

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 99000781

Date Listed: 7/8/99

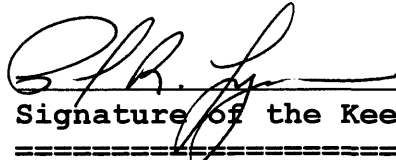
Hector & Margaret MacPherson Barn  
Property Name

Linn  
County

OR  
State

Barns of Linn County, Oregon MPS  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

7/8/99  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:

The Areas of Significance are amended to add: *Politics/Government*  
[This corresponds to the narrative context associated with Criterion B.]

These revisions were confirmed with J. Osborn of the OR SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Macpherson, Hector and Margaret, Barn

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 29780 Church Dr.

N/A not for publ.

city or town Albany

x vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Linn code 043 zip code 97321

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant     nationally     statewide x locally. (    See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Hamrick  
Signature of certifying official Deputy SHPO

July 20, 1998  
Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register criteria. (    See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

x entered in the National Register  
    See continuation sheet.

    determined eligible for the  
National Register  
    See continuation sheet.

    determined not eligible for the  
National Register

    removed from the National Register

    other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

B.P.R. Ferguson

7/8/99

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property (Check only one box)**

building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources Within the Property**

Contributing		Noncontributing		
<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>		buildings
				sites
				structures
				objects
<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>		Total

**Enter name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

*Barns of Linn  
County, Oregon,  
1846-1946*

Number of resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:agricultural  
outbuilding  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:animal facility  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:storage

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:agricultural  
outbuilding  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:storage

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Mid-20th Century Dairy Barn  
(Agricultural)

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
walls WOOD  
roof METAL  
other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)**

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
AGRICULTURE

**Period of Significance**

1925-1948

**Significant Dates**

1925

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Macpherson, Dr. Hector, Sr.

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Holstein, Herman

**Primary Location of Additional Data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Linn County Planning Dept.

Macpherson, Hector and Margaret, Barn  
Name of Property

Linn County, Oregon  
County and State

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreege of Property** Less than one acre (.3 acres)

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>10</u>	<u>484720</u>	<u>4928500</u>	3	_____
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

**name/title** Mary Kathryn Gallagher with assistance from Joni Nelson, May Dasch, and Beth Fox

**organization** Linn County Planning Department

**date** Feb. 14, 1998

**street & number** Linn County Courthouse, P.O. Box 100

**telephone** (541) 967-3816

**city or town** Albany

**state** OR

**zip code** 97321

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

**name** Bannockburn Farms, Inc.

**street & number** 29780 Church Dr. SW **telephone** 541-753-3022

**city or town** Albany, OR

**state** OR

**zip code** 97321

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Macpherson, Hector and Margaret, Barn

Linn County, OR

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**7. Narrative Description**

*Summary*

The Hector and Margaret Macpherson Dairy Barn is an end-opening, three-aisle dairy barn built in 1924-25 by Herman Holstein, a local barn builder. At 110 feet in length, the barn is one of only several extant wood frame barns in Linn County to exceed 100 feet. Distinctive features include a Gothic roof and frame composed of bent, laminated rafters which extend from the foundation to the ridge on both sides, and an interior spatial arrangement reflecting the barn's function as the dairy barn for the Riverwood Dairy. Located in the rural Oakville neighborhood of Linn County, just to the west of the historic Oakville United Presbyterian Church, the barn occupies a 139.87 acre parcel on the Willamette Valley floor adjacent to Muddy Creek, a tributary stream. The farmstead contains a number of buildings associated with the dairy operation which continued until 1989; the vast majority of the extant buildings, however, are less than fifty years old. The Hector and Margaret Macpherson farmhouse once associated with the barn has been demolished. For these reasons, the barn, which was historically the most important building of the dairy, is the only building being nominated; a milkhouse built in 1953 and located in front of the barn is encompassed by the National Register boundary but is less than 50 years old and is therefore non-contributing. The barn is in fair physical condition.

*Supporting Paragraphs*

The axial alignment of the barn is slightly off north-south with a northeast-southwest bearing. (For ease of discussion, however, cardinal directions are used throughout this document). For dairy barns, a long axis north and south was recommended in order to secure direct sunlight on the stalls for as much of the day as possible.<sup>1</sup> The barn has a rectangular footprint of 34' x 110' feet with an open shed added to the rear half of the east elevation. The main entry and hay hood are located on the north elevation. The barn has two levels; the main level of the barn was originally used for milking cows while the loft served as a large mow for hay and straw storage.

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<sup>1</sup> Foster, W.A. and Deane G. Carter, Farm Buildings, (New York: John Wiley and Sons), 1922, p. 6.

