

Mahaffy Barn

Arcanum, Ohio
Three Barns & A Corncrib



Barn History:

The Mahaffy barns and corn crib were built between 1870 and 1879. In 1846, Mahaffy immigrated from Ireland, retired from farming in 1888, and died in 1892. In 1879, it was recorded that the farm had 2 horses, 2 milk cows which produced 200 lbs. of butter. Additional livestock included: 3 other cattle, 17 swine, 50 barnyard poultry that produced 300 eggs. Fifteen acres of Indian corn produced 600 bushels; 2 acres of oats produced 90 bushels; ½ acre of sorghum produced 40 gallons of molasses, 2 acres of Irish potatoes produced 130 bushels; 1 acre of tobacco produced 1000 lbs. Tobacco would require its own building in order to dry the leaves. Tobacco leaves would be laid over sticks and hung throughout the barn to dry. Over the years, more acres were allotted to the growth of tobacco.

After James died, Robert, one of the youngest sons, bought the farm from his oldest brother John Mahaffy. In 1899, Robert purchased neighboring land to increase the farm from 40 acres to 80 acres. Robert farmed the land for 40 years. Robert died in 1930 from a stroke. The estate was bequeathed to two sisters and three nieces. The farm was left to a friend, Bessie Landis Dickey. Over the years, the farm was passed on to Bessie's, daughter, daughter-in-law, grand daughter-in-law and great granddaughters. In February 2021 it was sold to a young woman. The barns were requested to be salvaged.

Barn Sizes:

Barn #1 30' x 68' / Barn #2 30' x 52' / Barn #3 24' x 46' / corn crib 24' x 30'



American Barn and Wood

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