

Only typed forms are accepted. Please send an electronic copy of the completed form.

If you need assistance completing the form, please contact Michael Houser, State Architectural Historian, at 360-586-3076 or Michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov.

SP 656

Washington State HERITAGE BARN REGISTER 	Farm Name Latta's -WS Ranch	Property Location Address: 14610 E. Belmont Road City: Mica Zip: 99023
	Historic Name Heathdale Ranch	County Spokane
	Owners Name Lance & Diane Latta Phone: 509-926-4550; 509-981-2077 Email: lance@cascade-equip.com ; dlatta@eahjlaw.com	Owner Address Address: 14610 E. Belmont Road, P.O. Box 31 City: Mica State: WA Zip: 99023-0031

BARN	ROOF SHAPE	ROOF COVERING	FLOOR PLAN	SIDING	FOUNDATION MATERIAL	PAINTING/ DECORATION	OTHER BARN FEATURES
CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins BARN BUILT DATE: 1908	<input type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Broken Gable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Gothic <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Dutch <input type="checkbox"/> Conical <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Other CURRENT USE <input type="checkbox"/> Ag <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Storage	<input type="checkbox"/> Square <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rectangular <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular <input type="checkbox"/> L- Shape <input type="checkbox"/> T- Shape Size: 38' x 72' Height: 35'	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Wood – Horizontal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood – Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Vertical <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Painted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Color: Names/Dates/ Decoration? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Describe:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cupola <input type="checkbox"/> Dormer <input type="checkbox"/> Hay Hood <input type="checkbox"/> Ventilator <input type="checkbox"/> Weather Vane <input type="checkbox"/> Lightning Rod <input type="checkbox"/> Silo <input type="checkbox"/> Milking Shed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other 1/2 horse stalls, 1/2 cow stalls on lower level of barn

*** PROPERTY HISTORY:** (Expand on the history of the barn/property such as use, original owner, builder, architect, family stories and memories, etc.. add additional pages if necessary)

The barn was built in 1908 by Sylvester Heath as part of his Morgan Horse Ranch at Mica. Phil Bloom operated the ranch from 1922-1947 (see attached history received from Mr. Bloom's daughter, Jacquie Ewell). William and Emily Sheard and their 11 children purchased and moved to the property in October, 1949. The land was farmed by William and his sons, raising wheat, oats, barley, peas, lentils and hay. The barn was used to store the hay for the herd of cattle they raised and milked. After William's death in July, 1974, three of his sons, John, Allan and Donald Sheard, continued to farm the land until their retirement in 1995. After John's and Allan's deaths, Donald's daughter, Diane and her husband, Lance Latta, renovated the 1906 original farmhouse and currently reside there. The barn is in fair condition but needs a new foundation to keep it standing for another 100 years.

Please provide current photos of nominated property (interior and exterior (all four sides)) and a map indicating the location of property in relationship to major roads. Digital images are preferred (please provide disc) or print on photographic paper.

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OTHER FARMSTEAD BUILDINGS

If building does not exist, please check N/A box

Provide additional photos of secondary buildings/structures regardless of age.

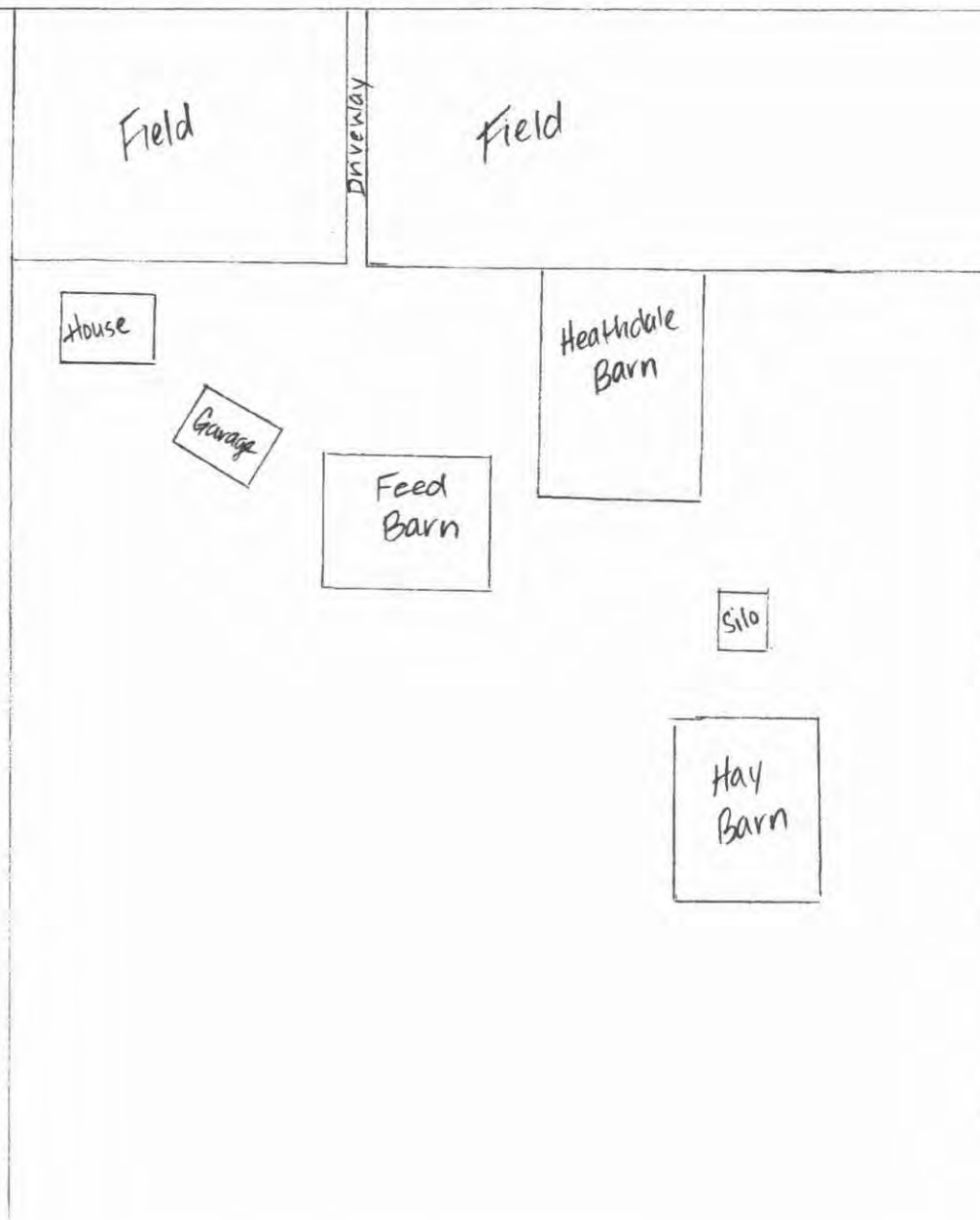
	ROOF SHAPE (Gable, Hip, etc.)	ROOF COVERING	FLOOR PLAN (Square, L-Shape, Rectangular, etc.)	SIDING	FOUNDATION MATERIAL	OTHER FEATURES: (Style, Color, Trim, etc.)	BUILT DATE
DWELLING <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Hip	Comp Shingles	Square with rectangular room addition	Vinyl	Stone	Originally, 2-story, 8 room house (4 on 4)	1906
OUTHOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A							
CHICKEN COOP <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A							
MACHINE SHED <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A							
MILK HOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A							
SILO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Dome	Metal	Round	Concrete blocks	Concrete	Concrete-colored; external ladder from bottom to top	1950
OTHER: Feed Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Gambrel	Galvanized steel	Rectangle	Wood - horizontal	Rock and mud sills	Two story barn (loft); it was used as a utility barn with grain storage on North end/horse stalls on South end/drive through middle to put grain into bins	Approx. 1916
OTHER: Hay Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Gambrel	Galvanized steel	34' x 50' rectangle with 34' x 16 enclosed leanto	None	Original pine posts in ground rotted, concrete pillars put in	Straw was blown into barn for bedding/feed during the winter; leanto has sliding door on west end	Approx. 1912

