

Beierle Farm, Second House
Denver International Airport Site
Hudson Road & 96th Avenue
Denver
Denver County
Colorado

HABS No. CO-124-B

HABS
COLO
16-DENV,
63B-

PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS
COLO
16-DENV
63B-

BEIERLE FARM,
SECOND HOUSE

HABS No. CO-124-6

Location: Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 24, Township 2 South, Range 65 West, Sixth Prime Meridian. Denver County, Colorado. Vicinity of Watkins, Colorado.

UTM: 13: 532500, 4412500

Present Owner: Denver International Airport,
City and County of Denver

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: None

Statement of
Significance:

As a complex, the current Beierle Farm offers an example of the work process and flow of a wheat and grain farm and its methods of operation. In particular the grain bins and scale house offer examples of facilities frequently used by farmers in the area. Other buildings testify to the evolution of the farm from a dairy to a grain farm.

The Beierle Farm also has significance as an example of farm evolution and development by Adams County, Colorado, tenant farmers. Tenant farming was a common pattern of land use and livelihood for much of the area during most of the twentieth century. The Ray Beierle family worked as tenant farmers for more than fifty years. They worked at this farm for three different landlords, the Grossmans, the District Land Owners Trust and finally for Box Elder Farms until 1990. In addition, the Beierle Farm house is a significant example of an 1890s vernacular hipped cottage.

Project Statement: This Historic American Building Survey recording project is part of both the historic preservation plan for the Denver International Airport and a long term program to document historically significant buildings in the United States. The City and County of Denver through the Denver International Airport provided funding for the project.

The field work, measured drawings, historical reports and photographs were prepared under the direction of Deborah Andrews of Andrews & Anderson under contract to the City and County of Denver. Deborah Andrews, Nanon Anderson, Karen Hardaway and Jim Fischer of Andrews & Anderson did the field measurements and architectural delineations. Arnold Thallheimer undertook the photography. Steven Mehls of Western Historical Studies, under sub-contract to Andrews & Anderson, served as project historian.

Historian:

Steven F. Mehls, Western Historical
Studies, Inc., March 10, 1992

Second House

Exterior

The second house has the form of a hall and parlor house. It is a one-story, wood frame building on a concrete block foundation. The siding is wood ship lap. At some time the building was insulated with spray foam that has expanded outward through cracks in the foundation and walls. The front stoop is poured concrete. The medium gable roof on the main part of the house is covered green asphalt shingles. The rear (east) addition has a shed roof, covered with matching shingles. The rear porch entry is of wood plank construction. The building has had several additions over time, including the most prominent, a shed-roof addition on the east side. The house was moved onto the property and rebuilt after World War II (ca 1951).¹ Behind the second house, to the east, is a shed roofed, wood framed one-holer privy (HABS CO-124-C).

Interior

The interior today represents post-World War II materials and decoration techniques. Apparently when the house was moved the interior was completely changed from the original. It is finished primarily in plasterboard. No original finishes remain.

Existing Condition

There are minor cracks in the concrete foundation block. The shingle roof is deteriorated and the sub-roof may be as well. The exterior paint is also peeled and cracking.

Endnote

1. Paul D. Friedman, "Historic Properties Preservation Plan for the New Denver International Airport, Denver County, Colorado," September 14, 1990, copy on file at New Denver International Airport Office, Stapleton International Airport, Denver, CO., p. 112.