Welcome to "Your Old Barn Study": Partner with Ontario Barn Preservation to leave behind a legacy report describing your oneof-a-kind barn!

The purpose of "Your Old Barn Study" is to give OBP an understanding of the number, type, and characteristics of old barns across Ontario. This will help provide researchers with data about pioneer life, encourage interest in the historical and architectural importance of old barns to the rural fabric, and help preserve barns in a virtual world so these wonderful historical structures will always be accessible to the broader population.

OBP is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation for charitable and educational purposes. It is important for barn owners to understand that OBP does not advocate for mandatory preservation of old barns, but for voluntary preservation, reuse, repurposing and restoration where possible and practical.

You're reading a 'Paper' version of the 'Online' version of *Your Old Barn Study*. It is tricky to make them read the same, while condensing it to reduce the page count for printing. So, while wording is exactly the same in both versions, margins have been minimized and white space cropped out. This results in this 72 page PDF paper version that when printed at two pages per sheet, results in 36 pages of legibly-sized words. If one's printer permits printing on both sides of a sheet of paper, this can be further reduced to only 18 pages.

We suggest you scroll through and read the entire study with 6 sections before starting to answer the questions. Scrolling forward and back can be done using the Blue Arrows at the bottom of each page.

Your responses will be saved each time you click through to a new page, however, please note that if you are completing this survey with a mobile device with slower data connection rates, you may lose your answers if you minimize the browsing window before you've clicked through to the next page. In this case, it is advised that you have photos ready to

upload before you begin the survey, and keep your browser open at all times.

The study may take some time to complete, however you can use the "Place Bookmark" button at the top of the page to save your progress. Upon returning to the study on the same device on which you started it, press the "Go to Bookmark" button to return to where you left off. Do not clear your browser history until the study is completed. A checklist of information required to complete the study can be found here: Your Old Barn Study Checklist

There are no Mandatory Fields to answer. However, OBP would appreciate you completing as much of the study as possible. Thank you!

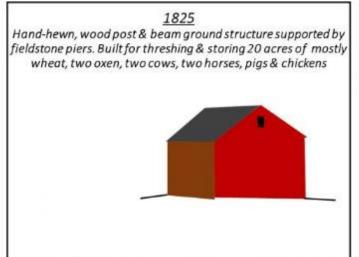
Click on the following link to the OBP "Common Terms and Definitions" for information on the types, features, and structures used to describe Ontario

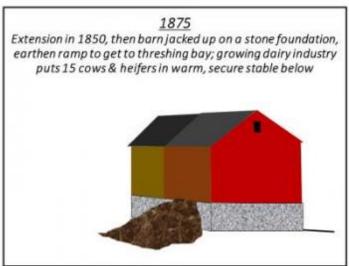
barns. https://www.ontariobarnpreservation.com/PDFs/glossary-OBP.pdf

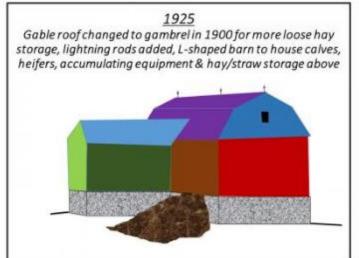
"Old" is in the mind of the beholder. To a person born in 1900, a barn built in 1850 was not "old"; however, a European might think the same barn was just a youngster. It all depends on one's perspective. OBP leaves the decision to you.

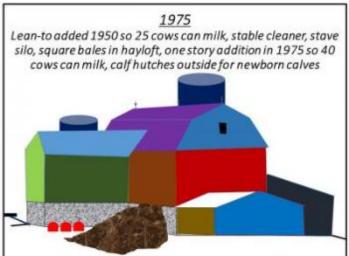
Your barn may be just a simple box with a roof, but your barn may also be a combination of several connected buildings built over time as the farm operation grew. Try to find the oldest barn structure and document it. You may document the barn as it is now or as close to its original state as you decide. If you have more than one "original" barn on your farm then you will need to submit additional responses.

Below is an example of how a barn complex could grow over time in Ontario.









Q2.1.

Informed Consent

By participating in this study, you are assisting OBP in achieving its objective to establish a database of old barns across Ontario.

Your participation is voluntary. You may choose not to participate. Even if you decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you submit your answers then decide later to change your mind, you can contact OBP to have your data removed.

All personal information collected will be kept confidential and will not be used and/or

shared with anyone outside	of Ontario Barn Preservation without prior participant consent
Data is stored in a password	protected electronic format at the University of Guelph and
subject to Ontario privacy sta	andards.
If you have any questions ab	oout the study, please contact OBP
at info@ontariobarnpreserva	ation.com.
Your completion and submis	sion of this study acts as your consent to participate.
Tour completion and submis	sion of this study acts as your consent to participate.
	Q3.1. Before continuing, please
	verify your identity.
	I'm not a robot
0.4.1	
Q4.I. Welcome to the 1st s	ection of "Your Old Barn Study"!
Welcome to the 13t 3	collon of Tour Old Barn Olddy .
In this section we ask for co	ntact information and the location of your barn.
Q4.2. Barn Owner's Name	(s)

Q4.3. Barn Owner's Phone Number (e.g., xxx-xxx-xxxx)
0445
Q4.4. Barn Owner's Email Address
Q4.5. Barn Owner's Website (if applicable)
Q4.6. Barn Address
Street Name and Number
Q4.7. Town/City/Township

Q4.8. Province
Q4.9. Postal Code (e.g., xyxyxy)
Q4.10. Location of Barn
Please select the County/District from the drop-down list.
County
Q4.11. Township/Municipality (Historic Township name is preferred)
Q4.12. Lot

Q4.14.

