



# IOWA BARN FOUNDATION

M A G A Z I N E

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# IOWA BARN FOUNDATION

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The magazine, as well as the foundation, is an all-state, effort founded in 1997.

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Cover Photo:

Summer twilight view of the Jensen Boys, LLC barn outside Waverly (photo by Dave Austin)

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The representatives promote the preservation of barns in their area and encourage membership in the Iowa Barn Foundation. Working with members of the board they will also help to oversee tours and other activities. We welcome volunteers for other counties. Please contact our county representative coordinator, Craig Stephens, at 515-681-1009 or [cdstephens@fngi.net](mailto:cdstephens@fngi.net).

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# Celebrating 25 Years!



The Iowa Barn Foundation turns 25 this year! It's an exciting time for the Iowa Barn Foundation and a lot has been accomplished in those years!

In the past 25 years the Iowa Barn Foundation has raised over \$2,000,000 and has restored over 270 barns for future enjoyment. In addition, over 30 barns in Iowa have received the Award of Distinction for the work that owners have done on restoring their barns on their own. The Iowa Barn Foundation has been the inspiration to many barn owners to restore their barns for generations to come.

The Iowa Barn Foundation, its Board of Directors and County Representatives work to preserve Iowa's agricultural history and endangered barns by educating people in Iowa and beyond about our rural heritage and the importance of barn preservation! This is

being accomplished through the bi-annual *Iowa Barn Foundation Magazine*, the Iowa Barn Foundation website, the annual All-State Barn Tour and through picnics, open meetings and through worldwide publicity in newspapers, magazines and television. We provide matching grants to property owners to help restore qualified barns.

Barns, America's symbols of honesty, integrity, and the American dream, are disappearing from Iowa's countryside at a rapid rate. With mechanized agriculture of today, barns are no longer the center of the farm. But, they remain poignant reminders of our agricultural heritage.

"As we reflect and celebrate twenty-five years since the founding of the Iowa Barn Foundation, we might ask ourselves why is our mission important? Do barns really matter to anyone?

My answer would be a resounding yes to both. As an active farmer we have many modern functional agricultural structures to house our livestock and machinery but I'd hardly call these buildings beautiful. Our 105-year-old barn is a work of art. It is our family heirloom and I would be devastated by its loss. It connects me to family members gone before I was born. When visitors come to Iowa, they have expectations of the landscape and that includes historically significant barns. No organization in the country has done more to preserve this great symbol of Iowa's rural heritage. Would you join us by becoming a member of the Iowa Barn Foundation? Better yet would you like to get involved in our mission? We would appreciate your help. Thank you, Jack Smith, Iowa Barn Foundation President."

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# WHY I SAVED OUR BARN

— BY GRANT JENSEN —



A summer sunrise reflects off window of the Jansen Boys barn on the edge of Waverly



I made the decision in 2017 to restore the barn on our family farm on the edge of Waverly, known as Jensen Boys, LLC. To understand why I saved our barn, I first must tell you our family story.

In June of 1952, our family of four moved one-half mile North from the Chittennen farm to our current farmstead, which was known as the Fritschel farm (owned by siblings Martin and Anne Fritschel). I was 18 months old and my older brother, Brent, was 3 years old. Our parents were Kermit and Nancy Jensen. Brent was old enough to remember watching our Holstein dairy cattle being herded down the road. That road is now 39th St NE as Waverly annexed the area 50 years ago.

The original barn was erected in 1888 with the framing timber featuring mortise and tenon joints secured with wood pegs. The stone foundation under the milking section was quarried on the farm. The rest of this structure has a concrete foundation with flying buttresses. This same farm stone was used for the 1894 house, the 1899 corn crib, and the 1903 machine shed.

An addition was added to the barn in 1903, which featured newer construction methods that are visible in the haymow. Wood pegs gave way to nails. Large cross beams were replaced by smaller supports along the outside walls creating more open space for hay storage. There were hay chutes in the addition to drop down into the feed bunks in the cattle shed area, and another hay chute was above the feed aisle in the milking area.

In decent weather, the Holsteins were let outside after milking and had access to hay in the cattle shed. Initially, the cows went outside after each milking for water, but the addition of auto watering-cups inside the barn allowed the cows to stay in on nights when the weather was forbidding.

Our milk cans were picked up every morning by our milk hauler and taken to the Carnation Fresh Milk processing plant in Waverly. To keep our milk cool, the

cans were placed in a large stock tank in the Pump House. The pump ran during milking and the overflow drained into the large outside concrete cattle tank. Before my time, the power to pump the water was supplied by a large windmill attached the west side of the barn directly above the pump.

During the winter of 1967-1968, we had a large snowstorm blocking us in for three days. The power was out for 24 hours so Dad milked the cows by hand, and I experienced hand milking for the first time (the cows were not impressed with my milking skills). With the roads closed, we made slop with the milk and ground corn for the hogs - they loved this treat! On day three, Dad and I carried the full cans of milk nearly one fourth mile over the snow drifts to the top of the hill where the milk hauler greeted us with his truck!

In these early years, the Holsteins were somewhat wild so we were instructed to stay away from them...which was hard for me as I loved animals. The one exception was Christmas morning when we were encouraged to watch Dad complete the morning milking and got to watch the sunrise. Mom did this to get us out of the house so we weren't pestering her to open our presents! It was a treat to be part of morning milking, so I loved it!

Four calf pens were adjacent to the milking area. When I was old enough, I got to feed the calves milk using buckets. Later we changed over to milk replacer and bottles.



**Mortise and tenon joints secured with wood pegs are visible in the haymow.**



A view of the haymow over the milking area of the barn.

The large haymow has so many childhood memories for me! Brent and I played Cowboys and Indians, Stagecoach Robbers and the Sheriff and Mountain Climbers. One winter, Dad completely surprised me by building me a stagecoach using straw bales. I was a very happy boy until the area had to be cleared out before spring field work started and baling season was upon us.

To put hay in the barn, we used two large claw hay forks with a trolley so bales could be sent East and South. Dad was the only man in our haying crew who could back the hay racks into narrow unloading space inside the barn. When I was old enough, I drove the tractor that pulled the fork up and into the barn's interior. After the fork setter pulled the trip rope, my job was to get the fork back to the hay rack...wonderful summer day memories!

Dad retired in the early 1980's due to health issues, which required selling off the livestock. It was a

very sad day for our family watching the cattle being loaded into a truck headed to the local livestock auction. My parents continued to live on the farm, and the land was rented out. Dad passed away in 2000, and Mom passed in 2010.

After my brother Brent and I inherited the farm, we noticed the roof on the barn was in poor condition with many damaged and missing shingles. To prevent damage to the interior of the barn, I replaced the asphalt shingles with metal sheeting. I did the same to the corn crib and machine shed.

Brent passed away in May of 2017, and I was now on my own with the farm. I was lucky to find Jirak Construction through a Facebook post. Mike Jirak worked meticulously replacing worn out and missing battens and siding boards, and he brought in reinforcement to repair the sagging double doors. The paint picked for the project was named "Restoration Red." As soon as the



A view of the Jensen Boys farmstead from the road.

first paint strokes went on, it was as if the barn sprang back to life...a clear sign that I was doing the right thing.

While this quickly became an expensive project, it is a loving tribute in memory of Dad's hard work taking care of the farm and keeping everything in good condition as well as Mom & Brent's contributions over the years.

These old buildings have a special place in Iowa history, our family history, and my fond personal memories over the past seventy years....which is why I saved our barn.