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Macpherson, Hector and Margaret, Barn

Linn County, OR

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The barn rests on a continuous concrete foundation. The concrete work, completed by Dent Stewart, included the barn floor as well as formed concrete gutters and mangers. In areas where the animals walked, such as the ramps, the concrete has a corrugated finish to prevent the animals from slipping.

On the exterior, the walls are clad with 5¼" horizontal drop siding with 5" reveal, finished at the edges with 6" corner boards. Metal has been applied over the siding to the south elevation. The barn is currently painted red with white trim; originally it was painted a cream color with sea foam green trim.<sup>2</sup>

The barn has a Gothic roof albeit more rounded in profile than most roofs classified as Gothic. The boxed eaves flare and have a flat soffit composed of narrow T & G boards. There are eave returns on the gable ends. The roof is presently clad with metal but originally wood shingles were employed.

Centrally located on the north and south elevations are wide, double-leaf roller doors to access the center aisle. On the east elevation, roller stock doors are located at the north and south corners, and on the west elevation a roller stock doors is located at the south corner only. These stock doors provide access to the side aisles. Original doors are made of horizontal drop siding and have an upper panel with a center vertical batten and a lower panel with cross battens. The south stock door on the east elevation was apparently added.

On the north elevation there is a hayhood. The hayhood has a gable roof that is slightly convex since it extends from the Gothic roof of the barn. The hood is supported by solid side wall knee braces. The hay door, which is hinged at the bottom, matches other doors of the barn with two cross batten panels above two panels with each with a centrally located vertical batten.

On the east and west elevations, there are sixteen evenly-fenestrated single windows. Windows open inward hopper style and metal shields on the interior provide protection from drafts. On the north elevation, there are 4 single windows, one on either

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<sup>2</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, July 1997.

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side of the central door and two windows of the same size are aligned above in the gable. This is repeated on the south elevation with an additional opening in the center of the gable. (The hay door precludes this opening on the north elevation.) The windows on the south elevation have been removed and the metal siding has been applied over the openings. All window sashes have six lights in a vertical 3 row arrangement, 5½" side and head casings, and simple drip caps.

*Framing*

The barn has a frame composed of laminated bent rafters extending from the foundation to the ridge on each side joining at the ridge without an intervening ridge piece. Each rafter or "rib" is composed of six 1 x 4s laminated with nails. The rafters are spaced 2 ft. o. c. A form for shaping and nailing the rafters was located in an open space to the south and a little east of the present barn location. Every 6th rafter is braced except at either end of the barn where the interval is less. Skip sheathing is applied over the rafters. Collar ties, that appear to be 2" x 12", are located on each rafter. An additional collar tie appears to have been added to each rafter opposite the original collar ties. A track for the hayfork, as well as the hayfork carriage, are still in place.

Two longitudinal girders, located on either side of the center aisle and supported by a row of wood posts, help support the mow. Each of the girders is built-up of four 2 x 11¼" planks. Original wood posts are slightly less than 6" x 6". Many of these posts have been replaced by metal posts in recent years. Post intervals are between 10 and 11 feet. Floor joists with dimensions of 2" x 9 3/8" span the entire 34' width of the barn. Braces have been added to the side walls extending from the laminated rafters to the joists.

*Barn Function and Spatial Arrangement*

The main level of the barn, which is 9½' in height and was originally used to house and milk dairy cows, has three aisles: a 12' center aisle flanked by two livestock aisles with concrete gutters, mangers, and interior ramps at each stock door location. The cows, 27 in each of the livestock aisles, were secured in metal stanchions and faced the windows. Accordingly, the gutters flank the center aisle with the center aisle functioning as a litter



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aisle. A mechanical gutter cleaner was used to remove manure from the barn. The feed aisles were located along the windows with concrete mangers lining the feed aisles. Two hay drops were located in the ceiling above each feed aisle so that hay could be dropped from the mow above. A ladder is attached to the wall at each hay drop location. There were no box stalls or pens in the barn because there were additional buildings for these functions.

The interior walls of the barn are white washed. Remnants of the track once used for a feed carrier can still be seen on the ceiling of the barn. The feed carrier, not an original feature of the barn, was added by Hector Macpherson's son, Hector Macpherson, Jr. The stanchions were purchased from the Loudon Company while the metal framework for the stanchions was made of pipe purchased from Schnitzer Steel in Portland.<sup>3</sup> The water bowls, one for every two cows, were also purchased from the Loudon Company.<sup>4</sup> Water was piped into the barn from a water tower that stood over an earlier milkhouse located at the north end of the barn. The water was originally pumped by a windmill but later a one cylinder gas engine powered the pump jack.<sup>5</sup> At the time of the barn's construction, a 32 volt Delco-Light system, consisting of a gas-powered engine generator that was belted to a pump that provided water for the house, was installed.<sup>6</sup> In 1928, a power line reached the property providing 110 volt electricity.<sup>7</sup> A milking machine powered by gasoline was used for milking even prior to the construction of the new barn.<sup>8</sup> Hand-milking was also continued in some instances.<sup>9</sup> The separator was turned

