

# MADISON COUNTY BARN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

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Common Identity of Barn: Malachiah Reeves log multi-purpose barn

Address of Barn: Junction of NC Highway 63 and Reeves Home Road, Marshall, NC 28753

GPS Location: N35 42.307 / W82 47.842

Elevation: 2303'

Historic Owner(s): Malachiah Reeves and descendants

Township: Sandy Mush

Current Use: private residence

Vicinity: upper Sandy Mush Creek

Historic Use: residence

Approx date/decade built: early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, pre-Civil War

Permission to visit property by: owner Betty Reeves

828-683-2882

Current Owner: Betty Reeves

**Historic Information:** This log barn was built before the Civil War, as part of the original homestead, according to family tradition. Oral tradition also describes a Reeves man, likely the son of Malachiah Reeves, was present during the Civil War when Unionist raiders, perhaps George Kirk's "Raiders", were pillaging in the valley. To keep them from stealing his mule, he hid in this log barn with the mule to hide from the raiders.

The Sandy Mush valley included the Glance family, reported to be dominantly of German ancestry. The log construction in this valley is of a higher quality from other county areas and begs the question if the higher standards of German log building may have influenced log construction here. This is a question requiring further research.

**Outbuildings: Include Separate Sheet if needed:** The main house is a large 2-storey brick house built in 1860. There are many other buildings on the property including a store, several barns and outbuildings. One barn is built using the logs from the original Reeves log house.

**Setting and/or Surrounding Land Use:** This setting is a classic farmstead within a large and remote creek valley.

## ORIGINAL BARN - characteristics

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Integrity:

- High
- Medium
- Low

Condition:

- Good
- Fair

Deteriorated/ *near ruin*

Ruin

Addtl Info: Some repairs have been made

Function of original barn:

general purpose

livestock/hay

flue-cured tobacco

burley tobacco

bull face tobacco

dairy

other

Addtl Info.:

Type of Construction of original barn:

Post and Beam

timber frame

mortise and tenon

sawn lumber

hewn timbers

notched logs

stud frame

Addtl Info: hewn timber sills on rock fndtn

Original siding materials:

milled boards

lattice

exposed logs

board and batten

metal

shingles

other

Addtl Info.

Orientation of siding:

angled on diagonal

vertical

horizontal: some siding left in gable ends

Addtl Info.

Roof pitch or slope of original barn: unknown due to roof being raised

Roof type of original barn:

gable

broken gable

gambrel

shed

monitor

cupola

other  
Addtnl Info.:

Roofing materials of original barn:

- split wood shingles
- 3-V metal
- 3-U metal
- 5-V metal – later replacement
- stamped metal shingle
- tar paper
- unknown
- other

Addtnl Info.: 5-V as later replacement

Roof framing of original barn:

- round pole rafters
- milled rafters
- gambrel shallow trusses
- gambrel with post & beam supprt
- round purlins

Addtnl 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

Addtnl Info.:

Flooring of original barn:

- dirt floor
- wood flooring: puncheons in loft
- concrete slab

Addtnl Info.:

Species of wood used in original barn:

- chestnut
- other, list known species

Addtnl Info.: pine, oak, poplar

Hinges:

- leather
- wooden
- wrought iron
- commercial metal (added later)
- rubber
- other

Add. Info.:

Fasteners:

- wire nails (later?)
- cut nails
- wrought spikes
- wood pegs
- other

Addtnl Info.:

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing: N/A

- +/- 2 feet
- +/- 3 feet
- +/- 4 feet
- other, list

Addtnl Info.: tier poles may have never been in this barn but evidence is unclear

Additional traditional features: many changes and repairs have been made over the years, nothing notable.

## **ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS**

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Has the original barn been altered or added to? yes

Description of alterations and additions: height and roof were raised using round logs. This could have been done to accommodate tier poles and heat-curing of flue-cured tobacco, or to create a higher hay loft.

Condition of alterations

- good
- fair
- poor to ruin
- ruin

Addtnl Info.:

Function of barn alterations and additions

- general purpose
- livestock/hay
- flue-cured tobacco space addition, speculation
- burley tobacco
- bull face tobacco
- dairy
- other

Addtnl Info.:

See description above.

Type Construction alterations and additions

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

stud frame  
Addtl Info.: round logs with saddle notches

Siding materials of alterations and additions

milled boards on gable ends  
 lattice  
 exposed logs  
 board and batten  
 metal  
 shingles  
 other  
Addtl Info.:

Orientation of siding

angled on diagonal  
 vertical  
 horizontal  
Addtl Info.:

Roof pitch or slope of alterations and additions: 12/5

Roof type of barn alterations and additions

gable  
Addtl Info.:

Roofing materials of alterations and additions

split wood shingles  
 3-V metal  
 3-u metal  
 5-V metal  
Addtl Info.:

Roof framing of alterations and additions

round pole rafters  
Addtl Info.

Foundation of alterations and additions: NA

Flooring of alterations and additions

dirt floor- below  
 wood flooring- for later loft floor  
Addtl Info.:

Species of wood used in alterations and additions

chestnut  
 other, list known species  
Addtl Info.: pine, hemlock, oak

Hinges/ alterations and additions: NA

Fasteners/ alterations and additions

wire nails

cut nails

Addtl Info.

Tobacco tier poles vertical spacing/ alterations and additions: Unknown, if they existed

Date Photos Taken: Feb 22, 2018

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