



The building which now houses the Silvercreek Education Centre at Fallbrook was built about 1950-52. It was as built as extra livestock housing and has a drive floor that runs the length of the stable where my Dad would drive the tractor and manure spreader to load directly into the spreader by hand from the box stalls. The lower part of the barn is of cement block construction which now serves as storage for skis and snow-shoes which are stacked in the box stalls.

The loft open from one end to the other was used for storage of hay and straw and on occasion grain, in a quickly constructed bin just inside the doors to be handy for removal.

Leo Synnott who still lives in Acton worked at the building of that barn, and tells a story of my father sending a fellow packing who cut nearly three quarters through a newly installed corner post, to install a brace in the fence when they were there. The reason for the kafuffle was each and every post there had to be installed by hand but corners have to have what is called a dead man cross the bottom to prevent the frost from heaving the post up out of the ground over the years it serves its purpose. The post holes all were painstakingly dug by hand since a posthole auger even today will not remove stone from holes. I will attest to that for I have dug, many including those for telephone poles during my short time as linesman for Bell telephone.

If you go into Google earth you will see the portable or maybe what has replaced it sits at the north end of a patch of greener grass. Stretching over the entire length of that dark grass patch was a drive shed which housed the machinery. The walls were of barn board covering wooden square beam frame. I believe it must have been torn down after the Kiers left for (I'm pretty sure) it was still there when the auction sale took place which my brothers and I attended. My brother Ken bought a Massey Ferguson riding lawn mower and I bought a little outhouse which I turned into a hand tool shed.

One of my first memories is walking through that barn in which one of the men that day had a radio playing the tunes of the day. I had never before heard of anyone having a radio in the barn. I looked until I found it sitting on top of the stable wall just where the barn dump meets the big machinery doors where the entry to the centre classrooms is today. I have been in there a couple of times talking with the instructors Wayne Gates Former Farm Resident and longtime Friend of Fallbrook.