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<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

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by hand until the Macphersons began to sell their milk whole in about 1930.<sup>10</sup>

The second level loft functioned as a large mow for the storage of hay and straw and, at a later date, chopped hay. The wood flooring of the loft consists of 1" x 7" boards. Loose hay was loaded into the mow from the exterior using a hayfork. Hector Macpherson, Jr., estimates that the mow held 100 tons of loose hay or 125-150 tons of chopped hay.<sup>11</sup> Because of its density, more chopped than loose hay could be accommodated in the mow; the additional weight of the chop, however, resulted in an eastward lean of the barn. In 1950, Hector Macpherson, Jr., installed a hay drier in the loft. The Oregon State College Extension Service Photo file has a photograph with the caption:

Hector Macpherson, Jr., Linn County dairyman living near Oakville, is shown demonstrating laterals on his new mow hay drier. They are 12 feet in length and are spaced on 50 inch centers from his main air duct...Total mow area involved is 1,836 square feet. His installation including the cost of installing a motor, \$190, was 13 cents per square foot.<sup>12</sup>

The cold air fan for the drier is still located in place in the north end of the barn.

*Alteration Summary*

- \* An open shed was added to the rear portion of the east elevation of the barn in the mid-1950s. This area was used for dry cows and as a maternity area.
- \* A calf shed was added to the east elevation of the barn in the 1930s. This shed was demolished in 1994.
- \* One leaf of the roller door on the north elevation has been replaced and the

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<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> Oregon State College Extension Service Photo File. Photo taken May 1950, R.G. Fowler, Jr., Negative Number 1131.

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original south elevation roller door has been replaced by a metal roller door.

- \* Windows in the gable of north elevation are missing their sashes.
- \* Metal stanchions and water bowls have been removed.
- \* The feed carrier and much of associated track have been removed. These items were not included in the original design of the barn.
- \* Metal tie cables were added to the interior barn after the Columbus Day Storm in 1962.
- \* Metal was applied over the siding on the south elevation in 1995.<sup>13</sup>
- \* The corner board is missing from the east corner of the north elevation. This board was removed at the time of the calf shed addition in the 1930s.
- \* The current rings and troughs along the stanchions were for calves which were housed the barn beginning in 1960.<sup>14</sup>
- \* The current metal roof dates to 1961.<sup>15</sup>
- \* Some interior wood posts have been replaced by metal posts in the past several years.
- \* Braces have been added to the side walls extending from the laminated rafters to the joists.
- \* The gutters have been filled in with concrete.

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<sup>13</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, Jan. 26, 1998.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

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*Contributing and Noncontributing Resources*

The milkhouse, which is located within the National Register boundary because of its proximity to the barn's north wall, is non-contributing because, having been erected in 1953, it is less than 50 years old. The building is approximately 16' x 18', of concrete block construction with a metal clad gable roof. A door is centrally located on the north elevation and three windows punctuate the west side wall while a window and a door punctuate the east wall. Because most of the other farmstead buildings are less than 50 years old, they are not included within the National Register boundary.

**8. Narrative Statement of Significance**

*Summary*

The Hector and Margaret Macpherson Dairy Barn is proposed for nomination as part of the multiple property submission entitled, *Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1846-1946*. The barn meets the registration requirements for barns eligible under Criterion C, in the area of architecture, by illustrating the pattern of features common to the property type "Barns of the Mid-20th Century", and as an example of the property subtype "Dairy Barns". Additionally, arched-roofed barns, as a class of barns, are specified as eligible under Criterion C for illustrating a method of construction which is now locally rare. With construction begun in 1924, the Macpherson Barn, along with the Stellmacher Barn, also under construction that year, are among the earliest extant examples of arched-roofed barns in the county; earlier examples existed, however, since the Macpherson barn design was based on the observation of a neighbor's barn with an arched roof. The Macpherson barn is also distinctive for its arched roof framing in which the bent laminated rafters extend from the sills to the ridge. This design avoided the weak point where the bent rafters joined the upper wall plate which often had been mounted to the plate by merely toe-nailing.<sup>16</sup> The majority of arched-roof barns observed in the county have rafters extending from the plates to the ridge. The barn also illustrates the workmanship of Herman Holstein, a local barn builder known to have constructed other barns in Linn

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<sup>16</sup> Soike, Lowell J., "Within Reach of All: Midwest Barns Perfected," *Barns of the Midwest*, Ed. Allen G. Noble and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm, (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press), 1995, p. 162.

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Macpherson, Hector and Margaret, Barn

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County in the early and mid-20th century.

