OREGON STATE HISTORIC RESOURCE DOCUMENTATION

U.S. Department of Energy Bonneville Power Administration

JOHNS, SMITH, AND BEAMER MILL YARD UMATILLA COUNTY

Prepared in

Partial Fulfillment of a

Memorandum of Agreement

For the UmaBirch Floodplain Restoration Project

By Olivia Schiffman M.S.

September 2025

I. IDENTIFICATION

Location:

The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard is located southwest of the town of Rieth, on private land in Umatilla County, Oregon in Township 2 North, Range 31 East, Donation Claim (DC) 37 (Figure 1). The property is accessed via Birch Creek Road approximately .75 miles south of the Old Pendleton River Road. It is bound by Taylor Lane to the north, Bitch Creek Road to the east, and Birch Creek to the west. Birch Creek, located 260ft west of the property, flows north for 750ft before meeting the Umatilla River. The Mill Yard is surrounded by agricultural lands that grow a variety of wheat, hay, and alfalfa.²

Present Owner: Private Present Occupant: Private Present Use: Agriculture

Historic Context and Significance:³

The land on which the Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard is located was first surveyed in 1860 (Figure 5). General Land Office (GLO) records from the Bureau of Land Management indicate that Anna and Jones Whitney filed a Donation Land Claim for 254.54 acres of land within Township 2 North, Range 31 East, Sections 13 and 24, and Township 2 North, Range 32 East, Sections 18 and 19 on December 12, 1884; though maps indicate their presence in the area as late as 1860. The Whitney's moved to Oregon in 1852, where they briefly lived with Dr. William McKay at the mouth of McKay Creek. ⁴ In 1857, the family settled one and half miles upstream from McKay Creek on the Umatilla River at the mouth of Birch Creek. ⁵

The 1914 Metzer Map indicates that Adin Dodson (A.D.) Sloan purchased the former Whitney Donation Land Claim (Figure 7).⁶ It is unknown if the Sloan family ever resided on the property, or if it was only used for agricultural purposes.⁷ The 1910 U.S. Census indicates that the family

¹ The 2020 cultural resource report for the UmaBirch Floodplain Restoration Project (SHPO Case No. 19-0084) referred to this property as the Johns, Smith, and Beamer Feedlot Maintenance Yard, which is also referenced in the Memorandum of Agreement. However, research completed for state level documentation determined this property was the site of a milling operation. While there were maintenance activities that occurred on the property, its primary role was as a mill that produced feed for cattle. To better capture the historic use, the property is being documented as the Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard.

² "Pendleton 2a," U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

³ Ethnographic contexts of the area are available in Catherine Dickson, An Archaeological Investigation of the Taylor Property on Birch Creek, Umatilla County, Oregon, 2012 (on file with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office) and Carey L. Miller, A Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Removal of Wyss Dam on the Umatilla River above the Mouth of Birch Creek, Umatilla County, Oregon, 2019 (on file with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office).

⁴ Gilbert, Frank T. Historic Sketches of Umatilla County, Oregon, 452.

⁵ Morton, Ashley M. "A Cultural Resource Survey for the Proposed UmaBirch Restoration Project," 12.

⁶ The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard property is located within the original Donation Land Claim.

⁷ Adin Sloan (1847-1916) was born in Polk County, Missouri, and emigrated to Grants Pass, Oregon c.1860 with his parents and several of his siblings. In 1896, Adin married Hattie Case (1873-1914) in Grant County, Oregon. They had one son, Adin Delos Sloan Jr. (1897-1953) the following year.

owned a home in Pendleton Precinct 2, No. 253, with Adin's occupation noted as "Own Income."

By the publication of the 1932 Metsker Map, the State of Oregon had taken possession of the land (Figure 8). However, the Umatilla County Assessor's Office did not indicate why or when the State took possession, or how the State used the property. According to the current landowner the property was used as a dairy farm. County Assessor records indicate that several milking parlors and various outbuildings were built in 1953, on the west bank of Birch Creek near the site of the Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard. There is only one remaining building from this time period: a barn that is outside the current Mill Yard property boundary. It is unknown if this building was used as part of the Johns, Smith, and Beamer cattle operation and therefore excluded from the boundary.

Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch

The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch was established by family business partners: William (Bill) and Maurice Johns, Jim Smith, and Lawrence (Larry) Beamer. The obituary of Larry Beamer (1927-2021) states that Beamer joined the operation in 1948, where he worked as the feedlot manager for 25 years. It is unknown if the partnership was first established in 1948, or if it had previously operated under a different name. The first mention of Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch can be found in the August 8, 1956, edition of the *Statesman Journal*, and notes Athena, Oregon as the original location of the cattle operation. The mill yard and feedlot in Rieth, Oregon would not begin operations until 1963.

The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch in Athena was multipurpose in its operation, and included cattle rearing and feeding, a manure distribution business, and pea cultivation. Manure from the feedlot was collected and sold as fertilizer for nearby cropland. "It takes the manure from about 600 steers to fertilize a quarter section of land... from this cattle feed lot, operations this year have been able to spread manure on some 400 acres of cropland." The pea cultivation aspect of the ranch was largely pioneered by William Johns. The pea vines grown at the Athena ranch were then used as part of cattle feed at both the Athena and Rieth locations. A majority of the crops that made up the silage, including peas and wheat, were cultivated at the Athena ranch. In 1960, the partners won *Umatilla Farmer of the Year*. In 1950, the Athena ranch was operating with a herd of 45 cattle. The number of cattle would continue to increase "until they

⁸ Morton, 16.

⁹ Umatilla County Accessor Records: Account 100099.

¹⁰ Munselle Rhodes Funeral Home, March 2021.

¹¹ "Truck Crash Fatal to Two," Statesman Journal, August 8, 1956.

¹² Hermiston Herald, October 3, 1957.

¹³ Spokane Chronicle, October 25, 1967.

¹⁴ In 1966, Johns, Smith, and Beamer hosted a delegate of pea growers from England, who were on a 17-day tour of the country, "with particular emphasis on American pea raising methods." *East Oregonian*, June 11, 1966.

¹⁵ Munselle Rhodes Funeral Home.

¹⁶ Jonas, "How to fatten cattle by hand..."

were handling 5,000 head annually, buying 200-lb.-and-up calves and feeding the animals on grain and pea silage to about 750 lbs. for commercial feedlot finishing."¹⁷

Johns, Smith, and Beamer Feedlot and Mill Yard

As the cattle operation grew, more land was needed. In 1966, Maruice Johns recalled, "We wanted to stay together, but there just plain wasn't room for all of us...So we had to look for ways to expand." In 1963, the State of Oregon transferred landownership of the Rieth feedlot in a joint property deed to Maurice and Donna Johns, Bill and Miriam Johns, Helen and James Smith, and Larry and Althadel Beamer. The Rieth Feedlot was the final step in the Johns, Smith and Beamer cattle operation. Calves would first be purchased from ranches across the Northwest and moved to the ranch in Athena, before the cattle were "finished at the Rieth feedlot." The mill yard and feedlot were located adjacent to each other at the crossroads of Birch Creek Road and Taylor Lane. Silage that contained pea vines from the Athena ranch would be mixed at the Rieth mill yard before being transported across the road to the feedlot.

"Electric motors do the work from the time incoming feed is dumped from the truck into a receiving auger and pushed to a cluster of 15 bins that hold barley, wheat, rye, beet pulp, hay and straw pellets and concentrates. It takes only about 10 minutes to roll and mix a 5-ton load for the auger delivery truck that hauls the ration from the mill to the nearby feedlot."²¹

The location of the feedlot was chosen for its proximately to the Umatilla River and Birch Creek which provided irrigation. To increase the irrigated area, they built a 150-hp electric pump and sprinkler system that allowed the water to be transferred to the feedlot, which was located on higher ground.²² The Rieth feedlot was to be fully automated and opened the following year. A newspaper article boasted that the "pushbutton operation" had grown to around 8,000 to 9,000 head of cattle by 1966.

Over their decades long operation, the ranch supported youth organizations including 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) programs; as well as students in the Animal Science program of Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC), who were hosted yearly as part of the BMCC work experience program.²³ Johns, Smith, and Beamer spent time as directors and members of various agriculture organizations such as the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, the Northwest Livestock Production Credit Association, and the Oregon-Washington Pea Growers Association. They were also part of the of Pendleton Grain Grower, Inc.: a local farm

¹⁷ Jonas.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ 1940 Census records indicate that William (1920-2004), Maurice (1922-2009), Helen (1924-1980), and Althadel (1927-1996) were all siblings.