Silo filling in Story County -  
Oct 1913 (ISU Archives)

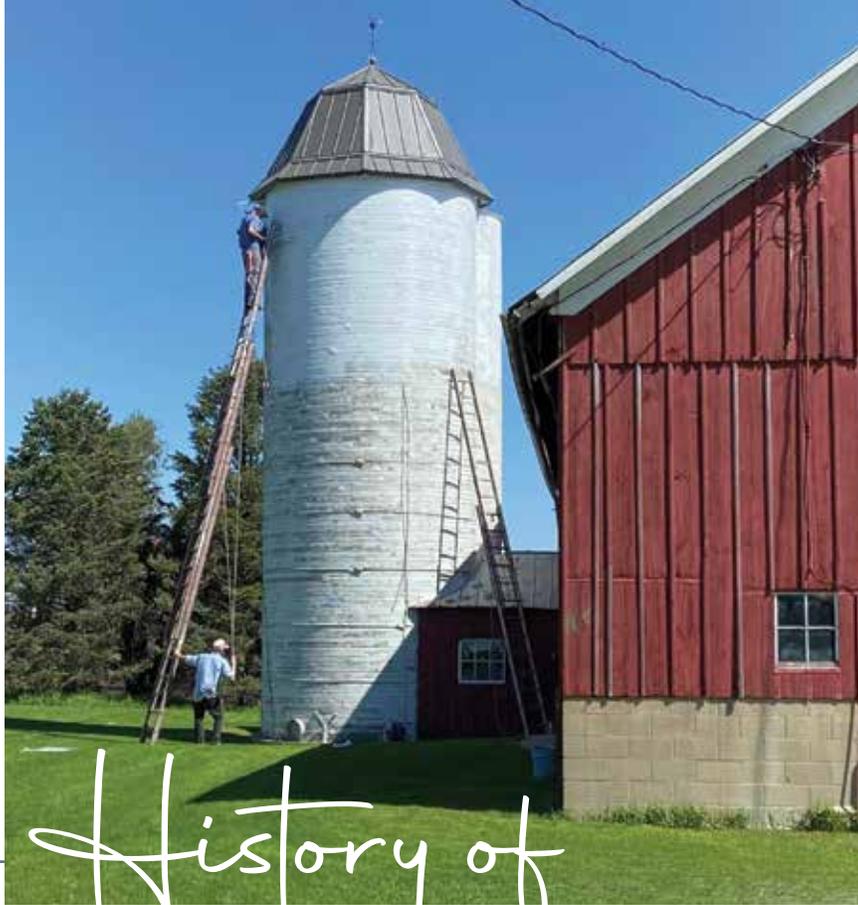


*History of*

# SILO CONSTRUCTION IN IOWA

— BY DAVE AUSTIN —

When most people hear the phrase “dynamic duo,” Batman and Robin immediately come to mind. Growing up on a dairy farm, my mind goes to barn and silo. A barn just isn’t complete without a trusty silo sidekick standing tall next to it. While the barn kept the animals warm, it was the addition of the silo that ensured there was ample feed for valuable livestock to survive the long, cold days of an Iowa winter.

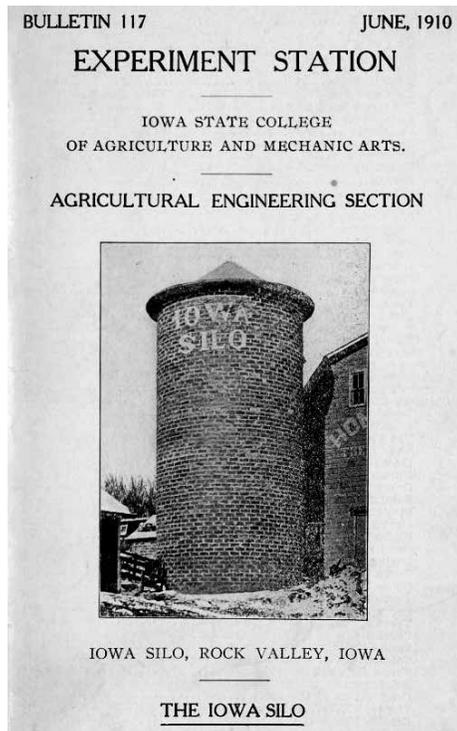


A 1936 triple-wall redwood silo by the Independent Silo Company in Bremer County recently received a new roof and a fresh paint job (photo provided by family)

Silos construction began slowly in the US in the late 1800s, largely driven by the need for winter feed for dairy operations. Milk production in northern states such as Iowa was limited to spring through fall when cattle could graze on green pastures. The high nutritional value of chopped green corn stalks could be preserved through the fermentation process that occurred inside the silo, providing silage to feed through the winter months. Corn was the primary silage material for the first half of the 1900s, with other grasses and forage crops being promoted by extension services in the second half of the 1900s.

History of

# SILO CONSTRUCTION



Iowa State College publication from 1910 documenting their research on the "Iowa Silo" design.

Early uprights silos were rectangular in shape which tended to bow out under the pressure of the silage, and air pockets formed in the corners leading to spoilage. Not surprising, the design of the iconic upright round (cylindrical) silo design most seen in Iowa's countryside today came from America's Dairyland. Professor F.H. King of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station is credited with the developing the first upright round silo in 1891, which solved the spoilage problem by simply removing all the corners.

The Iowa State College of Agriculture Experiment Station published their first bulletin on silo construction in 1908. Bulletin 100 presented a new silo design constructed out of hollow clay blocks, and it was called the "Iowa Silo." Over the next two years, a total of 13 Iowa Silos were built across the state for research and demonstration. In subsequent years, follow-up publications were released providing instructions on silo construction as well how to best utilize silage in animal feed rations.

Bulletin 117 (1910) listed the essential properties of an ideal silo which helped farmers make their silo building decisions. Key characteristics that differentiated building material choice included: 1) imperviousness of the walls, 2) strength, smoothness, and durability of the walls, 3) frost resistance, 4) simplicity of construction, and 5) cost.

The original round silos of the late 1800s were made out of wood staves, made from redwood or cedar which were less prone to rotting from the silo

Interior view of 1936 triple-wall redwood silo by the Independent Silo Company in Bremer County. The interior consists of curved heart of redwood tongue and groove planks.



acids. Staves were usually 2x6 foot, curved, and joined with tongue and groove joints. Very few wood silos remain standing in Iowa today. Most that do remain standing are located inside barns, which was a common design feature of round barns.

As featured in the “Iowa Silo” by Iowa State College, clay tile blocks become popular with superior strength and durability to wood. Concrete came onto the scene around the same time, first in poured and brick form. Ultimately, it was concrete staves that took over as the most popular building material due to their low cost, strength, and durability. Metal panel silos were also built during the same time, but less common. The metal panels were more prone to rust from the silage acids, and they were susceptible to wind damage when empty.

The iconic blue Harvestore silos became popular in the 1970s, constructed out of glass-lined steel. The blue color came from the cobalt in the glass during the high-temp fusing process, which solved the issue with acids corroding the metal. The AO Smith company out of Milwaukee originally used the material to make beer brewing tanks. A farmer noted that the the beer tanks would make a good silo if they were stood up on end, which was all the inspiration the company’s engineers needed to make the transition into the agriculture industry.

Uncle Sam even got into the silo promotion business during World War I. Excerpts from a letter published in 1918 by the Iowa Council of National Defense – “Winning the war is the business of every loyal citizen of this country today. Conservation of foodstuffs is an important

patriotic duty which the government urges upon all... The silo is the great feed saver – makes succulent, nutritious feed of the whole corn plan... Every Iowa Farmer who keeps twelve or more head of cattle - or 100 or more sheep - is officially called upon to put up a silo this season.”

In the early years, silo filling was a neighborhood activity with large crews going farm to farm to help each other. Green corn stalks were harvested intact and hauled in with wagons pulled by horses. The corn stalks were fed into belt-driven silo filler which chopped and blew the corn up through a long pipe attached to the top of the silo. With mechanization, human labor was greatly reduced. Forage harvesters chopped the forage in the field

Uncle Sam gets into the silo promotion business in 1918



An example of a clay tile silo on the Dobbin farmstead in Marshall County.





A 1918 patriotic poster asking Iowa Farmers to build silos.



A Harvestore silo stands next to the Mikesh dairy barn in Winneshiek County (photo by Marlene Fenstermann).



A steel panel silo standing in front of a concrete stave silo in Sumner, IA (photo by Ron Scholten).



and blew it into wagons. The wagons were then pulled with tractors to the silo, with mechanization handling the unloading and blowing of the forage up into the silo.

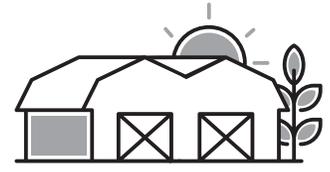
Prior to the invention of automatic silage unloaders in the 1940s, farmers had to climb to the top of the silo each day to toss silage down by hand using a pitchfork. The unloaders, which worked from the top-down, were not widely used until the 1950s and 1960s. The Harvestore featured a unique bottom unloader system.

The days of building new vertical silos are now in the past on modern farms. The primary storage of choice is silo bags, heavyweight white plastic bags stored horizontally with silage being blown into them. The common size is 8 feet in diameter and 150 feet long, holding 100-150 tons of silage. Feed is scooped out with a tractor and front-end loader and fed in bulk to awaiting animals.