Please provide a sketch of the farmstead layout indicating the location of other buildings in relation to the barn. Include an arrow pointing north for directional purposes.

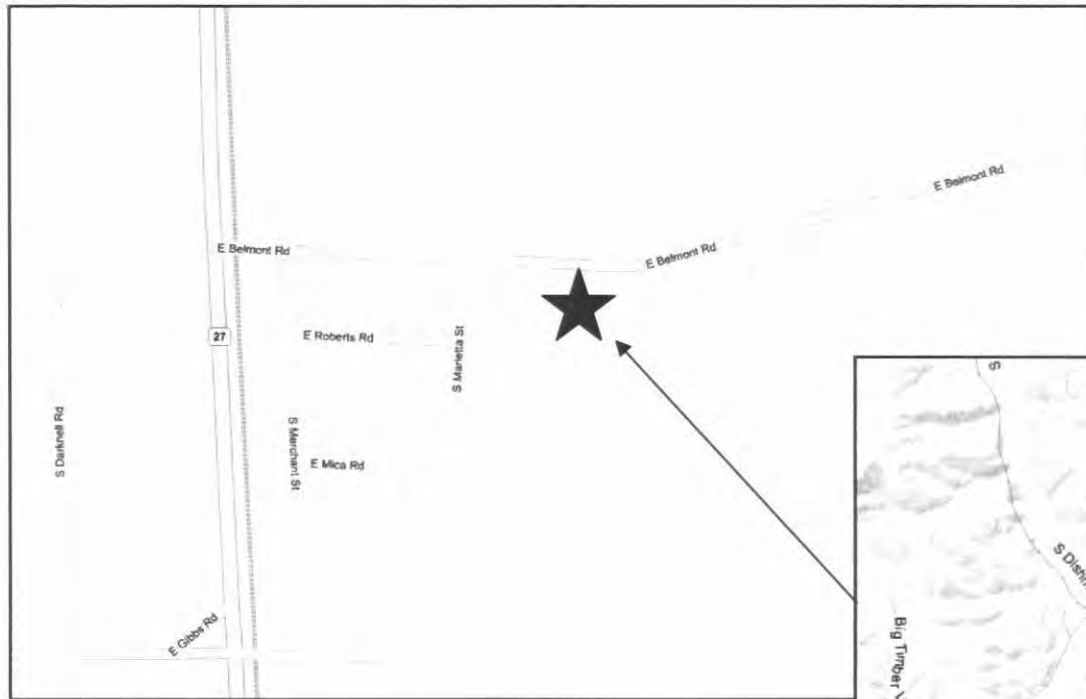
Return form and additional documentation to: **DAH**P 1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 Olympia, WA 98504

Highway 27

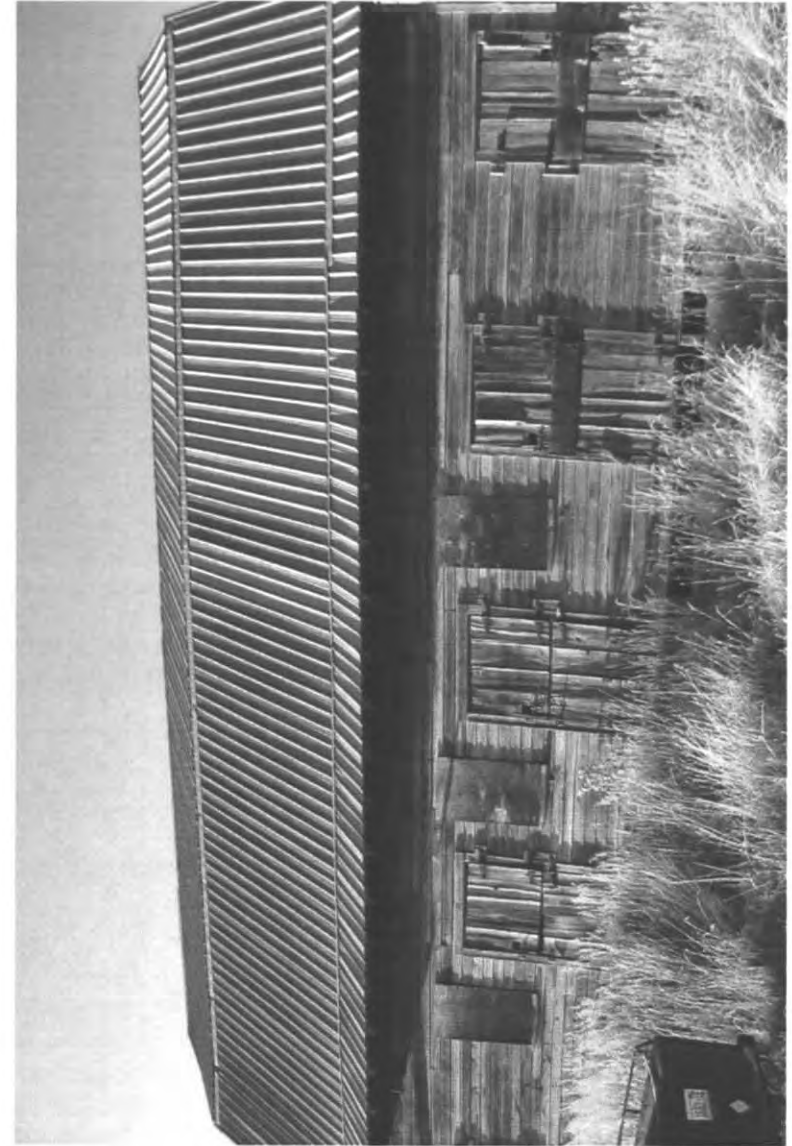
TOWN OF
MICA - Belmont Road - 0.3 miles to ranch