GPS Latitude and Longitude Coordinates in Decimal Degrees (optional)

Many 1800s maps show the location of buildings on farms, often the barn itself. So, if you are documenting a barn no longer standing, but one which you know the precise former location, this can be very helpful. Even if the barn is still standing, the precise location can be helpful because many barns were moved from their original locations.

Two examples below show a barn still standing, and one removed 100 years ago. If you go on Google Maps[™], then right-click your mouse on the barn's current (or former) location, up pops the "GPS latitude and longitude" of the barn. It is 43.18756, -79.38191 for the still standing 1850 barn, and 43.15054, -79.24101 for the barn removed over 100 years ago!





Q4.15. Your barn's latitude (e.g. 43.18756)

Q4.16. Your barn's longitude (e.g. -79.38191)

Educational facility
☐ Winery/cidery/distillery
Commerical zone
Residential zone
Other (please specify)
$\ensuremath{\text{Q}5.4}.$ What year was the barn built? (If unsure, skip to the next question)
Q5.5. Best estimate of the years your barn was built between.
Q5.5. Best estimate of the years your barn was built between. For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful
For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful
For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful
For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful article. https://www.ontariobarnpreservation.com/2020/06/11/how-olde-is-my-barn/
For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful article. https://www.ontariobarnpreservation.com/2020/06/11/how-olde-is-my-barn/ O pre 1800
For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful article. https://www.ontariobarnpreservation.com/2020/06/11/how-olde-is-my-barn/ O pre 1800 1800 - 1849
For help in ageing a barn, please find attached a helpful article. https://www.ontariobarnpreservation.com/2020/06/11/how-olde-is-my-barn/ O pre 1800 1800 - 1849 1850 - 1899

Q5.6. Was this barn moved from a previous location to the current location?
○ Yes
○ No
O Don't know
Q5.7. If the previous location is known, please enter the address below (lot, concession, township, county if known, plus the GPS latitude and longitude as described in question
4.14).

Q5.8. Physical condition of barn

This study question will help OBP understand the physical condition of barns across the province. OBP is interested in documenting barns regardless of their condition.

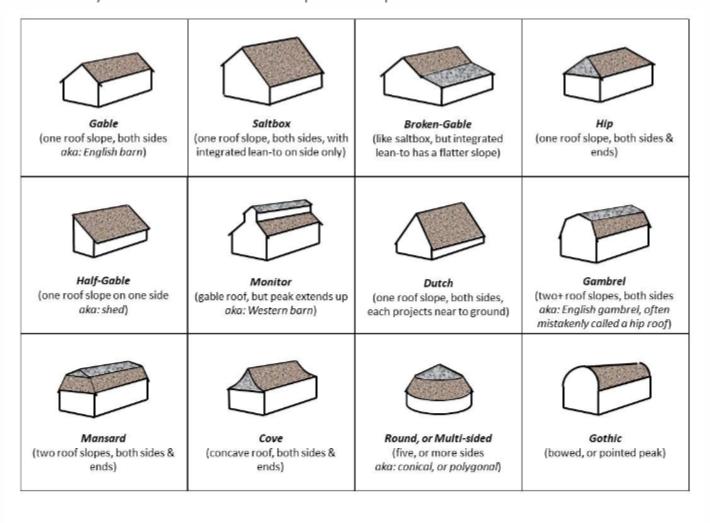
Determining the physical condition of a barn is a judgement call based on your opinion.

Use the table below to help you assess the condition of your barn.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Removed or Down
	Leak-proof			Leaks in many areas	
Roof	Roof line is straight	Needs a little work	Needs a lot of work	Roof droops a bit	Some roof caved in
	Rafters look good			Cracked or rotted	
	No boards missing			Boards missing	
Walls	Closed against wind	Needs a little work	Needs a lot of work	Rain/snow gets in	Walls bowed out
	Rain cannot blow in		_	Walls leaning out	
	No boards missing			Boards missing	
Floor	Safe for equipment	Needs a little work	Needs a lot of work	Not safe to walk on	Floor is missing
	Safe for hay storage			Not safe for hay	
	Dry support beams	T .	7	Rotted beams	
Foundation/ Stone Walls	Looks almost new	Needs a little work	Needs a lot of work	Stones crumbling	Sections down
Storic Walls	No animal holes			Wildlife damage	
	Little sign of any rot	8		Wood is rotted	
Structural Members	Few members gone	Needs a little work	Needs a lot of work	Some missing	Many missing
	Post bottoms good			Post bottoms rotten	

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Removed or Down
Roof	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
Walls	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ	\circ
Floor	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ	\circ
Foundation/Stone Walls	0	0	0	0	0
Structural Members	0	0	\circ	0	0

Q5.9. Which **roof shape** best describes your barn? If unsure, please do your best to match your barn's roof to the pictures provided.



Gable (additional question will follow if selected)
O Saltbox (additional question will follow if selected)
O Broken-Gable (additional question will follow if selected)
O Hip (additional question will follow if selected)
O Half-Gable (additional question will follow if selected)
Monitor (additional question will follow if selected)

O Dutch (additional question will follow if selected)
Gambrel (additional question will follow if selected)
○ Mansard
○ Cove
O Round or Multi-sided
○ Gothic
Other (Please specify)
○ Unsure

Depending how users answer Q.5.9. about 'roof shape' determines which of questions Q5.10 or Q5.11 follows next in the online study. Only one of them will. However, both are shown below in this paper version of Your Old Barn Study.

