

United States Department of the Interior  
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 Werner, Louis Barn  
Other names/site number KHRI #095-73  
Name of related Multiple Property Listing Historic Agricultural-Related Resources of Kansas

## 2. Location

Street & number <u>4550 N.E. 80<sup>th</sup> Ave</u>	NA	not for publication
City or town <u>Pretty Prairie</u>	NA	vicinity
State <u>Kansas</u> Code <u>KS</u> County <u>Kingman</u> Code <u>095</u> Zip code <u>67570</u>		

## 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

Patrick Zollner 11-11-20  
Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date

Kansas State Historical Society  
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:)

**Listed December 22, 2020**

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.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total</b>

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

NA

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural  
field, storage, agricultural outbuilding

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS  
OTHER: Gambrel Roof Barn

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: WOOD

roof: METAL

other: \_\_\_\_\_

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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

The Louis Werner Barn is located at 4550 N.E. 80<sup>th</sup> Street in Pretty Prairie, Kingman County, Kansas. The simple wood-framed rectangular barn features a gambrel roof and was constructed in 1914. The barn is located on a 5-acre area of a much larger agricultural property. Off the north side of the barn is an attached small milking shed. Overall, the structure retains excellent historic integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association. The material and workmanship qualities can be seen throughout the structure along with its character defining features with the gambrel roof, interior structure, openings, and the distribution and use of space. The Louis Werner Barn is an excellent example of a gambrel roof barn and agricultural property in Kingman County, Kansas.

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## Elaboration

### Site and Setting:

Located in the south-central part of Kansas, Kingman County was a vast area of a treeless, undulating prairie of long stem grass interspersed with patches of buffalo and bunchgrass, depending on the soil. The 160 acres of land in which the barn sits, is within the northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 27-South, Range 6-West of the 6<sup>th</sup> parallel in Kingman County, Kansas. The Louis Werner Barn is located on 160 acres of land associated with the Louis Werner Farmstead. The farmland consists of 154.6 acres owned by Dennis, Vera, and Charles Werner. The barn, and other buildings, are located on a separate 5.4 acres of land owned by Charles Werner. The barn, farmhouse, and outbuildings begin at the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 27-South, Range 6-West, and make a large rectangle. The boundary continues north along the section line a distance of 24 rods, then east at a right angle for 36 rods, then out at a right angle for 25 rods. Then the property continues west on the south line of the northwest quarter for 36 rods. The buildings are surrounded by open agricultural land, which is typically used for cattle and hay. The 5.4 acres features typical farm landscaping with older trees, windbreaks along the north boundary line, filling the southeast quarter of the property, and sparsely placed within the southwest quarter of the rectangle. The selected boundary for this nomination is the footprint of the barn as it is eligible for its architectural significance and the remaining building are not included in this nomination.

### Overview:

The Louis Werner barn is located approximately 13 miles northeast of the town of Kingman. It is located 2.5 miles east of a once-thriving town in the early 1900s called Varner, which is located in White Township in Kingman County. Varner in the early 1900s had a church, a school, a post office, a bank, grocery, dry goods and hardware stores, two grain elevators, two restaurants, two blacksmith shops, and several houses. Today it has a Co-op grain elevator and two houses. The Louis Werner barn is also located 6 miles south of the town of Pretty Prairie.

The Louis Werner barn, built 1914, is a simple wood-framed rectangular building with a gambrel roof and a small gable-roof addition on the back elevation that houses the milking parlor. The barn, not currently used, stands in a grassy area that once was fenced off as a corral for cattle and is oriented north-south on the northern portion of the property. The barn was built with cottonwood and fir lumber, roofed originally with wood shingles, and sided with 5" wood lap siding. The barn's frame is built of 2" x 6" studs 2" x 6" rafter joists, 16" OC that runs east to west. The upper framework is supported by three stringers that run the length of the barn up to the milking parlor. Each stringer is composed of three 2" x 6" pieces of lumber nailed together and distributed evenly at 9' increments from the west wall, the middle, and the east wall. The milk parlor has 2" x 6" studs 24" OC with 2" x 6" rafters 24" OC that runs north and south for 19' in length. The hayloft floor is 22" lower over the milking parlor than the rest of the barn, which stands 8' to 10' high from the concrete floor to the hayloft floor.

The gambrel roof is over the main part of the barn, and the gable roof is over the milking parlor. The gambrel roof was originally roofed with wood shingles. At a later date, probably in the 1920-30s, a second layer of wood shingles was added on top of the original wood shingles. In December 2000, the two layers of wood shingles were replaced with white decorated metal roofing. The wood shingles on the gable roof addition were removed during the 1980s and replaced with

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1-1/4" corrugated roofing. All of the windows appear to be original historic wood windows. Some of the glass has been replaced in a few windows, though most windows feature broken panes or sashes.

