

SHERMAN FARM, BARN
44 South Sherman Road
Coupeville vicinity
Whidbey Island
Island County
Washington

HABS WA-253-A
WA-253-A

HABS
WA-253-A

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS
FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHERMAN FARM, BARN

HABS No. WA 253-A

Location: Whidbey Island, Island County, Washington

Present Owner: Sherman Farms, Incorporated

Present Use: Storage, cattle pens

Significance: With the passing of the Donation Land Claim Act in 1850, Congress agreed to grant land in the Oregon Territory to American settlers willing to farm it. It was during this time when settlement of Central Whidbey Island accelerated, and when James C. Davis staked his claim in west woodlands overlooking Ebey's Prairie. Davis farmed his land until his death in 1868. At that time the Cook family purchased the land and continued to farm. The property passed amongst the Cook family for generations. In 1947, after renting for more than 10 years, Clark and Dorothy Sherman bought the land and rapidly accelerated its farming industry. The Shermans ran a turkey farm on the land, reaching its peak in the 1960s with 100,000 turkeys. The farm was incorporated in 1964, along with other land owned by the Shermans, including the historic Le Sourd farm, which housed a small dairy operation. In 1975, when the turkey business ceased, the Sherman farm became the service-end of the dairy. It provides the silage pits, mechanic, grain and hay storage, and feed production resources needed to sustain the dairy's current 800-cow operation.

Clark Sherman and the farming community of Coupeville built the barn in 1935 after a fire destroyed its predecessor. Its construction technique is typical for this time period, and can be found in two other barns in the area. The plank frame construction technique was ideal because it saved up to sixty percent of building materials, required fewer builders, quickened the construction time, opened the floor plan in the hayloft, and eases the construction of additions onto the barn.¹

¹ Fred Walters, *Historic Structures Report: Gus Reuble Barn* (Coupeville, WA: Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve), 20-21.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of construction: 1935
2. Carpenter: Clark Sherman and local farming community
3. Original owner: James C. Davis, Donation Land Claim
4. Subsequent owners: After his death in 1868, James C. Davis' property was sold to settle his debts. On June 9, 1868, Cyrus E. Cook purchased the land. In 1906 Cyrus Cook died, passing the land to his wife, Sarah, who passed it to her youngest son, Alvin Win Cook in 1915. The property was a rental for many years, until 1930 when Clark and Dorothy Sherman moved in. The Sherman's purchased the land in 1947 from Cook.² In 1965 Clark Sherman and his sons, Alvin and Roger, formed the Sherman Farms, Incorporated. The corporation maintains ownership of the farm's land, buildings, and livestock.
5. Original plans and construction: The Sherman barn was constructed as a two-story structure with a gambrel roof. Originally the barn measured 47'-11" x 32'-6" with a hayloft on the second floor and animal pens below. Its ground floor was constructed of round posts varying from 5-1/2" in diameter to 10-3/4", and round beams measuring 6" and 8". The hayloft has an open floor plan made possible by the plank truss roof construction of 2" x 4" sawn boards. The barn was constructed with a poured concrete floor that still remains.
6. Alterations and additions: Roger Sherman, born January 22, 1935, remembers falling from the hayloft at age six. He remembers that the shed additions to the barn were constructed at this time, which dates them to a construction date prior to 1941.³ There are three additions to the barn; the northern addition housed milking stanchions. It runs the full length of the barn and is 20'-3-5/8" wide. The addition to the south was also used for milking, and measures 13'-11-1/2". A shed addition added to the east façade was

² Dorothy Sherman, Transcription of oral interview conducted by Theresa Trebon (Coupeville, WA: 30 July 1996), tape 1, p. 35.

³ Roger Sherman, Oral interview conducted by Anne E. Kidd (Coupeville, WA: 10 March 2007), 00:18:46.

constructed to provide additional shelter for the livestock. It measures 35'-10" x 20'-2".

B. Historical Context:

"From A.D. 1300 until white settlements in the 1850s, Salish villagers occupied Whidbey and Camano Islands. When the whites arrived, four groups of Salish Indians – the Skagit, Snohomish, Kikialos, and Clallam – shared the island."⁴ These groups are classified as saltwater or canoe Indians, and they built three permanent villages along Penn Cove on Whidbey Island. Their lifestyle and settlement patterns relied heavily on salmon, although they also hunted and gathered berries and roots. Along with salmon, their diets consisted of: steelhead, rainbow trout, shellfish, cattail, salmonberries, strawberries, camas, wild carrots, rose hips, bracken ferns, acorns, hazelnuts, crab apples, elk and deer.⁵

Before white explorers reached the area, the Salish did not cultivate the prairies of Central Whidbey Island, but rather manipulated them to fit their needs. They repeatedly burned the prairie lands and into the surrounding woods. This encouraged the growth of bracken and camas in the prairie, and renewed undergrowth in the woods that became habitat for game animals.⁶ The Salish Indians also used the forest's wood to build their canoes and villages.⁷

Captain George Vancouver carried out the first effective European exploration of Central Whidbey Island, claiming it for the British Empire on June 4, 1792.⁸ In 1833 the Hudson Bay Company explored Whidbey Island in search of game to trap and hunt, and in 1839 the first missionaries reached Whidbey Island.⁹ By this time, after contact with sailors, hunters, trappers, and missionaries, Native populations in the area were devastated by smallpox and syphilis.¹⁰ By the 1850s syphilis was credited with a hundred deaths in the Puget Sound area every year. And in 1852 and 1853 the last great smallpox epidemic to strike the area was credited with taking the lives of entire villages.¹¹

Along with disease, the white explorers and settlers brought potatoes to the area. Although its origin in the area is unknown, by 1830 the British at Fort Nisqually recognized potatoes as a staple in the economy and diet of the Salish villages.¹² The potato's easy growing cycle and high production brought the Salish Indians to first cultivate the prairies of Central Whidbey.¹³ This cultivation was documented and continued by the first American settlers to the area. Within a few

⁴ Richard White, Land Use, Environment, and Social Change: The Shaping of Island County, Washington (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1980), 14.

⁵ Ibid., 17-18.

⁶ Ibid., 20-21.

⁷ Ibid., 16. "In each village a single row of three to five large cedar houses, together with smaller buildings, faced the water with the forest looming at their backs. Often from 100 to 200 feet long, these buildings normally housed several families who partitioned the interiors into separate living quarters."

⁸ A Particular Friend, 11.

⁹ Ibid., 11-13.

¹⁰ Land Use, 26-29.

¹¹ Ibid., 27.

¹² Ibid., 32.

¹³ Ibid., 33.

years most Native Americans had moved on to the reservation in La Conner and by 1904 only a few Salish families remained in Central Whidbey Island.¹⁴

In 1850 the United States Congress passed the Donation Land Claim (DLC) Act which accelerated settlement of Central Whidbey Island, Washington. Settlers that complied with certain conditions¹⁵ were granted 320 acres if single, or 640 acres if married. Colonel Isaac Neff Ebey was the first to stake a DLC in Central Whidbey Island. On October 15, 1850, Ebey claimed "640 acres on the rich black loam of the prairie that now bears his name."¹⁶

In 1851, Ebey's wife, Rebecca Davis Ebey, and her three brothers, James C., Thomas S., and John E. Davis, crossed the Oregon Trail to join Ebey on Whidbey Island. They traveled six months, being detained by illness, and spent the winter of 1852-53 in Portland. Upon arriving in Central Whidbey Island, James C. claimed land in the west woodlands, adjoining Ebey's DLC at its northern corner.¹⁷

