

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Cyrus, Henry and Mary, Barn

other names/site number Schuler, Sam, Barn

multiple property document Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1846-1946

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

### 2. Location

street & number 37964 Balm Dr.  not for publication

city or town Lebanon  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Linn code 043 zip code 97355

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance: \_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

*Christine Connor*

9.17.15

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

*For Edson H. Beall*

11.9.15

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE: Agricultural Outbuilding

AGRICULTURE: Animal Facility

AGRICULTURE: Storage

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE: Agricultural Outbuilding

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Late-19th Century End-Opening

Barn (Agricultural)

OTHER: Silo (Agricultural)

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE; CONCRETE

walls: WOOD

roof: METAL

other: WOOD

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## Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

### Summary Paragraph

The ca. 1884 Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn, later known as the Sam Schuler Barn, is a rectangular, end-opening, timber-frame barn located at 37964 Balm Drive, approximately one mile southeast of the unincorporated community of Crabtree in Linn County, Oregon.<sup>1</sup> Surrounded by flat, open hayfields amid a landscape that appears little changed in the last century; the Cyrus Barn reflects prevailing trends in local barn-building during this era of agricultural and technological transformation. The character-defining features of the Cyrus Barn are exemplary of the property type, "Barns of the Late-Nineteenth Century" as identified in the Multiple Property Document (MPD), "Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1846-1946."<sup>2</sup> Among these, the important historic features are timber-frame construction with pegged mortise-and-tenon joinery and sawn timbers of regular dimensions, as well as a common-rafter roof system. The cladding is also characteristic of this type, including circular-sawn vertical-board siding and skip sheathing fastened using machine-cut nails. A medium-pitched gable roof accommodates increased hay storage in a full-width loft, and a mechanical hayfork suspended from the ridge once permitted unloading from the wagon drive below.<sup>3</sup> Divided into four aisles, the interior includes the original wood milking stanchions in the westernmost aisle of the barn, which are fastened using mortise-and-tenon joinery with wooden pegs rather than nails and may be the oldest wood stanchions in Linn County.<sup>4</sup> Two rare unaltered wood stave silos were added to the barn's north gable end in the 1930s.<sup>5</sup> The barn and silos are counted as a single resource due to their physical attachment, and are the sole contributing resource within the nominated boundary. The silos notwithstanding, alterations to the barn are relatively minor and the original design, materials, workmanship, and historic feeling are substantially intact.

## Narrative Description

### Location and Setting

Situated on a 19.7 acre parcel of the Willamette Valley floor approximately one mile east of the South Fork of the Santiam River, the rural setting of the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn is characterized by flat, open farmland punctuated by groves of mostly deciduous trees. The barn is a remnant of the farmstead developed by Henry Cyrus and his wife, Mary Crabtree Cyrus, on the donation land claim of her parents, Della Fletcher and Phoebe Crabtree.<sup>6</sup> A recently remodeled farmhouse stands approximately 150' to the east of the barn, encompassing the footprint of the original farmhouse. Two smaller, early twentieth-century outbuildings are located near the house. Stud Horse Creek lines the field to the south and west of the barn, with Balm Road forming the northern boundary of the property as it did in the original farmstead.<sup>7</sup> All associated buildings are located along this road.

<sup>1</sup> Date of construction from Gallagher and Nelson, "Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr," *Linn County Inventory of Historic Properties*, Historic Barn Survey Form, 1996, <<http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic>>, accessed April 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Mary K. Gallagher, et al., Multiple Property Document "Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1846-1946" (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1998), 41-45, 52-55.

<sup>3</sup> Controlled from the ground by ropes, a mechanical hayfork could lift loose hay out of a wagon and then carry it horizontally beneath the ridge to a desired location in the loft, where it would be released. Only the track and carrier from which the Cyrus Barn's hayfork was suspended remain in place. For illustrations of hayfork designs from this era, see Mary K. Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement, The Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1845-1945* (Albany, Oregon: Linn County Planning Dept, 1997), Fig. 28.

<sup>4</sup> Gallagher and Nelson, "Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr."

<sup>5</sup> Date of construction from Gallagher and Nelson, "Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr;" *Ibid.*; See Registration Requirements for Property Type: SILOS in Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 99.

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

<sup>7</sup> *Linn County - Map 04, Scio, Sweet Home* [map] (San Francisco: Edger Williams & Co., 1878), from Historic Map Works, Rare Historic Maps Collection, <<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/48014/Linn+County+++Map+04++Scio++Sweet+Home/Marion+and+Linn+Counties>>

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The barn is situated in a highly visible location approximately 50' south of and facing the road. A narrow, grass-covered driveway leads from the road up an earthen ramp to the double-leaf wagon door on the barn's main elevation. To the east of the driveway stands a mature English walnut tree—the sole significant landscape feature—which, based on its size, likely dates to the period of significance and contributes to the historic setting. The nominated area encompasses less than one acre and includes the barn, a former shed extension to its south, and the English walnut tree, in a rectangular shape measuring 140' north to south and 90' east to west.

## Exterior Description

The axial alignment of the gable-roofed Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn is north-south, perpendicular to Balm Drive. Its rectangular volume sits upon a fieldstone foundation and remains within its original 52'x60' footprint. Two 1930s wood stave silos project from the north elevation in an asymmetrical arrangement—one aligned on center with the easternmost aisle of the barn, and the other aligned with a feed alley near the inside post of the westernmost aisle. An enclosed chute connects each silo to the wall of the barn. A loafing shed—an open area where cattle could feed or seek shelter—twenty feet in depth was added to the south elevation at an unknown date but collapsed in recent years, leaving a portion of the south wall open.

The barn is utilitarian in finish without any purely decorative features. The north and south elevations of the barn are clad in circular-sawn vertical-board siding, 7-3/4" in width, spaced slightly to allow the passage of light and ventilation. This is the most common type and width of siding found on Linn County barns built during the late-nineteenth century.<sup>8</sup> Though the siding appears largely unpainted, closer examination reveals faint traces of whitewashing. This siding is the oldest on the barn, but is almost certainly not original, as the boards are fastened with wire nails which were not in wide use locally until after the turn of the twentieth century.<sup>9</sup> These also contrast with the machine-cut nails present in lighter framing elements. Instead, it appears likely that this siding was applied during or after the construction of the silos in the 1930s, as it also clads the chutes that connect the silos to the barn. The siding on the north (main) elevation is generally in very good condition, while the south wall has suffered from additional sun exposure and from the recent collapse of the added lean-to. Siding was likely removed from the eastern two bays of the south elevation when the lean-to was constructed, and the now-unprotected frame has begun to deteriorate in this area. Traces of the former lean-to remain, such as the ledger board upon which its rafters were seated. Metal panels cover portions of the vertical board siding on the south gable, but most of these panels have fallen away. The east and west elevations are clad in recent board and batten siding of similar width to the north and south elevations, and are painted in a shade of grey that approximates the patina of the older siding. Survey photos from 1996 and 1976 show that the previous siding on the west elevation was unbattened, but in an advancing state of deterioration. Siding and wall girts were removed from the south three bays of the east elevation sometime prior to the 1976 survey and have not been replaced.

The wagon drive is accessed at the north elevation through an offset, double-leaf roller door with manufactured hardware that appears to be original (Photo 6). Its long track provides a visually pleasing horizontal break in the facade. This feature began to replace hinged doors locally during the later decades of the nineteenth century, and is present on a majority of barns from that period.<sup>10</sup> The Cyrus Barn was designed for interior unloading of hay, and unlike many others in the area, was never retrofitted with a hay hood. There is an off-centered, relatively narrow opening in the gable, however, which provides overhead access to an added grain bin or storage area in the first bay of the hay loft. Hinged stock doors open from the outer bays of this elevation flanking the silos, and may be original to the barn's design. The western stock door is of recent construction, replacing an earlier one seen in survey

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+1878/Oregon/> accessed April 2014.

<sup>8</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 38, 58.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 40, 58.

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photos, but the eastern door is clad in the same siding as the rest of the elevation and is fastened together using clenched wire nails. Its large wooden slider latch is noteworthy. There is also a small opening at floor level, approximately four feet east of the roller doors, with a wooden door that opens to the inside.

Openings on the south elevation may have mirrored those on the north elevation before the lean-to was added—a break in the siding at the southern end of the western (milking) aisle seems to indicate an infilled stock door. However, no siding or doors remain on the eastern half of that elevation. The east and west elevations contain the only glazed openings in the barn—five on the west and two on the east. All contain nine-light fixed wood sashes of recent fabrication which were installed along with the recent siding. Those on the west wall are replacements of earlier six-light sashes in the same locations, but the windows on the east wall were cut into new openings. No glazed openings originally existed on the barn, but the earlier six-light sashes seen in a 1976 photo of the west elevation (Figure 9) appear similar in design to hopper windows on a nearby outbuilding, which is believed to have been constructed around the beginning of the twentieth century.

Compared to its pioneer-era predecessors, this barn has a relatively high ridge line in order to accommodate larger quantities of hay necessary to feed the draft animals of a larger farming operation. Below this ridge line slopes a gable roof of medium pitch (10:12), terminating at overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails capped by fascia boards. Corrugated metal clads the roof, but an earlier layer of cedar shakes remains visible from the interior on all of the roof's western slope and a portion of its eastern slope (Photo 14). The roofing is nailed to sawn skip sheathing, most of which appears to be from an early date if not original. All of these roof features are characteristic of late-nineteenth century barns in Linn County.<sup>11</sup>

### **Interior Description – Framing**

The Henry and Mary Cyrus barn has a circular-sawn timber frame consisting primarily of large standard-dimension timbers, fastened using traditional mortise-and-tenon joinery with wooden pegs. It is a snapshot in the local evolution of barn building at a moment of transition between old and new technologies, materials, and techniques.

Sawn sills and longitudinal girders, all measuring approximately 8"x12" support the center two aisles of the barn. The girders are spliced at their midpoint with bladed scarf joints. Peeled log joists, hewn flat on top, are laid transversely beneath these two aisles and are notched over the girders, extending just beyond them to a tapered cut (Photo 11). The substructure is deteriorated and partially missing beneath the outer two aisles, both of which originally housed livestock. However, the remaining fabric consists of low transverse girders extending outward from beneath the longitudinal girders to support a stepped-down livestock floor, with peeled log joists and some replacement dimensional lumber joists running perpendicular to those of the inner aisles. Due to deterioration, the sills and/or lower portions of all columns on the south, west, and east walls have recently been replaced or altered. Many have been set atop concrete blocks which sit, in turn, upon the original field stones.

