

# IQVIA BARN FOUNDATION

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All-State Barn Tour  
September 16-17





Iowa Barn Foundation Magazine

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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:

Haymow view of the 1883 Secrest Octagonal Barn in Johnston County which held 200 tons of loose hay. The barn is a 2023 recipient of the Iowa Barn Foundation Award of Distinction, and it is a must-see barn on the September 16-17 barn tour. Photo by Dave Austin

## County Representatives

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 representatives coordinator, Craig Stephens, at 515-681-1009 or [cdstephens@fngi.net](mailto:cdstephens@fngi.net).

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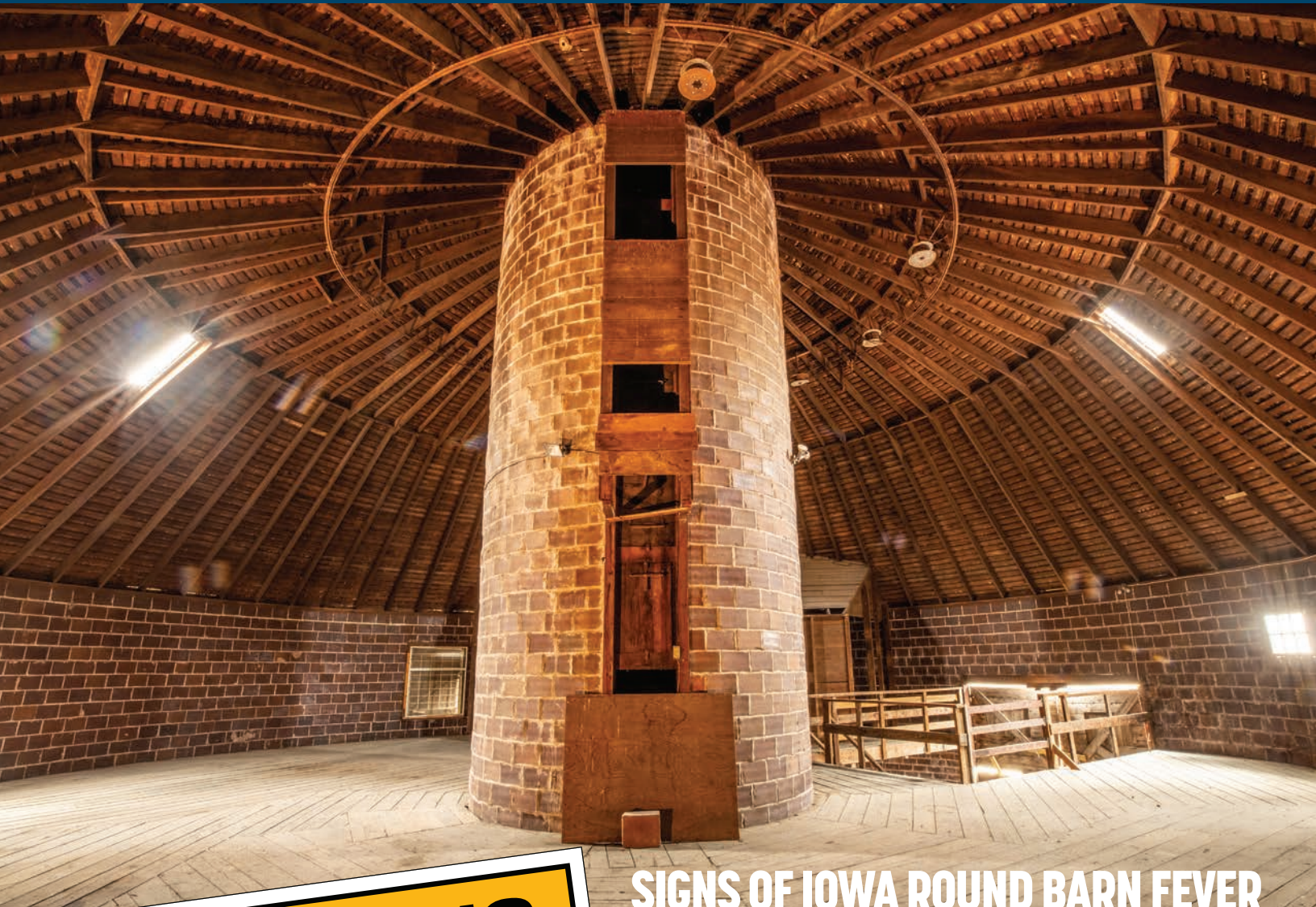
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[iowabarnfoundation.org/about](http://iowabarnfoundation.org/about)

— BY DAVE AUSTIN —

# Welcome to our Round Barn Issue!



**⚠ WARNING**  
Reading this issue puts  
you at risk of catching  
"Iowa Round Barn Fever!"

## SIGNS OF IOWA ROUND BARN FEVER

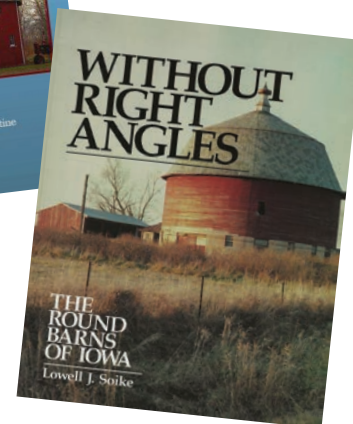
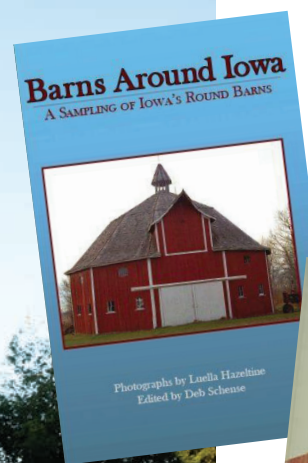
(one or more of the following symptoms):

- [1] You have visited all five of the round barns on past Iowa Barn Foundation Fall Tours - the Dobbin, Hayward, Dighton, Holtkamp and Taylor County round barns.
- [2] You own a copy of the book *Barns Around Iowa* by Deb Schense and Luella Hazeltine.
- [3] You own a copy of the book *Without Right Angles - The Round Barns of Iowa* by Lowell Soike.
- [4] You are a member of the *Round Barns of the US* Facebook Group.
- [5] You have researched Iowa round barn locations at [dalejtravis.com](http://dalejtravis.com).





Christy Dobbin Chambers and husband Jonathan Chambers received an Iowa Barn Foundation Restoration Grant to assist with restoring their 1919 round barn, which was a Gordon-Van Tine pre-cut mail order model. The original 1915 catalog page touts the economic advantages of the design (see page 6).



**Without Right Angles and Barns Around Iowa are essential reading for any Iowa Round Barn enthusiast.**

First, I must start with a confession. Despite living in Iowa for over 25 years, I did not discover the Iowa Barn Foundation until I went on the 2018 Spring Barn Tour. When I looked at the 2018 Fall Barn Tour lineup, I saw three round barns. While I grew up on a dairy farm and have worked in agriculture my whole life, I had never been inside a round barn. I was curious... So, I spent 12 hours on the first day of the Fall Tour visiting and photographing all three round barns – the Dobbin, Dighton, and Hayward barns. My day was measured in hours per barn, versus barns per hour as I tried to capture every unique characteristic of these amazing structures from top to bottom. To me, they were more than just functional farm buildings...they were also works of art.

Needless to say, I was hooked! That is when I realized I had come down with a serious case of *Iowa Round Barn Fever*! Since then, I've spent many weekends traveling the state visiting and photographing as many of the remaining round barns

as I can. I've also spent time seeking out round barns that have been beautifully restored by their owners for the Iowa Barn Foundation Award of Distinction program (including two new recipients on the 2023 Fall Barn Tour). My personal goal is to get as many of these amazing round barns onto the IBF Spring and Fall Barn Tours for barn lovers to see first-hand. They are too amazing not to share!

If you want to get up to speed on Iowa's round barns, I highly recommend obtaining copies of the two books dedicated to Iowa's round barns. *Without Right Angles* by Lowell J. Soike, published in 1983 (second edition in 1990), provides an in depth history on round barn construction in the US with a catalog of Iowa's round barns. *Barns Around Iowa* by Deb Schense and Luella Hazeltine followed in Lowell's footsteps expanding the Iowa round barn catalog with color photos and expanded descriptions. My copy of *Barns Around Iowa* is pretty beat up as it was my guide as I navigated the state seeking out round barns

to visit and photograph (note – please be respectful of private property and request permission before entering any barn). While out of print, both books can be found with a little searching online at book resellers. I consulted both books in the writing of this article, and I salute the authors for their passion to research and document Iowa's round barns.

Many folks have not set foot inside of a round barn for one simple reason - they are rare in comparison to their rectangular siblings. John T. Hanou Research is the most current source for statistics on round barn construction and remaining structures in the United States and Canada. John continues to scour old newspapers, ag journals, and aerial photos to update national round barn counts, tracking both date of construction and destruction. Of the 2,462 round barns known to have existed in the United States, only 627 remain today...nearly 75% are gone forever. The states with the most round barns built (in order) are Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Iowa.





Group by Round Barns of America

## Round Barns of the US

+ Invite

Based on John T. Hanou Research data, Iowa had 250 round barns (including octagonal and multi-sided) built between 1867 and 1927. Iowa saw two surges in round barn construction, which both coincided with an overall increase in barn construction. The first smaller surge occurred in the 1880s when there were 14 octagonal barns constructed in the state. These were typically built by wealthy landowners who could afford to build the distinctive “showcase” structures. A great example is the 1883 Secrest Octagonal Barn in Johnson County, which is the subject of its own article in this issue of the *Iowa Barn Foundation Magazine*. The second surge came in 1910-1920, when 121 round barns were constructed. Over 70% of the round barns built after 1900 were true-round barns, with the remaining 30 percent consisting of octagon as well as other multi-sided designs.

Only 74 of these round barns remain standing in our state today (less than 30% of those built), and many are in serious states of disrepair. When you consider that Iowa had approximately 200,000 barns, round barns represent just 0.13% of all barns built in the state. This is why the Iowa Barn Foundation is extremely excited to have eight round barns on our 2023 Fall All-State Barn Tour scheduled for September 16-17 (see tour guide in this magazine for more details). The tour includes over 10% of the round barns remaining in the state, and we are fortunate to have a diverse array of designs and construction methods represented in the group. We have created a special 2023 round barn tour page on our website to aid anyone with Iowa Round Barn Fever to map their route to visit all of them September 16-17 - <https://iowabarnfoundation.org/barn-tour/2023-iowa-round-barn-tour-september-16-17>.

