaces between logs, but in this case, the spaces were chinked with a cow-manure-and-mud plaster and covered with what looks like long slats left over from trimming the logs.

An interesting feature to note is that while the joints on the corners of the barn are rough half-dovetails, the southwest corner was left untrimmed, and the southeast corner was trimmed, perhaps to accommodate the installation of a corral fence or gate.

The rectangular gable-roof barn has three main sections. In the south end, the horizontal log construction creates a separate cow barn that has a few stanchions and a manger. A hayloft above this had holes through which hay could be pushed to the manger below. The north and middle sections are sided with vertical planking that is extended over the log crib. Horses were sheltered under the loft in the north end. Long, wide log trimmings were also used here in making the dividing wall between the center and the north stable.

The barn was built by John W. Brewer in about 1880 and was owned by other members of the Brewer family until it passed to L. Junior Pugmire in the 1960s. Junior used the barn for a cow-calf operation. He remembers the barn being an ideal place to keep his cows and calves warm during the February calving season. It was also ideal for protecting work horses after they would come in sweating from a day's work in the fields.

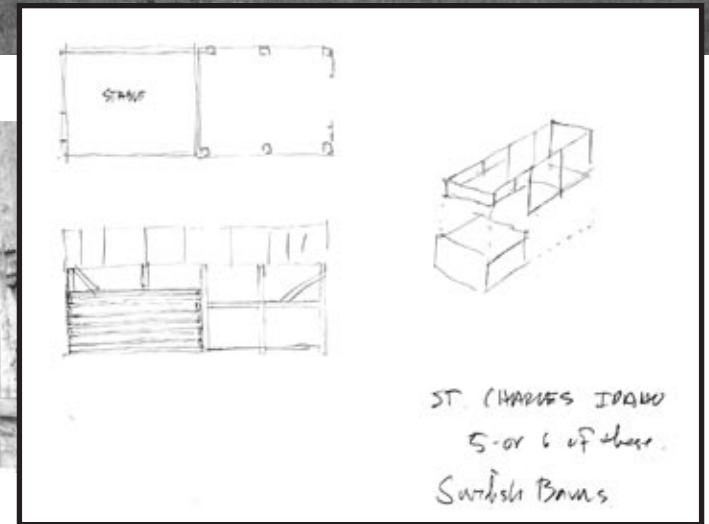
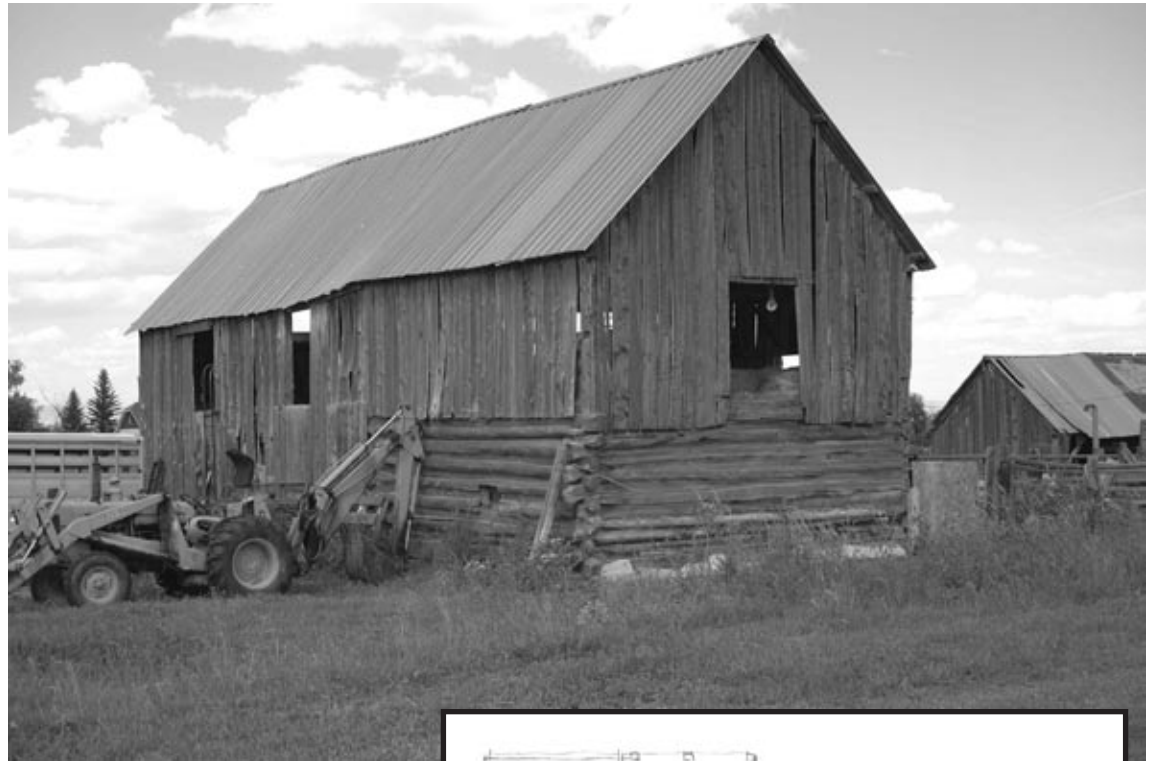
Loose hay was loaded into the barn with a Jackson fork from the north end and dropped into either of the lofts and into the center section. Soon after Junior bought the place, he switched to using baled hay and an elevator to load it from windows on the east and west sides. Originally the barn was enclosed on the east side. To access the hay in the center bay, you climbed into the window high on the west side, or used a man door at ground level on the east side.

An old metal ladder that Junior got from the Utah Power and Light plant when they remodeled was used to access the loft over the south end. The ladder is still attached to the west side of the barn.

Address: 395 S. 100 W.

Viewing directions: View barn from 400 South looking north.

GPS Coordinates: 42°06.189 N. 111°23.559 W. (viewpoint)



*Top: Cows were sheltered in the log portion of the barn, where it was warmer than other parts of the building. Bottom left: The loft over the log portion. Bottom right: A sketch by architectural historian Tom Carter shows how barns like this, which are thought to be of Swedish origin, are constructed.*



## Bear Lake County Barns

### 33 William Alfred Charles Keetch Barn St. Charles, early 1920s

The Keetches were from Wales. Charles Greenwood Keetch came to St. Charles on the second wagon train into Bear Lake in 1864 and homesteaded a few miles north of St. Charles. His son, William Alfred Charles Keetch, built this gambrel-roof dairy barn in the early 1920s.

A cement silo with a shake shingle cap on it was built about the same time as the barn and was used for storing sugar beet pulp. William's son Alfred remembered riding the derrick horse as a young boy of five or six, helping to pull buckets of cement up to build the silo one section at a time. He later milked fourteen cows in this barn from about 1940 to 1972. By then, the barn was equipped with a modern milking system.

The barn's tongue and groove horizontal siding was originally painted red, and the original roof was board and batten—boards placed side by side with a thin strip of wood covering the space in between. The diagonally placed siding on the north elevation is a regional pattern that introduced more stability to buildings, and can be seen on several Bear Lake County barns. Remnants of a log barn that sat on huge foundation stones can still be seen on the north side of the barn. Four teams of horses were stabled in the log barn and were used in farming. A calving shed with a hay loft was added onto the south end of the barn.

The barn still has its Jackson fork. The fork came in from the south end, along a rail to the north. Cows entered the barn from the east side into two north and south mangers, each with seven stanchions. Hay was thrown down from the loft into a center area. The silo's snug fit with the barn allowed access to it from the inside, and a gravity-fed chute above the loft of the calving shed provided a way for grain to flow down into the barn so that it could be put into buckets and fed to the animals.

Alfred's son Wayne says that his father kept records on the walls of his barn during the busiest years of running the farm. Initials of those who worked in the barn are carved in a door, and old handwritten dairy notes for substitute milkers are still attached to the wall that instruct to "leave number ten and number five outside." A wood panel that his dad used for notes could be sanded off when it got too jumbled to read.

