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->Greetings from the folks at [Hundredfold Farm](#) and [Seven Springs Tree Farm!](#)<-

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Hundredfold Farm is an old-fashioned neighborhood with a green future - a rural, ecologically sustainable cohousing community located just west of Gettysburg PA.

Seven Springs Tree Farm is an organic choose & cut Christmas tree farm that specializes in growing holiday traditions and creating lasting memories.

Preserving Our Rural Heritage

"The barns of Adams County are an important part of our rural heritage," says Curt Musselman, president of Historic Gettysburg Adams County (HGAC). Since 2003, HGAC's Historic Barn Project has been encouraging preservation by creating and expanding a registry of Adams County historic barns.

To date, the project has evaluated 140 barns; each barn is photographed, measured, and visually assessed, and then receives a numbered metal plaque indicating its place in the barn registry (see photo). According to Musselman, they estimate there are between 1,500 and 2,000 historic barns in Adams County (barns which are at least 50 years old). The oldest barns in the registry are from the 1790's.



On September 17th, a barn survey team came out to Hundredfold Farm to evaluate our barn, #133 in the registry. It measures 28' x 42', a practical size. Like 85% of the historic barns of Adams County, our barn is a Pennsylvania barn. Yes, we are located in the heart of PA, but this is also a specific classification of barn, as documented in the book, "The Pennsylvania Barn" by Robert Ensminger, professor emeritus at Kutztown University.

The two architectural characteristics of Pennsylvania barns are (1) the front of the barn has a cantilevered forebay, or overhang, that provides shelter on one side of the barn and (2) on one other side of the barn, there is access to the second floor by means of a bridge or earth-bermed ramp. The Hundredfold barn fits this description.

It was also determined that our barn fits the sub-categories of Standard Pennsylvania barn and Basement Drive-Through.



Characteristics of a Standard Pennsylvania barn are (1) the framing is symmetrical - if you measured from the vertical axis, it's the same distance from the middle of the framing to either side of the barn. (2) the roof shape is also symmetrical (3) the forebay is included in the framing of barn, as opposed to being an addition onto the barn.



Because our barn is bermed into the hillside, you can't actually drive through to the other side, but you can park farm equipment within the barn. The



Basement Drive-Through style became more popular in the middle of the 19th century as farmers acquired more farm equipment, and storage was incorporated right into the design of the barn. A corn crib built on top of the foundation is also part of the Basement Drive-Through style.

The Hundredfold barn was dated as having been built between 1845 and 1855, and there were several clues that led to this conclusion. The size of the beams, including the summer beam (the main beam in the ground level that provides support for the entire upstairs), were rather large. As the 1800's went along, often builders did not use large beams or bigger trees were not available, so a bigger beam indicates that it was an earlier barn. Another clue is vertical saw marks instead of circular saw marks – after 1840, most of the vertical saws were replaced by circular saw blades at saw mills around Adams County, so vertical marks would help to date the barn. Also, the complicated style of joint at the rafter plates and the height of the tie beam indicates an older barn. In the later part of the 19th century, builders started simplifying these joints and dropping the tie beam down several feet. These are just a few factors that suggest the mid-1800s, as opposed to 1870 or later on.



Musselman said that it looks like our barn was probably used for a dairy operation at some point. Cinderblocks were used to enclose the entire forebay, and the downstairs floorplan is open, because when a barn is being used for an open dairy herd, there are no individual stalls or stables. He says that it's rare to find a barn where the downstairs floor plan has not been changed a lot, based on the way it was being used.

The Hundredfold Farm community is committed to preserving our historic gem of a barn! To learn more about the Adams County Historic Barn Preservation Project, visit the HGAC website at www.hgaconline.org.

Recent Events

Hundredfold Farm residents & guests enjoyed a devilishly fun **Murder Mystery party** on Saturday, October 29th. We kicked off the festivities with delicious potluck appetizers, such as crudité fingers and pickled brains. Each person was given a part to play and received clues throughout the evening to help solve the mystery. It was a thrilling event with lots of twists and turns - who would have guessed that Professor Jackson was the murderer? Good company, tasty snacks, and a ghoulish mystery made for a party that everyone could enjoy!



It's beginning to look a lot like...Halloween?



The white stuff came early this year, as you can see in the photo on the left, taken around 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 29th!