### South Facade

The south (main) façade faces the house, the concrete milk barn, granary, chicken house, and the driveway from the dirt road onto the property. The hayloft opening centered on the gambled pitch consists of a large opening covered by two doors that are hinged to open to the inside of the hayloft. The top section of each door is hinged to the remaining door, which is lowered downward first before each door can be opened inward. The top section of each of the big hayloft doors must be lowered as they are made to fit the gambrel roof design. Without lowering the top section, the big doors can only be opened inward a short distance.<sup>1</sup> This door opening was used to receive loose hay bundles that were lifted by a hay sling to the pitch of the roof and then brought to the interior of the barn. There is a smaller 24" x 40" hinged door located below the big door located in the center of the elevation (not accessible via ground level). This lower door opening was primarily used to place a bale elevator through so the bales could be raised on the elevator and then stacked inside the hayloft. Two four-over-four double-hung wood windows are on either side of the hayloft doors. Below, on the lower level, are three-four lite fixed 20" x 24" wood windows that are located an equal distance apart from each other. These windows are about 5' to 6' above the ground level.

Inside the south façade of the barn are two 8' feeders for feeding livestock. Between the south wall and feeders is a 22' walkway, which starts outside of the storage room and goes to the west wall. It continues along the side of the storage room creating an "ell" shape design which provides better accessibility. There is a hay shoot above the walkway on the west side of the barn with a cover that opens up into the hayloft. Bales or loose hay can be thrown down into the feeder below. Next to it is a storage room used for storing sacked grain for feed. This room consists of two dimensions: one of 60" w x 87" lg, with a smaller size opening in front of it of 24" w x 48" lg. The interior wall of this storage room is covered by corrugated metal, while the exterior wall covers the other two sides. There is a hinged door to the opening of this storage room. Next to the storage room is a stairway that leads up to the hayloft.

### East Facade

The east side has an 8' opening towards the south end of the barn, which is enclosed with two 52" by 80" sliding doors. This is considered as the main entrance to the barn and used most often to get access to various calf pens, the stairway to the hayloft, and a storage room. Next to the north of this opening is another opening with a 48" x 72" sliding door. Inside of this doorway is a long walkway that extends the entire width of the barn with two 25' feeders, one feeder on each side of the walkway. There is another hay shoot above the walkway on the west with a cover that opens up into the hayloft. Further towards the north end of the barn are two 48" x 36" hinged half doors, which is a top and bottom door, that livestock entered and are placed in a large holding pen.

Next is a 36" x 80" sliding door with a 25' walkway inside of the barn that had individual feeders on the right side where grain and alfalfa were placed to feed the cows while milking. On the left side of the walkway is a rope attached to a beam that supports the rafters and extends over the milking parlor. When extended, the rope would reach outward through this door opening to the horses (later a tractor), which pulled the hay sling in the hayloft. There is another hay shoot above the walkway on the west side with a cover that opens up into the hayloft. The northeast corner of the barn where the milking parlor is located, are two-four lite wood windows and another two 48" x 36" hinged half doors, which is a top and bottom door, where cows entered the barn for milking.

### North Facade

The siding on the north end of the barn (milk parlor) as well as the north end of the main part of the barn above before the pitched roof begins over the milk parlor, has flat metal panels instead of wood lap siding. These panels are 28" in width, with various lengths installed horizontally across. Each panel has a continuous decorative brick look design. The lines

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<sup>1</sup> To open the two big hayloft doors, there are two ladders on the inside of the barn hayloft, one located on each side of the big doors attached to the south wall. First you must climb all the way up on a ladder to the top half of the doors, remove the top 2" x 4" brace that lays inside the metal holders, and lower down the 2" x 4" and place it on the walking platform at the bottom of the door opening. You climb halfway down the ladder to remove the second 2" x 4" brace inside the metal holders and lay it on the platform below. Then down the ladder to remove the lower 2" x 4" brace from the metal holders and lay it down on the platform below. You then pull down on a rod that releases the latches (one for each top door section). This unlatches each top door section from underneath of the gambrel roof which then you lower each top section down to where it is lying flat inside against the larger section of the door. The person goes back to the ladder to pull inward each of the two big doors until each door is opened 90 degrees where one door faces east, and the other door faces west inside the hayloft. To close the hayloft doors, reverse the process used to open them up.

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that form the rectangle brick design are indented into each of the metal panels. Each panel has the appearance of red brick with each row being different than the row above and below it (much like a red brick house). The east and west side of the milk parlor has wood lap siding, the same as the main part of the barn.

