

LESOURD FARM, BARN  
209 Ebey Road  
Coupeville vicinity  
Whidbey Island  
Island County  
Washington

HABS WA-252-A  
WA-252-A

HABS  
WA-252-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  
LE SOURD FARM, BARN

HABS No. WA 252-A

Location: Whidbey Island, Island County, Washington

Present Owner: Sherman-Bishop Farms, Inc.

Present Use: Sherman-Bishop Dairy

Significance: With the passing of the Donation Land Claim (DLC) 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. On October 15, 1850, Colonel Isaac Neff Ebey staked his claim on 640 acres of prairie south of Penn Cove. Along with farming, Ebey played a key political role in the area, helping to form Island County, the state of Washington, and serving as district attorney.

After his beheading on August 11, 1857, by Tlingit Indians, his DLC was locked in litigation for ten years. It was eventually divided between his two sons. Jacob Ellison Ebey leased his share to local farmers, until 1886 when he sold a portion to Francis Le Sourd.<sup>1</sup> The property passed between the generations of the Le Sourd family, remaining a diversified farm until the early 1950s when John and Edward Le Sourd began dairying. In 1964, the farm was sold to the Dorothy Le Sourd Sherman family. The Shermans developed the dairy into the 500-cow operation that remains today.

This barn's central aisle flanked by haylofts is a unique plan type among the remaining historic barns of Central Whidbey Island. Also the design of the structural system in the lofts is not duplicated in neighboring structures.

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<sup>1</sup> The name is found spelled "Le Sourd" and "LeSourd". The remaining descendents spell it with the space, and therefore it will be spelled in this manner throughout this document.

## I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

### A. Physical History:

1. Date of construction: ca. 1899
2. Carpenter: unknown
3. Original owner: Colonel Isaac Neff Ebey, Donation Land Claim
4. Subsequent owners: After his beheading on August 11, 1857, by Tlingit Indians, the Ebey DLC was locked in litigation for ten years. It was eventually divided between his two sons, Jacob Ellison Ebey taking the southern half, and Eason Benton Ebey taking the northern half.

J. Ellison Ebey leased his share to local farmers,<sup>2</sup> until 1886 when he sold a portion to Francis Le Sourd. After Francis's death in 1921, the property passed to his wife, Mary Herret Le Sourd. After her death in 1940, the property was divided between her four children.<sup>3</sup> The eldest son, John, inherited the portion of the land that Francis had developed into the farm complex. It retained a large house and barn, along with other farm outbuildings. John continued to farm, expanding the farm complex with additional land and buildings. His land passed to his son, Edward Le Sourd.

At this time, the family of John's daughter, Dorothy Le Sourd Sherman, began purchasing pieces of Francis Le Sourd's original property from the other branches of the Le Sourd family.<sup>4</sup> In 1964, the Shermans bought the Edward Le Sourd property. Ownership has remained with Sherman Farms, Incorporated, since this time.

5. Original plans and construction: The Le Sourd barn was built as a two-story structure of heavy-timber, mortise and tenon, and pegged construction. It has a rectangular plan, measuring 67'-9" x 32'-2", and a side gable roof. The ground floor sat on grade and had a central aisle that ran east to west, flanked by bays on each side. The bay on the north was used for equipment storage; the bay on the south had pens for cows and horses. The second story provided

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<sup>2</sup> Gail and Michael Evans-Hatch, Historic Resource Study (Seattle: National Park Service, 2005), 124.

<sup>3</sup> Edward Le Sourd, Transcription of oral interview with Theresa Trebon (Mt. Vernon, WA: 7 July 1997), 4.

<sup>4</sup> Alvin Sherman, Oral interview conducted by Anne E. Kidd (Coupeville, WA: 6 March 2007), 01:12:10.

two haymows flanking the central aisle, and loose hay storage.

6. Alterations and additions:

An early lean-to addition, measuring 12'-3" x 39'-9", was constructed on the east façade of the central aisle and the northern bay, giving the barn an irregular plan. The addition maintained the board and batten cladding of the original barn.

The next alterations were done by Wilbur Bishop ca. 1975 to stabilize the structure and convert it into loafing space for the dairy cows. This undertaking included the addition of a 7-1/4" board-formed concrete and concrete masonry unit foundation under the barn. At this time, the door opening on the south façade was covered with board and batten cladding, matching the barn's exterior cladding. A textured poured concrete floor was added, along with forty-four loafing stalls. Finally, at this time, another lean-to addition was added to the east façade, returning the barn to a rectangular plan. This addition continued the shed roof of its predecessor, roofing over an 8'-3-1/4" square water tank constructed ca. 1972. Wire cables were installed to the bents of the northern bay ca. 2002 to stabilize the failing mortise and tenon joints.

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."<sup>5</sup> 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.<sup>6</sup>

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.<sup>7</sup> The Salish Indians also used the forest wood to build their canoes and villages.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Richard White, Land Use, Environment, and Social Change: The Shaping of Island County, Washington (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1980), 14.

<sup>6</sup> Land Use, 17-18.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 20-21.

<sup>8</sup> 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."

Captain George Vancouver carried out the first effective European exploration of Central Whidbey Island, claiming it for the British Empire on June 4, 1792.<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> By this time, after contact with sailors, hunters, trappers, and missionaries, Native populations in the area were devastated by smallpox and syphilis.<sup>11</sup> 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.<sup>12</sup>

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.<sup>13</sup> The potatoes easy growing cycle and high production brought the Salish Indians to first cultivate the prairies of Central Whidbey.<sup>14</sup> This cultivation was documented and continued by the first American settlers to the area. Within a few 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.<sup>15</sup>

In 1850, the United States Congress passed the Donation Land Claim (DLC) Act which accelerated settlement of Central Whidbey Island, Washington. Settlers that were compliant with certain conditions<sup>16</sup> 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."<sup>17</sup>

In 1851, Ebey's wife, Rebecca Davis Ebey, their two sons, Eason Benton and Jacob Ellison, crossed the Oregon Trail with the Crockett family and Rebecca's three brothers to join Isaac Ebey on Whidbey Island. In 1853, four months after giving birth to Sarah Herriet Ebey, Rebecca Ebey died. Isaac soon remarried Emily Palmer Sconce from Portland, Oregon.<sup>18</sup>

Isaac Ebey was a very active Democrat in territorial politics. In 1852-53, he helped to form the State of Washington, and he aided in the formation of Island County. He also served as Collector of Customs for the Puget Sound District, Captain of Company I, First Regiment, of the Washington Territorial Volunteers during the Indian War of 1855-56, and as district attorney.<sup>19</sup>

During these early years of American settlement in the area, the tension was high with constant threats of Indian violence. On August 11, 1857 Isaac Ebey was shot and beheaded outside his prairie home by a band of Tlingit Indians. It is believed that in 1858 an employee of the Hudson

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<sup>9</sup> A Particular Friend, 11.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 11-13.