The frame was assembled in five bents of a secondary post-to-purlin plate configuration (Figure 6).<sup>12</sup> This type of configuration was not uncommon in Linn County during this period, and reflects the design considerations necessary to accommodate a high roofline and the movement of a mechanical hayfork.<sup>13</sup> Flanking the central aisles in each bent are a pair of 8"x8" primary posts which support 6"x8" upper plates. The outer posts of each bent measure 6"x6" and support 4"x6" lower plates at the eaves. Each pair of primary posts (except those in bents #2 and #3, from the north) is connected at approximately two-thirds their height by 6"x8" cross beams just above the loft floor, and again with tie beams of same dimensions just below the plates. The cross beams in the second and third bents have been cut above the wagon drive to increase clearance for the loading of

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., 38-39.

<sup>12</sup> For definitions and naming conventions of timber frame components, see Tedd Benson and James Gruber, *Building the Timber Frame House* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1980), 14-17.

<sup>13</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 40, 53.

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hay. Intermediate 8"x8" posts divide the wagon drive from the grain bin aisle. Between these posts run 4"x8" girts which support transverse log joists for the hay loft floor above. These girts also receive the studs of the longitudinal grain bin walls below (Photo 8). At some point in time, the intermediate posts were "extended" vertically from the cross beams to the tie beams using thinner 4"x4" posts (Photo 9, foreground at right). The lower cross beams tie the primary posts to the outer posts and another segment receive the studs of the transverse grain bin walls. Braces measure 4"x4" in some locations, but many have been replaced with full-dimensional 2"x4"s. All are mortised-and-tenoned without the use of wooden pins or other fasteners, as is the case in most local barns of this period.

The roof is framed with 2"x6" common rafters which abut without a ridge piece and are fastened to the plates using machine-cut nails rather than pegs. The rafter span breaks at the plate atop the primary posts (Photo 14, center), while an additional purlin plate supports the upper span midway between the primary post plate and the ridge (Photo 14, top). These purlins sit atop secondary posts that rest, in turn, upon the tie beams. By omitting another set of tie beams between the purlin posts, the hay fork is able to pass through the bent. The purlins and plates are spliced at their midpoints with bladed scarf joints (Photo 14).

### **Interior Description – Spatial Arrangement and Function**

As had recently become the norm in Linn County by 1884, the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn is a true two-level barn. A low-ceiling ground floor primarily hosted livestock and a voluminous upper floor served as a hayloft. The barn's spatial arrangement at ground level consists of four aisles: a longitudinal (end-opening) wagon drive and walled grain bins flanked by livestock aisles. This was perhaps the most common configuration during that period in Linn County.<sup>14</sup> The westernmost aisle has a low wooden milking floor (now partially collapsed) with wood stanchions, possibly original, for six cows to the rear of a human gate (Photo 12). Added wood stanchions of similar construction continue to the front of the barn, separating the cows from an interior feed aisle which leads to the western silo. Unlike any other known examples in Linn County, the older wooden stanchions are mortised-and-tenoned with wooden pegs rather than nailed, including the gate (Photo 13). A grain bin wall along the rear portion of the feed aisle is partially lined with horizontal boards that taper outward at the bottom toward the stanchions, thus serving as a manger into which hay can be dropped from an opening in the loft above.

The feed aisle abuts an aisle of walled grain bins which are accessible from the wagon drive. The central bay is left open, serving as a passageway between the feed aisle and the drive (Photo 7). Rudimentary work benches extend from each of the two grain bin walls that flank this central bay. The bin walls are framed with full-dimensional 2"x4" studs spaced 24" on center, with tenons that are fitted into pockets in the longitudinal girts and transverse lower tie beams. These longitudinal girts all measure 4"x8" except over the studless central bay, where a more robust 8"x8" girt spans the intermediate posts. Interestingly, the girt spanning the primary posts in this bay still measures 4"x8" and contains stud pockets along its lower face, indicating that the feed aisle was once completely walled off from the rest of the barn. The grain bins are lined with wide horizontal boards that are bevel-cut for a tight fit. Openings are designed with slotted jambs so that boards can be inserted or removed according to the height of the grain—a common feature during this period.<sup>15</sup> Many of these boards are still in place. Empty stud pockets in the girts above suggest that partitions between grain bins within the second and fourth bays have been removed, along with the wall that divided the first (northernmost) grain bin from the wagon drive. The visual impact of these changes is minor, however, as the bins remain mostly intact.

Measuring 14' across, the wagon drive is wider than any of the other aisles, which range from 11' to 13'. Its flooring is longitudinally laid tongue-and-groove, with boards measuring 6"x1-1/2". This flooring also appears in the feed aisle and may have replaced earlier 8" boards matching those beneath the grain bin aisle, where replacement is less likely to have occurred given its lesser exposure to wear and the added complication of

<sup>14</sup> Gallagher, et al., Multiple Property Document, 52-53.

<sup>15</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 40, 53-54.

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partition walls. This single layer of flooring along with the wagon drive's abutment to a full aisle of grain bins are both features that became prominent during the late-nineteenth century in Linn County barns, as threshing floors were made obsolete by mechanical threshers.<sup>16</sup>

The drive is accessed by an earthen ramp leading to the double-leaf roller wagon doors on the north elevation. There is no evidence to suggest the existence of a corresponding wagon door or ramp on the south end of the drive. The siding in that location was likely removed when the former loafing shed was built. All that spans the opening now is a horizontal board at waist height with widely spaced vertical slats below, resembling part of the added feed rack along the eastern edge of the southern two bays of the drive.

The aisle to the east of the wagon drive has undergone significant changes in fabric since the barn's construction but appears to have retained the same use throughout its working history. Though remaining physical evidence is inconclusive, the barn's 1996 Linn County Historic Barn Survey form mentions that horse stalls previously existed in all but the aisle's northernmost bay.<sup>17</sup> The southern three bays are currently open and missing their floor, substructure, and exterior wall girts and siding (Photo 10). A 1976 survey photo reveals that the wall girts and siding were removed sometime before that date, and no stalls are visible, though the current feed rack is in place (Figure 11).<sup>18</sup> Given the low height of the rack and the location of tie holes along its base, it is likely that the floor structure was missing at the time of the rack's construction. Therefore, this area appears to have continued its historic use—feeding and housing draft horses—under the present modified configuration. Though deteriorating, the original floor structure is still intact in the northernmost bay, along with a low wall partially dividing it from the wagon drive. This area appears to have been used for tack and/or tool storage in the 1976 survey photo, and numerous empty spikes and nails still project from its timbers and siding boards. The eastern silo is accessed through an opening in the north elevation of this bay, and outdoor access is provided through the adjacent hinged door. Passage from the wagon drive to the horse feeding area occurs through the second bay in this aisle over the remaining joists of its original low floor structure, most of which now rest directly on the ground.

A cavernous hay loft stretches over the entirety of the barn's footprint, save for the two northernmost bays of the wagon drive. This portion of the drive was left open to the roof so that hay could be lifted from a wagon inside the barn and distributed onto the loft at any point beneath the track of the mechanical hayfork.

This wooden track remains suspended from a series of dedicated collar ties just beneath the ridge, still sporting its steel carrier though the hayfork itself is now gone. Narrow openings in the floor allow hay to be pitched downward into the aforementioned feed rack and manger below. Another small opening against the west wall of the barn services the milking floor, with a fixed wooden ladder rising from the second wall girt to the eave. Two more ladders are mounted at the southeast and northwest corners of the wagon drive opening, the former extending from floor to upper plate and the latter from chest height nearly to the ridge. The large offset opening in the gable is accessible only via this ladder.

The loft floor consists of circular-sawn 1"x8" boards oriented longitudinally over peeled log joists, which are hewn flat on top and bottom as necessary. Replacement boards of other dimensions exist in certain places, notably over the wagon drive. The floor over the top of the grain bins is battened in order to prevent hay from falling through (Photo 9). As with other lumber, plank flooring became commonly available in regular dimensions during this period.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Ibid., 39-40, 53.

<sup>17</sup> Gallagher and Nelson, "Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr."

<sup>18</sup> Stephen D. Beckham, "Cyrus (Henry) Barn," State of Oregon Inventory Historic Buildings and Sites, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 1976.

<sup>19</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 39, 57.

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A partitioned storage area of unknown date or purpose, possibly a grain bin, occupies the bay above the northernmost grain bin downstairs. It is partially enclosed with vertical boards extending a few feet inward from the north gable and along a portion of the second bent. The added gable opening sits directly over this space.

## Silos

The Henry and Mary Cyrus barn's wood stave silos represent the standard form of silo constructed in Linn County during the early-twentieth century.<sup>20</sup> They are comprised essentially of tongue-and-groove, vertical wooden staves held together with numerous iron hoops which are then tightened with turnbuckles. The staves rest upon a concentric circular concrete footing surrounding an earthen floor. Each structure is held fast by three steel cables which form overlapping, upside down "v"-patterns along the outer face of the silo, each connecting the uppermost hoop to two anchor bolts at opposing locations in the footing. The silos are covered by low-pitched gable roofs with ridges oriented parallel to that of the barn. This roof form was a standard original feature among early circular silos, but most of those silos that remain now bear other roof types which are round at their base.<sup>21</sup>

Although the silos are structurally independent from the barn, they are connected to the barn with sided enclosures that function as silage chutes. A two-foot-wide opening in the rear of each silo known as a "continuous door" rises within the full height of the chute, braced horizontally at two-foot intervals with two-by-fours that double as an integral ladder (Photo 15). This clever design allows the top of the silage to be reached and pitched downward without exposing people or feed to the winter elements. The silage pitched to the bottom of the chute would then be distributed to dairy cattle via the feed alley in the westernmost aisle of the barn. By maintaining a supply of this succulent feed source, the cows would continue to produce milk through the winter.<sup>22</sup>

Though fundamentally the same in their manner of construction, the two silos were executed differently in numerous details, which indicates different dates of construction. However, it is not clear which structure predates the other. Most apparent among these differences are the widths of their staves and the type of hoop utilized. The eastern silo incorporates wider staves than the western silo, and its hoops are comprised of steel rod as opposed to flat strips. Though portions of the roofs and eastern chute have disappeared, these structures appear to be essentially unaltered from their original construction.

## Alterations and Additions

The Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn retains the footprint of its original construction with the notable exception of its silos, which are now historically significant themselves. The silos were constructed during the 1930's, possibly around the same time that a loafing shed was added to the south elevation. That shed no longer stands. Siding was removed from a portion of the south elevation most likely when the shed was added, and corrugated metal has been applied over the siding on other portions of this elevation. Some structural deterioration has occurred in the area where the frame was left unprotected following the shed collapse. Siding and wall girts were removed from the southern three bays of the east elevation at some point during the twentieth century and these bays still remain open. Windows were added to the west elevation early in that century and have recently been replaced with wood sashes that are sympathetic to the originals and in the same locations, albeit with transparent polycarbonate sheets in place of glass. The east and west elevations were recently resided with board-and-batten siding of similar width to the north and south elevations, and were painted a color of grey that roughly approximates the weathered siding elsewhere on the building. A corrugated metal roof was laid over top of an earlier cedar shake roof likely during the mid-twentieth century. The shake roof is still visible from inside the barn.