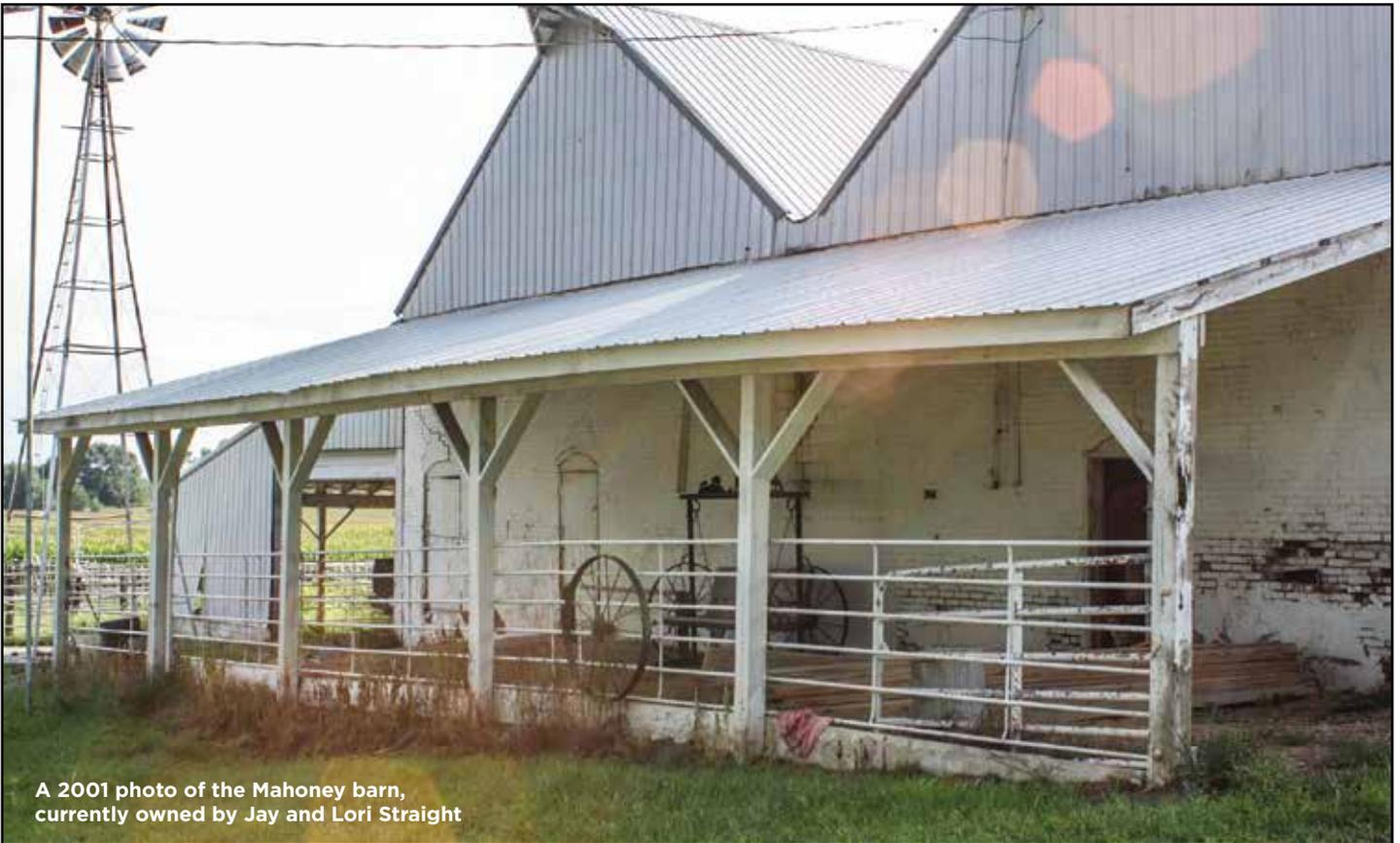
While the age of the silo has passed, they will always hold a special place in evolution of animal agriculture in Iowa. Next time you are on a barn tour, be sure to notice the sidekick standing next to the barn. Take some time to show it some well-deserved appreciation.

A concrete stave silo on the Jensen farm in Waverly. Concrete staves become the most common silo construction material due to their durability and low cost.

# THE IOWA DOUBLE-BARN STORY



— BY PATRICIA L WIESE —



A 2001 photo of the Mahoney barn, currently owned by Jay and Lori Straight

The brick “double-barn” which is still standing on the original Harrison County, Iowa, farm near Magnolia, has a fascinating history. It was built in 1890, of bricks made in his kiln, by the youngest son of my great-grandfather, Stephen Mahoney. Only by the research I had to do for this story did I discover the true builder was NOT my great-grandfather, after all! So, my story has an interesting twist.

The Mahoneys came from Ireland (1798) and settled in Maryland in the early 1800s; Stephen was born in 1809. Large families were common, if not necessary, and Stephen had ten siblings. Marrying at twenty-two, he engaged in farming and coopering near Scotts Mill, Cecil County, Maryland, which was an active three-story sawmill, bark-mill, cider-mill, bone-mill, splitting-mill and augar-factory open 24-hours a day!

I presume this is where Stephen learned the trades he later put to use in Iowa.

Stephen and his wife, Margaret, were the parents of ten children when baby, Lucinda, was born September 17, 1849. The family had planned to leave Maryland and join a group of Latter Day Saints going “to the west” when the sudden death of his wife came as a heavy blow. Though grieving and stunned, he



# THE IOWA DOUBLE-BARN STORY



An early photo of the double barn prominently showing the initials of Elisha Mahoney, Sr



The Mahoney family in front of their 1890 brick house.

followed through with the plan and prepared to be ready to leave a month after her death. With about one hundred-thirty emigrants, Stephen and his eleven children (the eldest being 18) began their trip down the Ohio River by steamboat. Shortly after they embarked, Baby Lucinda died on board their vessel, April 25, 1850. His written words tell of this sad experience:

*“We rowed ashore one moonlight night and buried her on the banks of the river.”*

According to family stories, an English woman among the group, Martha Barrowclough, helped with the care of the children during the trip. Other reports have them meeting in Iowa. No printed record has been found, except to know that twenty-two year old Martha became Stephen’s wife in April, 1851, in Kanesville (Council Bluffs, IA). They decided not to continue farther west and stayed in that community until 1852. Looking for good land to farm, Stephen moved into Harrison

County near Willow Creek, (section 33-80-43) paying a high land-interest of 40%. Their first home was a sixteen-by-sixteen log cabin with split shingles and a puncheon floor. This was replaced in 1858 by a story-and-a-half frame house, perhaps built with their own lumber.

Stephen Mahoney and his friend, Jonas Chatburn, built the first sawmill in Harrison County, Iowa. Jonas, born in England and arriving in America in 1844, had a background in mill work and Stephen obviously knew just how to proceed; they built a dam across nearby Willow Creek to have enough water to obtain the needed power. They had to “make do with what they had” for the actual building; Jonas, with his own hands, prepared a set of burrs with which to grind corn. Having all complete except the belting to attach to the power of the mill, they improvised by cutting raw cow-hide into strips to serve as belts. After the first grist was ground out, the two satisfied workers went to the wagon where they were bunking for the summer and fall, ate supper and bragged a little about how much they proposed to grind the following day. Finishing their meal, they returned to the mill and discovered rats had eaten up the raw-hide belts! Soon repaired, the sawmill ground the first meal, sawed the first plank and (later) rolled the first wool in Harrison County. Their lumber supplied buildings being built in Magnolia, for the first county courthouse, as well as frame dwellings and stores. (After the arrival of the railroad, the county seat was moved to Logan, in 1867.)

In 1853, they added a grist mill. This was a very welcome addition as, previous to this, the settlers had to go to Kanessville to have their grain ground and then wait three or four days there until their turn came. Stephen and Jonas continued their partnership in the workings of the mill for sixteen years, after which Stephen gave full attention to his family and successfully farmed and improved his land.

The parents watched the children grow up and begin families of their own. Anna was the first to marry in 1850; then Harriet, Rachel, Jeremiah, Theodore, James and Hannah. Two sons died of unspecified causes: Stephen Charles (1863) and Joseph S. (1864). One son, William, enlisted in the Iowa, Company C. 29th Infantry, Civil War, and died of the wounds he suffered in Arkansas, May 28, 1863.

Martha and Stephen began the “second” family with the birth of Hiram (1852); Benjamin (1854); John (1856); Margaret (1858); Elisha (1860); and my grandmother, Sarah Ellen (1868). That totaled seventeen children.

Stephen Mahoney died at his home February 22, 1888, of a paralysis he had suffered for some time. Cecil Whig, in writing the obituary, states: “His home was ever open to the westbound traveler; a Christian, fond husband and father, a steadfast friend has gone to his just reward.”