<sup>11</sup> Land Use, 26-29.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., 27.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., 32.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., 33.

<sup>15</sup> 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., 1998), 7.

<sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> A Particular Friend, 19.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., 20.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

Bay Company, Trader Dodd, recovered Ebey's scalp from the Kake village, and brought it back to be buried with his body in Sunnyside Cemetery.<sup>20</sup>

The years following Ebey's beheading did not prove successful for the remaining Ebey family members. After Isaac's death, Emily left the island immediately, leaving thirteen-year-old Eason, eleven-year-old Ellison, and five-year-old Hettie to be raised by other family members in the area. Isaac's DLC was locked in litigation for ten years, during which time Hettie died in 1861, Isaac's father, Jacob, died in 1862, Emily died in 1863, and Winfield Ebey, guardian of the boys, died in 1866. Finally, on November 11, 1867, Eason and Ellison agreed to split the family land in half, Eason taking the northern portion, Ellison the southern.<sup>21</sup>

Ebey's DLC including a section of beach along the Strait of Juan de Fuca became a popular unloading point for passengers and supplies arriving to Central Whidbey Island. Ellison Ebey opened the Ferry House near the beach, providing lodging, lounging, and refreshments to the travelers. He leased the remainder of his land to local farmers<sup>22</sup> until 1886 when he sold 320 acres to Francis A. Le Sourd.<sup>23</sup>

Francis Le Sourd traveled to the Northwest in 1885 with his wife, Mary Ellen Scoonover, and three sons: John, Luther, and Charles. In an oral interview with Theresa Trebon in 1995, Dorothy Le Sourd Sherman, Francis' granddaughter, explained the reason for the journey. Francis, "had farmed in Kansas and he had poor health and my uncle, Uncle Dave [Le Sourd, an early Methodist Minister to the region], had come earlier and he thought that the mild climate out there would be good for Grandpa, so they picked up their family and came out here."<sup>24</sup>

They settled on Whidbey in 1886, and for their first six years on the land the family lived in a two-story house that sat back from the road, east of the barn that remains on the property.<sup>25</sup> Both Francis and Mary were very active in the Methodist Church and community of Coupeville. Francis served as County Commissioner for two terms, followed by two terms in the State Legislature. He was also a member of the temperance movement, the Good Templars.<sup>26</sup> Mary was President of the Ladies Aide, and active in the Coupeville Women's Christian Temperance Union.<sup>27</sup>

Francis commissioned local craftsman Howard B. Lovejoy to build a home for the family. *The San de Fucan*, a local newspaper, described Lovejoy in its June 19, 1890, edition,

"Coupeville has a contractor and builder, Mr. H.B. Lovejoy, who is prepared to draw plans and specifications, and furnish estimates for all kinds of buildings. He is spoken of as very good in his line, and the new improvements in Coupeville now under way, promise to keep him busy in the future."<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> A Particular Friend, 21.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., 21.

<sup>22</sup> Historic Resource Study, 124.

<sup>23</sup> "Funeral Services Are Held for Mary Ellen LeSourd," *The Whidbey Press* (Coupeville, WA: November 4, 1940).

<sup>24</sup> Dorothy Le Sourd Sherman, Transcription of oral interview with Theresa Trebon (Coupeville, WA: 30 July 1996) tape 1, p. 8.

<sup>25</sup> Edward Le Sourd interview, 16.

<sup>26</sup> A Particular Friend, 112.

<sup>27</sup> Edward Le Sourd interview, 18.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid., 94.

In 1887, Minerva Le Sourd was born, and in 1892, Lovejoy completed the Le Sourd house. The family moved out of their first home, which remained on the property until the early 1940s when Francis' grandson, Edward, tore it down.<sup>29</sup>

Francis ran a diversified farm, using draft horses, and growing potatoes, vetch and oats, and wheat for market, and raising dairy cows and chickens for family use.<sup>30</sup> Le Sourd employed Chinese laborers in his fields, including Ah Soot. He allowed Ah Soot to live on his property and, after his death, to be buried in the Le Sourd family plot.<sup>31</sup> The barn that remains on the property was constructed for Francis ca. 1899.

Francis and Mary's eldest son, John, married Alma James and moved away from the Le Sourd family farm and rented the Kellogg house on Smith Prairie. There, in 1910, Mary gave birth to Dorothy, their second child.<sup>32</sup> After a fire destroyed the Kellogg house in 1913 the family moved into the schoolhouse on the same property and then back to Ebey's Prairie in 1918. They purchased the A.S. Comstock house, just north of Francis Le Sourd's house.<sup>33</sup> That same year Alma James Le Sourd died in childbirth along with the baby. Dorothy was sent to town to live in Coupeville with her aunt Abigail James Morrill.<sup>34</sup>

On March 6, 1920, John Le Sourd married Ada Herrett.<sup>35</sup> The next year, at the age of seventy-eight, Francis Le Sourd died leaving the farm to his wife, Mary.<sup>36</sup> John farmed the land with his eight horses, raising wheat, peas, vetch, barley, oats, and squash for market in Bellingham.<sup>37</sup> In 1925, Edward was born to John and Ada. That same year, John built the granary (half used for grain storage, half for squash) with lumber shipped from Everett. He paid \$15.00 per 1,000 board feet for No. 4 wood, which at that time came with hardly a knot in it.<sup>38</sup>

In a 2007 interview with Anne Kidd, Al Sherman, John Le Sourd's grandson, described the barn's central entrance flanked by haylofts overhead as an "Indiana-style" construction. He explained how John Le Sourd used the building, saying,

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<sup>29</sup> Edward Le Sourd interview, 16.

<sup>30</sup> Al Sherman, 00:04:00.

<sup>31</sup> Dorothy Neal, "LeSourd Harvests 100 Years of Life," *Whidbey News Times* (Oak Harbor, Washington: 11 September 1975). "[John] LeSourd also remembers the era of the Chinese on Whidbey Island. He said they were fine people, hard workers, and clean. One worker on the Le Sourd farm, Ah Soot, lost all of his family in China while he was here, and so stayed until the end of his life in a little house on the Prairie. Ah Soot lived alone except in potato harvest, when a couple other Chinese stayed with him to work. Ah Soot is buried in the Le Sourd plot in Sunnyside Cemetery."

<sup>32</sup> Edward Le Sourd interview, 1. John and Alma's first child, Nathan Harry, born in 1909, died at six months old.

<sup>33</sup> *Building and Landscape Inventory: Part C* (Seattle, WA: Cultural Resources Division, National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Summer 1983, reprinted in 1995), 285.