The north end of the barn is the milk parlor which is a small area that measures 19' x 28'. It was used by Louis Werner, then later by, Marvin Werner, for milking cows by hand until 1958 when a concrete block milk barn was built south of this barn to milk cows using milking machines. The south end of the milk parlor includes seven extensions with 32" x 40" feeders. In front of each of the feeders is a walkway that the farmer could walk by each feeder and put grain usually in a small wood box, and place it inside the feeder along with hay. Once the cow walks straight into the open extension, the farmer would close the extension around the cow's neck. The farmer would sit on a single legged stool and milk the cow either on her right or left side while the cow is eating grain and hay. After the cow was milked, the farmer would release the extension so the cow could be backed out and exited through the top and bottom doors located at the northeastern corner of the milk parlor, the same doors used to bring the cows into the milk parlor. On the north end of the milk parlor is the north wall of the barn with three - four lite windows located evenly across the width of the barn. Above the milk parlor is a hayloft with a 40" x 48" hinged door with a single glass window located above the door. The hayloft above the milk parlor was used to store straw for bedding calves in the barn and cattle in the cattle sheds during the winter.

### **West Façade**

The west side towards the south end has two 52" x 80" sliding doors, much like the sliding doors on the east side, which provides access into the corral. Further north is a single 48" x 80" sliding door with access also to the corral. It was used to load either a cow, steer, or calf into the stock rack on a pickup truck to be taken to the sale barn in Kingman where livestock was auctioned. Beyond this door to the north are two four-lite windows that provided a view from the milking parlor into the corral. Finally, there is a 48" x 80" sliding door located on the northwest corner of the milking parlor.

### **Integrity and Condition**

The Louis Werner Barn maintains excellent historic integrity of location and setting as the property remains in its original location and setting on the associated historic agricultural property. The feeling and association of the barn is evident through its continued use, function, spatial arrangements, location on the farmstead, and surrounding land. Though some materials have been repaired or replaced, the property still features the vast majority of its historic materials and overall design. There is visible deterioration of the barn, or damaged elements, like the broken historic windows, or missing glass panes. The workmanship can be seen throughout the interior structure, the wood framing, the large and functional openings, and spaces. Overall, the Louis Werner Barn retains its historic integrity and character defining features and is an excellent example of a gambrel roof barn.

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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**

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1914-1915

**Significant Dates**

1914

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Louis Werner

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance includes the dates of construction for the gambrel-roof barn in 1914 and continues through the construction of its gable-roof milking parlor addition. It is not known if the milk parlor was constructed at the same time as the barn or shortly after, so the period will end in 1915 assuming the milk parlor was constructed at roughly the same time as the barn.

**Criteria Considerations (justification)**

N/A

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### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

#### Summary

Constructed in 1914, the Louis Werner Barn is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, for its Architecture. The barn is an excellent example with a gambrel roof, designed, planned and built by its original owner. The barn was built on a concrete floor with cottonwood and fir lumber, roofed originally with wood shingles, and sided with 5-inch wood lap siding. The gambrel-roof structure meets the registration requirements for the *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas*, historic context. Located on 5-acres within a much larger agricultural property, the Louis Werner barn is over 100 years old and still maintains its historic function and association.

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#### Elaboration

##### Establishment Kingman County

This portion of Kansas was originally occupied by the Osage Tribe. In the mid-nineteenth century, Daniel Boone camped on Smoots Creek east of the Hutchinson Southern Division of the Santa Fe Railroad near Kingman. In territorial days, Kingman County was located in Peketon County, which included about one-fourth of the state of Kansas. Over a span of several years, the counties were enlarged, and subdivided until in 1868, Reno, Harper, and Marion Counties were created from legislation.

Through several treaties between the federal government and the Osage Indians, land became designated as Osage Trust Lands and Diminished Reserve (OT & DR), which could be sold for \$1.25 per acre. Settlers bought the land from the federal government with the money put in a trust and eventually given to the Osage Indians. In 1870 Congress enacted legislation for the removal of the Osage tribes to a designated Indian Territory. "In 1872, Kingman's first house was moved by J.H. Fical from Reno County to the north bank of the Ninnescah River. The town was first called Sherman. It was quickly changed to Kingman. In 1873, Fical and his brother took adjoining claims and laid out the initial town plat in 1874."<sup>2</sup>

In February 1874, Governor Osborn issued a proclamation establishing Kingman County.<sup>3</sup> Kingman County was named after Samuel A. Kingman, who served as a Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court until 1876.<sup>4</sup> According to the United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books 1800-c 1955 for Kansas, John W. McDonald purchased on September 23, 1880, a 160-acre tract land from OT & DR for \$1.25 per acre. The Homestead Act provided an eligible person with up to 160 acres in return for a five-year residency and \$18 filing fee.

