

Erwin Richterkessing Farm, Barn
4540 I-70 North Service Road
St. Peters
St. Charles County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1920-B

HABS

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

ERWIN RICHTERKESSING FARM, BARN

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Location: Erwin Richterkessing Farm, 4540 I-70 North Service Road, St. Peters, St. Charles County, Missouri.

Significance: This barn was one of several outbuildings that contributed to the agrarian setting and purpose of the Erwin Richterkessing farmstead.

Description

The largest barn on the Erwin Richterkessing property was two and one-half stories under a broad gabled roof. Its approximate dimensions were 50' x 50'. The barn was clad in vertical boards, had a concrete foundation, and a metal roof. The principal facade faced toward the west and included three ground-level entrances. The concrete foundation extended under three-quarters of the facade but there was no foundation under the bay on the southern end. This bay without the foundation was the size of a garage opening and had a vertical-board sliding door. The other two bays were regular doors constructed of vertical boards. One was placed in the center of the facade and the other was toward the northern end. Other openings on this facade included a small portal door on both levels, a tall vertical-board door on the second level, and two windows on each of the main levels. In the half story under the gable peak was a hay loft door that was hinged at the bottom and opened outward. A hay hood, which provided weather protection for the loft door, was an extension of the roof ridge.

The barn's west facade contained a horizontal sliding door, two regular doors, and two fixed-sash windows. A gabled dormer with two windows was positioned near the base of the roofline.

The foundation on the east facade was simply concrete supports beneath wood posts. The majority of this facade's lower story was open between the wood supports. The vertical boards appear to have been sawed off but a horizontal rail indicated that originally there was probably a sliding door. Two windows are positioned in the top story. The wall on the south facade was half opened between wood posts on concrete bases.

History: This ancillary structure was constructed during the late nineteenth to early twentieth century in response to typical farm operation requirements. It was used for housing livestock, grain, feed, and miscellaneous machinery.

Sources: Previous fieldwork by David Crampton, Archaeologist, Missouri Highway Transportation Department; Site visits by Sone and Prawl.

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Historians: Stacy Sone and Toni Prawl, Architectural Historians,
Missouri Highway and Transportation Department.