Q5.10. Barn Roof Shape - Gambrel

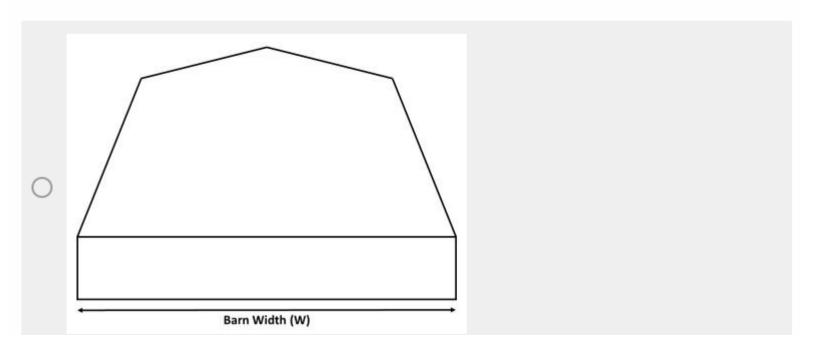
If you selected gambrel as your barn's roof shape, please answer this question.

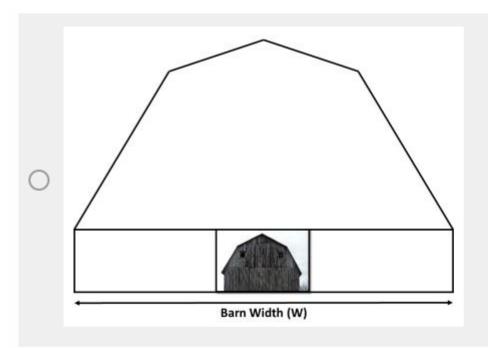
Many current gambrel roofs started as gable roofs and were converted later. The shape of this roof can be a great clue to barn age, type and location in Ontario.

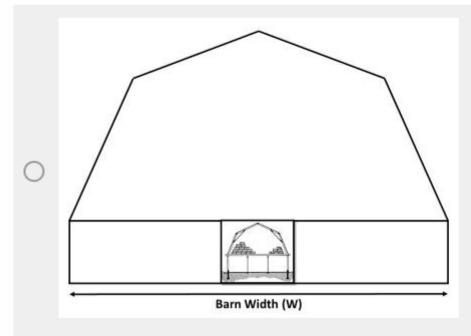
There are literally thousands of different shapes of gambrel roofs because shape depends upon the lower roof slope, the upper roof slope, the distance of this slope change from the side walls, and the roof peak height.

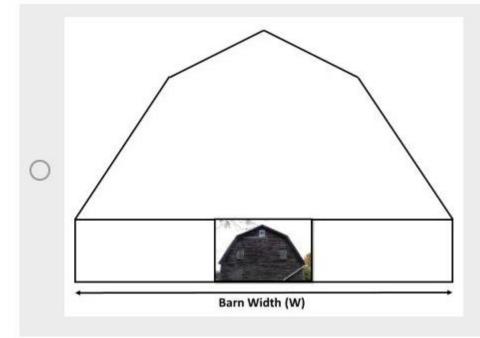
Which of the following most resembles the shape of your gambrel roof from the 'boxy' shape of the first one, to the 'pointy' shape of the last one?

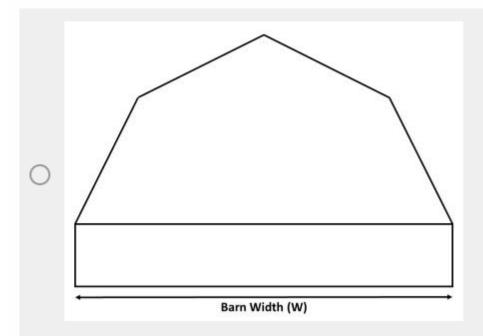
Stand as far away as practical from the end of the barn to avoid distortion of the roof shape.

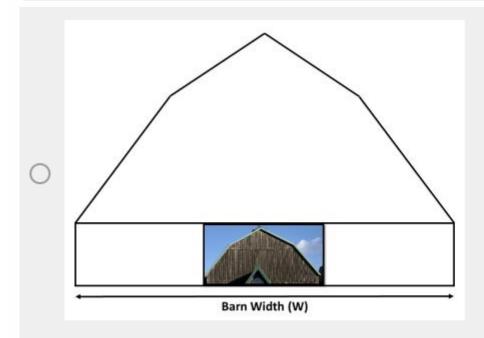












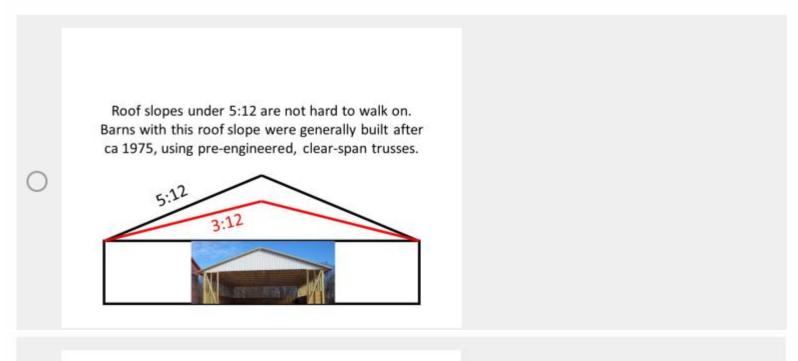
O Unsure

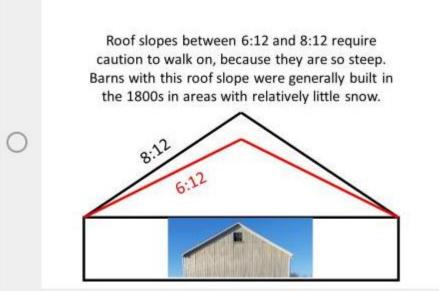
Q5.11. Barn Roof Shape

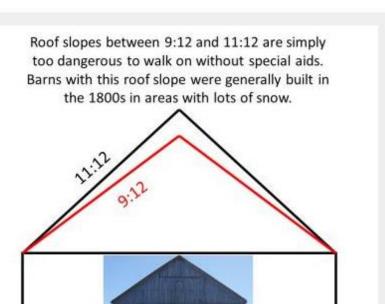
If you selected **Gable, Saltbox, Broken-Gable, Hip, Half-Gable, Monitor, or Dutch** as your barn's roof shape, please answer this question, because roof slope can be a great clue to barn age, type and location in Ontario.