Stephen’s hand-written will, successfully probated, gave provisions for his wife, Martha, and generous gifts of money to various children and grandchildren. It also put forth a plan by which Elisha, his son, could buy the homestead.

Elisha Mahoney (1860-1919) farmer, stock raiser and proprietor of the farm’s brick kiln, had worked his father’s farm on shares until 1889. He then purchased one hundred and

thirty-three acres of the old homestead. He erected the two-story brick house, thirty feet square (still standing today). It was completed in 1890 with bricks he manufactured at his farm kiln. In addition to general farming, he paid special attention to the breeding of Norman horses. Elisha married Martha Scarborough, also from Maryland, in 1877 and they had eight children.

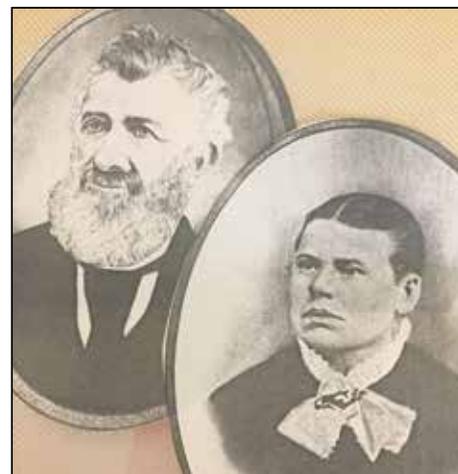
So, it was Elisha Mahoney, Sr., my Grand-uncle, who built the brick “double-barn” near Magnolia, Iowa, in 1890. Pride of ownership is evident in the initials “E.M.” prominently displayed on the barn and seen in the family photos which also include the Norman horses.

The advantages of a “double-barn” are not clear to me. The ground-floor expanse, topped with two peaks, may have allowed for a larger capacity of hay in the loft. The barn itself measures fifty-feet by fifty-feet. The walls are brick, a foot thick, and at some point were covered with stucco. There was a dividing wall down the middle of the barn. The foundation was discovered to have bricks beneath it which lay four to five feet deep! Jay Straight, (present owner), discovered this when the dividing wall had to be replaced by supporting poles and the hay loft removed. The barn housed Jay’s cows, hosted many cattle auctions, and was the wedding

site of his daughters. Jay added a modern wing to the original home in 2015.

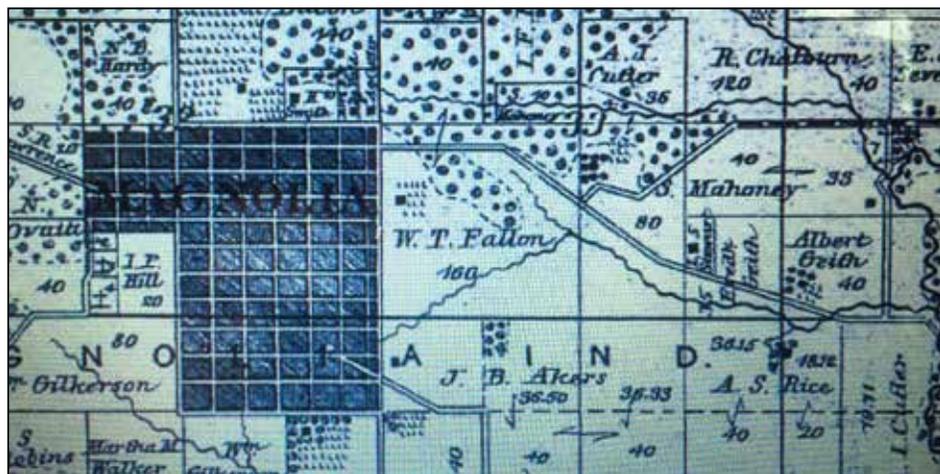
Ownership history from 1855, shows the land patent was in the name of William Garner, sold to Jonas Chatburn in 1856 and subsequently sold to Stephen Mahoney. Owners that follow: Elisha Mahoney Sr.; Hiram B. Mahoney (Elisha’s son); William Mahoney (Elisha’s son); Madison R. Dilley and wife, Delia Mahoney (Elisha’s daughter); Bessie Stemple; W.H. Johnson; Jess Brown; Elmer Rohm; William Dingman. It appears some member of the Mahoney family were owners until 1927.

The homestead, finally, was sold to Jack Straight who willed it to his son and wife, Jay and Lori Straight, of Logan, IA in 2003.



Stephen and Martha Mahoney

An 1884 map of Harrison County showing the Mahoney farmstead east of Magnolia.





# BARN ALL-STATE TOUR 2022

Revisit Old America Close Up on the Iowa Barn Foundation's 22nd Annual All-State Barn Tour

**SATURDAY, September 24,  
AND SUNDAY, September 25**

from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The annual self-guided barn tour is sponsored by the Iowa Barn Foundation.

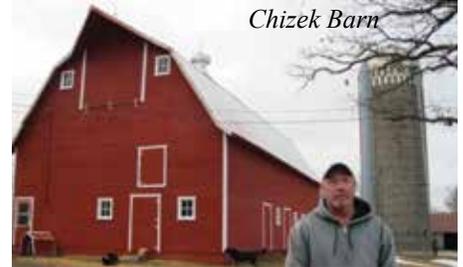
Historic barns throughout the state will be on tour. The barns have been awarded restoration grants by the Iowa Barn Foundation because of their importance historically or architecturally.

Other important barns restored by owners are also on the tour. The Iowa Barn Foundation is an all-state, primarily all-volunteer, non-profit group that was founded in 1997 in order to encourage the preservation of Iowa's rural heritage.

For information about the tour, go to [IowaBarnFoundation.org](http://IowaBarnFoundation.org), or call Roxanne Mehlich, 641-751-1406.

## NORTH-CENTRAL COUNTIES

Counties - Winnebago, Worth, Hancock, Cerro Gordo, Wright, and Franklin.



*Chizek Barn*

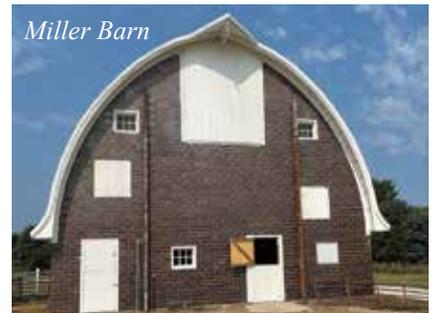
**Chizek Barn** 1665 250th St, Garner (Hancock County) - Go west out of Garner on US 18 to US 69, then turn north on US 69, and go one mile. Then turn left onto 250th St. Barn built by Albert Chizek, owner's grandfather, in 1942. It has an open loft area.



*Dodd Barn*

**Dodd Barn**, 1850 40th Street, Ackley (Franklin County) - Travel four miles west of Ackley on IA 57. Turn north on S55 for two miles to 40th Street. Go 1/2-mile west. Barn was built by Ernest Aldinger, one of three Aldinger brothers who built farms within a mile of each other.

**Miller Barn**, 1890 Indigo Ave. Latimer (Franklin County) - Take I-35 to Exit #170, go east on 190th St, then north on Indigo Ave. Barn is 1 mile, on the west side. Built by the Harris family between 1915-1925, the original purpose was for cows, with a milking parlor and a milk room. The barn was used for beef cattle, and then converted to farrowing pigs. Clayton Miller purchased the barn in 2011 and plans to restore the barn to use it to house his flock of sheep.



*Miller Barn*



## NORTHWEST COUNTIES

Counties - Lyon, Osceola, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, Sioux, Obrien, Clay, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Cherokee, Buena Vista, Pocahontas, and Humboldt.

**Jones Barn**, 2138 Verdin Ave, Ocheyedan (Osceola County) - From Hwy 59, turn east on A34 (220th St) and go 9 miles to Verdin Ave. Turn north on gravel. Barn is 1/2 mile north on east side of road. One of the largest barns in the area, it was built in 1917 and is unusual.

**Lorch Mennonite Barn**, 6810 220th SE, Harris (Osceola County) - A34 (220th St) and M18 (White Ave) - This magnificent Mennonite barn was built in 1889 and has a distinctive overhanging side.



*Jones Barn*



*Buyert Barn*



*Lorch Mennonite Barn*

**Buyert Barn**, 3387 Grant Ave, Hull (Sioux County) – From the intersection of US 18 and US 75, go south on US 75 for about 2 miles, then turn right (west) onto 340th St, then turn right onto Grant Ave. Turn of the century barn has been in the family for sixty years. Some of the original paint remains on the barn. It was a dairy barn transformed to a cattle barn.