<sup>34</sup> Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 1, p. 5.

<sup>35</sup> Dorothy Sherman interview, tape 1, p. 10. Both of John Le Sourd's weddings were held in the same house at 82 S. Ebey Road. "The first time, when he wed Alma James, her parents Nathan and Francis James were living in that house. They later moved up to the last house on Terry Road's west side. The Herrett's then moved into that same house from the Ferry House where they were living. And so when John wed their daughter Ada, it was in the same location."

<sup>36</sup> Edward Le Sourd interview, 3.

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.*, 4, 9.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, 19.

“The way my grandpa had it, you come in the middle with the hay wagon, and then you would lift the hay up...and then roll it off one way or the other with the track that was overhead, and then drop the hay in the hay mow...My grandpa...had his farm equipment kinda stored in one side, on the north side, and he had his old tractors and his binders and all that kind of farm equipment there. And then he had his horses and cows over here [in the southern end of the barn]”<sup>39</sup>

In 1931, Dorothy Le Sourd had finished school at the University of Puget Sound, and married local farmer, Clark Sherman. They moved onto a property in the west woodlands overlooking Ebey’s Prairie. They had three sons, Alvin James “Al”, Roger M., and James Louis, and started a successful turkey farm.

When Francis Le Sourd’s wife, Mary, died in 1940, the Le Sourd farm was split between her four children: John, Luther, Charles, and Minerva Bantz.<sup>40</sup> John retained the land with the farm buildings. He stayed with his family in the Comstock house, and used the Francis Le Sourd house as a rental property. Edward joined his father on the farm and they raised squash and turkeys. By 1950, Barbara Boardman was living with her parents in the Le Sourd house. That year, Barbara and Edward were married and moved into the house.<sup>41</sup>

This same year, John and Edward sold their 10,000 turkeys and began a small dairy operation. They built milking stations, a milk room, and loafing pen north of the granary and bought an electric milking machine.<sup>42</sup> By the early 1960s, they were selling Grade A milk to Darigold and milking fifty cows, a combination of Guernsey and Holstein. They also grew alfalfa and other crops for the cows and bought grain from Mt. Vernon.<sup>43</sup>

In 1964, Dorothy Le Sourd Sherman’s branch of the family purchased the farm property, excluding the Francis Le Sourd house, from John and Edward. When this happened, John retired from farming at the age of ninety, and Edward moved to Anacortes where he owned shares in a plywood mill. The Le Sourd house was sold to Edward’s brother-in-law, Peter Boardman.<sup>44</sup> In 1971, it was sold to Jasper Walker and D. Stern. They restored the building, and added additions to the east end.<sup>45</sup> Jasper Walker’s wife, Margarite, maintains ownership today. John Le Sourd lived in the Comstock house until his death in 1975. At this time the house was rented to farm employees, and later was used as the farm office.<sup>46</sup>

Under the ownership of Sherman Farms, Incorporated, the dairy flourished. By 1970, they were milking sixty Holsteins<sup>47</sup> and had adjusted John and Edward’s loafing shed to fit the needs of a larger herd. In 1970, the Shermans built a new building to house a milk shed, milking parlor, and loafing barn. In the mid-1970s a poured concrete foundation was added under the ca. 1899 barn.

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<sup>39</sup> Al Sherman interview, 01:05:00.

<sup>40</sup> Edward Le Sourd interview, 4.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid., 14-15.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid., 6-7.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid., 7-8.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid., 14-15.

<sup>45</sup> *Building and Landscape Inventory*, p. 283. Dorothy Stern was the sister of Mrs. Margarite Walker.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid., 284.

<sup>47</sup> Al Sherman interview, 01:12:10. Holsteins are a better milking cow than Guernseys. They are hardier and produce more milk.

In 1975, the Shermans ceased raising turkeys on their other property. At this time the entire Sherman Corporation focused on the dairy. A key to the dairy's success was teamwork 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, became the lifeline between the two properties. The cows were fed a mixture of silage, hay, and grain. A feed truck drove Cook Road from the dairy up the hill to collect the ingredients from the pit silos, the hay storage shed, and the grain storage building. They were combined and driven back down the hill to the dairy where the cows were fed different mixtures, depending on their milk production. This process was repeated several times a day.<sup>48</sup>

The dairy operated twenty-four hours. It was designed to milk 500 cows, three times a day. An estimated 400 more young stock were not in the milking operation, but were raised on the property. The ca. 1899 barn was converted to loafing stalls for dry cows. Al Sherman explained the gestation process of the cows.

“[Each cow] has a calf. And then, of course, it gives milk to feed the calf, and the cows are bred so they give a lot more than that... Then, the cow... starts milking, and [the process] kinda goes up and after about sixty days she peaks in production... and then it starts down... Then you've got to give them a rest – they quit milking, and they sit around for a month or six months. Then they have another calf and they start milking again.”<sup>49</sup>

Wilbur Bishop, the husband of Al's daughter, Karen, joined the farm operation full-time in 1980. A large loafing shed was constructed by Wilbur ca. 1983. East of the other farm buildings, it was built with lumber from another Sherman property near Greenbank.<sup>50</sup> That same year, Arm and Hammer Construction built a heifer barn, south of the historic barn, to house the young females in the herd. The cows join the dairy production after two years.<sup>51</sup>

The newest buildings added to the property are two loafing sheds constructed in 2001. These buildings are unique in that they use sand bedding, which helps the cows to avoid injury. They were constructed north of the other farm buildings, in a well-trafficked area, so the cows can be easily looked after. In this area are also a building for calving and a settling pond for manure removal.<sup>52</sup>

In 1997, Al and Roger Sherman retired from Sherman Farms, Inc., selling their ownership to the next generation. The corporation is now owned and worked by Al's daughter and son-in-law, Wilbur and Karen Bishop, and Roger's son and daughter-in-law, Don and Debbie Sherman. Today, the Sherman-Bishop dairy is the last operating commercial dairy on the island.<sup>53</sup>

## II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This barn's central aisle flanked by haylofts demonstrates a unique plan type among the remaining

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<sup>48</sup> Al Sherman interview, 01:16:00.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid., 01:13:50.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid., 01:04:00.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid., 01:03:22, 01:01:20, 01:08:10.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid., 00:59:00.

<sup>53</sup> Roger Sherman, Oral interview conducted by Anne E. Kidd (Coupeville, WA: 10 March 2007), 00:55:45.

historic barns of Central Whidbey Island. No neighboring buildings duplicate the structural system in the lofts.

