

MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

Common Identity of Barn: Jesse (Jack)
Wallin barn
Address of Barn: 32 Spillcorn Rd. at
junction of Spillcorn Rd. and Big Laurel Rd.
GPS Location: N35 55.42 / W82 40.42
Elevation: 2075'
Township: Laurel
Vicinity: Big Laurel junction with Spillcorn
Rd.

Approx date/decade built: 1910 as reported by
descendant Jack Wallin
Current Owner: Carl Johanson
Phone No.: 828-243-5804
Historic Owner(s): Jesse Wallin (also called
Jack?), Jack Wallin
Current Use: storage
Historic Use: livestock, tobacco
Permission to visit property by: Carl Johanson

Outbuildings: crib with 3-V roofing circa 1930's; garage construction date not known. The late 19th century house and store remain, though the house is in severe disrepair.

Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use: This barn is at the junction of Big Laurel and Spillcorn Roads, the center of the Big Laurel community, located in a central but very remote part of Madison County.

Historic Information: Jesse Wallin, born in 1850s, had 14 children, 9 boys and 5 girls. Neighbor and descendant Jack Wallin, at 828-656-9457, 78 years old provided the only history. He also mentioned Rockwood tobacco, grown for chewing tobacco, perhaps similar or the same as Bull Face tobacco. The metal roof replacement occurred after WWII, 1946+/-.
The crib addition, with 3-V roofing, thought to have been built in the 1930's.

This farm was a large farmstead and included the large, two story house, across the road, now in ruins, and a large general store, still existing near the barn, which also served as the post office and community gathering place.

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.:

Type Construction of original barn

- Post and Beam
- timber frame: partial
- mortise and tenon: some basic
- sawn lumber
- hewn timbers
- notched logs
- stud frame

Add. Info.: This barn is a bank barn and represents a transition form in which the builder no longer used the standard log crib stalls as the ground floor structure and instead framed the stalls and the wooden floor of the main hallway.

The barn has examples of mortise and tenon joinery which may be a relatively late usage since most of that use was 19th century. It includes an uncommon type of side-lock joint between a post and lateral beam in the loft area. Pegs are also present at some joints. As is typical, the vertical posts are sawn, while long plates, sills, and some long beams are hewn. This could be explained by the need to have long, continuous beams, structurally connecting the overall structure, hewn from logs that were too long to run through a saw mill. The vertical posts are 16 feet long, perhaps the maximum length log to be run through a saw mill.

Original siding materials

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

Orientation of siding

- angled on diagonal: lattice
 - vertical
 - horizontal
- Add. Info.: lapped siding in gables

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: 12 / 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.:

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 in central hallway, an uncommon feature
 - 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: few
 - other
- Add. Info.:

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing

- +/- 2 feet
 - +/- 3 feet
 - +/- 4 feet
 - other, list
- Add. Info.: 36" to 39"

Additional traditional features, list: tack hooks made of tree forks, handmade milking stool. This is a common bank barn form with the bank supported by a massive rock wall, which is deteriorating.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS characteristics

Has the original barn been altered or added to? Only metal roofing, Jack Wallin recalls it was replaced after WWII, about 1946. Tobacco tier poles added for burley tobacco.

Date Photos Taken: January 13, 2014

Submitted By

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