The origin of the true round barn design came from an expected source for this Wisconsin dairy farm kid – the Wisconsin Agriculture Experiment Station. Professor Franklin H. King is credited with designing the first generation of true round barns in the 1890s featuring a central silo and a non-self-supporting conical roof, designed to house dairy cattle.

Then during the early 1900s Indiana builders, Isaac McNamee, Benton Steele and Horace Duncan perfected the true-round barn with a self-supporting gambrel roof. This idea caught the attention of the University of Illinois when Professor Wilbur J. Fraser and H.E. Crouch hired the Indiana builders to construct three round barns on its Urbana South Farm between 1907 and 1913.

A key catalyst for the surge in Iowa’s true round barn construction was Fraser’s University of Illinois Bulletin No. 143 Economy of the Round Dairy Barn published in February 1910 which described in

WALLACES' FARMER

April 22, 1910

## THE ROUND DAIRY BARN

Bulletin No. 143, issued recently by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, is devoted to a discussion of the economy of the round dairy barn, and is a most valuable contribution to the literature of barn building. While it is a matter of common knowledge that space can be more economically enclosed in a circular construction than in a square or rectangular, and here and there over the country round barns have been built and used with

rectangular barn containing the same number of cubic feet, and \$2,497.56 for a mortised frame rectangular barn of the same size. When the cost of the foundation and the soil is included the 60-foot round barn cost \$1,045.66, exclusive of labor; the plank frame rectangular barn \$1,424.43, and the mortised frame rectangular barn \$1,634.67. That is, the plank-frame rectangular barn cost 36 per cent more than a round barn containing

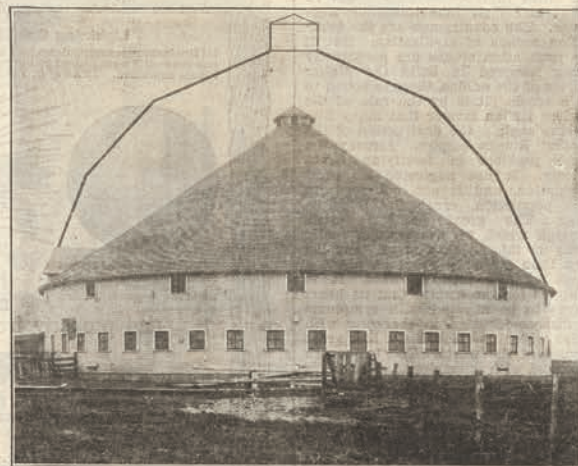


Fig. 1. Showing how the mow capacity could have been increased by using a self-supporting roof.

great satisfaction, the lack of definite information as to how they should be built and the inexperience of carpenters with structures of this sort, have greatly retarded their use. In the bulletin to which we have referred, Professor Fraser has rendered a distinct service to the farmers of the middle west in that he gives information concerning the structure and use of round barns in such a way that it can be easily understood.

the same number of cubic feet, while the mortised frame rectangular barn cost 56 per cent more.

In discussing the round barn, Professor Fraser says that one of the reasons why the round barn has not been more popular is that as most of them have been constructed they do not have self-supporting roofs, and consequently lose many of the advantages of a properly constructed round barn. A straight roof neces-

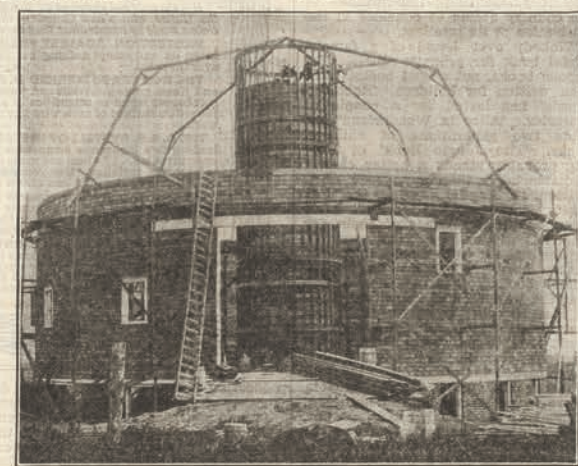


Fig. 2. The round barn on the Illinois Agricultural College dairy farm in process of construction.

The economy of the round barn over the rectangular is quite fully set forth in some tables printed in the bulletin. In one of these tables a round barn 60 feet in diameter is compared with a rectangular barn 36x78½ feet, the round barn containing 117,689 cubic feet and the rectangular 117,138 cubic feet. Not including the foundation or the site, the cost of material for erecting a round barn of this size is \$799.76; while the cost of material for erecting a rectangular barn of the size indicated built on the plank frame plan is \$1,023.27, and if built with a mortised frame \$1,223.41. The cost of material for a round barn 90 feet in diameter is \$1,628.48, as compared with \$2,007.67 for a plank frame

sarily requires many supports in the barn below, which are both costly and inconvenient and make the roof no stronger than a dome-shaped, self-supporting roof, which nearly doubles the capacity of the mow. The illustration shown as Figure 1 is of a round barn with the straight roof, while the black lines above the roof show how the same barn would look with a self-supporting roof. Note the greatly enlarged mow space where the change in roof is made, while the lower supports for the self-supporting roof are entirely removed.

Speaking of the advantages of the round barn, Professor Fraser says: “The round barn has an advantage in the work of distributing silage to the

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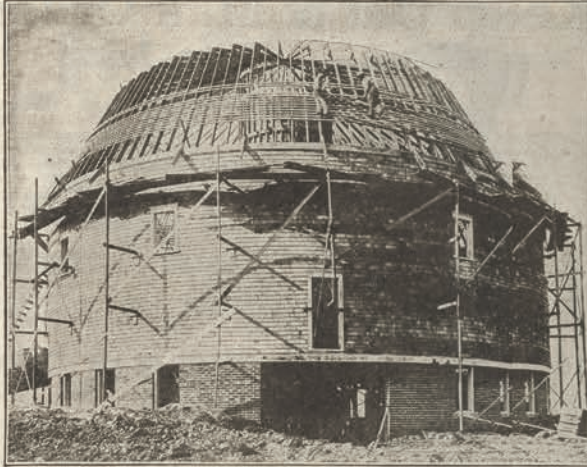


Fig. 3. The rafters in place.

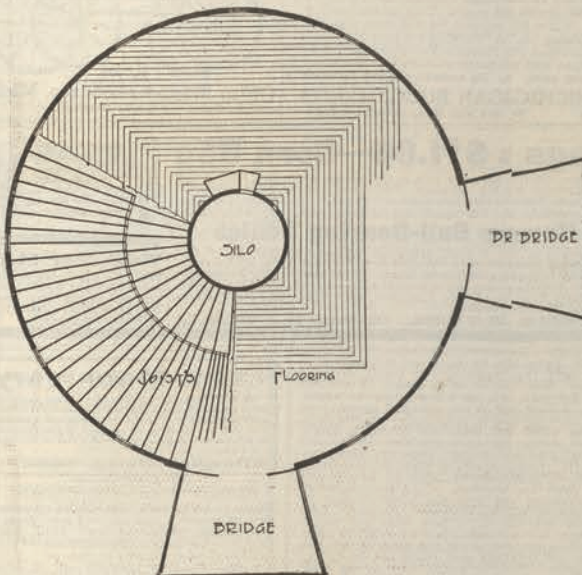


Fig. 4. Showing arrangement of joists and manner of laying the floor.

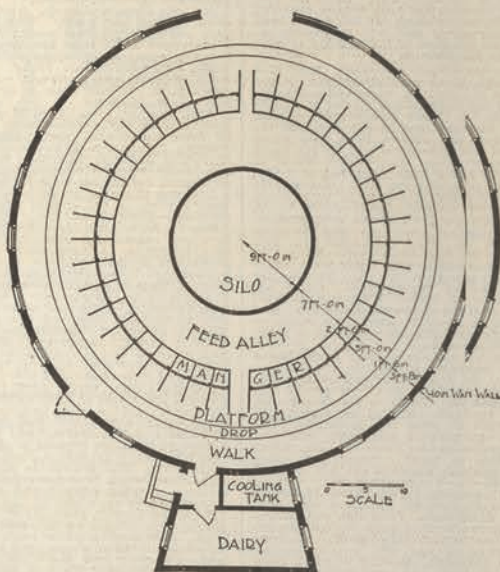


Fig. 5. Showing arrangement of cow stable.

cows. The feeding commences at the chute where it is thrown down near the center of the barn and is continued around the circle, ending with the silage cart at the chute again, ready for the next feeding. The same thing is true in feeding hay and grain. Still another advantage is the large, unobstructed hay mow. With the self-supporting roof there are no timbers whatever obstructing the mow, which means no dragging of hay around posts or over girders. The hay carrier runs on a circular track around the mow, midway between the silo and the outside wall, and drops the hay at any desired point; thus in no case does the hay have to be moved

of construction, the silo being very nearly completed, while Figure 3 shows the barn with the sliding completed and the rafters in place. The sill of this barn is 6x6, made up of 1x6's, built on top of the wall. The joists are 2x12's, notched 6 inches to fit the sill so that the outer ends rest on both the sills and the brick wall. The outer stand of joists is 14 feet and the inner ends of these joists rest on a similar sill built of 1x6's on top of the 4x4 supports at the stanchions. The inner stand of joists between the stanchions and the silo is 8 feet, the outer end resting on the sill over the stanchion and the inner end on a 1x6-inch band made up of three 1/2x6-

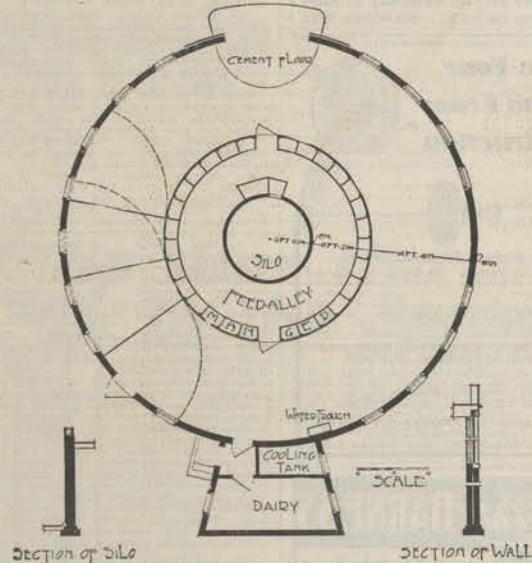


Fig. 6. Showing how this barn could be arranged to accommodate forty cows in stalls.

more than a few feet, which means a saving of much labor in the mowing. The circular construction is the strongest because it takes advantage of the flue instead of the breaking strength of the lumber. Each row of boards running around the barn forms a hoop that holds the barn together. All exposed surface of a round barn are circular, as both the sides and roof are arched, which is the strongest form of construction to resist wind pressure. Besides, the wind in striking it, glances off and can get no direct hold on the walls or roof, as it can on the flat sides or gable ends of a rectangular structure."