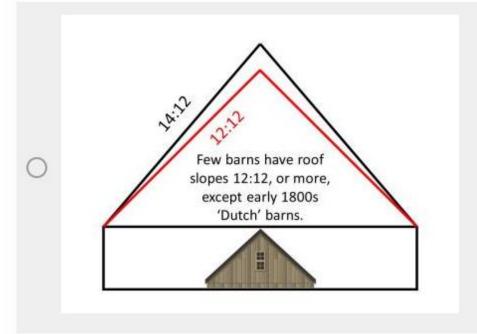
Which of the following most resembles the slope of the biggest section of the roof of your barn?

Stand as far away as practical from the end of the barn to avoid distortion of the roof shape.









O Don't know

Q5.12. Barn Structure and Construction Method

If unsure about your barn's structure and construction method, please do your best to match your barn to the photos provided.

Heavy timber frame - with or without lower level basement or stable







Stone walls up to roof, with heavy timber frame inside

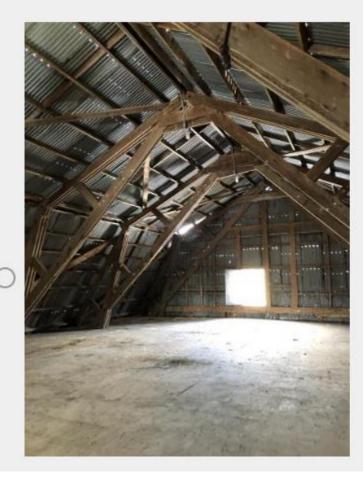




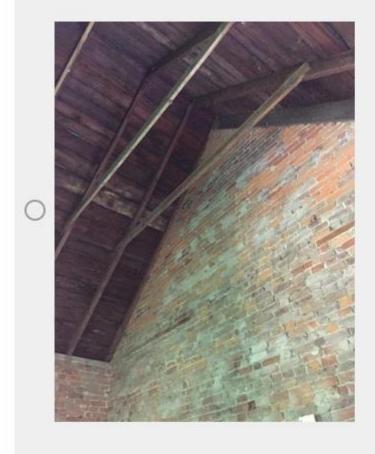
Horizontal log frame



Stick (light board) frame

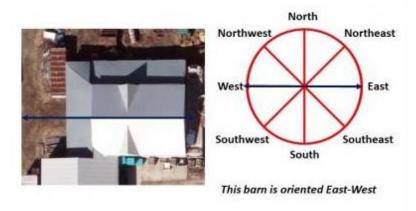


Brick barn - Brick walls up to, or partially to the roof.

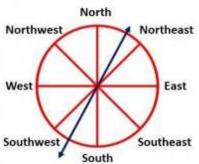


Other (Please specify)

$\mathbb{Q}5.13.$ Compass Orientation of barn roof ridge (peak)







It's a judgment call, but this barn is oriented Northeast-Southwest

- O North-South
- East-West
- Northwest-Southeast
- Northeast-Southwest
- O Unsure

Q5.14. Barn Measurements

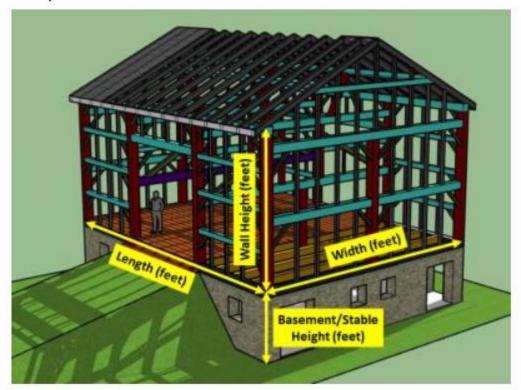
The simplest barns to measure are like the single one below. It has a simple length, width and wall height. However, many farms have complex layouts of two or more barns. There are L-shaped layouts with two barns perpendicular to each other. There are U-shaped layouts with two parallel barns connected by a third barn. There are lean-tos and offset barns and barns that are connected with different wall heights, barn widths, barn lengths, and many other combinations. However, most layouts likely started with a first single barn, then one or more barns were added over several years or even over generations as needs changed. The construction details may be completely different.

It is beyond the scope of this study to try to record every barn layout situation out there. So, to simplify things, we ask you to first try to identify the 'oldest' single barn within the complex and record this barn in the study. If you are interested in studying more interesting barns on your place, we ask you to start a second study on a subsequent barn that may be attached to the first one, maybe even in an L-shape, or perhaps is somewhere else on your operation. If you think it would be helpful to show your barn layout, draw it to the best of your ability, and take a photo or scan it and attach it later in this study. We are happy to accept anything you send us about your barn.

The use of a measuring device (e.g., measuring tape, laser measuring app on cell phone, laser measuring tool e.g., below) is required to complete this part of the survey.

The picture below demonstrates the required measurements. Please enter your measurements in **feet** and round to the **nearest foot**.