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<sup>20</sup> Ibid., 99.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., 93.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., 91-92.



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The original design of this barn is still immediately evident on approach and under closer examination, even though individual elements of its composition have changed since its construction. Most material replacements are in-kind. The most significant deleterious alterations are somewhat hidden from public view, and to the extent that they are visible, they do little to impact the overall feeling of the structure. Few, if any, working buildings are able to maintain their utility over a 140-year period without some adaptation. The Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn prominently displays its most significant evolutionary trait—twin wood-stave silos—in virtually unaltered form. Given the prevalence of this addition to Linn County barns during the early-twentieth century, the Cyrus Barn is perhaps most noteworthy for the ensemble created by its intact original structure with intact silos.

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**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.)

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1884, Construction of barn

1930-1939, Addition of silos

**Significant Dates**

1884, Construction of barn

1930-1939, Addition of silos

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** (if applicable)

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The periods of significance for the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn under Criterion C in the area of Architecture are ca. 1884, the date of construction for the Cyrus Barn, and 1930-1939, the period during which the wood-stave silos were added. The original barn and its silo additions are each significant as exemplary of locally prevalent building trends during their respective periods. Exact dates of construction for the two silos are not known, but material evidence suggests that they were built at different times.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)** N/A

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn, also known as the Sam Schuler Barn, is proposed for nomination under the Multiple Property Document entitled, "Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1846-1946" (MPD). Built ca. 1884, this barn meets the registration requirements for the property type, "Barns of the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century," under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an increasingly rare and highly representative example of the pattern of features common to barns built in Linn County during this period, including timber-frame construction, mortise-and-tenon-joinery, regular-dimension sawn timbers, circular-sawn vertical siding attached with square nails, and a large full-width hay loft.<sup>23</sup> The original grain bins remain intact, and the mortised-and-tenoned wood stanchions may be the only remaining example of this important functional element from that era.<sup>24</sup> The Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn also meets the registration requirements for the property type, "Silos," under Criterion C in the area of Architecture due to the extreme rarity of its twin wood stave silos, which were common in Linn County during the early-twentieth century.<sup>25</sup> Reflecting differing construction dates, the periods of significance for this property are both ca. 1884 and 1930-1939—the times during which these structures were built. Though minor modifications have been made outside of its historically significant time periods, the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn maintains sufficient integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling to clearly convey its historic identity.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Barn design during the late-nineteenth century in Linn County is distinguished by the influence of newly available technologies and expanding agricultural markets, and thus reflects a change from subsistence-level agriculture to larger-scale commercial agriculture.<sup>26</sup> The arrival and expansion of the railroad network in Linn County during the 1870s and 1880s precipitated a boom in wheat production, as numerous depots up and down these lines brought export markets and technological advancements within a day's wagon trip of the average farmer, and within about a mile of the Cyrus farm.<sup>27</sup> Pioneer traditions slowly gave way to a more scientific approach to barn design disseminated through popular journals and catalogues, and the barn's form changed along with its function. Bent designs evolved to accommodate the mechanical hayfork, threshing floors disappeared, and materials became more processed due to the proliferation of sawmills. The ca. 1884 Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn exemplifies the full array of innovations in design, materials, and workmanship that came to define the modern working barn of the late-nineteenth century in this region as identified in the MPD and as discussed in the following paragraphs. It stands out among local examples for the degree to which it reveals its original design functionality through a variety of unaltered interior details.

The mechanical hayfork was a revolutionary force in barn design during this period.<sup>28</sup> It facilitated the efficient loading of much greater quantities of hay, which, in turn, fed more draft horses and livestock. To increase their storage capacity, barns grew taller and hay lofts expanded to create a whole second floor. Timber-frame bent design also changed in order to allow unencumbered movement of the hayfork beneath the ridge of the barn.<sup>29</sup> The Cyrus Barn retains the steel track and carrier from which its hayfork was suspended, and incorporates a

<sup>23</sup> For registration requirements for the property type, "Barns of the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century," see Gallagher, et. al, Multiple Property Document, 54-55. Though the Henry Cyrus Barn may also meet the eligibility requirements for listing under Criterion A in the area of agriculture, nomination under this criterion is not sought at this time due to a lack of available data on the farming operations with which the barn was associated during its periods of significance.

<sup>24</sup> Gallagher and Nelson, "Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr.," Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 59.

<sup>25</sup> Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 99.

<sup>26</sup> For more detailed information regarding the historical context of Linn County barn design and construction from 1871-1899, see Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 41-61.

<sup>27</sup> The Oregonian Railway was constructed along the western edge of the property in 1880, and a depot established at Crabtree. See Leslie M. Scott, "History of the Narrow Gauge Railroad in the Willamette Valley," *The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*, 20, no. 2 (1919): 141-58, accessed May 2014, Wikisource digital library.

<sup>28</sup> Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 52-53.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, 53, Figs. 30 and 31.

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full-width hay loft with its original flooring essentially intact. The posts supporting the secondary purlin plates in the Cyrus Barn are braced to their outside rather than with tie beams in order to provide a path for the hayfork.

Another technological advancement that significantly impacted barn design was the threshing machine. Beginning in the 1860s, horse-powered portable threshers moved from farm to farm in Linn County separating grain in the field, where the harvest might be sold on the spot.<sup>30</sup> Steam power improved the efficiency of this operation by the 1880s. As the need for grain storage in proportion to productive acreage diminished, smaller grain bins (often with removable slats) replaced dedicated lofts in new barns.<sup>31</sup> Threshing floors disappeared from them entirely. Both of these evolutionary traits are seen in the Cyrus Barn.

Building materials were generally more processed during this period, as more efficient mills with circular saws began turning out timbers of standard dimensions right alongside rafters and vertical board siding.<sup>32</sup> From skip sheathing to sills, the Cyrus barn's rough-sawn frame creates a visual tidiness and regularity that had never before been possible. Machine-cut nails were common for attaching smaller components, but timbers were still fastened together using mortise-and-tenon joinery.<sup>33</sup> Barn doors were no longer exclusively hinged; steel-track roller doors were used on a majority of the barns that remain from this period.<sup>34</sup> All of these features are present in the Cyrus Barn.

Though the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station recommended stall housing for dairy cows by 1897 due to their perceived sanitation benefits, stanchions were common before that time and remained so in the twentieth century.<sup>35</sup> The Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn features what are believed to be the oldest wood stanchions in the county—the only known example displaying pegged mortise-and-tenon joinery, similar to a design seen in the contemporaneous *Rural Affairs* publication.<sup>36</sup> This feature is particularly important as it singularly illustrates nineteenth-century materials and workmanship in a defining element of early barn use that has disappeared from other surviving examples of that era.

During the early decades of the twentieth century, dairying became an increasingly important part of the income stream for many farmers in Linn County.<sup>37</sup> Cows require a secure succulent food source in order to give milk year-round, and silos provided a way for farmers to store enough silage to last through the winter without spoiling.<sup>38</sup> In 1901, the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station published an article recommending the wooden-stave circular silo set upon a concrete foundation, located a few feet from the barn, and suggested that the space between the two could be enclosed with a door leading to the barn.<sup>39</sup> Though early circular silos were constructed with gable roofs, later designs incorporated conical or domed roofs better suited to the silo's form.<sup>40</sup> The wood stave silo became a standard feature on the in Linn County landscape during the early decades of the twentieth century.<sup>41</sup>

The pair of wood stave silos that Sam Schuler constructed in the 1930s now survive as extremely rare and highly visible examples of this type of structure in Linn County, particularly in their retention of the early gable roof form. The Historic Context Statement identifies wood stave silos as significant under Criterion C due to their rarity.<sup>42</sup> As of 1997, fewer than ten wood-stave silos were known to exist in the county, and it is likely that

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<sup>30</sup> Ibid., 47.

<sup>31</sup> Philip Dole, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley," in *Space, Style and Structure: Building in Northwest America*, ed. Thomas Vaughan and Virginia Guest Ferriday (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 213.

<sup>32</sup> Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 57, Table 5.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., 58.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid., 59-60.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid., Gallagher and Nelson, "Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr.," J.J. Thomas, *Illustrated Annual Register of Rural Affairs* (Albany, NY: Luther Tucker & Son, 1878), 8:234-235.

<sup>37</sup> For more information on the rise of dairying in Linn County, see Gallagher, et. al, *Historic Context Statement*, 64-67.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., 91-92.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., 92-93.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid., 93.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid., 99.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

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this number has further diminished given that several were cited as being in poor condition at that time.<sup>43</sup> Furthermore, these constitute the only remaining example of multiple wood-stave silos in the county.<sup>44</sup>

While detracting in minor ways, alterations to the barn have not substantially impacted its overall appearance. The original framing, spatial arrangement, and form are incredibly intact. Siding on the main elevation is historic, and replacement siding on the east and west elevations mimic the original in type and width, which is considered acceptable under the MPD registration requirements.<sup>45</sup> Though the replacement siding has been painted in a non-historic grey, it does not contrast heavily with the weathered patina of the other elevations. The recently replaced windows on the west elevation approximate their historic predecessors in size and configuration, and the non-historic polycarbonate material is only apparent upon close examination. The added windows on the east elevation are similarly small in size and overall visual impact. Areas of removed siding are confined to the rear elevation and the rear portion of the east elevation, which are least visible from public view. Metal roofing, while non-historic, is identified in the MPD as “almost a universal feature of the Linn County barn” due to the expense of shingle or shake roofs and is therefore considered acceptable.<sup>46</sup> Because the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn retains most of its cedar shakes beneath the metal roof, the historic appearance from the interior of the barn is still essentially intact. Though metal cladding is not considered desirable, its presence is confined to a few panels on the south elevation, which is not visible from the public right-of-way. Structural deterioration is also confined primarily to the weather-exposed portions of that elevation, and could likely be repaired without replacement of any major components at this time.

## Comparative Analysis

Few examples of late-nineteenth century end-opening barns are known to survive in Linn County. The Oregon State Historic Preservation Office's database of historic properties identifies thirty-six barns constructed between 1871 and 1899.<sup>47</sup> A review of each of their survey forms reveals that among these, eighteen are of the “end-opening” subtype. However, only eleven remain visible in current satellite images. Of those eleven, the McMahan Barn, Shindler Barn, and Eagy Hay Barn bear some exterior resemblance to the Cyrus Barn in terms of massing, ornament (or lack thereof), and integrity. Only the McMahan Barn has been recorded at the intensive level with any information on its interior and layout.

