

IOWA BARN FOUNDATION

M A G A Z I N E

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

Editor:
Jacqueline Andre Schmeal

Assistant:
Roxanne Mehlich

Webmaster:
Jeff Fitz-Randolph
(iowabarnfoundation.org)

Contributors:
Diane Wigdahl Stribe
Steve Hanken
Janette Rodecap

Cover Photo Credit:
Wayne Frost

This issue's cover barn is located in Waterloo, Iowa, in Blackhawk County and owned by Wayne Frost. The barn was built approximately in 1877, and was renovated in 2018 by the current owner.

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.

Adair: Brian Vandewater, 515-450-8848
Allamakee: Marlene Fenstermann, 563-382-3439, dwf02@fenstermann.de
Appanoose: Richard Stafford, 641-390-0723, pinponwii@me.com; or Richard Stafford II, 641-203-0620, flintlockshotgun@gmail.com
Audubon: Bob and Janet Nelson, 712-304-5809, Save.Ross.Elevator@gmail.com
Benton: Scott Eggink, 319-350-8103, scottrobin6978@yahoo.com
Blackhawk: Keith Oltrogge, 319-984-5292, keitho@mchsi.com
Boone: Steve Rimathe, 515-290-5258, srimathe@collins-maxwell.k12.ia.us
Bremer: Keith Oltrogge, 319-984-5292, keitho@mchsi.com
Buchanan: Jim Michels, 319-551-2155
Buena Vista: Becky Bryant, 712-213-0598
Calhoun: Deann Haden, 515-576-5519, bradluke@lvcta.com; or Larry Ellis, 712-210-0423, redrockarabians@gmail.com
Carroll: Kent Brant, 712-830-2241, kbrant42@hotmail.com
Cass: Dan Dorsey, 712-249-2641
Cedar: Kas Kelly, 563-260-0869, kaskelly@machlink.com
Cerro Gordo: Dale and Judy Mills, 641-424-1197 or cell 641-420-9227, cupolainn@gmail.com
Cherokee: Becky Bryant, 712-213-0598, bbryant@evertek.net
Clarke: Ginnie Hargis/Ron McBroom, 515-834-2026, cabot1@hughes.net
Clay: Kelli Ireland, 507-320-0542, kellbell45@yahoo.com
Clinton: Dan and Jolene Witt, 563-212-1307, jowitt@gmtel.net
Dallas: Brian Vandewater, 515-450-8848
Davis: Sharon and Bill Hardy, 641-680-2427
Decatur: Judi Partridge, 641-344-2237, judipart1@yahoo.com
Delaware: Jack Smith, 563-599-3061, jackwsmith@icloud.com
Des Moines: Dale and Julie Bartelt, 319-759-0591, bartelt@mepotelco.net
Dubuque: Jack Smith, 563-599-3061, jackwsmith@icloud.com
Emmet: Terrence Jensen, 515-230-8972, tcjensen52@gmail.com
Fayette: Bob Jacobsen, 563-422-1048, email robertjacobsen50@yahoo.com
Floyd: Roger Ramthun, 641-228-4894
Franklin: Gary Bennett, 641-579-6154
Greene: Mary and Larry Richards, 515-386-4750, mrichards@netins.com
Grundy: Rebecca Engelking, 641-366-3150
Guthrie: Kent Brant, 712-830-2241, kbrant42@hotmail.com
Hamilton: Ron Adams, 515-368-1678, ronadams144@gmail.com
Hancock: Thomas Chizek, 641-430-4456, tchizek@stellarindustries.com
Hardin: Ken Starek, 641-847-3018, 1stchurchlady@gmail.com
Humboldt: Kurt Weinert, 515-332-4467, karalyn.weinert@gmail.com
Ida: Don Poggensee, 712-364-3491, donpog@netllc.net
Iowa: Bonnie Winslow-Garvin, 319-626-7323, bwinslow@southslope.net
Jasper: Tyler Wilhelm, 402-525-1833, wilhelm_19@hotmail.com
Jefferson: Jeffrey Fitz-Randolph, 641-472-7810
Johnson: Wilford Yoder, 319-338-6596, weyoder820@msn.com
Jones: David McDonald, 319-389-4437, fagebotom@yahoo.com
Keokuk: Kyle Morrison, 319-330-1001, kdm.enterprises@gmail.com
Lee: Brian Foecke, 319-470-0329, bjfoecke@ft.newyorklife.com
Linn: David McDonald, 319-389-4437, fagebotom@yahoo.com
Lucas: Richard Stafford, 641-390-0723, pinponwii@me.com, or Richard Stafford II, 641-203-0620, flintlockshotgun@gmail.com
Madison: Ginnie Hargis/Ron McBroom, 515-834-2026
Mahaska: The Charles Oldhams, 641-969-4272, oakknoll@iowatelecom.net
Marion: Rob Vos, 641-628-8396, robvos@yahoo.com
Marshall: Rodney J. Hassler, 641-753-3276, rhassler@mchsi.com
Mitchell: Roger Ramthun, 641-228-4894
Monona: Peggy Hanner, 712-251-0405, rphanner@gmail.com
Monroe: Richard Stafford, 641-390-0723, pinponwii@me.com, or Richard Stafford II, 641-203-0620, flintlockshotgun@gmail.com
Montgomery: The Montgomery County Historical Society, 712-623-2289, mchsociety@qwestoffice.net
Muscatine: Kas Kelly, 563-263-1777, kaskelly@machlink.com
O'Brien: Pamela Battaglioli, 712-727-3612, dpjlioli@mtcnet.net
Osceola: Carrie Jones, 712-832-3227, carrie@joneslawofficeplc.com
Page: Dave Williams, 712-826-8832, dcwill@myfmc.com
Plymouth: Ken Wright, 712-786-5542
Pocahontas: Terry Ferguson, 712-845-4978, ctferguson@ncn.net
Polk: Ober Anderson, 515-964-0964, oanderson@aol.com
Poweshiek: Bonnie Winslow-Garvin, 319-626-7323, bwinslow@southslope.net
Sac: Jack and Jane Hogue, 712-668-4663, jhogue@netins.net
Scott: Susan Frye, 319-936-1216, susanjanefrye@gmail.com
Shelby: Linda Heflin, 712-744-3660, jewelray@fmcctc.com
Story: Roxanne Mehlich, 641-487-7690, mehlich@netins.net; or Norma Johnson, 515-707-4428; or Steve Rimathe, 515-290-5258, srimathe@collins-maxwell.k12.ia.us
Tama: Rodney J. Hassler, 641-753-3276, rhassler@mchsi.com
Taylor: Kelly Tobin, 712-370-0321, kellyirene@gmail.com
Van Buren: Darlene and David McQuoid, 319-397-2340
Wapello: David Cobler, 641-777-7202, coblerfarming@gmail.com
Warren: Cheryl Eflink, 641-297-2239, eftinks@gmail.com, c 515-229-3906
Washington: Jerry Strabala, 319-461-0829, strabe@cloudburst9.net; or Wilford Yoder, 319-338-6596, weyoder820@msn.com
Wayne: Richard Stafford, 641-390-0723, pinponwii@me.com
Webster: Deann Haden, 515-576-5519, bradluke@lvcta.com
Winneshiek: Marlene Fenstermann, 563-382-3439, dwf02@fenstermann.de
Woodbury: Peggy Hanner, 712-251-0405, rphanner@gmail.com