James C. Davis farmed the land, and built a blockhouse for protection ca. 1855. After his death in 1868, the land was sold to settle his debts and liabilities. On June 9, 1868, Cyrus E. and Sarah Cook purchased the land at auction for \$2,127.00.¹⁸ The house and its outbuildings, all remaining on the property, were constructed in 1876, and although Cyrus was a known carpenter, it remains uncertain if they are his work.¹⁹ Cyrus and Sarah had three children: Howard, Etta, and Alvin Wilmer "Win". After Cyrus' death in 1906, Sarah remained in the home with Win and his wife, Sarah Odell Johnson. After his mother's death in 1915, Win inherited the property and worked the land until his death. At this time Win's wife remarried, and moved to California, leaving the property as a rental.²⁰

On July 11, 1931, Coupeville locals Clark Sherman and Dorothy Le Sourd were married at the Coupeville United Methodist Church. Clark Sherman was raised on the property north of the Cook family's land. He helped raise gooseberries with his father before leaving the area to work as a radio operator on a lightship off Cape Flattery, and on the *Admiral Rogers* that traveled between Seattle and Alaska.²¹ Dorothy's family came to the area in 1886, starting a farm on Ebey's Prairie, down the hill from Clark's family. Dorothy was raised on the farm until age eight, when her mother died, and she was sent to town to live with her aunt, Abigail James Morrill.²² Dorothy attended the University of Puget Sound while courting Clark, and refused to marry until she graduated. After the Shermans wed, they rented the Cook property from Win Cook's widow, Sarah Odell Johnson Cook.²³

¹⁴ Mimi Sheridan, *How Coupeville Grew: A Short History of Town Development: Excerpts from the Town of Coupeville's Historic Preservation Plan* (Coupeville, WA: McConnell/Burke, Inc., June 1998), 7.

¹⁵ Conditions included: age, sex, nationality, and race, along with the date of arrival in the area, and the agreement to cultivate the land for four years.

¹⁶ A Particular Friend, 19.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 22.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Building and Landscape Inventory: Part A* (Seattle, WA: Cultural Resources Division, National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Summer 1983, reprinted in 1995), 64.

²⁰ Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 1, p. 35.

²¹ *Ibid.*, tape 2, p. 25.

²² *Ibid.*, tape 1, p. 5.

²³ Alvin Sherman, Oral interview conducted by Anne E. Kidd (Coupeville, WA: 6 March 2007), 00:22:00.

Clark began a diversified farm of poultry, cattle, dairy, and crops. He kept draft horses and sold milk and eggs. In 1932 the Sherman's first child Alvin "Al" James was born, followed by Roger M. in 1935, and James Louis in 1940. When Clark and Dorothy moved into the house it was equipped with electric lights but no running water. The family collected water from the roofs of their house and barn into cisterns, and when the cisterns were dry, Clark hauled water from the well in downtown Coupeville.²⁴ The food was kept in a "cooler" that Dorothy described as having "an open wire...at the top and at the bottom so there's a movement of air through, and it kept food reasonably cool...[It was] a cupboard with a screened area at the top and at the bottom."²⁵ The Shermans didn't get a refrigerator until 1940, when Dorothy purchased one with inheritance money from her grandfather.

Within four years of moving to the property, Clark bought a brooder from Sears, Roebuck & Company, and in 1935, the brooder started a fire in the barn, burning it to the ground and killing Clark's draft horses. With financial assistance from Sears and Roebuck, the community of Coupeville came together to build the Shermans a new barn, and to purchase a pair of draft horses.²⁶ In a 1996 interview with Theresa Trebon, Dorothy Sherman remembered the fire, and the effect it had on the family's farming. She recalled that, "...when the barn burned, why then [farming] started off on a different track and it got us on turkey raising."²⁷

It soon proved to be a fortunate track; turkeys became the Sherman's trademark. Clark used Cook's old chicken brooders, and constructed new buildings on the property to service the turkeys. In the early 1940s the two buildings that remain on the property north of the barn were constructed – one as a brooder house and the other an incubator house. A decade later, a new incubator house was built closer to the barn. At this time the original incubator house was converted into an additional brooder house.

In 1941, a 300' deep well with 6" casing was dug between the barn and the house. The family arranged with an "old German and his son" to dig the well in exchange for room and board.²⁸ That same year, Clark purchased his first tractor, a John Deere Model L. However, it proved unreliable and Clark didn't like its crank start. Two years later he bought a Model LA, a "three-horse tractor."²⁹ In 1947, Dorothy and Clark purchased the property from Sarah Cook.³⁰

In the early 1950s, after a few fire threats, Clark moved a two-story brooder house from a site west of the family's home, to a site farther south, closer to the Sunnyside Cemetery. At this time he constructed a workshop and new incubator house in the brooder's previous location. A World War II surplus generator was placed in the nearby garage, and was used to run the incubator when power failed.³¹

The Shermans raised Broad-breasted Bronze turkeys. The turkey industry has four key steps: breeding, hatching, growing, and marketing; the Sherman's operation handled the first three. The

²⁴ Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 2, pp. 6, 8.

²⁵ Ibid., tape 2, p. 6.

²⁶ Al Sherman interview, 00:15:15.

²⁷ Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 2, p. 18.

²⁸ Al Sherman interview, 00:31:15.

²⁹ Ibid., 00:58:30.

³⁰ Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 1, p. 35.

³¹ Al Sherman interview, 00:27:48.

turkeys were bred and the eggs were kept in an incubator. After hatching, the turkeys were taken to brooder houses. The houses were heated by oil brooder stoves and provided shelter for the poults. In an interview with Anne Kidd in 2007, Roger Sherman described the brooders used on the farm. He explained that they used “brooder stoves that were oil burned... They had a drip carburetor on them, and they came up and there was a hood over them – a big hood to keep the heat in, and that forces the heat down on the little turkey.”³² The brooder houses had sun porches where the turkeys were fed and slowly acclimated to the weather. At eight weeks old, the turkeys were put out to range, with 2,000 birds per field.³³ Simple sheds were constructed in the fields, often with board and batten cladding, to protect the turkeys from extreme weather.³⁴

In 2007, during oral interviews with Anne Kidd, Al Sherman explained the struggles in raising turkeys. He said,

“It was a real problem raising them because if they got cold or hot or wet, they’d pile on each other. And they were really really susceptible to diseases. If there was anything around, they got it. So we really had to be clean... we probably raised them with ten to fifteen percent mortality... from the time that we hatched them ’til the time we got them raised... We’ve lost as many as fifty percent if we got a hot disease going.”³⁵

When Clark first started the turkeys, he slaughtered in the incubator and workshop building next to the Cook house. But as the operation grew, the turkeys were trucked off the farm to Mt. Vernon, and later to Sunnyside in eastern Washington, to be marketed. This included the slaughtering, processing, packaging, and selling. The hens were sold for slaughter after twenty weeks, the toms after twenty-four. By Christmas the turkeys were all sold, leaving the Shermans with only breeding hens and toms. With the Broad-breasted Bronze, they kept a one-to-ten ratio of hens to toms. At the height of the operation they kept approximately 4,000 breeding hens.³⁶

In the mid-1960s the flock was changed from Broad-breasted Bronze to Broad-breasted Whites to satisfy their co-op, Western Farmer’s Association. Al Sherman explained that this was done because, “the dark turkey’s... pin feathers were dark, [and] they didn’t pick out as clean. They didn’t look as good for the consumer.”³⁷ With the new breed, the Shermans had to buy a male and a female line and artificially inseminate. Insemination was needed because the toms were bred with more white meat on their breasts, so much so that they couldn’t mate naturally. Al Sherman continued by explaining that, “as far as the consumer was concerned, they had a lot more white meat on the breast... you go to the store now and you see these beautiful turkeys in the package,”³⁸ but the Broad-breasted Whites involved more work on the farm to breed and raise.