The barn's silo once doubled as a hideout for a "lone outlaw." Early one morning, as Alfred was working in the barn, police officers arrived saying they were looking for a fugitive who had run from a stolen car in town. Two other thieves had already been apprehended in the canyon, and the officers thought the third might be nearby. Alfred thought that no one was there, but by poking around inside the silo with pitchforks, they found the fugitive.



*Top: A view of the barn from the west. Bottom: "Bloaty's Gag," which was devised to keep a cow that had a habit of overeating and getting sick from doing so.*

Address: 235 South Main

Viewing directions: View barn from 100 West.

GPS Coordinates: 42°06.389 N. 111°23.503 W. (viewpoint)

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 34 Ola Peterson Barn St. Charles, ca.1880s

In 1871, when Ola Peterson was twenty years old, he came from southern Sweden with his parents, Peter and Elna Olsen, and his younger sister, Anna Peterson. Ola was an apprenticed carpenter in Sweden and when he got to St. Charles, in addition to ranching, he used his skills as a blacksmith and carpenter, building wagon wheels, coffins, and farm buildings.

Ola and his wife Johanna Transtrum had nine children. In their lifetimes and in their children's lifetimes, farming involved the effort of the whole family. Hay was put up in stacks where it was harvested. Some of the better hay was hauled two miles home and stored in the barn loft.

The barn was built by Ola in the 1880s. Except for the roof, the barn was originally built without the use of nails. Logs were harvested from Green Canyon, west of St. Charles. No other treatment of the logs, except to peel them and shape the ends, is apparent. They were installed horizontally and secured with large wooden pegs driven through augered holes. The joints are fully dovetailed.

On the long sides of the building some shorter logs are spliced to cover the whole length of the barn, while others are full length. The butt ends of log joists supporting the barn loft and inside walls are also visible on the long sides of the barn.

The barn originally had three sections on the inside. The west half was open to the roof and was used to store hay. The two east sections had a loft above. Up to three teams of horses could be sheltered inside the center section, with the hay above helping to keep them warm during the winter. The section furthest east was used as a tack room and granary, and the lean-to on the east side of the barn was a blacksmith shop.

Ola and his son Alvin milked the cows in the shed to the west of the corral. In about 1949, the loft of the barn was rebuilt and extended over the west end to create a cow barn, where Ola's grandson Oren milked cows.

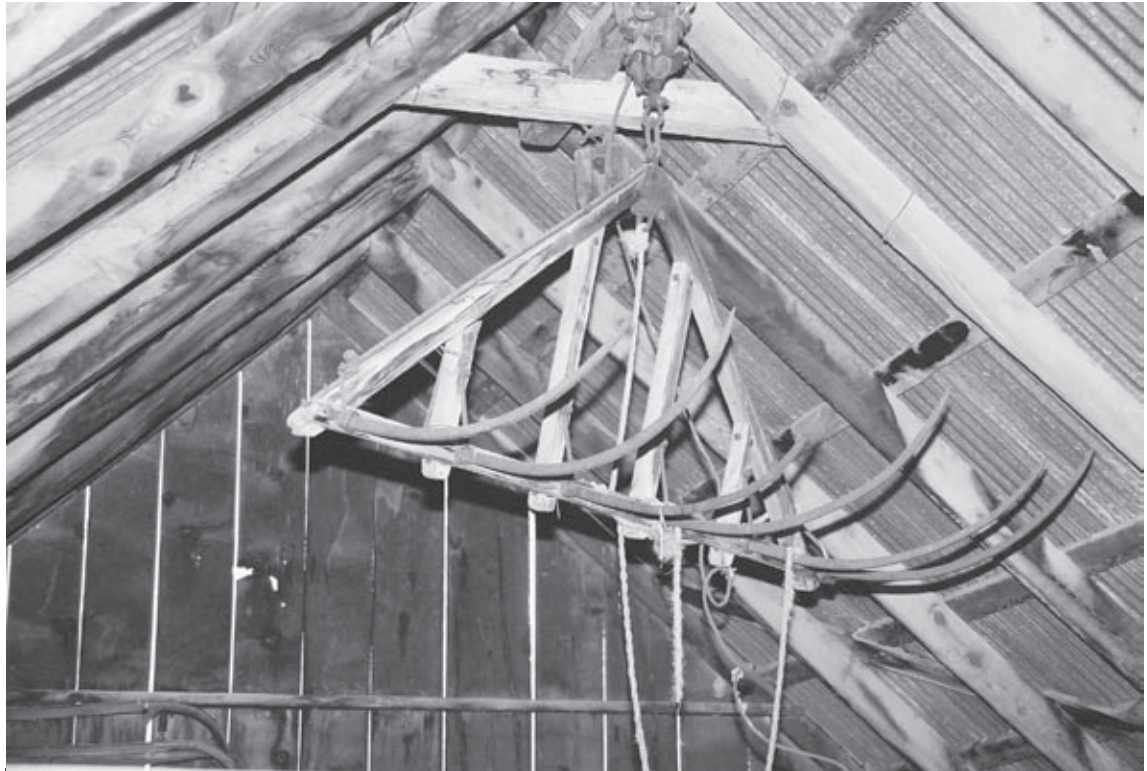
The other buildings are older than the barn. Ola had a cattle scale that still stands at the west end of the corral. Farmers and ranchers from the west side of the valley, south of Bloomington to Fish Haven, weighed their cattle here for several decades.

Oren, nicknamed "Friday," was the next Peterson to own the farm after Ola and Alvin. Friday bought a tractor, but still used horses. In 1960, he replaced the barn roof with metal and saved a box of square nails that were used to build the original roof. The farm with its historic buildings still remains in the Peterson family.

Address: 95 W. 100 S.

Viewing directions: View barn from 100 South.

GPS Coordinates: 42°06.565 N. 111°23.560 W. (viewpoint)



*Top left: A view of the top of the ladder that provides access to the loft. Bottom: The Jackson fork on its track in the gable of the barn was used to lift hay from a wagon outside into the loft.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 35 Dunford/Hart Barn Bloomington, ca. 1870

The owners of this barn have a family story that says that the man who built the barn, Isaac Dunford, was putting the roof on the building when he heard the news that Brigham Young had died. Young passed away on August 29, 1877. However, according to family journals, Isaac Dunford, a Mormon convert from Trowbridge, England, laid the first bricks of his new home (replacing the tiny cabin the family had lived in since 1865) on August 12, 1877. So it is conceivable that the story is about building the house, not the barn. It is difficult to be sure of the barn's construction date, but we know of other Bear Lake Valley barns built in the 1860s that were also of log construction, and almost certainly the barn would have been built before the new house, since barns were vital to making a living in the frigid valley.

Isaac Dunford was a weaver in a factory in southwest England. He and his wife Leah joined the LDS Church in 1848 and remained in England until 1853, when they left for America. The Dunfords lived in St. Louis for a time before heading for Salt Lake City via wagon train, arriving in 1856. After a few months, they returned to St. Louis for eight years, then came back to Utah. One of their oxen died on the first trip west, and they bought a cow to replace him, since oxen were so expensive. They named the cow "Plum," and for the rest of their lives, they always named one of their cows Plum in honor of that cow that gave them milk, cream, calves, and helped pull the wagon to Utah. On their second move to Utah, they joined their friend James H. Hart in settling the Bear Lake Valley in early 1865.

Isaac was killed in a wagon accident in October, 1879. His son Oliver Cowdrey Dunford (born 1863) ran the farm until he died in the barn of a heart attack. One of Oliver's grandsons recalled the barn: "The barns were located behind the brick house. He (Oliver) had a horse barn for his horses and a cow barn for his cows. In between was a passageway where the hayracks and a hayfork drove through. They were used to unload the hay into the lofts of the barns. It would hold several stacks of hay."