2. Condition of fabric: Fair. This barn has been heavily used by both livestock and farming equipment for more than 100 years. The wear of this use is evident in its cladding, roofing, and structural system. The doors on the east façade have been stripped of their original board and batten cladding; one is now clad with corrugated metal. The other is left unclad with the bracing system exposed. The metal roof is pulling away, exposing the wood shingles underneath. The cupola is missing louvers and trim.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 53'-4" x 67'-9"
2. Foundations: The barn sits on a board-formed concrete foundation that was constructed ca. 1975.
3. Walls: The original barn was clad in 1" thick boards and 3/4" x 2-3/4" battens. The early addition maintains this wall system. The addition added ca. 1975 is constructed with 5-1/2" x 1-1/2" studs with board and batten. The barn is painted red.
4. Structural systems: The ground floor has four interior bents consisting of 6" square posts and 6" beams. The southern-most interior bent is constructed with pressure treated lumber, with 3-1/2" diagonal braces. Above, two haylofts flank the central aisle. The roof structure in the lofts consists of 8" square sills, 6" posts, and 4" braces. The rafters are 2" x 6" and spaced every 2'-0" on center.
5. Openings:
- a. Doorways and doors: The barn has three doors and five openings. There is an opening in the north façade between two posts. It has no frame and no trim. A metal gate at the opening keeps the cows in the barn separate from the cows in the adjoining space. The east and west façades have sliding doors at the central aisle. On the west façade the door is 9'-7-1/2" wide and is constructed of board and batten to match the barn. This door was nailed into place north of the opening, leaving it accessible. There is a metal gate across the opening. On the east façade the door's bracing framework remains, but there is no cladding on the face of the door.

The final openings to the barn are on the east and west façade of the southern aisle. The opening at the west façade has no framing, trim, or door. It leads to feeding troughs for the cows. On the east façade a sliding door constructed of wood bracing and corrugated metal cladding sits permanently in the open position.

b. Windows and openings:

The barn was constructed without windows. At each gable end there is a louvered vent opening for air circulation. The vent remains on the north façade, but is covered on the south façade. The louvers are painted white and there is white trim on the exterior of the opening.

6. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: A side-gable roof with a shed addition to the east covers the barn. It has corrugated metal roofing placed over the wood shingles and overhangs 1' on every side.

b. Cornice, eaves: The barn has 4" white fascia boards that run the length of the cornice. There is a white metal gutter along the full length of the east eave. A white metal gutter runs along the west eave, over the center aisle entrance.

c. Cupola: The barn has a red-painted cupola along the ridgeline over the center aisle. It has a cross gable roof with wood shingles. Each façade has a gothic arched opening with white trim and louvers.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: See measured drawings HABS No. WA-252-A for complete plans of this barn. The barn has a rectangular floor plan that consists of three aisles, and two rows of loafing stalls. The aisles run east to west at the northern end (12'-1-1/4" wide), the center (9'-7-1/2" wide) and at the southern end (12'-1-1/4" wide) of the barn. The loafing stalls sit between 6" square posts that support the hayloft. The northeast corner of the barn is closed off from the cows on the interior, providing storage. It also houses the water tank, which is accessible from the exterior.

The haylofts have floor plans open for hay storage, with one bent of structural support running east to west through the center of the space. Over the entire early lean-to addition is additional storage space used for bale and supply storage.

2. Flooring: The ground floor of the barn has a textured poured concrete floor. The spaces used as loafing stalls also have poured concrete curbing used to keep the bedding in the stalls.

The lofts have flush 12" plank floors laid east to west. The space over the early lean-to addition has flush 8" planks that also run east to west.

3. Wall and ceiling finish: The posts, beams, joists, and rafters in the barn are all exposed without any finishes.

D. Site:

1. Historic landscape design:

The Le Sourd farm complex sits on Ebey Road, on Ebey's Prairie, south of Coupeville. The site is accessed by two drives that run east to west. The complex is made up of the historic barn and fifteen additional buildings.

The Francis Le Sourd house is a two-and-a-half-story Queen Anne farmhouse built in 1892. It has an irregular plan and a stone foundation. The building is clad in shiplap siding painted greyblue with decorative diamond and round-cut shingles under the gables. It is covered with a wood-shingled hip roof with projecting gables on the north, south, and west facades. The building has a series of additions on the east end. It sits in a garden with a series of serpentine paths, benches, and flowerbeds. The house and yard are separated from the adjoining farm by tall trees, shrubbery, and wooden fences.

North of the Le Sourd house are the A.S. Comstock buildings: a vernacular farmhouse, garage, and bunkhouse. The one-story farmhouse has a hip roof and sits on a fieldstone foundation. The roof is covered with wood shingles, and has a brick chimney along the ridgeline. The building is clad in shiplap siding painted blue. The main entrance is on the west façade and includes a stoop with its own hip roof and chamfered columns. The building has vinyl windows, corner boards, and a molded cornice with plain frieze boards. East of the house a cistern collects water from the roof.

A two-story bunkhouse with a side gable roof covered in wood shingles sits south of the house. It is clad in shiplap siding painted blue to match the house and has white-painted trim around the door and window openings. Exterior stairs along the east façade access the second floor.

There is a one-story garage east of the bunkhouse. It is clad in matching blue shiplap siding with white trim around the openings. It has a front gable roof with wood shingles and sits on grade. The building is open on its south façade.

East of the Comstock buildings are the three newest buildings on the property. Two identical loafing sheds were constructed in 2001. They are pole barns of pressure treated lumber with textured concrete floors. They have half-monitor roofs, providing clerestory openings along the full length of the roofline. The buildings have red corrugated metal cladding on the east and west façades; the roofs are covered in corrugated metal. The aisle between the barns is used to distribute feed. North and south of the feeding troughs are loafing stalls with sand bedding.

South of the identical loafing sheds sits the calving shed. This building has a gable roof and red corrugated metal cladding. It provides loafing stalls and sand bedding. The building sits along the drive and is a well-trafficked area, providing extra assistance during births if needed. East of these three buildings is a manure settling pond that's used to separate the sand bedding from the liquid manure.

To the south are the milking parlor, milk shed, and loafing shed buildings built in the early 1970s. The milking operation is housed in a building built of concrete masonry units in a stacked bond. The building is painted green and has a hip-on-gable roof with corrugated metal roofing. It has a large picture window on the west façade that offers a view of the milk tanks. Along the north and south façades is a row of ten window openings.

Attached to the concrete block building to the east is the 1970s loafing shed. It is a pole structure clad in green corrugated metal. It has a half-monitor roof covered in corrugated metal, and a textured poured concrete floor. The building provides feeding troughs to the north and south, with loafing stalls in the center.

East of this loafing shed is another loafing shed built in 1983. This, the largest building on the property, is a pole barn of wood construction with a half-monitor roof. The walls and roof are clad in corrugated metal. The building is painted red. It has two main aisles that are used for

feeding. North and south of these aisles are the loafing stalls.