In 1955 Al returned to the farm full time; at this time Clark was raising 10-15,000 turkeys. Roger joined his father and brother in 1959, and in the 1960s the turkey farm hit its stride.³⁹ Al Sherman described those days. He said, “We did a lot of stuff in the [19]60s... [Roger] and I were young,

³² Roger Sherman interview, 00:22:28.

³³ Al Sherman interview, 00:52:00.

³⁴ Roger Sherman interview, 00:25:00.

³⁵ Al Sherman interview, 01:32:00.

³⁶ Roger Sherman interview, 00:26:00.

³⁷ Al Sherman interview, 00:23:12.

³⁸ Ibid., 00:23:25.

³⁹ Ibid., 00:49:00; Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 1, p. 32. Jim Sherman did not farm with the family – “He was allergic to everything and definitely not interested in the farm.”

and we were going. And dad was letting us do it, so we built a lot of stuff and bought a lot of land.”

During this time the Sherman family grew along with its turkey farm. In 1955 Al Sherman married Coupeville native, Phyllis Sloth. In 1956 they bought the Shreck house at 302 Engle Road. They had four daughters: Krista, born in 1957; Karen, in 1959; Karla, in 1960; and Alice in 1970. In 1956, Roger Sherman married Darlene Kilborn. Their first child, Connie, was born in 1958, and in 1961 a son, Don, was born. Dorothy and Clark Sherman moved out of the Cook house in the early 1960s and into a new house built just to the north.⁴⁰ At this time farm employees used the original farmhouse.

Al and Roger built a corral west of the barn in the mid-1950s. Clark's brother, Wilbur, built a squash storage shed, known as “building number five,” on the property west of the two-story brooder. It was later converted into an additional brooder house. By this time, a new building was needed to service the change in grain storage. The grain used as turkey feed transitioned from packaging in sacks to bulk grain stored in bins without sacks. The grain storage shed was constructed ca. 1955 with an elevator for sorting grain into bins. Soon after its construction, shed additions were added to the east, west, and south. The additions were meant to provide additional brooding space for the turkeys, but poor air circulation, and the dust from the elevator made the spaces unsuccessful for brooding. It was quickly converted to general storage space.⁴¹

In the early 1960s an addition was added to the shop and hatchery building, expanding the workshop space.⁴² For hay storage, the Shermans built a pole shed west of all the other farm buildings. They brought Creosote logs from Ebey's Landing beach to the property to serve as cheap construction materials. The beach wood was also used to construct fences and multiple pole sheds used in the fields as protection for the turkeys.⁴³

In 1964, the Shermans purchased the Le Sourd family farm from Dorothy Sherman's half-brother, Edward Le Sourd, who had a dairy of 50 Holstein and Guernsey cows.⁴⁴ This same year, the Shermans created Sherman Farms, Incorporated. The corporation took possession of all the land, buildings, and livestock owned by the family. As Clark began to retire from farming that same year, his shares of the corporation were passed to Al and Roger.

With the addition of the dairy, the farm divided its focus between cows and turkeys. Roger continued to manage the turkeys, while Al managed for the dairy. A new concern after adding the Le Sourd farm was providing feed for the dairy cows. Silage became an important product on the farm. A new “pit silo” was constructed south of the house with later additions in the late 1960s and mid 1980s. In a 2007 interview with Anne Kidd, Al Sherman explained the process and importance of silage to a dairy.

“To make silage, you cut the grass out in the field. Most grass is, if you've cut on time, eighty percent moisture when it's cut. So you leave it out there [in the fields] until it dries down to sixty-five to seventy percent moisture, and then you chop it up, and haul it into

⁴⁰ This house is at 34 Sherman Road.

⁴¹ Al Sherman interview, 00:35:40, 00:38:00, 00:40:30.

⁴² Ibid., 00:28:00.

⁴³ Ibid., 00:43:00.

⁴⁴ Edward Le Sourd, Transcription of oral interview conducted by Theresa Trebon (Mt. Vernon, WA: 7 July 1997), 7.

the pit, and pack it in real good... And then it ferments into silage, and it's just really good cow feed... And then they cover it with the tarp, and cover the tarp with tires so it can't get any air, because we don't want it to spoil on the top... In the fall we raise field corn and we fill one pit full of corn, and when we feed the cows, we mix the grass silage and the corn silage together – better feed for the cows.⁴⁵

The pit silos were constructed with concrete sidewalls reinforced with logs from the beach. When the pit silos were constructed, there was no further need for the silo tower south of the barn. It was removed, but its concrete foundation remains.⁴⁶

The Sherman's farm was never the only farm in Central Whidbey Island to raise turkeys; it was a common industry in the area. However, with 100,000 turkeys at its height of operation, it was the largest turkey farm on the island, and in 1975 the Shermans were the last to leave the industry. Sherman Farms, Inc. sold the last of its flock at a time when the market was over produced, and it was too expensive to raise turkeys in the area because of feed prices. The final conflict came when Western Farmer's Association Cooperative hit financial problems and they decreased the return on the turkeys.⁴⁷

With the turkey business over, the farm focused entirely on the dairy. By 1970 they were milking sixty Holsteins,⁴⁸ and the Sherman farm property took on a new role of support for the dairy. It provided the silage pits, mechanic, grain and hay storage, and feed production resources needed to sustain the cows.

The last building to be constructed on the property was a doublewide hay shed. It was built ca. 1980 to service the automated hay process. The process, as explained by Al Sherman, centers on a harrow bed that "picks the bales of hay up out of the field, and then you take them into a building and it stacks them... You don't have to haul hay. You don't have to lift hay and handle it by hand... It stacks 'em, and the building has to be real high to do that."⁴⁹

The key to the dairy's success is cooperation between the two locations. With the cows residing on the Le Sourd farm and their feed stored at the Sherman farm on the hill, Cook Road, which runs between them, becomes the lifeline between the two properties. The cows are fed a mixture of silage, hay, and grain. A feed truck drives Cook Road from the dairy up the hill and collects the three ingredients from the pit silos, the hay storage shed, and the grain storage building. They are combined and driven back down the hill to the dairy where the cows are fed different mixtures, depending on their milk production. This process is repeated several times a day.⁵⁰

In the late 1970s farming changed in Central Whidbey. The Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve was established by an act of Congress in 1978 in order "to preserve and protect a rural community which provides an unbroken historic record from nineteenth century exploration and settlement of Puget Sound up to the present time."⁵¹ The reserve encompasses 17,400 acres,

⁴⁵ Al Sherman interview, 00:45:00.

⁴⁶ Roger Sherman interview, 01:09:00.

⁴⁷ Ibid., 00:17:00.

⁴⁸ Al Sherman interview, 01:12:10.

⁴⁹ Ibid., 00:39:00.

⁵⁰ Ibid., 01:16:00.

⁵¹ Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve website, (<http://www.nps.gov/archive/ebla/lpp/lpp1.htm>), accessed April 2007.

including Penn Cove, Coupeville, and surrounding land of Central Whidbey Island; 5,500 acres are agricultural. At this time, the National Park Service acquired the Smith farm, located across from the Le Sourd property, on Ebey's Prairie. The Shermans exchanged scenic easement rights on 500 acres of their property for 269 acres of the Smith farm.⁵²

In the early 1980s the next generation joined the farming operation. Wilbur Bishop, Al's son-in-law, worked at the dairy during high school. After marrying Al's daughter, Karen, Wilbur returned to the farm in 1980. Roger's son, Don, returned to farm with his father, uncle, and cousin, in 1983.