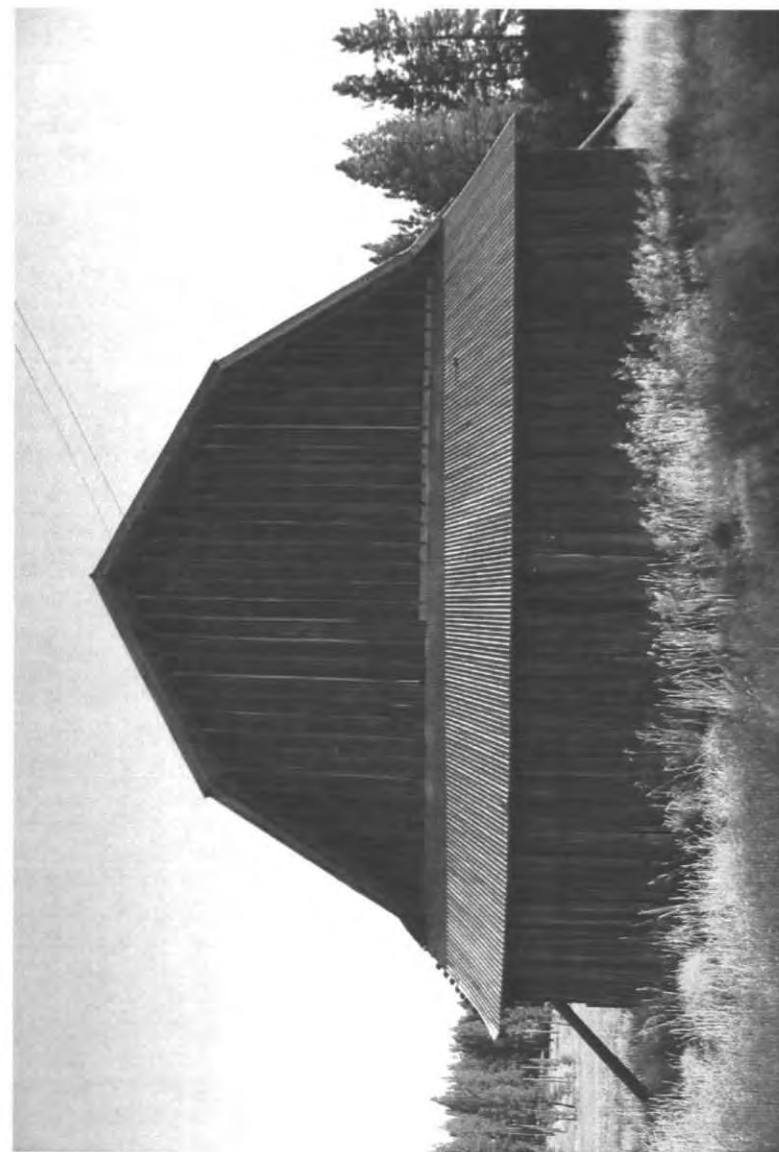


Lance & Diane Latta
Heathdale Barn

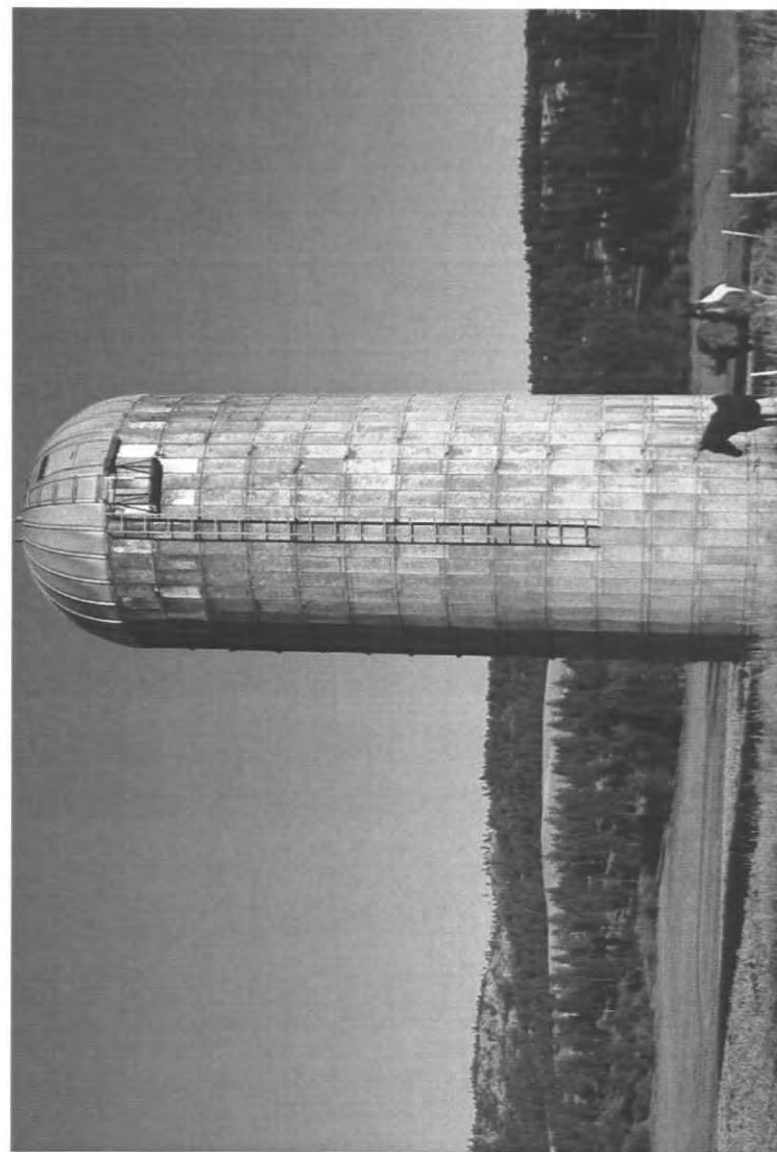


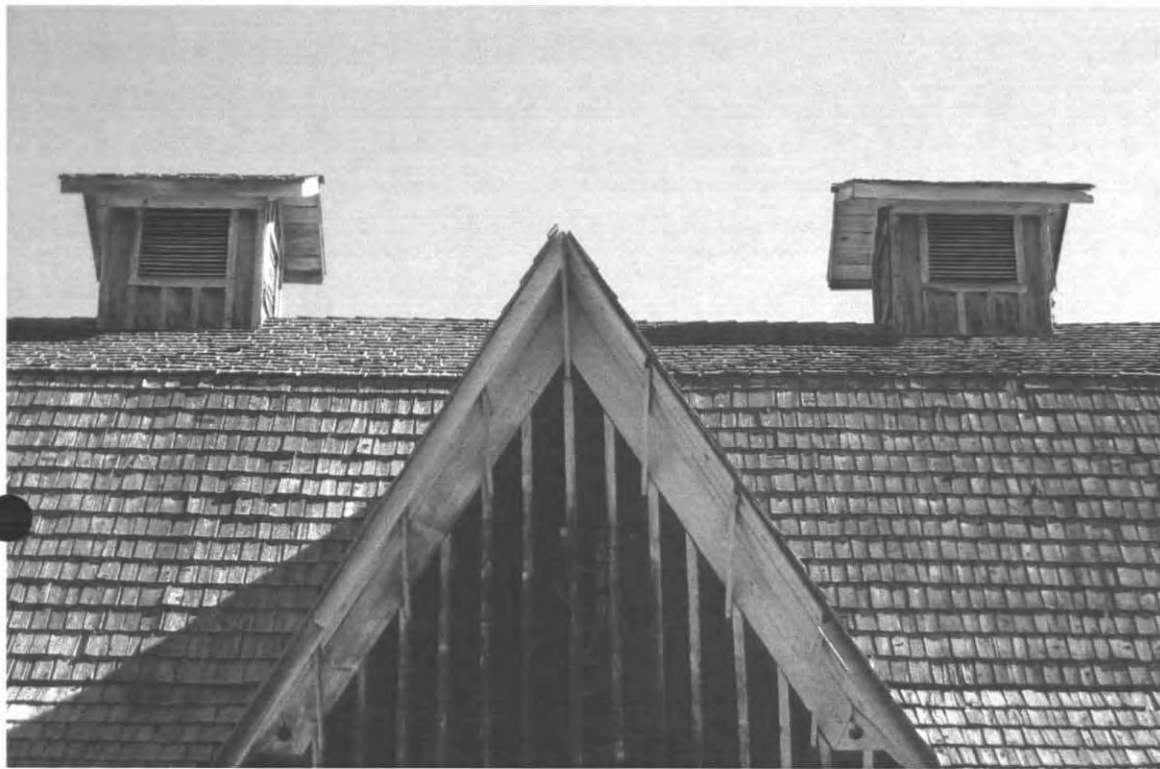
Heathdale Ranch
 14610 E Belmont Rd
 Mica, WA 99023