²⁰ Jonas.

²¹ Jonas.

²² Jonas.

²³ "Learnin' the ropes," *East Oregonian*. December 6, 1976.

cooperative that served 2,000 members with complete market and farm supply services within a 50-mile radius of Pendleton.²⁴

On May 1, 1973, local papers announced that Johns, Smith, and Beamer were closing their cattle operation in Rieth (Figure 17).²⁵ In 1974, Maurice and Donna Johns transferred their share of the property to the remaining Johns, Smith, and Beamer family members. Maurice and Donna would go on to establish their own ranch, Johns Ranch, Inc., that same year. It is likely that Larry Beamer took over as Company President around that time.²⁶ On February 13, 1976, Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch incorporated, forming Johns, Smith, & Beamer Inc..²⁷ Though it was originally reported that the Rieth feedlot was closing earlier in 1973, newspaper articles indicate that the original Athena ranch location was still in operation in 1976. In 1983, the property was sold to Warren and Vivien Taylor. Johns, Smith, & Beamer Inc. continued to operate out of their Athena property until the business permanently closed c.2021.

In 2013, Uma Birch L.L.C. purchased the property from the Taylor family. The L.L.C. demolished several buildings and associated structures beginning that same year in preparation for a floodplain restoration project. The demolished buildings included the primary mill-barn, several silos, and a number of ancillary structures. The property was later sold to Jim Whitney on behalf of the Whitney Land Company in 2022. In 2024, further demolition of the feedlot continued in an effort to restore the historic floodplain at the confluence of Birch Creek and the Umatilla River.

Feedlot Operations

The primary purpose of a feedlot is to gradually increase the amount of food given to an animal, so the animal can gain fat as quickly as possible. Feedlots can be located either indoors or outside and are used in the final stage of the meat production process for cattle, pigs, sheep, turkey, and chickens before they are sent out for slaughter.²⁸ The diet of cattle in feedlots is high in protein, and can consist of a combination of various grains, corn, potatoes, roughage, and feed supplements. Animals are kept in confined areas – the less the animal moves the less energy is exerted, and the more fat is gained. In feedlots, an animal's diet is monitored closely to optimize weight gain and the eventual profit at market.

Prior to the automation of feedlots, cattle were hand fed to control the amount of food consumed.²⁹ Due to the labor-intensive nature of the process, feedlots were small in scale and contained around 100 to 400 head of cattle.³⁰ Automation provided a more efficient way to

²⁴ "2,000 Join In PGG's Goal of Growth," East Oregonian. September 15, 1965.

²⁵ "AUCTION – Saturday May 5 at 10am – Johns, Smith, and Beamer." East Oregonian. May 1, 1973.

²⁶ Larry Beamer was simultaneously running his own ranch: the Walking B Quarterhorse Ranch.

²⁷ Umatilla County Accessor Records.

²⁸ A feedlot is one of two options for finishing. The other option is pasture finishing. Cows raised in pastures typically will eat only hay or grass throughout their lives and have space to move freely. These cows typically require more time to reach optimal weight. Pasture raised cows take approximately 18-24 months to reach this weight, while cows in a feedlot take on average 14-18 months (Gallagher, "Feedlots").

²⁹ "Farmers Bulletin No. 1584: Feed-Lot and Ranch Equipment for Beef Cattle," 1929.

³⁰ Gill, Donald R., "Feedlots."

finish the feeding process of an animal, and allowed for cattle operations to grow in scale. By the late 1950s-early 1960s, largescale feeding operations took off as the result of changes to irrigation techniques and the development of hybrid grains. With the growth in production scale, the number of farms decreased as farms began to consolidate; while the size of the remaining farms increased and resulted in an overall increase in productivity. In an effort to drive down costs and increase efficiency, "large farms chose to construct their own feed mills. Transitioning to the 1960s and 1970s involved the construction of very large feed mills, so that the norm became plants capable of producing 200–500,000 tons annually."³¹