In the late 1990s a water reservoir was added to the property southeast of building number five. Three wells on Sherman land pump into the reservoir, and provide water to the entire farm. One well, on the former Smith farm, was drilled below the surface to accommodate the development restrictions on the land. The second well is located near the reservoir, and the third is west of the Cook house.⁵³

In 1997, Al and Roger Sherman retired from Sherman Farms, Inc., passing their ownership to the next generation. The corporation is now owned and worked by Wilbur and Karen Bishop, and Don and Debbie Sherman. Today, the Sherman-Bishop dairy is the last dairy on the island.⁵⁴

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Sherman barn illustrates a construction type typical in the area during the mid 1930s. Two other remaining barns in central Whidbey Island have the same construction. The plank frame construction technique was ideal because it saves up to sixty percent of building material, requires fewer builders, quickens the construction time, opens the floor plan in the hayloft, and eases the construction of additions onto the barn.⁵⁵
2. Condition of fabric: The barn remains in good condition. The materials remain minimally altered, but settlement between the lean-to additions and the original barn are causing separation. The barn shows wear after seventy years of use by both livestock and farming equipment. The wear of this use is especially evident in its exterior cladding on the north and south facades. The shiplap is missing, broken, and decayed. Also, in the stud wall construction of the south façade, contact with the ground has caused the bottoms of the studs to decay. Reinforcement studs have been added.

⁵² Roger Sherman interview, 00:34:00.

⁵³ Ibid., 00:55:45.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Walters, *Historic Structures Report*, 20-21.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 70'-5-1/8" x 48'-1-1/4" with a 35'-10" x 20'-2" extension to the west.
2. Foundations: The original barn sits on a concrete slab foundation. The additions have 5-1/4" board formed concrete foundations.
3. Walls: The walls of the original barn are vertical planks with 2" girts spanning between the posts. On the west façade of the original barn, battens have been added to cover the joints. The additions to the north and south are stud wall construction clad in shiplap siding. The studs are 1-1/2" x 5-1/4" and are spaced approximately every 2' on center. Ten studs in the south wall have been reinforced with additional studs because of decay. The west addition's wall construction consists of 6" x 5-1/4" posts, 1" planks, and 1-3/4" girts.
4. Structural systems: The original building is a plank frame construction type typical of the 1930s. The barn's ground floor was constructed of round posts varying from 5-1/2" in diameter to 10-3/4", and round beams measuring 6" and 8". The hayloft floor is supported by rough-cut 2" x 10" joists. The plank truss roof construction of 2" x 4" sawn boards supports the gambrel roof. The lean-to additions have 2" x 6" rafters spaced 2' on center that span their full width.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The barn's primary entrance is through two sliding doors on the east façade of the original barn. The tracks are mounted on the exterior of the barn, and the doors are constructed of plywood sheets with bracing on the backside. The door to the north is 13'-0" wide; the door to the south is 10'-6-1/4" wide. Another sliding door mounted to the exterior of the east façade gives access into the south addition. This door is constructed of shiplap siding.

Two doors on the east façade open into the hayloft. A large door hinged on the bottom opens under the gable and was used for loading hay into the loft. This door is constructed of vertical planks, matching the wall construction. Below is a sliding door on a track mounted

to the exterior of the barn. It opens at floor-level and is made of plywood with bracing.

On the north façade is a sliding door mounted on the interior of the barn. It is constructed of horizontal tongue and groove boards with vertical bracing. Another entrance into the north addition is on the west façade. A shiplap siding door with vertical bracing is mounted to the exterior of the barn.

The west end of the south addition, and the south end of the west addition are open to allow livestock in and out. At the north end of the west addition is another opening. No door remains at this opening.

All the doors on the barn are painted red. There is no decorative trim around the door openings.

b. Windows and openings:

All but one of the window openings on the barn have two-over-two-light single sashes painted white. On the west façade of the north addition is the exception. There, a two-by-three-light single sash is nailed into place over the opening. It has no sill or trim. The north and south façades of the barn each have a row of ten two-over-two-light single sashes. They sit on 2-1/4" sills and are nailed into place. Similar sashes are found on the east façade of the barn. One opens into the north addition. It is nailed into place and does not sit on a sill. Three open into the south addition. Two sashes sit flush on a 2-1/4" sill without a mullion separation. Above the sash to the south sits another two-over-two-light single sash. This gives the window opening an "L" shape. Three additional openings at the west end gable have no sills, or sashes. None of the openings have trim on the exterior.

6. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The original barn was constructed with a gambrel roof and was covered with wood shingles. The gambrel roof form remains with shed roof extensions to the north and south. Wood shingles remain on the roof, but have been covered by corrugated metal roofing. The shed roof on the west addition does not retain its wood shingles, and is covered in metal roofing.
- b. Cornice, eaves: The barn has white-painted fascia boards that run the length of the cornice. There is no gutter system

remaining on the roof, although originally the water was collected into a cistern that sits north of the barn.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

See measured drawings HABS No. WA 253-A for complete plans of this barn. The barn has a rectangular floor plan with a rectangular extension in the center of the west façade. The original barn has three bays that were divided into animal pens. It was entered through two sliding doors on the east façade that open into the original barn's central bay and northern bay. It now maintains an open floor plan and is used for equipment storage.

The north and south additions were constructed to house the milking operation; evidence of stanchions and feeding troughs remain. The addition to the west was constructed for animal pens and maintains this function today.

The plank frame truss system in the hayloft allows the space to have an open floor plan. The loft is accessed through an opening in the floor that also provides a pass through space for the hay.

2. Flooring:

The original barn was constructed with a poured concrete slab floor. The lean-to additions to the north and the south also have poured concrete floors. In the north addition a 38'-7-1/2" x 1'-6" gutter runs east and west for manure removal. The lean-to addition on the west façade sits on grade. Plywood sheets cover the hayloft's original 8" plank flooring.

3. Wall and ceiling finish:

The barn has no wall or ceiling finishes. The posts, beams, joists, and rafters are all exposed throughout the barn.

4. Openings:

a. Doors and openings:

The original barn was constructed with four openings on its west façade. They now open into the west lean-to addition. At the south end of the façade is a door opening. It is unadorned and has no door attached. In the center of the façade is a small plank door with horizontal bracing. It hangs on a metal track mounted on the interior of the original barn. It has been nailed closed.

b. Windows and openings:

On either side of the sliding door are two-over-two-light single sashes nailed into place. They have no sill or decorative trim.

D. Site:

1. Historic landscape design:

The Sherman farm complex sits on a hill overlooking Ebey's Prairie, south of Coupeville. The site is accessed from S. Sherman Road by a central driveway that runs east to west. The complex is made up of the barn and twelve additional buildings.

The Cyrus Cook house, constructed in 1876, sits south of the central driveway. This one-and-a-half-story vernacular farmhouse has a post on pier foundation and an irregular plan. The building is clad in raked wood shingles painted gray. The gable roof is covered in composite shingles and a brick chimney with metal vent sits over the southern slope. The building has one-over-one-light double-hung sashes with white trim and sills. Wooden ladders attached to the north, east, and south façades give access to the windows under the gables.

Two garages sit north and west of the house. They have gable roofs with composite shingles. The buildings are clad in shiplap siding painted to match the house with vertical corner boards. The garage to the north has a large opening on the west façade, a door on the east façade, and a single-light fixed sash window on the south façade. The garage to the west has a large opening to the north, and two three-over-three-light single sash stationary windows on the west. Both buildings have white trim around their openings. East of the garages is a small shed with a lean-to roof that covers the well.

South of the well, along the driveway, sits the workshop and hatchery building. It consists of three separate spaces, each with its own roofline. It sits on a poured concrete foundation, with two gable roofs covered in composite shingles, and one clad in metal. The building has raked shingle cladding on the north and east façades. The windows and doors are lined with white trim.

South of the workshop and Cook farmhouse are the three pit silos. The pits are lined with beach logs and poured concrete walls. The silage is covered with large tarps and rubber tires. The pits open to the east. A row of coniferous trees lines the silos to the south and east.