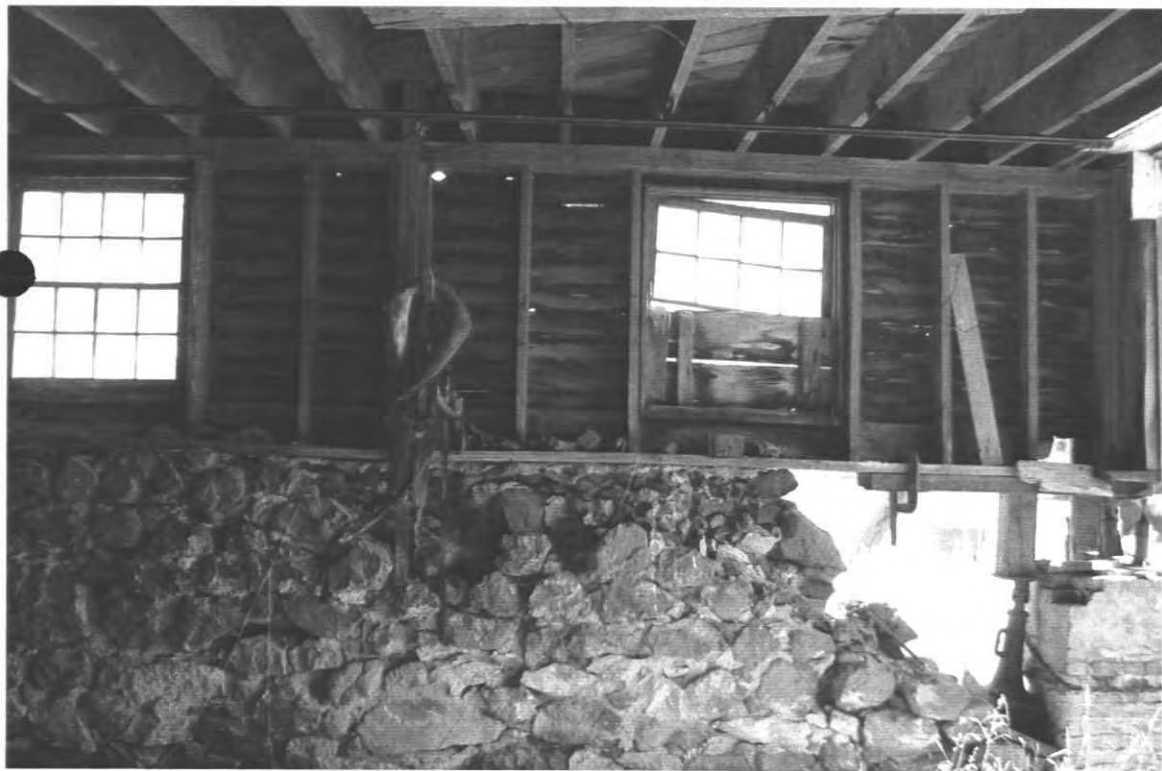


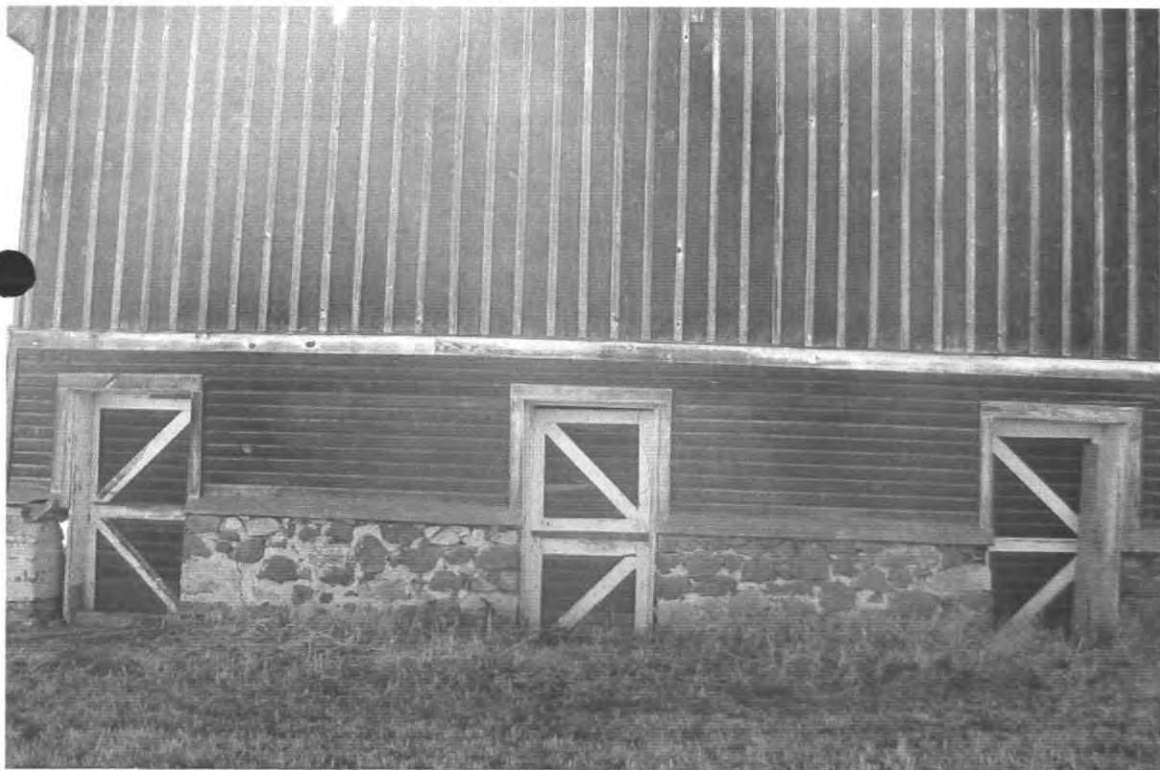


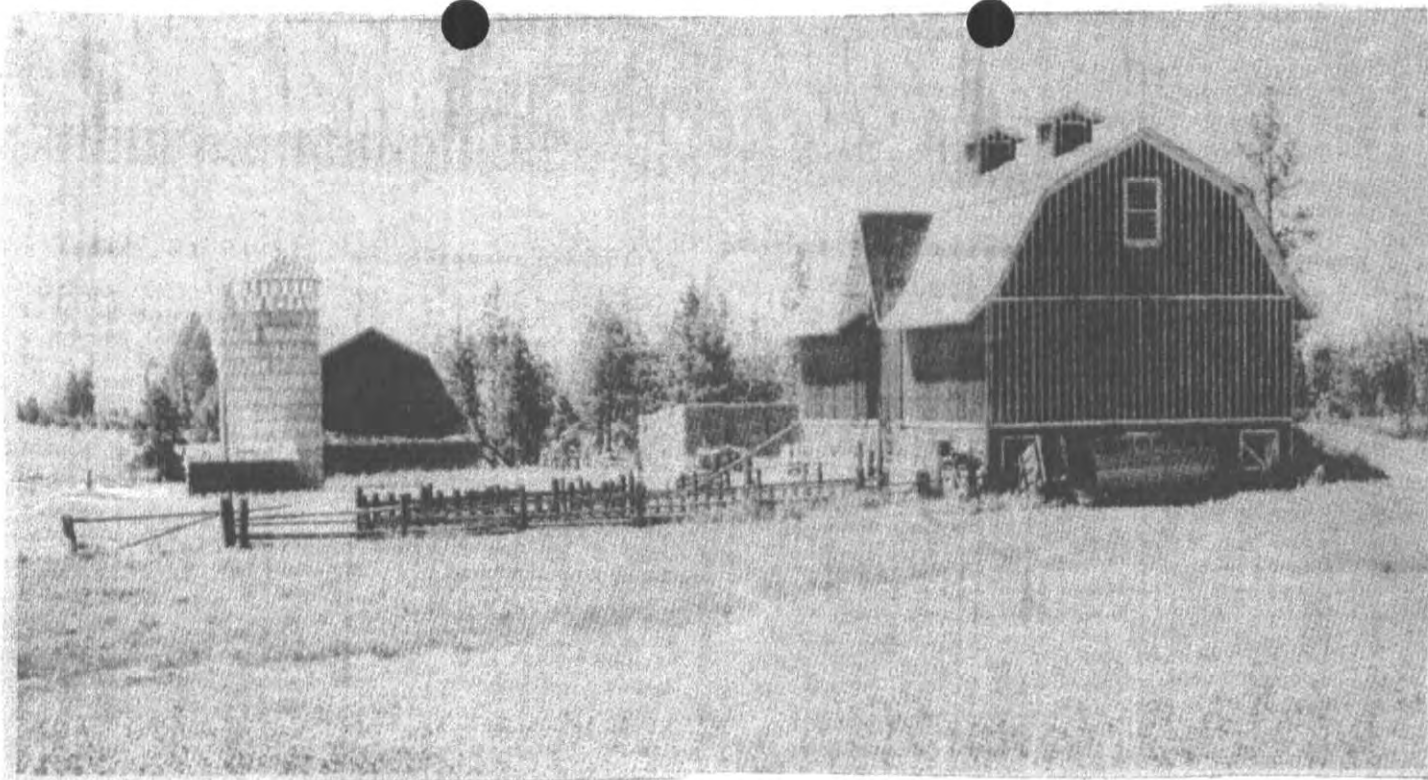












The stone foundation, two cupolas, intricate windows, and the lines of this barn on the Sheard farm east of Mica are expressive of the care that went into building it in 1908. The only history Allan Sheard knew was that someone named Heath once owned the barn and raised Morgan horses. The silo was added in 1950.