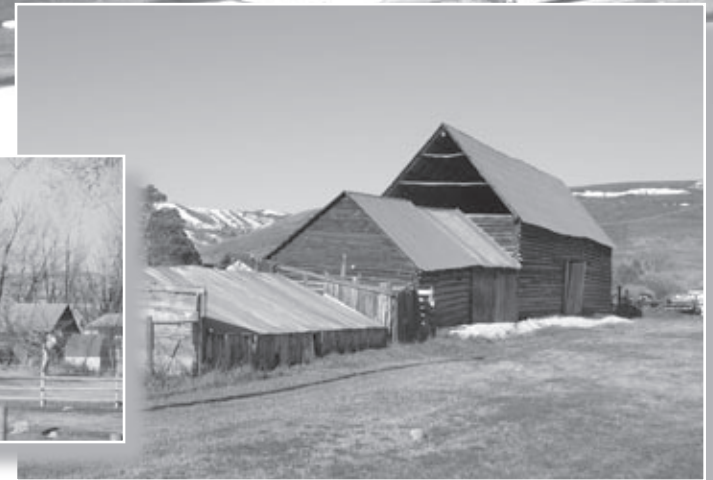
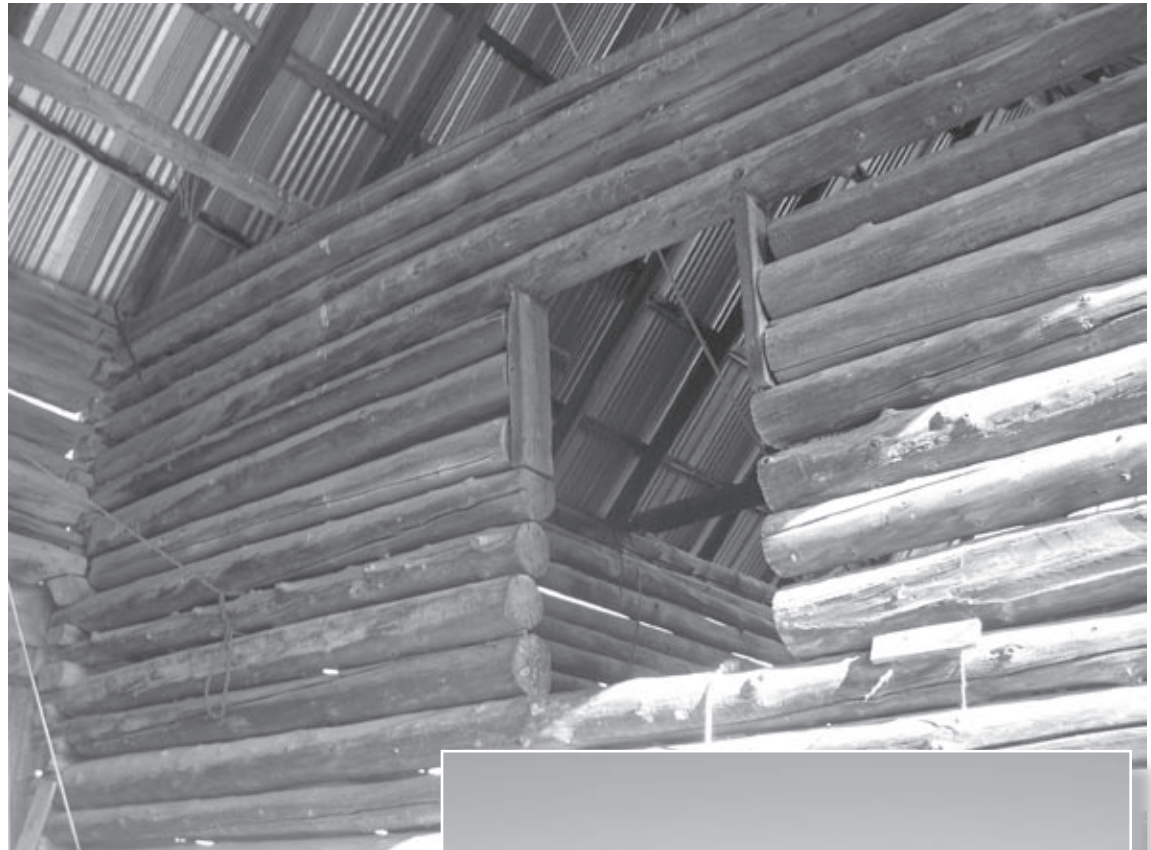
The Dunfords sold the farm to Eugene and Mildred Hart in 1944. Eugene worked for the Indian Service and then taught agriculture in Paris, Idaho. The Harts had a typical farm operation of the time, milking six to eight cows in the barn, and raising assorted other animals and crops.

Why the barn was built the way it was is unknown. Perhaps one side was completed first, and the other added later. A shed is also connected to the barn on the east end. Whether the buildings were connected due to some ethnic influence, or simply out of practicality (being on the north side of the farm, the connected buildings could serve as a windbreak) is also unknown. There does not appear to be another barn like it in the area.

Address: 290 N. Main

Viewing directions: View barn from 300 North.

GPS Coordinates: 42°11.655 N. 111°24.146 W. (viewpoint)



*Top: The east loft as seen from the passageway between the two sections of the barn (or the two barns, depending on how you conceive of the building). Bottom left: The barn seen from the southwest. Bottom right: The north face of the barn.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 36 John Bott Thornock Barn Bloomington, ca. 1870

John Bott Thornock, the oldest son of John Thornock and Ann Bott, who emigrated to Utah from England in 1854, was one of the first settlers of Bear Lake County. He worked as a surveyor on the town lots in 1864 and settled here soon after, choosing the site where he would build his house and this barn. He was instrumental in the design and construction of Bloomington's irrigation canals, and raised enough potatoes, cattle, and other crops to support his large family.

It is thought that the barn was built in the 1870s. John Bott used it for sheltering dairy cows and storing hay. It has been owned by different members of the Thornock family ever since. The lumber for the barn, like most log buildings, was harvested from a nearby canyon and brought out on sleighs in the winter. Round logs were used before hewn logs, as it was very difficult to flatten the sides of logs by hand. Later on, the Mormons had sawmills and produced dimensional lumber, but building with logs continued on into the early 1900s.

The round logs of the Thornock barn are square-notched on the top and bottom. The extensions beyond the joints are left untrimmed, leaving different lengths at the corners. There is virtually no chinking left between the logs of this barn today. Builders used such things as mud and manure or slats of wood to fill in spaces between logs.

An interesting feature of the barn is that the horizontal logs on its long sides are spliced together half way across up to a certain point. The last four or five logs run the full length of the barn. The owner does not know if this was due to the unavailability of full length logs, or if it was part of a redesign of the barn at a later date.

According to the owner, the steep roof of this gabled barn may not be the original roof. It is covered with full length milled lumber that is laid over lightweight rafters, and the rafters rest on the top plate of the log section.

It seems that the builder of this barn did not want to waste any valuable hay storage space by inserting any full sized "man doors." There are two openings through which people can crawl, and there is a slot on the south side for getting hay bales out,

The foundation for the barn is merely a few field stones placed at the corners. The railing in the gable of this barn shows a Jackson fork was used for filling it with loose hay at one time.

The current owner uses the barn for hay and for sheltering calves. He guesses that his land would be rendered a little more useful if the barn were not "in the road," but knowing its history and that it was built by his great-grandfather, he says he can't bring himself to tear it down.

Address: Across the street and a little north of 230 North on 100 West  
Viewing directions: View barn from 100 West looking west.  
GPS Coordinates: 42°11.592 N. 111°24.254 W. (viewpoint)



*Large photo: A view of the spliced logs on the south side of the barn. Bottom right: The log partition inside the barn.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 37 Stucki Dairy Paris, ca. 1944

E. Woodruff Stucki, a son of John U. Stucki and his second wife Jane, was born in Paris in 1894. He was the grandfather of current owner Dave Matthews. Dave says his grandfather used the barn for the operation of his Grade A dairy until he passed away in 1968. The barn was one of the first ones built in 1944 by Joseph Frederick Beck (see story for barn #41), using innovative techniques to create a bow truss or arched roof. The barn has tongue and groove siding on the outside, and diagonal siding on the inside, helping to keep the barn warm and weatherproof.



Inside the main bay there were stalls for seventeen cows on each side with mangers and a main runway. The hay could be dropped down to the mangers from the loft. A cinder block milking parlor was added in 1954 when the Stuckis started to sell Grade A milk, and an L-shaped section on the east side has

been added on to house more cows and to store hay in a loft above. In the barn's dairy days, Dave remembers being stepped on by a cow once while sitting in the aisle behind the cows, watching his father milk.

