

JENNE FARM, BARN
538 Engle Road
Coupeville vicinity
Island County
Washington

HABS WA-250-A
WA-250-A

HABS
WA-250-A

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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

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JENNE FARM, BARN

HABS
WA-250-A
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(page 1)

Location: Whidbey Island, Island County, Washington

Present Owner: Fran Einterz and Joyce Peterson

Present Use: Livestock pens and storage

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. During this time, a small parcel of forested land east of Ebey's Prairie went unclaimed by the early settlers.

In 1908, local Coupeville farmer, Edward Jenne¹, bought that land and built a farm house, granary, workshop, and two-story barn. Upon Edward's death, the farm passed to his wife Agnes. In 1940, Agnes moved from the farm into town, selling the property to her niece, Madeline (Lena) Kohne Pratt. Mrs. Pratt passed the farm to family friend, Albert Heath. In exchange for the Jenne Farm, Heath was given 125 acres overlooking the coast and Ebey's Prairie by Mrs. Pratt's son, Robert. Under Robert Pratt's ownership, the farm land was leased to local farmers, and the buildings began to deteriorate.

After Robert Pratt's death in 1999, 380 acres of land in and around Ebey's Prairie were purchased by non-profit organizations. The Jenne Farm, on 143 acres, was purchased by Fran Einterz and Joyce Peterson. The couple did extensive rehabilitation work on the buildings. It is now a working farm and the house is rented for wedding parties and retreats.

The bracing system found in the barn's hayloft is unique in the area. The barn's gambrel roof is supported by five interior bents made-up of diagonal stilts, collar beams, and cross-bracing that tie into the support columns on the ground floor and the sill plates. The farm is an excellent example of the cluster farm plan typically found in the area.

¹ Edward's name is also seen spelled with the German spelling, "Edouard." However, the cemetery records of his burial list, "Edward Jenne," which will therefore be used in this writing. "Burial Listings," Sunnyside Cemetery, Island County Cemetery District No. 2 (<http://www.sunnysidecemetery.org/>), Website accessed 10 October 2008.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of construction: 1908

2. Original owner: Edward Jenne

Subsequent owners: After Edward Jenne's death in 1933 the property passed to his wife, Agnes Jenne. In 1940 Agnes moved away from the farm, selling it to her niece, Lena Pratt. After Lena's death, the property passed to Albert Heath, a friend of the family. Heath traded the farm for a different tract of land with Lena's son, Robert Pratt. He died in 1999, leaving the Jenne Farm and 500 acres of farm land in the Coupeville area to an heir on the East Coast. In 2000 Fran Einterz and Joyce Peterson bought the farm from the Pratt Estate.

3. Original plans and construction: The barn is constructed of five interior bents with a unique support system in the hayloft. Diagonal stilts, made-up of three planks, carry the load from the gambrel roof purlins to the support columns on the ground floor. Collar beams run across the bents and tie into the diagonal stilts. At this same intersection an additional cross-brace ties the system into the floor sill plate.

4. Alterations and additions: No additions and only a few alterations have been made to the barn. After its purchase in 2000 by Einterz and Peterson, the barn underwent extensive stabilization, including: reinforcing every bent in the hayloft with steel cables, and rebuilding the cupola and hayloft doors.

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."² These groups, classified as saltwater or canoe Indians, 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.³

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

² Richard White, Land Use, Environment, and Social Change: The Shaping of Island County, Washington (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1980), 14.

³ Ibid., 17-18.

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.⁴ The Salish Indians also used the forest wood to build their canoes and villages.⁵

Captain George Vancouver carried out the first effective European exploration of Central Whidbey Island, claiming it for the British Empire on June 4, 1792.⁶ 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.⁷ By this time, after contact with sailors, hunters, trappers, and missionaries, the Native populations in the area were devastated by smallpox and syphilis.⁸ 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 took the lives of entire villages.⁹

Along with disease, the white explorers and settlers brought potatoes to the area and by 1830 the British at Fort Nisqually recognized potatoes as a staple in the economy and diet of the Salish villages.¹⁰ The potatoes' easy growing cycle and high production brought the Salish Indians to first cultivate the prairies of Central Whidbey.¹¹ 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.¹²

In 1850 the United States Congress passed the Donation Land Claim Act which accelerated settlement of Central Whidbey Island, Washington. Settlers that were compliant with certain conditions¹³ 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."¹⁴ By the end of the DLC system on December 2, 1855, eighteen claims were staked between Penn Cove and Admiralty Head in Central Whidbey Island.¹⁵

In 1868, Colonel Ebey's son, Eason, sold part of his father's original DLC to John Gould.¹⁶ By 1876 Gould was renting the land to the Jenne family, a widow, Mary Jenne, and her children: Jacob, born 1851; Edward, born 1858; Tilly [Kohne], born 1850; and William, born 1864.

⁴ Land Use, 20-21.

⁵ 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."

⁶ A Particular Friend, 11.

⁷ Ibid., 11-13.

⁸ Land Use, 26-29.

⁹ Ibid., 27.

¹⁰ Ibid., 32.

¹¹ Ibid., 33.

¹² 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.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ A Particular Friend, 19.

¹⁵ Ibid., 18.

¹⁶ Ibid., 81.

The J.M. and Mary M. Jenne family had come to Calhoun County, Illinois in 1868 from the Rhine Valley in Germany. After Mr. Jenne died in 1872, the family moved west, spending many years in St. Louis, Missouri before arriving in Washington in 1876.¹⁷

In March 1885, Edward Jenne's wife, Louisa Schafer, died in childbirth at the age of twenty, along with the child.¹⁸ In the late 1880s, Peter Custer was hired to help on the farm. Custer's wife, Ada Smith Custer, kept house and urged her younger sister, Agnes Smith, to join her in Coupeville. Edward Jenne married Agnes Smith on April 5, 1888, and the couple had five children: Frank, Edna [Uppencamp], Manetta [Green], Eldon and Gladys [Ingham].¹⁹

The Jennes raised cattle, chickens, sheep, and Angora goats.²⁰ Edward also worked for Mingrings in Seattle as a buyer and seller of produce and meats, which helped get the family through the Depression of 1893.²¹ In 1890, Edward retired from farming. He bought four acres near Prairie Center from Daniel Pearson for \$1,250.00 and commissioned local builder, Howard B. Lovejoy, to construct a Queen Anne style house. After living in the house only a few years, the Jenne family returned to the Gould Farm, and Edward continued farming.²² Edward's mother lived in the Queen Anne style house and in 1907 it was sold to Edward's youngest brother, Will Jenne, and Will's wife, Lena.²³