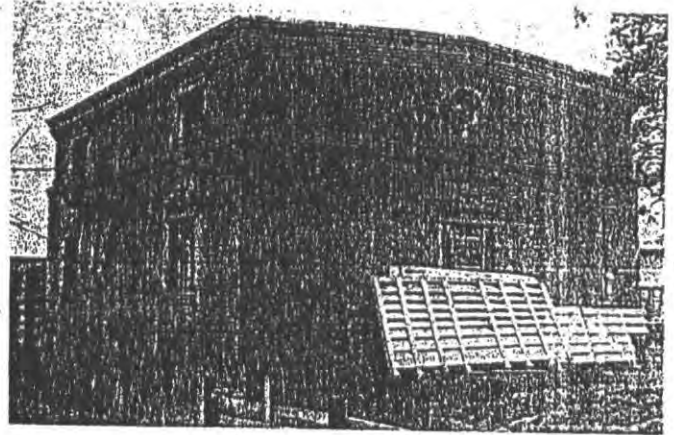
The Standard-Register Nov. 2, 1978

COMMERCIAL



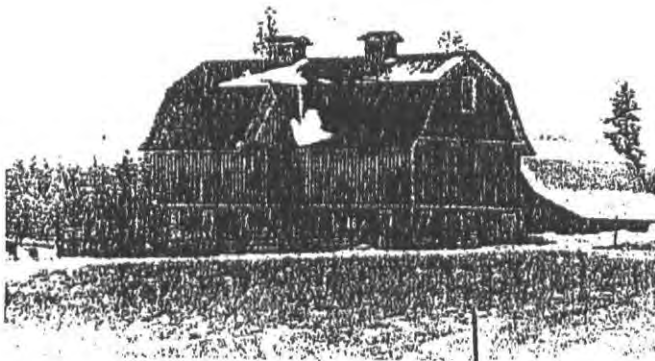
Stores like the Mica Store were often focal points of farm communities in Spokane County.

INDUSTRIAL



Industrial buildings include factories, depots, and electric substations; like this one near Mt. Hope.

AGRICULTURAL



The Heathdale/Sheard barn near Mica is a good example of the many agricultural buildings found in Spokane County.

