

MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

Common Identity of Barn: Dolph Robinson barn
Address of Barn: 2614 Hamburg Rd., Mars Hill,
NC 28754
GPS Location: N35-49.597 / W82-25.989
Elevation: 2696'
Township: Beech Glen
Vicinity: Upper Paint Fork/Hamburg
Approx date/decade built: late 19th early 20th
century

Current Owner: Young McQueen Construction
Co.
Historic Owner(s): Dolph Robinson, Hughie Ray
Current Use: abandoned
Historic Use: livestock, burley tobacco, storage

Permission to visit property by: Young McQueen
Construction Co., 828-682-7714

ORIGINAL BARN characteristics

Integrity

- High
- Medium
- Low

Condition

- Good
 - Fair
 - Deteriorated
 - Ruin
- Add. Info.:

Function of original barn

- general purpose
- livestock/hay
- flue-cured tobacco
- burley tobacco
- bull face tobacco
- dairy
- other

Add. Info.: this is a 30' X 36' livestock barn in the typical tradition of the late 19th century, with three additions added to the ends for burley tobacco.

Type Construction of original barn

- Post and Beam
- timber frame
- mortise and tenon
- sawn lumber
- hewn timbers
- notched logs
- stud frame

Add. Info.: log notching is variable, with some V-notches and some rough saddle notches, the craftsmanship being poor throughout. There are large hewn beams throughout. Each element, including the lattice work, framing, board and batten siding, and log building appears to have been done by someone of less skill and commitment to the standard of quality of this period and type of barn. This conclusion requires further evidence however, as there are too few samples to know with certainty. It has also been poorly maintained.

Original siding materials

- milled boards
- lattice
- exposed logs
- board and batten
- metal
- shingles
- other

Add. Info.: the use of board and batten siding is uncommon in this area and era. The lattice work is minimal and uses diagonal lattice strips that retain their square ends instead of being cut at the angle and fitted.

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
 - vertical
 - horizontal
- Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: 11/12

Roof type of original barn

- gable
 - broken gable
 - gambrel
 - shed
 - monitor
 - cupola
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Roofing materials of original barn

- split wood shingles
- 3-V metal
- 3-u metal
- 5-V metal
- stamped metal shingle
- tar paper
- unknown
- other

Add. Info.: assume split oak shingles

Roof framing of original barn

- round pole rafters
- milled rafters
- gambrel shallow trusses
- gambrel with post and beam support
- round purlins
- unknown

Add. Info.: the original rafters could have been round pole rafters.

Foundation of original barn

- Dry laid stone
- wood sills on rock piers
- mortared stone
- concrete
- concrete block
- columns/wood piers
- posts on concrete footings

Add. Info.:

Flooring of original barn

- dirt floor
- wood flooring – in loft
- concrete slab

Add. Info.:

Species of wood used in original barn

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Add. Info.:

Hinges

- leather
- wooden
- wrought iron
- commercial metal
- rubber
- other

Add. Info.:

Fasteners

- wire nails
- cut nails
- wrought spikes
- wood pegs

other
Add. Info.:

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing

+/- 2 feet
 +/- 3 feet
 +/- 4 feet
 other, list
Add. Info.:

Additional traditional features, list:

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS characteristics

Has the original barn been altered or added to? yes

Description of alterations and additions: Two large additions have been built for burley tobacco, and each mirrors the shape and size of the original barn. Their construction is also of poor quality. Two simple shed roof additions have also been added and are in disrepair. The original barn was altered with vertical and horizontal tier poles to adapt it for hanging burley tobacco. Replacement of wood shingle roof may have included replacement of the original round framing members with sawn lumber, but this is not confirmed.

Condition of alterations

good
 fair
 deteriorated
 ruin
Add. Info.:

Function of barn alterations and additions

general purpose
 livestock/hay
 flue-cured tobacco
 burley tobacco
 bull face tobacco
 dairy
 other

Add. Info.: one shed addition has sash windows and appears to have been for case house or other enclosed function.

Type Construction alterations and additions

Post and Beam
 timber frame
 mortise and tenon

- _x_ sawn lumber
- _x_ hewn timbers
- _ notched logs
- _x_ stud frame

Add. Info.: hewn timbers were used for some of the sill plates.

Siding materials of alterations and additions

- _x_ milled boards
- _x_ lattice
- _ exposed logs
- _ board and batten
- _ metal
- _ shingles
- _x_ other

Add. Info.: some use of asphalt / tar paper used on siding.

Orientation of siding

- _ angled on diagonal
- _x_ vertical
- _x_ horizontal

Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of alterations and additions: gable end additions match original slope at 11/12. Shed additions are approx. 3/12 and 1/12.

Roof type of barn alterations and additions

- _x_ gable
- _ broken gable
- _ gambrel
- _x_ shed
- _ monitor
- _ cupola
- _ other

Add. Info.:

Roofing materials of alterations and additions

- _ split wood shingles
- _ 3-V metal
- _ 3-u metal
- _x_ 5-V metal
- _ stamped metal shingle
- _ tar paper
- _ unknown
- _ other

Add. Info.:

Roof framing of alterations and additions

- round pole rafters
- milled rafters
- gambrel shallow trusses
- gambrel with post and beam support
- round purlins

Add. Info.:

Foundation of alterations and additions

- Dry laid stone
- wood sills on rock piers
- mortared stone
- concrete
- concrete block
- columns/wood piers
- posts on concrete footings

Add. Info.:

Flooring of alterations and additions

- dirt floor
- wood flooring
- concrete slab

Add. Info.: wood flooring in the enclosed shed addition

Species of wood used in alterations and additions

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Add. Info.: misc species

Hinges/ alterations and additions

- leather
- wooden
- wrought iron
- commercial metal
- rubber
- other

Add. Info.:

Fasteners/ alterations and additions

- wire nails
- cut nails
- wrought spikes
- wood pegs
- other

Add. Info.:

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing/ alterations and additions

+/- 2 feet

+/- 3 feet

+/- 4 feet

other, list

Add. Info.:

Outbuildings: none surviving

Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use: This site is a relatively high elevation farmstead in a relatively narrow valley with little tillable land compared to farms with this type barn owned by a more affluent family. The old house that once stood nearby was a large 2-story frame house that burned in the 1990's.

Historic Information: Surviving family members recall very little about this barn.

Date Photos Taken: Feb 9, 2013

Submitted By

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