In 1908, Edward Jenne retired from farming again. He bought \$5,000.00 worth of lumber and had a house, barn, granary, and garage built on land a mile east of the Gould Farm.²⁴ The land was a forested section, unclaimed by the original DLC holders. It's unclear who Jenne purchased the majority of his acreage from, but on April 29, 1908, he bought sixteen acres of the original R.C. Hill DLC from A.J. and Issie E. Comstock for \$650.00, extending his acreage to the south.²⁵

In his retirement, Edward raised sheep, cattle, chickens, and dairy cows.²⁶ He also had a passion for horses, breeding and training Normans and Clydesdales.²⁷ Agnes Jenne churned butter, washed and carded sheep's wool for quilting, canned from their fruit orchard, cooked, baked, and sewed clothes for the children.²⁸

¹⁷ A Particular Friend, 86-87.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.2, (Moscow, ID: 14 May 1997), 19.

²¹ Ibid.

²² A Particular Friend, 86-87; Carl Jenne, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon (Gig Harbor, WA: 27 April, 1997), 10-11; Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.2, footnote 8, 14.

²³ Carl Jenne, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, 10-11.

²⁴ The Jenne Farm is located at 538 Engle Road. A Particular Friend, 86-87.

²⁵ Island County Deed Record. Warranty Deed, File number 5423.

²⁶ Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.3, (Moscow, ID: 14 May 1997), 4.

²⁷ A Particular Friend, 87; Gladys Ingham Jenne, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.2, 17.

²⁸ Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.2, 15; Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.3, 4.

The sheep were sheared by local Native Americans and slaughtered in the barn. Edward sold butter, eggs, and meat to Mingrings in Seattle and to local grocers at Prairie Center. He also rowed across the Puget Sound to Port Townsend to sell goods from his farm.²⁹

The gambrel-roofed barn was constructed with animal pens on the ground floor, and loose hay storage on the second. Edward's daughter, Gladys Jenne Ingham, remembers running the horses and helping load hay into the barn.³⁰ Large doors at each gable end of the barn were lowered to allow access to the second floor during the hay loading. The barn's roof extends on either end to accommodate the hayfork track.

The Jenne House was constructed as a two-story vernacular farmhouse with a wrap-around porch facing Ebey's Prairie. A summer kitchen sits directly behind the house with a sidewalk that terminates where an outhouse once stood. The Jenne House was built without an indoor toilet, but it did have running water. A 20,000 gallon cistern behind the house pumped water into a tank in the attic that gravity fed throughout the house.³¹ The house also had a gas lighting system with a generator in the woodshed room of the summer kitchen, and a hot water radiator heating system with a wood-burning boiler in the basement fed by thirty acres of trees on the Jenne property.³²

Edward broke his neck in a fall ca. 1925. His youngest daughter, Gladys Jenne Ingham, was on the farm with her children on the day it happened. She retold the day's event in a 1997 interview with Theresa Trebon.

"My dad had a cow come fresh. You see we had a big barn lot there and a gate to confine them. And then there was a gate where you could put the horses and things in. This cow had a calf and you can't leave a calf with a cow or you'll lose the milk. So the cow came down [from the woods where she had her calf] to get water. I don't know the length of time. We had a great big place where they got their water. My father had that built. And he shut the gate and kept the cow in for a certain length of time. I don't know if it was a day or two days. And then he followed the cow back through the woods. He didn't want the cow to see him so he gets [sic.] up on a great big log and it was rotten and it gave way and he fell and broke his neck. And laid there. How on earth he ever got...it was quite a ways to walk down there where the barn lot was. And I was home with the children. And my mother said, 'I think there comes your dad. And it looks like he's hurt.' He was walking with his head over like this. I don't see how he ever lived."³³

Edward was taken to Seattle and put into a cast from his head to his hips for three months. They operated on his third vertebrae, and though he survived the fall, he never walked the same again.³⁴

Edward eventually returned to his farming. On Sunday morning, November 5, 1933, Edward died of a sudden heart attack. *The Whidbey Island Times* printed his obituary on November 9, 1933,

²⁹ Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.2, 19-20.

³⁰ Ibid., 2.

³¹ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd (Coupeville, WA: April 2007), 00:38:10.

³² Ibid., 00:01:30; 00:40:27.

³³ Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.2, 10.

³⁴ Ibid., 11.

"Ed Jenne, pioneer farmer of Ebey Prairie on Whidby [sic.] Island and father of Frank Jenne, passed away at his home there Sunday morning at the age of 76. Seemingly in the best of health, Mr. Jenne performed his usual chores about the home Sunday morning and then dressed for church. While sitting in a chair waiting for his wife he succumbed without any warning from a sudden heart attack...Edward Jenne began his career as a Whidby [sic.] Island farmer nearly sixty years ago when the country was unsettled and Indian labor was the only kind to be had. New land was cleared, and hard work combined with splendid care for his fields and equipment made him one of the most successful and prosperous farmers on the island. Aside from his farm he was an active worker for the community and church. He was one of the last of the island pioneers, a kindly neighbor and an outstanding citizen who will be deeply mourned by the community. Born in Germany, he came to America at the age of nine with his parents. He came to the Coast as a young man."³⁵

After Edward's death, Agnes Jenne continued to live on the property. She leased the land to the Boyer family, local farmers on Crockett Prairie.³⁶ In the fall of 1940, she moved to Prairie Center and sold the 180 acre Jenne Farm to her niece, Madeline (Lena) Kohne Pratt,³⁷ for \$15,000.³⁸ The Boyer family continued to lease the land, clearing fields with the help of Mrs. Pratt's son, Robert.³⁹

When Mrs. Pratt died, her extensive land holdings passed to Robert and family friend, Albert Heath. Heath was originally given the Jenne Farm, but later traded it with Robert for 125 acres overlooking Ebey's Prairie and the coastline.⁴⁰ Under Robert's ownership, the Jenne House was used by tenants and friends, notably, the Maxim and Stribling families. The fields were continually used by local farmers but the buildings on the property were neglected and began to show signs of their age.⁴¹

³⁵ "Sudden Heart Attack Takes Island Farmer," *The Whidbey Island Times*, November 9, 1933.

³⁶ Freeman Boyer Jr., Transcription of Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd (Coupeville, WA: 20 March 2007), 34-35.