INSTITUTIONAL



Institutional buildings house a variety of activities. Included in this category are courthouses, city halls, hospitals, orphanages and schools. This is the administration building at Lakeland Village in Medical Lake.

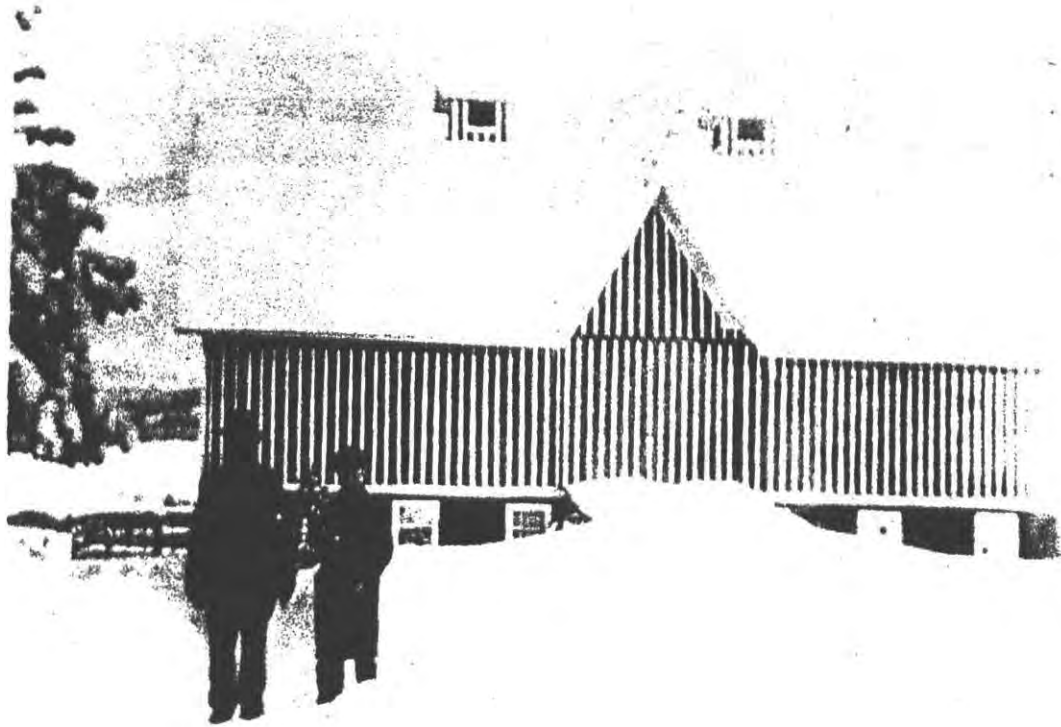
Aug 16, 2001

Owners of the Heathdale,

We heard that there are new
owners of the Heathdale from
Mr Johnson -

It was my first home.
If you are interested to know
about the history, my father,
Phil Bloom would like to
talk to you - Phil Bloom
1116 Franklin
Ellensburg WA 98926
(509) 962-2557

We are very happy you are
treating the property well.
Warm regards,
Jacquie Cwell
(509) 458-3935

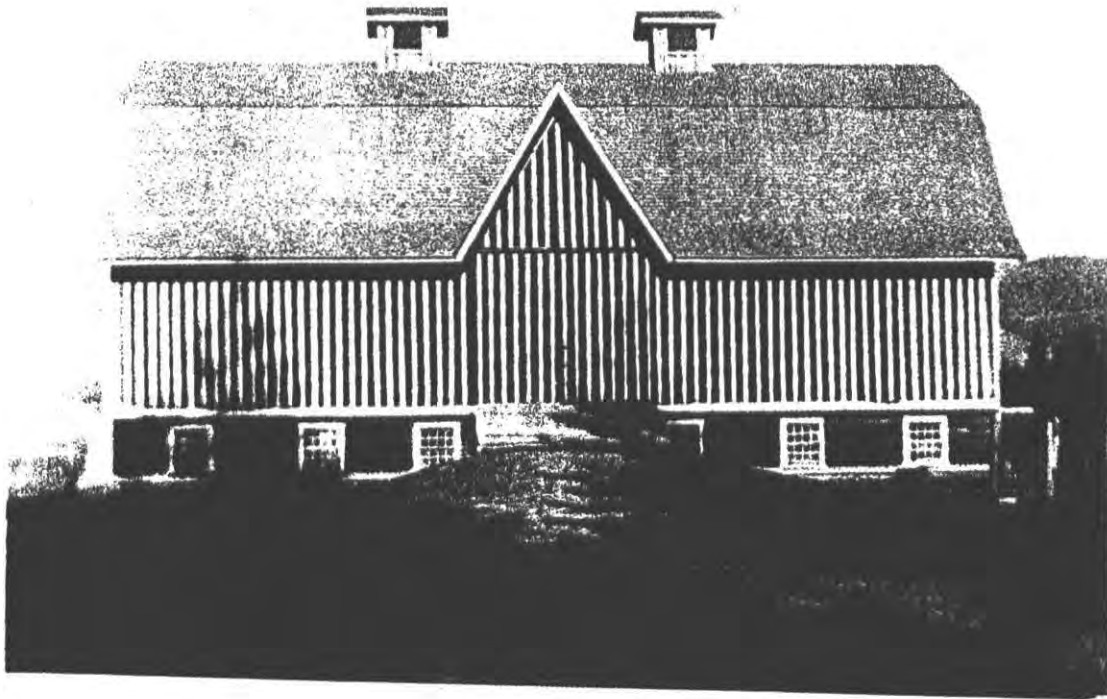


The barn on the Heathdale Ranch.
It was developed by Sylvester Heath,
an early entrepreneur, as his Morgan horse
ranch at Mica in the early 1900's.

The people in the picture are:

Phil Bloom and his son.

Blooms operated the place for the Heaths from 1922 to 1947.



The front of the barn.
Heathdale. Mica, Washington

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copies of



The Phil Bloom house at Mica, WA.

The Heathdale

The Heathdale Ranch was developed by Sylvester S. Heath, a developer and entrepreneur in the early days of Spokane. He homesteaded 160 acres on the North side of the Spokane River and East of what is now Division street. That and other developments and investments he had, made Mr. Heath a relatively rich man.

He developed the Heathdale Ranch east of Mica in 1880. It consisted of 360 acres. He established it as a Morgan Horse Ranch and raised Morgan driving horses. The Blooms leased the ranch in 1922. It was located adjacent to Mica, Washington. The first entrance to the Heathdale was adjacent to the last house in the town of Mica. The entrance was originally designed as the entrance to the house. The entrance had two large stone built pillars on each side of the entry way with a double swinging gate and was covered with a roof to make a very fine entry to the home.

Further east was the entry to the farm, which again had two large stone pillars and a gate system which could be opened by pulling a rope that would open the gate without an individual having to get out of their vehicle, whether it was a team with a buggy or a wagon, or later, when the autos were introduced, an automobile.