South of the green buildings sits the granary and Le Sourd milking station. The granary has a side gable roof with wood shingles and six cupolas. It has two hinged doors on the south façade. The building is painted red with white trim on the doors, corners, and skirting. The building sits on a post on pier foundation with a poured concrete wall under the four façades. It has diagonal sheathing and shiplap siding. Triangular decorative brackets line the gable ends. The interior of the building is divided into two spaces. The west room was used to store squash and maintains the additional blocking that was added to the walls to provide air circulation to the squash. The east end was used for sacked grain. The building is now used to store straw bales.

Attached to the granary on the north is the Le Sourd's milking station and milk shed. This building has a flat roof and sits on a foundation of concrete masonry units. The building has board and batten cladding painted red. There is white trim around the windows on the north and south façades. The windows have three-by-three-light single sashes painted white.

East of the granary is the Le Sourd loafing barn. It is a pole barn on a poured concrete foundation. It has a half-monitor roof and corrugated metal roofing. The barn has three rows of thirty loafing stalls. Feeding troughs are available to the north and south of the shed.

South of this loafing barn is the historic Le Sourd barn. It is currently used to house the dry cows. The haylofts are used to store straw bales. East and west of the barn are feed troughs for the cows.

South of the historic barn is the heifer barn. It is a pole barn with half-monitor roof. It has a board formed concrete foundation, a textured poured concrete floor, and metal cladding. The barn is used to house the young cows before they join the milking operation.

The aisles between the buildings are all textured concrete slab. The texture gives extra traction for the herd, and the slab allows for easy manure removal. Directly west of the Le Sourd loafing barn is a drain opening in the concrete slab. The manure is pumped from the drain into a manure lagoon east of all the buildings.

Ebey Road borders the farm complex to the west. To the north, south, and east are fields and paddocks.

### III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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8. Sherman, Dorothy Le Sourd. Transcription of oral interview conducted by Theresa Trebon. Coupeville, WA: 1996.
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### IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

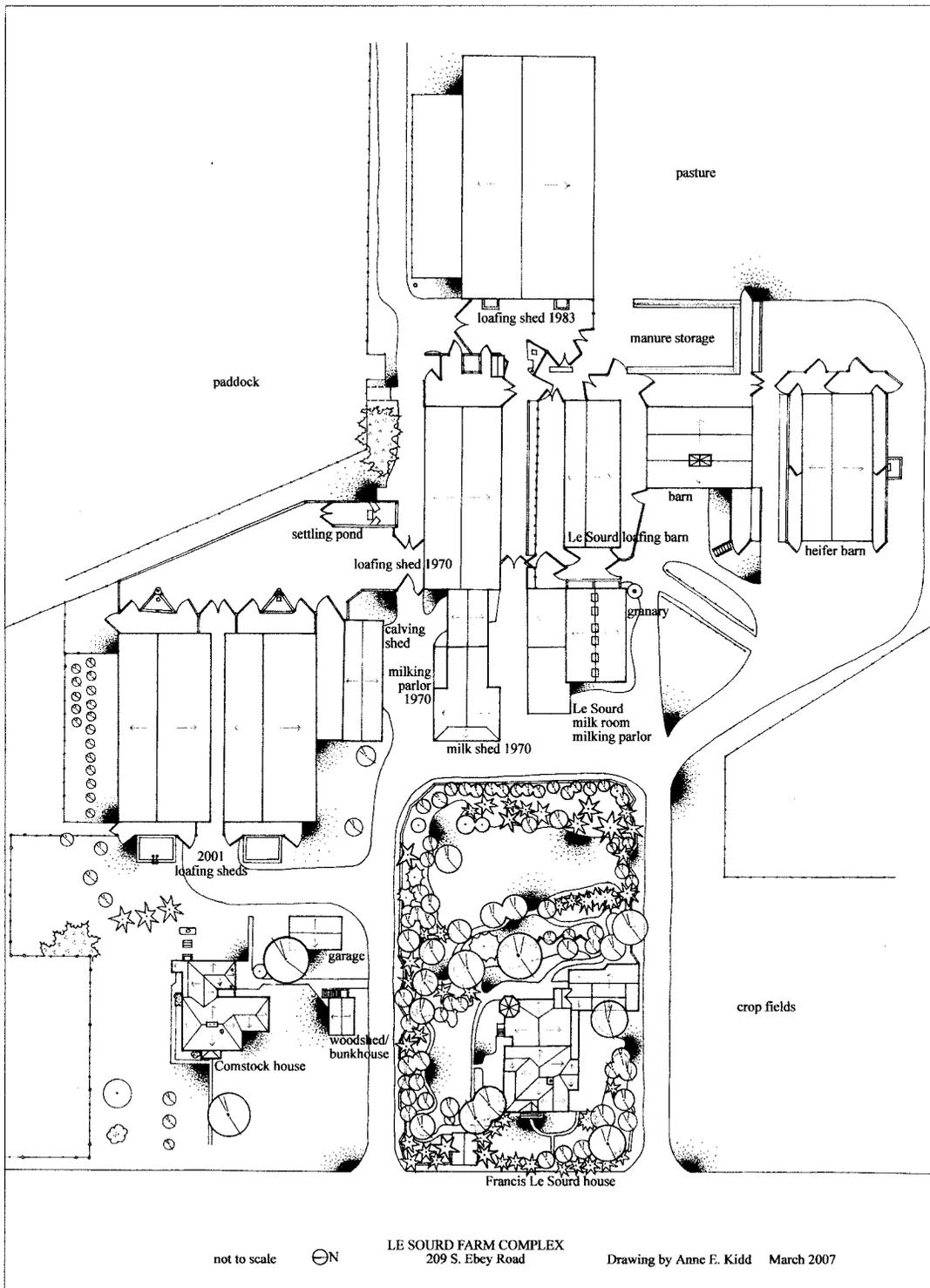
The Le Sourd property was documented by Anne E. Kidd, candidate for Master of Science in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon, (Kingston Heath, Director) during the 2006 and 2007 school years. The project was executed as a terminal project under the guidance of Donald Peting, Professor Emeritus 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.