##### The Golden Age of Farming 1900-1920

By the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the farming markets had adjusted and reformed as the demand for cash crops like wheat became an international commodity. This exert is gathered from the multiple property documentation form, *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas*. "During those years, American farms tripled in value and doubled in gross income. In 1900, there were 5.7 million farms in the United States with an average size of 138 acres. ... In Kansas, the number of farm acres increased nearly four million acres between 1900 and 1920. In 1900, there were still two million acres of unsettled Kansas land, mostly in the northwest and southwest regions."<sup>5</sup> As World War I stressed food supplies in Europe, Kansas farmers produced more than 100 million bushels more than other states. There was a shortage of workers that could help to run the farming lands. With the invention of the self-propelled tractor, Kansas farms almost doubled in size, but the number of farms decreased. "Many farmers used their proceeds from record-high wartime wheat prices to buy tractors, including

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<sup>2</sup> Register of Historic Kansas Places nomination for "Furry Homestead" in Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas. Listed on August 1, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation form, *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas*. P 22

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International Harvester's widely popular Farmall Tractor, which could pull increasingly sophisticated implements."<sup>6</sup> "In 1912, a Wichita man developed a prairie type model. In the early years, many implements dealers invested in combines and began the first custom cutting crews. Between 1919 and 1920 alone, Kansas farmers bought 1500 combines."<sup>7</sup> The state's population increased from 1.47 million people in 1900 to 1.76 million in 1920. "Although few Kansans lived on farms, many of the growing number of urban dwellers were employed in agriculture-related industry. Wichita and Kansas City were livestock centers. The Kansas Stock Yards Company in Kansas City was founded 1871. In 1909-1910, the Kansas City Livestock Company constructed the world's largest livestock exchange building, where it routinely set records for the number of cattle it processed."<sup>8</sup> After WWI ended, the cash crop prices plummeted causing a quick stop to the Golden Age of Agriculture.

### Louis Werner Farm

This 160-acre tract was first settled and homesteaded by John W. McDonald in 1880. Louis Werner purchased the tract from James Orme located in the Galesburg Township of Kingman County as recorded on a deed dated February 14, 1905. According to the Friday, February 17, 1905 issue of the *Kingman Journal*, this is one of the oldest farms in the county. Louis Werner took possession of the farm in the spring for the price of \$4,000. Louis Werner came from Barton County, Kansas to buy a farm and settle in Kingman County. He was born on April 10, 1874, in Austria to Frank and Victoria Werner. His parents moved to the United States sometime in the 1890s.

This 160-acre tract was located next to Karl & Frances Schwab's farm, whom Louis Werner married one of their daughters, Rose, on a Tuesday according to the Friday, May 5, 1910 *Kingman Journal*. Rose, along with her sisters and parents Karl & Frances Schwab, came to America from Austria in 1892, settled in Claflin, Barton County, Kansas. In 1899 they came to Kingman County. On February 15, 1912, Louis & Rose gave birth to a son named Marvin. Later, Louis and Rose Werner adopted a girl, Helen Schick, born on August 8, 1916 in Odin, Barton County, Kansas.

A *Kingman Journal* article from December 11, 1914 mentioned another new barn going up and almost completed. This barn belonged to Louis Werner. Due to the size of the barn, it can be assumed that nearby farmers helped erect this structure, which may have taken considerable time to build. This barn (28' wide x 67' long) was built with a gambrel roof and placed on a concrete foundation. Louis Werner used the barn for milking cows on the north end of the barn, with cows put in extensions that kept them in place so he could milk them by hand. Alfalfa hay and grain were placed in front of each cow while he milked them. The barn was used to house and feed small calves, as well as, horses that were used to pull farm equipment for cutting alfalfa for sowing and cutting wheat crops. Grain to feed the livestock was kept in a small storage room located in the south end of the barn, usually in gunny sacks. The milk from the cows was taken to the house and poured in a cream separator to separate the cream from the milk to be sold, except for some of each kept back for household use. Louis Werner raised pigs for meat that kept the family fed. He raised chickens, keeping the pullets which later provided eggs as hens, and using the male chickens for meat.

The barn has a hay loft used for storing alfalfa hay to feed the livestock in the winter that had been cut in spring and summer months. The hay loft is located on the upper level of the barn and extends the entire length of the barn. Louis Werner used a sickle mower pulled by horses to cut the hay and then a dump rake, pulled by horses, collected the loose hay which was dumped in piles. He would use a hay rack wagon to pick up the loose hay with a pitchfork to throw it up on the wagon. Once the hay rack wagon was full, Louis hauled the hay to in front end (south end) of the barn. There were two big doors on the south end of the hay loft that opened inward so the hay could be stored in the loft. The hay loft had a trolley system built underneath the highest point inside the loft, which consisted of a rail, rope, trolley, and a sling. The trolley rolled forward on a rail that extended outside to under the hay hood just above the hay door where the trolley would stop. The *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas* MPDF points out that hay hoods were a common design of the gambrel roof barn. There the rope with the sling was lowered downward to the hay on the wagon. After the hay bundle was secured to the sling, the horses would then pull the rope away from the barn which brought the sling upward to underneath of the hay hood. Once the sling reached the top, the trolley tripped which then rolled all the way back to the north end of the loft. There the sling released the loose hay by tripping the trolley by rope for release.