The farm ran from the entry to the ranch area down both sides of the road, which at that time was the main road going east from Mica to Mica Peak. It ran for one half mile down to the California ranch, which was the ranch just east of the Heathdale and is in the History of Spokane County as one of the stopovers on the trails going through to the Coeur d'Alene. The Kentuck trail led to the California ranch and bisected much of the Heathdale in the early days.

The main headquarters of the ranch had an excellent set of buildings. A large two story eight room house with a rock structure adjacent to the kitchen of the house (which the Blooms always referred to as the cellar) was the residence. The rock structure was not truly a cellar. It only went down three steps below the level of the kitchen floor. Next to the house was a woodshed and then there was another utility room for storage of shovels and equipment and things of that nature.

A short distance away was a well and a large building which served as a shop and a garage as well as the covering of the pump and gasoline motor, which ran the pump. This was one of the early homes in the area that had a pressurized water system. There was a large 500 gallon or more water storage tank which was pressurized. This established the pressure system for the whole farmstead.

Further east from these buildings, and slightly to the south was the moorage barn which was used to raise the Morgan driving horses. It had individual box stalls and runs out of the box stalls, and small paddocks for each stall to the south side of the building. On the north side of the building were the grain bins which were used to store grain which was produced on the farm and also for food for the Morgan horses.

Further east was a very large two story hip roof barn which was used to house the work horses and the dairy cattle which Blooms had. All of the livestock was handled on the first level and the barn was equipped with a manure carrier system which was on an overhead track with a bucket so to speak, that could be raised and lowered. Manure would be loaded into this and then rolled out of the barn on a track to where the manure could be dumped. This was also a very new type of assistance to any farm in the community.

The upper level of the barn was for hay storage and it also had a track in it that would raise the slings that were used in the wagons to put the hay into the upper level. The wagon was pulled into the barn, then the slings were hooked into a cable system and a team of horses would hitch to the cable system and lift the slings of hay up and then they could be directed to either end of the barn and the hay was dropped on the upper level. This was an excellent system, and it also provided you a good task at work to remove the hay, and use it for feed in the winter. These individual loads from the slings would fall down and mingle with each other. Sometimes it would be rather difficult to get the hay untangled and get it out. The hay was put down through an opening in the floor to the center aisle in the lower level. This supplied both sides of the aisle.

In addition, a little further south, there was another large barn which was open. The Blooms referred it as the straw shed, because each year they would blow in straw at thrashing time to fill this barn. The straw would be used to supplement feed for both the horses and the cattle. During the winter, the cattle would feed on the west side and the horses on the east side.

There was a small building just east of the Morgan horse barn, which was used to raise hogs and there was a large rail fenced area for the swine to run in. Running water served all these buildings under the pressurized system that Mr. Heath had established on the headquarters.

The farm was also fenced with a smooth wire lath type of fence. Lath was attached to the smooth wire with one about every foot. Of course the wires were strung on cedar fence posts. This fencing system covered the entire ranch, which had about 300 acres of cultivated land. In those days, this was a relatively large farming operation. Mr. Heath also reserved an area of approximately 10 acres on which he had a summer cottage and a small house adjacent to the summer cottage for a maid. The Heaths came from Spokane to spend the summer week ends in the cottage.

Mr. Heath also established a small orchard of approximately 10 acres at the top of this area, which was to the north and was at a slightly higher elevation.

Mr. Heath was a lilac fancier. He imported many species of lilacs to grow around the cottage. These were grown a long time before Spokane became "The Lilac City".

He also had a relatively deep well, which was reported to be in the neighborhood of 600 feet deep. There was a large pump on the well, and to operate the pump, there was a gasoline engine. It was the largest gasoline engine that Phil had ever seen.

Mr. Heath took care of this private part of the ranch himself. The Blooms were never involved in that part of the ranch. After Mr. Heath passed away in 1926, Mrs. Heath seldom came out to the ranch to spend time in the cottage. The cottage sat vacant most of the time and the orchard was not cared for. It was not a part of the lease for the Blooms therefore they didn't operate the pump and irrigate the orchard.

Farming on the Heathdale

In the fall of 1922, one of the large fields of 120 acres was planted in turkey red wheat and a small field was planted in club wheat called copeai club wheat. The large field had a heavy infestation of vetch. This field had been seeded as a soil improvement to be used as green manure, but much of it had gone to seed and germinated along with turkey red wheat.

Phil's dad was in the Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane for 30 days in April of 1923 to stop blood poisoning. His left hand was in a salt pack of epsom salts for that period of time and early in the blood poisoning, the thumb to the 3rd joint on his left hand had to be amputated. The cost was \$150.00 for the hospital stay. The problem occurred from a rose briar or a cut from a gas can used to fill a vehicle.

When it came time to bind the wheat in July of 1923, Phil's dad sent two hired men to start the binder. After a half a day, they came in and said that there was no way they could cut it because the vetch made everything hang together and bind up. So Phil's dad took a look at the situation and developed a rod from the divider on the binder to the top of the holder or the reel which would go through the grain and make the vetch rise up and tear loose. He crawled on the binder and drove the team of horses and ran the reel with his left hand in a sling because his hand was still carrying a wet pack to reduce the possibility of infection.

Phil rode the platform behind the draper. When there was any problem and the vetch got hung up, Phil took a big knife and cut the vetch loose therefore they could go on. Many times 10, 12, 15, or 20 bundles were following the binder until they had sufficient weight to tear the ones already binded from the ones coming out of the binder.

The hired men shocked the grain, but it was not an easy task with this heavy amount of vetch that was in the crop.

The thrasher was a steam outfit with 8 bundle wagons, a cook shack, a water tank with 4 horses. Many of these teams on the bundle wagons had a foal running alongside. There was a team for the cook shack. The cook shack fed the men three meals a day.

A thrasher was hired to thrash the fields. The thrasher moved in to thrash the field on Thursday and they thrashed on Thursday afternoon, Friday, and Friday night. Then there was rain. This made it so that it was impossible to thrash on Saturday, and of course Sunday was a day off. It was still too wet to thrash on Monday. They got back into operation on Tuesday. When the operation was completed, the horses along with the thrashers had fed up to 20 acres of copea club wheat because it was the only grain that didn't have beards. Of course, when the thrasher moved out, he said he wanted his payment by the end of the week.

With this bad experience, Phil's dad said "This is never going to happen to me again." He and his brother, Henry, whose farm adjoined the one Phil's dad had leased, bought a small Woods Brothers separator or thrashing machine. They operated it with the Fordson tractor that Phil's dad had purchased earlier in 1922. This was the start of the thrashing as a custom thrashing outfit.

One experience that was exciting for Phil

One experience that was exciting was a smut explosion by the machine. The Blooms were thrashing near Freeman and the straw stack was being blown against the barn when the machine exploded. There was fire coming out of the feeder and the straw blower and out of the grain elevator. But since the machine was all metal, except the straw walkers, the fire was stopped and put out with minor damage. Some of the straw walkers had to be replaced. It took only a day or two to do this repairing. It was one of the exciting things that Phil will always remember.