The ca. 1880s McMahan Barn, located near Halsey, is a three-aisle, four-bay configuration with added sheds on all but the main elevation.<sup>48</sup> These create a slight break in the pitch of the gable roof and give the barn a wider, lower appearance. It has a sawn mortise-and-tenoned timber frame with a simpler post-to-purlin plate configuration rather than a secondary post-to-purlin plate. It retains a high degree of exterior integrity except for the shed additions, with a few notable distinguishing features: the gable on the main elevation is cantilevered 5” out over the lower portion of the wall, and the wagon doors rest on strap hinges rather than rollers. The interior also retained substantial integrity as of the 1996 survey, including an aisle of walled grain bins and a full second floor hayloft that now spans the central wagon drive but did not originally. The aisle opposite the grain bins has had its features removed but is believed to have housed livestock. This barn does not contain milking stanchions. It is also not visible from the public right-of-way.

There is currently one late-nineteenth century end-opening barn listed in the National Register under the MPD, “Barns of Linn County, Oregon, 1846-1946.” This is the ca. 1888 James Alexander and Elmarion Smith Barn, also near Halsey.<sup>49</sup> Like the Cyrus Barn, it has a sawn timber frame with mortise-and-tenon joinery and similar

<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

<sup>44</sup> Gallagher and Nelson, “Cyrus Barn at 37964 Balm Dr.”

<sup>45</sup> Gallagher, et. al, Multiple Property Document, 54. Acceptable alterations are only defined under the registration requirements for Criterion A, and are therefore the ones referenced in this section.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> Search parameters used were Linn County (location), “barn” (property name), building (resource type), and 1871-1899 (construction dates).

<sup>48</sup> Gallagher and Dasch, “McMahan Barn,” *Linn County Inventory of Historic Properties*, Historic Barn Survey Form, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 1996.

<sup>49</sup> National Register of Historic Places, James Alexander and Elmarion Smith Barn and Lame-Smith House, Halsey, Linn County, Oregon.

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massing with a medium-pitched gable roof. However, the Smith Barn is more of a “specialty barn,” constructed to house horses raised for fire and police departments rather than for general agriculture. Accordingly, it has a different functional arrangement with a central wagon drive flanked by two stock aisles. The Smith Barn is distinguished most significantly by its highly ornamented and painted exterior incorporating wide frieze and rake boards, various profiled moldings, window openings with operable slat blinds, and two prominent wooden ventilation cupolas. It also has a shed addition on the rear gabled elevation.

Identifying comparative examples of wood-stave silos through the Oregon Historic Sites Database is difficult given that silos are not recorded as separate resources and the barns with which they are associated span many decades of construction. However, one clear example is the wood stave silo attached to the Della Fletcher Crabtree Barn, located approximately one-half mile east of the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn on the north side of Balm Dr. (not visible from the public right-of-way). According to the 1990s survey documentation, this is one of two silos constructed on that elevation in the 1930s in essentially the same configuration as those on the Cyrus Barn. The D.F. Crabtree silo differs in that it has a conical metal roof with a spike finial, which may likely have replaced an earlier roof following damage incurred by the Columbus Day Storm of 1962.<sup>50</sup>

Compared to similar barns, the Cyrus barn exhibits a unique combination of features, including the substantially intact wood stave silos that set it distinctly apart from similar historic properties. Though the end-opening type predominates among late-nineteenth century barns in Linn County, fewer than a dozen remain standing today. None retains as complete an array of features related to its original function, particularly wooden milking stanchions. The silos may be the only remaining examples in the county to exhibit the early gable roof form.

### **The Cyrus Farm, 1884-1907**

The Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn was constructed ca. 1884 on the donation land claim of Della Fletcher Crabtree, a prosperous farmer whose property had grown to include 724 acres since he and his family arrived from Jackson County, Missouri in the autumn of 1846.<sup>51</sup> They had been among the first Anglos to settle in the fertile area between the forks of the Santiam River, a process which began in the spring of that year with the arrival of brother John J. Crabtree.<sup>52</sup> All were natives of Lee County, Virginia. Della Fletcher and Phoebe Crabtree built their homestead on the eastern portion of their claim just north of present-day Balm Drive and west of Brewster Road.<sup>53</sup>

In the early 1860s they constructed a transitional end-opening barn in this location which remains standing.<sup>54</sup> Though lower in profile and lacking a sawn frame, this barn shares a similar footprint and layout to the Henry and Mary Cyrus Barn and may have informed the design of the latter. Like the Cyrus Barn, its orientation is north-south with the primary entrance on the north elevation. The main volume contains three aisles flanked by integral lean-tos rather than four aisles within a main volume, but the known functional arrangement is similar: a central wagon drive with walled grain bins to the west and milking stanchions beyond (now removed). The original function of the eastern aisle and lean-to are unclear, but it is conceivable that the shed may have sheltered draft horses as in the eastern aisle of the Cyrus Barn. Interestingly, a pair of wood stave silos was also constructed on the north elevation in the 1930s in much the same manner and arrangement as those on the Cyrus Barn, though one has been removed and the other lacks its original roof.

<sup>50</sup> Gallagher and Dasch, “Della Fletcher Crabtree Barn at 38201 Balm Dr,” *Linn County Inventory of Historic Properties*, Historic Barn Survey Form, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 1996.

<sup>51</sup> John Miles and Richard R. Milligan, *Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Oregon Territory Donation Land Claim Families to 1855* (Albany, Oregon: Miles and Milligan, 1983), 2:20, 13:34-36; Edgar Williams, et al., *Linn County - Map Number Four* [digital image] (San Francisco: Edgar Williams & Co., 1878), accessed April 2014, Historic Map Works, Rare Historic Maps Collection.

<sup>52</sup> Edgar Williams, et al., *Marion and Linn County Biographical Sketches 009* [digital image] (San Francisco: Edgar Williams & Co., 1878), accessed April 2014, Historic Map Works, Rare Historic Maps Collection. Biographical sketch of John J. Crabtree.

<sup>53</sup> Edgar Williams, et al., *Linn County - Map Number Four* [digital image] (San Francisco: Edgar Williams & Co., 1878), accessed April 2014, Historic Map Works, Rare Historic Maps Collection.

<sup>54</sup> Gallagher and Dasch, “Della Fletcher Crabtree Barn at 38201 Balm Dr.”

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By 1880 the D.F. Crabtree farm had become one of the largest, most productive, and most valuable in the area according to the Farm Schedule of the U.S. Census that year.<sup>55</sup> Oats, hay, and Irish potatoes were grown in large quantities, but the greatest portion of its tilled acreage was devoted to wheat production—Linn County's new specialty crop.<sup>56</sup> The decade prior had seen grain production double across the county following the arrival of the Oregon and California Railroad in 1871, bringing with it access to foreign markets and a whole host of mechanical innovations that were transforming local agriculture.<sup>57</sup> This access would improve dramatically for the D.F. Crabtree farm after 1880, when the narrow gauge Oregonian Railway was constructed through the western portion of the property and a depot established immediately to the north, in what would eventually become the town of Crabtree.<sup>58</sup>

In June of that year, Della Fletcher and Phoebe Crabtree's youngest daughter, Mary, became married to a grain warehouse agent in Jefferson by the name of Henry Cyrus.<sup>59</sup> Born in 1848, Henry was the fifth child of William and Mary Ann Cyrus, who the year prior had settled a claim just a few miles to the east on Crabtree Creek.<sup>60</sup> Like the Crabtrees, the Cyrus family came to Oregon from Jackson County, Missouri.<sup>61</sup> William is reported to have built the first timber-frame house in the area between the forks of the Santiam around 1856, hauling the lumber one wagon load at a time from Oregon City due to the lack of a sawmill nearby.<sup>62</sup> Perhaps it was no coincidence, then, that he and sons Henry and Enoch established a sawmill on Crabtree Creek in 1860—the first in the area now known as Larwood.<sup>63</sup> The brothers each acquired several parcels of land near the mill and continued to operate it until 1878.<sup>64</sup>

After living together briefly in Jefferson and then three years in Scio, Henry and Mary Cyrus moved onto the southern portion of her father's claim where they started a farm of their own.<sup>65</sup> At that time, around 1884, the present barn was reportedly constructed on this land by men named "Spires and Crabtree."<sup>66</sup> A small, Italianate farmhouse was constructed soon after, which was recently replaced with a new house in the same location.<sup>67</sup> Henry also served two terms in the State Legislature during this time—from 1882 until 1886.<sup>68</sup>

Little is known regarding the specifics of the Cyrus farming operation, but evidence suggests that they were well poised to take advantage of the new technologies and expanding agricultural markets made available to them via the adjacent railroad. Linn County wheat production surpassed one million bushels in 1884, and Henry's father had acquired the first grain binder in the area (likely via the railroad) only two years prior.<sup>69</sup> This device would have significantly increased the amount of wheat that could be threshed in a single day on their farm, and then loaded onto the train in short order.

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<sup>55</sup> 1880 United States Federal Census, Santiam Precinct, Linn County, Oregon, p. 14, 20 (digital image), accessed April 2014, Ancestry.com

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

<sup>57</sup> Charles Olaf Olsen, *History of Linn County, Oregon*, Works Projects Administration Writer's Program, in Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 41-42.

<sup>58</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 42; Edgar Williams, et al., *Linn County - Map Number Four* [digital image].

<sup>59</sup> "Linn County Old Timer," in Miles and Milligan 13:36; 1880 United States Federal Census, Jefferson Precinct, Linn County, Oregon, page 24 (digital image), accessed April 2014, Ancestry.com.

<sup>60</sup> Miles and Milligan 1:26, 29.

<sup>61</sup> Miles and Milligan 1:29.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.; O.B. Cyrus, Works Progress Administration interview by Leslie L. Haskin, July 16, 1940, in Miles and Milligan, 1:103-104. O.B. Cyrus is a son of William Cyrus and half-brother of Henry Cyrus.

<sup>63</sup> Miles and Milligan, 1:29; Edgar Williams, et al., *Linn County - Map 04, Scio, Sweet Home* [digital image]. Detailed map shows "Cyrus Saw Mill" on Crabtree Creek, immediately east of present-day Larwood Dr.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> "Linn County Old Timer," in Miles and Milligan.

<sup>66</sup> Beckham; Sam Schuler, interview by Paul Dykost on handwritten note, March 24, 1992. "Built by" may not refer to the actual builders but to the farmers who owned/used the barn: Crabtree and Cyrus (which may bear phonetic resemblance to "Spires"). Statewide search of public records on Ancestry.com did not yield any likely candidates with latter surname.

