

F. L. HAWKINS TENANT FARMSTEAD, BARN

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

Waxahachie Vicinity

Ellis County

Texas

HABS No. TX-3384-C

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, BARN

HABS NO. TX-3384-C

Location: 130' Northwest of the F. L. Hawkins Tenant Farmstead,
House
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 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 first quarter of the twentieth century and was initially built to provide feed storage for livestock. It was later used as a shelter for farm machinery. The barn is entered from the shed additions and is a variation of the single crib barn.
- 2. Architectural Character:** The barn is located 130.0' northwest of the main house. It is one-story, three bays in width and three bays in depth, with a gable roof and two shed additions. (See photographic documentation HABS No. TX-3384-C-1 through HABS No. TX-3384-C-5 and HABS drawings, Sheet 1. Room numbers on the drawings are indicated in parentheses).
- 3. Condition of Fabric:** The building is in fair to poor condition and has been covered over with random-size corrugated metal sheets in an attempt to prevent further deterioration.

B. Description of Exterior:

- 1. Overall Dimensions:** The barn, including the shed additions, measures 41'-0" x 31'-6".

2. **Foundations:** Piers are of unmodified wood post or sills resting on grade.
3. **Walls:** The end walls of the central crib (101, 103) are covered in corrugated metal over wood drop siding, 3/8" thick with a 5-1/2" exposure. The north walls of the shed additions (100, 104) and the side wall of the west shed (100) are covered in 1"x10" boards. Interior wall surfaces are covered in horizontally-laid 1"x8" shiplap.
4. **Structural System, Framing:** The barn is constructed using a mixture of balloon and box framing. Wood sills are 5-1/2"x7-1/4", studs and rafters are typically, nominal 2"x6", with some 2"x4" rafters and top plates are doubled 2"x6" members.
5. **Openings:** The barn is entered from the south sides of both shed additions which are open or through doorways located on their north, east and west sides. Loading openings for feed are located on the north and south ends of the crib.
6. **Roof:** The main roof is gabled with a slope of 8 in 12, and is covered in corrugated metal over circular-sawn wood shingles, with a 6" exposure. The shed roofs on the pole (104) and box frame (100) additions have a slope of 1 in 12, and 4 in 12, respectively and are covered in corrugated metal.

C. Description of Interior:

1. **Floor Plan:** The barn is three bays in width and three bays in depth and is formed by a central crib with east (100) and west (104) shed additions. The crib has been divided by two partitions into three storage cells (101, 102, 103). A small wood trough is supported by the crib's east wall, and measures 1'-4"x4'-6".
2. **Flooring:** The crib floor is covered with 1"x8" board, laid north-south and the shed additions are earth-floored.
3. **Doorways and Doors:** Two loading doors are positioned, one above the other in the west wall of the center storage cell (102), and a wooden sluice is located in the west wall of the north cell. Three pairs of entry doors have been removed from the east and west sheds.