The bulletin describes the manner in which a round barn was constructed on the dairy farm at the Illinois Agricultural College. This barn is located on the side of a hill, making it necessary to excavate more than when built on level ground. The footing for the foundation is 18 inches wide. A 10-inch brick wall was carried up nine feet above the lower floor. Figure 2 shows the barn in the process

inch pieces running around the outside of the silo. These joists are placed 2 1/2 feet apart at the outside of the barn, and half as many joists are used in the inner stand, making the joists at the silo one foot apart. The studs are 2x6's, twenty feet long. The other illustrations are self-explanatory. We have not undertaken in this review of the bulletin to go into the matter in any detail. Our readers who are at all interested are urged to address a note to the Director of the Illinois Experiment Station, Urbana, Illinois, and ask for a copy of the bulletin, which will doubtless be sent to them without charge. Residents outside of Illinois should include postage.

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#### Gordon-Van Tine Farm Buildings



The Barn That Is Most Economical of Space and Labor



detail the first barn built on the Urbana South Farm and promoted the advantages of round barns. The contents of this bulletin were replicated in newspapers and farm publications throughout the Midwest, including Iowa (see reprint from Wallace's Farmer). Key advantages of round barns cited in the University of Illinois publication:

- Material efficiency in construction (less building materials per square foot of useable space compared to rectangular barns).
- Greater structural stability both in construction and ability to withstand greater wind pressure with circular exposed surfaces.
- Could be built with self-supporting roof to create a large unobstructed storage space in the hay mow.
- Circular interior layout was pitched as more efficient for the farmer to work in circular pattern, accentuated with the addition of a central silo.

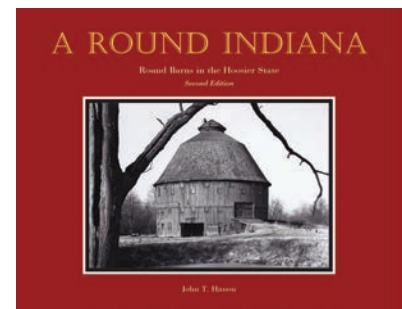
Additional land grant universities joined in promoting round barn construction, especially for dairy operations which is why many of the round barns during this period featured a central silo. The Iowa State College of Agriculture Experiment Station was no exception. In the 1909/1910 timeframe, student Matt L. King partnered with Professor J.B. Davidson to make an improvement over the Illinois round barn model taking what they had learned from the recently developed "Iowa Silo" which was constructed out of hollow clay tile blocks. The duo substituted the clay tile for wood for the exterior barn wall construction as well as for the interior silo. While the clay tile was more expensive than wood, it was more durable and simplified construction. Three of the round barns on the 2023 fall tour feature clay tile – Holtkamp, Dighton, and Hayward.

However, the round barn enthusiasm would not last. Many of the efficiency claims were largely overstated and

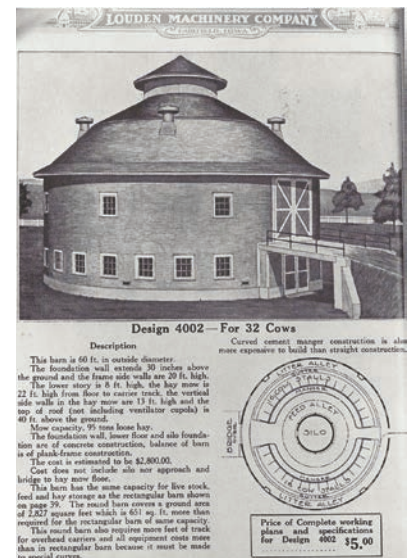
offset by the more complicated and expensive construction methods. The barns also required experienced carpenters with unique skills for round barn construction. By the mid-1920s, opinions were shifting against the round barn trend. Even the Iowa State College Experiment Station shifted their position and no longer recommended round barn construction by 1925. By the end of the 1920s, the round barn experiment was largely over in Iowa.

While a few of Iowa's round barns remain in active use as part of farming operations, most stand as important symbols of our rich agricultural history. While they were built for a utilitarian purpose, they also are noted as works of art often reflecting the craftsmanship of the carpenters who built them. Finally, it's been five years since I came down with Iowa Round Barn Fever. So far, I am happy to report that the only long-term effect is a greater appreciation of the innovative spirit that can still be found in Iowa's farmers today as they continue to feed the world.

*Editor's Note – I would like to thank John Hanou for his expertise and assistance preparing this article. I recommend you pick up copy of his book for more history on round barns - A Round Indiana, Round Barns in the Hoosier State*



Order at [www.press.purdue.edu](http://www.press.purdue.edu)  
(PROMO Code: PURDUE30 for 30% discount).



1915 round barn plans available from Loudon Machinery Company



**Dave Austin**  
Iowa Barn Foundation  
Magazine Editor



The 1916 Johnson Round Barn in Bremer County (2023 Iowa Barn Foundation Restoration Grant Recipient) features clay tile walls and central silo with the original dairy stanchions still in place.





# Saving an Iowa Treasure

## The story of the 1883 Secrest Octagonal Barn

— STORY AND PHOTOS BY DAVE AUSTIN —

**PHOTO ABOVE:** Rich Tyler proudly standing in front of the 1883 Secrest Octagonal Barn. The bank barn design allowed entry to the 2nd floor with wagons for unloading hay, while the animals could enter the first floor from the backside.

The Secrest Octagonal Barn is a 2023 recipient of the Iowa Barn Foundation Award of Distinction, and it will be a must-see stop on the 2023 all-state barn tour September 16-17. In describing the barn's historical significance, owner Rich Tyler notes "There is no barn like it anywhere else in the world." Once you visit, I am confident you will agree.

Tyler, as a Humanities Iowa presenter, has spent much of the past 25 years speaking on the importance of preserving our agricultural heritage. To hear him talk, one would think that Iowa agriculture has been in his blood since he was born. The truth is that he has no farming background at all...and he is from Canada.

Tyler recounts how he first laid eyes on the barn in 1992. "I was looking for a property nearby West Branch where I could take my young children for walks, and maybe even camp. A friend told me there was a farmstead down the gravel road, and nobody lived there, and the owner might sell it to me. I visited and saw an old farmhouse and old barn...both falling down. The owner offered to sell it to me, but I wasn't sure I wanted it or what I would do with it if I did buy it. A month later, the owner said he had found someone else who was interested in buying it....and asked if I had made up my mind. Just like that, I replied OK I'LL BUY IT!! While I had always been interested in architecture, little did I know that my quick decision had just started the project of a lifetime to save an Iowa treasure."



The barn restoration was made possible with grants from the State Historical Society of Iowa and the Historic Preservation Alliance along with many hours of volunteer labor. Rich is a Humanities Iowa Speaker, and he provides three different slide presentations, 'If Barns Could Talk', 'Your Grampa's and Gramma's Farm', and 'Why Save An Old Barn'. The talks focus on the historical background and development of the Secrest Farmstead and Octagonal barn. Tyler has made the barn open to the public, including hosting dances and receptions.

The barn's history is as unique as its architecture, and Tyler has done extensive research both on the family that owned the farm and the carpenter who built the barn. Joshua and Esther Secrest purchased the land where the barn stands in 1875. They were early successful Iowa farmers in Johnson County with a farmstead of 520 acres. The average size farm in Iowa at the time was 133 acres. In 1883, the Secrest's hired the local carpenter, Frank Longerbeam, to plan and construct a large round barn to store hay and house his farm equipment, horses, and cattle. Joshua and Frank gathered around the kitchen table on the farmstead and designed the one-of-a-kind barn from scratch. This was all done despite Longerbeam having no formal training in architecture or carpentry. Tyler does note that Longerbeam had a reputation being a stickler for quality work. He noted the saying was "If the average carpenter put in three nails, Frank would put in five."

The most unique feature is the 8-sided bell-shaped roof supported by 8 laminated ribs, each composed of 18 1x6 boards. The ribs were created by soaking the boards in water, bending them into shape, then nailing (square nails!) consecutive layers of boards into place to create each rib. The ribs were then



**Close-up view of one of the laminate ribs formed from 18 1-inch thick boards providing the strength to support the barn's roof.**



**The Secrest Barn was built first, with cattle shed being attached later, followed by an addition of a clay tile silo.**