The barn's unusual roofline is the result of remodeling when the arched roof collapsed under heavy snows in the early 1960s. Today the barn is used to shelter ewes and lambs. Dave says that even at thirty degrees below zero, the barn is warm enough to keep the animals safe. His father Sharp Matthews was a sheep grower in Liberty, and Dave has been raising sheep since about 1962, in addition to his full time job at Monsanto. A member of the Idaho Wool Growers Association, Dave raises Suffolk sheep that are sought after by clients as exotic as the Emperor of Japan and most often by Idaho range producers and 4-H groups.

Address: 89 West 200 South

Viewing directions: View from 200 South, looking south

GPS Coordinates: 42°13.352 N. 111°24.169 W. (viewpoint)



*Left: A mural of a Holstein cow adorns the north side of the barn. Above: The back of the barn clearly shows the modification of the roofline.*





## Bear Lake County Barns

### 38 John Ulrich Stucki Barn Paris, ca. 1885-1890

John Ulrich Stucki came from Switzerland and was called upon to settle in Paris by Mormon Church President Brigham Young in 1864. He was a rancher and prominent member of the Church and was a practicing polygamist. Having married three wives before the church's announcement of the abolition of polygamy in 1890, he continued to protect and support their households, sometimes having to flee from U.S. Marshals.

The barn was the centerpiece of the work for John U. Stucki's large family. Fortunately, the memories of Annie Stucki, a daughter of John and his second wife Jane Butler were recorded in a 1980 interview. Annie recalls that the boys milked the cows, hauled hay, and fed hogs, while the girls worked in the house. A job that took all day was replacing the straw inside the mattresses and cleaning the bedrooms. Homemade rag rugs, which were tacked to the floors, would have to be completely removed. She said "you had to pull all those tacks up and take the carpet out, throw it over the line so we could get the dirt out, then sweep up all the straw that was under it, and mop the floor and then put clean straw down." The girls gathered the clean straw from this barn.

The barn is banked on the southwest side and has an eight-foot-high rock foundation on the south. A rock foundation on the east side also follows the slope of the hill. The convenience of a bank barn is that it eases the work of loading and stacking hay because the loft is at ground level or nearly at ground level on the high side.

Inside the south side, where the horse stalls and cow stanchions are, there are double walls that would have made it warmer for the animals in the winter. A wooden floor flanks this section of the barn. On the northeast side, a tack room and all-purpose workshop lead to a steep staircase up to the loft. Writing on the tack room door tells a story of the work that went on here, such as what was paid for cutting hay: "For cutting a day and a half, paid John Barback \$17.85." Other writings seem to be reflections on certain issues or reminders of things that needed doing.

From the outside, the loft could be accessed through double doors at the top of a ramp that no longer exists. There is enough space in the loft for a hay wagon to pull in and unload. Oral tradition says that when John was being pursued by marshals because of his polygamist practices, he kept a horse and buggy in this space that he could use if he needed to leave quickly. The barn loft has windows on the east and west, which cast light into the space. A feature that must have been inspiring for the owner is a view of the Paris Tabernacle directly out the east window.

Address: 6th South 100 West

Viewing directions: View barn from 100 West looking west.

GPS Coordinates: 42°13.545 N. 111°24.231 W.



*Top: A view showing the banking of the barn into the hillside. Bottom left: Inside the northeast corner of the lean-to, showing the stone foundation and the heavy timbers and planking of the walls.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 39 Hymas Hillside Dairy Liberty, early 1900

Two log buildings were originally located behind the house on this site and were used for milking cows by hand until a new barn was built at the turn of the century by Boyd Hansen. The gambrel-roof barn was built to hold a large amount of hay. It was used as a dairy barn by brothers Rao and Eldon Hymas. The two brothers worked together successfully from the 1930s till the 1980s, milking up to fifty cows at a time. The milk was sent to be processed throughout the Bear Lake Valley and also trucked to Cache Valley. Sawdust from the sawmill in Liberty was set down as bedding for the cows.



After the brothers' retirements, Rao's sons, Roger and Gary, managed the farm until 1993, when they sold the dairy business. Now the barn is used mostly for hay storage, holding up to forty tons of hay.

The barn has been impeccably maintained—the roof and windows have been replaced, and it has been repainted. The Jackson fork is still functional. There is a track inside the barn that carried a manure bucket outside.

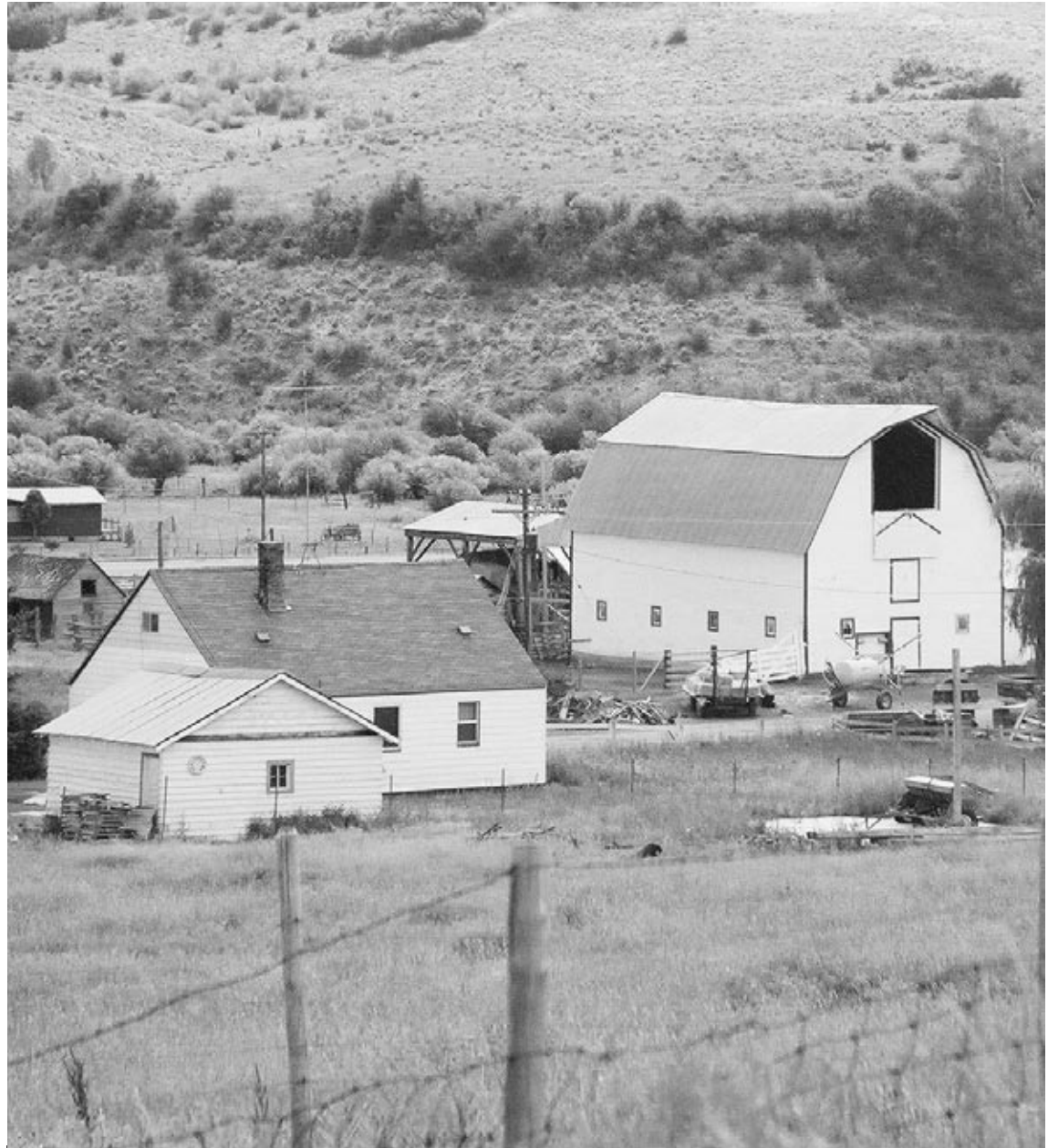
At first, cows were milked by hand. Later Surge bucket milkers were installed. When Grade A and Grade B dairy regulations came into being, a milk room was added to the side of the barn where the milk was cooled in a large cooling tank and picked up every other day. This dairy was in Grade B production, which is primarily used for making cheese and butter.