<sup>67</sup> Beckham.

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> David Halbakken, "A History of Wheat Growing in Oregon During the Nineteenth Century" (master's thesis, University of Oregon, 1948), 117-118, in Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 42; Miles and Milligan, 1:30. A grain binder was a horse-drawn implement that reaped the crop and then bound it into sheaves, which would be stacked in the field for threshing.

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The success of Henry and Mary Cyrus' farm was such that she was able to purchase 200 acres from her parents in 1890, including the recently built house and barn.<sup>70</sup> The following decade saw a decline in wheat yields across the county, however, as the results of monocropping became evident.<sup>71</sup> The local economic situation was further hampered by the Panic of 1893, and the Cyrus farm was listed as mortgaged in 1900.<sup>72</sup>

1901 saw the death of Della Fletcher Crabtree—one year after Phoebe—while living with Henry and Mary.<sup>73</sup> Henry may have been farming an additional 280 acres on the northwestern portion of Mr. Crabtree's land as well, which he sold as guardian of the Crabtree estate in 1906.<sup>74</sup> By that time, Henry's own health had begun to fail. Mary sold their 200 acres the following summer, and the couple moved to Corvallis where Henry died in October.<sup>75</sup> Mary remained there until her death in 1946.<sup>76</sup>

### The Schuler Farm, 1928-1998

In 1913, Swiss immigrants Franz (a.k.a. Frank) and Eliza Schuler, of Champoeg, acquired a 75-acre parcel of the former D.F Crabtree claim across Balm Drive from the Henry Cyrus barn.<sup>77</sup> They built a bungalow farmhouse for their family along with a number of outbuildings that remain in place today. In 1927, eight years after purchasing the county's first log truck, sons Sam and Paul took over their father's "general farming" operation.<sup>78</sup> Sam became married the following year, at which time he and wife Anna acquired a 20-acre parcel across Balm Dr, including the Henry Cyrus house and barn.<sup>79</sup>

Sam added two silos to the barn in succession during his first decade of ownership, possibly with the help of his older brother Albert, a nearby farmer who began working as a carpenter in home construction during this period.<sup>80</sup> With these silos, Sam could feed a larger herd of dairy cows for year-round milk production.<sup>81</sup>

This shift in the use of the barn coincides with a broader trend in Linn County toward dairying in the early-twentieth century, reportedly spurred in part by a campaign by the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Oregon Agricultural College.<sup>82</sup> The latter entity, via the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, published recommendations for the construction of circular wood-stave silos in precisely the manner by which Sam Schuler's were constructed.<sup>83</sup> As dairying became a more specialized activity during the 1920s and 30s, farmers had to increase the size of their herds in order to remain profitable.<sup>84</sup> By 1923, Linn County had more dairy cows than any other county in the state.<sup>85</sup> By 1940, Sam Schuler's farm was listed independently in the U.S. Census from that of his brother Paul across the road.<sup>86</sup> Only minor changes were made to the barn in

<sup>70</sup> Linn County Clerk, *Direct Index of Deeds*, vol. 1, bk. 38, 181.

<sup>71</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 43.

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*, 42; 1900 United States Federal Census, Santiam Precinct, Linn County, Oregon, sheet 10 (digital image), accessed April 2014, Ancestry.com.

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*, Miles and Milligan, 13:34.

<sup>74</sup> Linn County Clerk, *Direct Index of Deeds*, vol. 1.

<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*; "Linn County Old Timer," in Miles and Milligan 13:36.

<sup>76</sup> "Linn County Old Timer," in Miles and Milligan 13:36.

<sup>77</sup> Linn County Clerk, *Indirect Index of Deeds*, vol. 8, 52.

<sup>78</sup> Oregon State Board of Health, Frank Schuler Certificate of Death (digital image), Linn Genealogical Society, accessed May 2014, <<http://www.lgsoregon.org/lgstng/showmedia.php?medialD=12800&medialinkID=12800>>; Samuel Schuler obituary, *Lebanon Express*, December 16, 1998; 1930 United States Federal Census, Santiam Precinct, Linn County, Oregon, sheet 5A (digital image), accessed April 2014, Ancestry.com.

<sup>79</sup> Social Security Administration, *Social Security Death Index, Master File*, Samuel Schuler (Oregon, 1955-1956), accessed May 2014, Ancestry.com; Metzger, *Township 11 S., Range 2 W* [map]. Sam Schuler is registered name on 20-acre parcel containing barn.

<sup>80</sup> Beckham; 1940 United States Federal Census, Santiam Precinct, Linn County, Oregon, sheets 5B, 6B (digital image), accessed April 2014, Ancestry.com; Metzger, *Township 11 S., Range 2 W*. Albert apparently ceased farming his own land during the 1930s and began working under the employment of a home builder.

<sup>81</sup> Gallagher, et al., *Historic Context Statement*, 92.

<sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*, 65.

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*, 92-93.

<sup>84</sup> *Ibid.*, 103.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*, 104.

<sup>86</sup> 1940 United States Federal Census.



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subsequent decades. On December 3, 1998, at age 98, Sam Schuler died on the farm that he had stewarded for seventy years.<sup>87</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> Social Security Administration.

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Samuel Schuler obituary. *Lebanon Express*. December 16, 1998.

Schuler, Sam. Interview by Paul Dykost on handwritten note. March 24, 1992.

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Thomas, J.J.. *Illustrated Annual Register of Rural Affairs*, vol. 8. Albany, NY: Luther Tucker & Son, 1878.

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Cyrus, Henry, Barn  
Name of Property

Linn Co., OR  
County and State

**Bibliography Continued:**

Williams, Edgar, et al. *Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties, Oregon*. San Francisco: Edgar Williams & Co., 1878. From Historic Map Works, Rare Historic Maps Collection. Accessed April and May 2014.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository(ies): N/A

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Cyrus, Henry, Barn  
Name of Property

Linn Co., OR  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>44.624164</u>	<u>-122.8805012</u>	3	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	<u></u>	<u></u>	4	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated Henry Cyrus Barn is located within tax lot number 600 in township 11S, range 02W, section 12 in Linn County, Oregon. The nominated property encompasses a rectangular area of less than one acre measuring 140' north to south and 90' east to west. The northern boundary is the property line at Balm Road, extending from a point twenty feet west of the barn to a point 20' east of the barn. The nominated boundary extends directly southward from this line to a parallel line forty feet south of the barn.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area encompasses all resources that were present during the periods of significance and the immediate historic setting. These include the barn, a former shed extension to its south, and a lone mature English walnut tree to its north.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Aaron Smith date March 2, 2015  
organization N/A telephone (503) 345-1880  
street & number 816 Adams St. email Aaronb43@gmail.com  
city or town Eugene state OR zip code 97402

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Regional Location Map**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Tax Lot Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

Cyrus, Henry, Barn  
Name of Property

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

**Name of Property:** Cyrus, Henry, Barn  
**City or Vicinity:** Lebanon  
**County:** Linn **State:** Oregon  
**Photographer:** Aaron Smith  
**Date Photographed:** 11 April 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0001  
View from western approach on Balm Drive, looking east/southeast (Cascades in background)
- Photo 2 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0002  
Oblique view, north and west elevations
- Photo 3 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0003  
North elevation, with English Walnut tree in foreground
- Photo 4 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0004  
Oblique view, north and east elevations
- Photo 5 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0005  
Oblique view, south and west elevations. Debris from south wall of former lean-to visible in foreground.
- Photo 6 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0006  
Detail view, steel track and roller hardware atop sliding main entrance doors
- Photo 7 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0007  
Facing southwest toward rear grain bins, with stanchions in the background to the west
- Photo 8 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0008  
Facing south from main entrance doors, with front grain bins to the right and hay loft above
- Photo 9 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0009  
Hay loft and timber frame, facing northeast, with bent #4 in foreground
- Photo 10 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0010  
Former horse stall aisle, facing north, with feed rack to the west and log joists above

Cyrus, Henry, Barn  
Name of Property

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**Photos Continued:**

- Photo 11 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0011  
Substructure detail of log joists saddle notched over girder, immediately north of feed rack facing northwest
- Photo 12 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0012  
Wood stanchions, possibly original, facing south/southwest in rear portion of barn
- Photo 13 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0013  
Stanchion detail showing pegged joinery and hand-forged hardware (facing west/southwest)
- Photo 14 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0014  
West upper purlin plate in bent #3, showing bridled half lap scarf joint and cedar shake roof
- Photo 15 of 15:** OR\_LinnCounty\_HenryCyrusBarn\_0015  
Upward view into silo chute and ladder, between barn wall and west silo, facing north

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 23

Cyrus, Henry and Mary, Barn
Name of Property Linn Co., OR
County and State Barns of Linn Co., Oregon, 1846-1946
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

### List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

**Figure 1:** General location map

**Figure 2:** Local location map

**Figure 3:** Tax lot map

**Figure 4:** Cyrus Barn site plan

**Figure 5:** Cyrus Barn floor plan

**Figure 6:** Cyrus Barn bent sketch

**Figure 7:** Detail of 1852 General Land Office donation claim survey map showing D.F. Crabtree claim

**Figure 8:** Detail of 1930 Metsker Map with Sam Schuler (Cyrus Barn) property indicated

**Figure 9:** 1976 State of Oregon Inventory of Historic Buildings and Sites survey photo showing north and west elevations

