



Barn Number 13

Historic Name: Hayton Farm
Address of Barn: 16494 Fir Island Road,
Mount Vernon
Built Date: 1900
Built By: James Blaine (J.B.) Hayton
Barn Style: Gable
Features: Cupola, Hay Hood, Milking
Shed

History: Hayton Farm was homesteaded by Thomas Hayton in 1876. His son, J.B., built the original 50 foot barn to house his horses. He expanded the barn by 50 feet in 1910 and then added a final 50 foot extension in 1920. The milking shed portion, which creates the 'L' shape, was added in 1935. With its 72 stanchions, it was considered one of the largest dairy barns in the state. The fourth generation of Hayton's own the barn and use it for a potato packing and storage facility.



Barn Number 14

Historic Name: Elmer Axelson Barn
Address of Barn: 15929 Fir Island Road,
Mount Vernon
Built Date: 1903
Built By: Elmer Axelson
Barn Style: Gable
Features: Milking Parlor

History: Elmer Axelson came from Sweden in 1896 to La Conner and homesteaded this farm. He raised several crops and expanded, leasing more land that was worked by many men and horses. Elmer's son Russell was born in 1914 and eventually joined his father on the farm and started a full time dairy. During the 1960's, the farm was called Firdell – a combination of "Fir Island" and "cows in the dell". They raised champion purebred Holstein dairy cattle. In 2013 this barn received a Heritage Barn preservation grant and the roof was replaced. The farm is currently owned by the third generation of Axelsons.



Barn Number 15

Historic Name: Summers Barn
Address of Barn: 13517 Rawlins Road,
Mount Vernon
Built Date: c. 1895
Built By: [Unknown]
Barn Style: Dutch
Features: Hay Hood

History: Located originally on the North Fork of the Skagit River, the farm complex was moved in 1928 after the county developed Rawlins Road. The barn was moved to this location at that time. It was built on posts, three feet above the ground, allowing the structure to stay dry during floods. The lumber for the barn came from a mill at Utsalady on Camano Island and was barged across Skagit Bay. The west side of the barn held 12 cattle stanchions, and the east side held 5 horses and room for young stock. The middle aisle was used for loose hay storage. The farm has been recognized as a Centennial Farm by the Washington State Farm Bureau.



Barn Number 16

Historic Name: Max Clark Barn
Address of Barn: 18412 Valentine Road,
Mount Vernon
Built Date: 1940
Built By: Max Clark
Barn Style: Dutch Gambrel
Features: Hay Hood

History: This barn is not visible from the roadway. Max Clark was one of the first individuals to farm and build on Pleasant Ridge. He owned a large portion of Pleasant Ridge where he planted orchards and raised dairy cows. The barn's dairy beginnings are still very evident; the original pens, milking area and center alley are still intact. When Max passed away, the land was divided and sold. The barn currently sits on five acres and is the only structure other than the milking shed. It is a beautiful, structurally sound barn that pays tribute to the community's past. It is an amazing piece of history which marks many things, especially a time when a dairy farm could make a fair income with just 15 head of cattle. The barn is currently used to house farm machinery and accessories.