We suggest you measure on the **outside** of the barn or the **inside frame**. If you are doing the measurements inside the barn, remember to measure to the outside face of the beams and posts.





Q5.15. Outside width of barn in feet (e.g., 30)
Q5.16. Outside length of barn in feet (e.g., 50)
$\mathbb{Q}5.17.$ Wall height in feet (measure from the main floor to the top of the wall beam
supporting rafters on the part of the barn that has the highest wall)
Q5.18. Basement or Stable height in feet (measure from the floor to the underside of the
upper floor)

Q5.19. Barn measurement - follow up question
If you believe the barn was expanded over its lifetime from the original length and/or width please indicate below.
Q5.20. Width of Original barn in feet
Q5.21. Length of Original barn in feet
Q6.1. Welcome to the 3rd section of the "Your Old Barn Study"!
In this section we ask barn owners to upload photos of their barn.
Please use the sample photos as a reference.
Please stand far enough back from the barn to avoid distortion of the photo perspective.

Q6.2. Perspective photo

Include the end, side, and roof in one photo.



Drop files or click here to upload

Q6.3. End photo

Take the photo "straight on" and include the basement, wall, and roof outline.

The end of the barn with any special features or decorations is preferred. If the end of the barn is obscured with things in the way, take the best photo you can.



Q6.4. Side photo

Take the photo "straight on" and include the basement, wall, and entire roof.

Please take both sides of the barn if possible. If not, the side featuring the big doors is preferred.



Drop files or click here to upload

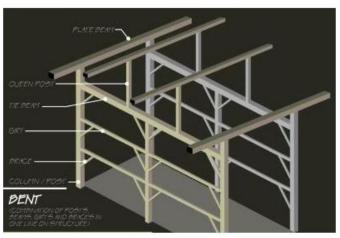
Q6.5. Bent photo

Bents are the cross-sectional structures of the barn, i.e., posts, beams, purlins, braces.

Please take photo(s) to show the structure of one entire bent, and preferably one bordering the threshing floor.







Q6.6. Threshing Floor photo

The threshing floor is the central bay of a barn located between two bents and usually inside the big doors.



Drop files or click here to upload

Q6.7. Underside of Roof photo

Attempt to include as much as possible of the roof structure.



Q6.8. Mortise and Tenon Joint photo (if applicable)

A mortise (hole or groove) and tenon (tongue) joint connects two pieces of wood in the barn structure. Attempt to take a photo of the mortise and tenon where the biggest beams meet the biggest posts, which is likely to be on the bent adjacent to the threshing bay.



Drop files or click here to upload

Q7.1. Welcome to the 4th section of "Your Old Barn Study"!

Special Features of the Barn

In this section we ask barn owners to detail any known special features of their barn.

If you have a better photo of the barn items in the following list of barn features, please send them to OBP and we will use them. Please put the name of the feature in the digital photo name. Also, if you have photos of other barn features you think should be in the study, send them along with a short descriptor.

Q7.2. Does your barn have any **special features** on the **roof** of the barn?

Cupola - a small framed box or dome-like structure on the top of a barn that may have windows or louvered sides - provides ventilation and light



Dormer - a roofed opening projecting at right angles from a sloping roof



Hayhood, Haybonnet, Turkeytail - an extension of the ridge of a barn roof to support and/or protect pulley attachments used to load hay into the mow through the gable end



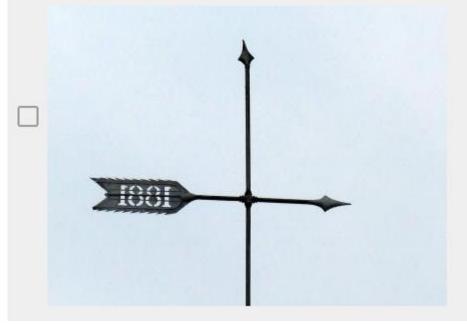
Lightning Rods - metal rod mounted on the barn roof, intended to protect the barn from a lightning strike, lightning strikes the rod and is conducted to the ground through a wire



Ventilator - exited through the roof with a weather cover



Weathervane - an instrument used for showing the direction of the wind, used as an architectural ornament



Windmill - structure that converts wind power into rotational energy by means of vanes called sails or blades



Wooden Shakes/Shingles - roof covering. Shingles - sawn on both sides, tapered in thickness, thinner than shakes. Shakes - split on one or both sides.



Other (please specify)

Q7.3. Does your barn have any **special features** on the **outside of barn walls**?

Earthen ramp to mow – these soil ramps were either constructed to create a ramp from the normal surrounding grade, up to the mow of the second level of the barn, or were a naturally occurring ramp to mow, since the barn was built into the side of a hill.



Board and Batten



Brick Foundation



Carved or Scribed Dates



Decorative paintings, decorations, carvings

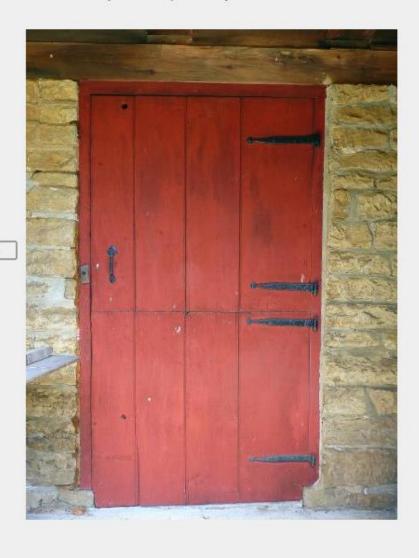
Decorative window



Diamond Cross - on gable end of barn



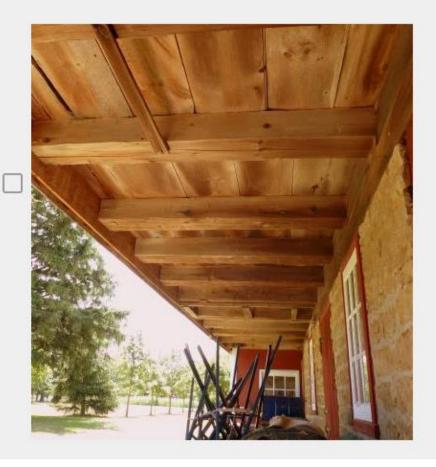
Dutch door - a two part door divided horizontally that allows for opening the upper and lower parts separately