**The 1912 view of the Secrest farmstead.**



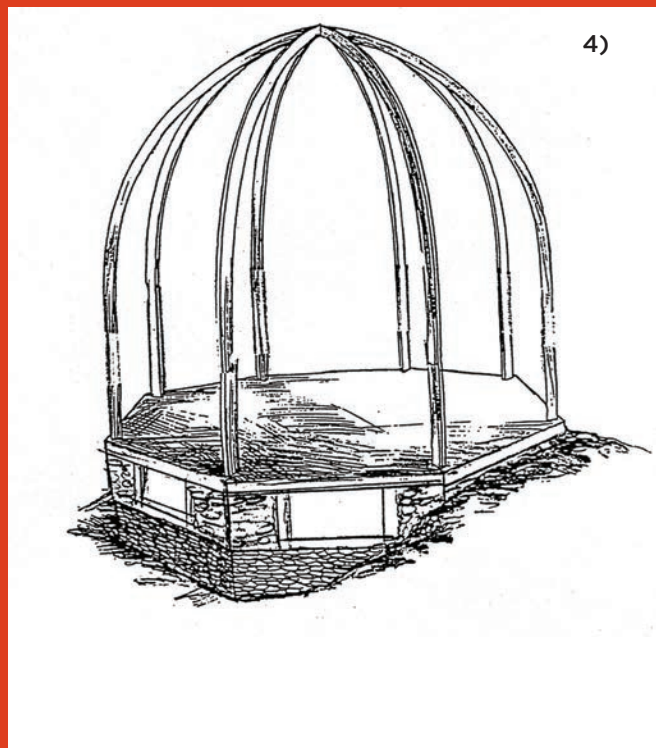
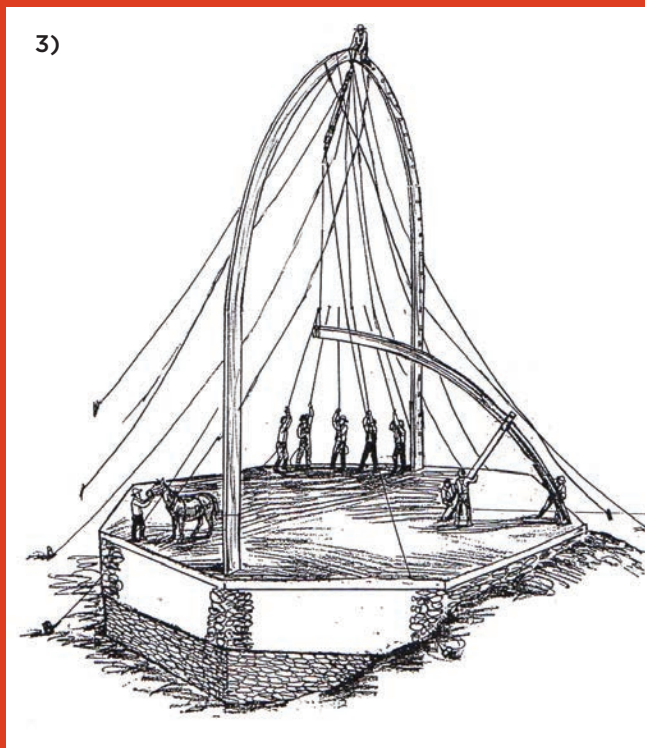
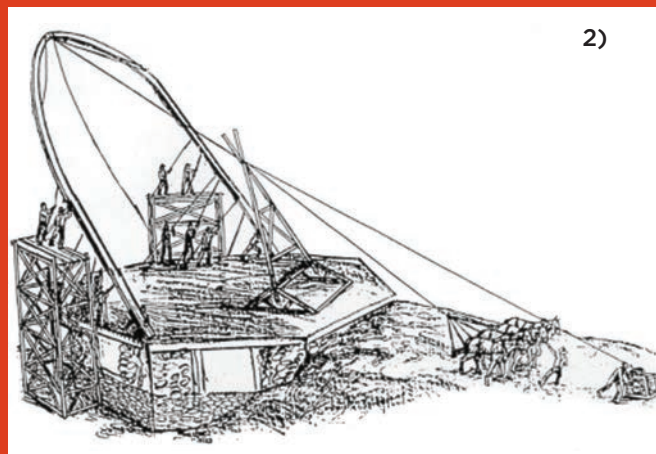
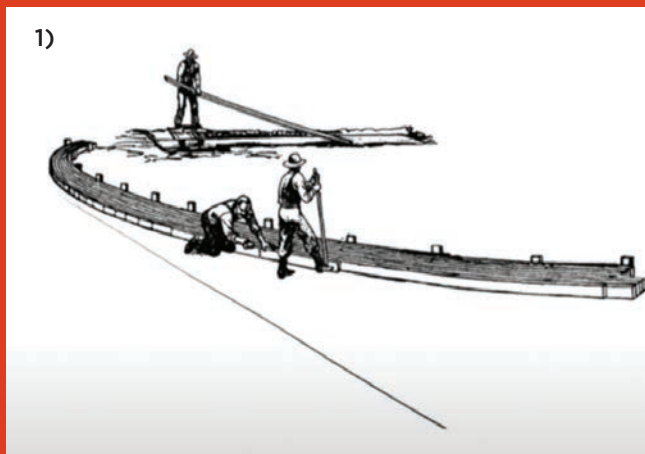


Figure Series "Building the Bird Cage" – Artist depiction of how the bell shaped roof of the barn was formed: 1) 18 1x6 boards soaked, bent into shape, nailed and bolted together to form 8 laminate ribs, 2) one complete arch hoisted into position first, 3) remaining 6 ribs hoisted into position and fastened into place 4) bird cage assembly complete and ready for finishing. Figures drawn 20 years ago (artist unknown).

secured with bolts going through all 18 boards. Tyler believes one complete arch was assembled on the ground, and horsepower was used to raise it into place using pulleys and braces. The other six ribs were then raised one at a time (see artist rendition of the building process). The end result was the massive free span haymow, which doubles as a work of art.

The Local Branch, West Branch

Newspaper, had this to say about the construction in 1883 – "J. Sechrist, a thriving farmer living 1 ½ miles west of Downey, is now finishing the foundation of a barn, which, when completed, will be the largest building of the kind in the country. It is octagon in shape, seventy-five feet height, stable room for thirty-two horses and sixteen cows, room for two hundred tons of hay, and furnished with modern improvements."

Additional design features maximized the functionality of the barn. The three-story bank barn design was built into a hillside allowing ground level access to the lower livestock level in the back as well a front ramp leading into the second story, which was used for unloading wagons of hay into the third level storage area using a hay fork and rope system. There were 4 shafts leading down from the third story to



the ground level to unload feed for the horses and cows. The second level had grain storage areas, and it featured wooden tracks with a rail car for moving feed to the attached cattle shed. A clay tile silo was later added at the end of the cattle shed.

The barn narrowly escaped a tragic end less than a year after its construction. The Iowa City Daily Republican published this story on January 28, 1884 – “One day last week the barrack and stables of Joshua Secrest took fire from some ashes and burned to the ground, with about ten tons of hay. By hard work, the adjoining sheds and cribs were saved. The direction of the wind is all that saved his new \$3000 octagonal barn, which escaped with a good blistering. Loss about \$250.”

Round barns and their octagonal cousins are both rare. They use just as much wood as rectangular barns, but they are more complicated to build and, thus, more expensive (requiring very talented carpenters). Yet, for the same wood, the farmer gets more space and volume and a barn much more sturdy in the face of strong winds, which is part of the reason the Secrest barn may have lasted so long (aided by the quality of the craftsmanship that went into the barn's construction).

While Tyler may have bought the barn in a “moment of weakness,” his actions since have proven how much he values Iowa's agricultural heritage and recognizes what the barn represents - the perseverance and ingenuity of America's early farmers. Rich is very thankful for all of the volunteers and grants that made the barn restoration possible. He gives back by making the barn open to the public for free viewing and free to use for non-profit events.

**The massive first level of the bank barn had stalls for 32 work horses and 16 dairy cows.**



**The best view from the farmstead is available from the cupola, 75 feet above the ground, accessible via a very steep set of stairs that run along the roofline. The bend of one of the laminate ribs can be seen clearly in this photo as well.**







# WHY WE SAVED OUR BARN

— BY JEFF FRIEDLEIN —

## It's big, it's round, and it's not a UFO!

I am the fourth generation Friedlein to brag about this engineering marvel. It was designed by my great grandfather, Louis Friedlein, in the early 1900's and was put into service in 1914. The barn was built by Xavier Jaeggi. Some unique things about this old barn were a silo in the middle to save steps during feeding as the cattle's heads were right by the feed. Because of the radius of a round barn, the cattle's rear would have more space between them making for a more comfortable milking.

The architecture of the round barn is quite unique with its massive

laminated rough sawn native lumber halo. It is supported by a series of beams that most of the upper rafters rest in, creating a massive clear span. The total diameter of this unique structure is 72 feet across. The old silo, which was recycled many years ago for its tongue and groove redwood, stood between the towers which support the grand circular peak. Great grandpa didn't think this design up overnight. I couldn't imagine the skill it took to build this without a crane, telehandler, or even power tools. My knees get weak just looking up at the height!



Jeff, Kari, Larry, Brandon and Margo Friedlein; Nick and Taylor Chase and their children, Levi, Maisyn, and Sylvia, stand in front of their 1914 round barn in Clayton County. The Friedleins celebrated the 150th anniversary of the farm in 2022 and were recognized at the Iowa State Fair as a Heritage Farm. Photo courtesy of Iowa Farm Bureau/Conrad Schmidt.



Roofers tackling the challenging job of removing the old shingles. Photo by Kari Friedlein

The round barn is also situated right next to a former branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul railroad which remained in service until 1938. The original railroad bed still skirts just below the round barn. A livestock scale was also located here and was a hub to transport product onto larger markets such as Chicago.

Now a little about myself: I grew up farming, and the round barn farmhouse was my first home. I only lived there for a couple of years before we moved to another one of our family farms. Even though we moved, my true roots are on the round barn farm. I have fond memories of the little Oliver 60 bringing loads of hay into the upstairs of the barn and driving around the silo to unload them. I graduated in 1980. My wife Kari and I have been married for 40 years and were blessed with 3 children: Derek (deceased), Brandon, and Taylor who make up the 5th generation. We also have three 6th generation grandchildren: Levi, Maisyn, and Sylvia.

My father Larry Friedlein still farms the land at age 80 and helps finance the projects around the barn. I still farm myself, but it seems my main occupation has become more of an excavating contractor. There are so many times I get called to lay a big proud old barn to rest. We have all heard the reasons why: taxes, insurance, upkeep, or it means nothing to them. To me, there is not a good equation to determine whether to save a barn or not. I believe 'not' is a bad choice. It's time to think about what old barns have done for families.



The roof replacement required over 120 4x8 sheets of plywood sheathing. Photo by Kari Friedlein

Barns provided shelter, income, and great memories. They are a valuable teaching tool for our children. The big round barn in Millville, IA is a true member of our Friedlein family. Born in 1914, it is a creation of my great-grandfather, whom I never met, but he speaks to me in his own way through this barn. I wish I could sit and talk to him for



The bank barn design allowed for wagons to be pulled through two sets of doors on the upper level with livestock access to the lower level. Photo by Dave Austin.





**The warm morning light finds its way into the haymow. The barn had multiple hay forks with straight tracks to move the loose hay off the wagons into storage. Photo by Dave Austin**

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*Editor's Note: The Friedlein Round Barn was a 2022 recipient of an Iowa Barn Foundation Restoration Grant, and it will be available for touring September 16-17 during the fall all-state tour.*

a few hours since I think we are a lot alike. This barn is not just a barn, but a trademark to the Friedlein family's heritage. It also serves as a valuable navigation point for travelers along US Highway 52.