LE SOURD FARM, BARN  
209 Ebey Road  
Coupeville vicinity  
Whidbey Island  
Island County  
Washington

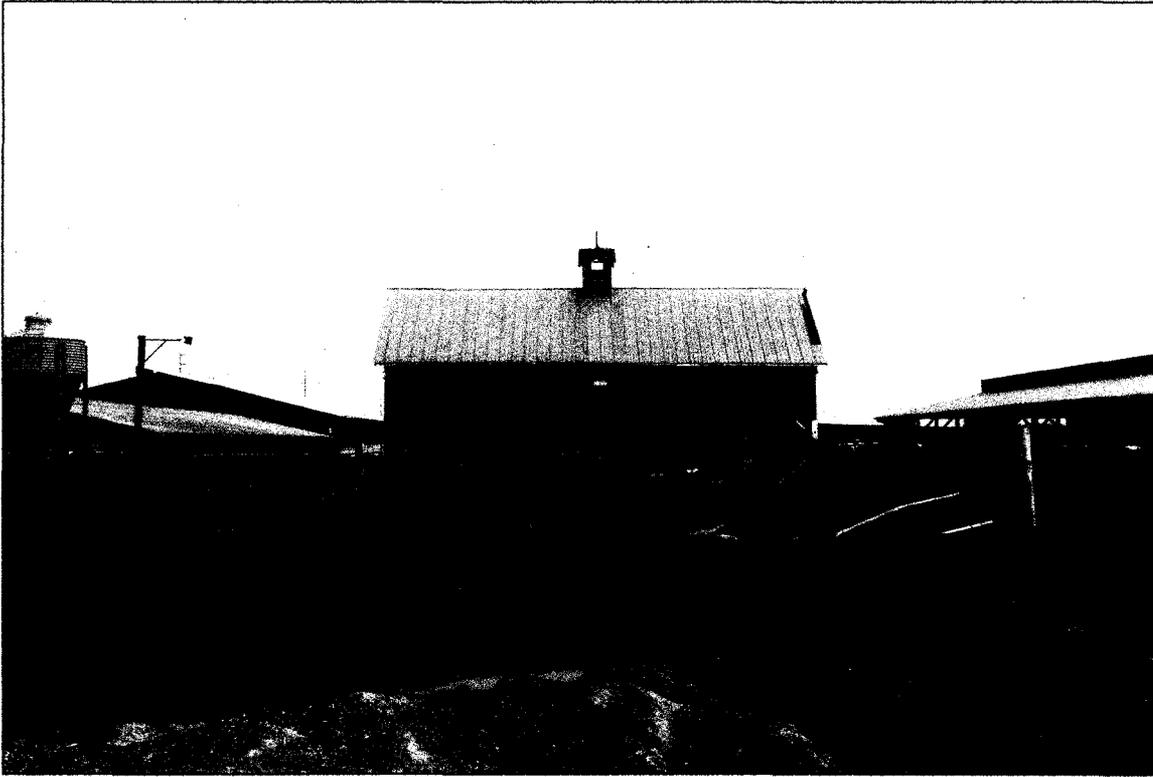
HABS No. WA 252-A

APPENDIX

Anne E. Kidd  
162 Cemetery Road  
Coupeville, WA 98239

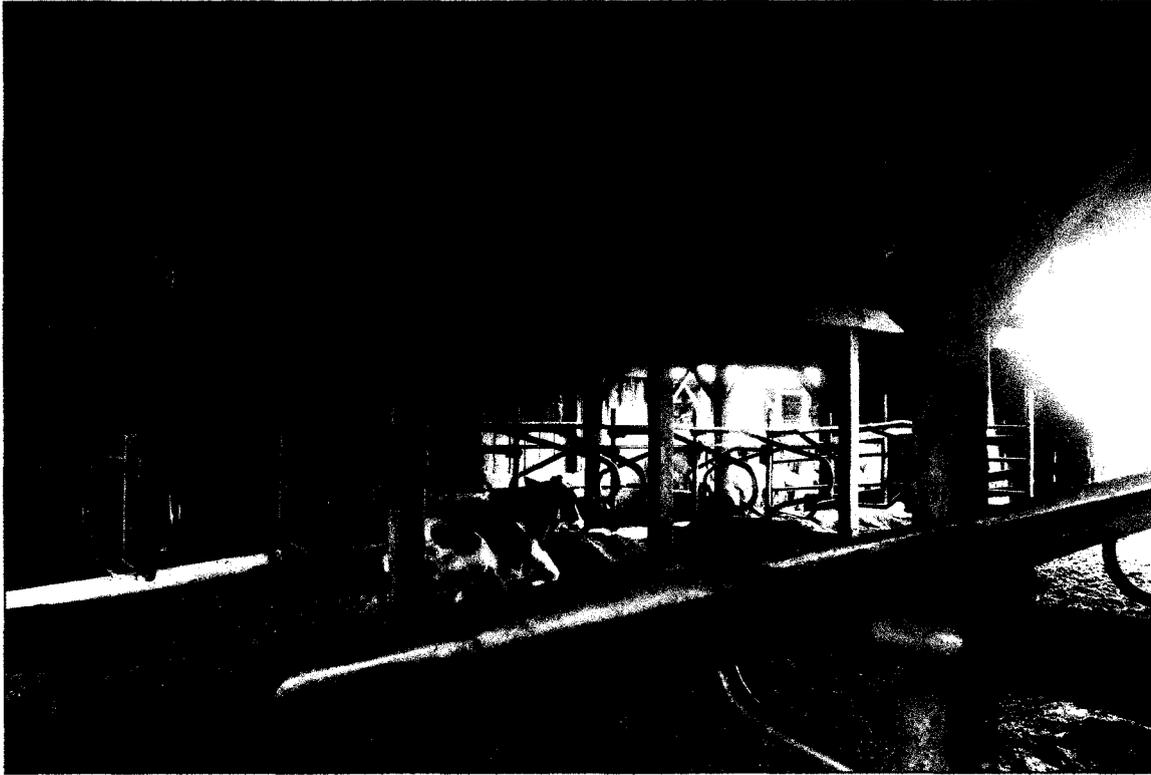


Drawing 1: LE SOURD FARM SITE PLAN



Photograph 2: WEST FAÇADE OF LE SOURD BARN

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 3: LE SOURD BARN INTERIOR, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

(Photograph taken from early lean-to addition, looking across central aisle. Image shows Holsteins in loafing stalls, hayloft, mortise and tenon joints on the posts, and diagonal braces.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 4: THE FRANCIS LE SOURD HOUSE IN IT'S SETTING, FROM EBHEY ROAD, LOOKING NORTH

(Tree rows and fences around house separate it from the surrounding farm; 1925 granary on right.)