³⁷ Lena Kohne Pratt was the daughter of Anthony H. Kohne and Tilly Jenne Kohne. Tilly was Edward's sister.

³⁸ "Mrs. Ed Jenne Sells Farm to Mrs. Pratt" newspaper clipping marked October 1940. Gladys Jenne Ingham, Transcription of Oral Interview with Theresa Trebon, Tape 97.24.1 (Moscow, ID: 14 May 1997), appendix, 2.

³⁹ It's commonly believed that Mrs. Pratt purchased the Jenne Farm to keep her son out of WWII. Freeman Boyer, who leased the Jenne Farm with his father from both Agnes Jenne and Lena Pratt described the situation, "So anyway, then my dad leased it from Mrs. Jenne, called her Aggie, and that went on until Mrs. Pratt bought the place, to keep Robert out of the draft... Dad had it for about seventeen years, and I've employed all those fields a number of times. In fact, when Mrs. Pratt had it, we helped clear some more. We cleared twelve acres... And so we squared that field off. We made a nice field out of it and cleared it. Robert was - I think that was when Robert was supposed to be farming, because I know he was out there pretending. We were helping to blow up some stumps with dynamite. He was intrigued with that... He started running around with loaded primers and he had a weapons carrier he bought. Running around with loaded primers in back. If you get in a wreck, no telling what would have happened." Freeman Boyer Jr., Transcription of Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 34-35.

⁴⁰ Laura McKinley, An Unbroken Historical Record: An Administrative History of Ebey's National Historical Reserve (Seattle, WA: National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Pacific Northwest Region, 1993), Chapter 4.

⁴¹ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 00:28:20.

In the late 1970s farming changed in Central Whidbey. The Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve (EBLA) 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." The reserve encompasses 17,400 acres, including Penn Cove, Coupeville, and surrounding land of Central Whidbey Island; 5,500 acres are agricultural.⁴²

The establishment of EBLA had no immediate effect on the Jenne Farm. It continued to sit neglected. However, on March 18, 1999, Robert Pratt died, leaving 650 acres of farmland, open fields, forest, beaches, historic buildings, and part of Perego's Lake with an uncertain future. In his will, Robert stipulated that 127 acres of the land should be given to a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. But the remaining acreage was inherited by an heir on the east coast, whose intentions were unknown.⁴³

In January 2000, The Nature Conservancy announced its intention to buy 380 acres of the Pratt Estate if it could raise \$5 million by May 15, 2000. However, after a strong outpouring of support from the community and pledges amounting to \$1.3 million, the Nature Conservancy announced early, on March 29, 2000, that it would buy the land, leaving only one parcel from the estate unprotected, the Jenne Farm.⁴⁴

An ad appeared in the *Seattle Times' Pacific Magazine* showing the Jenne farm divided into twelve parcels for housing development. After seeing the ad, Fran Einterz and Joyce Peterson went to work with Rob Harbour, Manager of the Ebey's Landing Reserve, to save the farm. After initial negotiations with prospective buyers failed to secure the land, Einterz and Peterson opted to buy the 143 acre Jenne Farm themselves. On March 24, 2000 a deal was signed for \$900,000.00, with hopes that in time the Reserve would buy the development rights.⁴⁵

Combined, the 500 acres of Pratt's estate purchased by Einterz and Peterson and The Nature Conservancy, were the largest addition to the Reserve since its establishment in 1978. Einterz told reporters, "We're idea rich and cash poor...we had no real plan when we bought it except to not see the place cut into lots and to preserve its agricultural nature."⁴⁶ The couple leased 100 acres to local farmers and set to work on restoring the buildings.⁴⁷

Under the stewardship of the Pratts, the buildings on the property went sixty years without the updates commonly made to historic buildings. They were well-preserved in the state left by the Jennes. Fran and Joyce added the first legal septic system to the house in 2000; previously the waste drained off the property toward the prairie.⁴⁸ They also updated the kitchen, floating a new floor over the original fir floorboards, leaving a reversible footprint.⁴⁹ The wrap-around porch on the house was stabilized with rotted support structure replaced in-kind. Throughout the property

⁴² Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve (<http://www.nps.gov/archive/ebla/lpp/lpp1.htm>), Website Accessed April 2007.

⁴³ "Protected: Large Tracts of Ebey's Prairie are Saved From Development by the Largest Purchases in its History," by D. Patrick Connolly, *Whidbey News Times*, 1 April 2000.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 00:17:25.

⁴⁹ Ibid., 00:35:00.

the couple maintained a minimal impact on the buildings. They replaced only what was damaged and made as few changes as possible.⁵⁰

When Fran and Joyce purchased the land, the granary was completely covered with blackberry vines. The 20'-0" x 40'-0" building was only discovered when they undertook the chore of cutting back the greenery. They added new stairs on the north façade, a porch to its south, and four windows on the south façade.⁵¹

The final building to undergo extensive work by Fran and Joyce was the Jenne Barn. The barn needed structural repairs to remove the sag in the roof and to seal the building from the elements. Every bent in the hayloft was reinforced with steel cables to secure the construction, and the cupola was rebuilt.⁵² The large hay doors discovered in fields adjoining the barn yard were reconstructed and reattached to the door tracks. Since the owners did not plan to use the hayloft for hay storage, the doors were permanently mounted to the barn and secured into place.⁵³ Every window in the barn was reglazed, with the original wood sashes preserved. Milking stanchions from the 1930s remained on the barn's main floor.⁵⁴ The barn was painted red, with one blue and two green doors.⁵⁵

Fran and Joyce fenced three pastures and planted a grass, clover, and alfalfa mixture in the fields.⁵⁶ They purchase young steer and freemartin⁵⁷ Holsteins from the Sherman-Bishop Dairy on Ebey's Prairie in the spring. Throughout the summer and into the fall the livestock rotate through the three fields to graze. The cows gain two or three pounds a day and are sold at auction when they reach between four and six hundred pounds.⁵⁸ Less than a dozen are kept every year into the winter before they are sold locally.⁵⁹

The couple also keeps between fifty and sixty chickens in the barn, and raises thirty pigs, all of which are sold locally.⁶⁰ Besides Fran and Joyce plant twenty acres in hay, and twelve acres in grain for their own livestock. The Jenne Farm Livestock Order Form explains their process of raising and butchering the cows and pigs:

"You've seen our happy animals on the farm. Our steers are born and raised here on Ebey's Prairie, naturally and humanely. They come to us as very young calves from the dairy across the road and graduate to the pasture where they laze around the farm converting grass to meat until they're about eighteen months old and 1,200 lbs.