National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard was previously determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local significance and association with agriculture development and large-scale cattle feeding operations in Umatilla County in 2020.³² The period of significance was between 1963 when Johns, Smith, and Beamer acquired the property from the State of Oregon and began feedlot operations; through 1974 when the cattle operation disbanded. However, after completing further research for this state level documentation, it has been determined that the district is *not eligible* for listing in the NRHP due to a loss of historic integrity from the period of significance. A majority of the buildings associated with the feedlot operation – including the primary barn, multiple storage silos, and other ancillary structures – were demolished between 2013 and 2015. These buildings and structures were crucial to the historic function of the Johns, Smith, and Beamer feedlot operation. Though the feedlot property retains integrity of location, due to the demolition of the primary structures it has lost integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship. Furthermore, the property has not been used as a feedlot or associated with cattle operations for several decades and no longer conveys integrity of feeling or association.

Based on the research completed, the Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard is not associated with the lives of significant persons (Criterion B). While Johns, Smith, and Beamer were active in the agriculture community in Umatilla County, they were not unique or particularly notable. The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard does not exhibit significant design/construction characteristics (Criterion C). The design was typical for an automated feedlot in the mid-1960s. The property also does not have the potential to yield additional information or answer important research questions (Criterion D). As such, the Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any Criteria.

II. DESCRIPTION

The Johns, Smith, and Beamer Mill Yard includes ten resources that date from approximately 1950 to 2000 (Figure 2).³³ Though the feedlot was part of the Rieth operation, it is not part of

³¹ Coffey, D., K. Dawson, P. Ferket, and A. Connolly. "Review of the Feed Industry from a Historical Perspective and Implications for Its Future," 3.

³² This consensus determination was made under SHPO Case No. 19-0084 for a BPA Fish and Wildlife Project (BPA Project No. OR 2019 012).

³³ The dates of construction found in the Umatilla County Assessor records were often found incorrect in a comparison of historic USGS aerial photographs dating between 1953 and 1994.

Mill Yard property boundary.³⁴ Aerial photographs indicate that the majority of these structures were constructed between 1964 and 1976. The silage pit, ditch, and effluence pond make up the larger silage area. The foundation of the building that once served as the feedlot mill is located near the Control House.

Maintenance Shed (c.1950)³⁵

The maintenance shed is a single-story, front-gabled saltbox-style building (Figure 20).³⁶ It is constructed from red painted clapboard wood siding, with a corrugated metal roof, and concrete slab foundation. The shed measures 60ft long x 28ft wide. A concrete block chimney extends upward from the southeast corner (Figure 22). The single entrance to the building is on the north elevation and features two sliding corrugated metal panel doors. Each door measure 14ft tall x 7ft wide. It is unknown when the original doors were replaced. The east facade includes a small sliding door made of plywood on the north end, and three window openings that have been partially boarded up with plywood on the south end (Figure 21). All three windows are approximately 5ft x 3ft, and six over six lite. The west facade of the building has three window openings: two 12-lite sash and one opening that has been partially boarded up with plywood (Figure 23). The two window openings on the south end of the building measure 4ft x 10ft. The window opening on the north end measure 6ft x 3ft. The south facade does not have any distinguishing features. The interior of the shed displays gable style truss. An electrical breaker box is located just inside of the doorway near the northeast corner. There are six shop lights that hang from the trusses (Figure 24). Three metal barrels that have been welded together are affixed to the chimney in the southeast corner of the building (Figure 25).

Red Shed (c.1970)

The red shed is a wood clad building that measures 15ft x 13ft (Figure 26). The shed is approximately 8ft at its highest north elevation, sloping downward to 7ft at the south elevation. The roof is corrugated metal with exposed eaves on the north and south side. The shed does not have a foundation, though it does have a wood floor in the interior. The siding is painted red and constructed of two different wood materials. The siding is largely plywood construction with three wooden beams above the door that span the length of the elevation. The east elevation is made of clapboard siding with one large siding barn door that measures 6ft x 7ft (Figure 27). The north elevation features one of two openings to the building. One white painted wood door with a window is located on the west end. The south and west side of the shed have plywood siding, with no other discernable features.

