

JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, OLD BARN  
Southwest side of U.S. Route 50  
1.8 miles south of Guysville  
Athens County <sup>Guysville vic.</sup>  
Ohio

HABS No. OH-2411-G

HABS  
OHIO  
5-GUYS.V,  
26-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
Midwest Support Office  
National Park Service  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2571

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

HABS  
OHIO  
5-GUYS.V,  
2G-

HABS No. OH-2411-G

JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, OLD BARN

Location: Southwest side of U.S. Route 50, 1.8 miles south of Guysville, Athens County, Ohio

USGS Stewart Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 17.419960.4347038

Present Owner: Ohio Department of Transportation  
Columbus, OH

Last Occupant: Charles P. Zinn  
Guysville, Ohio

Last Use: Vacant

Significance: The Jeremiah Bean Farmstead Old Barn is a transverse frame, two-bay, timber-framed barn. It is a surviving example of Allegheny plateau agricultural practices and farm architecture. It was constructed by Jeremiah Bean and his kinfolk as the first barn on the farmstead. This barn was constructed in ca. 1863-1875. It is notable for the adzed structural members. One of nine surviving outbuildings and structures, it displays construction detailing and methods used in the Allegheny plateau during the nineteenth century, using locally available red oak, poplar and sandstone in large dimensions to create a structure for hay storage and livestock and equipment protection.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: ca. 1863-1875.
2. Architect: None.
3. Original owner: Jeremiah Bean.
4. Builder: Likely, Jeremiah Bean and members of the Bean family.
5. Original Plans: None.
6. Alterations and additions: The southwest two-bay shed was added. It is constructed of re-used lumber with wire nails. It has a quickly constructed, temporary character. Its open sides above a relatively solid board fence suggest it was for confining hogs or sheep, keeping them close together for warmth in winter or so they would not forage.

- B. Historical Context: Jeremiah Bean purchased the farm in the southwest part of Section 30 of Carthage Township in April of 1863. This barn was constructed as the earliest barn on the farmstead. It predates the summer house/cold cellar, HABS No. OH 2411-B, and the granary, HABS No. OH-2411-C. This barn is the only building on the farmstead that has adzed framing timbers. It also displays early timber framing, native materials, mortise, tenon and pegged detailing and uses of cut nails. The detailing suggests it was constructed about 1863-1875.

Entry to the barn is at the gable end. Smaller transverse barns are unusual in the Guysville area. Smaller barns were replaced or left to deteriorate. This is a well preserved example of such a barn with no later modifications in the original two-bays. Building sills have deteriorated on the southwest side.

This barn was supplemented by a larger timber frame barn, HABS No. OH-2411-J, when the farmstead was well established and producing enough livestock, hay and produce to have outgrown the protective storage of this smaller barn.

This barn is referred to by the Zinn family and descendants of the Bean family as the "sheep barn," probably because it housed the sheep herd, especially the lambs, after the larger barn was constructed. During the 1870s, as noted in the agricultural enumeration for the

1880 U.S. Census, Jeremiah Bean owned many sheep. He raised them for their wool. He raised and sold both lambs and sheep to other farmers, presumably so that other farmers could profit from wool production. Athens County, particularly the farms on the hilly land up from the Hocking River Valley, were prominent for wool and sheep production (see HABS No. OH-2410, the Edmund Bean Farmstead, for a discussion of wool and sheep production in Athens County).

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: The Jeremiah Bean Old Barn is one of a complex of farmstead outbuildings constructed in a simple, timber-framed, gable-roofed style. Distinctive of its use as livestock housing, it has vertical oak sheathing closely spaced to give shelter yet permit air circulation. This building uses native timber available from the nearby hillside forests owned by Jeremiah Bean and sawn at nearby sawmills located along the Hocking River near Guysville, OH. Framing is sawn red oak used in actual, unplanned dimensions that show circular saw marks. The sandstone foundation is made from local rock outcroppings, likely owned by Jeremiah Bean.
2. Condition of fabric: Structurally sound but deteriorating and abandoned.