**Wigdahl Barn** 4030 360th Ave, Ruthven (Clay County) From Ruthven, go 1 mile east on Hwy 18 (360th St), then turn right (south) onto 360th Ave, and go 4.25 miles. The barn was built in the 1930's, 34x64 feet, with red clay tile along the bottom. Two brothers designed a running water system, and milk machines to milk the cows, all without electricity. Later the



*Wigdahl Barn*

floor was cemented and the entire barn was converted to farrowing and feeding pigs.

**Harvey Barn**, 4516 190th Street, Estherville (Emmet County) - Take IA 9 through Gruver. Turn south on N40. Go two miles. Turn east 3/4-mile. Farm was homesteaded in 1899. Dan Harvey's great grandparents built the barn in 1927.



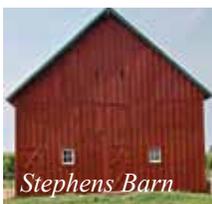
*Harvey Barn*

## SOUTH-CENTRAL COUNTIES

Counties - Madison, Warren, Marion, Union, Clarke, Lucas, Monroe, Ringgold, Decatur, Wayne, and Appanoose.



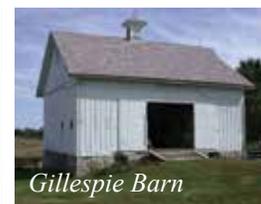
*McBroom-Hargis Barn*



*Stephens Barn*



*Kosman Barn*



*Gillespie Barn*

**McBroom-Hargis Barn**, 1218 Hwy 169, Winterset (Madison County) - Barn is five miles south of I-80 (Adel, De Soto, Winterset exit) on US 169. Article in Madison County paper (1884) discussed this barn, "It would be the largest barn in this part of the county." It has a wooden track, post and beam, pegs and was designed by I.F. Carter of De Soto.

**Stephens Barn**, 1461 28th Ave, Pleasantville (Marion County) – Located 2 miles West of County Rd S45, between McKimber St and Nevada St, the only farm on 28th Ave. The farm was inherited by Cora Shadle and her son, Harold in November

1938. It is estimated that the 30' X 40' barn was built between 1880 and 1910. Due to its small size, originally it was used for horses and hay storage. Several of the original sill and support beams had deteriorated to the point that the barn needed to be braced to prevent collapse. The restoration included replacement of all the exterior siding with Douglas Fir milled and delivered from Idaho. Several original door and window openings and hay doors were uncovered and re-opened. The interior work replaced floorboards in the NW portion of the hay mow. The barn is currently used for 2 horses and hay.

**Kosman Barn**, 10611 240th Avenue, Weldon (Decatur County) - From Osceola, take US 69 south 10 miles to Clarke-Decatur Street (J12). Turn east and go one mile to first gravel road (240th St). Turn south - barn is second house on the west side (right). Barn, built in 1907, was the scene of large barn dances. Barn has always been used for horses and cows.

**Gillespie Barn**, 1257 Hwy 92, Winterset (Madison County). Barn was built in 1874 by W.W. George. The property has been in the same family since 1870. It is located on Old Bluff Road which carried early settlers to Council Bluffs.

## WEST-CENTRAL COUNTIES

Counties - Woodbury, Ida, Sac, Calhoun, Monona, Crawford, Carroll, Harrison, Shelby, Audubon, and Guthrie.

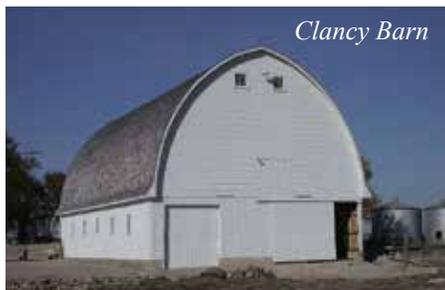


*Belfrage Barn*

**Belfrage Barn**, 2410 Port Neal Road, Sergeant Bluff (Woodbury County) - Take Port Neal exit off of I-29 then go "WEST" 2 miles to the first intersection. Turn right and go two miles north. Farm is on the right. Owner's great-grandfather, John Belfrage, served in the Civil War, and bought the land on which this barn stands in 1875. A carpenter named Aaron Gunderson built the barn on the lans in 1910.

**Conover Barn**, 5315 190th Street, Holstein (Ida County) - From Holstein travel 1.5 mile west on US 20. Turn south on L67 and go three miles. Turn left on 190th. It is the first place on north side of road. Barn was built around 1900 and used by C.B. Conover and his son, C.B., Jr., for their outstanding Belgian draft horses. Harry Linn, Iowa's secretary of agriculture, gave draft horse demonstrations here. (Award of Distinction).

**Clancy Barn**, 1866 Marengo, Pomeroy (Calhoun County) - At the intersection of IA 4 and IA 7. The barn was built in 1948 by Lee and Maureen Olson, along with local carpenter George Julifs. Maureen and Lee put pieces of the barn together in the machine shed prior to erection of the



*Clancy Barn*



*Conover Barn*

building. In 1962 the farm was purchased by Leo and Geraldine Clancy of Pomeroy. Geraldine and Maureen Olson were sisters. Leo Clancy was one of the charter members of the Iowa Charolais Association, formed in 1961. Leo also served as the Charolais superintendent at the Iowa State Fair for 25 years.

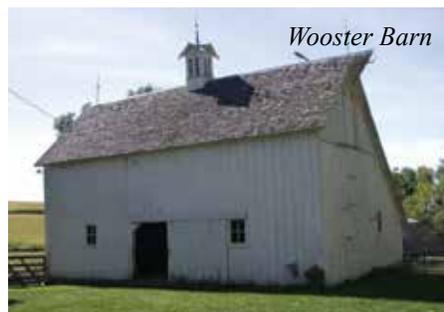


*Ellis Barn*

**Ellis Barn**, 2370 Fletcher Avenue, Lytton (Calhoun County) - The barn is three miles east and 2.5 miles north of Lytton. Landmark red barn, used to raise Red Rock Arabians, is called the "big red barn" by locals. It was built in 1918 and is 40 feet high to the eaves. It has 3x12-inch timbers.

**Wooster Barn**, 2435 2100th Street, Manning (Shelby County) - From Irwin, take the highway east five miles; turn north on gravel for one mile and turn east for 3/4-miles. From Manning, go seven miles south on Airport Road on the west side of town. Turn west for 1.75 miles. (Also known as the Manning Barn). Mr. Wooster's grandfather built this barn in 1896. It has always been used in the family farming operation and still is.

**C.A.L.M. Ranch**, 812708 280th St, Manning (Carroll County) - From Carroll, eight miles west on US 30, nine miles south on M68, one-fourth miles west. Landmark corn crib was built early 1900s. One of the oldest cribs in the area.



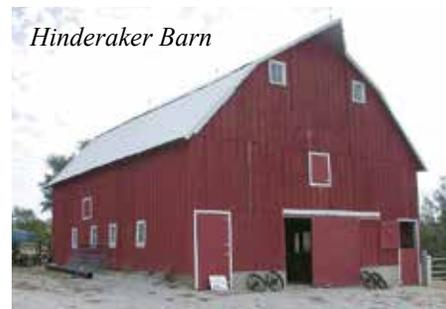
*Wooster Barn*



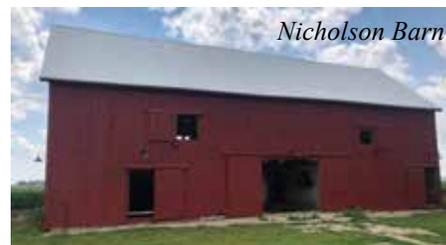
*C.A.L.M. Ranch*

**Hinderaker Barn**, 2698 Jaguar Trail, Guthrie Center (Guthrie County) - From Guthrie Center, go west on IA 44 for three miles. Turn left on Jaguar and go 4.5 miles south. The original barn was built at the turn of the century. It burned down in 1931, and the present barn was built.

**Nicholson Barn**, 294 240th Street, Scranton (Carroll County) - From US 30, go south on IA 25, then turn right (west) onto 240th St. (The owner is Still-Caris). The barn was built in the early 1900s by the Nicholson family who settled the farm in 1886. Their descendants have continued to own the farm since that time. The barn is an excellent example of an early, multi-purpose Iowa barn with provisions for grain and hay storage, plus livestock shelter including stalls for draft horses. The barn has pegged beams and a rail and car/rope and pulley system for storing loose hay. The foundation consists of large boulders that are native to the area. The interior of the barn includes log framing.