Louis Werner grew wheat on the farm. When wheat was ripe and ready to cut, he would use a binder that was pulled by horses and cut the wheat, and put it in wheat bundles. He would place the bundles on a horse-drawn wagon for hauling to

<sup>6</sup> National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation form, *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas*. P 24

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, P 25

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, P 26

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a nearby threshing machine where the wheat was separated from the chaff. The wheat would be dumped into a wagon and hauled to the nearby grain elevator in Varner. The wheat was shoveled into a pit in the floor of the elevator where the grain would be drawn upward by a conveyer system consisting of a belt and wood cups and then dumped downward to a grain bin. The grain elevator was operated by a steam engine.

Louis Werner continued building up his farm, adding other buildings over time. In 1925, he built a new house which stands today. According to the Friday, June 6, 1924 *Kingman Journal*, it mentions that Louis Werner had the misfortune of losing his previous house by fire. Louis passed away in October 1935 and was buried in Waterloo Cemetery at St. Louis Catholic Church, located approximately 5 miles south of the farm. This is the church where he and his wife Rose were married and where the family attended church services. Waterloo, like Varner, was a thriving town in the early 1900s with several businesses that included a blacksmith shop, grocery store, livery stable, two schools and two churches.

### Werner Farm Continued Use

After Louis Werner passed away, Rose, together with her son, Marvin, took over the farm. Marvin continued the farm operations like his dad, except tractors were used to pull farm equipment instead of horses. Marvin bought a 1939 small AR John Deere tractor and in 1940 bought a John Deere No. 12A pull type combine that had a five-foot header. Marvin used both the John Deere tractor and combine into the 1970's when the tractor was replaced by a Massey Harris and the combine was eventually retired. Custom cutters were hired to cut the wheat for several years.

Marvin Werner had a concrete upright silo built in 1953 and a concrete block dairy barn built in 1958. Instead of milking cows by hand in the old barn, cows were milked by machines in the new barn. Marvin Werner milked as many as 30 cows at one time, raising a number of calves, keeping the heifers and selling the steers. Marvin Werner grew corn to have it cut for silage to feed the cattle. A neighbor with a two-row silage cutter was hired to cut the corn, which was loaded on wagons (later on trucks) and brought to a silage blower. The silage was dumped into the blower conveyer that lead the silage to a big internal fan that would blow the silage up into circular pipe, through a goose neck, and down into the upright silo. Later a trench silo was built about a quarter mile north of the barn where sorghum was cut for silage and dumped into the silo by truck. A caterpillar drove over the silage to pack it down to keep it from having too much spoilage. The old barn was still used to house and feed small calves in the winter months. Instead of putting loose hay in the hay loft, hay was now being baled with a hay baler, stacked as small bales on wagons and hauled to the south end of the old barn where individually they were placed on a bale booster. The bale booster, consisted of a conveyer that had metal slats placed across the chains which was turned by sprockets, powered by either electric motor or gasoline engine. Person on the wagon would throw a bale on the booster that would convey the bale to the loft, to be taken off the booster by a person in the loft and carried back in the loft to be stacked.

Marvin Werner married Mildred Pauly on April 22, 1947. Mildred Pauly attended St. Louis Catholic church where she met Marvin Werner. Marvin and Mildred raised three sons as well as a daughter from his first wife, Anna Beck, who passed away previously. Marvin Werner milked Holstein cows and sold Grade A milk. He grew wheat, corn, alfalfa, sorghum, and Sudan grass for cattle feed until 1983 when he retired from farming. Since farming was becoming more like a big business operation requiring tremendous capital, bigger farm equipment, and more farmland to succeed, he decided to rent out the farmland to a nearby farmer. Marvin Werner passed away in October 1994, followed by his wife, Mildred, in July 2002. The farmland was deeded to the three sons, with the farm buildings located on 5.4 acres deeded over to the oldest son, Charles, who currently lives on the farm today. In August 2011, the second oldest son, Larry, died from cancer. His wife, Vera, along with Charles and Dennis have joint ownership of the farmland in which wheat is still being grown. The old barn stands on its current foundation, not being used since 1983.

### Gambrel-Roof Barns

The Louis Werner barn is an excellent example of the Gambrel-Roof Barn as defined in the multiple property documentation, *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas* as being:

One-and-a-half or two-and-a-half stories high, with concrete or masonry foundations and wood-framed upper stories. Like most Gable-Roof barns, Gambrel-Roof barns usually feature a central aisle flanked by stalls, stanchions and/or granaries on the first floor and hay storage on the upper stories.

Because Gambrel-Roof barns were designed for maximum hay storage, haymows typically cover the entire upper level. As in many gable-roof designs, hay was historically carried into the haymow through a large hay door under a hay hood, designed not only to shelter the hay, but also to provide for an extending hay-fork tract. Although

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Gambrel-Roof Barns were built in Kansas from the 1880s until ca. 1950, the methods of construction varied widely over time. Early gambrel roofs, constructed with timbers and heavy composite framing, created a visually interesting roofline. Later gambrel roofs, with balloon framing and advanced truss systems, provided a roof structure that maximized the volume of the roof space. High-style examples features flared eaves with exposed rafter tails. The later examples employed "new" building materials and trends. For instance, the vast majority of concrete or part-concrete barns have gambrel roofs.<sup>9</sup>

The Louis Werner barn is an excellent example of the gambrel-roof barn type and it retains its historic integrity and character defining features. Its history, design and construction make it a significant contribution to the Kansas landscape and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its architecture. The materials and workmanship are seen through the ingenuity of the early-20<sup>th</sup> century builders. The structure and its character defining features of the gambrel roof, interior structure, openings, and distribution and use of space all remain intact.