The Macpherson Dairy Barn also meets Criterion A, in the area of agriculture, for illustrating an important trend in local agriculture during the period from 1920-1945. While a small herd of dairy cows had been a component of the diversified farm in the early 20th century, during this period the specialized dairy, and hence the specialized dairy barn, emerged. By the late 1920s, dairying was Oregon's biggest income producer with 16% of the state's gross agricultural income coming from milk products.<sup>17</sup> By 1923, Linn County had more dairy cows than any other county in the state.<sup>18</sup> "The dairy was always larger than average for Linn County. Most dairies in the early days were one family operations with multiple projects. We always had hired help and specialized in dairy with little other income."<sup>19</sup> Known for cream production, the Jersey breed was the most important in Linn County during this period. In 1928, it was noted that, "Linn County Jerseys are shipped to every state in the union, and to give some idea of the magnitude of this industry this county last year ranked third in the United States in the number of transfers of ownership of registered Jerseys, also fifth county in the United States in registration for 1927."<sup>20</sup> It was further noted that, "During the past fifteen years Linn County herds have claimed continuously one or more of the eight world records for production. This county can also claim the distinction of having four successive years the highest producing herd in America. Linn County produced the first medal of merit bull in the world..."<sup>21</sup> Holger, the Medal of Merit bull referred to, was owned by Hector Macpherson with the present barn constructed to house the herd that he sired.

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<sup>17</sup> "Graphic Summary of Agriculture and Land Use in Oregon," (Corvallis, Oregon: Agricultural Experiment Station), Station Circular #114, December 1935, p. 32.

<sup>18</sup> Mullen, Floyd C., The Land of Linn, (Lebanon, Oregon: Dalton's Printing), 1971, p. 197.

<sup>19</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, January 26, 1998.

<sup>20</sup> Anon, "Opportunity Awaits You in Linn County, Oregon, The Garden Spot of the Willamette Valley. 1928, n.p. Anon, 1928, n.p.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

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The Macpherson Barn also is eligible under Criterion B, in the areas of agriculture and politics and government, for association with Dr. Hector Macpherson, Sr., (1875-1970). In addition to operating a successful dairy, Dr. Macpherson was an Oregon State legislator for four terms in the period from 1927 to 1940. As a legislator, "His advanced thinking on a cabinet form of government for Oregon led to the establishment of the State Department of Agriculture."<sup>22</sup> "Macpherson was also one of the first and strongest advocates of a state board of higher education, which he envisioned to end continual bickering between the two major universities and the biennial competition of funds from the legislature."<sup>23</sup> Among his failures were the Zorn-Macpherson Bill aimed at consolidating all higher education into one super university at Corvallis.<sup>24</sup> Hector Macpherson operated the dairy until his son, Hector Macpherson, Jr., returned from the war and subsequently received title to the property in 1948.<sup>25</sup> The period of significance is based upon the period of time that Hector Macpherson, Sr., owned and operated the farm.

*Historical Background*

Hector Macpherson, Sr., was born in Grand Valley, Ontario, Canada in 1875.<sup>26</sup> He learned the cooperage trade from his father, Alexander, a native of Lybster, Scotland, and the family made its living making butter tubs and flour barrels while farming part-time.<sup>27</sup> Mr. Macpherson eventually earned a teaching certificate and taught for two years at a Tarbert, Ontario country school.<sup>28</sup> He earned credit for his first year of

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<sup>22</sup> "Hector Macpherson", Corvallis Gazette-Times, Corvallis, Oregon, March 31, 1970, p. A-4.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>25</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, January 26, 1998.

<sup>26</sup> "Former Legislator Hector Macpherson Dies", The Corvallis Gazette-Times, Corvallis, Oregon, March 30, 1970, p. 1.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*

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college by studying alone in a shack in the woods and passing qualifying exams.<sup>29</sup> In order to fulfill his ambition to become a minister, he received a B.A. degree from Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada in 1903 after having worked on a cattle ranch in Calgary and on mining claims in British Columbia.<sup>30</sup> He was ordained a Presbyterian minister and served several small churches in British Columbia.<sup>31</sup>

Religious life was eventually superseded by academic life. In 1906, Mr. Macpherson travelled steerage class to Europe where, in Germany, he attended The University of Berlin and the University of Halle. In 1907-08, he earned a M.S. from the University of Chicago, and in 1910 he earned a Ph.D. from that same institution. His doctoral thesis was on the Cooperative Movement.<sup>32</sup> While earning his degree, he was an instructor in the Department of Economics at Michigan State Agricultural College where he met Margaret Dupee, a botany instructor from Chicago.<sup>33</sup> They were married on April 16, 1911.<sup>34</sup> He also taught at the University of Illinois prior to accepting a position at Oregon Agricultural College in Corvallis, Oregon in 1911. There, he became the head of the Department of Economics and Sociology.<sup>35</sup> Margaret Macpherson briefly taught botany at O.A.C. in the 1910s.