In 2021, we decided to give the old round barn the respect it deserved. My family and I sat down and began researching grant opportunities for the much needed ~\$70,000 roof. We also decided the floor in the hay mow was very dry-rotted and replaced it in the spring of 2023. How to re-floor a round barn took some thinking as there are certainly no classes on how to complete this task. Cleaning out the old barn was also quite a task with decades of old wood, hay, and just plain old "crap". It is my hope that this barn will see many more sunrises and sunsets for generations to come.





A view of the first level before restoration showing the flooring joists supported by the ring beams. Photo by Dave Austin



A view of the second level showing the immense size of the 72 foot diameter barn. Photo by Dave Austin



As part of the restoration, a major portion of the haymow floor was replaced.



View looking up the center of the barn in the space originally held by a redwood silo. Photo by Dave Austin





# THE STORY OF THE TAYLOR COUNTY ROUND BARN

— BY SANDI SALEN —



The view is impressive looking the main hallway that was used for unloading loose hay loads.

One of the most interesting landmarks of Taylor County is the round barn now at the Taylor County Historical Society Museum in Bedford. The barn was originally located six miles south of Lenox, Iowa, and was built about 1907 by J.E. Cameron and was in the possession of the same family until it was donated to the museum by Richard and Evelyn Brammer in 1996.

At the time of the donation, the barn was in a state of disrepair. The cupola was sagging, the roof was compromised, and the haymow was nearly ready to fall. Many doubted that it could be restored to its former glory. With the dedication of some very determined and faithful volunteers, the barn was restored and reborn on the museum site.

The moving of the barn was broken down into two phases. First, the cupola was removed while the elaborate roof was completely disassembled. Second, the barn was literally separated into two sections with each massive section being lifted by crane onto a transport vehicle and taken to the site on the museum grounds. The barn was reassembled at the new site and restored to its original state. Original or similar material were used to preserve the historic integrity of the barn. Many volunteers were involved in both phases of this project. Grants were secured, and the generosity of the community allowed us to meet the expenses that were involved.





The Louden litter carrier still hangs on its circular track where it was used to remove the waste from the horses.

# *A Community Treasure*



Haymow view showing the full-circle Louden track and hay fork carrier system for filling the barn with loose hay.





**Visitors are greeted by the resident horse, Barney, who dutifully stands watch from his stall.**



**The pie-shaped grain storage bins are formed by the intersecting hallways.**



**The laminated mid-span ring beam is created from six one-inch boards bent nailed into the circular shape.**

## *A Community Treasure*

The barn stands over 50 feet high, 64 feet in diameter and 220 feet in circumference. The round shape was designed to withstand the high wind velocity of tornadoes and severe thunderstorms common in Iowa.

It has 4 sets of large drive-through doors on each side to provide complete access to the barn's interior. The intersection of the two inside aisles are four pie-shaped grain bins which could hold 1600 bushels of grain. The haymow has a full-circle Loudon track and carriage device to convey forks of hay throughout the haymow. One unique "modern convenience" feature of the barn is the large "scoop-shaped" Loudon Litter Bucket which moves on a circular track behind the horse stalls, and was used for disposal of animal waste. The horse stalls were designed to accommodate 14 Belgian horses.

The barn was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and Governor Branstad was the speaker at the dedication in May of 1998.

Today the barn has a new role in life. The only horse to occupy the stalls is our "museum horse", Barney, but that doesn't mean the barn isn't bursting with life. We often rent the barn for weddings, family reunions and community events. This year we are honored to have the great-great-great-granddaughter of J.E. Cameron getting married in the family barn.

The museum is located at 1001 Pollock Blvd., Bedford, and we are open from April 1st through December 24, Tuesday through Saturday from 1-4. Please visit the main building and a volunteer will be happy to provide you with a guided tour. While you are visiting the museum, take time to view our video of the moving of the barn. You can contact us at 712-523-2041 or email us at [taylorcomuseum@myfmtc.com](mailto:taylorcomuseum@myfmtc.com).

Photos by Dave Austin





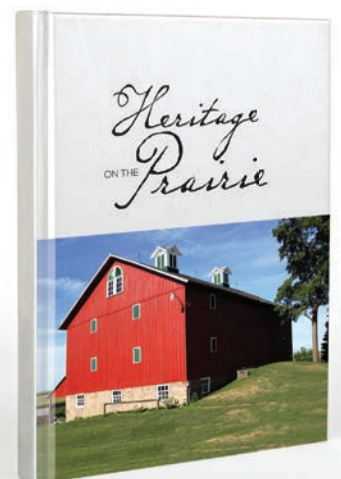
# Save the Date

## Iowa Barn Foundation Spring Barn Tour June 22-23, 2024 Southern BlackHawk and Northern Tama Counties

Planning is underway for our spring 2024 tour in East-Central Iowa, which will feature a Saturday lunch at the beautifully restored Frost Barn south of Waterloo. Our spring tours target a group of barns in a 1-2 county area highlighting the agriculture history of the region. The self-guided tour will be free and open to the public. Watch for details in the spring issue of the Iowa Barn Foundation magazine.

If you have a barn in southern Blackhawk or northern Tama Counties that you would like to be considered for the tour, please contact Wayne Frost by phone (319-427-3531) or email ([frostwf@lpctel.net](mailto:frostwf@lpctel.net)).

Iowa Barn Foundation *gifts now available* on our website!



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# *The Historic* **ROUND BARN OF ALLERTON**



**View from the main drive where wagons were pulled in to unload the hay.**



**A view of horse stall with the workhorse tack still hanging on the wall.**

Located in Wayne County, one mile east of Allerton, IA stands the impressive 50 ft diameter round barn built by Ed Nelson in 1912. Constructed at the request of proprietor George Fennell, the barn has a unique spider-web design that allows the loft to be free of support beams. The main floor houses eight milking stanchions, a granary, and additional livestock pens. Sitting on 93 acres, this barn overflows with a rich agricultural history.

As described by a later tenant, Mr. George Fennell was known as quite a “colorful character” in the neighborhood. After retiring in his 60s, he was known to drive his horse and buggy everywhere and for his heavy involvement in the local PTA. Surmised to have wanted something unusual and different, Mr. Fennell had the round barn constructed and painted white (instead of the usual red) despite the increased cost – resulting in a unique barn reflective of Mr. Fennell’s distinct character in his community.

When Mr. Fennell moved off the farm, it was sold to an insurance man named Caster in the 1930s. More interested in real estate than farming, Mr. Caster rented the property to tenants who continued the country lifestyle. An interview with tenant Mr. Clell Bryan provided a vivid description of mid-20th century agriculture and explained the central role and functionality of the round barn.

A family farm with a small dairy, the round barn housed animals of all kinds. The main source of power on the farm came from a few teams of mules, as Clell’s father was partial towards them. They also had sheep, Guernsey cattle, some Black Angus, and Hampshire hogs. Selling market hogs, beef cattle, chicken eggs,



The Historic Round Barn is the centerpiece of the International Center for Rural Culture and Art. It is flanked in this photo by the 1887 church on the left and 1869 schoolhouse on the right.

and milk was how the Bryan family made their living – similar to many Iowans of the time. Ear corn was originally picked by hand, while mules that pulled the wagon were guided solely by voice commands. In later years, they pulled a one-row corn picker. Corn was primarily a feedstuff, along with oats and hay. Hay was harvested loose from the field, loaded onto a wagon, and pulled up to the loft using large hay forks or a sling. A few oats were fed to the mules, chickens, and a riding horse. The threshing of oats was a several-day neighborhood affair, usually involving 8-10 farms. Milk was all sold locally and kept cool in the house in 10-gallon cans.

After the Bryan family moved, one last tenant farmed the homestead with mainly cows and hogs. Then following their inhabitation, the unused property fell into disrepair. In the summer of 1991, a group of citizens in Wayne County learned the barn would be sold again and, to preserve it, started a non-profit organization called the International Center for Rural Culture and Art. The round barn has undergone some small restorations (replacing doors, siding, roof, cupolas, and stairs) but remains largely unchanged.

A few other nearby historic structures have been moved to the property, including an 1887 church, the 1869 Williams schoolhouse, and an 1897 Queen Anne House that was once the home of local Civil War veteran Joseph F. Wilson who participated in the Battle of Shiloh.

The International Center for Rural Culture and Art is a source of pride for Wayne County's 6,508 residents. It serves the community by hosting craft, quilt and art shows, inter-faith church services, weddings, family reunions, workshops, youth day camps, etc. It also serves as an important part of Wayne County's tourism industry.

More information can be found at [www.theroundbarn.org](http://www.theroundbarn.org)

*Editor's Notes: The barn is a 2022 recipient of the Iowa Barn Foundation Award of Distinction and will be available to tour September 16-17 during the All-State Barn Tour.*

*Special thanks to Mr. David Wampler and Mr. Clell Bryan for contributing to this story. Photography by Michael Callison ([michaelcallisonimages.com](http://michaelcallisonimages.com)).*



## How a Community Saved a Barn

— BY DAVID WAMPLER —

It was Labor Day weekend in 1991. I was painting the front of my parents' farm supply store in Allerton. While painting, the Round Barn came up as a topic of conversation. It was in a state of disrepair and horseweeds were growing up around it. It was obvious that if something wasn't done, it would disappear like so many other barns. Not liking to paint, this gave me an opportunity to get off the ladder and make a few phone calls to people that I thought might be willing to save the Round Barn. I asked them to meet with me in the gazebo of Knapp Park in Allerton that afternoon. The turnout was great, and everyone concurred that something should be done. Our goal from that meeting was to try to buy the Round Barn and five acres. However, we didn't know where the money would come from. We knew the land was tied up in two different estates. What we didn't know was that a Judge had removed the executor of these two estates and a court appointed attorney from out of the area had been ordered to liquidate them.

The following Sunday - Clell Bryan relayed that information to me regarding the liquidation.

**MONDAY** - I contacted the Court Appointed Attorney. He was unwilling to split off the Round Barn and five acres as he already had two offers for the entire farm and was ready to accept one of them. I asked him if he would give us until Friday to put together an offer for the entire 93 acres, and he reluctantly agreed.

**TUESDAY** - Clell Bryan, Bob Finley, and I met with a local banker at 6:00 A.M. We laid out our vision for saving the Round Barn. He was receptive and asked what he could do. I said, "Loan us \$10,000.00 on a signature only loan to make the down payment." He agreed.

