

**F. L. HAWKINS TENANT FARMSTEAD, POLE BARN**

30' northwest of the F.L. Hawkins Tenant Farmstead, Main House

Waxahachie Vicinity

Ellis County

Texas

HABS No. TX-3384-D

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

FIELD RECORDS

**HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY**

**Intermountain Regional Office**

**National Park Service**

**P.O. Box 25287**

**Denver, Colorado 80225-0287**

## HISTORICAL AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

### F. L. HAWKINS TENANT FARMSTEAD, POLE BARN

HABS NO. TX-3384-D

**Location:** 30' Northwest of the F. L. Hawkins Tenant Farmstead,  
Barn  
Waxahachie vicinity, Emery County, Texas

**Present Owner:** Texas National Research Laboratory Commission  
(TNRLC)  
1801 N. Hampton Road, Suite 400  
DeSoto, Texas 75115

**Present Occupant:** None

**Present Use:** Vacant

#### **Statement of**

**Significance:** The Pole Barn is a component of the F.L. Hawkins Tenant Farmstead that dates to the 1920s when cotton cultivation dominated the local, agriculture-based economy, and it represents the kind of tenant farm that helped Ellis County become a major supplier of cotton in the nation during the early twentieth century.

#### **A. General Statement:**

- 1. History:** This building appears to date from the second and third quarters of the twentieth century and was built for the storage of feed and silage as well as the tethering and feeding of livestock. It is entered from the gable ends and is a variation of the transverse crib barn and has an attached silo.
- 2. Architectural Character:** The barn is located 168.0' feet northwest of the main house. It is a one-story, three-bay barn with a half-story shed addition. (See photographic documentation HABS No. TX-3384-D-1 through HABS No. TX-3384-D-5 and HABS drawings, Sheet 1. Room numbers on the drawings are indicated in parentheses).
- 3. Condition of Fabric:** The barn is in poor condition.

#### **B. Description of Exterior:**

- 1. Overall Dimensions:** The barn, including the shed addition, measures 37'-7" x 44'-9". The silo has a diameter of 12'-4" and is 35'-8" in height.

2. **Foundations:** Piers are of modified wood posts located at regular intervals.
3. **Walls:** The walls are covered 1"x12" vertical boards and random-width corrugated metal sheets. An interior wall separating the center (100) and west (103) bays is surfaced with random-width, horizontally-laid boards and corrugated metal. The silo walls are pre-cast concrete staves, stacked mortared and held in place with 1/2" diameter steel rod compression rings.
4. **Structural System, Framing:** The barn is constructed using a mixture of pole and balloon framing. Framing consists of either wood posts which are typically 4" in diameter, or wood sills nominally sized at 4"x6", with 2"x4" studs, rafters and double top plates.
5. **Openings:** The barn is entered from the north and south gable ends and along the west side of the shed addition (103) which is open.
6. **Roof:** The main roof is gabled with a slope of 4 in 12 on the east plate and 2 in 12 on the west plate. The shed roof of the addition is 2 in 12.

**C. Description of Interior:**

1. **Floor Plan:** The interior of the barn is divided into three bays in width and four bays in depth, with a shed addition (103) forming a fifth bay. The main floor of wagon way (100) is divided from the east bay (104) by a row of columns which support the ridge. The east bay is divided into a north (102) and south (103) cell by a corralled aisle. The south cell has been extended as a half-story shed addition and the silo is entered from north cell (102).
2. **Flooring:** The building has an earth floor.
3. **Doorways and Doors:** Board and batten gates are random-sized and located in the north (102) and south (103) cells of the west bay. Entry doors have been removed from the center bay.