On the south side of the barn, a painting of a cow in a field and the name "Hymas Hillside Dairy" is being restored as part of the ongoing effort by the family to rehabilitate the historic building and to honor the memory of the hard-working people who developed this farm.

Address: 186 Hymas Lane

Viewing directions: View barn from the cemetery road to the east, from main highway, or anywhere along Hymas Lane. Do not enter buildings or approach machinery on the site.

GPS Coordinates: 42°19.169 N. 111°27.410 W. (viewpoint)



*Left: The view of the barn from the main highway (Highway 36). Above: The farm as seen from the cemetery road above the site.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 40 Liberty Lumber and Building Ovid, ca. 1947

Don Hemmert was seventeen years old when he came here in 1947, and Earl Nye asked him to help build a large shed on this site that was to be the new housing for his sawmill.

Don served in the Korean War, and when he returned a few years later, he went to work for Nye. They built bobsleds, hay racks, hay stackers, and cattle feeders. In 1959, Don and a partner, DeWain Passey, bought the mill and began a long-term career together. At first they logged and milled lumber for people and built ladders for mines. Then a man from Bloomington asked them to build a garage, and the next thing they knew, they had expanded to building hay sheds.

Hay sheds were becoming more and more necessary because of the increased use of baled hay. Baled hay didn't fit well in the old barns, and most people left it out in the open. Farmers found that baled hay left outside rotted more readily than a haystack, which was hand-engineered to shed water.

Their first hay shed in Pegram had six-inch timbers that were twenty feet long and buried in the ground two-and-a-half feet. These rotted out over time, so they started to cement the poles in. Don said that "by putting the cement flush with the top of the ground, the water and manure would get around it and rot the posts out. So we started treating the posts and sloping the cement up on them. Now a lot of years later, most of the sheds are still standing."

It took from one to two weeks to build a hay shed, depending on the size. They would put the posts up and build the rest from a scaffold installed on a large truck. Most of the sheds cleared eighteen feet, and installing the rafters was a challenge. They built a catwalk down the middle, and one man stood on top of it while two men on the ground handed up the rafters.

They hired a crew to help them and built hay sheds for eighty-seven cents a square foot. As soon as one shed was finished, they would start on their next order. All of their advertising was by word of mouth, and the only formality they ever used as a contract was a handshake.

In 2003, Don lost his business partner and friend DeWain; Don died on June 16, 2006. The two partners co-owned and operated Liberty Lumber and Building for over forty years and built 400-500 hay sheds.

Address: 4833 Lanark Road

Viewing directions: View the sawmill shed from Lanark Road. Many of the hay sheds can be seen all over southeastern Idaho and parts of Cache Valley.

GPS Coordinates: 42°19.004 N. 111°27.114 W.



Top: The Liberty Lumber crew on a parade float. Left to right, they are DeVerl Passey, Vernon Parker, Fayon Pugmire, DeWain Passey, Don Hemmert, Stanley Morgan, and Hulme Matthews.  
Bottom: A hay shed in Newton, Utah, built by Liberty Lumber and Building.

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 41 Beck Arch-Roof Dairy Barn Lanark, ca. 1944

In 2003, Dynette Reynolds, a granddaughter of Joseph Frederick Beck, conducted thorough research about the barns that he built in and around Paris, Idaho, in the 1930s and 1940s. The research describes how her grandfather figured out a technique for building an arched-roof barn. These barns have a striking presence on the landscape and are representative of a period of prosperity and specialization in what is called the Improvement Era of agricultural development.

Joseph was born in Paris in 1894. His grandfather, Anders Beck, a carpenter from Denmark, was one of the first settlers of Paris. As a youngster Joseph had the opportunity to work in a local sawmill. He liked working with wood and while still in high school, taught woodworking classes. As an adult, he farmed like almost everyone else, but preferred carpentry. He and another builder, Orson Grommitt, partnered in building several types of buildings, including many barns.

At least nine dairy barns were built using laminate rafter and lightweight balloon framing techniques. Although a few have collapsed and one has been remodeled (see barn #37) most of the others can still be seen today in the Liberty area. Joseph's son Worthy helped his father build the arch-roof dairy barn seen on this site. Worthy declares that the last shingle was put on the roof of this barn on New Year's Day in 1944.

In Dynette Reynold's words, "the last of the round-roofed barns to be built was Grandpa's own barn on Lanark Road. Completed in 1944, this barn took three years to build. Uncle Worthy and Grandpa spent three summers cutting Douglas Fir in North Canyon, then purchased around \$3000 worth of additional material. The cement was poured in the fall, and the studs, walls, and joists were completed before winter set in. The next year, the rafters were erected. Uncle Worthy remembers helping Grandpa draw an arc with nails and string on the floor of the hayloft, then the four layers of laminated lumber were cut on their outside edges along the arc. Each arc was entirely assembled on the floor, then raised into position and attached to the floor plate."

Another feature of these arched-roof barns is the placement of the siding and flooring on the diagonal. It is not known how the trend started, but many southeastern Idaho barns utilized this diagonal placement of boards for a more stable result. Diagonal siding was often covered with horizontal tongue and groove siding, so that the walls were doubled and the inside of the barn weatherproof.

Worthy Beck and his wife raised a family and farmed on this site, milking twenty Guernsey cows until 1968.



Top: The curved laminated rafters in the loft.

Address: 3527 Lanark Road

Viewing directions: View from Lanark Road looking south.

GPS Coordinates: 42°17.909 N. 111°26.570 W. (viewpoint)



## Bear Lake County Barns

### 42 Leo Passey Barn Ovid, ca. 1946

In 1878, John Thomas Passey homesteaded near this site. John and his wife Annie Marie Nate came from England and married in 1881 after both had emigrated to Utah. There were twelve children born to them, and their seventh, Leo Fowler Passey, grew up to live here and build the barn on this site. He and his wife Ida Susan Howell raised eight children in the house that sits on Lanark Road today.

John Thomas Passey built a log barn and grew wheat, harvested wild hay, and raised livestock on this land. After his son Leo took over the farm, he built the gambrel roof barn to replace the log barn, and continued in the same farming activities as his father. Hay was stacked outside and also put into the barn with a Jackson fork. A few cows were milked in the barn. Their son DeVerl remembers that it was his job to take the cows up about a mile into the pasture on the hill south of the homesite, and then go and get them at night. As a youngster, he milked cows by hand until his father switched to the use of a milking machine. In about 1970 a modern milking parlor was built on the side of the far barn, and the herd was increased to about seventy cows. DeVerl kept milking until 1996. The barn was used for calves and hay storage after this.

Fourteen head of horses were used to run the farm equipment. DeVerl has experience with running the push rake, the buck rake, and the stacker. It is a learned skill to build an eighteen-foot haystack that is sloped just enough to shed water, and the horses were a big part of this job. They kept enough teams of horses so they could be rotated and not tired out. DeVerl has fond memories of the horses and can recall some of their names—Strip, Barnaby, Smokey, and Chub. Horses were highly valued. When treated properly, the teams would do anything for the farmer.

The all-purpose gambrel-roof barn originally stood alone. Later, DeVerl added the chicken houses and granary that join in a long row next to the barn. The inside of the barn is now gutted out and used for calving and once in a while houses a sick animal. Inside the barnyard is a corral for the stock animals. The historic buildings remain important to the Passey family as a remembrance of the hard work involved in running a farm. Leo would give his children a job to do and then he would say that if they had any time left, they could “cut the tongue off the wagon.”

Address: 1185 Lanark Road

Viewing directions: View from Lanark Road.

GPS Coordinates: 42°16.212 N. 111°25.127 W.