A cattle pasture and access road separate the pit silos from the buildings that sit to their west. The southernmost structure is an octagonal water reservoir. The concrete structure has a lean-to on the north façade with a shed roof. The lean-to walls and roof are covered in corrugated metal. The reservoir is encircled with nineteen coniferous trees with access on the north end.

Northwest of the reservoir is building number five. It has a front gable roof clad in corrugated metal, with four metal stovepipes along the ridgeline, and wood gutters. Building number five is clad in green corrugated metal overtop of its original wood shiplap siding. Sliding doors on metal tracks open the east and west facades. A row of window openings on the north and south facades have been covered with corrugated fiberglass sheets.

Directly north of this building is the doublewide hay shed. The hay shed has a pressure-treated lumber structure and a poured concrete slab floor. Its double gable roofs are covered with corrugated metal. The building is clad in red corrugated metal and is opened to the north.

A grain storage shed and elevator sit to the west. The original building was a square pole shed pagoda with a hipped roof and cupola. The building has a poured concrete slab floor with its interior space divided into bins for grain storage. Early shed additions enclosed the building to the east, west, and south. The façade's stud walls are clad in alternating plywood and corrugated metal, all painted red. The building has two-over-two-light single sashes painted white. The roof is covered in corrugated metal with remains of wood gutters at the eaves. The building is open to the north, with the arm of the grain elevator projecting out.

The farthest building to the west on the property is a pole shed. It is constructed of logs from the beach and has unpainted vertical plank cladding. The building sits on grade and has a gable roof covered in corrugated metal. The roofing on the southern slope has blown off, leaving the interior exposed to the weather.

Across the access road from the doublewide hay storage, the grain storage, and pole barn buildings is pasture enclosed with post and barbed wire fencing. The pasture runs to the backside of the barn and along the corral.

The barn sits at the end of the central driveway. Its hayloft is empty, but its ground floor is used for machine and equipment storage. Young bull calves are kept in the south and west additions and in the corral.

North of the barn is a water trough and cistern. South of the barn the concrete foundation from the silo remains. Across from the barn sits a small shed-roofed building and truck scale. The building sits on a slab foundation and is clad in board and battens painted red. The roof is clad in corrugated metal. On the south façade is a large window opening with a single stationary light with no sash. A pre-hung, four-paneled door opens on the north façade.

North of the other buildings on the property are two buildings that date back to the early days of raising turkeys. To the west is a brooder house. It sits on a stone foundation and is covered in red-painted shiplap siding. Its front gable roof has corrugated metal roofing over the original wood shingles and a single stove pipe over the ridgeline at the center of the building. On the east façade are a hinged door of painted-red shiplap siding, and two window openings with two-over-two-light single sashes painted white. The south façade has a row of ten similar single sashes painted white. Two openings on the north façade access wood burning stoves used to heat the brooder house. This façade also has four single sash windows.

East of the brooder house is the original incubator house. This one-and-a-half-story building sits on a poured concrete foundation and has a front gable roof covered in corrugated metal. The building is clad in shiplap siding painted red. An opening on the north façade shows evidence of two hinged doors. The building has seven two-over-two-light single sash windows – two each on the east, west, and south facades, and one in the gable of the north façade.

This property is bordered by Sunnyside Cemetery to the south, pastures to the west and north, and houses built by Roger and Clark Sherman to the east along S. Sherman Road.

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Sherman property was documented by Anne E. Kidd, candidate for Master of Science in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon, (Kingston Heath, Director) during the 2006 and 2007 school years. The project was executed as a terminal project under the guidance of Donald Peting, Professor Emeritus in Architecture at the University of Oregon, Hank Florence, National Park Service Historical Architect, Leland Roth, Professor of Art History at the University of Oregon, and Dan Powell, Professor of Art in Photography at the University of Oregon. The National Park Service and the Student Conservation Association sponsored the project. Anne E. Kidd performed the field recording, large format photography, and historical documentation. David A. Kidd assisted with the field recording. Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve and the community of Coupeville, Washington, provided additional support and assistance.

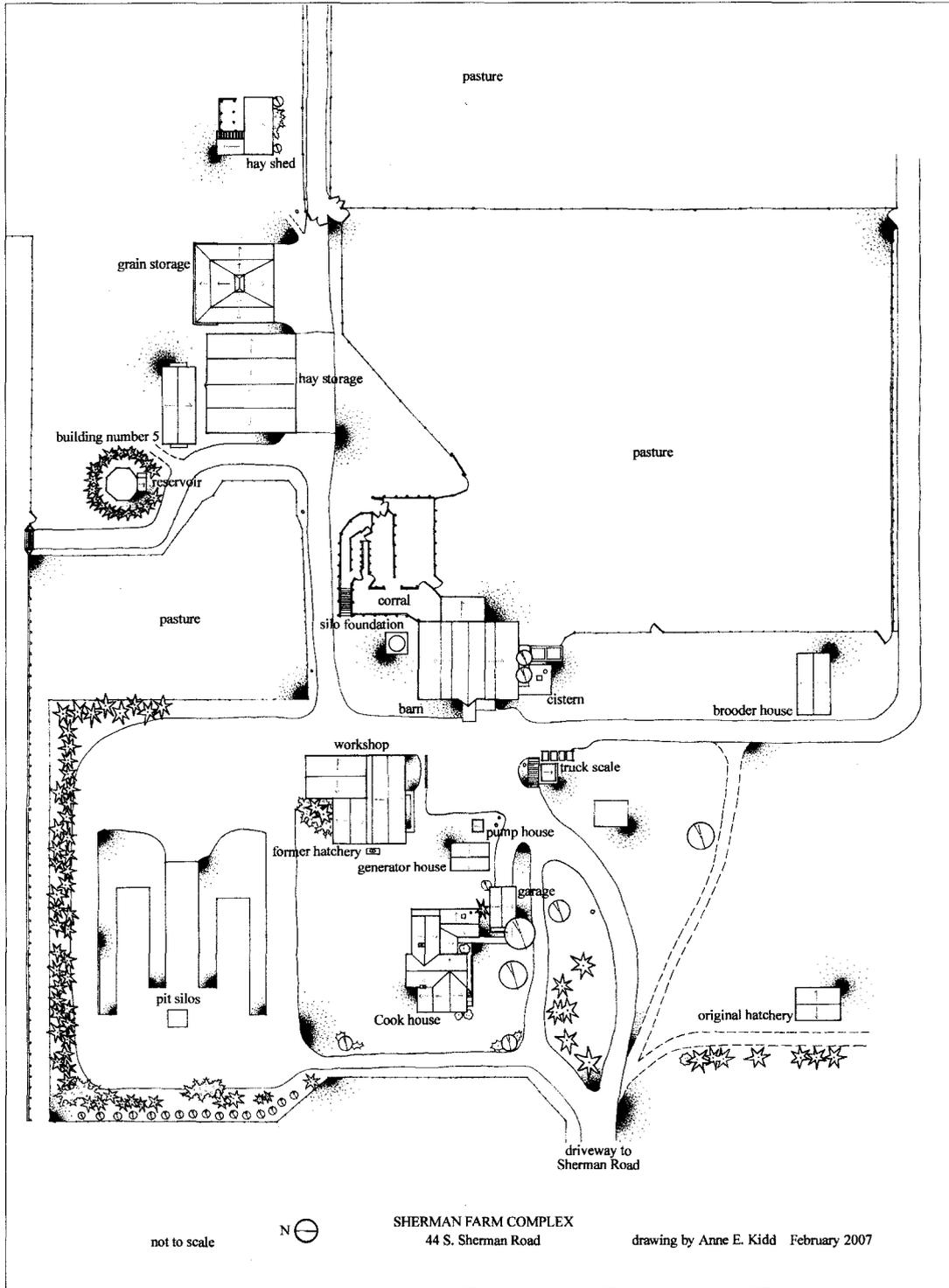
(P. 17)