⁵⁰ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 00:14:45.

⁵¹ Ibid., 00:03:48; 00:07:18.

⁵² Ibid., 00:09:45.

⁵³ Ibid., 00:09:08.

⁵⁴ Ibid., 00:07:58.

⁵⁵ Ibid., 00:13:30.

⁵⁶ Ibid., 00:20:52.

⁵⁷ When a cow heifer gives birth to twins, the female calf is born sterile. This sterile female is a called a freemartin.

⁵⁸ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 00:23:06; 00:27:50.

⁵⁹ Ibid., 00:26:50.

⁶⁰ Ibid., 00:23:40.

Our pigs arrive as weaners and have a great life rooting in their yard. When the time comes, Del Fox, our butcher, comes to the farm and then brings the carcasses to his shop in Stanwood. Your animals don't suffer the stress of being trucked to auctions and slaughter houses [sic.]. We are satisfied that this is the most humane process possible for a domestic farm animal."⁶¹

After two years of work on the farm, Fran and Joyce were ready to present the newly revitalized Jenne Farm to the community of Coupeville. On May 25, 2002, they hosted an open house. In an article written for *The Coupeville Examiner*, Dennis Connolly describes the work performed on the farm in the previous two years.

"They have already spent a lot of money completing a lengthy list of repairs including replacing the septic system; replacing the entire plumbing system; painting all the outbuildings except the barn; rebuilding the granary; replacing 108 window panes in the various buildings; replastering and repainting the entire interior of the house and completely rebuilding the kitchen and the two bathrooms. Einterz noted there is still much ahead of them."⁶²

Soon after the open house, the National Park Service purchased the development rights on 123 acres of the Jenne Farm. This allowed Fran and Joyce to cut their mortgage in half and protected the land from ever being developed away from farming.⁶³

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The barn's construction makes it unique in the area. Although extensive work was done in 2000-02, it was performed with sensitivity for the historic fabric of the building.
2. Condition of fabric: The barn is in good condition. The extensive stabilization efforts in 2000-02 realigned the roof, and protected the building from natural elements by replacing doors and windows and painting the exterior. The barn shows sign of 100 years of use, but its construction is sound.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 40'-0" x 60'-0"
2. Foundations: The barn sits on poured concrete foundation walls.

⁶¹ The beef sold locally is divided into whole, half, and quarter sections. In 2007, it was priced at \$900 for whole; \$500 for half; and \$250 for a quarter. "Jenne Farm Livestock" Order Form. Jenne Farm, 538 Engle Road, Coupeville WA.

⁶² "Restored Jenne Farm to Host and Open House," by Dennis Connolly, *The Coupeville Examiner*, 17 May 2002.

⁶³ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 00:20:15.

3. Walls: The walls are clad in 11" vertical planks with 2-1/4" beveled battens, all painted red.
4. Structural systems: The barn is constructed of seven bents with a unique support system in the hayloft. Diagonal stilts, made-up of three planks, carry the load from the gambrel roof purlins to the support columns on the ground floor. Collar beams run across the bents and tie into the diagonal stilts. At this same intersection an additional cross-brace ties the system into the floor sill plate. On the ground floor, two rows of columns, made-up of three planks, bisect the space. Along the walls, two chest boards span between the columns with diagonal bracing tying the columns into the sill plates.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The barn's primary entrance is on the south end of the west façade. A hinged door is constructed of vertical planks with battens that match the building exterior. The door has horizontal bracing on the inside and is painted green. In the center of the west façade is a sliding door 4'-8-3/4" wide, with a track mounted on the barn interior. The door is constructed of horizontal tongue and groove boards with X-shaped bracing on the inside and is painted red. To the north, another sliding door opens into the ground floor of the barn. This door, painted blue and mounted on the barn's exterior, is also constructed of horizontal tongue and groove boards. On the interior, the door is reinforced with X-shaped bracing.

A single door opens into the ground floor from the north façade. This hinged door is made of vertical planks with Z-shaped bracing on the interior and is painted red.

Two doors open on the east façade. To the north, a sliding door is mounted to the exterior of the barn. It is constructed of horizontal tongue and groove boards with X-shaped bracing on the interior. It is painted red. At the south end of the east façade is a hinged door also constructed of tongue and groove boards. It is painted red and has X-shaped bracing on the interior.

In the middle of the south façade a single sliding door is mounted to the exterior of the barn. It is painted green and constructed of horizontal tongue and groove boards with X-shaped bracing on the interior.

In the hayloft, the barn has four doors, one on each façade. The north and south façades have hinged doors constructed of vertical planks with battens, matching the barn's exterior cladding. The doors open between the third and fourth bent from the east and are painted red. On the east and west façades, large hay doors on sliding tracks open in the gable ends. The doors are constructed of board and battens to match the exterior and are painted red. The doors slide down to open, but are currently mounted in place.

All the doors in the barn have unpainted interior faces.

b. Windows:

On the ground floor, matching three-over-three single sashes painted white are mounted in place with white-painted trim and sills on the exterior. Six of these sashes are evenly spaced between the bents on the north façade. On the south façade the sliding door is flanked with two sashes to the west and three to the east. A hinged window in the center of the east façade is constructed of horizontal boards with horizontal and vertical framed bracing on the inside. This window opening is painted red on the exterior.

In the hay loft, matching three-over-three double-hung windows flank each door in the gable-ends. The sashes are painted white, and each window has white trim around the opening on the exterior.

6. Roof:

a. Shape, covering:

The barn has a gambrel roof covered in composite shingles with an irregular pattern. On the east and west ends the roof extends for the hayfork track.

b. Cupola:

At the peak of the gable sits a rectangular cupola. All four sides have white-painted louvers with white trim boards on the exterior. The cupola has a gabled roof that is covered in composite shingles, matching the rest of the barn.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

See measured drawings HABS No. WA-250-A for complete plans of this barn. It has a rectangular plan 40'-0" x 60'-0". The ground floor is divided into milking stanchions to the south. The northeast corner has a 10'-3-3/4" x 13'-9-5/8" area enclosed for chickens. The barn is no longer used as a dairy, and the area with the stanchions is now used as animal pens.

The hayloft has an open floor plan divided by the structural bents. There's an opening to the ground floor and an access ladder in the center of the space. Along the east and west walls are enclosed channels for counterweights used to open and close the hayloft doors.