Embrasure - narrow slit opening built into a stone wall



Forebay, Overshoot - area created by an overhanging (cantilevered) or post supported second floor (posted forebay) on the lower side of a barn, common feature of Pennsylvania barns



Bridge ramp to mow - same as an earthen ramp to mow, but it stops at least 4 to 12 ft from the barn, then continues with a steel/wooden/concrete supported bridge the rest of the way.



Horizontal Wood Cladding



Owl Hole - holes cut high in the gable end of the barn to allow owls to enter, facilitates vermin control, normally decorative



Pedlar siding or roof - sheet metal



Pentice - covering attached to a barn wall to provide additional outside shelter over the great cart doors



Vertical Wood cladding



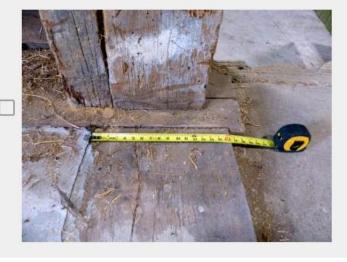
Other (please specify)

Q7.4. Does your barn have any **special features** in the **upstairs** or **mow** of the barn?

Anchor beam - massive cross beam in the structure known as the centre H, defining feature is thru-tenons on each end, unique to Dutch barns



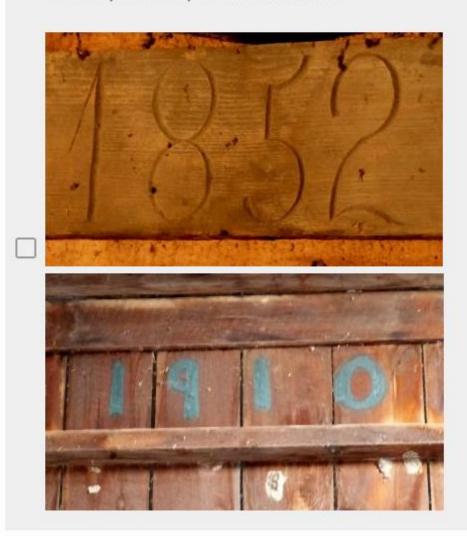
Beams with one or more dimensions 12 inches or greater



Canted Queen Post - queen posts angled outward between the tie-beam and purlin (usually 90 degrees to the rafters)



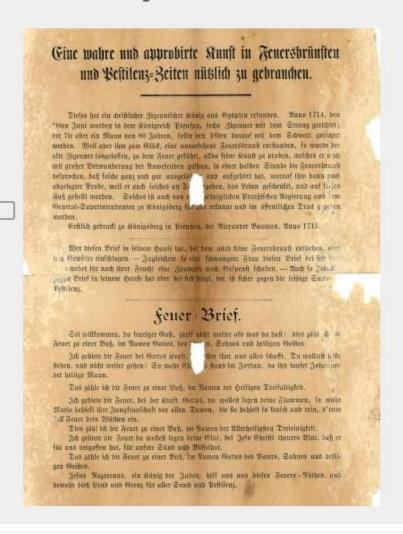
Carved, scribed, or written dates



Double-threshing floor (instead of just one)



Fire letters: These are very rare and were sometimes hidden in barns or homes by pioneers. The one below is written in High German. They were placed somewhere safe to ward off lightning strikes, fire, sorcery, witchcraft, pestilence and any other bad luck that might occur.



Granary - a wooden storeroom for threshed grain, usually adjacent to the threshing floor



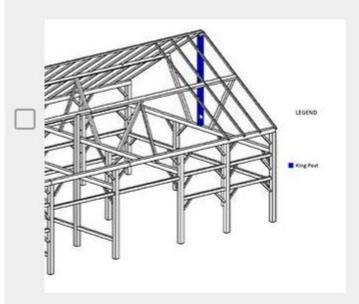
Haydoor - large door in the top of the gable end wall to facilitate hay movement into the mow, often protected by a hayhood



Hayfork and Trolley - a mechanical device suspended from ropes and used for moving loose hay from a wagon into the hayloft or mow



King Post - a barn post that supports the ridgeboard or ridge-pole of a barn roof, often bearing on a tie beam, only one king post per bent



Marriage mark, carpenter mark



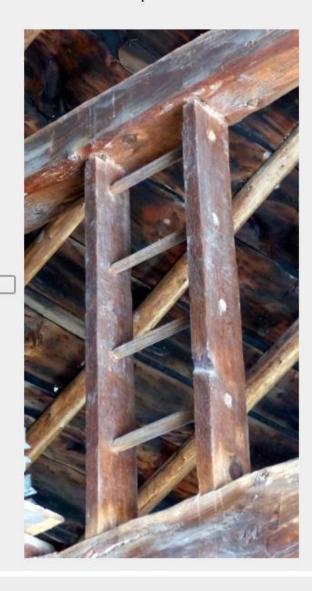
Mortise and tenon joints



Mortise and tenon joints with pins greater than 1.5 inches in diameter



Mow ladder - wooden ladder framed as part of a bent to allow access to the mow when full of crops



Mowstead Wall - Wall adjacent to the threshing bay, ranging from about three to six feet, or more, high above the floor. They are usually constructed with horizontal boards nailed to partial tie beams and bent posts.