**Figure 10:** 1996 Linn County Historic Barn Survey photo showing north and west elevations

**Figure 11:** 1976 survey photo looking southeast from wagon drive toward horse feeding area

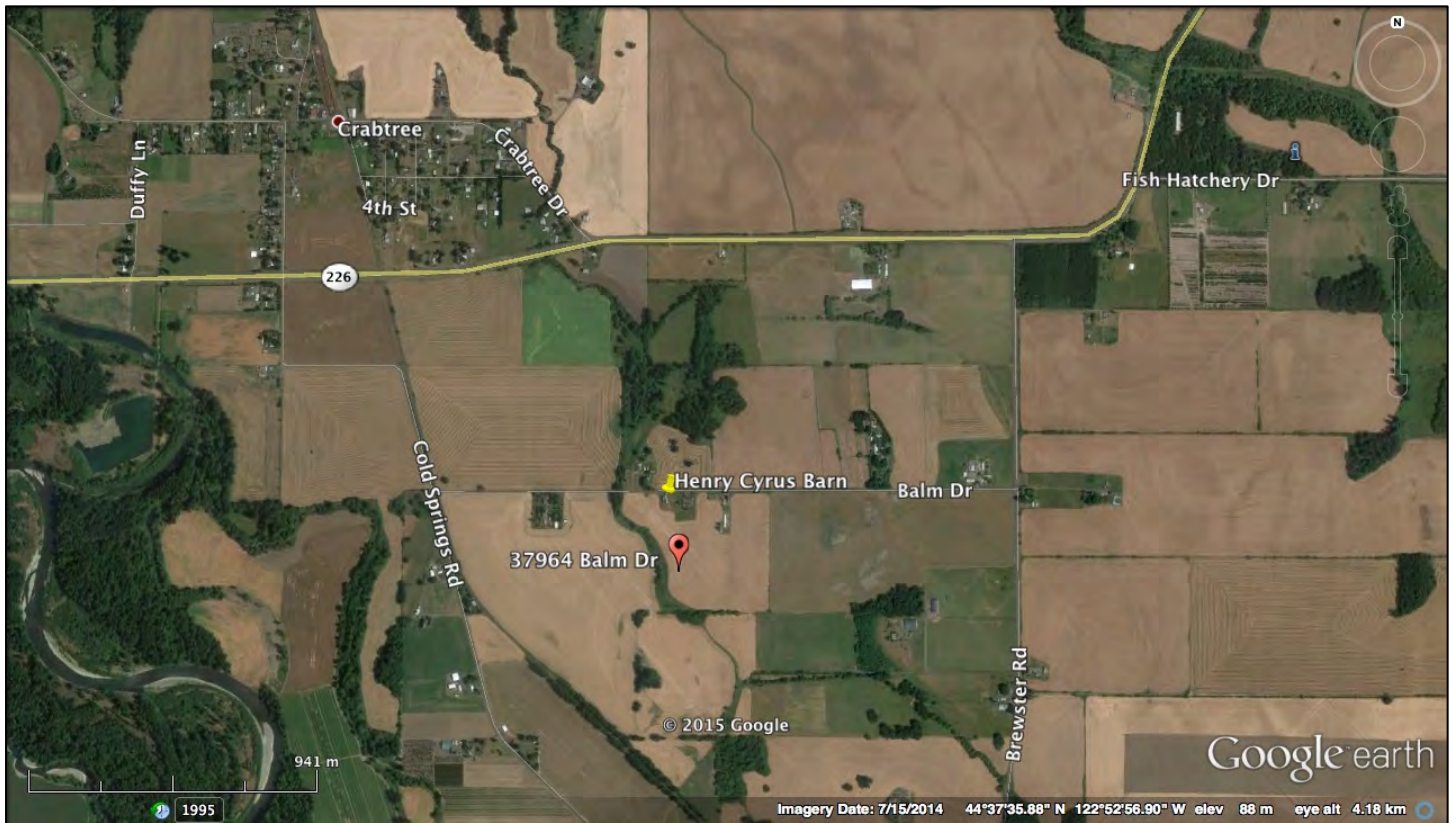
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cyrus, Henry and Mary, Barn
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**Figure 1:** General location map, Henry Cyrus Barn; Latitude: 44.624164, Longitude: -122.885012





United States Department of the Interior  
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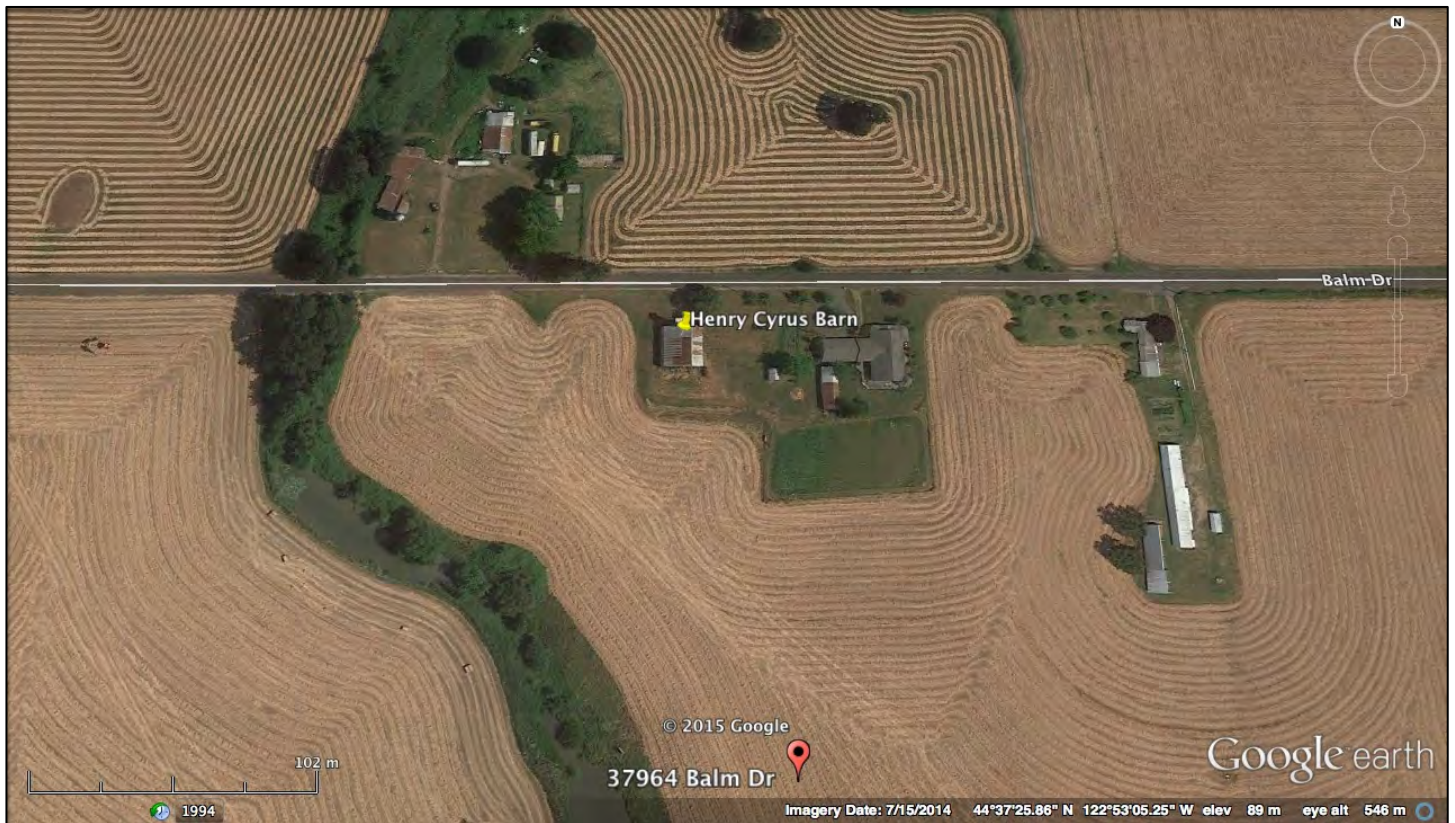
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Figure 2:** Local location map, Henry Cyrus Barn; Latitude: 44.624164, Longitude: -122.885012



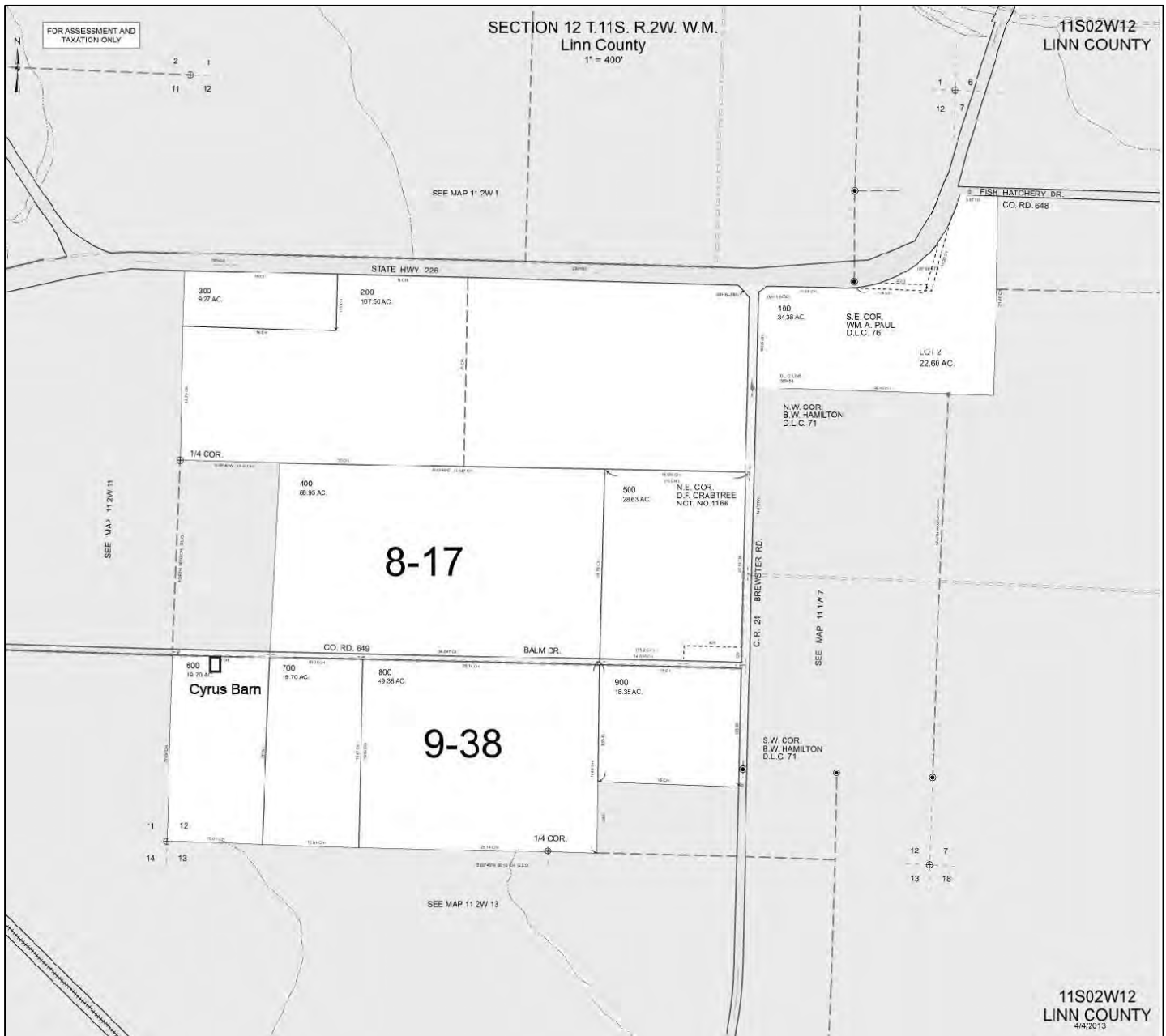
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National Park Service

