NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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received NOV 25 1986
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Mathew Eylar Barn (2) - Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County (TR) 043-0000-0460

and or common Anderson Barn

2. Location

se of Denton, off KS 20

street & number NE¼, NE¼, SW¼, NW¼, S36, T4S, R 19E ___ not for publication

city, town Denton X vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Doniphan code 43

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	X agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	N/A in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	N/A being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Anderson Ridge Farms and Lowell Anderson

street & number N/A

city, town Denton X vicinity of state Kansas 66017

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street & number Doniphan County Courthouse

city, town Troy state Kansas 66087

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Doniphan County Cultural Resources Survey has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date 1985 ___ federal ___ state ___ county X local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society, 120 W. 10th

city, town Topeka state Kansas 66612

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_X_ original site
_X_ good	___ ruins	_X_ altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Mathew Eylar Barn (2) (ca. 1933) is located on the Anderson Farm near Denton, Kansas (pop. 156). The one-story, center entrance, vertically planked, metal sheathed, gambrel roof barn is built into the side of a bluff with a cement supporting wall. The superstructure is supported by nailed, balloon framing. The barn has a north to south orientation, measuring one hundred and twenty-four feet from east to west and seventy feet from north to south. The barn is built into the northern bluff.

The northern elevation is comprised of a center, projecting, gable entrance flanked by the metal sheathed, gambrel roof slopes on either side. A poured cement silo with steel cable wrappings abuts the western corner of the barn's north side. The silo has no cap. Three rectangular window openings light the upper gambrel sides of the east and west elevations. Access to the basement level is provided on the western side. A wooden feeding barn stands near the east wall of the bluff barn. The southern elevation is comprised of a centrally projecting gable with three rectangular window openings. The gable is flanked by the two sided slope of the gambrel roof and underscored by a projecting shed roof which covers the loafing parlour. Access the basement stalls is provided through the loafing parlour. The interior maintains its wagonway access from the northern elevation as well as the flooring on the western bay of the hay loft. The barn is painted white.

Originally constructed as a stock barn or Angus cattle, the barn is now used for light machinery and hay storage and houses some animals. The building maintains a high degree of architectural and structural integrity. The significant alteration to the barn has been the replacement of the original roof with the current metal sheathing. This is an alteration common to many of the barns included in this nomination.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates Ca. 1933 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Mathew Eylar Barn (2) (ca. 1933) is being nominated to the National Register as part of the Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County (ca. 1860–1933) nomination under criterion C for its architectural significance. Constructed for Mathew Eylar in 1933, the large gambrel roof, cement bluff wall barn served Eylar's large Angus cattle breeding operation with its sister structure, the Mathew Eylar Barn I. Eylar, a Doniphan County native, managed the Hatch Book Typewriter Company in New York City before establishing the cattle breeding opeation. Eylar sold his large farm in 1944, the property is now owned by the Anderson family.

The eighteen nominated barns share a commofeature in that at least one side of each barn's foundation is embedded in an earthen bank or bluff; the majority of the barns are built into shallow banks, two of the barns are built into bluffs. These vernacular wooden and cement structures span a seventy year construction period and exhibit various masonry foundations, skeletal structures, and superstructures. The byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are an excellent example of a vernacular form of architecture which was built to take advantage of the hilly topography of the county. These barns are representative of approximately thirty byre and bluff barns identified in a 1984-1985 cultural resource survey of Doniphan County. The remaining barns are too altered and/or deteriorated to be included in this nomination. Most of the nominated barns were constructed for stock and dairy cattle and remain in active use on working farms. The relative rarity of byre and bluff barns in Doniphan County and the high degree of architectural and structural integrity maintained by the nominated barns make this thematic grouping of vernacular agricultural structures extremely significant.

Doniphan County (est. 1855) experienced a substantial population increase in the twenty years following the Civil War, with many settlers moving from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Germany. The barn building traditions brought by these settlers combined with the suitable topography contributed to the building of the byre and bluff barn type in Doniphan County. Most of the nominated barns are three-bay, center entrance, gable roof structures with limestone foundations, a full byre, a threshing floor, and a hay loft. There are groupings of period types, such as the board and batten barns with louvered vents from the 1870s and 1880s, the large, gambrel roof barns from 1910s, 1920s and 1930s, and the gradual transition from post and beam construction to plank framing. In 1891 J. D. Walters of the Kansas State Agricultural College called the byre (bank)/bluff barn an "all-purpose barn of the Kansas farmer" in an article entitled "The Barn," which was published in the Quarterly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. Walters described the bank barn as follows:

> It gives a warm basement for the milk cows and cattle, and an accessible second story for the draught animals-for tools, machines, harness, and grain-and a roomy attic, or loft, for hay, straw, and fodder. In many states this form is objectionable for sanitary reasons, but in the dry climate of Kansas it is preferable to any other, unless there should be an

> unusually moist ledge directly against or under it...The building should be located so that the basement will be partly in the ground on the north and west, and so that a low embankment, or filling, on these sides will give access to the second story.

