

JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, CHICKEN COOP
Southwest side of U.S. Route 50
1.8 miles south of Guysville
Athens County *Guysville vic.*
Ohio

HABS No. OH-2411-H

HABS
OHIO
5-GUYS.V,
2H-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS
OHIO
5-GUYS.V,
24-

HABS No. OH-2411-H

JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, CHICKEN COOP

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

USGS Stewart Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 17.419910.4347040

Present Owner: Ohio Department of Transportation
Columbus, OH

Last Occupant: C. P. Zinn
Guysville, Ohio

Last Use: Chicken Coop

Significance: The Jeremiah Bean Farmstead Chicken Coop is one of nine outbuildings and structures on an Allegheny plateau farmstead which shows 150 years of agricultural practices and farm architecture. It was constructed by the C. P. Zinn family after 1960. It is among the most recently constructed outbuildings on the historic farmstead site. The building is constructed from modern, commercially available materials and was made between 1960 and 1990. Its design follows early twentieth century conventions of chicken coop design: curtain wall front, less than one-story, shed roof, southeast exposure, raised bird perches.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: ca. 1960-1980.
2. Architect: None.
3. Original owner: C. P. Zinn.
4. Builder: Likely, members of the Zinn family.
5. Original Plans: None.
6. Alterations and additions: This building is made of three parts, each built at different times.

- B. Historical Context: According to Karl Ekblaw, chicken house design turned to a south or southeast facing curtain wall front building in the early 1900. Prior to this, chickens were kept warm in houses with glass windows. The exposure to fresh air improved the health of the birds which had suffered from dampness, gases and odors in a more enclosed environment. Ekblaw also advocated a chicken coop on a south sloping site for greater sun exposure and for drainage and cleaning of the building (Ekblaw, 1914).

These three chicken coops were constructed at three separate times. Each is made from modern materials. The light construction of the building suggests the coops could be moved when a cleaner, fresh site was needed.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: The Jeremiah Bean chicken coop is one of a complex of farmstead outbuildings constructed in a simple style. Unlike its neighboring outbuildings, this is constructed on sawn, commercially available lumber and plywood.
2. Condition of fabric: Structurally sound and abandoned.

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: A shed roof, open front structure without foundation, the chicken coop is made of three parts with an overall rectangular plan. The structure is 16'-1"x 3'-10". The northeast part of the coop is 5'-7" tall at the south side front, 4'-6" tall at the

rear; the middle part is 5'-9" tall at the front, 4'-10" tall at the rear; the southwest part is 5'-1" tall at the front, 3'-10" tall at the rear.

2. Foundation: none.
3. Walls: 1/4" plywood sheeting on sides and rear. The northeast wall is plywood from a crate. The front is open, once covered with galvanized chicken wire.
4. Structural system: "2x4" studs are at each corner of each of the three bays of the chicken coop. Additional "2x4s" are at the middle of the side walls and middle of the rear wall of each bay. The shed roof is made of "2x4" joists at 18" centers.
5. Openings: The front of each of the three bays has moveable sash. The northeast bay sash is 4'-6" x 2'-5" with 2" top and side styles, 3" bottom style, hung on stamped storm window hangers. The middle bay is covered by a storm door sash hung horizontally with 3" top and bottom styles. The southwest bay has a 4'-0" x 3'-9" sash with 2" styles. Some of the hexagonal galvanized chicken wire survives.
6. Roof: The shed roof has asphalt rolled roofing over a plywood sheathing. The front and rear have no fascia. the front overhang is 12", the side overhang is 6". The rear has a 4" galvanized half-moon gutter.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: Each of the three bays is a rectangle. The northeast bay is 4'-10" wide, the center bay is 7'-10" wide, the southwest bay is 2'-11" wide. Each bay appears to have been constructed at a different time, although dating earliest to most recent is not possible.
2. Flooring: The plywood floor slopes, lower on the front, raised at the rear.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Unpainted plywood.
4. Openings: The chicken roosts are accessed through the southeast wall sash.
5. Decorative features and trim: Each bay of the chicken coop has a chicken roost. The northeast and southwest bay roosts are similar: two roosting poles supported on 2" x 2" boards nailed to the sides of the coop. The

center bay has three roost poles supported on 2" x 2" boards nailed to the sides of the bay. The roosts are 6" above the sloping floor of the coop. The center bay has a screen covered vent hole 6" tall cut in the rear wall of the bay.

The center bay of the chicken coop has a nest box, 6'-0" long mounted on the exterior of the rear of the chicken coop. The nest box is 15" wide, 1'-4" deep, made of 1" x 8" oak boards. It contains six nest boxes. It has a hinged cover made of a 1" x 8" oak board and is covered in asphalt rolled roofing.

7. Hardware: The northeast and southwest bays of the chicken coop sash is hung from two stamped steel storm window holders. Each sash has two storm window hangers screwed to the upper style. The center chicken coop and the rear nest box each has two stamped steel hinges, one side rectangular, the other triangular. the center bay of the chicken coop.