SHERMAN, BARN
44 South Sherman Road
Coupeville vicinity
Whidbey Island
Island County
Washington

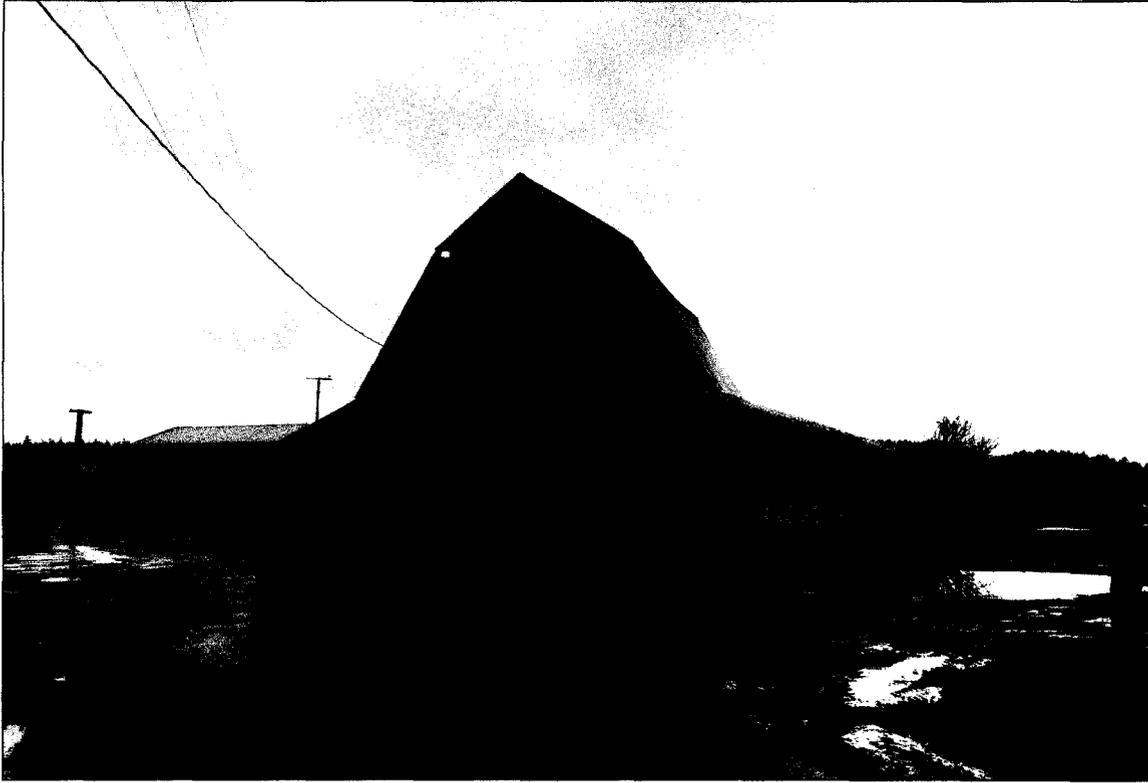
HABS No. WA 253-A

APPENDIX

Anne E. Kidd
162 Cemetery Road
Coupeville, WA 98239



Drawing 1: SHERMAN FARM SITE PLAN



Photograph 1: SHERMAN BARN LOOKING WEST FROM MAIN DRIVE

(The photograph shows the original barn and the two shed additions to the north and south. The gambrel roof has a hayfork extension. Also shown is the "L" shape window openings into the south addition, the sliding track doors, and hinged door at the gable that was used for loading hay.)

Photograph by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 2: BARN HAYLOFT LOOKING NORTHEAST

(The plank frame barn construction provides an open floor plan in the hayloft. The opening in the floor allows for passage of hay from the loft to the animal pens below. The original flooring has been replaced with plywood sheets.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 3: NORTH ADDITION TO THE SHERMAN BARN, LOOKING WEST

(This addition to the barn was constructed with milking stanchions and a poured concrete floor. The north façade of the barn has a row of ten, two-over-two-lights in stationary sashes.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



**Photograph 4: BULL CALVES IN THE SOUTH ADDITION TO THE SHERMAN BARN,
LOOKING SOUTHWEST**

(The first floor of the Sherman barn provides equipment storage and animal pens.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 5: BARN EXTERIOR INCLUDING THREE LEAN-TO ADDITIONS, LOOKING EAST THROUGH CORRAL

(The three early additions to the barn were used for milking and animal pens. Roger and Al Sherman built the corral system in the early 1950s.)

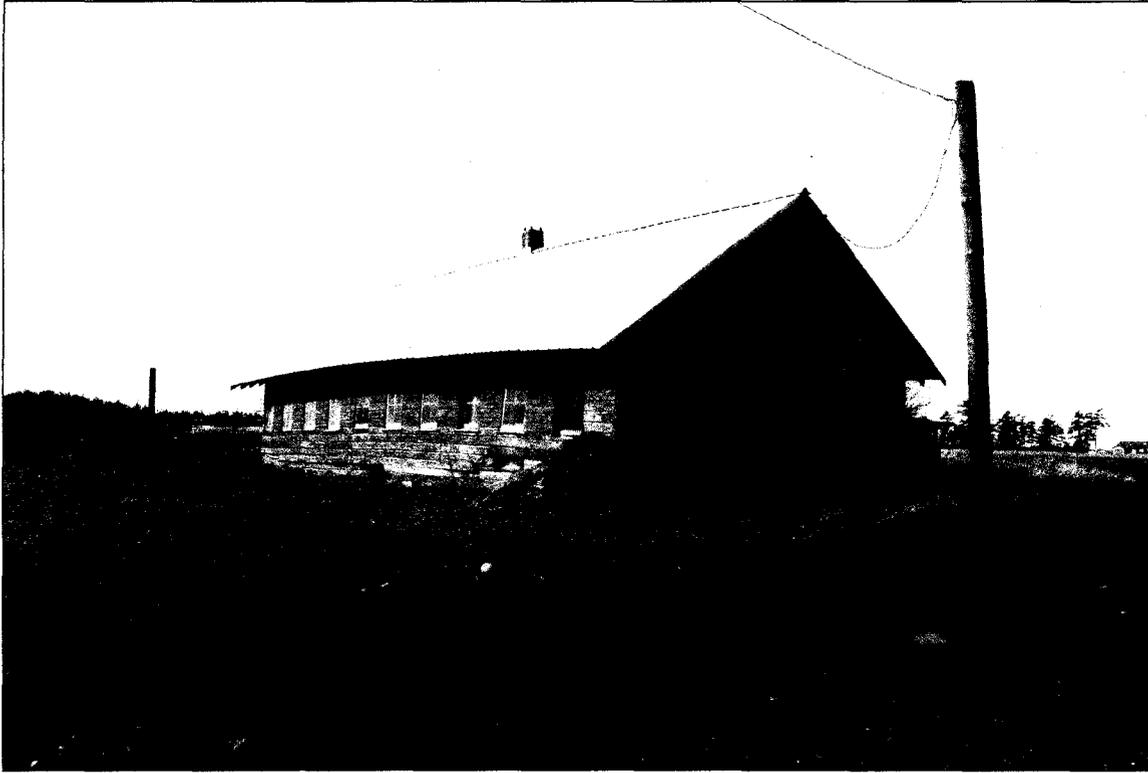
Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 6: COOK HOUSE LOOKING NORTHEAST