Among Dr. Macpherson's interests while at O.A.C. was the promotion of farm cooperatives. According to the 1925-1926 Oregon Agricultural College Catalogue, Dr. Macpherson served as Director of Organization and Markets and was a specialist in rural

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<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>34</sup> Capitol's Who's Who for Oregon 1936-1937, (Portland: Capitol Publishing Co., 1936, p. 352.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*

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economics.<sup>36</sup> In 1913, he authored an Extension Service Bulletin entitled, *Practical Problems in Rural Economics*. That same year, it was reported that Dr. Macpherson had been appointed by Governor West to a committee of Americans and Canadians investigating European cooperative credit and marketing systems.<sup>37</sup> An issue of *The Oregon Agricultural College Barometer*, reported that previously, "Dr. Macpherson...has carried out investigations in Germany, Denmark, and other European countries."<sup>38</sup>

In 1915, the Macphersons purchased the first parcel of land in the location of the present farm.<sup>39</sup> A Craftsman style house and barn were already located on the property. (The older barn, which was located to the south of the present barn, was destroyed by fire in 1946.) At first, the farm was operated by tenant farmers since the Macphersons still lived in Corvallis.<sup>40</sup> In 1924, the Macphersons moved to the farm permanently, and in June of 1926, Dr. Macpherson resigned his college position to farm full-time. By 1927, however, was combining farming with his responsibilities as a member of the Oregon State Legislature.<sup>41</sup>

When the Macphersons moved to the farm in 1924, the present dairy barn was erected as the focal building for Dr. Macpherson's dairy. The barn, which was begun in 1924 but completed in 1925, was built by a local barn builder, Herman Holstein. Hector Macpherson, Jr., remembers that his older brother recalled Dr. Macpherson and Herman Holstein discussing the design of the barn after looking at several arched-roofed barns. The nearest of these barns belonged to Walter Hense, a good friend of Dr. Macpherson. Apparently, many of the barns had sagging roof lines and Mr. Holstein figured out an internal bracing system which he thought would correct the problem. According to

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<sup>36</sup> General Catalogue, Oregon Agricultural College, 1925-1926.

<sup>37</sup> *The Oregon Agricultural College Barometer*, Corvallis, Oregon, March 28, 1913, p. 1.

<sup>38</sup> *The Oregon Agricultural College Barometer*, Corvallis, Oregon, Apr. 1, 1913, p. 1.

<sup>39</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, July 26, 1998.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*



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Hector Macpherson, Jr., the barn stood true until the heavier chopped hay was stored in the loft.

After the barn was framed, a cottage was erected to house hired man Floyd Bulman. The previous year, Hector Macpherson had purchased Holger, the first Medal of Merit bull in the Jersey breed in Oregon; the barn was built to house the heifers bred by Holger. The *Official Records of Dairy Cattle, National and Oregon Class Leaders* reports that Holger, #109744, was owned by Hector Macpherson of Corvallis, Oregon. Holger was the Silver, Gold and Medal of Merit bull for 1923-1926.<sup>42</sup> The Register of Merit was established in 1903 and in 1923, there was only one other Medal of Merit Jersey Bull-- "Fauvic's Prince" who was owned by A.V. Barnes of New Canaan Connecticut. Literature on dairying at that time stressed the importance of buying a good bull. "A good bull with a long line of high producing ancestors is about 75% of the herd when the cows are mixed mongrels, but it takes more than one cross of good blood to change a herd from bad to good."<sup>43</sup> Dr. Macpherson had been assembling registered Jersey cows which he planned to mate with Holger.<sup>44</sup> In 1925, he held an auction selling 17 registered cows and heifers bred to Holger keeping only Holger daughters as the basis for his herd. He then used Holger's young sons to sire the herd. This gave him blood lines that were three-quarters Holger breeding.<sup>45</sup> Holger was used for breeding until 1928.

The dairy barn, which contained stanchions to accommodate 54 cows, was put into use in 1925. In the 1920s, cream from the diary was sold to the Raven Dairy in Portland.<sup>46</sup> Hector Macpherson, Jr., recalls hauling the milk cans to Verdure Station which was

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<sup>42</sup> Colman, Howard Notson, *Official Testing of Dairy Cattle in Oregon*, (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon Agricultural College), 1923-1927.

<sup>43</sup> Hayne, Ralph A., *The Cow the Mother of Prosperity*, (Chicago: Agricultural Extension Dept.), 1921, p. 11.

<sup>44</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, January 26, 1998.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>46</sup> Macpherson, Personal Communication, January 26, 1998.