³⁴ The feedlot was constructed c.1963 and is located across from the Mill Yard on the west side of Birch Creek Road across the Union Pacific Railroad track. There are several ancillary structures including several sheds and corrals.

³⁵ Morton (2020) referred to this building as "Barn/Garage." Further communication with CTUIR indicated that this

³⁵ Morton (2020) referred to this building as "Barn/Garage." Further communication with CTUIR indicated that this building is referred to as the "Maintenance Shed."

³⁶ Umatilla County Assessor records, as well as prior surveys, note that the maintenance shed dates to back to 1953-1960. The exact date of construction is unknown.

Control House (c.1964)³⁷

The metal shed is wood frame construction with corrugated metal siding and roof (Figure 30). It is approximately 20ft x 26ft and sits atop a concrete slab that encompasses the larger maintenance yard. The south elevation serves as the primary entrance to the building and features a single metal sash window that is flanked by a door opening on either side. The west elevation includes a utility box, with a recessed lean-to addition on the north side (Figure 31). The north elevation also includes a utility box and hook ups (Figure 32). The east elevation features a large window that measures approximately 10ft x 5ft – with two small operable sliding sash at the bottom of the opening (Figure 33). A door is located on the lean-to addition to the north. The walls and ceiling are made of wood and have been covered with particle board. An air compressor is installed on the west wall.

The interior of the building features an array of electrical equipment, including multiple control panels and electrical boxes (Figure 35). This electrical control panel would have been used to control the release of feed from one of the 15 silo bins into a truck. The truck would then haul the "rations" to the nearby feedlot.

Silo $(c.1964)^{40}$

The tower silo is a cylindrical concrete structure used for storing grain or silage (Figure 38). It is approximately 20ft tall.

Outhouse (c.1960)

The outhouse is a one-story, side-gabled building (Figure 40). It is a white painted clapboard construction. The roof is made of corrugated metal with a concrete slab foundation. It is 11ft x 9ft, and 12ft tall. A single door on the east elevation serves as the only entrance to the building. The south elevation has no discernable features, outside of a missing fascia board (Figure 41). The west elevation includes a single window opening. The upper sash is fourlights, all of which the glass has been broken. The lower sash is missing. An electric box is located to the left of the window opening (Figure 42). The north elevation includes a small window opening near the upper gable (Figure 43).

The interior has two stalls separated by a wood partition on the north elevation – there are no doors on either stall (Figure 45). The west stall includes a toilet and an outlet, while the east stall is empty. Each stall measures approximately 5ft x 5ft. There are no sinks or associated plumbing features. The building includes a small light that hangs from the ceiling towards the center of the room.

³⁷ Morton (2020) referred to this building as "Metal Shed." Research completed for state level documentation determined that this building was specifically used as a control house for the adjacent mill when it was in operation. ³⁸ Only the west side opening has a door.

³⁹ The interior of the lean-to is separate from the larger shed and can only be access from the door on the north elevation.

⁴⁰ A secondary silage tank was removed in 2023.

⁴¹ The door is offset and is located on the north end of the east elevation.

⁴² The portion of the fascia board that is broken is located on the eastern half of the south elevation.

Ditch (c.1970)

The earthen, unlined ditch is approximately 3ft wide and between 3 and 4ft deep (Figure 49). The ditch runs at a diagonal along the west edge of the silage pit for 320ft, until it reaches the effluence pond to the south. There is one metal culvert associated with the ditch. The culvert is located underneath an access road that bisects the maintenance yard complex and allows for access between the silage pit and Taylor Lane. The ditch and associated culvert are part of the larger silage area.

Effluence Pond (c.1970)

The effluence pond is located to the southwest of the ditch and silage pit. It is approximately 300ft x 100ft and is part of the larger silage area (Figure 51).

Silage Pit (c.1980)

The silage pit is a concrete lined, earth berm pit that is approximately 130ft by 245ft (Figure 55). Portions of the north, west, and southwest corner of the earthen berm have been reinforced with tires (Figure 57). The pit is located in the southeastern corner of the maintenance yard complex and is part of the larger silage area.

Hay Cover (c.2000)

The hay cover is an open-air rectangular building, constructed of wood beams and corrugated metal (Figure 64). There is no foundation, however there is a concrete retaining wall on the north and east elevation.