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Figure 3: Tax lot map, Current (2013) Linn County tax lot map with Cyrus Barn indicated



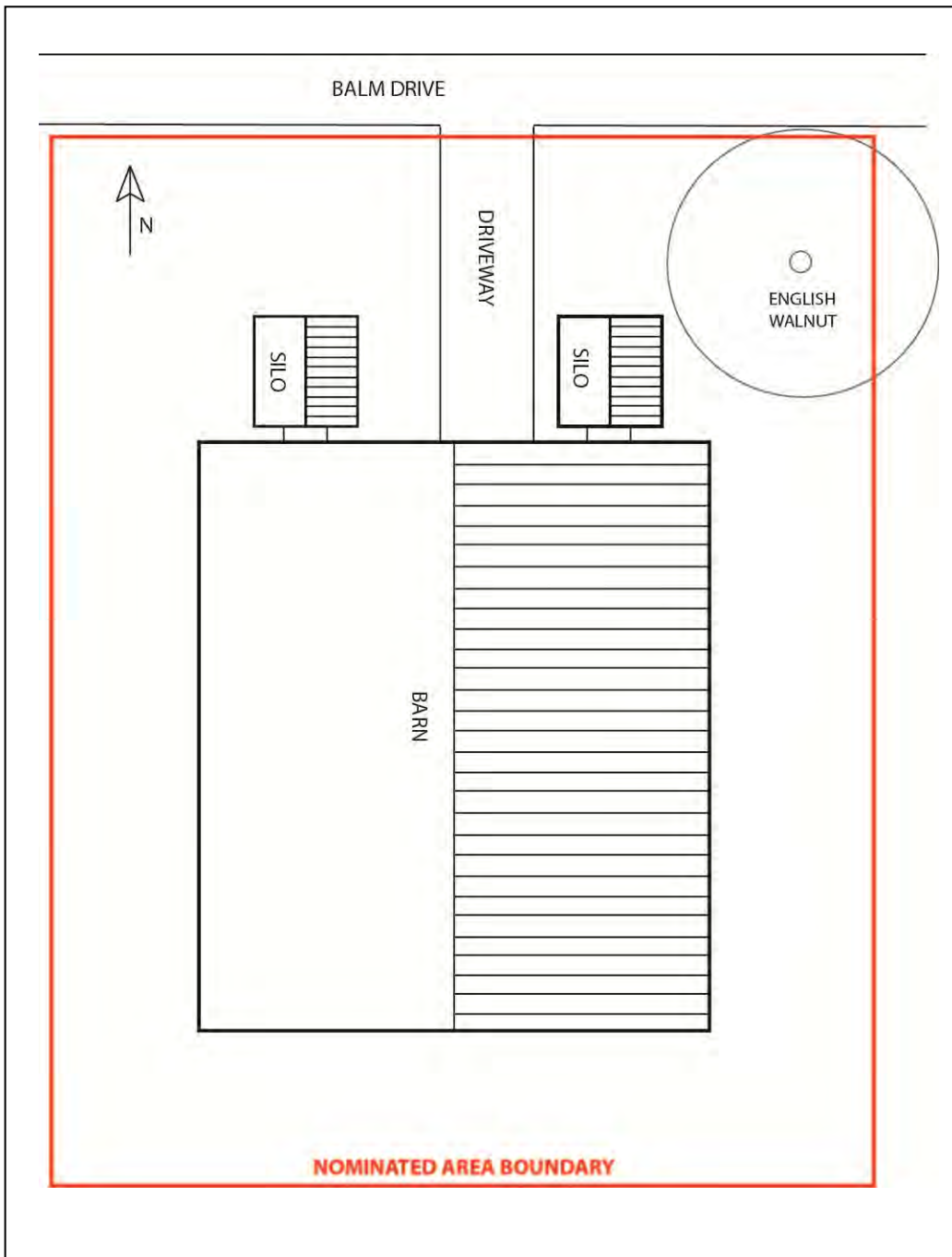
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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**Figure 4:** Cyrus Barn site plan. Overall building dimensions are 52' east-to-west and 60' north-to-south. (Not to scale)



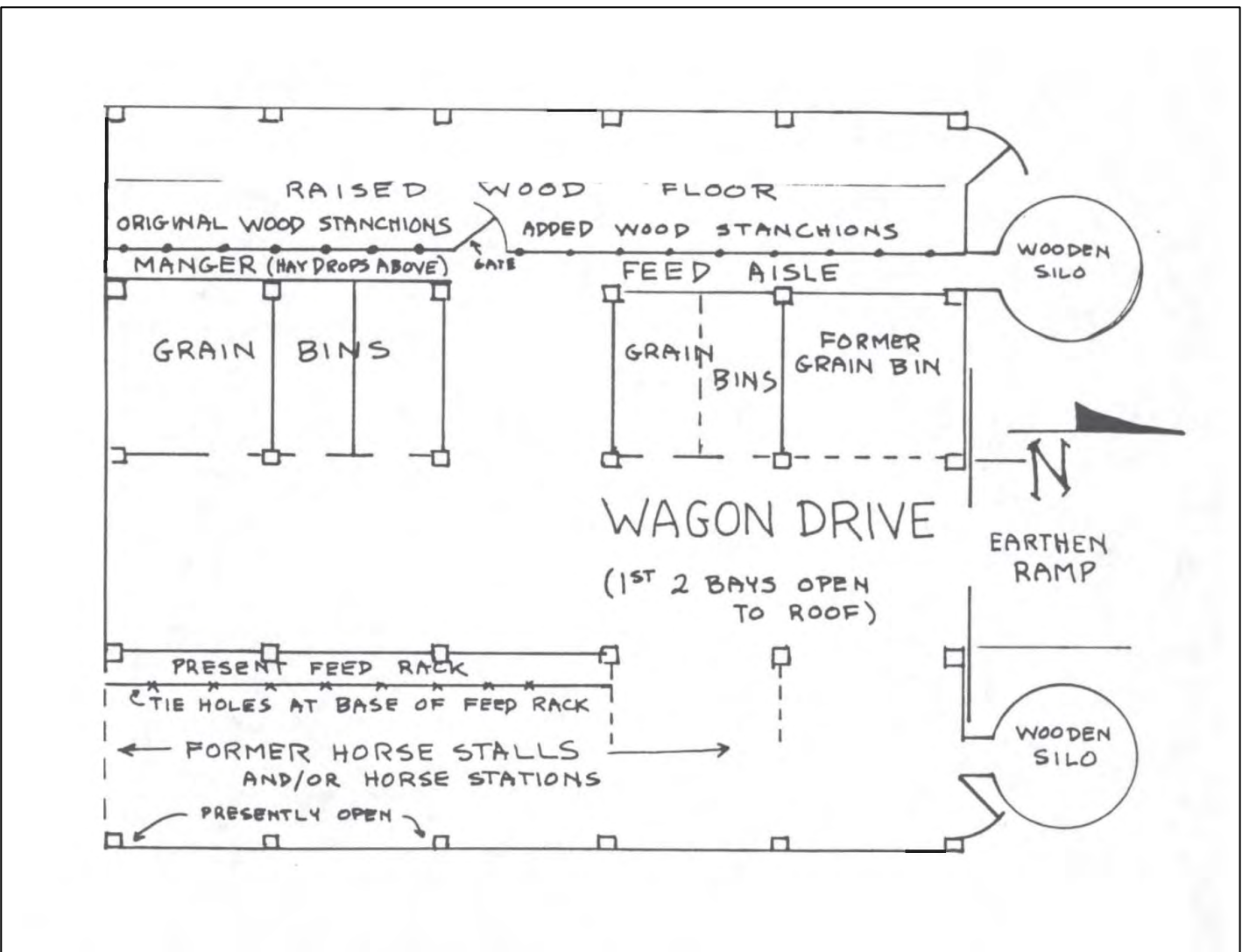
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Cyrus, Henry and Mary, Barn  
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**Figure 5:** Cyrus Barn floor plan. Edited from 1996 survey. Overall building dimensions are 52' east-to-west and 60' north-to-south. (Not to scale)



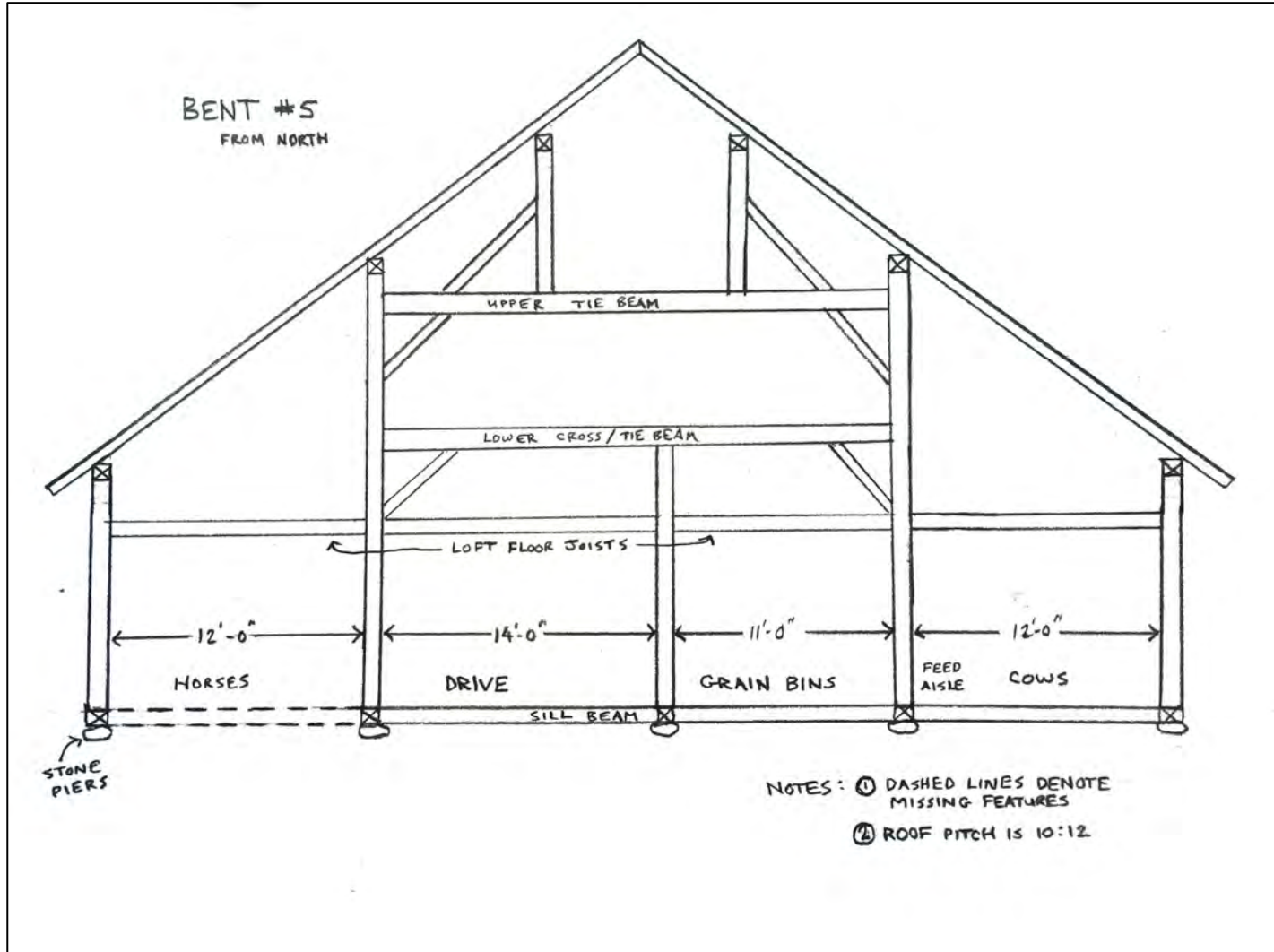
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Figure 6: Cyrus Barn bent sketch, Bent #5, from north. (Not to scale)