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: A one-story rectangular plan, with southwest shed roofed addition, this building is 14'-9" x 24'-2". The main building is one structural bay wide, two structural bays deep with a shed roof addition of one structural bay to the southwest. The barn hay storage above.
2. Foundation: Six sandstone post bases for corner posts and mid-posts, rough cut and random sized, about 16"x 16", 6" high, sometimes two pieces high, unmortared.
3. Walls: 1"x 8"-14" vertical, circular-sawn, oak boards with 1/2" spaces. The southwest shed is sheathed in random width horizontal oak boards, open above 3'-7". The ground-roof height of the old barn at the corner is 8'-9". The ground-roof height of the barn at the peak of the roof is 14'-9". The shed ground-roof height is 7'-6" where the shed meets the barn wall.

4. Structural system: The wood frame is made of red oak timber framing members. The corner posts, mid-posts, sills and wall plate are adzed. Secondary timbers are circular sawn. Building sills, corner posts, mid-posts, and north and south wall plates are 8" x 8". The corner and mid-posts continue from the foundation stones to the east and west 2"x 6" wall plates. East and west walls have mortised 2" x 4" nailers at 3'-2" and bark-covered, 6" diameter wall ties mortised and pegged at 5'-10" from the ground. Major framing members are mortised and pegged on the interior. The building has angle braces on the southeast wall only between the second nailer and the wall plate. The northwest and southwest wall sills are missing. The southeast wall sill shows 2" joist pockets at 20" spacing.

The roof has 2"x 4" red oak rafters at 30" spacing with random width red oak roof sheathing generally of 1"x 8" boards with 3"-6" spaces between boards. The roof has no ridge board.

5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads: The west animal pen is 9'-3"x 15'-9". On the southwest it has three 4"x 4" oak posts. The northeast side is the wall of the barn with a "2x4" cleated to the barn siding supporting "2x6" whitewashed, re-used rafters at 26" spacing. The walls of the pen are sheathed in horizontal pine boards. The roof of the shed has scrap and broken oak boards covered in asphalt rolled roofing.
6. Openings

- a. Doorways and doors: The doorways have no jambs, heads or sills.

The northwest doorway opening is 6'-6" x 5'-6". The door frame and door is replaced, made of fiberglass on a "2x4" pine wood. It is hung on a metal door slide.

The attic door and southwest side door are board-and-batten with two chamfered battens. The attic door is 6'-6"x 2'-11" poplar tongue-and-groove boards and nailed with wire nails, the southwest side door is 5'-11" x 2'-6" pine boards affixed with cut nails.

- b. Windows: The barn has three early windows. Each is at the height of the siding nailer and used the

nailer as the window sill, 4'-10" above the dirt floor. Each window has no exterior jambs or head but has an interior head affixed with cut nails. The southwest window is 1'-2" x 1'-3", the southeast window is 1'-7" x 1'-6", the northeast window is 1'-10" x 1'-9".

7. Roof: The gable roof has a standing seam metal roof with joints spaced at 24". The roof has open roof eaves with rafters notched over the wall plate. The gable end overhang is 11"; the eave overhang is 10".

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The rectangular building is divided one bay wide, two bays deep, running northeast-southwest. The covered, animal pen, shed-roofed addition is one bay.
2. Flooring: The floor is dirt. The original floor ran northwest-southeast, as evidenced by joist pockets in the southeast sill.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: All framing is exposed and unfinished.

The upper framing of the barn has been adapted for hay storage. One 2"x 8" member is nailed to the door frame timber and rests on the center beam; 2" x 8" floor joists are laid between the west side wall and this secondary member with 1"x 6" boards laid on top. This floor runs northwest-southeast. In the rear bays of the barn, two 2"x 8" joists run from the southeast wall to the mid-beam; 1"x 6" flooring is laid upon these joists. This hay storage system appears to be a later addition as the framing is neither pocketed nor half lapped and blocking is nailed between the joists.

4. Openings: The three windows on the northeast, southeast and southwest walls are untrimmed but for headers. They appear to be nineteenth century.
5. Decorative features and trim: None.
6. Hardware: The northeast door has twentieth century sliding door metal opener. The southwest side door has triangular stamped metal hinges. Neither are original.

All oak materials in the barn are either mortised-and-tenoned or are affixed with cut nails.