Grain Bin (c.1964)⁴³

The grain bin is a cylindrical building made of corrugated steel (Figure 68).

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⁴³ Morton (2020) referred to this structure as "Modern Grain Bin." After a comparison of historic aerials dating between 1952 and 1994, it was determined that grain bin was erected at the start of Johns, Smith, and Beamer's mill and feedlot operation.

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IV. GRAPHICS

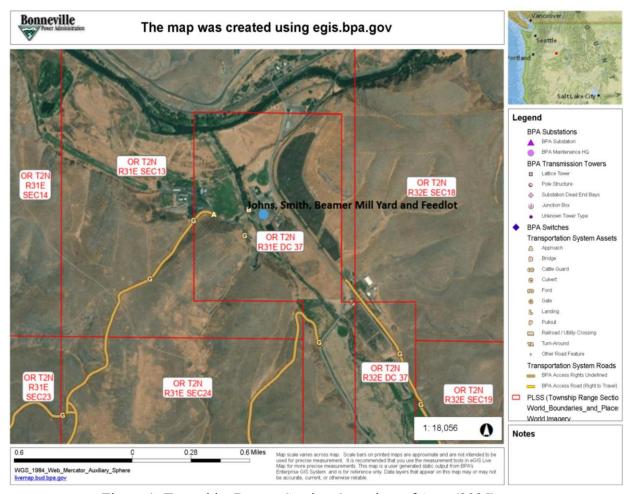


Figure 1: Township, Range, Section Overview of Area (2025).



Figure 2: Site map of Johns, Smith, and Beamer Maintenance-Mill Yard, Google Earth (2025).

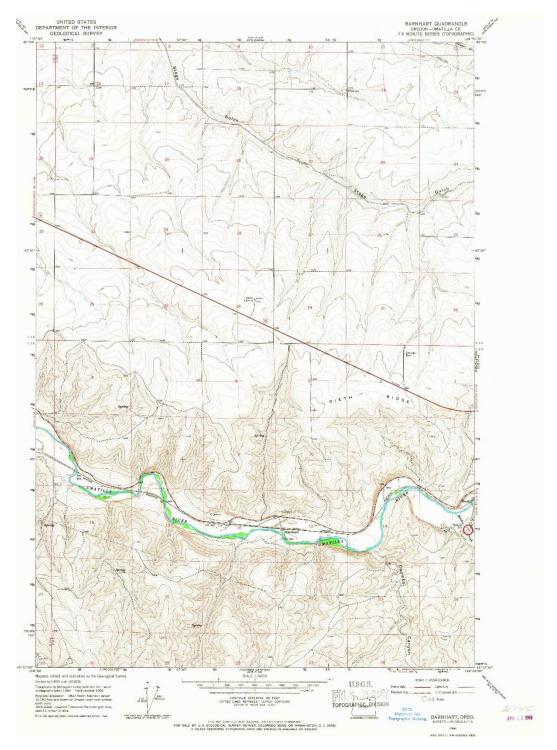


Figure 3: Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch marked in red in bottom righthand corner, Barnhart Quadrangle USGS Topographic Map (1966).



Figure 4: Close-up of Johns, Smith, and Beamer Ranch Maintenance-Mill Yard, Barnhart Quadrangle USGS Topographic Map (1966).



Figure 5: General Land Office Survey (1860).

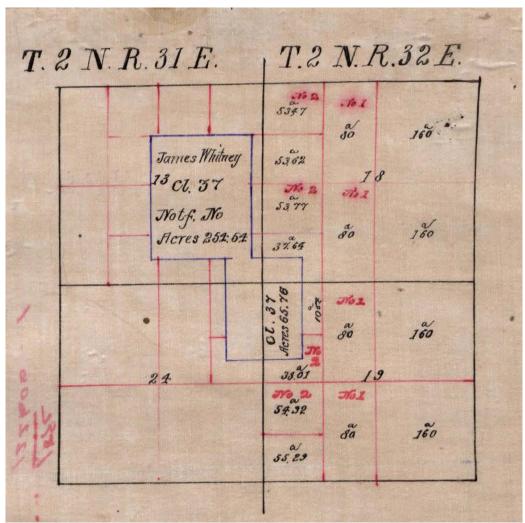


Figure 6: General Land Office Survey (October 14, 1892).