- 2. Flooring: The ground floor of the barn has 11" plank flooring that runs from north to south. In the hayloft is a 7" tongue and groove floor.
- 3. Wall and ceiling finish: There is no finish on either the walls or ceiling. The posts, beams, joists, and rafters are all exposed.

D. Site:

- 1. Historic landscape design: The Jenne Farm is accessed by a dirt drive running east off Engle Road. The drive turns south in front of the barn and terminates in a large gravel parking lot, dividing the farm into two distinct parts: domestic and agricultural.

The domestic part of the farm consists of the Jenne House, a summer kitchen, and adjoining lawn and gardens. The Jenne House faces Engle Road and is encircled in tall hedges providing privacy for the house. The two-and-one-half story house sits on a poured concrete foundation with a basement. Its walls are clad in shiplap siding with corner boards. It is painted white. The house has an irregular plan with an off-set main entrance on the west façade. A porch with Doric columns and tongue and groove decking wraps around the west and north sides of the house. The building has a hip-on-gable roof covered in composite shingles with full pedimented gable extensions on the east, west, and south façades. The house has one-over-one double-hung windows. The window sashes, sills, and trim are painted blue. Flower beds extend from the house to the south and east. East of the house are an exterior basement entrance and two capped cistern openings.

The summer kitchen sits northeast of the house and is accessed by a sidewalk leading from the house. The one-story summer kitchen has a rectangular plan and sits on a post-on-pier foundation. The building is clad in shiplap siding with corner boards, matching the house. It has three-over-three double-hung windows. The interior is divided into two distinct spaces: a canning room on the

west, and a wood shed on the east. The building has a hip-on-gable roof covered in wood shingles.

The house and summer kitchen are surrounded by deciduous trees and flowering shrubs. Sidewalks lead from the house toward Engle Road to the west and toward the dirt drive to the north. Paths covered with wood chips lead from the house to the parking lot to the south.

The agricultural section of the land consists of the Jenne Barn, milk house, granary, and garage. The barn sits away from the road and is surrounded by a fenced barn yard to the north, east, and south. A poured concrete foundation north of the barn is all that remains from a former hog house that collapsed in the early 1980s.⁶⁴

Between the dirt drive and the barn sits a small milk house. This one-story building has a poured concrete slab foundation and partial walls that held a pool of water to help cool the milk jars in the 1930s when the Jenne family was dairying.⁶⁵ The walls are constructed with sawdust insulation and are clad in unpainted, horizontal shiplap siding. The building has a gable roof covered in wood shingles and a small poured concrete stoop to the east. North of the milk house are the remains of an orchard of six mature fruit trees.

South of the barn is a building used as both a workshop and a car garage. The one-story building has a rectangular plan and is covered in a hip-on-gable roof with composite shingles matching those on the barn. It is clad in shiplap siding painted red with white corner boards. The building has three-over-three double-hung windows with sashes, trim, and sills painted white. The north end of the building sits on grade and was used as a garage. On the east façade the garage is accessed by two sliding doors mounted to the exterior of the building. On the west façade, the tracks remain, but no doors are mounted. The south end of the building is used as a workshop. It sits on a post-on-pier foundation and has two door openings on the west façade: a hinged door constructed of vertical planks painted blue; and a sliding door mounted on the exterior of the building constructed in a unique upside-down 'V'-shape plank pattern.

⁶⁴ *Building and Landscape Inventory: Part C* (Seattle, WA: Cultural Resources Division, National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Summer 1983, reprinted in 1995), 293.

⁶⁵ Fran Einterz, Oral Interview with Anne E. Kidd, 00:02:55.

A granary sits on a post-on-pier foundation southwest of the garage and workshop. The building has a rectangular plan and is covered in a gable roof with composite shingles and eave returns. The building is clad in shiplap siding painted red with white corner boards. Hinged double doors on the door façade are accessed via a small porch made of pressure-treated lumber. The east and west façades are identical, with three-over-three double-hung windows in the gable ends. The sashes, sills, and trim are painted white. A new vinyl door with side transoms sits in the center of the south façade and is flanked with two windows on either side. The windows are vinyl with white trim. A wood patio with a ramp to the east and stairs to the south runs almost the full length of the south façade.

The parking lot is enclosed by the house and lawn to the north and wooded land to the east and south. A gravel access road runs from the parking lot, south of the granary, directly east along the barn yard where it branches off to other parts of the Jenne Farm land. South of this gravel access road is a pole barn used to house a tractor. The building has a gable roof with red-painted shiplap siding at the gable ends. It sits on grade and has no walls.

III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Jenne farm 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. Karen L. Kidd assisted with the field recording. Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve and the community of Coupeville, Washington, provided additional support and assistance.

JENNE FARM
538 Engle Road
Coupeville Vicinity
Whidbey Island
Island County
Washington

