

MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

Common Identity of Barn: Reagan (and Polly)
Wilson barn
Address of Barn: 601 Terry's Fork Rd.
GPS Location: N35-49.242 / W82-26.510
Elevation: 2533'
Township: Beech Glen
Vicinity: Paint Fork/Hamburg Rd.
Approx date/decade built: 1880's to 1910

Current Owner: James Petranka
Historic Owner(s): John Gillis barn, Reagan
Wilson
Current Use: storage, deer stand
Historic Use: general purpose, livestock, burley
tobacco
Permission to visit property by: James Petranka,
petranka@unca.edu; 828-232-5153

ORIGINAL BARN characteristics

Integrity

- High
- Medium
- Low

Condition

- Good
- Fair
- Deteriorated
- Ruin

Add. Info.: this barn is only marginally used and is deteriorating

Function of original barn

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

Add. Info.:

Type Construction of original barn

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

Add. Info.: the construction of this barn is relatively primitive and includes some loft posts that are split logs. The quality of construction, the amount of bark on some logs, and the V-notching may indicate that it is not as old as it appears. The original barn may have been built with minimal sawn lumber, as there are many riven and split boards and posts present. The loft level short perimeter wall is also of logs, which is unusual and would typically be of lattice or boards of barns of this

era. This barn has unique half-round log/wood feed troughs gouged from large logs of 20" + diameter, and were notched into the original log construction, not added later. This is also a rare example of the use of pegs to attach door framing to the logs. The builder appears to have decided to form the center stalls by extending logs from each side stall to meet in the stall center, leaving the cut ends loosely oriented and unconnected to opposing logs. The posts in the loft area are unique, made from half-rounds, split from logs, with matching halves facing each other.

Original siding materials

- milled boards
 - lattice
 - exposed logs
 - board and batten
 - metal
 - shingles
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
 - vertical
 - horizontal
- Add. Info.: the board siding may not be original

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: it is assumed that the original roof slope would have approached 12/12 that would conform to the use of split oak shingles.

Roof type of original barn

- gable
 - broken gable
 - gambrel
 - shed
 - monitor
 - cupola
 - other
- Add. Info.: this is an assumption

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.: assumed

Roof framing of original barn

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

Add. Info.: this barn would have likely had 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
- concrete slab

Add. Info.: wood flooring in loft

Species of wood used in original barn

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Add. Info.: other species, interesting and unusual mix of pine, oak, poplar, cucumber magnolia, hickory, the latter two not found in other local barns.

Hinges

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

Add. Info.: this barn's stall doors have hand crafted wooden hinges, the first found in this survey.

Fasteners

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

other

Add. Info.: this barn is an uncommon example of wood peg use.

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing

+/- 2 feet

+/- 3 feet

+/- 4 feet

other, list

Add. Info.:

Additional traditional features, list: stall doors are handcrafted using hand riven boards, mortise and tenon joinery, and hand crafted wood hinges. This is the first barn found with the traditional half-round-log formed feed troughs, notched into the original log construction. The west log wall has an odd use of logs that do not run the full length, but are cut, yet with no apparent function.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS characteristics

Has the original barn been altered or added to? Yes

Description of alterations and additions: It is assumed that the roof form of this barn was changed from a gable roof to a simple gambrel shape, likely when the split oak shingles would have been replaced. It has also been altered for hanging burley tobacco.

Condition of alterations

good

fair

poor

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.:

Type Construction alterations and additions

Post and Beam

timber frame

mortise and tenon

sawn lumber

hewn timbers

- notched logs
 - stud frame
- Add. Info.:

Siding materials of alterations and additions

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

Add. Info.: board siding may be an alteration

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
- vertical
- horizontal

Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of alterations and additions: 12/12 and 4/12

Roof type of barn alterations and additions

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

Add. Info.: this is not a true gambrel, as the roof is supported by post and beam supports.

Roofing materials of alterations and additions

- split wood shingles
- 3-V metal
- 3-u metal
- 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.:

Species of wood used in alterations and additions

- chestnut
 - other, list known species
- Add. Info.:

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

x +/- 4 feet
_ other, list
Add. Info.:

Outbuildings: This property includes another older log barn, and the surviving rock chimney from the old farmstead house.

Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use: This farm is at the upper end of a headwater hollow that once included a road over the gap into the Big Ivy Creek valley and Barnardsville, Buncombe County, as Barnardsville was the nearest town to this end of Madison County.

Historic Information: Little is known about this remote farmstead. One story passed down among neighbors is that this homestead was where draft dodgers are said to have stayed during WWII, because of its remoteness.

Date Photos Taken:

Submitted By

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