*Hinderaker Barn*



*Nicholson Barn*

## CENTRAL COUNTIES

Counties - Webster, Hamilton, Hardin, Greene, Boone, Story, Marshall, Dallas, Polk, and Jasper.



*Boriskey Barn*

**Boriskey Barn**, 2115 230th Street, Marshalltown (Marshall County) - Intersection of US 30 and IA 330, go north on IA 330 for 1.3 miles and turn left onto short gravel drive that crosses to county road E41 (230th St). Turn left again (west) and go 0.7 miles. Barn is on the right (north). Barn known as “long horse barn on 30” was manufactured by Super Structures, Albert Lea, and built in 1958. Has laminated curved rafters. Native lumber in horse stalls.



*Riemenschneider Farmstead*

**August and Josephine Riemenschneider Farmstead**, 201 4th Avenue NE., State Center (Marshall County) - From US 30, go into State Center. Fourth St is on north side of railroad tracks. Barn is behind Victorian house. Unique horse barn was built in 1902 for Craig Pfantz's great-grandfather, well-known horse broker. The barn has such unique features as handmade screens and a milk cellar. Note the balloon rafters. This barn is on the National Register of Historic Places and is now owned by great grandson Craig and Mary Pfantz.

**Buck Barn**, or “The Little Barn”), 1271 285th St, State Center (Marshall County) - From State Center, go west one mile to Cooper Ave. (S52). Go 4.5 miles south to 285th Street. Turn left on gravel. Barn is at first place on left. Barn is an example of how a potential tear-down can be turned into a jewel. It has a wonderful cupola.

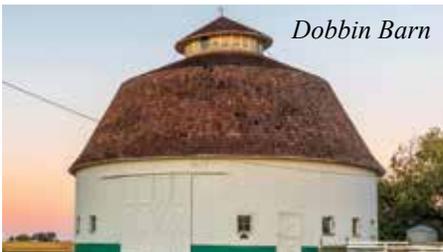
**Dobbin Round Barn**, 2551 Brown Avenue, State Center (Marshall County) - From State Center, on US 30 go west one



*Buck Barn*



*O'Rourke Barn*



*Dobbin Barn*

mile to Cooper Ave. (S52) and turn south. Turn right (west) onto 255th St, then left onto Brown Ave. The 1917 barn was a pre-cut structure designed and made to order by Gordon Van Tine, Davenport, for \$6000. Carpenters like Ike Ingersol and Amos Thompson assembled the numbered pieces into the 65-foot diameter barn with silo in the middle. The barn underwent a major restoration in 2021.

**Russell & Danielle O'Rourke Farm**, 25623 710th Ave, Colo (Story County) - Take the new US 30 eastward from the intersection with US 65. Turn south onto 710th Street. Barn is on the west side of 710th Street. This barn, part of a lovely farmstead, was built in 1885 for horses. Barn is on National Register.

**Mehlisch Barn**, 17590 730th Avenue, Zearing (Story County) - From US 65, north of Colo, take E 29 east to 730th Ave and turn north. Wendish carpenter, Chris Muschick, built the barn in 1905. Barn was painted white in 1916 according to date on inside wall. (Award of Distinction)

**Twedt Barn**, 63645 160th Street, Nevada (Story County) - From junction of E41 (Old Hwy 30) and S14 in Nevada, go north on S14 six miles to 160th Street. Turn east

onto 160th St, then go 1.5 miles. This barn has 40 two-ply laminate rafters to support its rounded roof so the hayloft is free of posts and beams. Farm was once owned by Hoyt Sherman, brother of the Civil War general. This is an example of how a small barn can highlight a farm.



*Mehlisch Barn*



*Twedt Barn*

**Rimathe Barn**, 51349 Hwy 210, Slater (Story County) - It's the first farm east of Slater on IA Hwy 210. This 30x50 ft barn has been used and beloved by the family since it was built in 1929 by the owner's uncle. The barn was in tough shape after a tornado, but owner, Wayne Rimathe, at great effort, recently restored it.



*Rimathe Barn*

**Robert & Carla Uetz Barn**, 2011 180th Street, Boone (Boone County) - From US 30, take IA 17 north for 5 miles (curves and stop signs). Go right (east) at 180th St one mile just past U Ave. Uniquely framed 36' x 50' barn with large loft was built in 1928 by William Smalley for teams and small dairy herd. Original overhead manure removal system still in place.

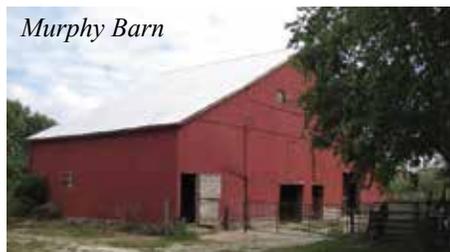


*Uetz Barn*

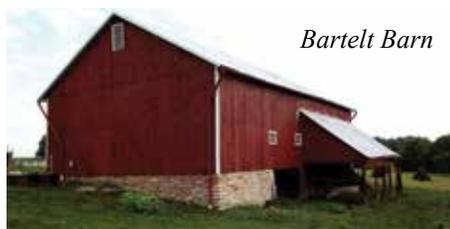
## SOUTHEAST COUNTIES

Counties - Mahaska, Keokuk, Washington, Louisa, Wapello, Jefferson, Henry, Des Moines, Davis, Van Buren, and Lee.

**Murphy Barn**, 7606 Stony Hollow Road, Burlington (Des Moines County) - Follow IA X99 north from Burlington, then turn west onto Stony Hollow Road (H50). Primitive historic barn has horse stalls, milking area, hog house, corn crib, cattle feeding area, and hay loft. Barn is still used for agriculture. (Award of Distinction).



*Murphy Barn*



*Bartelt Barn*

**Bartelt Barn**, Bartelt Barn, 16298 Hwy 61, Burlington (Des Moines County) The barn is seven miles south of Mediapolis on US 61. The owners saw this landmark barn falling into disrepair and subsequently bought and restored it. It is peg and post base-ment barn with a limestone foundation. (Award of Distinction).



*Maasdam Barn*

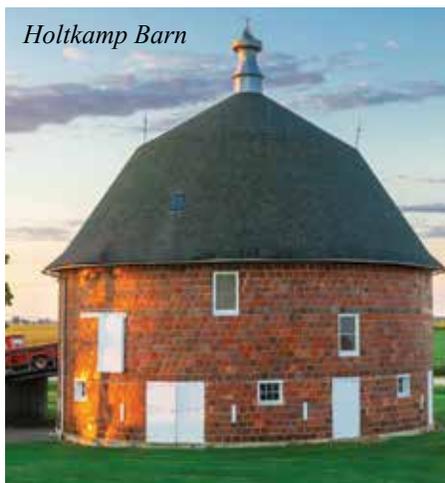


*Keeley/Paris Barn*

**Maasdam Barns**, 2224 Hwy # 1, Fairfield (Jefferson County) - One mile south on State Rte 1 from the center of Fairfield. The Maasdam Barns at the Evergreen Ridge Stock Farm are a illustration of an early 20th-century draft-horse breeding business. The Evergreen Ridge Stock Farm was restored by the Maasdam Barns Preservation Committee as a recreational, historical and educational center. Three historic barns and a museum are the components of the Evergreen Ridge Stock Farm Historic District. There will be draft horses in the Mare Barn both days. At 11:00 and 2:00 each day, horsepower will

be used to put up hay in the Stallion Barn. (Award of Distinction).

**New Holtkamp Round Barn** (Henry County) - 1725 335th Street, Salem. Located one-half mile west of Hwy 218/27, 10 miles south of Mt Pleasant Iowa, mile marker 32 on 335th St. Barn was built in 1917 by B.J. Holtkamp. The ground floor was designed for live-stock with the first floor used for grain and machinery storage, and the second floor loft contained space for loose hay and straw. The roof has a two-pitch gambrel design with a ventilator and windows set in to admit light. this barn has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1986.



*Holtkamp Barn*

**Keeley/Paris Barn (Big Red)**, 9225/ 9227 74th St, Ottumwa (Wapello County) – From Agency, go west on Main Street. After you cross the bridge over Highway US 34, turn right onto 74th St. This four-story, expansive masterpiece of farming architecture secretly sits atop a hidden hill. While not visible from the road, “Big Red” (aptly named after its paint job, courtesy of an Iowa Barn Foundation grant, and its home in the heart of Ottumwa Bulldog country) is certainly a sight to behold.