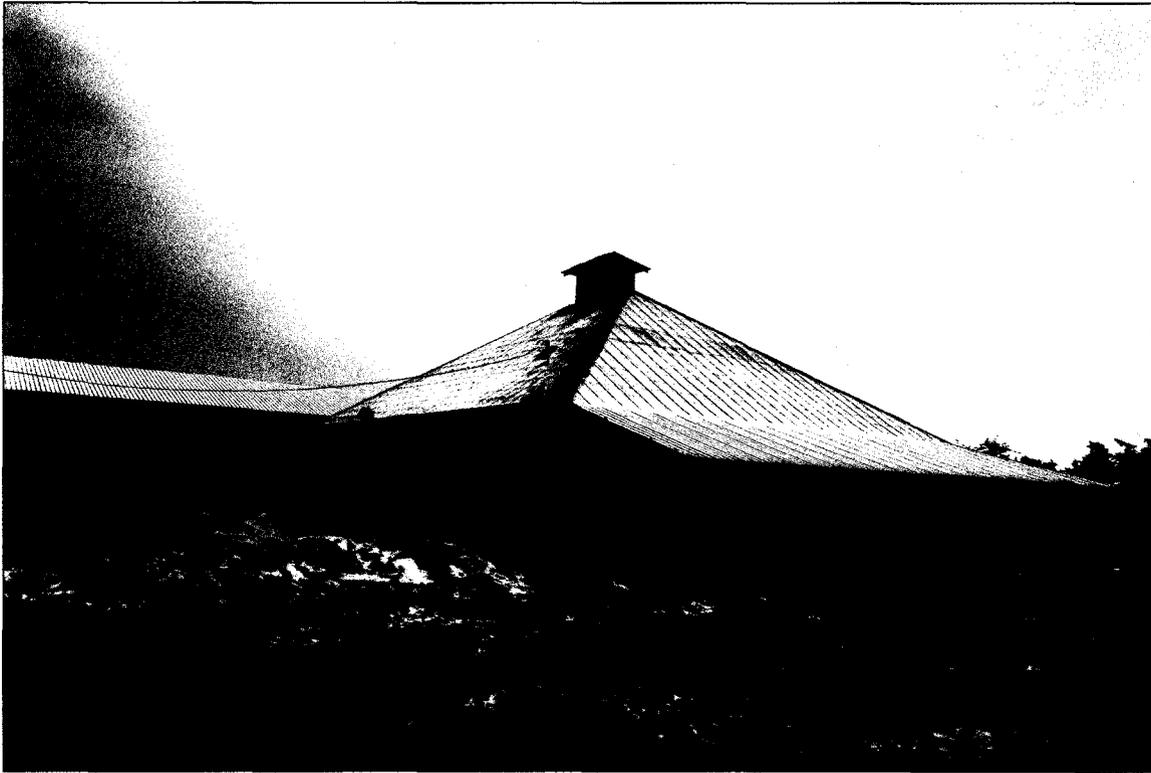
(The photograph shows the 1876 house built for Cyrus E. and Sarah Cook. The house's outbuildings are shown to the north and west.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 7: SHERMAN TURKEY BROODER HOUSE LOCATED NORTH OF BARN,
LOOKING NORTHWEST

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 8: GRAIN STORAGE SHED WITH ELEVATOR, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

(The building was constructed ca. 1955 with early additions added for turkey brooding. The doublewide hay storage shed is seen on the left of the image.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.

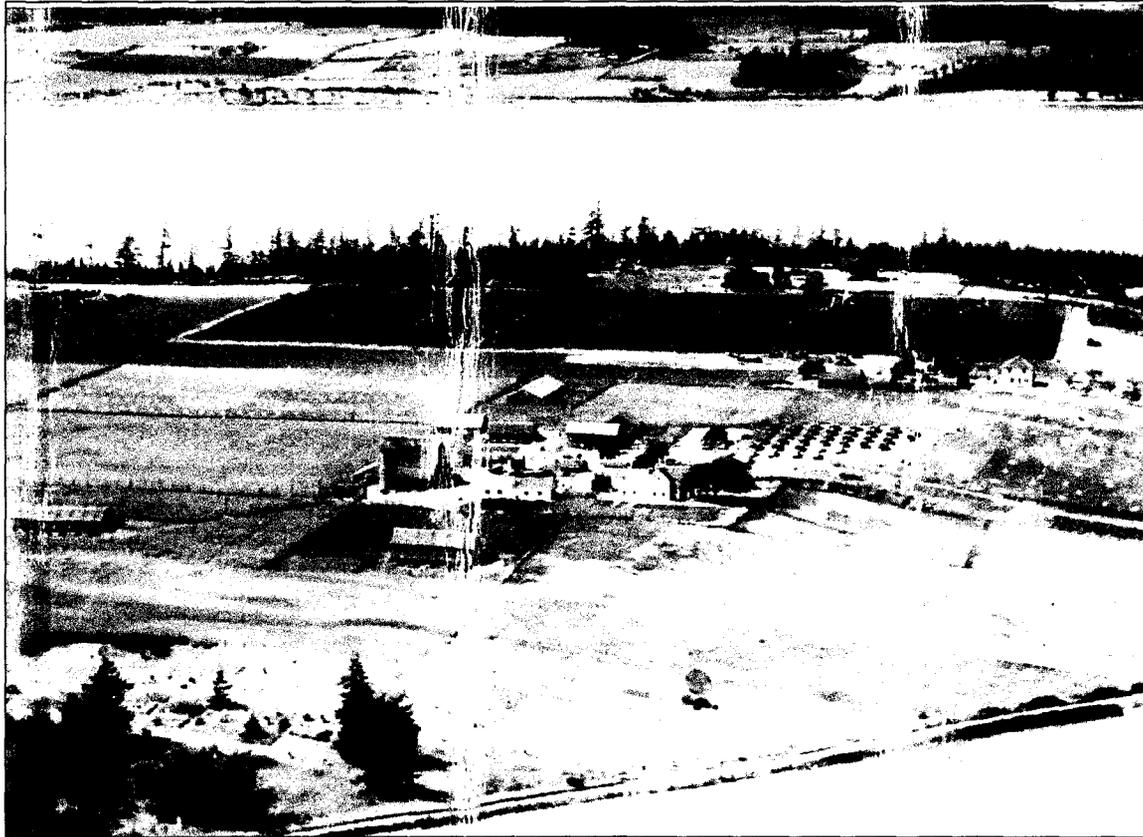


Historic

Photograph 1: WILLIAM AND LOTTIE SHERMAN FAMILY PHOTO CA. 1922

(Back row: Raleigh; Third Row, left to right: Clark, Iva, Mary, Wilbur; Second Row: William, Nina, Lottie; Front Row: Arline, Edwin. The Sherman's ninth child, Doris, born in 1908, died in 1919 during the influenza outbreak of 1918.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.