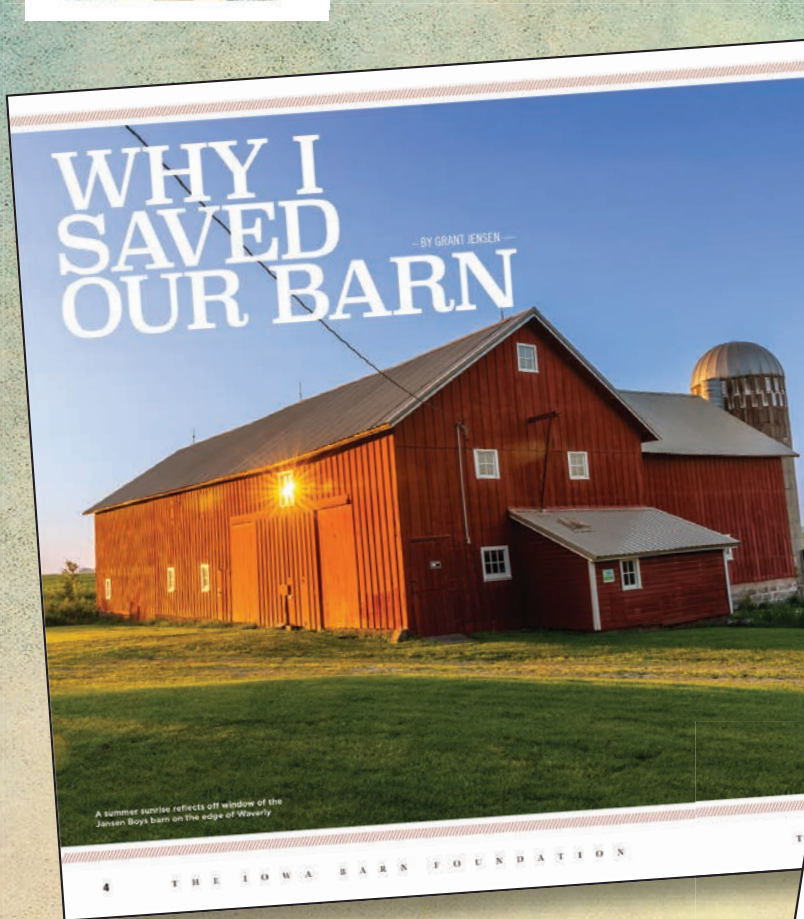
**WEDNESDAY** - At 2:00 A.M. I was in a local attorney's kitchen putting together Incorporation papers and an Offer to Buy. Two o'clock in the morning is an unusual time for doing this. However, the Attorney was leaving on vacation that same day and wouldn't be back for a week. The Articles of Incorporation were hand delivered that same day to the Secretary of State's office and The International Center for Rural Culture and Art, Inc. was born.

**THURSDAY** - Clell Bryan and I went to the bank and signed the note to borrow \$10,000.00 for the down payment. It was delivered that afternoon to the Attorney in Creston responsible for settling the Estate.

**FRIDAY** - I was notified that we had bought the farm. We had until March 1, 1992, to come up with the total balance due.

We acquired our 501(c)3 designation in early January of 1992 and sent out a fundraising letter. From this we received just over \$27,000.00 which was enough to put together a loan for the balance. The original Board Members were Clell Bryan, Bob Finley, and David Wampler. All of this happened just because I dislike painting.





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 Chittenden 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 29th 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 hot days when the weather was forbidding. When the weather was picky, we would pick up every cow and take her to the Pump House.

cans were placed in a large stock tank in the Pump House. The pump ran during the 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 to 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 get 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 in the haymow.



BY DANIEL LUNDY

# WHY I SAVED OUR BARN

If barns could speak, they would tell a powerful story.

A story of the remarkable feat of design, engineering and construction well ahead of its time. A story of challenging yet rewarding farm work, of economic successes and failures, of generations of farm families living, working and fulfilling their dreams in the early days of U.S. food production. The centerpiece of farmsteads 100 years ago, barns were a majestic symbol of the rural skyline. They were a hub of ties of the day. Dairy cows, beef cattle, work horses, hogs and chickens have all been residents of the barn at Lincoln Heights Farms, northwest of Zeeland, Iowa. Crops of hay and oat straw were put up in the barn each summer, as neighbors would come together to help

each other in this time sensitive and labor intensive endeavor. To the best of our knowledge, the Lincoln Heights barn was built between 1890 and 1900. It is a monitor style building, utilizing wooden peg construction, large support timbers, stone/mortar foundation and wood shake shingles. The large barn door facing the north accommodates the rope and pulley trolley system to lift a fork load of 10-12 hay bales at a time. Horses would have originally powered tractor power. One of my earliest jobs as a young boy was to slowly back the tractor to raise the hay to the top of the big door, and then carefully watch and listen as the trolley/hayfork would make

Putting up the hay crop, circa 1960.

# Every barn has a story...and we want to hear yours!

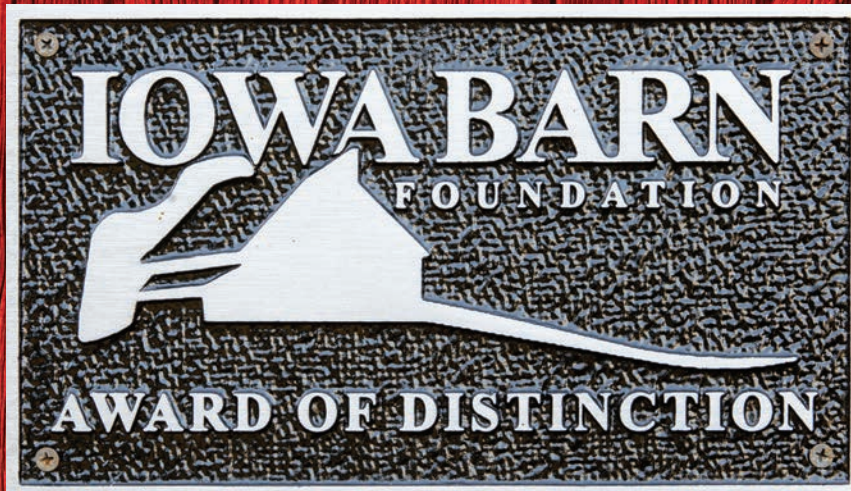
Please send your barn restoration stories (along with history) and photos to [iowabarnfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:iowabarnfoundation@gmail.com).

Not a writer? We can have one of our volunteers help you write up your story as well. Questions - contact Dave Austin by phone at 515-201-4517.





# Iowa Barn Foundation Award of Distinction



## 2023 Fall Tour AOD Barns

- › Boeding Barn/Milk House
- › Boriskey Barn
- › Frost Barn
- › Helms Farm Barn
- › Holtkamp Round Barn
- › Koschmeder Wooden Silo
- › Lassance Barns
- › Lundy Barn
- › Maasdam Barns
- › Martin Barn
- › Murphy Barn
- › Pfeiff Barn
- › Richards Barn
- › Schuyler and Isabella Morris Barn (Morris-Clark Barn)
- › Schvien Cattle & Dairy Barns
- › Secrest 1883 Octagonal Barn
- › Swyter Barn
- › The Historic Round Barn
- › Toad Hall
- › Trenkamp Barn
- › Younker Family Heritage Farm Barn

## We are looking for a few good barns

**Does your barn have what it takes to earn an Award of Distinction and join our fall tour? Apply today!**

The Iowa Barn Foundation Award of Distinction was created to recognize barns that have been restored by their owners. Recipients receive a plaque to proudly display on their barns, and they are invited to participate in the all-state barn tour held each September.

To qualify for the award, barns must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- › The structure must be no less than 50 years old.
- › The structure exhibits unique or distinctive methods of construction, materials, finishes, or examples of craftsmanship.
- › The structure contributes in a significant way to the appearance of the rural landscape and/or the community identity.
- › The structure is associated with the lives of persons or events significant to Iowa's history.

There is no application fee for members of the Iowa Barn Foundation to apply. If not a member, a \$50 application fee also covers the membership application. Members receive the bi-annual Iowa Barn Foundation Magazine which includes the spring and fall tour guides.

An application can be downloaded from the foundation's website at [iowabarnfoundation.org/award-and-grants](http://iowabarnfoundation.org/award-and-grants). For questions, please contact Roxanne Mehlich, 641-751-1406 ([mehlich@netins.net](mailto:mehlich@netins.net)).



# 23rd Annual All-State Barn Tour

## September 16 & 17

# BARN ALL-STATE 2023 TOUR

The all-state tour highlights barns that have received matching grants from the Iowa Barn Foundation for their restoration and those that have received an Award of Distinction for restoration by the owner.

The self-guided tour is free and open to the public and makes for a great multi-generation family weekend adventure. Participants have the unique opportunity to experience and appreciate Iowa's agriculture heritage as they walk through these majestic barns.

**This year's tour features 72 barns!**

interactive tour guide is available online at <http://iowabarnfoundation.org/barn-tour/2023-fall>



## This year's tour features a record 8 round barns!

- Taylor County Round Barn
- The Historic Round Barn
- Dighton Round Barn
- Secrest 1883 Octagonal Barn
- Dobbin Round Barn
- Friedlein Round Barn
- Holtkamp Round Barn
- Hayward Round Barn

See interactive map of round barns on fall tour at  
[iowabarnfoundation.org/barn-tour/2023-iowa-round-barn-tour-september-16-17](http://iowabarnfoundation.org/barn-tour/2023-iowa-round-barn-tour-september-16-17)



## Northwest Counties

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



**Ferguson Barn, 40415 130th Avenue, Laurens (Pocahontas County)**

Barn is 3.75 miles straight north of Laurens. Barn and landmark "cone-head" crib were built in 1912. Elevator still works.



**Hansen Crib, 4015 340th Avenue, Ruthven (Clay County)**

From Ruthven, take N18 south to 340th Avenue. One-of-a-kind landmark corncrib, built in 1940's, holds 7000 bushels of ear corn and 4000 bushels of small grain. In middle of crib is a bucket system that transports ear corn to the top of the corncrib and releases it into multiple outlets. Grandfather of owner died when owner's father was 18 and he had to take over farm.



**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 1888. Dan Harvey's great grandparents built the barn in 1927.



**Johnson Barn, 4594 Vine Ave, Sutherland (O'Brien County)**

From Sutherland, travel one mile north on County Road M12, and turn right onto 460th Street - Barn was built about 1920 for John Adams, a dairy farmer. It has a footprint of over 2000 square feet. Twin cupolas and horse weathervanes are original. Arched rafters had to be hoisted in place with pulleys and horse power. This allowed for access to the loft without support poles.