Scarf Joint - a joint for fastening timbers end to end



Swing Beam - a large strong tie-beam between opposing posts on an interior bent, supported only at each end



Symbols (fertility, religious, concentric circles)



Temporary joist holes on one of both sides of a swing beam, or any other beam running across the barn width, adjacent to the threshing floor



Tongue and groove floor boards



Wagon rack lifter





Wooden pinned floor boards

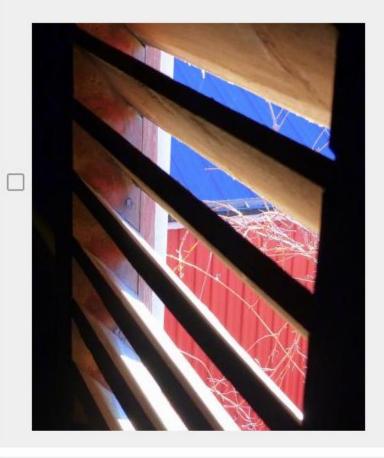


Writing/Notes/Initials - anywhere in the barn





Ventilator - stable ventilators often exit through the roof with a weather cover, mow ventilators either placed along the ridge or built into the gables with slatted or screened openings



Vertical queen posts



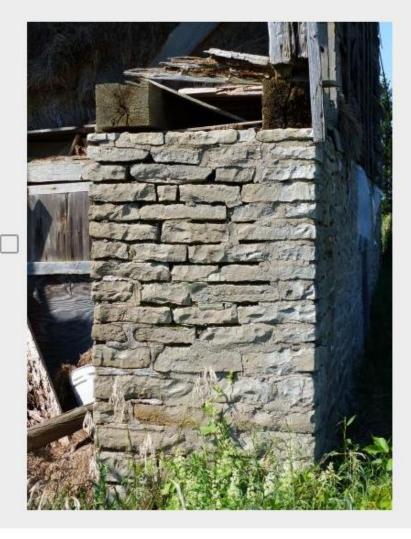
Other (please specify)

Q7.5. Does your barn have any **special features** in the **basement/stable** of the barn?

Barn was originally on the ground, then jacked up onto a foundation wall at some later date



Basement/stable walls greater than 18 inches thick

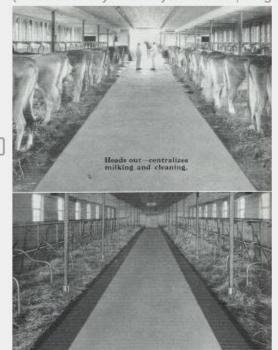


Curry comb holder in wall



Manure gutters

(Photo courtesy of Beatty Barn Book, Fergus, Ontario, 1949)



Manure litter carrier / Manure caddy



Stanchions - wooden, metal

(Photo courtesy of Beatty Barn Book, Fergus, Ontario, 1949)



Stovewood walls



Tapered windows



Threshold, Doorsill - metal, stone or wooden member lying under a door of the barn



Other (please specify)

Latches - wood or metal





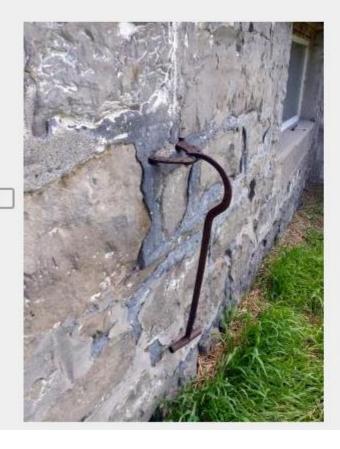




Rollers



Rings - embedded hooks in stone wall to tie up a horse



Pintle - embedded gate hinges in a stone wall

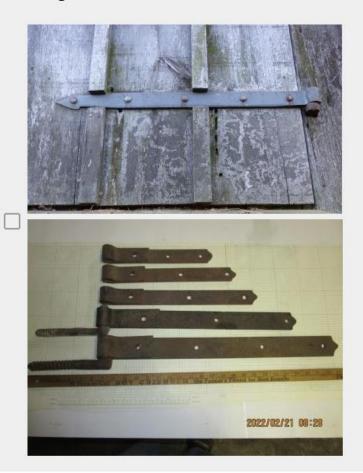




Forged Nails



Gudgeons



Hasps and Hooks







Hinges



Handles



Rope Making Device



Other types of innovative hardware (please specify)

Q8.1.

Welcome to the 5th section of "Your Old Barn Study"!

Description of the Barn Complex

In this section, please indicate any structural additions attached to the original barn.
Milk House
Silo
Lean-to shed
Another barn with roof line running same direction as original barn
Another barn with roof line running perpendicular to the original barn
☐ Feed room
Workshop
☐ Well and/or Well House
☐ Root Cellar
Corn Crib
Carriage House
☐ Granary
Cistern
Other (please specify)

Q8.2. (Optional) Please submit an aerial photo or overhead sketch/diagram of the barn complex.

There were 1000s of farmstead aerial photos taken across Canada, mostly after WW-II.

These photos created a great record of your old barn, because the photos give lots of clues to its size and construction. If you can scan and include this photo, it would be fantastic as it likely shows other buildings that may not even exist anymore.



Drop files or click here to upload

Q8.3. (Optional) Please submit a Google Maps™ aerial photo of your barn complex, you can do a 'Print Screen' when you are on the map, save it as a jpg and submit it here.