Remember, Seven Springs Tree Farm opens on Friday, November 25th. We're open Tuesday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The farm is closed on Mondays. Come early or come late, we're even open on Christmas Eve Saturday!

In addition to our 50 acres of pesticide-free choose & cut trees, you can find a lot more at Seven Springs Tree Farm. We have a great selection of pre-cut trees, as well as evergreen wreaths, swags, and garland.

Come browse in our gift shop, where we offer consignment merchandise from both local and international, fair trade artisans. Every year, we offer a new selection of ornaments, jewelry, toys, local foods, and seasonal decorations.



On the weekends, warm up with a snack from Café Noel and enjoy one of our special events. Check [Seven Springs Tree Farm's website](#) for the latest schedule.

[Cormorant's Fancy](#) will perform in the barn on Saturday, December 10th from 11 am to 2 pm. Come to listen and sing with them as they perform Celtic and other traditional Christmas carols.

If you've signed up for our mailing list, look for our postcard in the mail the week before Thanksgiving and present it when you check out to receive \$3 off your purchase of any Christmas tree.

If you're not on our mailing list, be sure to sign up this year. We appreciate being part of your holiday tradition, and look forward to seeing your family again this year!



Visiting Hundredfold Farm

You don't need to wait for an event to visit us! Tours are available by appointment. Please call Gretchen, our Outreach Coordinator, at 717-334-4587 to arrange a visit.

Speakers Bureau

We are pleased to announce that Hundredfold Farm now has a speakers bureau! If you would like to have a representative come and speak to your group about a particular topic related to cohousing or sustainability, please leave a message at 717-334-9426 or email info@hundredfoldfarm.org.

Classifieds

Solar home for sale at Hundredfold Farm

Built in 2007, this beautiful home is located in Pennsylvania's first ecologically sustainable rural community, just 8 miles west of Gettysburg. The kitchen, dining room, and living room feature an open floor plan with south-facing windows and panoramic views. There is a large master suite, with two additional generously sized bedrooms and two full baths. Ceramic tile and hardwood floors throughout.



Bonus 600 sq.ft. unfinished walk-up cape cod-style attic that can be used for storage or a workshop, studio, playroom, etc. Solar electric and solar hot water systems, combined with renewable energy credits, result in no net utility bills. Enjoy 80 acres of private secluded property with scenic mountain vistas, organic vegetable gardens, and over one mile of walking trails. Read more details here: [1134 Evergreen Way](#) or look up [MLS #21105782](#) on Realtor.com. Contact Prudential realtor David Sites at 717-337-1188 to arrange a showing.

Building Lots for Sale

Build your green dream home at Hundredfold Farm – five building lots are still available. Cohousing balances the traditional advantages of home ownership with the benefits of shared common facilities and involvement in community governance. Individual homes are arranged to preserve privacy while, at the same time, encouraging neighborly interaction. If you are

interested in a pastoral, secluded location that can provide food and energy security, while sharing your living experience with a group of like-minded neighbors, you should come and take a closer look!

Community members enjoy shared meals, social events, and gardening together. Our eco-friendly designs include solar hot water and solar electric systems on each home plus an innovative living machine wastewater treatment and recycling system. Call 717-334-9426 for more information.



Overnight packages

Get a taste of the small, friendly village that is Hundredfold Farm ~ tour our ecologically sustainable homes, wastewater recycling facility, and Christmas tree farm, plus enjoy a community meal.

Hundredfold Farm is a peaceful, relaxing oasis, located 10 minutes from the historic Gettysburg Battlefield. You can also enjoy wine tasting at local wineries, a day trip to Washington DC, and hiking the Appalachian Trail. Schedule your visit to take advantage of seasonal activities and events, including the reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg and various local festivals such as the National Apple Harvest Festival, the PA Lavender Festival, and the Gettysburg Festival celebrating American art, music, and cuisine. December visitors will have the opportunity to experience a working choose & cut Christmas Tree farm. Skiing and snowboarding are also available locally at Ski Liberty and other nearby resorts.

A great getaway for individuals, couples, families and groups. Stay for a weekend or a week ~ contact us at 717-334-9426 for pricing.

Please let us know if you are interested in staying on our list and/or take the opportunity to update the information in our records. Following the "subscribe" link at the bottom will take you to a form where you can enter updated information (and there's an "unsubscribe" link at the bottom if you decide to opt out). You can also forward this message to someone who may be interested in being added to our contact list and receiving this newsletter.



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