HABS No. WA-250

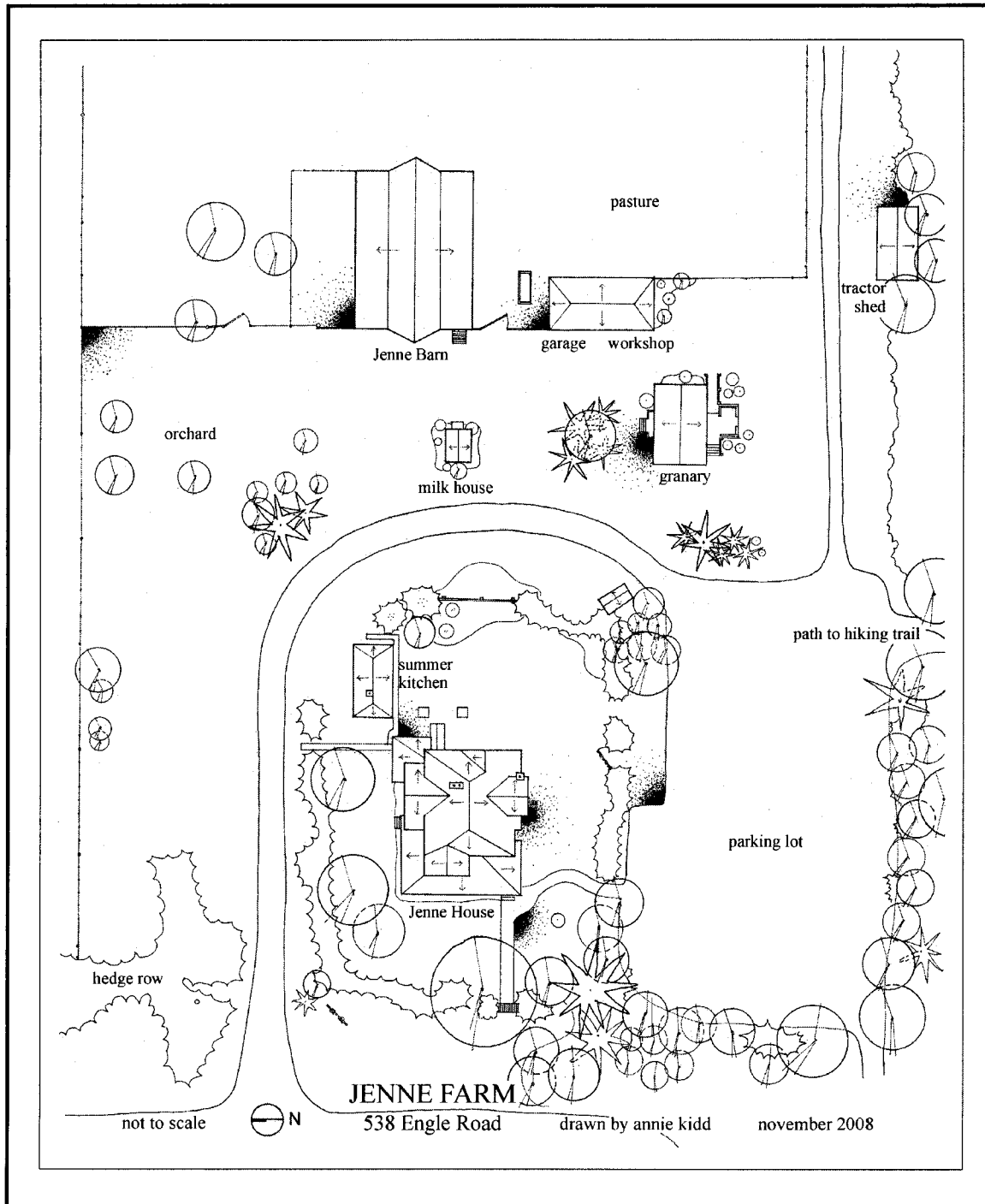
(Page 18 of 19)

APPENDIX

HABS No.

WA-250	Jenne Farm
WA-250-A	Jenne Barn
WA-250-B	Jenne House
WA-250-C	Garage/Workshop
WA-250-D	Granary

Anne E. Kidd
162 Cemetery Road
Coupeville, WA 98239



WA-250

JENNE FARM SITE PLAN



WA-250 THE JENNE FARM, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

(The image shows the cluster plan layout of the farm and its proximity to Engle Road, seen at the bottom of the image. The orchard north of the milk house is significant, as is the division between the house and the barn and their respective outbuildings.)

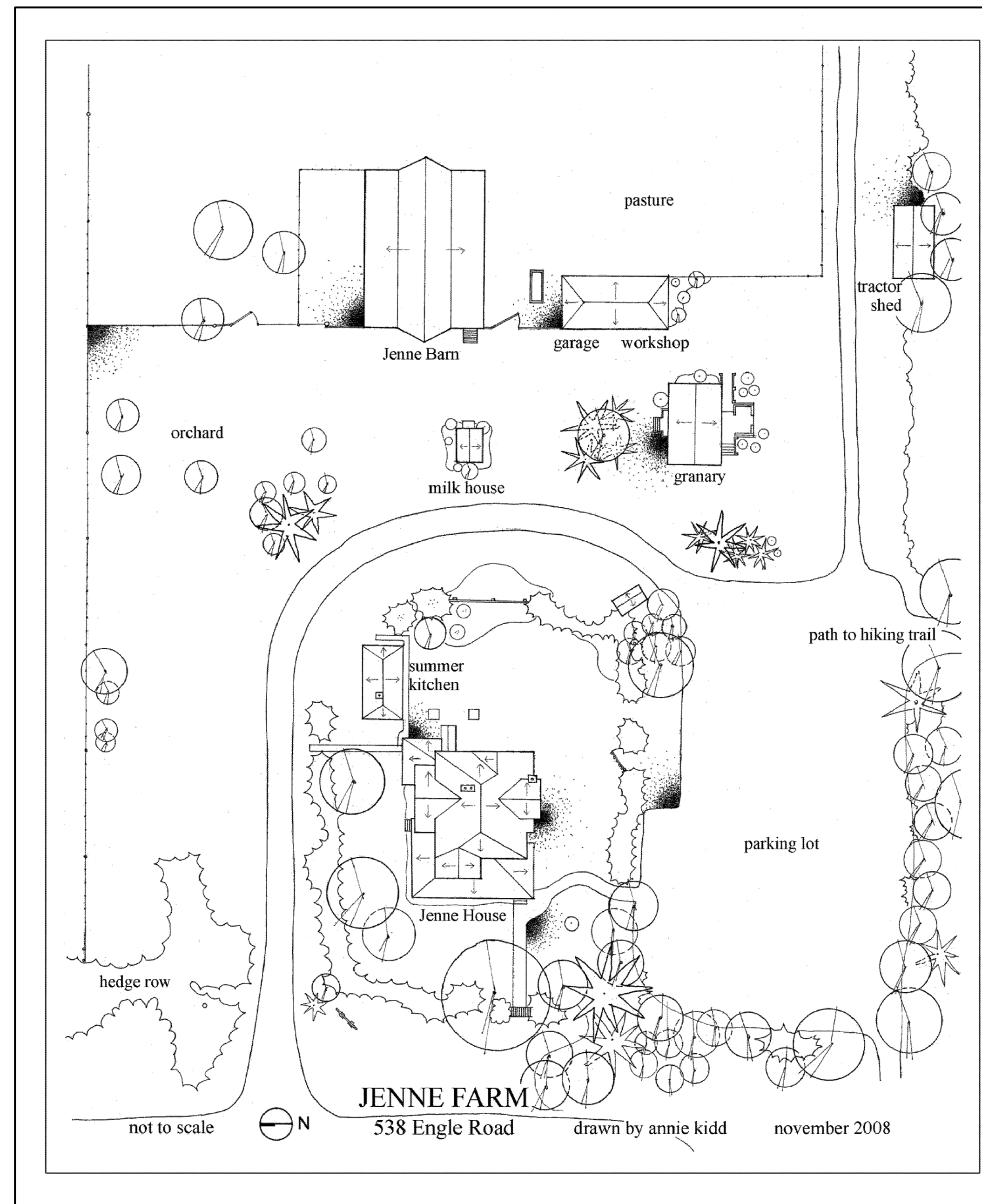
Image provided by Fran Einterz, 2007

JENNE FARM BARN

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. During this time, a small parcel of forested land east of Ebey's Prairie went unclaimed by the early settlers.

