

HERSHBERGER FARM, PRIVY
.4 mile east of Business Route 220,
.35 mile southeast of Cessna
Cessna Vicinity
Bedford County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5392-E

HABS
PA
S-CESNA
IE-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HERSHBERGER FARM, PRIVY

HABS No. PA-5392-E

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Location: .4 mile east of Business Route 220, .35 mile southeast of Cessna, Cessna vicinity, Bedford County, Pennsylvania

USGS Bedford, Pennsylvania Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
17.4440500.711570

Significance: Although a 20th century addition (probably ca. 1930-40) to the Hershberger Farm, this structure complements the principal structures by contributing to the rural landscape of the farmstead.

Description: The privy is located approximately 40' east of the farmhouse. It measures 5'6" x 4'4", is of frame construction, and is covered with wide horizontal boards nailed edge to edge (not tongue-and-groove). It has a concrete floor and a gable roof of asphalt shingles. Interestingly, it has no pit, but was provided with a tank or other removable container, which evidently could be emptied and replaced. A view of the privy appears in Photograph PA-5392-E-1.

History: This structure appears to date to the first half of the 20th century, based on the use of modern wire nails and other materials, as well as the much better preservation of its wooden elements relative to the principal structures that comprise the farmstead. The privy was used until about 1950, when a toilet and makeshift shower were installed in the cellar of the farmhouse. At that time it was abandoned.

Source: Ms. Dolores Cain and Ms. Jeane Kenney, interviews at the site, October 1989.

Historians: Scott D. Heberling and Nancy S. Shedd
Heberling Associates
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