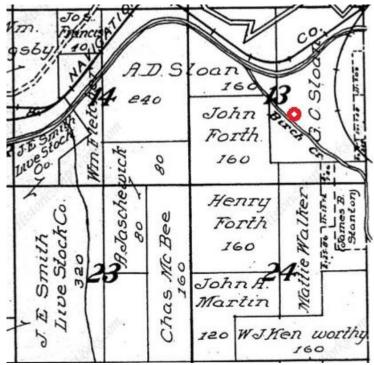


Figure 7: Metzger Map of future ranch location (1914).

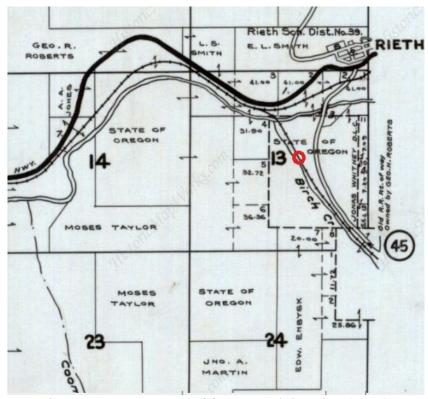


Figure 8: Metzger Map of future ranch location (1932).



Figure 9: USGS Aerial Map (August 1952)



Figure 10: USGS Aerial Map (1964)



Figure 11: Google Earth Aerial (1994)



Figure 12: Google Earth Aerial (2011)

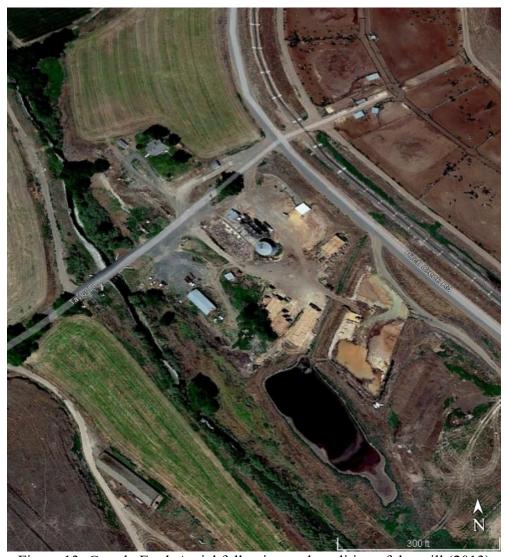
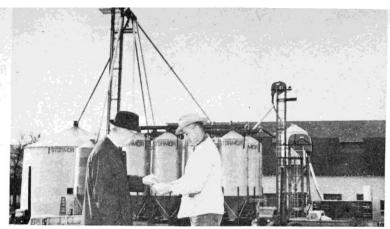


Figure 13: Google Earth Aerial following to demolition of the mill (2013)



Figure 14: Google Earth Aerial following to demolition of the silage tanks (2015)



Grain and feed storage and handling setup includes three big bucket elevators, steel storage bins. Here Maurice Johns, right, shows feed sample to Bill Sundby, Pacific Power & Light.

How to fatten cattle by hand...

(The hand has fingers on it, and the fingers do the feeding by pushing buttons on modern electric control panel)

By HERB JONAS Pacific Power & Light Co.

FATTENING 8,000 to 9,000 head of cattle annually is a pushbutton operation at the new feedlot of Maurice and Bill Johns, Jim Smith and Larry Beamer, near Rieth, Oregon.

Electric motors do the work from the time incoming feed is dumped from the truck into a receiving auger and pushed to a cluster of 15 bins that hold barley, wheat, rye, beet pulp, hay and straw pellets and concentrates. It takes only about 10 minutes to roll and mix a 5-ton load for the auger delivery truck that hauls the ration from the mill to the nearby feedlot.

This automated feeding operation is the most recent development in the fast-growing spread of these four young men, who as brothers and brothers-in-law began their farming operation some 16 years ago with leased wheat land near Athena.