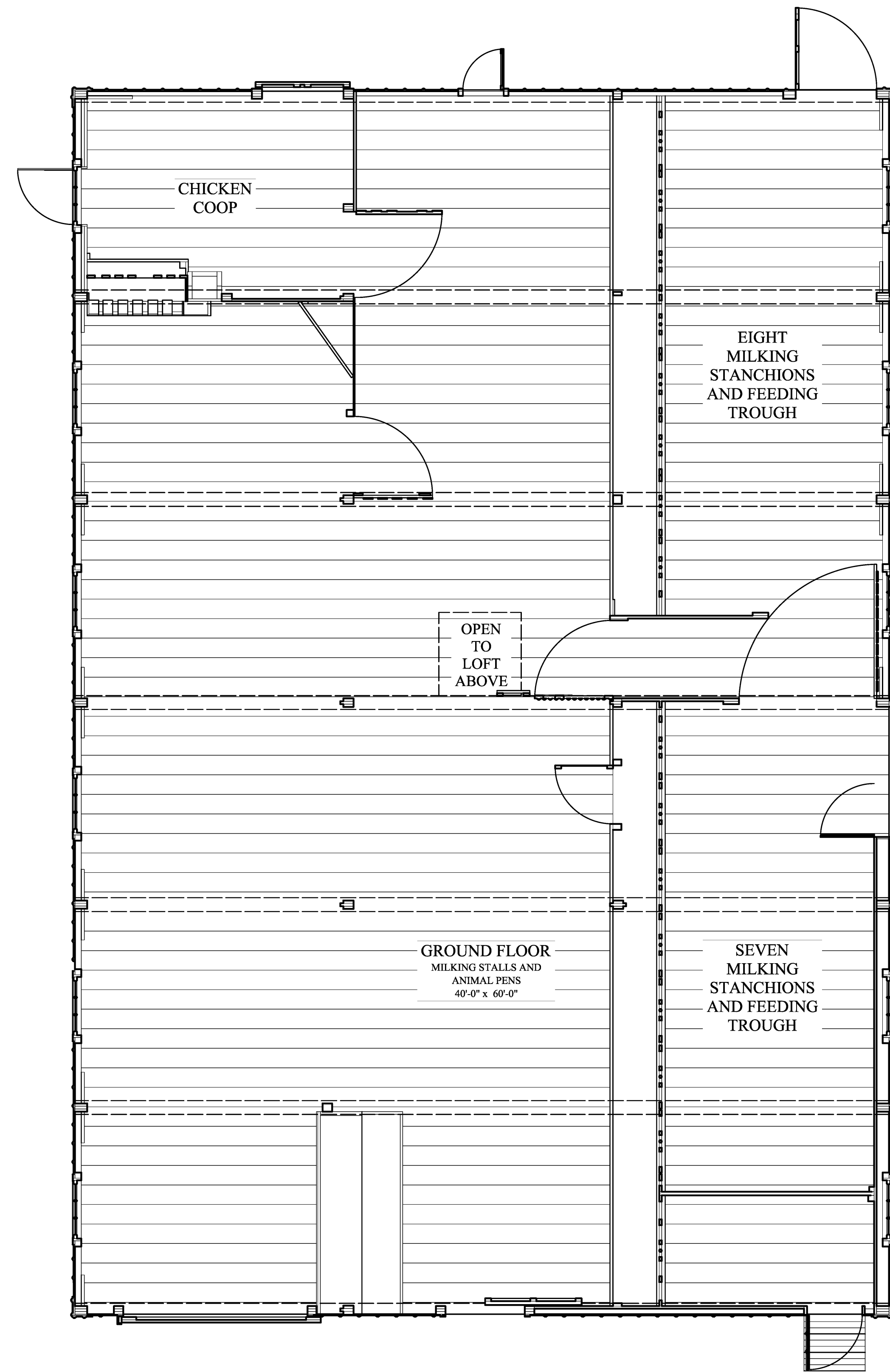
In 1908, local Coupeville farmer, Edward Jenne, bought that land and built a farm house, granary, workshop, and two-story barn. Upon Edward's death, the farm passed to his wife Agnes. In 1940, Agnes moved from the farm into town, selling the property to her niece, Madeline (Lena) Kohne Pratt. Mrs. Pratt passed the farm to family friend, Albert Heath. In exchange for the Jenne Farm, Heath was given 125 acres overlooking the coast and Ebey's Prairie by Mrs. Pratt's son, Robert. Under Robert Pratt's ownership, the farm land was leased to local farmers, and the buildings began to deteriorate.

After Robert Pratt's death in 1999, 380 acres of land in and around Ebey's Prairie were purchased by non-profit organizations. The Jenne Farm, on 143 acres, was purchased by Fran Einterz and Joyce Peterson. The couple did extensive rehabilitation work on the buildings. It is now a working farm and the house is rented for wedding parties and retreats.