*Bottom: Interior of the gambrel-roof barn that is on your left as you face the buildings. Top: A granary with a taller roof connects two poultry houses.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

### 43 Amos R. Wright Barn Bennington, before 1890

Amos Russell Wright was the firstborn child of Jonathon Culkins Wright and Rebecca Wheeler. He was born in 1840, in Exeter, Illinois, where his family joined the Mormon faith. The Wright family was among those who were preparing to leave Illinois for the migration across the plains to Utah. While waiting, Rebecca died, and Jonathon subsequently crossed the plains with five children, arriving in 1850.

Amos was raised in the Brigham City area, where his father became a prominent citizen, serving as a judge. As a youth he and a brother became friends with the Shoshone Indians and learned to speak the language. Later, he would spend a major portion of his life as a missionary for the Mormon Church in parts of southeastern Idaho and in the Wind River area in Wyoming.

Amos and his first wife Catherine Roberts arrived in Bennington, Idaho, some time after 1863. They eventually filed for a homestead on this site, having farmed it for some twenty years. A log home was built that was later expanded and still exists today. It is thought that the barn or part of the barn was built as early as 1870.

Amos wrote in his journal that 1866 was a good year, while 1867 was disastrous. It wasn't until 1874 that they had their first year of "pretty good" crops. Amos was so busy with his church responsibilities and the hardships of survival in Bennington that at one point his wife Cate was angry with him for failing to file on the homestead before a claim jumper plowed the field. However, courthouse records indicate that the Wrights eventually filed a claim. In a biographical sketch of one son born in 1896, it is noted that the boys slept year round in the loft of the barn under buffalo robes.

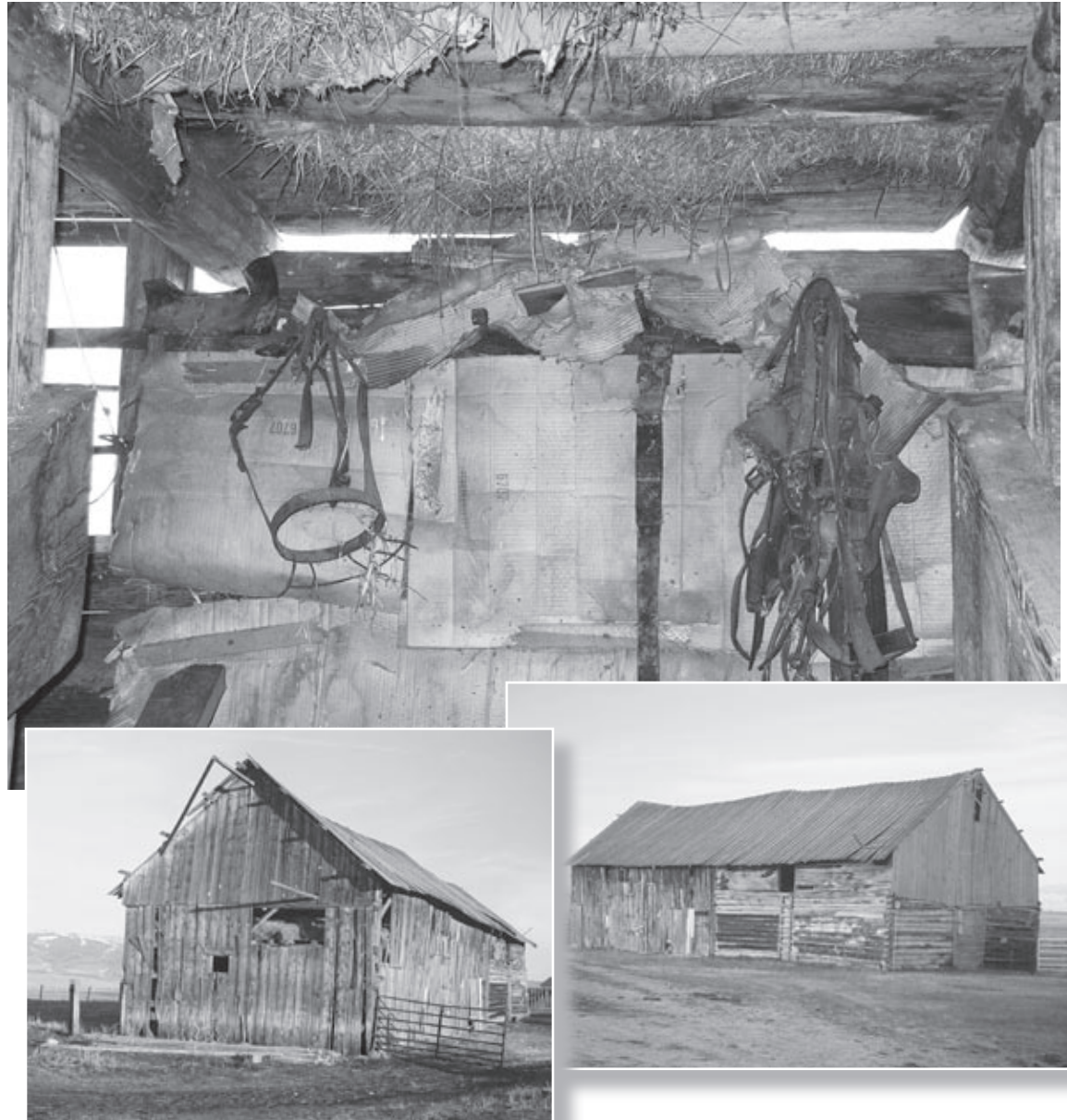
The barn typifies early Bear Lake County building trends with the north end being built with horizontal logs, and the south end vertical planking. One grandson remembers that as many as ten horses were kept in stalls in the north end, hay was stored in the middle section, and cow stanchions were in the south end. The walls are doubled inside both the log portion and the vertical portion, with straw for insulation held in place with chicken wire. Later, cardboard was attached to the walls to further insulate from the cold winters.

Amos's son Silas ran the farm after his father, then Frank Marion Wright, born in 1874, owned it. Eventually the property and the buildings passed to Frank's grandson Grant, who was born in the house on the site. Grant used flattened tin cans to cover up spaces in the log end of the barn. In spite of its age, the barn is one of the most beautifully preserved in the area, and is still owned by a direct descendent of Amos Wright.

Address: 104 Wright Road

Viewing directions: View from the bend in Wright Road, looking south.

GPS Coordinates: 42°22.575 N. 111°19.074 W.



*Top: The interior showing straw ceiling and cardboard on the walls. Bottom left: The south end of the barn. Bottom right: The east face of the barn. The darkened sections on the logs are rusty flattened tin cans.*



## Bear Lake County Barns

### 44 Sod Roof Railroad Tie Barn Bennington, early 1900s

Railroad ties are a common sight on the rural landscape in this end of Bear Lake County where the Oregon Shortline Railroad was established in 1882. In the early 1900s, farmers and ranchers recycled ties for use in fences. They were also used in the flooring and foundations of some buildings.

Following traditional log building techniques, builders laid the railroad ties in a square notch pattern on this barn. Railroad tie date nails, and both hand-forged square and round nails were found in this barn, giving some clues as to when it may have been built.

The small barn measures only 14 x 24.5 feet and 8 feet high. It had enough room to milk a few cows or shelter one or two livestock animals. Dirt and sod on top of the roof were placed there to insulate the barn. The poles at one end of the barn's roof may have been used as a rack to keep straw in place. The shutters on the north side of the barn could be propped open for feeding the livestock, and a door next to that could have been the access door for the animals to go in and out of the barn.

The barn, other buildings, and the granary at the front of the property may have been built by two known historic owners. William Joel Lindsay homesteaded with a brother near here in 1865 and had this lot in town. Norwegian-born Thomas (Johnson) Kvarme, born in 1878, bought the place from William's widow, Rebecca Lindsay, in 1931. Thomas worked as a section foreman at Pescadero station west of Bennington. It was his job to check a section of tracks for damage and worn-out ties. As worn railroad ties were changed out, they were used in buildings such as these.

Address: 164 N. 200 E.

Viewing directions: View barn and other historic buildings from Hunter Lane on the north.

