

Beierle Farm, Scale House
Denver International Airport Site
Hudson Road & 96th Avenue
Denver
Denver County
Colorado

HABS No. CO-124-E

HABS
COLO
16-DENV,
63E-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS
COLO
16-DENV,
63E-

BEIERLE FARM
SCALE HOUSE

HABS No. CO-124-E

Location: Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 24, Township 2 South, Range 65 West, Sixth Prime Meridian. Denver County, Colorado. Vicinity of Watkins, Colorado.

UTM: 13: 532500, 4412500

Present Owner: Denver International Airport, City and County of Denver

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: None

Statement of Significance:

As a complex, the current Beierle Farm offers an example of the work process and flow of a wheat and grain farm and its methods of operation. In particular the grain bins and scale house offer examples of facilities frequently used by farmers in the area. Other buildings testify to the evolution of the farm from a dairy to a grain farm.

The Beierle Farm also has significance as an example of farm evolution and development by Adams County, Colorado, tenant farmers. Tenant farming was a common pattern of land use and livelihood for much of the area during most of the twentieth century. The Ray Beierle family worked as tenant farmers for more than fifty years. They worked at this farm for three different landlords, the Grossmans, the District Land Owners Trust and finally for Box Elder Farms until 1990. In addition, the Beierle Farm house is a significant example of an 1890s vernacular hipped cottage.

Project Statement: This Historic American Building Survey recording project is part of both the historic preservation plan for the Denver International Airport and a long term program to document historically significant buildings in the United States. The City and County of Denver through the Denver International Airport provided funding for the project.

The field work, measured drawings, historical reports and photographs were prepared under the direction of Deborah Andrews of Andrews & Anderson under contract to the City and County of Denver. Deborah Andrews, Nanon Anderson, Karen Hardaway and Jim Fischer of Andrews & Anderson did the field measurements and architectural delineations. Arnold Thallheimer undertook the photography. Steven Mehls of Western Historical Studies, under sub-contract to Andrews & Anderson, served as project historian.

Historian:

Steven F. Mehls, Western Historical
Studies, Inc., March 10, 1992

Scale House

Exterior

On the west side of Hudson Road, across the road from the main driveway to the Beierle place, is a small wood frame shed, that served as the farm's scale house. It was built about 1938. The exterior is covered by wood siding. A three-light window is on the east side at scale level. The building sits on a poured concrete foundation that extends east from the front side of the building to form a scale pit. The scale pit is covered by a wood plank deck which is supported by the scale lever arm. The building has a shed roof which is only partially covered with corrugated metal.

Interior

The interior fittings and scale mechanism remain in place and the function and operation of the beam type scale is readily apparent. The equipment probably dates to the late 1930s based on information from the Fairbanks Company, the scale's manufacturer. The specific type of scale was first patented in 1904.

Existing Condition

The building is unpainted and has only partial metal roofing, but is in otherwise good condition at the present time. The glazing is missing from the window.