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BARNs ON THE PRAIRIE IN IOWA
WERE SLOW TO EVOLVE AS SLOW
AS THE TERRITORY (1838) WAS IN
BECOMING A STATE (1846).

PRAIRIE FARMING

— BY STEVE HANKEN —

The Frontier farming was primarily subsistence, as there were few people to trade with and few things to trade for. Banking had been forbidden in Iowa because of difficulties with currencies in the East. All government transactions had to be in gold or silver. With money scarce, whatever money was available, was used to pay taxes or buy land. Spending money on housing livestock wasn't on the agenda.

Sometimes farmers created a framework of logs and piled hay on top leaving a space for livestock to gather under the hay and feed on it. Their shelter was a combination hay feeder and roof.

In the mid 1850s, during a particularly cold and nasty winter, much of the livestock that had been turned loose on the prairie, died from exposure in the sub-freezing temperatures. Milk cow herds, small as they may have been, were bred in the fall and dried up, so no milking went on during the winter. It was too difficult to feed any animals enough forage when it was all harvested by hand. When cows dropped their calves in the spring, they came in fresh, with the new pastures growing, and milking commenced.

Cows were usually tethered with a cow chain, a simple chain that had a loop in one end and a tee bar that fit through the loop. There was a short piece of chain with another loop for a rope to tie the cow to a fence post. Opening the “stanchion” was simple. The tee bar was slipped through the loop, and the cow moved on. These free stall milking “parlors” made milking more pleasant, especially in summer when most of the milking was done. By fall, the cows were bred, soon dried up, and were left to roam on the mostly open prairie to forage for themselves.

As more land was taken up and settled, the need for fencing became critical. Much of Iowa was prairie, and fencing materials were difficult to obtain to make a rail fence. Whole chapters of Iowa law were dedicated in determining the need for fences.