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Figure 7: Detail of 1852 General Land Office donation claim survey map showing D.F. Crabtree claim



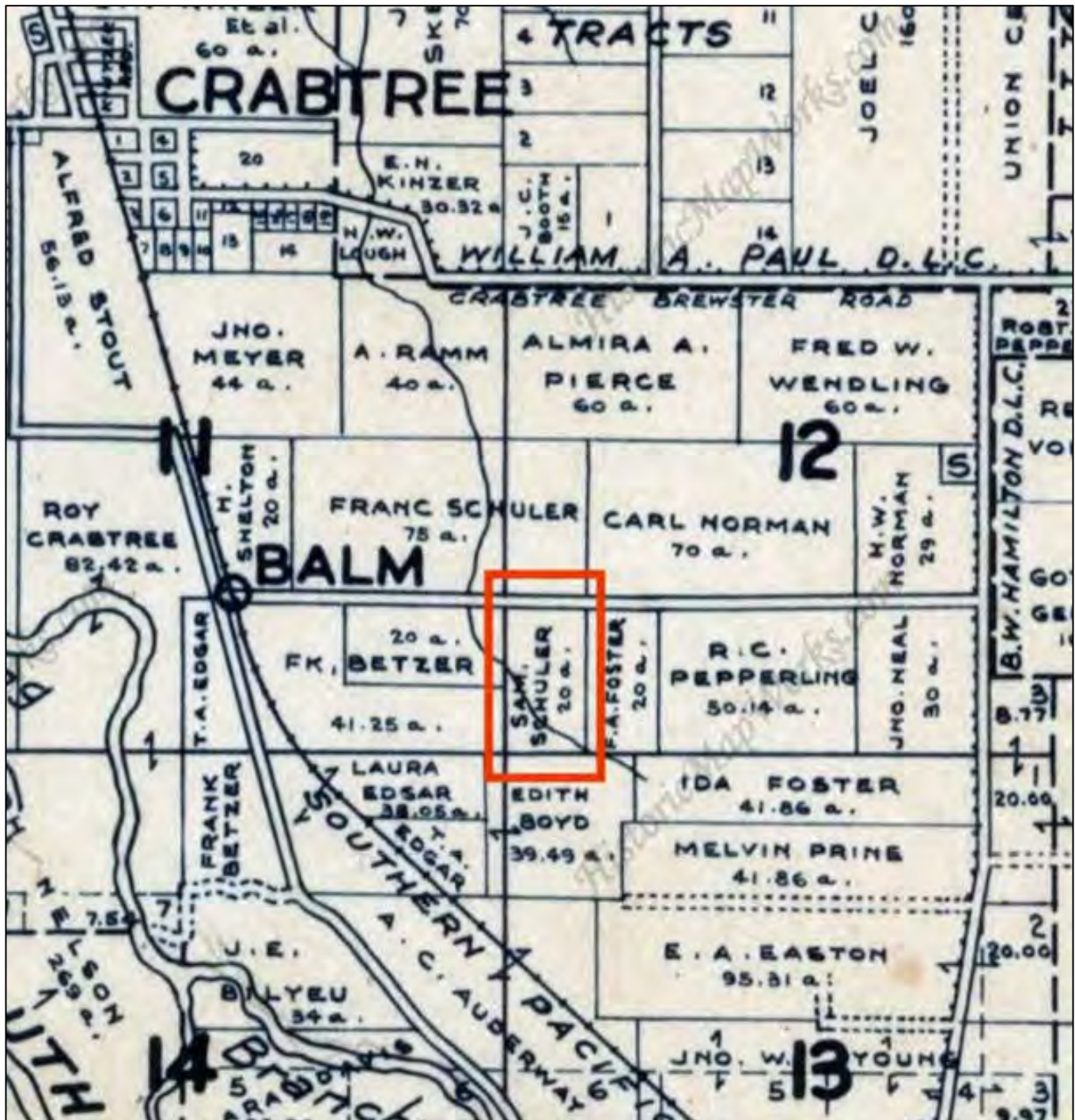
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Figure 8: Detail of 1930 Metsker Map with Sam Schuler (Cyrus Barn) property indicated



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**Figure 9:** 1976 State of Oregon Inventory of Historic Buildings and Sites survey photo showing north and west elevations.





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**Figure 10:** 1996 Linn County Historic Barn Survey photo showing north and west elevations



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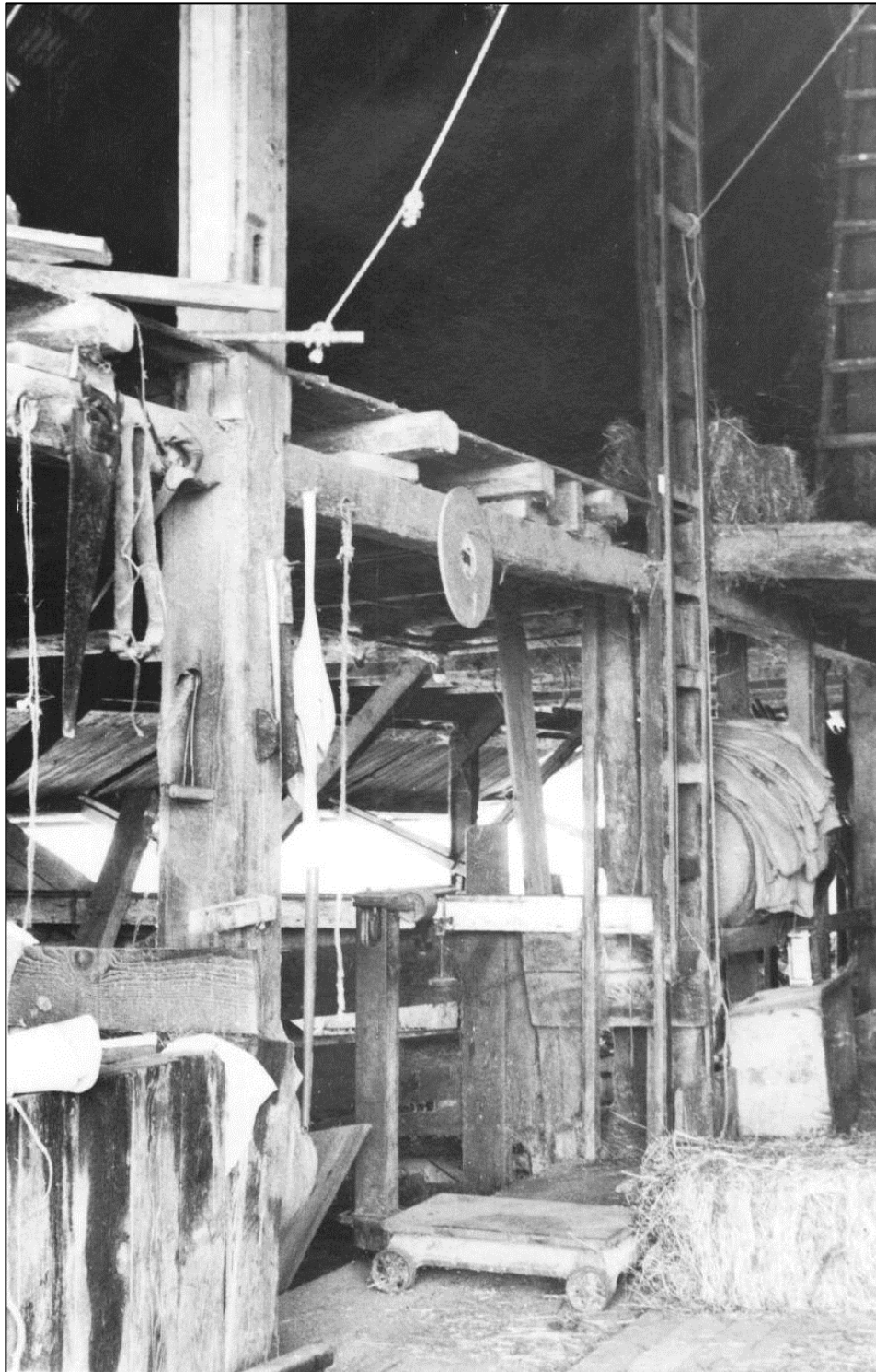
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**Figure 11:** 1976 survey photo looking southeast from wagon drive toward horse feeding area.





































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cyrus, Henry and Mary, Barn

MULTIPLE NAME: Barns of Linn County, Oregon MPS

STATE & COUNTY: OREGON, Linn

DATE RECEIVED: 9/25/15                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/19/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/03/15                  DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/10/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000778

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    11.9.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

**Parks and Recreation Department**

State Historic Preservation Office

725 Summer St NE Ste C

Salem, OR 97301-1266

Phone (503) 986-0690

Fax (503) 986-0793

[www.oregonheritage.org](http://www.oregonheritage.org)

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**SEP 25 2015**

**Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service**



September 17, 2015

J. Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places  
USDOI National Park Service - Cultural Resources  
1201 Eye Street NW, 8th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Mr. Loether:

At the recommendation of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I hereby nominate the following historic property to the National Register of Historic Places:

**CYRUS, HENRY AND MARY, BARN**  
37964 BALM DR  
LEBANON VCTY, LINN COUNTY

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination listed above to the National Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If questions arise, please contact Ian Johnson, National Register & Survey Coordinator, at (503) 986-0678.

Sincerely,

Christine Curran  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.