### ADDITIONAL CENTRAL IOWA BARN



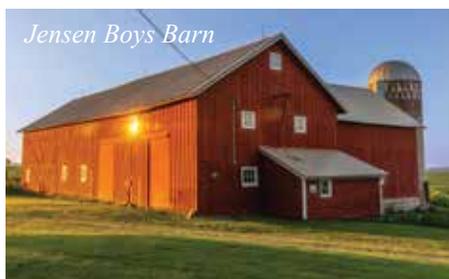
*Kirkland Barn*

**Kirkland Barn**, 161 270th St, Ogden (Boone County) This large brick barn was built in the early 1920s as a livestock barn. The barn itself has held up amazingly well, and has only needed a new roof and window and dormer repair for restoration.

## NORTHEAST COUNTIES

Counties - Mitchell, Howard, Winneshiek, Allamakee, Floyd, Chickasaw, Fayette, Clayton, Butler, and Bremer.

**Jensen Boys Barn**, 2233 Grand Ave NE, Waverly (Bremer County). Hours: Saturday 9-5, and Sunday Noon-5. From Waverly go east on Hwy 3 until you reach Grand Ave (also 39th St. NE) and turn left (North). The first 1/4 mile is black top that turns into gravel for another 1/4 mile and the farm will be on the right (East). This barn was built in 1888 and an addition was added in 1903. The barn was built to house dairy cattle and draft horses. The 1899 corn crib and 1903 machine shed are still standing. (Award of Distinction).



*Jensen Boys Barn*

**Brown Poultry House**, 1971 Bourn Avenue, Rockford (Floyd County) – The two-story Brown Poultry House was built in 1953 for laying hens; it was a state-of-the-art building utilizing labor-saving features. The restoration is authentic, with the exterior made of corrugated tin and all windows reinforced with wire mesh hardware cloth.

**Yunker Family Heritage Farm Barn**, 25734 Highway 57, Parkersburg, (Butler County) - Three miles east of Parkersburg, on IA 57. This large (112'x30') barn has been in the same family since the barn was built in the late 1800's. Inside the barn is a 16'x24' wooden silo that was manufactured by the Indiana Silo company and was built around 1909. This landmark barn was recently lovingly restored by Eleanor Tostlebe Peterson and family. (Award of Distinction).



*Yunker Barn*



*Borlaug Barn*

**Borlaug Barn**, 20399 Timber Avenue, Lawler (Chickasaw County) - About 1 mile south of Lourdes, on US 63, turn east onto 200th Street. Turn south onto Timber Avenue. The 1915 barn is located on his grandparent's farm where Norman Borlaug was born on March 25, 1914. The gable roof-style barn housed their dairy operation and space for their draft horses and young stock. The upper loft area was used for storage of loose hay for feeding the livestock. Norman spent his first eight years helping with the barn chores at the site. The barn size is 26 feet by 60 feet.

**Linderbaum/Palmer Barn**, 1206 150th Street, Castalia (Winneshiek County) - From Decorah intersection of IA 9 and US 52, go east on IA 9 for 5.8 miles to Centennial Road. Turn right on Centennial Rd and go 8.4 miles (Centennial becomes W46). Turn left on 150th Street. Go 1.7 miles to Linderbaum/Palmer barn.

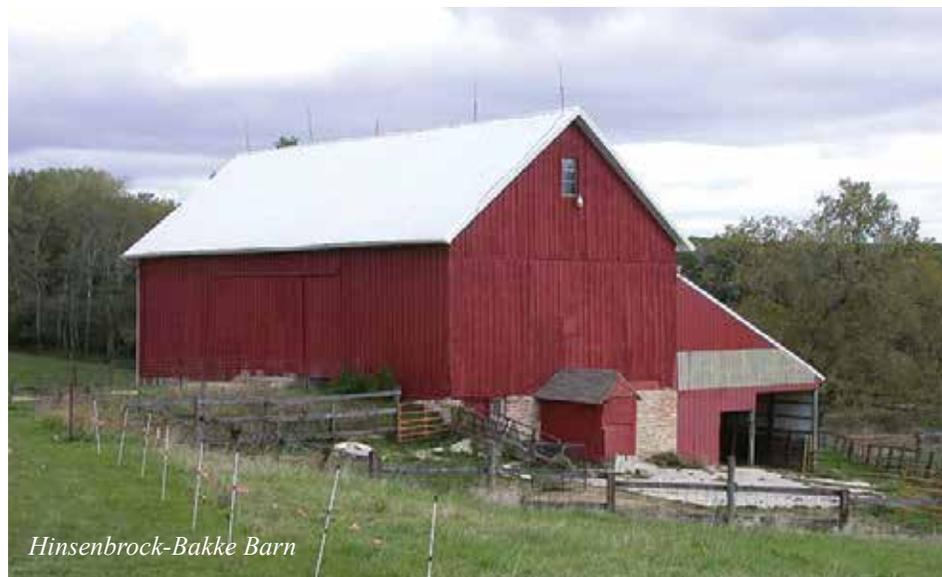
*Linderbaum/Palmer Barn*



Rock is from nearby quarry using teams and wagons. Framing of barn was oak harvested from own woodlands. Portable sawmill was brought to saw logs. Some 200-300 men came for a one day barn raising; each man given a new hammer. **No dogs please.**

**Hinsbrock-Bakke Barn**, 1477 Norske Road, Decorah (Winneshiek County) - From Decorah, take IA 9 six miles east to the second entrance to Oilville Road. Turn left and go one-half mile to the first gravel road, Norske Road. Turn right and go one-half mile to farm. Pegged barn (36x70) was built into a hill in 1878 by Peder Bakke, an original Norwegian settler in the county. Barn retains original wooden hay drop for loose hay and has unusual double support rafters. There are hand-hewn timbers, and pegs are in the same condition as when they were made.

*(more NE County barns on next page)*



*Hinsbrock-Bakke Barn*

## NORTHEAST COUNTIES

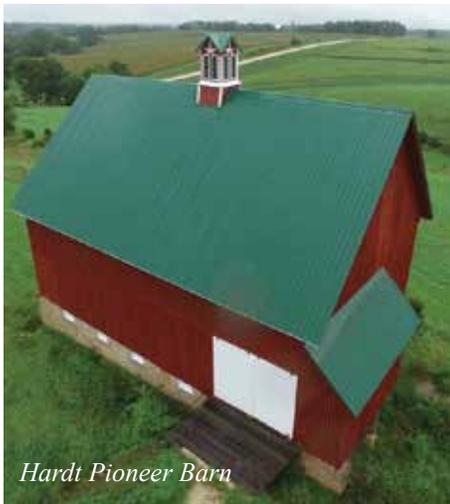
(continued)



*Boeding Barn/Milk House*

**Boeding Barn/Milk House**, 2173 Madison Road, Decorah (Winneshiek County) - West of Decorah, N of IA 9, W of US 52. Mr. Boeding owns two farms on the Madison Road. He has restored a stone milk house and barn on both farms — at his own expense; no grants. He received the award of Distinction for one of the stone milk houses. (Award of Distinction).

**Hardt Pioneer Barn**, 26152 Kayak Road, Farmersburg (Clayton County) - From the intersection of US 18 and US 52, take US 52 south to Kayak Road, then go east on Kayak Road for about 0.6 mile. S.H.F. Schoulte built this barn in 1875 for his livestock. An innovative hay slide was one of the many labor saving devices implemented by Schoulte, which included the corn crib which was attached to one end of the barn.



*Hardt Pioneer Barn*

## SOUTHWEST COUNTIES

Counties - Pottawattamie, Cass, Adair, Mills, Montgomery, Adams, Fremont, Page, and Taylor.

*Vandewater Barn*

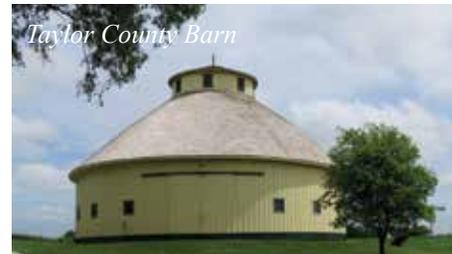


**Vandewater Barn (Meadow Brook Farm)**, 3100 270th Ave, Orient (Adair County) - Between Greenfield and Winterset, take Vinton Avenue (P39) south of IA 92 to 270th Street (G53) and turn right (west). Go one mile west of Hebron Methodist Church. Barn was built by Henry Vandewater in 1911 and has been in the family since. It has notched beams, pegs, mortise and tendon joints and a memorable wooden cupola. **Drive by only.**

**Henke Barn**, 2235 V Ave, Clarinda (Page County) – From Clarinda, go east on IA 2, then turn right (south) on to Cnty N14 (also V Ave). This Page County cattle barn was built in 1917. There are 4 barns on the property and people always comment of the quality and uniqueness of the structures. *(No photo)*

**Taylor County Barn**, 1001 Pollock Blvd, Bedford (Taylor County) ) – At the intersection of IA 2 and IA 18. Round

*Taylor County Barn*



barn was built by the Cameron family in 1907 near Lenox, originally used for storage and cattle. They donated it to Taylor County Historical Society, who moved it to the museum grounds in 1988. It is 64 feet in diameter and 55 feet in height. Round barns are very rare and are built for efficiency of space and to withstand harsh Iowa weather.