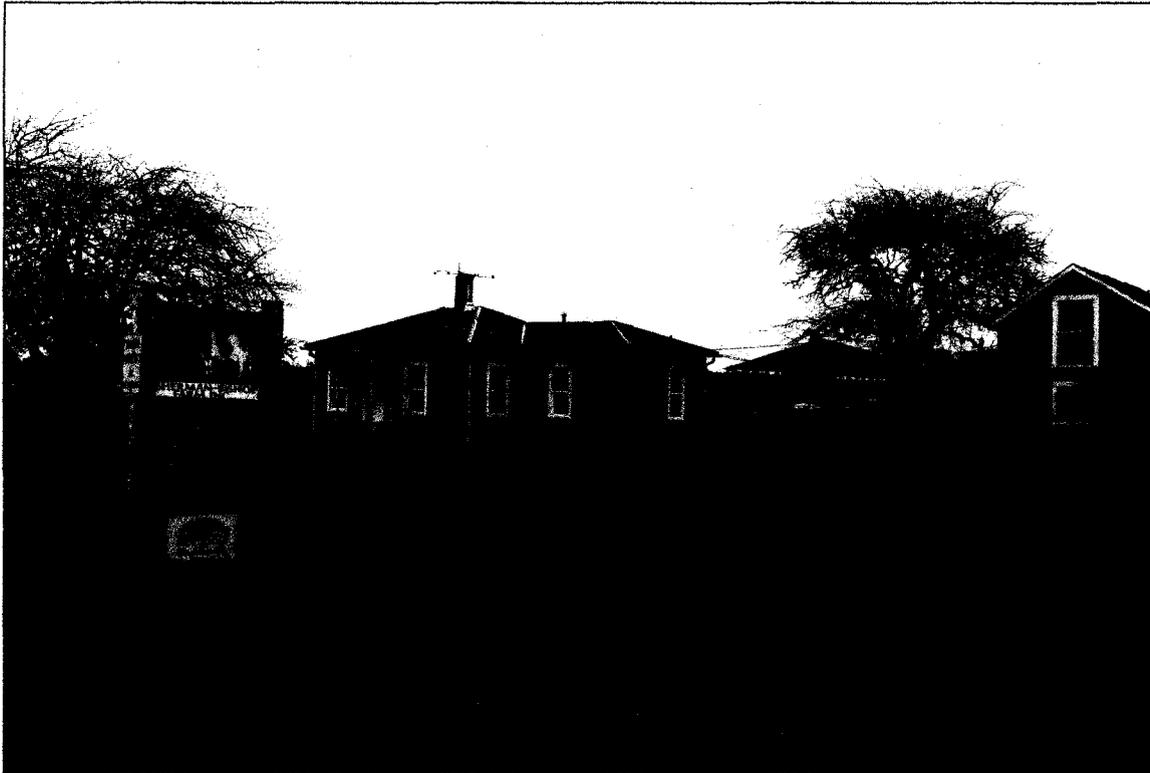
Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 5: THE FRANCIS LE SOURD HOUSE LOOKING EAST

(The primary façade seen from Ebey Road, including decorative shingles and barge boards, sun burst ornamentation, and porch spindles.)

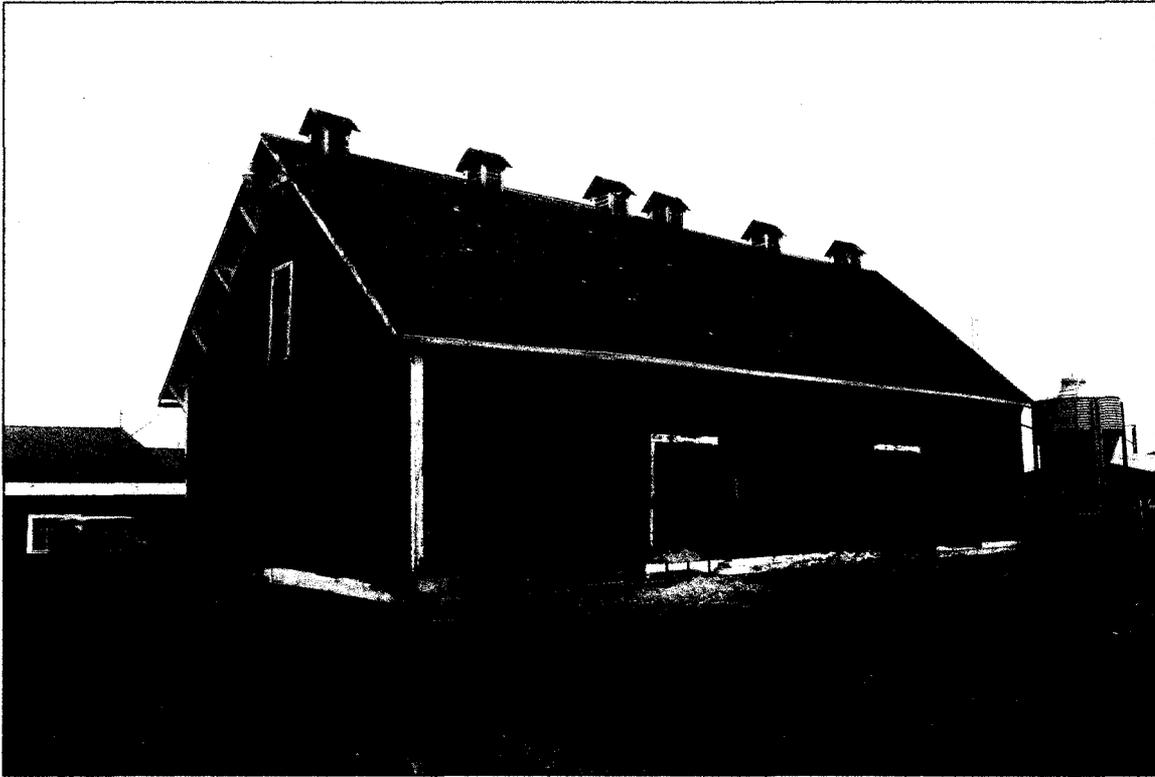
Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 6: THE A.S. COMSTOCK HOUSE, FROM EBHEY ROAD, LOOKING  
NORTHEAST

(This house and its adjoining buildings were built in 1888, and sit north of the Francis Le Sourd house. It now serves as the Sherman-Bishop Farm, Inc.'s office. The 2001 loafing shed can be seen to the east of the house.)