Did you put up a fence to keep your neighbors' livestock out of your fields or was your neighbor responsible for putting up a fence to keep his livestock out of your fields. The state of Iowa even offered a "bounty" to encourage the establishment of hedges and hedge rows to help create an answer to fencing. The state would pay for every row of hedge one planted and, this in turn helped supplement many a tree nursery in early Iowa.

When barbed wire was first created in Illinois, the idea spread into Iowa quickly. Soon the land was enclosed with the various types of patented wire, each a little different to allow yet another manufacturer to get into this booming business.

The barn, as we know it, was also being developed, from the days when shelter was made do. More modern barns were being designed and built. Scientific farming methods and practices were often shared through the pages of farm newspapers the same time, agricultural societies were being formed in many localities, and farmers would have discussions on new methods of farming and even farm building.

In Pennsylvania the roots of the first "Farmers High School" were formed and the first experiment was the layout of a farm school farm yard. The school, which was later to become Penn State, was built by Frederick Watts, and created as a model of efficiency. Watts, a lawyer and promoter of machinery and science, had introduced McCormick's new reaper and European varieties of wheat to Pennsylvania prior to his new farm

design and acclaim for his knowledge. With his design, animals were housed in proximity to feed stores, making them as efficient as possible.

Watts discovered the corn crib was often used for livestock so he made it the center of farm buildings. Other buildings surrounded the corn crib, and the closeness to it would be determined by how often one would have to carry corn to a building. For example, the horse barn was placed closer to the hay barn and further away from the corn crib while the hog area was often next to the corn crib. This layout, established in 1857, was the model of farm design until recently.

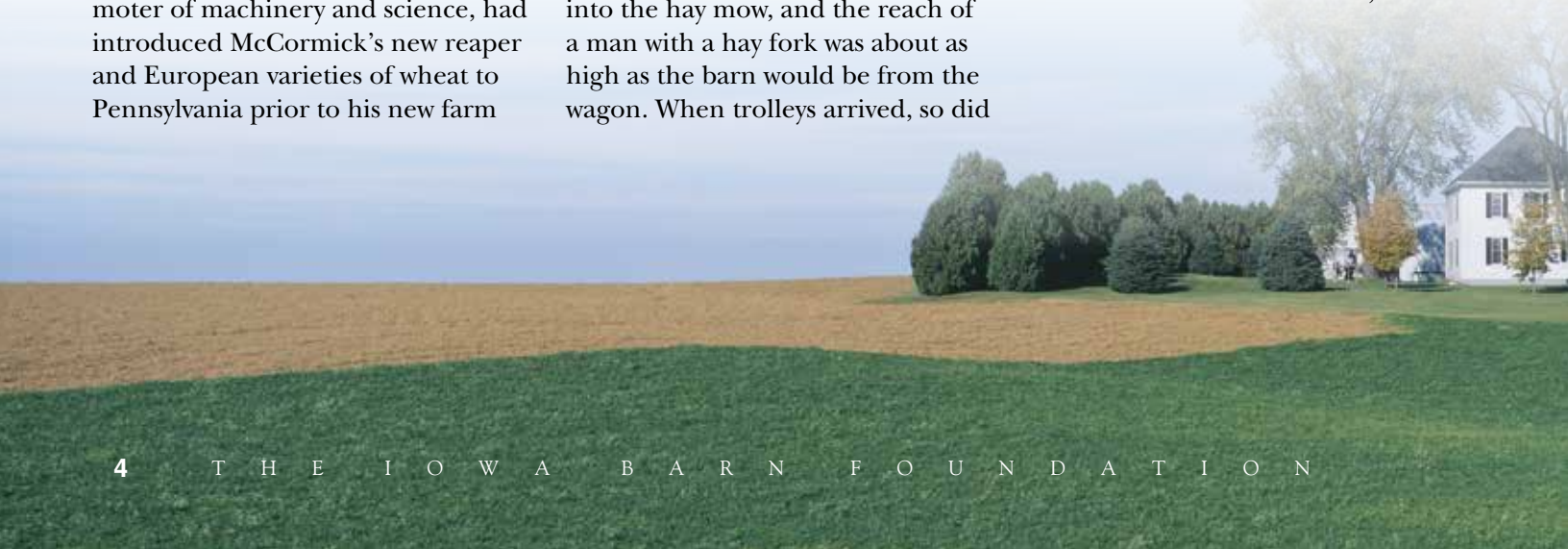
For Iowa, the development of the forests of Wisconsin and Minnesota could have not come at a better time for barn building. Along the Mississippi River, where log rafts were floated, sawmills turned out native pine lumber at some of the least expensive prices anywhere. Thus, when you see board and batten barns, it makes sense why you have 12 to 14 inch-wide boards standing horizontally and 20 feet long boards as siding! The battens, strips of wood that covered the cracks between boards, were used as the boards were not completely dry and would shrink. Battens covered this shrinkage and kept the barn tight.

