

## MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

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Common Identity of Barn: Knox Brigman barn,  
Moody Brigman barn, Sterchi's Furniture barn,  
Wall Drug barn;  
Address of Barn: jctn US 25/70 and Ten Point  
Lane  
GPS Location: N35 49.488 / W82 42.322  
Elevation: 1916'  
Township: Walnut

Vicinity: between Marshall and Walnut  
communities  
Approx date/decade built: 1940's  
Current Owner: John Knox Brigman  
Historic Owner(s): Knox Brigman  
Current Use: storage  
Historic Use: burley tobacco  
Permission to visit property by: Bill Brigman,  
uncle of owner

### ORIGINAL BARN characteristics

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#### 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.: a thoughtfully designed burley barn that may have been built using barn plans.

#### Type Construction of original barn

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

Add. Info.: large sills are sawn lumber averaging 6"x7.5", with 2"x6.5" posts 4' O.C. Corners and other some other member junctions have 4"x4" diagonal bracing.

Original siding materials

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

Add. Info.: siding is terminated in some areas with cap boards and/or trim, an unusual treatment in a newer barn.

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal
- vertical
- horizontal

Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: 6 / 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.: this metal roofing is a previously unseen 2-V metal roofing, 24" wide.

Roof framing of original barn

- round pole rafters
- milled rafters

- gambrel shallow trusses
- gambrel with post and beam support
- round purlins

Add. Info.: 2x6 milled rafters at 24" OC. This barn has a cupola, an uncommon feature, for ventilation to aid the air-curing process for burley tobacco.

#### Foundation of original barn

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

Add. Info.: mortared rock foundation is uncommon

#### Flooring of original barn

- dirt floor
- wood flooring
- concrete slab

Add. Info.:

#### Species of wood used in original barn

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Add. Info.: most siding appears to be oak. Other woods include pine, poplar, hemlock

#### 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

\_x\_ +/- 3 feet  
\_\_ +/- 4 feet  
\_\_ other, list

Add. Info.: some spacing is greater than 3' but less than 4'.

Additional traditional features, list: end hallway doors are sliding doors mounted on metal rails. The use of hinged vent doors on two level is an uncommon feature and is an innovation for the area, yet is not found in other parts of the county in this specific form.

#### ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS characteristics

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Has the original barn been altered or added to? No

Outbuildings: a ruined springhouse is near the barn. Other buildings are several hundred feet down the branch near the old house.

#### **Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use:**

##### **Historic Information:**

This barn is known to many local folks as the "Wall Drug" barn, or the Sterchi's Furniture barn. For many years it's roof was painted with a large "Wall Drug" advertisement sign, contracted by the Wall Drug Store in Wall, South Dakota, after a visit by Knox Brigman and his wife while part of a cross-country bus tour. By the 1980's the paint was beginning to flake, and since Mrs. Brigman wanted to replace her living room furniture, she negotiated with the Sterchi Furniture Company in Asheville to repaint the barn roof with a large "Sterchi's" ad in exchange for a piece of furniture. The barn advertisement tradition was once prevalent throughout the mountains for barns adjacent to roadways, and served to provide the owners with freshly painted barns. The property is known by many as the Talton Farm. The barn is a thoughtfully designed burley tobacco barn, and is one-of-a-kind in its use of ventilation doors and other features.

Knox Brigman's father was Moody Brigman, buried at Bryan Brigman cemetery on Mato Road, Marshall.

Date Photos Taken: Jan 26, 2016

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