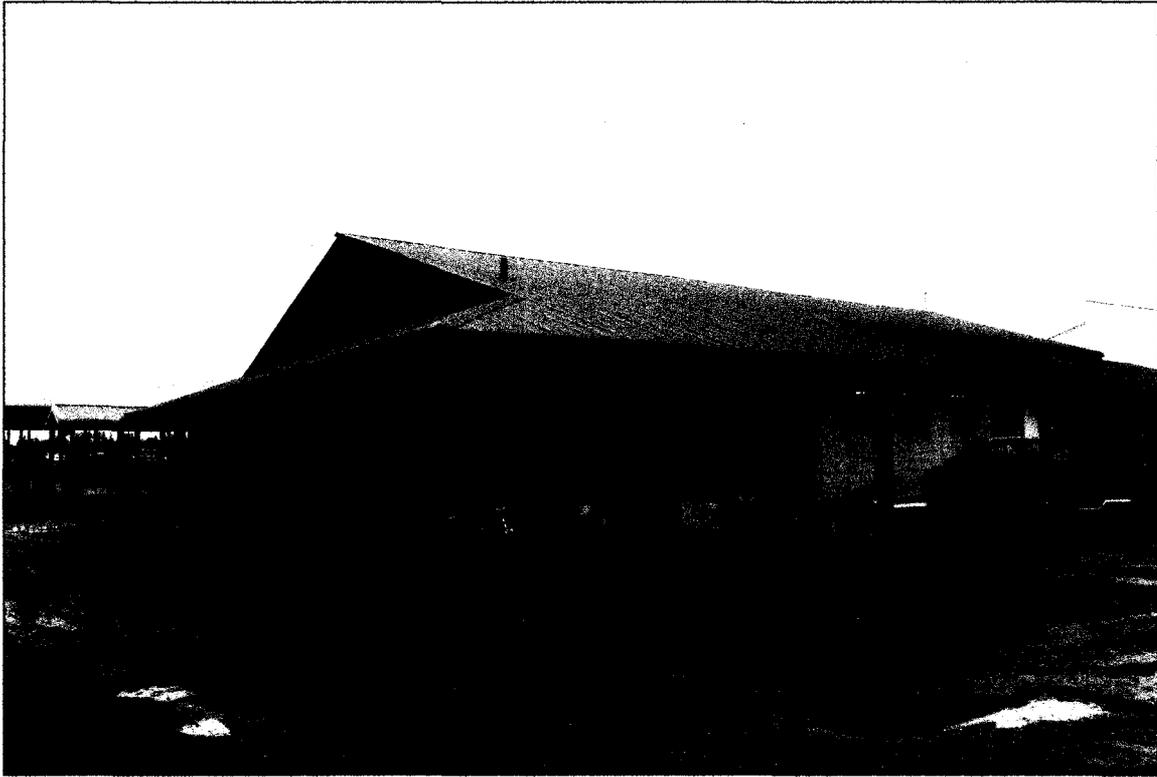
Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 7: GRANARY LOOKING NORTHEAST

(This photograph shows the granary's six cupolas, diagonal sheathings, and two doors on the south façade that allow access into its two storage rooms. The building is now used to store straw bales.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



**Photograph 8: THE 1970 MILK SHED AND MILKING PARLOR BUILT BY THE SHERMANS, LOOKING NORTH**

(The calving shed and loafing sheds constructed in 2001 are seen to the north.)

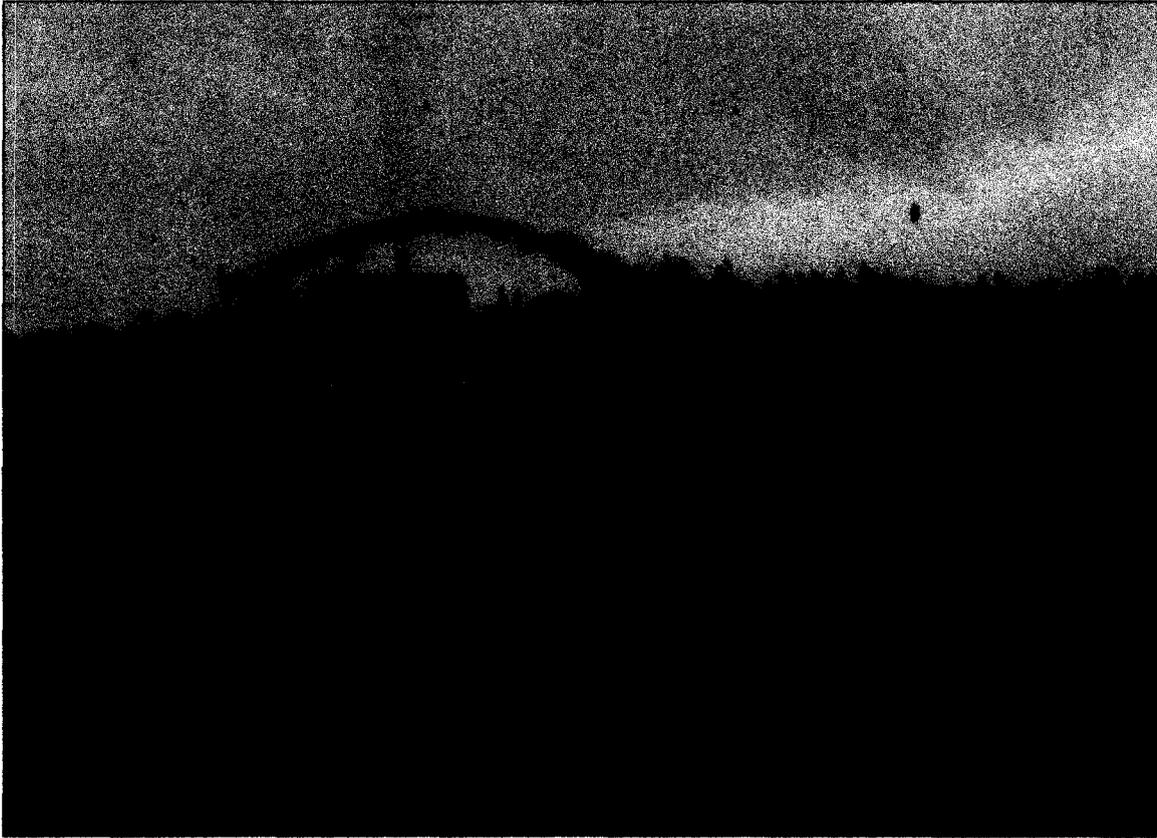
Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



**Photograph 9: INTERIOR OF MILKING PARLOR, LOOKING WEST**

(The dairy is operational twenty-four hours a day, milking 500 cows three times each.)

Photograph taken by Anne E. Kidd, February 2007.



Photograph 10: CHOPPING AND LOADING SILAGE USED FOR FEED AT DAIRY,  
EBEY'S PRAIRIE, 1975

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Photograph 11: ROGER SHERMAN ON SHERMAN FARM, 1979, LOOKING EAST

(Photograph shows Cook Road that runs between the Sherman farm on the hill, and the dairy at the Le Sourd farm. Dairy seen at top left.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



**Al Sherman with Joyce, one of his favorite high-producing cows.**

Photograph 12: LE SOURD GRANARY AND LOAFING SHED, LOOKING WEST, 1985

Image provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 1: BALES OF HAY AT LE SOURD FARM, ca. 1920, LOOKING NORTHWEST

(Francis Le Sourd house and barn at distance. To the south of the barn is the original house used by the Francis Le Sourd family.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.



Historic

Photograph 2: 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 from the influenza outbreak of 1918.)

Photograph provided by Roger Sherman.