8. Mechanical equipment: none.

D. Site: The building faces southwest. It is sited on the slope of a steep hillside with heavy brush behind it. The brush and the solid rear wall of the coop kept the west and north wind from the laying hens. The open front, eastern exposure and steep slope of the hill permitted maximum morning sunshine and fresh air reaching the laying hens.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural drawings: None.

B. Historic views: None.

C. Interviews: None.

D. Bibliography:

Ekblaw, Karl J. T.

1914 Farm Structures. New York: The Macmillan Company.

Noble, Allen G.

1992 Barns and Farm Structures. Vol. 2 of Wood, Brick & Stone, The North American Settlement Landscape. Amherst, MA: The University of Massachusetts Press.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

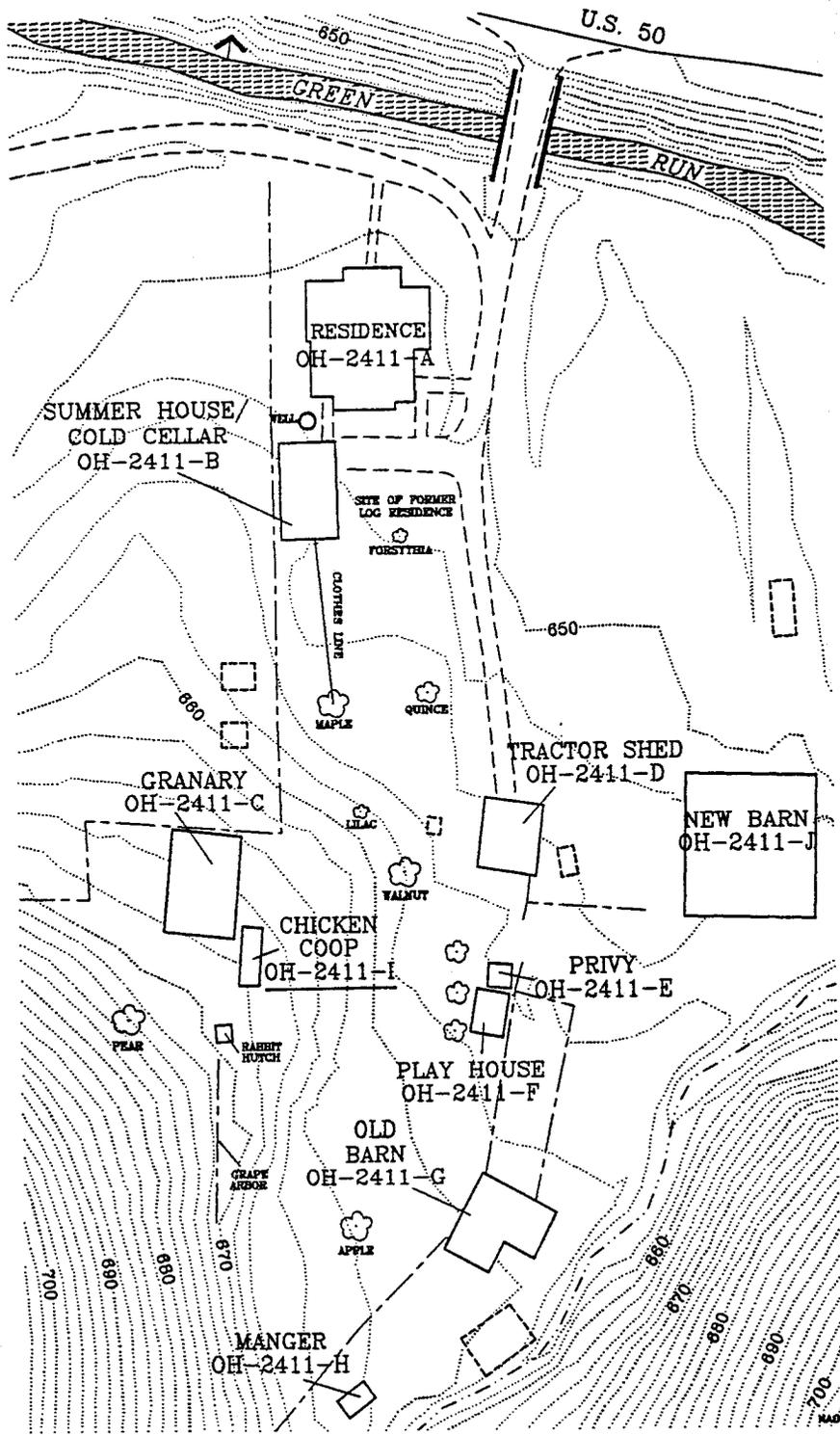
The architectural and historical documentation of the Jeremiah

JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, CHICKEN COOP
HABS No. OH-2411-H
(page 5)

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.

JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, CHICKEN COOP
HABS No. OH-2411-H
(page 6)



JEREMIAH BEAN FARMSTEAD, CHICKEN COOP
HABS No. OH-2411-H
(page 7)