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<sup>9</sup> National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation form, *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas*. P 51

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

*The Kingman Journal*, (Kingman, Kansas), 1 December 1914 p.4

*The Kingman Journal*, (Kingman, Kansas), 17 February 1905 p.5

*The Kingman Journal*, (Kingman, Kansas), 6 June 1924 p.3

*The Kingman Journal*, (Kingman, Kansas), "Werner-Schwab nuptials," May 1905 p.1

Study of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Little House on the Prairie – by Penny T Littsenmayer – p.172 & 180

United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1800-c. 955-Kansas Vol. 107

Register of Historic Kansas Places nomination for "Furry Homestead" in Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas. Listed on August 1, 2020.

National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation, "Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas."

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than 1 acre

**Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.**

(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>37.713371°</u>	<u>-97.971921°</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

The Louis Werner Barn is located at the Northwest Quarter (N/W4) of Section Ten (10), Township Twenty-Seven (27), Range Six (6) West of the 6<sup>th</sup> PM, Kingman County, Kansas, surrounded by historically associated 160 acres of agricultural fields. The barn itself sits on the 5-acre area where the other farmstead buildings are located.

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**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The Louis Werner Barn sits on the 5-acre area where the other farmstead buildings are located. The selected boundary for the barn nomination is the footprint since the building is eligible for listing for its architecture and the other associated farm buildings are not included in the nomination.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Dennis Werner  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 9/23/2019  
street & number 9615 W Hickory Lane telephone 316-619-9558  
city or town Wichita state KS zip code 67212  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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**Property Owner:** (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Barn & 5 acres owned by Charles Werner 154.6 acres owned joint: Dennis, Vera & Charles Werner  
street & number 9615 W Hickory Lane telephone 316-619-9558  
city or town Wichita state KS zip code 67212

**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.

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to a sketch map or aerial 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.

**Photograph Log**

**Name of Property:** TEMPORARY PHOTOS ATTACHED  
**City or Vicinity:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**County:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** Kansas  
**Photographer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Photographed:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Photo Number	View	Description
#1		
#2		
#3		
#4		
#5		
#6		
#7		
#8		
#9		
#10		
#11		
#12		
#13		
#14		
#15		
#16		
#17		
#18		

**Figures**

Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.

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THESE ARE TEMPORARY IMAGES UNTIL KSHS STAFF IS ABLE TO TRAVEL AND DOCUMENT THE PROPERTY

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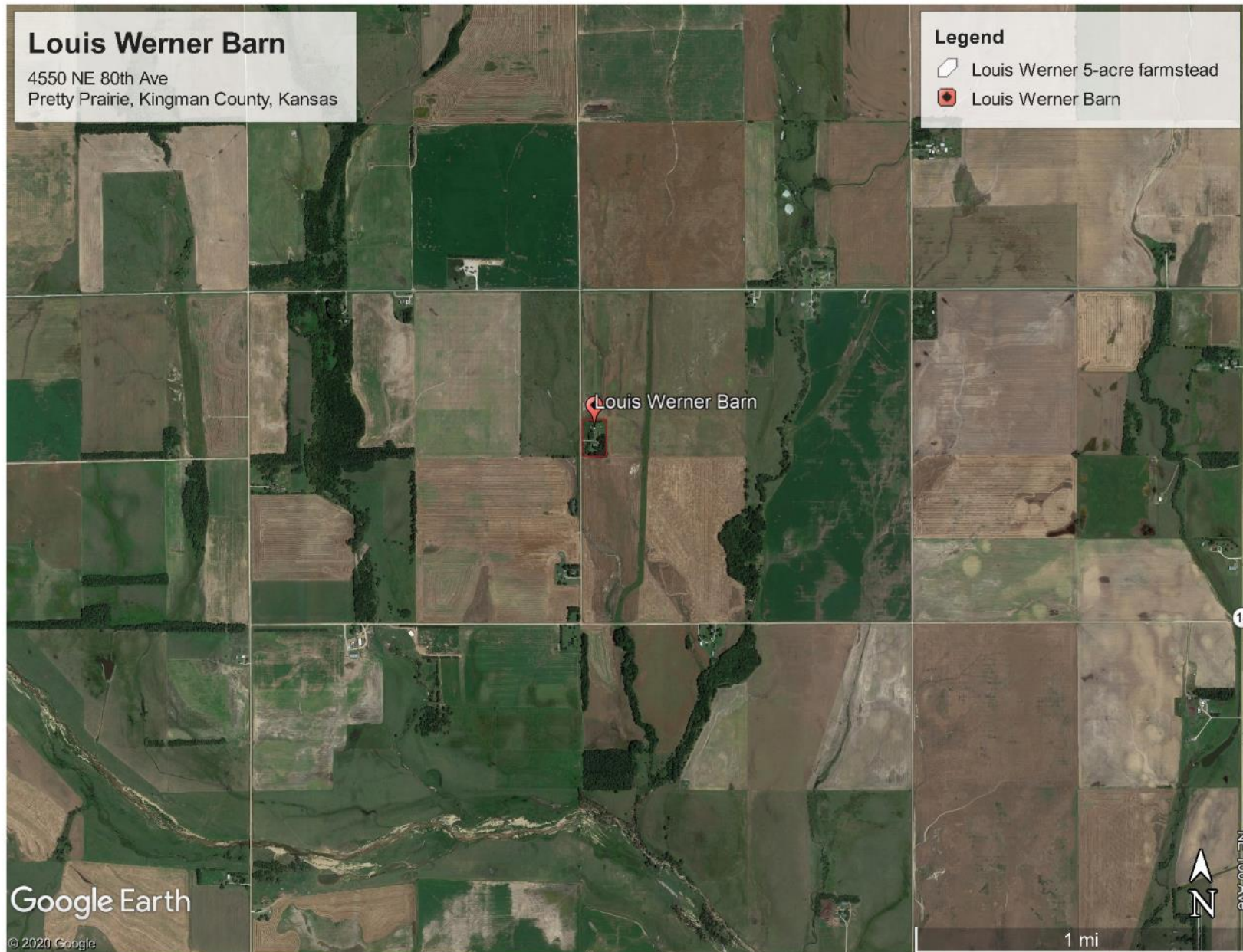