"We wanted to stay together, but there just plain wasn't room for all of us," said Maurice Johns. "So we had to look for ways to expand.'

april, 1966



Menu selector for Oregon ranch is this electronic control panel, here being operated by Herman

They started in cattle cautiously with 45 head of feeders. Next year they built a feedlot. This gradually grew until they were handling 5,000 head annually, buying 200-lb.-and-up calves and feeding the animals on grain and pea silage to about 750 lbs. for commercial feedlot finishing.

Then, about two years ago, they bought about 120 acres of bottom land that had been in rill irrigation, and another 280 acres that had been in dryland wheat, but where there was water from the Umatilla River and Birch Creek to irrigate it.

The hillside had good drainage and looked just right for a feedlot for around 2,500 head right close to some buildings that would work in with a feed mill.

They built cattle pens and the feed mill and they put in a 150-hp. electric pump and sprinkler system to put water on the higher ground and increase the irrigated acreage. They buy calves throughout the Northwest, start them at the Athena ranch, finish them at the Rieth feedlot. »

Figure 15: Johns, Smith, and Beamer featured in *Electricty on the Farm* publication (April 1966).



Figure 16: Johns, Smith, and Beamer employees Juan Barberia (left) and Bill Van Atta (right), March 7, 1973 (*East Oregonian*).



Figure 17: Auction Notice for Johns, Smith, and Beamer Rieth Feedlot, May 1, 1973 (*East Oregonian*).



Figure 18: December 6, 1976, Newspaper Article (East Oregonian).



Figure 19: Overview of Johns, Beamer, and Smith Feedlot and Mill Yard, looking west (2022).



Figure 20: Entrance to Maintenance Shed on north elevation, look southeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 21: East elevation of Maintenance Shed, look southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 22: South elevation of Maintenance Shed, looking northwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 23: East elevation of Maintenance Shed, looking northwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 24: Interior barn truss of Maintenance Shed (Morton, 2019).



Figure 25: Three-barrel heater fixed to the concrete block chimney, southwest corner (Morton, 2019).



Figure 26: Entrance to Red Shed on the north elevation, looking southeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 27: East elevation of the Red Shed, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 28: South elevation of the Red Shed, looking northwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 29: West elevation of the Red Shed, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 30: Entrance to the Control house on the south elevation, looking northwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 31: West elevation of Control House, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 32: North elevation of Control House, looking southeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 33: East elevation of Control House, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 34: Electric equipment on north facing wall of Control House (Morton, 2019).



Figure 35: Control panel on east wall of Control House (Morton, 2019).



Figure 36: Interior of Control House, south wall (Morton, 2019).



Figure 37: Interior of Control House, west wall (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 38: Silo, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).44

⁴⁴ Red Shed and Maintenance Shed are visible to the left of silo, and the Control House is visible to the right.



Figure 39: Silo, looking southeast towards Grain Bin and Outhouse (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 40: Entrance to Outhouse located on the east elevation, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 41: South elevation of Outhouse, looking northwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 42: North elevation of Outhouse, looking southeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 43: West elevation of Outhouse, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 44: Entrance to Outhouse, with two stalls on right (Morton, 2019).



Figure 45: Two stalls, toilet on left and empty stall to the right (Morton, 2019).



Figure 46: Toilet stall in outhouse (Morton, 2019).



Figure 47: Empty stall to right of toilet stall (Morton, 2019).



Figure 48: Ditch, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 49: Ditch, looking northeast towards Effluence Pond (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 50: Effluence Pond, looking west (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 51: Effluence Pond, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 52: Effluence Pond, looking northwest towards Mill Yard (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 53: Effluence Pond, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 54: Effluence Pond, looking southeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 55: Interior of Silage Pit, looking south (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 56: Interior of Silage Pit, looking northwest towards Mill Yard (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 57: Interior of Silage Pit, looking north (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 58: Interior of Silage Pit, looking west (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 59: Interior of Silage Pit, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 60: Exterior of Silage Pit, looking northeast from the Silage Pit (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 61: Exterior of Silage Pit, looking south (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 62: Exterior of Silage Pit, looking west from Birch Creek Road (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 63: Exterior of Silage Pit, looking northwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 64: Front of Hay Cover, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 65: Hay Cover, looking southeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 66: Hay Cover, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 67: Hay Cover, looking northeast (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).



Figure 68: Grain Bin, looking southwest (Gonzalez-Pereda, 2025).