

MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

Common Identity of Barn: Tommy Allen barn
Address of Barn: 437 John Allen Lane
GPS Location: 82 33 52W / 35 48 25E
Elevation: 2120'
Township: Mars Hill
Vicinity: Gabriels Creek
Approx date/decade built: late 19th/ early 20th
century
Historic Owner(s): Curtis Buckner

Current Use: livestock
Historic Use: livestock
Permission to visit property by: Dr. Rex Allen
Current Owner:
Meg Pressley, DVM
130 Weaverville Road
Asheville, NC 28804
Phone: (828) 645-2908

ORIGINAL BARN characteristics

Integrity

- High
- Medium
- Low

Condition

- Good
- Fair
- Deteriorated
- Ruin

Add. Info.: exterior walls have been rebuilt in last 10 years

Function of original barn

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

Add. Info.: no evidence of use for burley tobacco curing

Type Construction of original barn

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

Add. Info.: hewn sills

Original siding materials

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

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal- lattice
 - vertical- board siding
 - horizontal- lapped poplar siding
- Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: 9.5 / 12

Roof type of original barn

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

Roofing materials of original barn

- split wood shingles: assumed
 - 3-V metal
 - 3-U metal
 - 5-V metal
 - stamped metal shingle
 - tar paper
 - unknown
 - other
- Add. Info.: lath spacing also indicates wood shingles

Roof framing of original barn

- round pole rafters
 - milled rafters
 - gambrel shallow trusses
 - gambrel with post and beam support
 - round purlins
- Add. Info.:

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 – tack room and loft
- concrete slab

Add. Info.:

Species of wood used in original barn

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Add. Info.: oak, poplar, pine, hemlock, butternut

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.: NA

Additional traditional features, list: lattice across top of stall walls onto hallway

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS characteristics

Has the original barn been altered or added to? yes

Description of alterations and additions: exterior walls have been rebuilt, sliding rail doors added, deck added to 2nd level for hay staging, metal roofing replaced shingle roofing, and a shed addition on the north side of barn.

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.: structural additions of posts and beams

Type Construction alterations and additions

Post and Beam

timber frame

mortise and tenon

sawn lumber

hewn timbers

notched logs

stud frame

Add. Info.: difficult to date the shed addition ~ likely built in the 1960s.

Siding materials of alterations and additions

milled boards

lattice

exposed logs

board and batten

metal

shingles

other

Add. Info.:

Orientation of siding

angled on diagonal

vertical

horizontal

Add. Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of alterations and additions: 12 / 2.5

Roof type of barn alterations and additions

gable

broken gable

gambrel

shed

monitor

cupola

other

Add. Info.:

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: shed addit.

mortared stone

concrete

concrete block

columns/wood piers

posts on concrete footings: deck addit.

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.: pine, oak

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.: NA

Outbuildings: corn crib, other barns, sorghum molasses cane cooker shed.

Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use: The farm is part of an original landholding of 200 acres of rolling land within the valley of Gabriel's Creek.

Historic Information: part of an early speculative development on Gabriel's Creek, owned by Gabriel Keith and John Allen in 1830s, who came from Philadelphia via Roanoke VA as land speculators. An original log house is on the property thought to have been built in 1855. Descendants include Lawrence Allen and James Keith, primary Confederate officers in the

infamous Shelton Laurel Massacre of 1863. Thomas Allen also served in the Confederate Army as a Lieutenant, was captured and held prisoner at the Point Lookout prison on the Maryland eastern shore.

Date Photos Taken: May 9, 2016

Submitted By

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