The Move from Moran Prairie to Mica

The fall and late summer of 1922 was an extremely important, busy, and trying time. Phil's family was making the move from 60 acres of diversified fruit and vegetable production to one of the largest grain farms in that part of Spokane County.

There was a lot to be accomplished. There was a need to secure the equipment that was needed. They needed additional horse power which included purchasing several horses and the buying of the first tractor to be used in farming in that part of the country.

Also there was the need to cultivate and seed 140 acres of winter wheat. In addition to seeding the wheat, there was the need to secure the seed wheat and treat it against infestation by smut.

The Blooms also purchased some additional milk cows to assist in additional income before there was any return from production on the farm.

Everything moved quite smoothly through the fall and the winter.

The first tractor

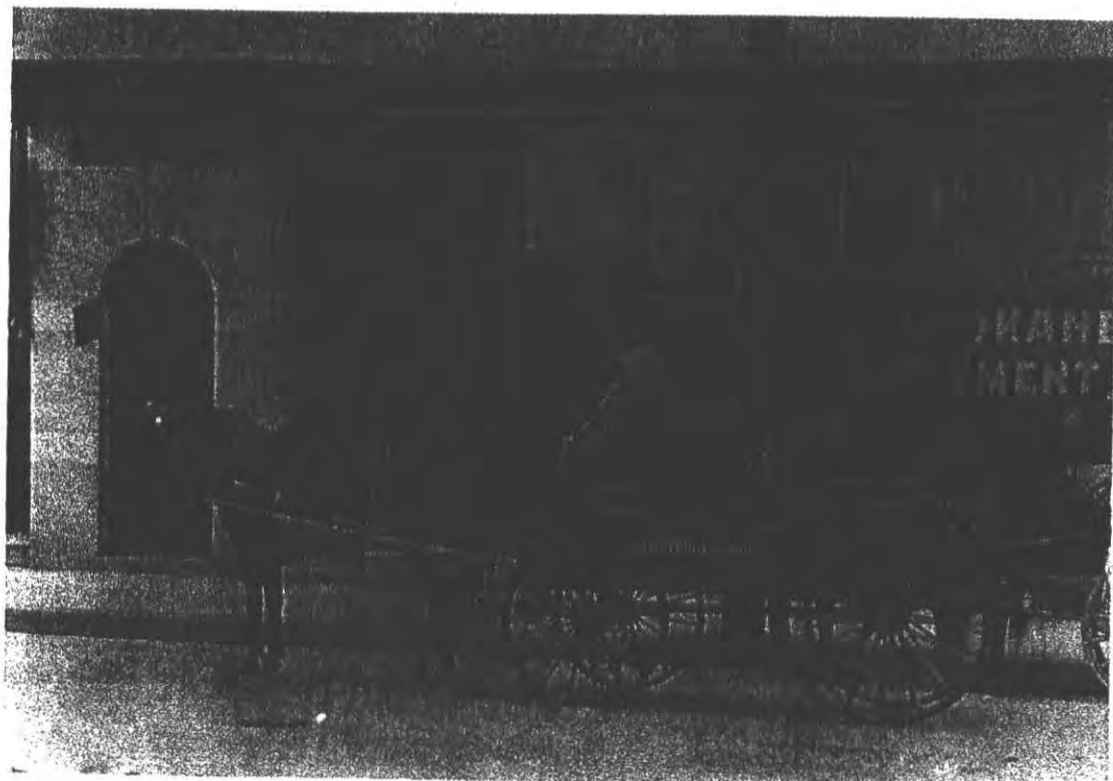
Phil's dad was an innovator. He purchased the first tractor, which was a Fordson tractor. It was the first tractor in the whole area and many of the locals said, "Well, that greenhorn thinks he can farm with a tractor." Phil's dad's thinking, regarding the tractor, was that it saved him having an additional set of 8 horses to do the farming. The tractor wouldn't be eating hay during the winter when it wasn't being used. The majority of the work was done by teams of horses, but in the rush time, the major plowing was done with the tractor.

Another first in the area for Phil's dad, was that he started to bulk the grain rather than put it in sacks at harvest time. This was the only farm in the area that bulked the grain for a number of years. Now everyone bulks their grain.

He was also an innovator in that he raised some of the first registered livestock in the area. He developed a registered herd of Shorthorn cattle, and also raised some registered Berkshire and Chester White hogs.

Phil said, "Dad also was my best friend and pal." From the time Phil can remember, his dad would take him along to do many of the tasks that needed to be done. Many times he would ask what Phil's opinion was on how to do the task or things of that nature, which made Phil feel that he was an important part of the farm.

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Light delivery wagon for the City Bottling Works.
This was used for going around and getting orders.
The picture was taken on Monroe Street
by the Heath Building.
The Heath Building was across the street to the West of the
Spokesman Review building.

Hiding the Gold

Phil's dad and his two brothers owned the City Bottling Works in Spokane. The business was located on 2nd and 3rd where the Shilo Hotel is now located.

The brothers had developed several soft drink flavors. Also, one of their main products was oyster cocktails. (Bloom Brother's oyster cocktails). They sold the oyster cocktails to various bars in Spokane. The Coeur d'Alene Hotel with the Goetz and Hare bar (goat & hare/rabbit) was one of the major purchasers of the oyster cocktails. As the threat of prohibition loomed, the brothers felt that if prohibition came into law, their business of selling oyster cocktails would be eliminated and it would be difficult to support three families.

So the City Bottling Works was sold and the brothers were paid off in gold. Phil's dad took his gold and put it in a safe deposit box at one of the local Spokane banks. But after a Spokane savings bank went broke, all that anyone could get out of the bank at a time was \$50.00 regardless of what was in their account. So one day Phil's dad said to Phil, "Son, we have a job to do." The two of them went into Spokane to the bank where Phil's dad had the deposit box that was filled with gold. He brought a couple of sacks and he took the gold and the two Phils brought the gold home.

They put the gold in the floor of the cellar which adjoined the house. It was a dirt floor.

The only entrance to the cellar was through the kitchen. Phil's father figured the gold was his and he wanted to protect it. He didn't have a lot of faith in banks. When the Spokane Savings Bank went broke, he felt that he couldn't trust the bank with the safe deposit box any longer.

2nd copied \$5

Then after a year or two, President Roosevelt declared that all gold had to be turned in to the government. Only one \$20.00 gold piece per person in the family could be kept.

The day Phil's dad had to turn in the gold was one of the darkest days Phil had ever seen for his father. They had to take that gold into town and deposit it in one of the banks. This took place after the banks had largely gone broke in 1932 and 1933.

When Phil's mother died, there were the two \$20.00 gold pieces remaining. After some years, Phil and June gave these momentos to Jacquie and Lynda.



Henry and Jessie Bloom.
Kermit, oldest son
(Raymond) Bud, youngest son