**Lemke-Murphy Barn**, 59039 750th Street, Anita (Cass County) – South of Anita on IA 148. This is a Sears and Roebuck barn which was shipped via train and hauled to the site via 6 teams of horses. It was constructed in 1953.

*Lemke-Murphy Barn*



## NORTHEAST COUNTIES

Counties - Grundy, Blackhawk, Buchanan, Delaware, Dubuque, Tama, Benton, Linn, Jones, Jackson, Poweshiek, Iowa, Johnson, Cedar, Clinton, Scott, and Muscatine.



*Hayward Barn*

**Hayward Round Barn**, 1520 Hwy V37, Dysart (Tama County) - 3.5 miles north of Dysart on Hwy V37. (Visitors can look at the barn and take photos, but cannot go on the property). Owner's great-grandfather, Charles Hayward, purchased farm in 1881. Barn, built in 1916, is 66 feet in diameter. It may have been constructed by Johnston Brothers Clay Works, Ft. Dodge because of size of clay bricks used.

**Frost Barn**, 1745 E. Eagle Rd, Waterloo (Blackhawk County) - From La Porte City, take US 218 (La Porte Rd) north, then turn left (west) onto E Eagle Road. Built approximately 1877, and this owner renovated it in 2018. Original use was horses and milk cows, but the barn now houses sheep. The walls are three-foot thick limestone at the base. (Award of Distinction).



*Frost Barn*

**Dighton Round Barn**, 3344 120th Avenue, Coggon (Delaware County) - Take paved road (D62) going west out of Coggon (in Linn Cnty) for one mile to Quality Ridge Road. Turn north for 1.5 mile (Quality Ridge Road becomes 120th Ave). Round barn on National Register was built in 1914 by Rob Kirkpatrick, grandfather of owner. It is intricate. (Adopt-a-Barn Award).



*Dighton Barn*



*Lassance Barn*

**New Lassance Barn**, 11550 Gunclub Rd, Epworth (Dubuque County) - The Lassance farm has two beautiful barns that have won an Award of Distinction from the foundation. One barn is a dairy barn built in 1923, and the other is a live-stock barn built in 1910. Both barns have been featured in numerous calendars over the years. (Award of Distinction).

**Jack Smith Family Barn**, 20922 Asbury Rd., Durango (Dubuque County) - From US 20 go North from Peosta on 5 Points Rd. Turn left on Asbury Rd to destination. The Smith barn was built in 1917 by a man named Jack Brehm. Mr. Brehm had a strong reputation in those days as being a real craftsman. Jack Smith's great-great grandfather came to this site in 1853. Jack's grandfather Joseph Smith operated a sawmill on the property and the frame for the barn came off the same place. Mr Brehm arrived at the site in the spring of 1917 with the frame that had been prepared over the winter. The labor bill was five hundred dollars. Jack Brehm built several other barns in the Asbury area as well. A barn dance was held in the loft upon completion. Several neighbors signed their names that night in the northeast corner of the loft. (Award of Distinction).



*Jack Smith Family Barn*

**Manders Barn** (was Freiburger Barn), 6334 Olde Davenport Road, LaMottle (Dubuque County) - From US 52, south of US 151, turn west onto Cnty D41 (Schueller Heights Rd), then turn south into Olde Davenport Road. The barn was built in the 1860's, and has been in the family for 3 generations. It is the oldest barn in the area. The dairy barn has a star above the door on the front and sides. Square wooden pegs logs are used for floor supports, and it has a hay rack. It measures 50x30 feet. "Self Guided Tour".



*Manders Barn*

**Kaufman Barn**, 6206 Streff Road, St. Donatus (Dubuque County) - From St. Donatus, take US 52 north 2.2 miles, and then turn right (northeast) onto 291st Street (which turns into Streff Road), and travel 0.7 miles. Barn is on the right. (Note: website map programs may not be accurate for this barn). The 30x80-foot bank barn is an early Iowa barn which was recently restored. The farm was homesteaded in the 1850s. Barn has table roof, large rolling doors on a track, entirely constructed from wood. A dirt floor remains with its original milk stanchions, horse stalls, long beam construction. The haymow door slides down the front of the barn on a track suspended by two large counter weights. Two log structures and a stone house are on the property. The barn recently received an award from the Dubuque County Historical Society. (Award of Distinction).

## NORTHEAST COUNTIES



*Kaufman Barn*

**Steines Barn**, 36746 Bellevue-Cascade Road, Bellevue (Jackson County) - Go 1/2 mile west of Bellevue on IA 62. Turn right on Bellevue-Cascade Road (D61) and go 1.5 miles to barn. This simple, primitive barn was built in the early 1900s. *(No photo available)*

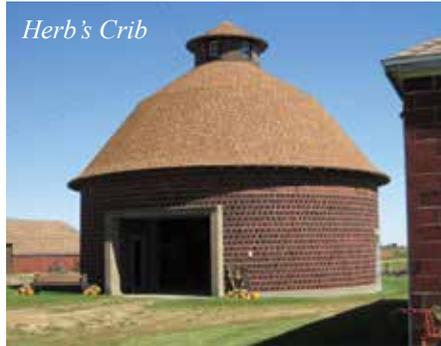
**Engelke Barn**, 25379 297th Avenue, Bellevue (Jackson County) - Go 1/2 mile west of Bellevue on IA 62, then turn right on Bellevue-Cascade Road (D61) and turn right onto 297th Ave. The barn, which stands at the end of dead end road next to the county's rodeo grounds (297th Ave), was built about 1939.



*Engelke Barn*

**Bickett-Rate Historical Preserve Barn**, 600-225th Street, 2(Cedar County) - Just off Cnty X40 (Green Road), Buchanan, south of Cnty F28, west of Tipton. The restoration of the Bickett-Rate Historical Preserve Barn was completed as of 08-26-20. The owner reports - "We did incur some damage by the derecho that came thru our area a few weeks and these repairs will be covered by insurance. The west end of the barn received some damage from the high winds. We are convinced that had we not replaced the barn's foundation and anchored the restored barn to the new foundation we would have lost

the barn entirely. The barn is structurally sound and will be easily repaired by Boice Creek Construction who had completed the earlier restoration work this past Spring."



*Herb's Crib*

**Herb's Crib**, 23553 200th Avenue, Davenport (Scott County) - Exit US 61 at Exit 127. Go east on LeClaire Road three miles. Then go south on 200th a half mile. Herbert Schneckloth, prominent Iowa farmer, whose family emigrated from Germany in 1854, built the landmark round crib in 1926. Work on the 50-feet in diameter structure was done with hand tools. The foundation was dug and poured by hand using a shovel and one-third of a bag of home mix at a time. Handmade forms were used to pour the concrete. The ventilation block tile and matching solid tile were brought from Adel by train and horse-drawn wagons.



*Frye Barn*

**Frye Barn**, 11150 New Liberty Rd, Maysville (Scott County) - From Exit 292 of I-80, go northwest on IA 130 towards Maysville (website: <http://www.smallfryefarm.com/>). The Frye farms were settled in 1881. This dairy barn was built around 1921 by great grandfather William Frye, grandfather Arnold Frye and great uncle Alfred Frye. All siding is original. All stone and brick work was tuck-pointed in 1996. The farm was designated a Century Farm in 1981. The barn interior, including the hay mow, is essentially unchanged with the exception of window replacements in 1995.

**Schroeder Barn**, 2738 130th Street, Wilton (Muscatine County) - Take Exit 271 off I-80 and go south five miles on IA 38 to 130th Street. Turn left for 1/4 mile. Barn (48x50) was built in 1900 and has roof rafter haymow with haymow door and track intact. The foundation is river rock. The south end of the barn was never painted, so was left that way.



*Schroeder Barn*



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# IOWA BARN FOUNDATION



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