

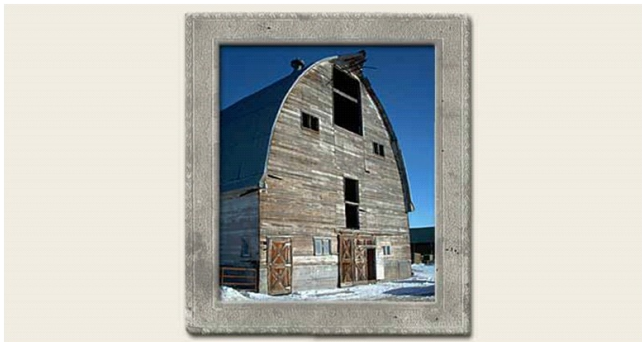
Franklin County Barns

A. C. Hull Barn

Whitney, ca. 1916-1922

Robert McClellan Hull and his wife Mary Ann Chadwick farmed in Franklin and Whitney before moving in 1875 to this homestead in Whitney. They had a large family of ten children. Eventually, this area came to be called "Hull's Crossing." The main street into Whitney bears this name today.

Robert died at the age of fifty, and Mary Ann and her children managed the farm after that. As each of the children married, they received a tract of land. A. C. Hull and his wife Ella Maughan took over this portion of the farmstead, and a brother LeRoy farmed an adjacent section. In about 1916 to 1922, the brothers built matching barns on each of their farms, using lumber harvested from Cub River Canyon. LeRoy's barn later burned down. The arched roofs of the barns were designed to carry a maximum load of loose hay. They had modern stanchions and were considered state-of-the-art dairy barns.



The Hull family farm was founded in 1875 by Robert McClellan Hull and his wife Mary Ann Chadwick. The area became known as Hull's Crossing. The farm was designated and Idaho Century Farm by the Idaho State Historical Society. The Idaho Heritage Trust has partnered with the Bear River Heritage Area to help the Hull family restore the barn.

A.C. and Ella had eight children. Their oldest son Tom managed the farm from the time he was sixteen years old while his father worked on other ventures. Forty

head of cows were milked in the barn. They milked by hand at first, then later used Surge bucket milkers.

The barn provided memorable opportunities for both work and play. The job of shoveling manure, as well as other chores, fell to the children. After their chores were done, they rode calves rodeo style in the barn and made swings with the ropes of the Jackson fork. Several people took their turns falling off the barn or from places inside. Tom fell from the main loft window while doing some work on the Jackson fork and was knocked unconscious. The children suffered various falls inside and one flew out a lower window from the rope swing, but everyone survived. The large ventilators on the barn roof provided places where two children could hide.

Tom and his younger brother Robert partnered on the farm until Tom's retirement. The farm has remained in Robert's family to the present time and has been designated as an Idaho Century farm. His son and grandson, both named Robert, currently milk eighty cows in the modern dairy barn. The Hulls also raise 200-300 head of beef cattle and grow alfalfa and barley.

The original wood shingles on the barn were replaced with tin. Once, because the roof of the barn swayed, the trusses were reinforced from the inside. The old barn is used for storage and office space.



Single Tree