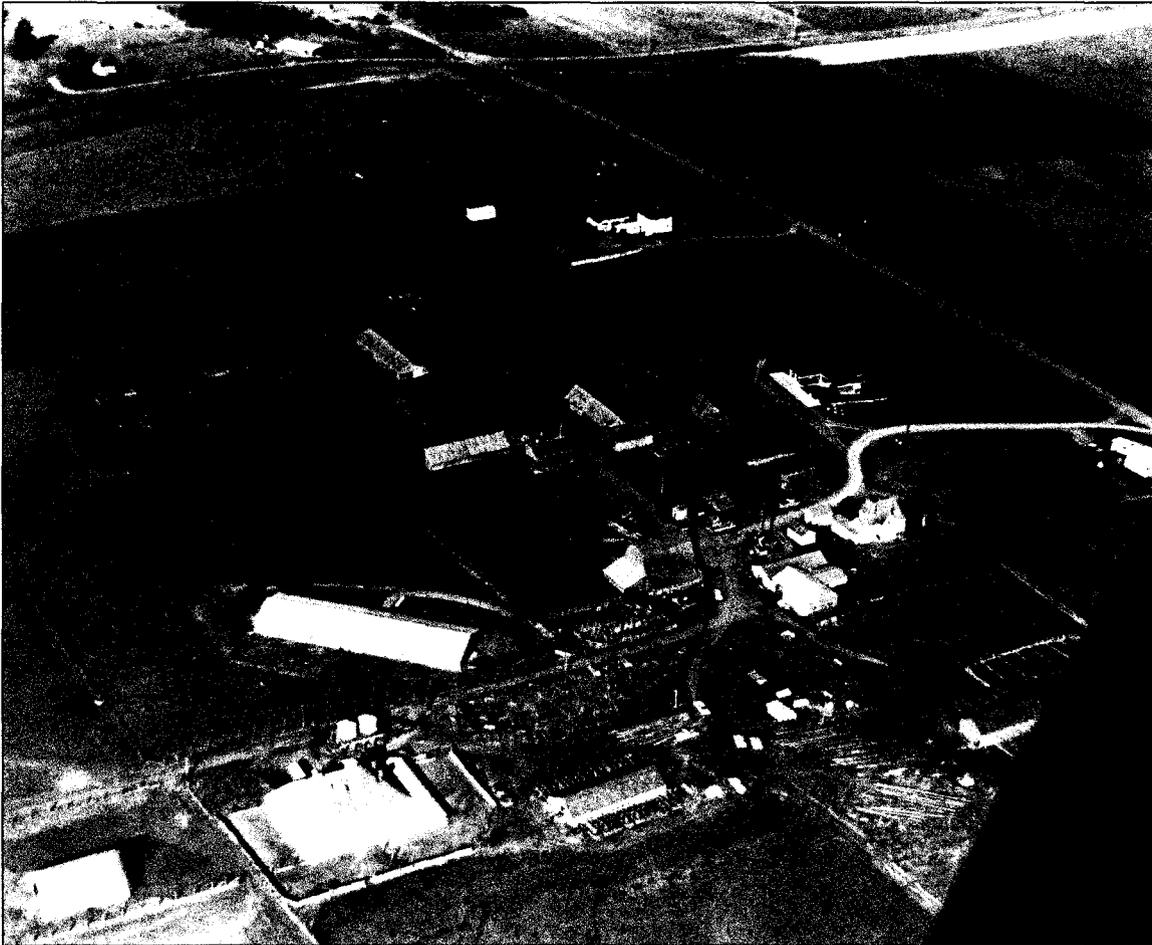


Historic

Photograph 2: AERIAL OF SHERMAN FARM, LOOKING NORTH, EARLY 1950s

(This photograph shows the Sherman farm during its turkey industry. Penn Cove is at the top of photograph, Sunnyside Cemetery is in the lower left corner. Of note: two story brooder moved closer to cemetery, silo south of barn, colony houses northeast of the house. Clark Sherman was raised in white house on right.)

Photograph provided by Dale and Liz Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 4: AERIAL OF SHERMAN FARM LATE 1960s, LOOKING NORTH

(The image shows the Sherman farm at the height of the turkey industry, barn in center right of image. Of note: brooder with sun porches in bottom center of image; two-story brooder with sun porches in bottom right corner, moved by Clark Sherman after fire threats; other brooder houses since demolished, including four north of the barn, and large one set at diagonal west of barn.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic
Photograph 5: AL SHERMAN FEEDING TURKEYS ON RANGE, 1962

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic
Photograph 6: CLARK SHERMAN WITH TURKEY EGGS IN INCUBATOR, 1964

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 7: SHERMANS CLEANING OIL BROODERS IN EARLY 1960s

(Edwin Sherman cleans an oil brooder stove while his son, Dale, and brother, Clark, look on. Clark Sherman used these brooder houses while raising turkeys. They have since been demolished.)

Photograph provided by Al Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 8: A SHERMAN TURKEY BROODER HOUSE WITH SUN PORCH, 1960s

(To acclimate young turkeys to the elements, sun porches are added to the brooder houses. This brooder was located near the Shreck house. It has since been demolished. Of note: The stovepipes from oil stoves at the roofline.)

Photograph provided by Al Sherman.



Historic
Photograph 9: SHERMANS LOADING BROAD-BREASTED BRONZE TURKEYS 1960s

Photograph provided by Al Sherman.

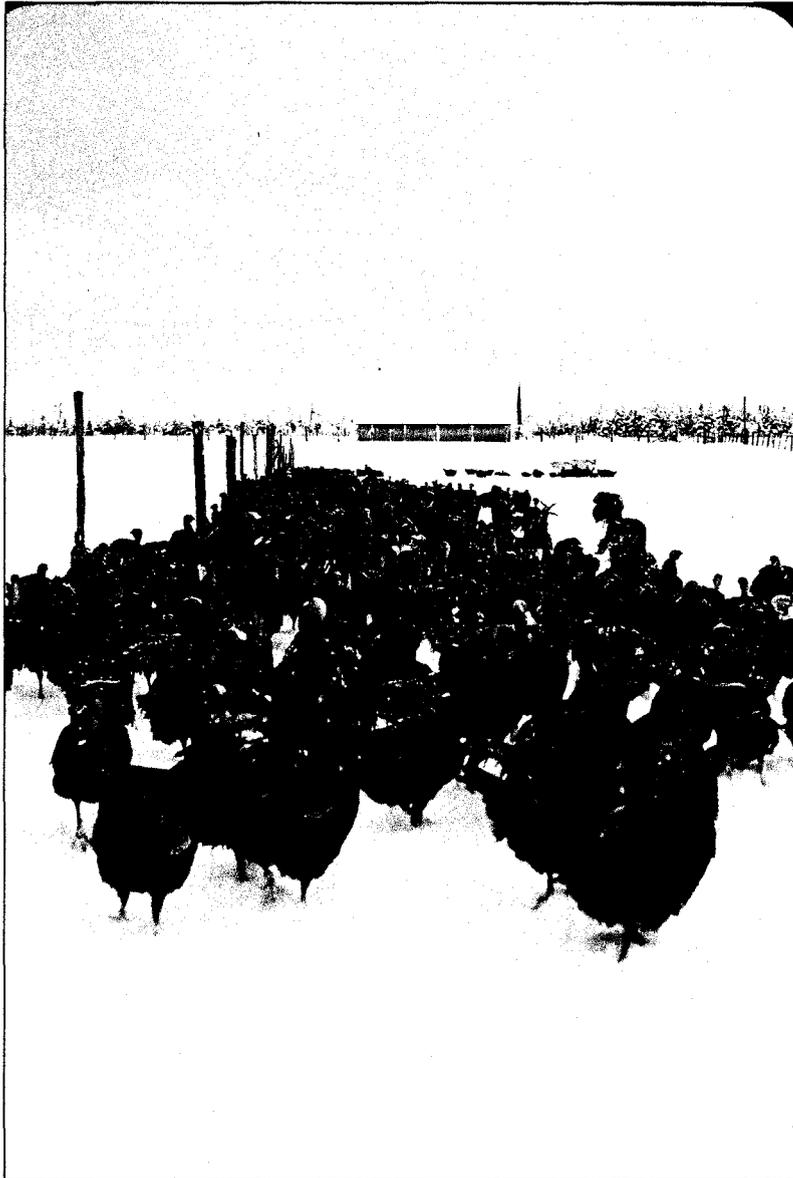


Historic

Photograph 10: BROAD-BREASTED BRONZE TURKEYS IN SHELTER 1960s

(Building now demolished. Photograph shows turkey feeders on right.)

Photograph provided by Al Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 11: BROAD-BREASTED TURKEYS IN THE SNOW LOOKING SOUTH 1960s.

(At eight weeks old, the turkeys are taken from the brooder houses and put out to range. Sherman's pole barn in background.)

Photograph provided by Al Sherman.