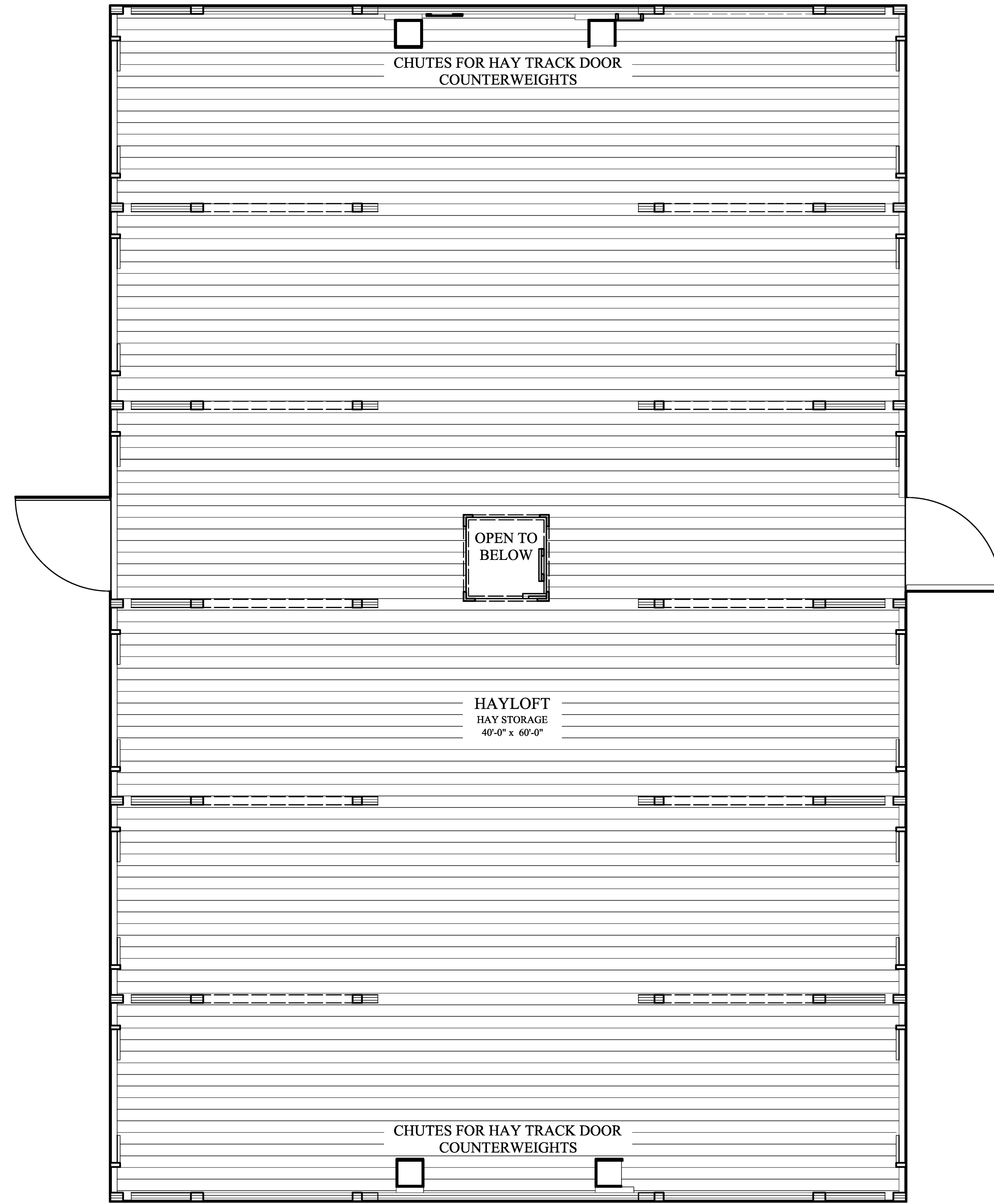
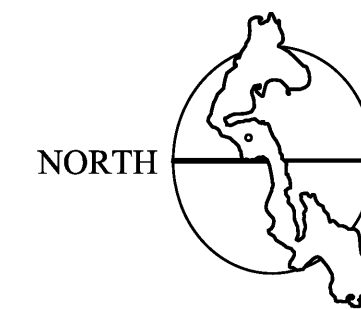
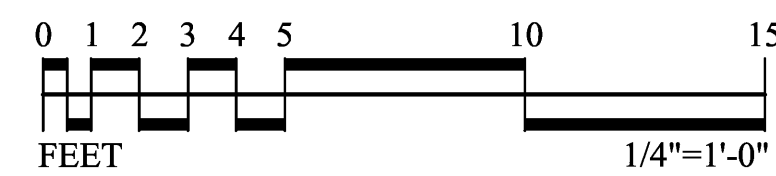


The bracing system found in the barn's hayloft is unique in the area. The barn's gambrel roof is supported by seven bents made-up of diagonal stilts, collar beams, and cross-bracing that tie into the support columns on the ground floor and the sill plates. The barn is an excellent example of the cluster farm plan typically found in the area.

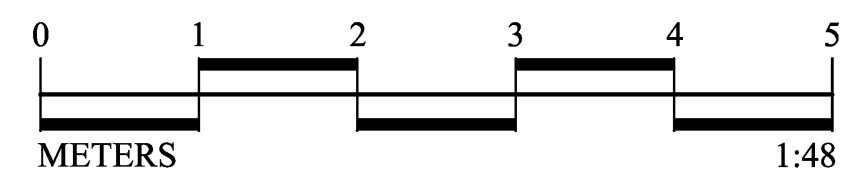
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GROUND FLOOR PLAN
1/4"=1'-0" 1:48



HAYLOFT PLAN
1/4"=1'-0" 1:48



DRAWN BY: ANNE E. KIDD

JENNE FARM BARN, 2008
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JENNE FARM BARN
538 ENGLE ROAD COUPEVILLE ISLAND COUNTY WASHINGTON

HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 2 OF 2 SHEETS

SURVEY NO.
WA-250-A

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INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

JENNE FARM, BARN
538 Engle Road
Coupeville vicinity
Island County
Washington

HABS WA-250-A

INDEX TO BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Anne E. Kidd, photographer, April 2006

- | | |
|------------|--|
| WA-250-A-1 | THE JENNE BARN, MILK HOUSE, AND GARAGE/WORKSHOP, LOOKING EAST FROM DRIVEWAY |
| WA-250-A-2 | INTERIOR OF JENNE BARN GROUND FLOOR. (The Jenne milking stanchions can be seen on the left. The space that originally served as the milking parlor has now been converted into animal pens for goats, chickens, and pigs.) |
| WA-250-A-3 | GROUND FLOOR OF JENNE BARN LOOKING EAST. (The barn's ground floor is used for animal pens. On the left is an area enclosed for chickens. The Jenne milking stanchions remain along the south end of the barn.) |

JENNE FARM, BARN
HABS WA-250-A
INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

- WA-250-A-4 THE HAYLOFT OF THE JENNE BARN, SHOWING ITS UNIQUE CONSTRUCTION. (The barn's gambrel roof is supported by seven bents made-up of diagonal stilts, collar beams, and cross-bracing that tie into the support columns on the ground floor and the sill plates. Also visible are the cables installed across each bent in 2000-02 to reinforce the construction, the hay door at the gable end, and the ladder and opening accessing the barn's ground floor.)
- WA-250-A-5 PRIMARY ENTRANCE INTO THE JENNE FARM, WEST FAÇADE. (The Jenne Barn has board and batten exterior cladding and sits above-grade on a poured concrete foundation. The barn is painted red with white trim. This door is painted green.)

HABE WA-250-A-1



HABS WA 250 A-2



HABS WA-250-A-3



HABS WA-250-A-4



HABS WA-250-A-5