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located on the Oregon Electric line approximately one mile east of the present farm.<sup>47</sup> The skim milk was fed to the calves and the hogs with excess milk dumped.<sup>48</sup> Beginning in about 1930, the dairy began to sell whole Grade A milk to the Medo-Land Creamery Co. in Corvallis. The crops grown for the dairy included: oats and vetch for hay, sudan grass for summer pasture, corn or sunflowers for silage, barley or wheat for grain, and a grass-clover mix for pasture or hay. Cheat grass was grown for horses and young stock. Alfalfa hay was grown after 1948.<sup>49</sup>

Additional buildings and structures were added to the dairy in subsequent years. A wood stave silo was erected on the east side of the barn near the north end in 1928, and a calf shed was attached to the east elevation of the barn in the 1930s. In 1942, a barn for young stock was erected to the east of the barn. Dr. Macpherson operated the dairy with family and hired help until the end of World War II at which point his son, Hector Macpherson, Jr., returned and assisted his father for several years prior to taking over the dairy's operation.

Hector Macpherson, Jr., continued to add buildings to the complex. In 1959, an up-to-date milking parlor and loafing barn were erected.<sup>50</sup> Put into use in 1960, this ended milking in the barn with the barn then used to house baby calves.<sup>51</sup> The loft continued to be used for hay and straw storage until the herd, which then numbered 180 head, were sold in 1989.<sup>52</sup>

Hector Macpherson, Sr., and his wife, Margaret, both died in the same week in March of

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<sup>47</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, January 26, 1998.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*

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1970.<sup>53</sup> Like his father, Hector Macpherson, Jr., is recognized for contributions of statewide importance especially in the advancement of statewide land use planning in Oregon. In 1973, Oregon took a pioneering step in land use planning signing into law Oregon Senate Bill 100 which created an institutional structure for statewide planning.<sup>54</sup> Senate Bill 100 was preceded by Senate Bill 10 in 1969. This bill failed to establish mechanisms for compliance. The law need to be strengthened but the 1971 legislature blocked the formation of a formal interim study committee.<sup>55</sup> In response;

...Senator Hector Macpherson, a Linn County dairy farmer, worked with [Governor] McCall to set up an informal Land Use Policy Committee to suggest ways to improve SB10...The Oregon legislature acted in 1973 to correct flaws in the 1969 law. A state-sponsored report by San Francisco landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, *Willamette Valley: Choices for the Future*, helped set the stage in the fall of 1972. McCall's "grasping wastrels" speech with its anathema of unregulated land development raised the curtain. Greatest credit for passage of SB 100 went to Senator Macpherson, who was convinced of the need to fend off the suburbanization of the entire valley. Drawing on his experience on the Linn County Planning Commission, he articulated the importance of a statewide planning program in protecting and enhancing agricultural investment. This argument served to dampen the demands of farmers to preserve property rights that would enable them to sell out to developers.<sup>56</sup>

Hector Macpherson still operates the farm upon which the barn is located.

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<sup>53</sup> Macpherson, Hector, Personal Communication, January 26, 1998.

<sup>54</sup> Abbott, Carl, Deborah Howe, and Sy Adler (eds.), *Planning the Oregon Way: A Twenty Year Evaluation*, (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press), 1994, p. ix.

<sup>55</sup> Abbott et al., pp. xii-xiii.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid*, p. xiii.

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*The Oregon Agricultural College Barometer*, Corvallis, Oregon, Oregon Agricultural College, Apr. 1, 1913, p. 1.

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated area is located in NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 20 of Township 12S, Range 4W of the Willamette Meridian, in Linn County, Oregon. The nominated area encompasses approximately .3 acres of Tax Lot 400 on Linn County assessor map 12 4W 21. Boundaries of the nominated area parallel the four sides of the barn, except at the northeast corner of the barn, and lie at a distance of 25 feet from the east wall, 25 feet from the south wall, 20 feet from the west wall, and 30 feet from the north wall. At the northeast corner of the barn, the boundary's rectangular form is clipped at an oblique angle to avoid the milking parlor built in 1959-60. The angle begins at a point 25' east of the northeast corner of the barn and joins the north boundary line at a point 30' north of the northeast corner of the barn.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary was drawn to encompass the barn which was the most prominent building of the Macpherson dairy. A milkhouse built in 1953 is located within the boundary because of its close proximity to the barn. The boundary is clipped at the northeast corner to avoid a portion of the milking parlor built in 1959-60. Most of the other buildings and structures associated with this farmstead are less than 50 years old; exceptions are a small house built for the hired man and Holger's pen which still stands just to the south of the barn. The pen is in a poor state of preservation and the house has been altered.

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Section PHOTOS Page 18

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All of the photographs were taken by Mary K. Gallagher and were printed by Todd Parker. The negatives are on file at the Linn County Planning Department in the Linn County Courthouse at Albany, Oregon.