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Name of Property

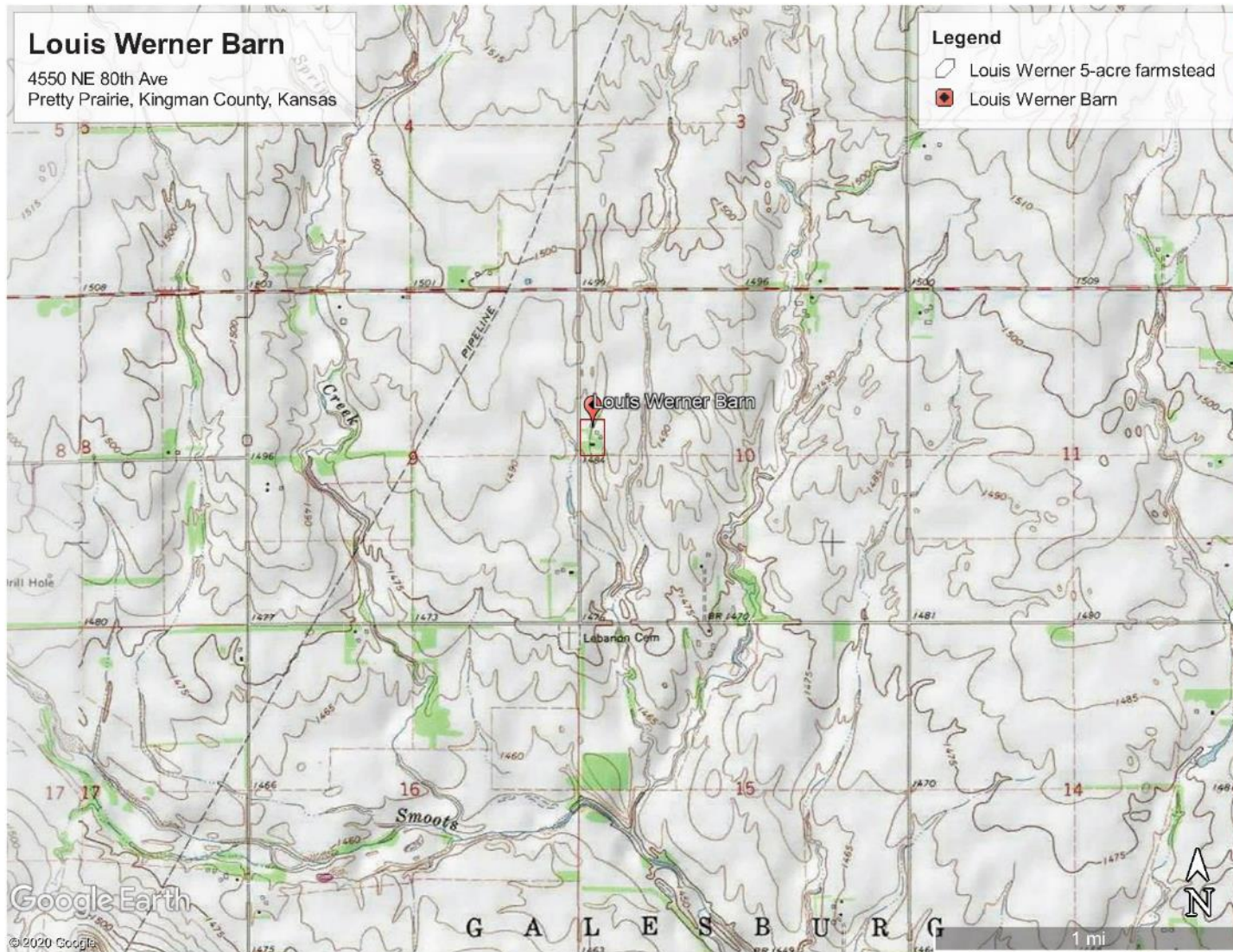
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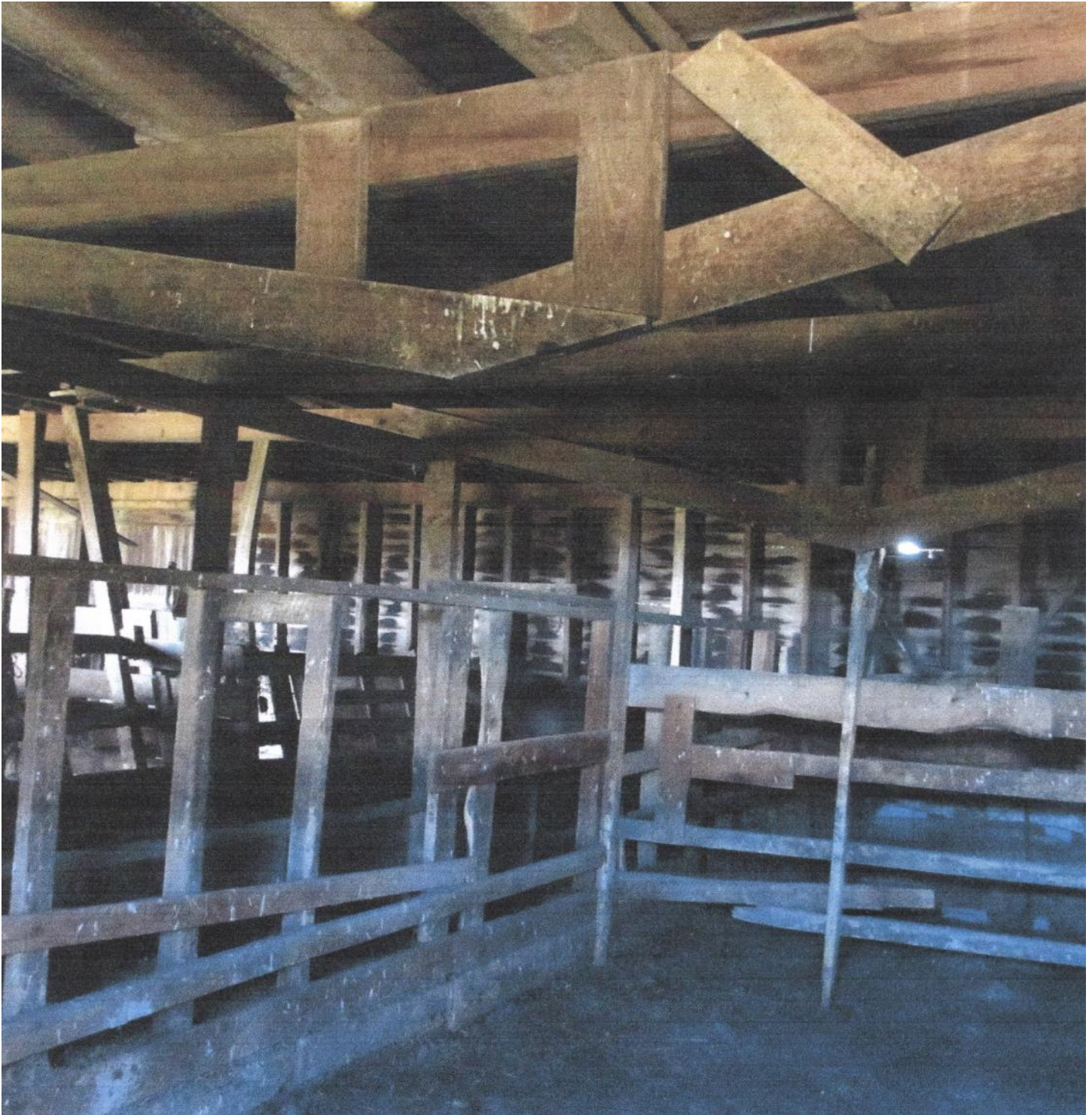
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Louis Werner's  
wife - Rose Werner  
my grandmother

Grandma Werner



Picture of my dad  
Marvin Werner on  
a horse, next to  
the south end of  
barn. My dad  
was born in 1912  
the same year  
the barn was built  
by his dad, Louis  
Werner. This  
picture was taken  
about 1918.

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