**Lorch Mennonite Barn, 6812 220th St, Harris (Osceola County)**

A34 (220th Street) and M18 (White Avenue) - This magnificent Menno-nite barn was built in 1889 and has a distinctive overhanging side.



**Wigdahl Barn, 4030 360th Avenue, Ruthven (Palo Alto 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 1930s, 34 x 64 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 floor was cemented and the entire barn was converted.

## West-Central Counties

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



**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 land in 1910.



**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 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.



## West-Central Counties (continued)



**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.



**Sextro Crib, 12708 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, 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 8 miles south of Manning to Irwin road. Turn west at stop sign (F24) for 2 miles to Wildwood road. Go 1 mile on Wildwood to 2100 St. for .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.

## Southwest Counties

Pottawattamie, Cass, Adair, Mills, Adams, Montgomery, Fremont, Page, and Taylor



**Taylor County Round Barn, 1001 Pollock Blvd, Bedford (Taylor County)**

At the intersection of IA 2 and IA 148 - Round barn was built by the Cameron family in 1907 near Lenox, originally used for storage and horses. 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.



**Vandewater Barn (Meadow Brook Farm), 3100 270th Street, 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.

## North-Central Counties

Winnebago, Worth, Hancock, Wright, Cerro Gordo, and Franklin



**Chizek Barn, 1665 250th Street, 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 Street - Barn built by Albert Chizek, owner's grandfather, in 1942. It has an open loft area.



**Clayton 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. The barn was built by the Harris family between 1915-1925. The original purpose was for cows, with a milking parlor and a milk room. Later the barn was used for beef cattle, and then was 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.



**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.



**Haugen Barn, 18446 420th Street,  
Leland (Winnebago County)**

Go north out of Leland on US 69 to 420th Street (three miles), and turn right (east) onto 420th (gravel), it is the first place on north side - Barn was built in 1915. In 1924, Peter Haugen enlarged it using a handsaw to split the barn in two, and then enlarged the middle.



**Rory Friedow Barn, 1680 Ladd  
Avenue, Kanawha (Hancock County)**

Seven miles west of Klemme (US 69) on B55 (170th St), then 1/4 mile south on Ladd Ave - Floyd Friedow built the barn and hog house in 1925. He and his three sons (Doyce, Verlyn & Milton) were widely known for their quality Poland China hogs. In 1955, they sent breeding stock to a farm in Cuba via train & airplane. The barn which originally housed dairy cattle and draft horses, is now home to sheep, goats and barn cats. The farmstead has been continually occupied by the Friedow family.



**Swyter Barn (New in 2023) - 1990  
James Ave, Britt (Hancock County)**

Barn was built in 1917 by William Swyter, a prominent early settler in Erin Township. It is constructed from glazed hollow clay tile designed by Iowa State University, which provided insulated and draft free walls for greater animal comfort (also fireproof). The barn's main use was for housing draft horses and dairy cows. It was later used for hogs, chickens, and beef cattle. The hay loft holds 100 tons of loose hay. At high noon, the carrier track which extends outside the roof peak, casts a shadow straight down on the hay door serving as a sundial signalling it was time to come in for dinner. The barn is well maintained and currently serves as a home for a horse, chickens, and cats. It is owned by Ross Swyter, William's grandson. (Award of Distinction)

## Central Counties

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



**August and Josephine Riemenschneider Farmstead, 201 4th Avenue NE.,  
State Center (Marshall County)**

From US 30, go into State Center. Fourth Street 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.



**Boriskey Barn, 2115 230th Street,  
Marshalltown (Marshall County)**

At 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 Street). 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.



**Dobbin Round Barn, 2551 Brown Avenue, State Center (Marshall County)**

From State Center, go west one mile to Cooper Avenue (S52), and turn south. Turn right (west) onto 255th St, then left onto Brown Ave. The 1919 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.



# Central Counties

(Continued)



## **Helms Farm Barn (New for 2023), 16127 NW 142nd St, Madrid (Polk County)**

1 mile south of Madrid on Highway 17 - The Helms Barn, built in 1910 by Charles Helm after he returned from the Spanish American War, remained in the family until it was gifted to the Madrid Historical Society in 2019. It is a 3-story pegged barn in basically original condition. At one point in time, the barn housed donkeys that were used in the local coal mines (Award of Distinction).



## **Kirkland Barn, 161 270th St, Ogden (Boone County)**

Built in 1918 originally as a livestock barn. This large brick barn is very rare. The barn itself has held up amazingly well and has only needed a new roof and window and dormer repair for restoration.



## **Lundy Barn, 11450 680th Avenue, Zeasing (Story County)**

The barn on the Daniel and Lezlie Lundy farm was built in the 1890's and is a monitor style barn. It was used for horses and hay storage. Restoration included some internal structural bracing, wood siding replacement, painting and window replacement. (Award of Distinction)



## **Mitchell Barn, 2723 255th St, Duncombe (Webster County)**

In December of 2019, Vote House Moving out of Bradgate, Iowa took on the challenge of moving this 1915 barn across fields to Matthew Mitchell's acreage in Webster County. Mitchell has been fortunate to receive help from his parents, siblings, neighbors, and close friends to save this barn and return it to its original purpose and beautify the Iowa landscape.



## **Mulcahy Barn, 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. The 1885 Mulcahy Barn is on the National Historic Landmark and has had the exterior recently reclad and painted through the efforts of its current stewards, Russ and Danielle O'Rourke. In addition to the barn, Russ and Dani have two original corn cribs, baby doll sheep, and a small fold of highland cattle on their acreage for you to enjoy as you take a trip back through time.



## **Rand Faaborg Barn, 3490 370th St, Radcliffe (Hamilton County)**

From I-35, near Randall, go east on D65, then north on R77 (Young Ave), then east on 370th St - This beautiful cattle barn was built in 1950. It is called a bank barn where the north end is lower than the south end so you can back in to load cattle. It was damaged by the tornado in 2018 and has recently been restored.



## **Richards Barn, 2201 R, Jamaica (Greene County)**

From Cooper, take E57 (305th St) 2.5 miles east to R Ave, then turn south on R Ave, and go 1/2 mile to the barn (on the east side of R Ave). Or from Jamaica, take P30 north for 7 miles, then turn right (east) onto E57 (305th St) and follow the above directions - The Thornburgh Home Place shows off all of the original buildings, which have been lovingly preserved, including a 1930s milking barn with original stanchions. (Award of Distinction)



## **Rimathe Family Barn, 51349 Highway 210, Slater (Story County)**

It's the first farm east of Slater on IA Highway 210. This 30'x50' 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.





**Robert & Carla Uetz Barn, 2011 180th Street, Boone (Boone County)**

From US 30, take IA 17 north for five miles (curves and stop signs). Go right (east) at 180th Street 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.



**Twedt Barn, 63645 160th Street, Nevada (Story County)**

From junction of E41 (Old Highway 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 hay-loft 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.

## South-Central Counties

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



**Gillespie Barn, 1257 Highway IA 92, Winterset (Madison County)**

Barn was built in 1874 by W.F. 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.



**McBroom-Hargis Barn, 1218 Highway 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."



**Oswald Barn, 1071 Harken Hills Drive, Osceola (Clarke County)**

From I-35 in Osceola, take US 34 east for about ½ mile. Turn onto Harken Hills Drive (on the south side US 34) and follow to the barn - Beef barn was designed in the 1930s and can be converted into a show pavilion to seat over 700. Pure-bred Angus were developed there by Dr. C.R. Harken, Osceola physician. J.C. Penney often visited the farm. The barn continues to be in use 365 days a year by High Point Genetics.



### The Historic Round Barn (New for 2023), 2328 120th Street, Allerton (Wayne County)

Go south across the railroad tracks on Central Ave two blocks to Maple St, turn left on Maple St and travel East one mile to the Round Barn Site (GPS does not route correctly). At its inception, the International Center for Rural Culture and Art, Inc focused on the historic preservation of the 1912 round barn built by Ed Nelson for landowner George Fennell. The 50-foot diameter barn features a loft free of support columns due to unique spider web construction. Eight milking stanchions, animal holding stalls and granary complete the main floor of the barn. Restoration work included the repair or replacement of doors, windows, and siding, a new cedar shake roof, restoration of the cupola, and the installation of a staircase to make the mow accessible to the public. All restoration focused on authenticity—maintaining the barn's historic value. The Round Barn Site is a source of pride for Wayne County's residents. It serves the community by hosting craft, quilt and art shows, inter-faith church services, weddings, family reunions, workshops, youth day camps, etc (Award of Distinction). Special directions for Sat, Sept 16, 2023 - Allerton is having their annual celebration and part of Central Ave will be closed. Go south across the railroad tracks on Central Ave one block and turn left on Elm St, go east on Elm St. two blocks and turn right on Niagara St, go one block south on Niagara St to Maple St, turn right on Maple St and go east one mile to site.



**The Jenkins Barn, 18012 Highway 5, Carlisle (Warren County)**

From Carlisle, go south-east on Highway 5 - Dairy barn was built in 1947 out of native cottonwood. It is a landmark in Warren County that was built by the Randleman family who also had a landmark house.



## South-Central Counties (continued)



### **Stephens Barn, 1461 28th Avenue, Pleasantville (Marion County)**

Located 2 miles West of County Rd S45, between McKimber St and Nevada St, it is the only farm on 28th Ave. The farm was inherited by Cora Shadle and her son, Harold Webb Shadle, on November 22, 1938. Webb Shadle passed away in 1946 and Cora passed away in 1953. The Shadle family were business owners and members of many civic and philanthropic organizations in Pleasantville and were instrumental in the growth of the City. 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. We have been told that this barn had many uses and housed different farm animals throughout the years. Several of the original sill and support beams had deteriorated to the point that the barn needed to be braced to prevent collapse of the NW corner before restoration. The restoration included replacement of all the exterior siding with Douglas Fir milled and delivered from Idaho. During the restoration process, we uncovered several original door and window openings as well as hay doors that have been re-opened. The Interior work included replacing floorboards in the NW portion of the hay mow. The barn is currently used for 2 horses and hay storage.