- Photograph 1 of 9: Macpherson Dairy looking to the west from the Oakville Presbyterian Church (Photograph taken August, 1997)
- Photograph 2 of 9: North elevation with concrete block milkhouse constructed in 1953. An earlier milkhouse, of wood frame construction, was located in this same area but slightly further to the north. (Photograph taken on May 21, 1996)
- Photograph 3 of 9: Oblique view of north and west elevations. (Photograph taken on May 21, 1996)
- Photograph 4 of 9: Oblique view of south and west elevations. (Photograph taken August, 1997)
- Photograph 5 of 9: East elevation with open loafing shed addition. White paint with ghost of gable roof shows where the ca. 1930 calf shed was formerly attached. (Photograph taken August, 1997)
- Photograph 6 of 9: West livestock aisle. (Photograph taken August, 1997)
- Photograph 7 of 9: Concrete ramp at southwest corner of the barn. (Photograph taken August, 1997)
- Photograph 8 of 9: Roof framing. (Photograph taken August, 1997)
- Photograph 9 of 9: Six 1 x 4s bent and laminated to form each rafter. (Photograph taken August, 1997)

SEE

# 12 4W 21

400  
139.87 AC. (1000)  
S.W. COR.  
W.B. MEALEY  
CL

N.W. COR.  
JOHNG. WILSON  
D.L.C. 60

S.LY. S.E. COR.  
THOMAS CANNON  
D.L.C. 48

17.48 CH. PARCEL 2  
(V.11 P. 271 RD. RECORDS)

C.R. 12  
38.70 CH.

CHRUCH DR

1/4 COR.

NORTH 40.00 CH. G.L.O.

11.42 CH.

506.80'

N.16°E

40.05 CH.  
CO. RD. 734  
28.38 CH. (25.40 CH.)

OAKVILLE RD.

21  
N.89°43'W. 80.10 CH.  
G.L.O.

S.86°30'W. 28.45 CH.

500  
19.52 AC.

20

29

28

NORTH 80.00 CH.  
G.L.O.

S.12°15'W. 10.62 CH.

S.70°E. 13 CH.

6.15 CH.

MUDDY CREEK

THE HECTOR AND MARGARET MACPHERSON BARN  
LINN COUNTY, OREGON

S.2°30'W. 10.26 CH.

4.85 CH.

(40.70 CH.)

N.2°30'E  
10.10 CH.