Drop files or click here to upload

floorplan/layout. Drop files or click here to upload Q8.5. Current Use of Barn Livestock Equine housing Field and/or Horticultural Crop Handling and Storage **Equipment Storage Business** Workshop Dwelling Weddings/banquets Winery Cidery Farm Market Lumber storage Agritourism Not used for anything Other (please specify)

Q8.4. (Optional) Please submit a sketch/diagram or photo of your barn's stable

$\mathbb{Q}9.1$. Welcome to the 6th and final section of "Your Old Barn Study"!

Barn Story and Historical Photo(s) (Optional)

Please tell us a fun fact, story or memory about the history of your barn in a short paragraph (maximum 250 words).

Q9.2. Please submit up to four historical photos of your barn or photos of any unique features of your barn.



Drop files or click here to upload

Q9.3. Historical barn photo #2

Drop files or click here to upload

Q9.4. Historical barn photo #3

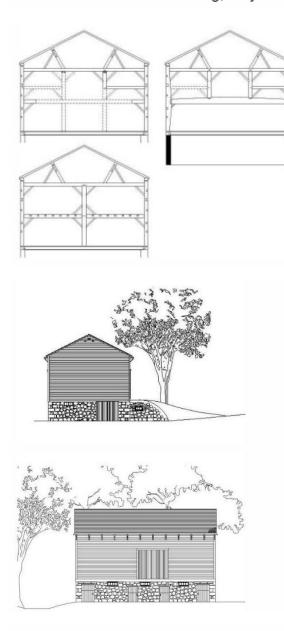
Drop files or click here to upload

Q9.5. Historical barn photo #4

Drop files or click here to upload

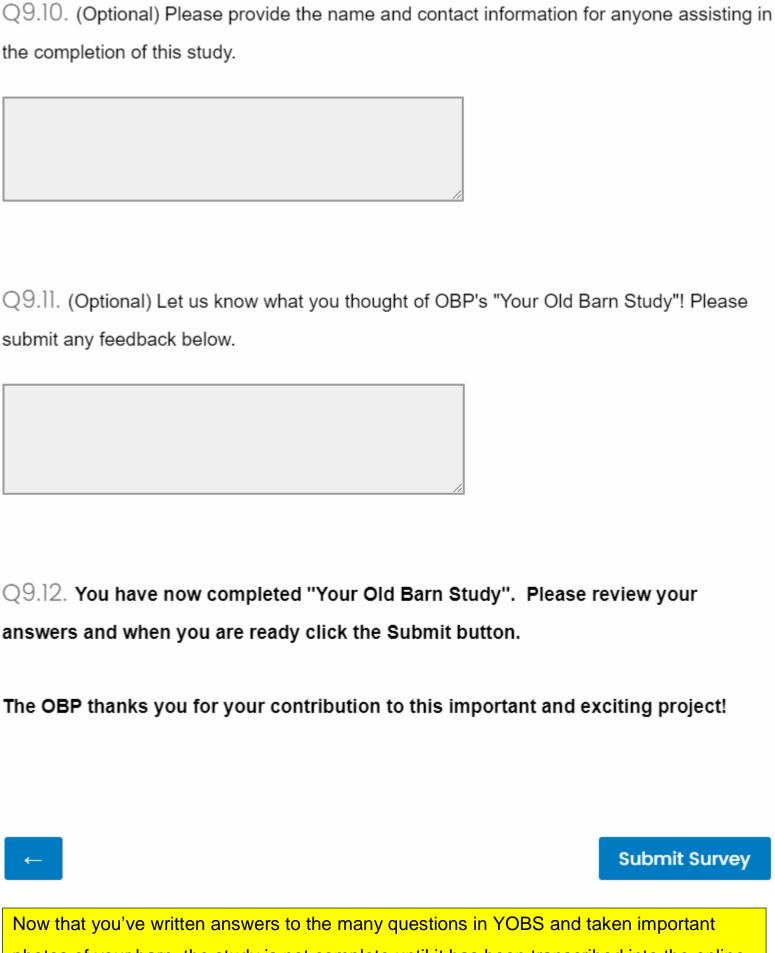
Q9.6. Photo(s) date(s) if known and any pertinent details. Please indicate to which photo				
above you are referring with regard to dates, or pertinent details.				
Q9.7. The People's Archive of Rural Ontario (PARO) is a University of Guelph project with				
an objective to collect stories about rural Ontario. OBP supports this initiative, particularly				
as it relates to the stories of historical barns.				
For more information on PARO please find their website attached. https://www.ruralontario.org/				
(Optional) If you are interested in participating in this project, please click Yes below and provide your email in the box below.				
Yes				
$\mathbb{Q}9.8.$ Occasionally the OBP conducts barn tours for the interest of its members.				
If you are you interested in allowing the OBP to include your barn in such a tour, please click Yes below and provide your email.				
O Yes				

Q9.9. OBP would like to study some barns in much more detail so that construction drawings can be drawn in precise detail with special features and/or construction techniques. See examples below. These drawings would allow future researchers to understand how barns were designed so they could actually be rebuilt in the future. This work would be conducted by an OBP-sanctioned professional and may include architectural, engineering and history students as part of their studies. As this work is very detailed and time consuming, only a few barns would be selected for these drawings.



If you are interested in allowing the OBP to include your barn for this more precise study and construction drawings, please click Yes below and provide your email.

○ Yes	



Now that you've written answers to the many questions in YOBS and taken important photos of your barn, the study is not complete until it has been transcribed into the online version. It is your responsibility to ensure that you, or someone else does this for you.