While the byre or bluff barn presented a practical solution for Doniphan County's rolling topography, harsh winters, and high winds, it was not the most common solution. The byre and bluff barns built between 1860 and 1933 generally cost from $2,000.00 to $3,000.00 and while this may have been cost effective investment, it was an expensive investment. In addition, the higher degree of skilled craftsmanship required to construct a byre or bluff barn as opposed to most barns without foundations also hindered their construction. While the byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are a sturdy survivor of a barn type built in Doniphan County between 1860 and 1933 they are not prolific, being far outnumbered by more inexpensive, rectangular wooden barns without foundations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Bendena

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	307690	4392550
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property is located on the NE$\frac{1}{4}$, NE$\frac{1}{4}$, SW$\frac{1}{4}$, NW$\frac{1}{4}$, S36, T4S, R19E in Doniphan County, Kansas on a tract measuring 144 x 90 feet, whose northeast corner is 14.1 feet directly northeast ofn the northeast corner of the barn's foundation. Beginning at the northeast corner of the pacel the boundary proceeds 90 feet south, 144' west, 90' north, and 144' east to the point of beginning.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Gray Hagedorn, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society date October 28, 1986

street & number 120 West 10th telephone 913-296-5264

city or town Topeka state Kansas 66612

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date October 28, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

BIBLIOGRAPHY-Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County

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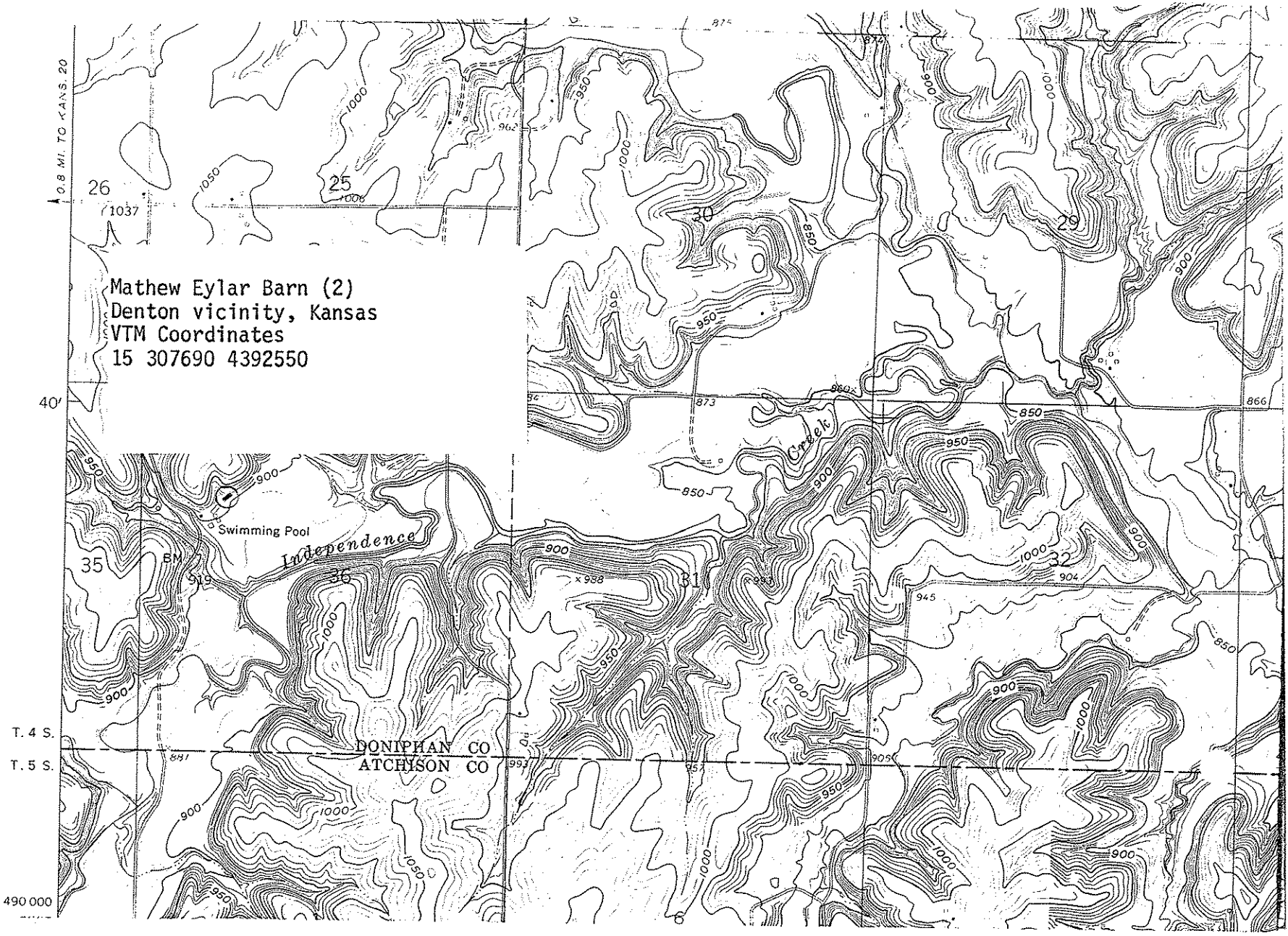
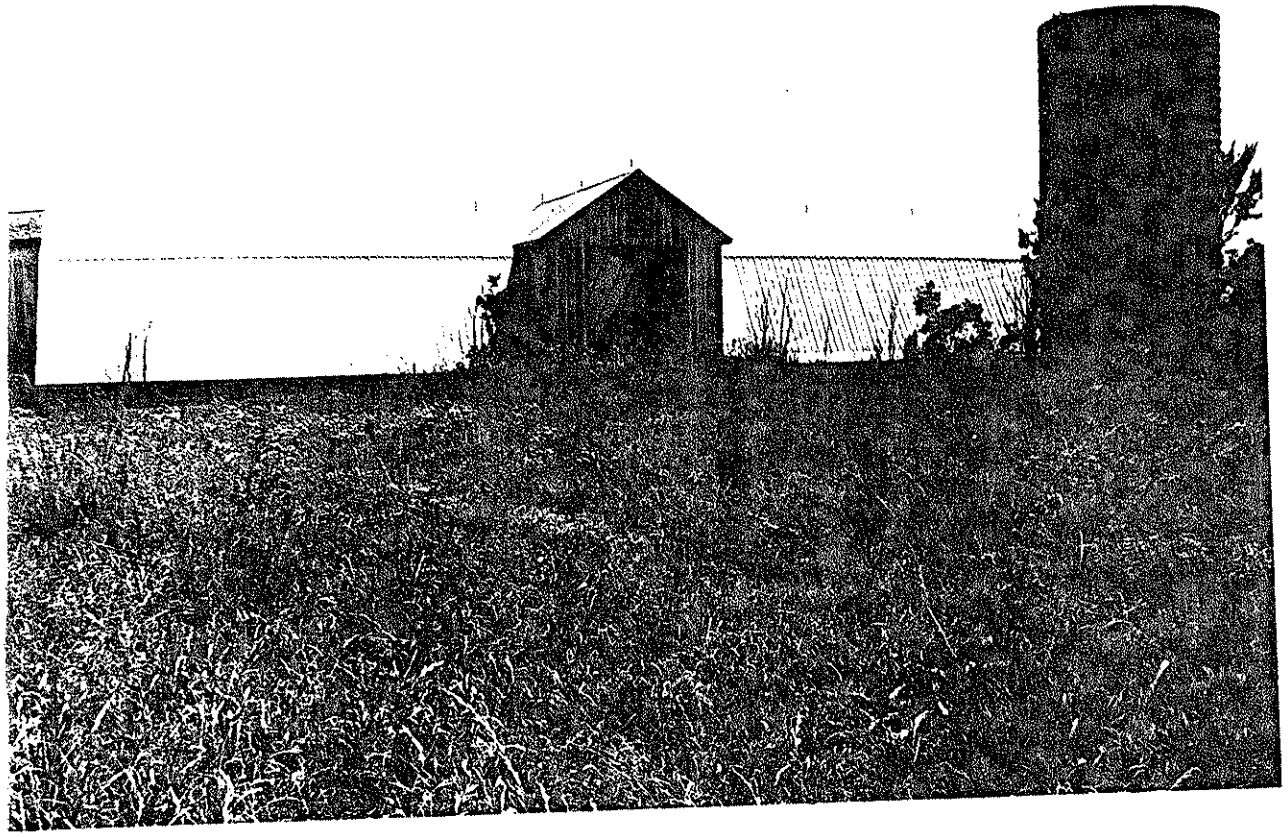
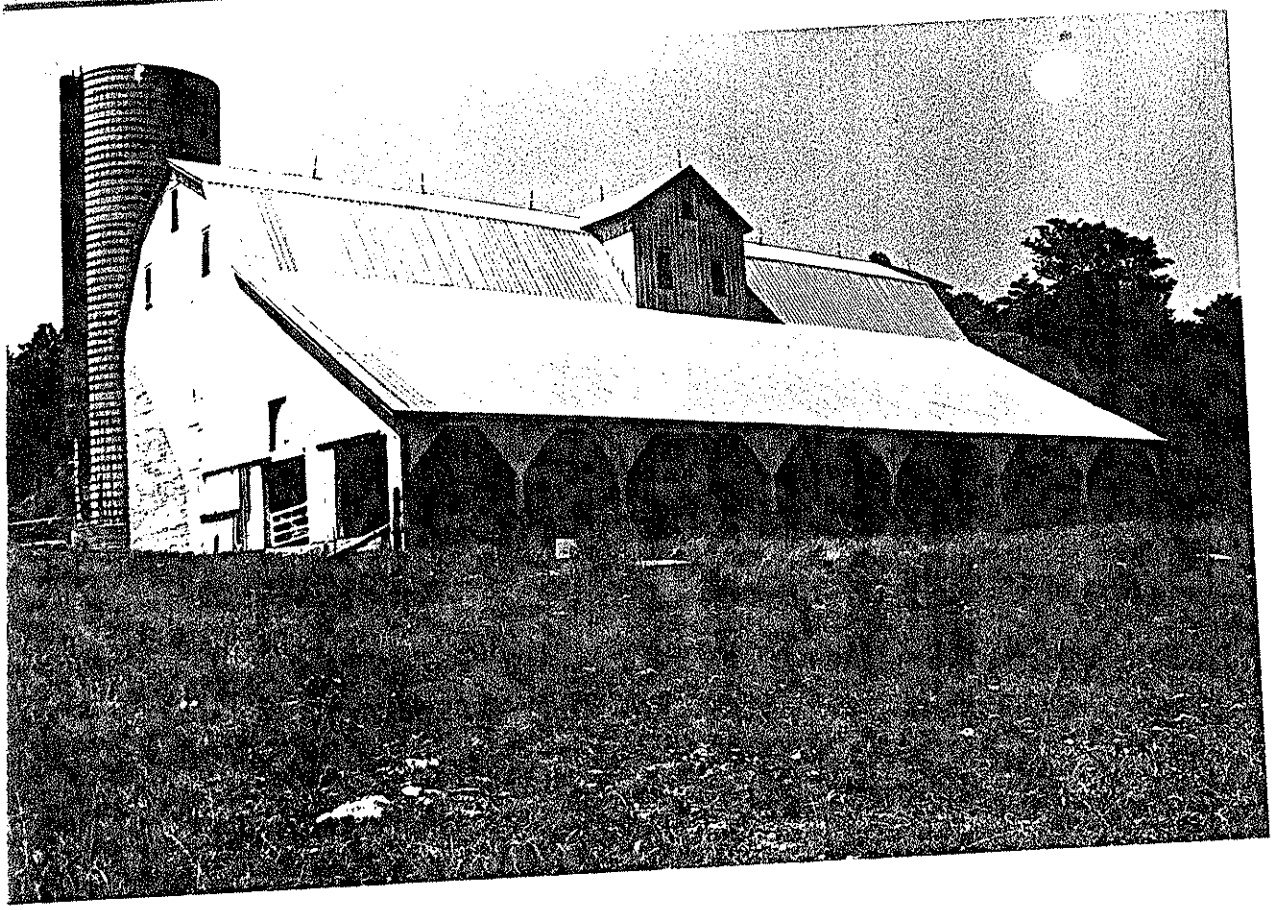
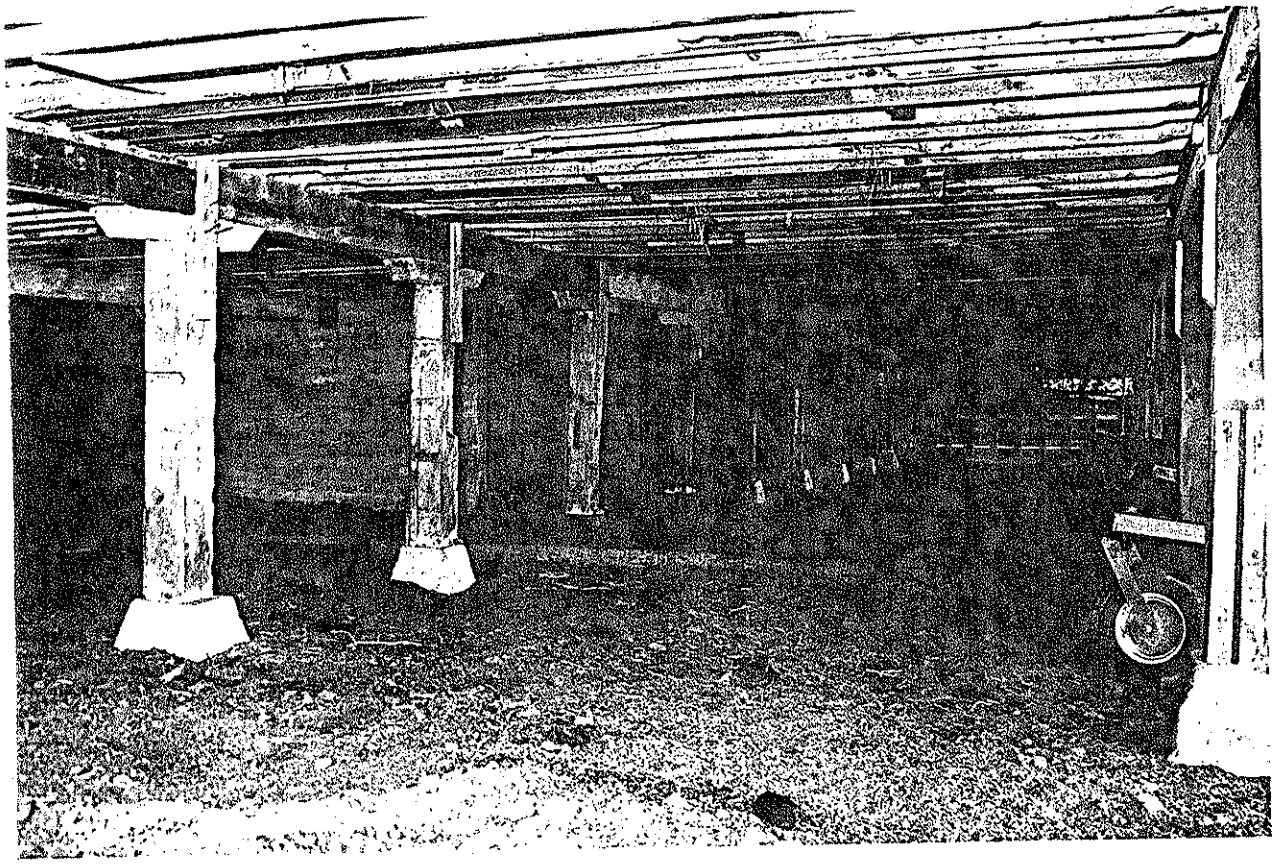
Walters, J.D. "The Barn," The Quarterly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. 31 March 1891.


Mathew Eylar Barn (2)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
VTM Coordinates
15 307690 4392550
0.8 MI. TO KANS. 20
40′
T. 4 S.
T. 5 S.
490 000
Swimming Pool
Independence
Creek
DONIPHAN CO
ATCHISON CO
26
25
30
29
35
36
31
32
1037
1050
1000
950
900
850
873
866
904
945
881
919
988
993
957
905

Mathew Eylar Barn (2)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
Martha Hagedorn
July, 1986
Kansas State Historical Society
South & West elevations, NE view
2 of 3

Mathew Eylar Barn (2)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
Martha Hagedorn
July, 1986
Kansas State Historical Society
Byre level, East view
3 of 3

Mathew Eylar Barn (2)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
Martha Hagedorn
July, 1986
Kansas State Historical Society
North elevation, South view
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