- 7. Mechanical equipment: None.
- 8. Original furnishings: None.
- D. Site: The building faces northeast, is on the flat land just east of the long, steep slope of the hill.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. Architectural drawings: None.
- B. Historic views: None.
- C. Interviews: None.
- D. Bibliography:

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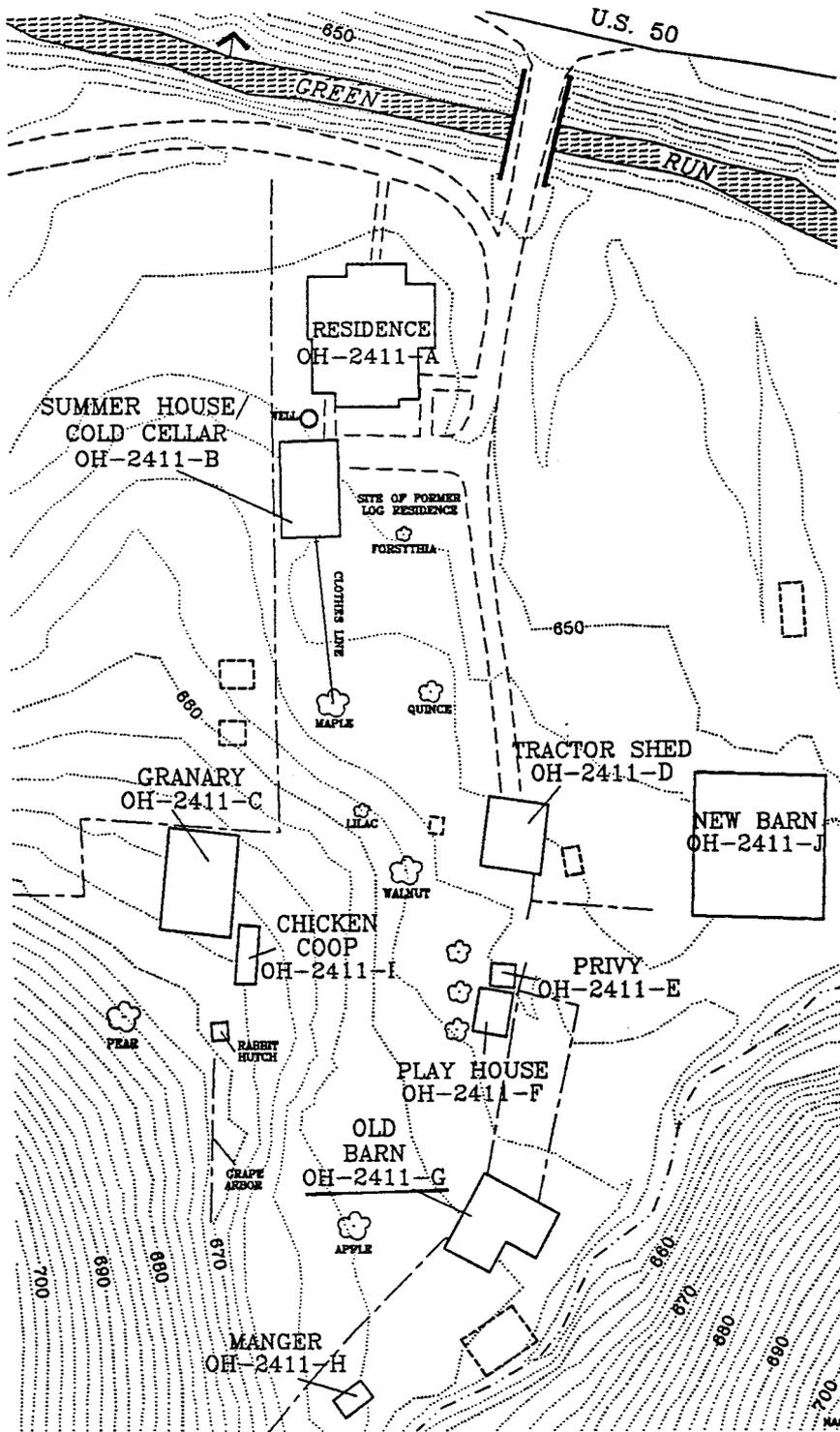
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1903-4 Chesterhill Quadrangle.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The architectural and historical documentation of the Jeremiah Bean Farmstead has been undertaken to fulfill a memorandum of agreement signed by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Ohio SHPO and the Ohio Department of Transportation as part of requirements under regulation 36 CFR 800 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Recording has taken place prior to removal of structures in the right-of-way of U.S. Route 50.

This documentation has been prepared by: Rebecca M. Rogers, Preservation Consultant, 44 Audubon Road, Youngstown, Ohio, under contract to Center for Cultural Resource Research, 170 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA. October, 1997-May, 1998.

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