### **Union County Barn (also called Harris Barn), 1600 Stone St, Creston**

Located in McKinley Park at Union County Historical Village, Stone Street in Creston (Union County) - This barn, built in 1896, is a perfect example of post and beam construction with diagonal braces. Horizontal cladding is rare and is associated with Civil War veterans.

## North East Counties

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



### **Birkedal Barn, 1145 330th St, Osage, (Mitchell County)**

From Osage, go west on IA 9, then turn left (south) onto Balsam Ave (Cnty S70), then left (east) onto 330th Street. This beautiful old barn has been in the Birkedal family for 6 generations and is 7 miles north of Nora Springs. The large barn with the windmill near by are a landmark in the area. It was important to this family to restore the barn so future generations can have the same fond memories of countless family members who have grown up exploring, playing and working in the barn. The family has also been restoring the old farmhouse and will restore the corncrib as well.



### **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 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).



### **Borlaug Barn, 20399 Timber Avenue, Cresco, (Howard 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' x 60'. More information at [More information at normanborlaug.org](http://More information at normanborlaug.org).



### **Brown Poultry House**



**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.



**Friedlein Round Barn (New for 2023), 35273 Hwy 52, Guttenberg (Clayton County)**

This round barn was built in 1914 with a center silo. Milking in a semi-circle gave cattle more space in the rear and was labor saving because their heads were closer to the feed source. It is also a landmark and a reference point along Highway 52. Many photos are taken of the barn and the fall leaf colors. The barn was a shipping point for the railroad in the early 1900s and depression time era.



**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.



**Hinsenbrock 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.



**Koschmeder Wooden Silo (New for 2023), 2513 220th St, Readlyn (Bremer County)**

The wooden silo, constructed in 1939, was made by The Independent Silo Company in St. Paul, Minnesota. The "Triple Wall Silo" was extremely durable and frost resistant. The inner wall is 2x6 heart stock Redwood staves, tongue and grooved and beveled to conform to the curve of the silo. The middle wall is a heavy waterproof silafelt layer. The outer wall is heart stock Redwood siding with special end-lock joint. The silo is one of the last free standing wooden silos in Iowa, and the owners gave it a new metal roof and a fresh coat of paint in 2022 to ensure it will stand for years to come. (Award of Distinction)



**The Miller Barn, 310 20th Street SW, Waverly (Bremer County)**

The Miller barn is on IA 3 on the west edge of Waverly. It is south of Redeemer Lutheran Church, east of CUNA Mutual campus, and west of Bremwood and Lutheran Services of Iowa. This barn was built in 1914 by W.H Miller and his brother, Gilbert, and constructed with grown cedar and native oak trees on their land. The barn was equipped with porcelain cattle waterers. The Miller Guernsey Dairy was one of over 20 dairies in Bremer County from 1920 to 1940. The Miller dairy helped supply the local Carnation Company with milk for condensed milk.



**Steve Mikesh Barn, 2714 County Road A14, Decorah (Winneshiek County)**

The barn is west of US 52, on County Hwy A14, close to the Minnesota/Iowa boundary - Steve and Jolyn Mikesh bought the farm in 1979. In the summer of 1980, the barn was remodeled with new concrete, gutters, and barn cleaner with 28 dairy cow stanchions and tie stalls. After the dairy herd grew to 80 Brown Swiss and Holstein cows in 1993, a shed was attached to the barn for the cows to lay in. Dairy operations continued in the barn through September 2004, ending after the passing of Steve in June of that year.



## North East Counties (Continued)



### **Toad Hall (New in 2023), 919 E. Main St. , Waukon (Allamakee County)**

This gambrel roof bank barn was built in 1912. The owners have taken steps to preserve the barn including foundation repair in 2014, window/door replacement 2012, and fresh coat of paint in 2020. The barn was originally built for general farming operations with hay/feed storage in the upper level and animal shelter in the lower level with a dirt floor (Award of Distinction).



### **Yunker Family Heritage Farm Barn, 25734 Highway 57, Parkersburg, (Butler County)**

Three miles east of Parkersburg, on IA57 - This large (115'x30') pegged barn has been in the same family since being built in the late 1800s. Inside the barn is a 14'x24' wooden silo that was manufactured by the Indiana Silo Co. and was built around 1915. This landmark barn's restoration was completed in 2009 by the late Eleanor Tostlebe Peterson and family. It is now in the hands of fifth generation family farm owners Mike Peterson and Jean Jones. (Award of Distinction)

## East-Central Counties

Grundy, Black Hawk, Buchanan, Delaware, Dubuque, Tama, Benton, Linn, Jones, Jackson, Poweshiek, Iowa, Johnson, Cedar, Clinton, Scott, and Muscatine



### **Bickett-Rate Historical Preserve Barn, 600-225th Street, Tipton (Cedar County)**

Just off County X40 (Green Road), Buchanan, south of Cnty F28, west of Tipton. The restoration of the barn was completed as of 08-26-20. This red painted barn near the unincorporated village of Buchanan, was built in 1922 near the historic Hannah Morse Fowler Hall House. From 1891-1995, the site operated as an agriculture co-op.



### **Dighton Round Barn, 3342 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. The 45 foot central clay tile silo was built first, then the barn was built around the silo. The haymow was designed to hold 4,000 bales of hay and straw (Adopt-a-Barn Award).

### **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.



### **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 - Barn was built approximately in 1877 and was renovated by owner 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).



### **Hayward Round Barn, 1520 Hwy V37, Dysart (Tama County)**

3.5 miles north of Dysart on Hwy V37 - Owner's great-grandfather, Charles Hayward, purchased the farm in 1881. The barn was built in 1916 and is 66' in diameter. It may have been constructed by Johnston Brothers Clay Works, Ft. Dodge because of size of clay bricks used. 2023 Fall Tour Note - The owner may not be present for both days. During tour hours, visitors are welcome to tour inside the barn and corn crib on their own.





**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. Hand-made 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.



**James Michels Barn, 1278 Mason Avenue, Stanley (Buchanan County)**

From Hazelton (on IA 150), go east on C57 for three miles to Mason Avenue. Turn south and go 3/4 miles. Barn is on the east - Redwood tongue and groove 40' x 80' barn was built in 1947 when the family started raising Angus cattle.



**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 Street - 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, but only during the two designated Barn Tour days.



**Lassance Barns, 22675 Millville 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 livestock barn built in 1910. Both barns have been featured in numerous calendars over the years (Award of Distinction).



**Martin Barn, 12578 222nd Street, Zwingle (Jackson County)**

From US 61 south of Zwingle, at Otter's Creek, turn right (west) onto Bellevue Cascade Road (IA-D61) and go four or five miles and cross a bridge. Turn left (south) on 126th Ave and go a half mile to barn - Hand-pegged barn was built in 1880 and is 100x28 feet. Many inside features are hand-carved. Cement stands for draft horses have depressions for each foot (Award of Distinction).



**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.



**Schwien Dairy and Cattle Barns, 1667 190th St., Clarence (Cedar County)**

From Clarence, go south on Cnty X64, then turn left (east) onto 190th Street - Cattle barn was built about 1900 using wooden pegs. It was damaged during a storm in June of 2014. It was repaired with a matching grant from the Iowa Barn Foundation. The current owners bought the farm in 1944 and use the barn for hay storage and cattle.



**Secret 1883 Octagonal Barn (New for 2023), 5750 Osage Street, West Liberty (Johnson County)**

4 miles East Iowa City. There is no barn like this anywhere in the world. It has an 8-sided bell-shaped roof with laminated ribs, held together in part with square nails. Joshua and Esther Secret were early successful Iowa farmers with 520 acres of land in Johnson County. George Frank Longerbeam was the carpenter, living in nearby Downey. The upper level has storage for 200 tons of loose hay. The middle level was used for unloading hay with fork and rope, storage rooms, wooden tracks to download hay from top floor and move on rail car to attached cattle-feeding-shed. The lower level held 32 horses and 16 dairy cows. Four shafts from the upper floor provided openings to drop down feed for the horses and cows below (Award of Distinction).



# East-Central Counties (Continued)

## Steines Barn, 36746 Bellevue-Cascade Road, Bellevue (Jackson County)

Go 1/2 mile west of Bellevue on IA 62, then 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.*



## Trenkamp Barn, 893 450th Avenue Preston (Jackson County)

Take IA 64 east out of Preston, turn south onto 450th Ave. Pass cemetery. Barn was built by Justus Berg in 1926. Bernard and Correna Trenkamp purchased the farm in 1945 and used it for dairy cows and horses, and when the horses were no longer needed, the dairy was expanded. When the Trenkamps retired in 1974, Steve and Doris purchased the farm. Steve has been restoring the barn using native lumber when possible (Award of Distinction).

# South East Counties

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



## Holtkamp Round Barn, 1725 335th Street, Salem (Henry County)

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 livestock 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 (Award of Distinction)



## 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 an 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 (Award of Distinction). Learn more at [jeffersoncounty.iowa.gov/barns](http://jeffersoncounty.iowa.gov/barns)



## Murphy Barn, 7606 Stony Hollow Road, Burlington (Des Moines County)

Follow Cnty 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).



## Pfeiff Barn (New for 2023) - 1913 W Mt Pleasant St, West Burlington (Des Moines County)

Located at the intersection of Mt Pleasant St and Washington Road in West Burlington. This beautifully restored bank barn has been in the same family for three generations. It is

believed to have been built in the early 1900s and features pegged mortise and tenon joints. The upper level was used for grain and hay storage, and the lower level has a unique feeding system (Award of Distinction).



## Rigsby Hill Barn, 22053 Hwy 1, Keosauqua (Van Buren County)

Built by the Walker brothers around 1870, but now more familiarly known as the Parsons barn for the three generations of Parsons that ensued. It is a classic Pennsylvania barn, but also a saltbox because of the protruding forebay at the rear. **Open Saturday Only (Sept. 16) for Fall Tour.**



## Schuyler and Isabella Morris Barn (Morris-Clark Barn), 27882 107th St (Van Buren County)

North of Stockport. A fine English barn built in 1916, unusual for canted cupolas and interior vertical supports that run to the roof, eliminating the needs for large struts. It is also known as the Morris-Clark barn because of three generations of Clark ownership and preservation.



## Strabala Barn, 1830 290th Street, Washington (Washington County) -

From Washington, go south on IA 1 for 5.5 miles. Turn west on 290th and go one-half mile. The barn is on the right - This large barn was built in the 1920's. **Open only on Sunday (Sept. 17) for 2023 Fall Tour.**





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