GPS Coordinates: 42°23.631 N. 111°18.961 W. (viewpoint)



*Top: The southwest face of the barn. Bottom: A railroad tie date nail for 1925 next to the door on the south side of the barn. Ordinarily found in the ends of ties, date nails were used to identify when the ties were put into service by the railroad, or to monitor the effectiveness of chemical treatments such as creosote. This date nail is in an odd place on the side of a tie, and may have been put there by the builder to identify the date of construction, but more research needs to be done to substantiate this theory.*



## Bear Lake County Barns

### 45 Jack Crane Barn Bennington, ca. 1940

Jack Crane was born in 1920 in Montpelier, Idaho. He was raised in Bennington and says that as a child he always liked horses and played with a stick horse all the time. His parents had ponies and horses that were used to ride around town and to Montpelier. He and his friends even rode the neighbor's calves as well as range cattle that ventured down from the hills.

In 1939, Jack married Jennie Sparks and worked at a variety of jobs before settling down in Bennington on this ranch. When he and Jennie acquired the property, there was an old log house with no modern plumbing, but the first year their crops did well, and they were off to a good start. Just before the Cranes bought the place, the barn was burned down, and a new barn was partially built. Jack finished the barn in 1940, using recycled ammunition boxes from military installations and old wooden billboards. Other utilitarian buildings on the site are also built using the recycled ammunition boxes. Jack installed a tongue and groove floor in the loft and raised chickens there.

After serving in the Marine Corps in 1944, he bought cattle and raised hay in addition to his other jobs. They paid off their mortgage in 1949 and decided to build the present house in 1950. From then on, Jack worked on his ranch and bought and sold horses and other livestock, farm machinery, and equipment for horses. At one time he had twenty-five Shetland brood mares and raised ponies and saddle mares. He raised half Shetland colts, which were good ponies for children. He and his family enjoyed owning and riding horses, and Jack always thought it more profitable to raise horses and livestock, since he didn't have to invest in expensive farm machinery to handle a crop. They also raised chickens, sold a few eggs, and had a few milk cows for about fifteen years before going totally into beef cattle. There were always peacocks on the ranch.

In their later years, Jennie and Jack enjoyed building a family cabin and making their ranch into a family gathering place. Jack enjoys making things out of wood and decorated his farmyard with all kinds of yard art. Jennie was an avid painter. Her cheerful portraits of horses and scenery can be found everywhere at their home, including on the large billboard above the garage, calling attention to the bright side of the ranch life, which she loved.

Address: 26553 US Hwy 30, Montpelier, Idaho, a bit north of Bennington, on the west side of the highway.

Viewing directions: View from road on south side of barn.

GPS Coordinates: 42°24.050 N. 111°19.700 W.



Top: Ammunition boxes and old billboards were used in this wall inside the barn. Bottom right: One of Jennie's murals.





## Bear Lake County Barns

### 46 Mahonri Crane Barn Bennington, ca. 1939

When Jack Crane was in his early twenties, he harvested 30,000 feet of lumber from a nearby canyon with the intention of building a barn. In the meantime he was offered the opportunity to buy his in-laws' house in Montpelier. He sold the lumber to his father, Mahonri\* Crane, who built this Intermountain dairy barn for himself in about 1939.

Jack and his father exchanged work for each other. Together, they bought a hay stacker and a grain drill. They milked about seven cows at a time in the barn, which was equipped with electric bucket milkers and a milk pipeline. They did not use a Jackson fork to put hay in the barn. Instead, they used a truck and elevator to put baled hay in there. In addition, they stacked loose hay outside. Mahonri ran a dairy from before the 1920s to about the early 1960s. He hauled the milk to the creamery in Paris, about a forty-mile round trip. He also raised sheep and hauled grain and livestock. He built a new barn later in life and enjoyed the convenience of it.

\*The name Mahonri (muh HAWN rye) is from a character in the Book of Mormon.

Address: 70 E. 100 N.

Viewing directions: View from 100 North, looking northward.

GPS Coordinates: 42°23.517 N. 111°19.275 W.



*Above: A Dutch door on the south side of the barn. The top could be opened for ventilation, while the closed bottom would keep livestock in or out of the barn.*

## Bear Lake County Barns

47

### Wilford W. Clark Bank Barn Georgetown, 1916

Ezra T. Clark came to Utah with Mormon pioneers from Illinois. He was involved in the early days of the settlement of Bear Lake County and sought out land that would be suitable for development in Georgetown. In 1884, his oldest son, Wilford W. Clark, who was just twenty-one years old, came to Georgetown, filed on this land, and began to develop it. He married Pamela Dunn in 1885, and together they raised eleven children. Wilford was a prominent farmer and rancher, was active in the leadership of the Mormon Church in Montpelier, and served in the Idaho State Legislature and the House of Representatives. He fulfilled his community duties and ran this farm with the help of some of his children until his death at age 93 in 1956.

Wilford originally built a wood and straw barn near where the modern dairy now stands. In 1916 when he planned the construction of a new barn, he utilized the water that flowed naturally from the many springs in the ground, and kept his barn clean by diverting water through the lower level. Milk from his dairy cows was cooled in ten gallon cans in a spring-fed trough. Although a modern gravity flow irrigation system has reduced the occurrence of many of these springs, the farm still deserves the historic name of Springdale Farm.

The barn is banked into the steep hill, creating two levels accessible at the ground level on both the north and south sides. The tack room, equipment storage areas, and workshop are on the north side. The lower level on the south side had twenty stanchions where Shorthorn cows were milked. Hay was hauled down to the south side on a wagon and pitched into the lower barn with a pitchfork.

Wilford raised the Shorthorn stock cattle for both dairy and beef. When his youngest son LeGrand took over the farm, he switched to Holstein cows for milking and raised Hereford cattle for beef. In the 1950s a new Grade A dairy was built to replace the historic barn, and the dairy herd was increased to forty-five head. LeGrand's son Don and his wife Ellen have run Springdale Farm with LeGrand since 1945; and now their son Paul runs it with them.

To supplement his income, Don rode cutting horses for other owners and has many awards from participating in shows. The Clarks were a rodeo family when their children were growing up. Together they raised some of their own horses for cutting and riding and roped calves. Up until just recently, they still owned a team of work horses, which were used for feeding cattle and running equipment such as a manure spreader.

Address: 234 West 6th Street

Viewing directions: View from 200 West.

GPS Coordinates: 42°28.698 N. 111°22.511 W. (viewpoint)



Above: Don Clark and his son Paul stand in front of the 1916 barn.



## Glossary

**Balloon construction** – a type of framing in which the weight of the building is carried by numerous small members like studs and headers. Please see also “post and beam construction.”

**Banked barn or bank barn** – a barn built into a hillside, usually allowing for ground-level access to at least two floors.

**Century Farm** – a farm receives the “Century Farm” designation from the state after proving that it has been continuously operated by the same family for at least a century.

**Chinking** – the material used to fill openings between logs in a log wall, keeping the interior of the building free from drafts. It could be made of a number of materials, including plaster, or earlier, a mixture of mud and manure or mud and straw.

**Clerestory** – a row of high windows or openings above an adjoining roof.

**Creamery** – an establishment where butter and cheese are made, and milk and cream are processed and sold.

**Crib** – an enclosure or section of a barn, like an animal stall or a large bin for grain.

**Derrick horse** – a horse, usually ridden by a child, that moves back and forth on one end of a barn or hay derrick, controlling the up-and-down movement of a hay fork at the other end.

**Dimensional lumber** – lumber that has been milled to a standard size.

**Dovetail** – a type of corner joint in which interlocking members are flared—resembling a bird’s spread-out tail—so that they lock into place and are difficult to move. This type of joint can be seen in some log buildings. In the half dovetail, only one side of the “tail” is flared, while the other is straight.

**Eaves** – the lowest edge of a roof, extending out past the wall.

**Gable** – the highest point of a roof, forming a ridge. The “gable end” of a building is the triangle-shaped end wall framed by the end of the roof.

**Half-barn** – a shed with a roof that slopes only in one direction. It looks like a lean-to without a main building to “lean” against. In some cases, these half-barns were built to shelter animals before the main bay of a barn was built.

**Hay elevator** – a device that looks something like a ladder, but which

has a moving conveyor belt that will grip bales of hay and move them to a desired location.