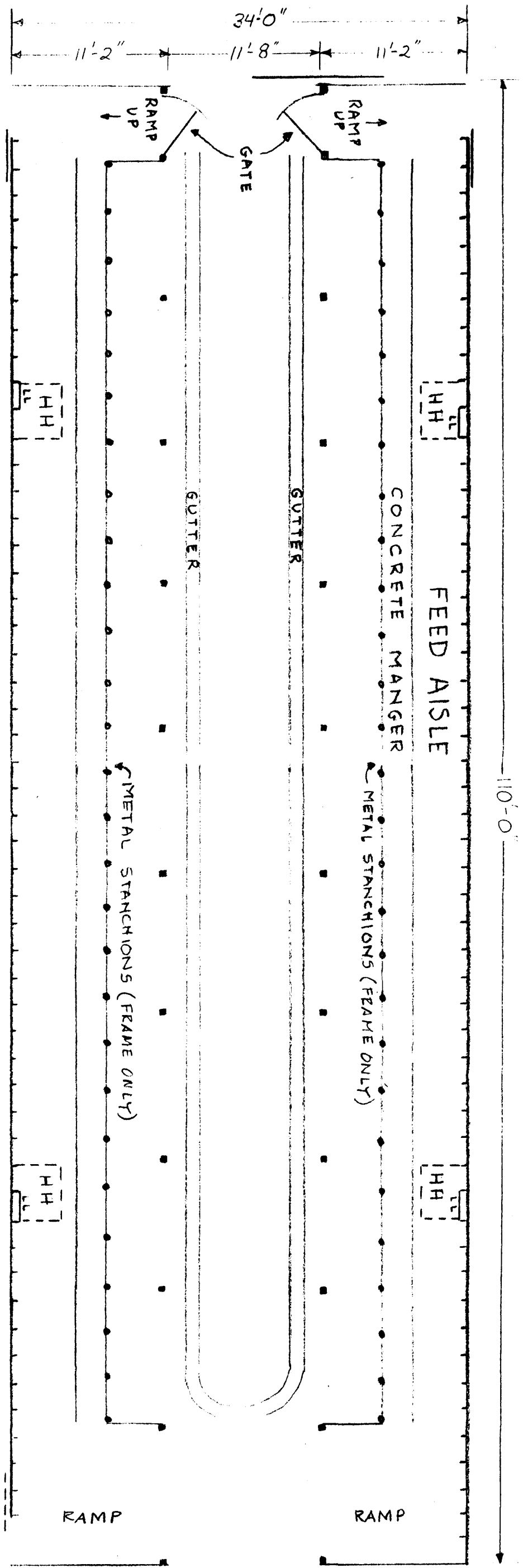
60°

9.09 CH.  
80°

27.36

192





MACPHERSON DAIRY

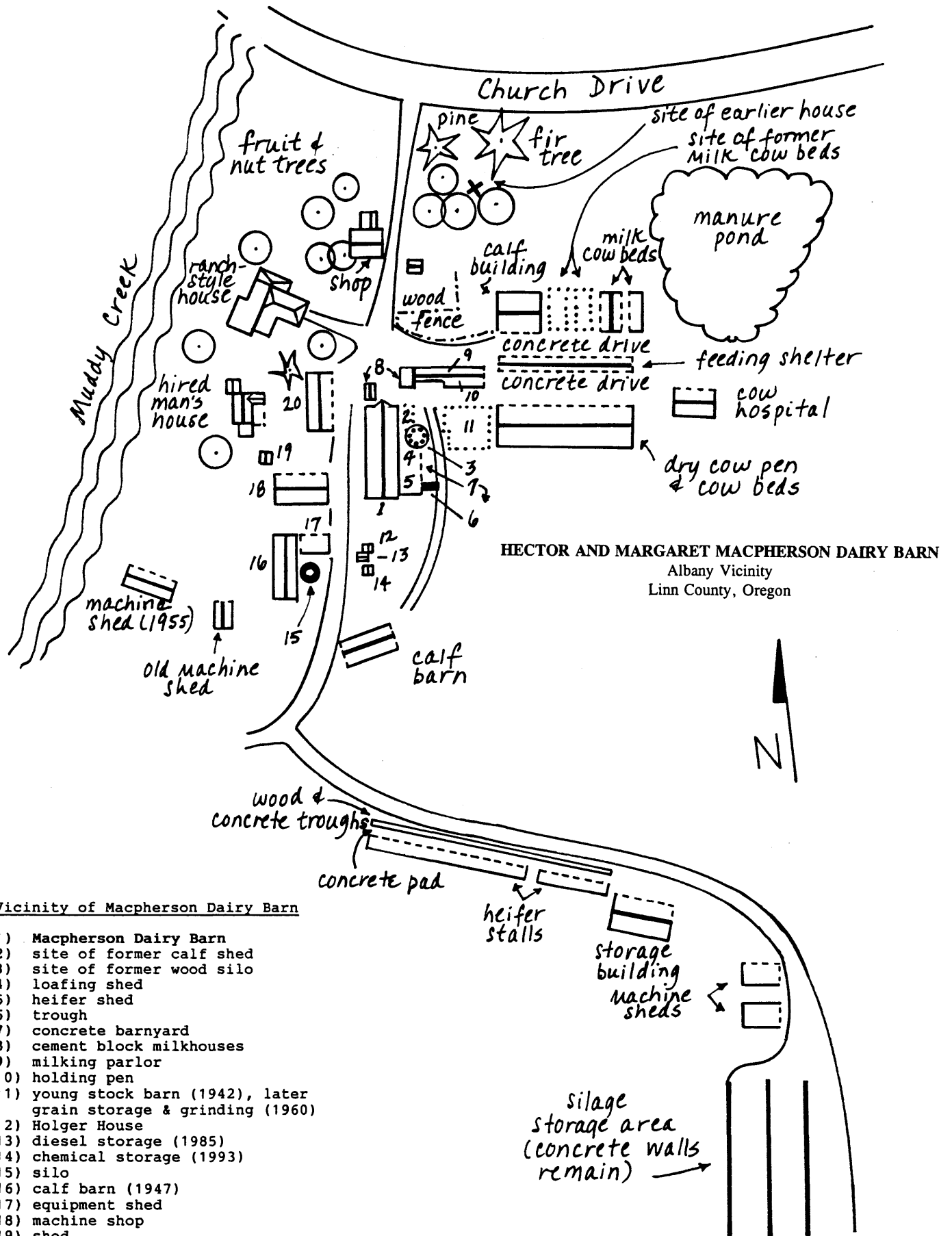
BARN

LINN COUNTY, OREGON

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

HH = HAY HOLE  
LL = LOFT LADDER





Vicinity of Macpherson Dairy Barn

- 1) Macpherson Dairy Barn
- 2) site of former calf shed
- 3) site of former wood silo
- 4) loafing shed
- 5) heifer shed
- 6) trough
- 7) concrete barnyard
- 8) cement block milkhouses
- 9) milking parlor
- 10) holding pen
- 11) young stock barn (1942), later grain storage & grinding (1960)
- 12) Holger House
- 13) diesel storage (1985)
- 14) chemical storage (1993)
- 15) silo
- 16) calf barn (1947)
- 17) equipment shed
- 18) machine shop
- 19) shed
- 20) machine shed