**Haymow** – a storage area for hay.

**Inside-out construction** – a type of construction used in granaries because of the enormous outward force exerted on walls by stored grain. The building is built of studs (vertical 2x4s placed along a wall), but the siding is put on the inside of the studs instead of the outside, as in normal buildings. Thus the outward pressure of the grain pushes the siding against the studs instead of popping it off of them if it were built conventionally.

**Jackson fork** – a large triangular fork for lifting hay from ground level into a loft or haymow. The fork was run using a pulley system powered by a horse, usually ridden by a youngster. Someone inside the barn would pull a rope to “trip” the fork to release its load. It would then be sent back along its track to the outside to pick up another load. The forks were dangerous, with long sharp tines that could run someone through if they were not careful. There are also stories of children who rode the fork horse losing fingers when the rope became twisted around them.

**Lean-to** – a structure with a roof whose slope goes only one way—not gabled—attached to the side of a building. In the case of historic barns, the lean-to usually served as a shelter or shed for animals. Also locally referred to simply as a “lean.” A gable-roofed barn with one lean-to on the eaves side resembles the classic “salt-box” shape of New England.

**Loafing shed** – an open-sided shed that gives shelter to livestock.

**Manger** – a feeding trough.

**Metal roofs** – the use of metal to replace deteriorating shingle roofs on old barns has been a major advantage in keeping the buildings standing. Moisture is the main enemy of these wood structures.

**Milking machines** – the first widely used automated milking machine was the Surge Bucket Milker (patented in 1923), which sucked milk from the udders and into a bucket, which the operator then had to empty into ten-gallon cans for transport. Subsequent milking machines utilized pipes that ran from the cow directly to large cooling tanks. These later machines were part of the upgrades for Grade A milk.



## Glossary

Mortise-and-tenon construction – a type of wood joinery in which a cavity or slot is cut in one piece of wood to receive a tongue—or tenon—on another piece of wood.

Pitch – the slope of a roof. Also refers to picking up hay and tossing it into a desired location with a pitchfork.

Post and beam construction – a type of framing in which the weight of the building is carried on a few large vertical columns and horizontal beams. Please see also “balloon construction.”

Raised-foundation barn – a barn built with high cement or stone walls forming a lower story, with a framed haymow above.

Shed roof – a roof that slopes only one direction and has no gable.

Spline - an architectural term describing the construction of stacked 2x4 granaries. Sometimes they used what is called a groove and spline. They might lay a thin piece of wood on one side, make a long groove on the other board to fit over it, and this would hold them together better.

Stanchion – a device that fits around the neck of a cow to keep her from moving back and forth during milking. Early stanchions were made of wood with a piece that moved away from and toward the neck of the cow. Later ones were manufactured of metal and sold to farmers.

Tongue-in-groove construction – a joint made by a tongue on one edge of a board fitting into a corresponding groove on the edge of another board.

Transverse crib – a type of barn that originated in Tennessee and featured a central hall or room that ran from gable to gable end, with rows of “cribs”—stalls, bins, or rooms—along either side. It was a very flexible design that spread across the country.

Two by four (2x4) construction – a type of construction most often used in granaries, in which 2' x 4" lumber is laid horizontally and stacked. The 2x4's may be fastened to one another with nails or with a tongue-in-groove system called splining (please see “Spline” above). This creates a strong wall that can withstand the outward pressure of stored grain.

### *Suggested Readings*

*Barns* by John Michael Vlach. (W. W. Norton & Company, 2003)

*Barns of the West: A Vanishing Legacy* by Arthur A. Hart (Historic Idaho, Inc. 1996)

*Bringing in the Hay: A nostalgic history of agriculture's most romantic crop* by David A. Asson. (Double tree Advantage Corp. 2003)

*Building with Logs: Western Log Construction in Context* by Jennifer Eastman Attebery. (University of Idaho Press, 1998)

Date Nails and Railroad Tie Preservation by J. Oaks. (University of Indianapolis Archeology & Forensics Laboratory Special Report No. 3, 1999)

*Idaho Folklife: Homesteads to Headstones*, by Louie W Attebery and Brian Attebery (University of Utah Press, Idaho State Historical Society, 1985)

*Idaho Potato Cellars* by Martin Hammer, 2006. <http://www.dsaarch.com/potatocellars.htm>.

*Lost Stories of the Bear River Heritage Area Barn Survey: Applications to a Public Sector Folklore Project* by Lisa Duskin-Goede. (Unpublished; in Utah State University Special Collections, 2004)

*Of Work and Romance: Discovering Utah Barns* by Thomas Carter and Roger Roper. (University of Utah, Graduate School of Architecture, Publication No. 9, 1999)

*The Old Barn Book*, by Allen G. Noble and Richard K. Cleek (Rutgers University Press, 1995)



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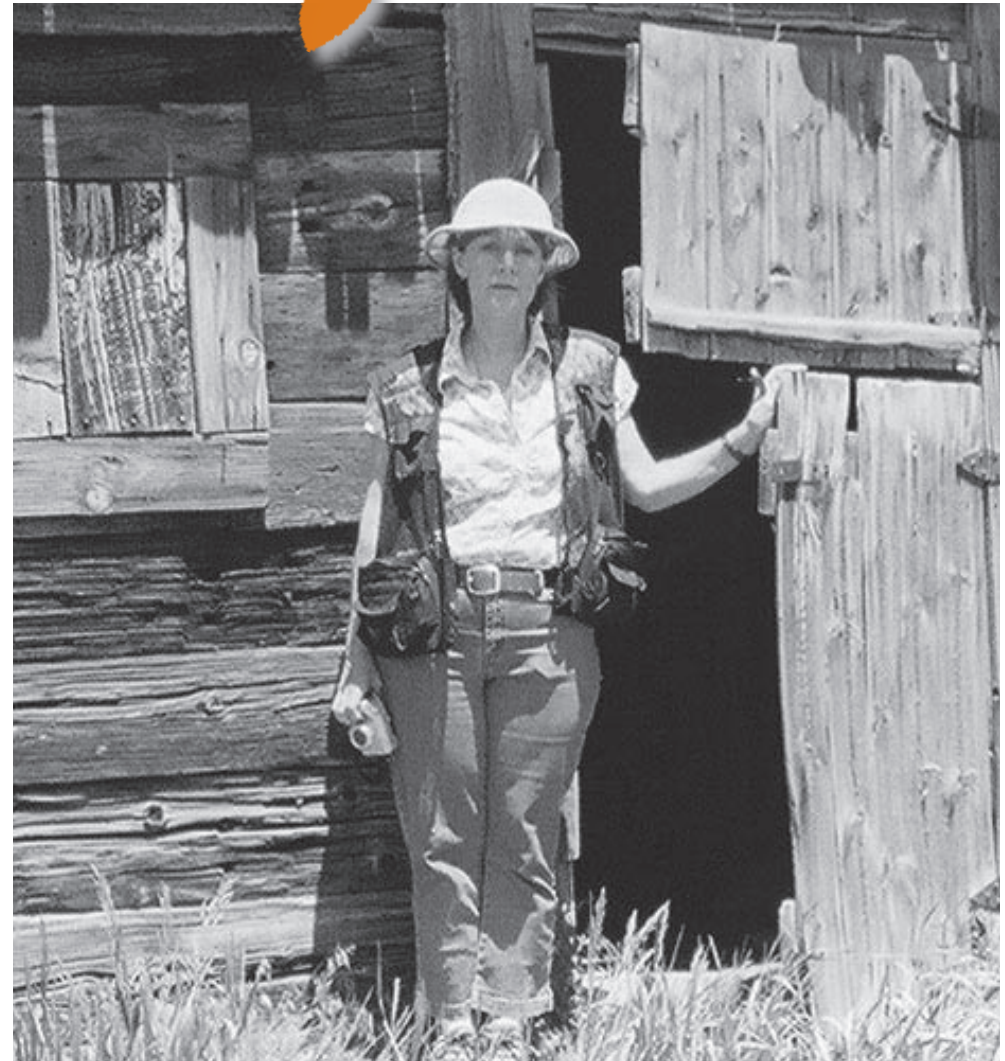
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[www.bearriverheritage.com](http://www.bearriverheritage.com)



*Folklorist and author Lisa Duskin-Goede with a favorite barn.*