The first barns often had low roof lines. There was usually a driveway into the barn because there was no hay trolley. Hay was hand forked into the hay mow, and the reach of a man with a hay fork was about as high as the barn would be from the wagon. When trolleys arrived, so did

the huge barn doors. Suddenly barn design headed skyward with the hay trolleys and technological advances! Relying on the mortise and tenon construction techniques of the old German barns, it was easy to accomplish barn framing to make them taller and wider, while maintaining the strength to keep the building stable and strong. New roof designs were incorporated that cleared the loft area of obstructions and added windows and ventilators to the upper stories. This allowed more air into the barn to help the hay drying process. Storing hay outdoor in stacks became a thing of the past.

As the threshing machine developed, so did barns for storing hay. With the closing down of prairies the laminated truss was designed to lower costs of lumber. Tongue and groove siding replaced the 20-foot long board and batten siding, using shorter boards for siding and two by 4-foot framing. Asphalt shingles replaced cedar shingles as cedar became more and more expensive. As the old-style German frame barns were replaced, more uses for standard dimension lumber became necessary. In some cases, even dimension lumber was rafted to locations.

I have seen large inch and a half holes on the ends of floor joists in barns only to discover the wood had been sawn and then chained together through these holes and floated to a closer location or to a lumberyard down river. Saw cuts in lumber can also date the wood used,



circular saws leave a rounded curve where the wood was sawn. Early boards from mills show a straight saw blade with a simple up and down action in measured distances. A finer up and down cut means a much newer band saw cut, but because of the flex in the blade the distance between the cuts may vary.

Circular sawn lumber became popular with the introduction of steam power so mills could be set up anywhere and not need a stream for power. With many home-built barns, the steam engine driven mills were set up on farm wood lots to provide the lumber. Economy of the farm often meant recycling lumber from buildings that were torn down or destroyed by a storm. Often when tornadoes struck or straight-line winds destroyed a barn, a new barn was built on the old foot print, so left over lumber was often incorporated into the new buildings.

Hardware used in building barns changed over time as well. Hand forged pintel hinges that were driven into the door post are much older than those that were manufactured and screwed into barn framing. Early barns often had all their hardware made locally by a blacksmith—everything from door hooks and latches to the hand forged nails. In Iowa early barns usually have “cut nails”. What many call “square” nails are in fact “cut” from a sheet rather than forged by hand. If you look at the nail and see two sides of the shank taper from the head down to the

point and when you turn the nail and see that on the next edge it is straight from head to point and no taper, then you have a cut nail. These were machine made nails that worked well on hard wood lumber. A modern nail will bend over before you get the head completely into hard wood. With a blocky cut nail, the tip isn’t wedging its way into the wood as much as it is cutting off the wood fibers and forcing itself into the wood. The strength of the wood fibers was weakened by this cutting action that a modern wire nail never accomplishes. The deeper a modern nail goes into a hardwood only forces these wood fibers apart and the tougher it gets for the nail to get in. Eventually the nail will bend and lose the strength it needs to make it to where it is seated totally in the wood.

Even the location of the farmstead says something about the age of a farm, few early farmsteads were located right along a road and most of the barns that survived from the early days are often found right in the middle of a farm. Again, this was to save the strength of horses in getting to and from the field.

Building barns was about as large a scale of construction as one would find in a rural setting. It required skilled builders with specific knowledge sets and engineering skills simply to get the job done. Many

of the people coming to Iowa used the skills they had acquired in other areas to create employment for themselves in Iowa. Ship building offered a great set of skills in geometry and large-scale building that fit perfectly with barn construction. The huge native beams required to run the length of a barn simply were not available for the large hay lofts farmers were demanding. The joints to make these shorter beams fit together often show the art of a ship builder in the type and style of joints they used both in barn building and in ship building. Barn builders often had their own “style” and can be identified in their own way of building a barn that differed from others yet, was repeated in every barn they built.

As each barn ages and the need for these buildings becomes less and less, the amount of care in maintaining these huge buildings becomes less and less, and eventually the barns disappear without notice. These cathedrals to farming need support in order to maintain, at least, examples of one of America’s most iconic pieces of architecture. Support for this is necessary if we are going to maintain a decent inventory of these Iowa examples of what farming was over the years. Otherwise it will simply be erased to provide more corn and soybeans and take a building off the tax rolls.

For Iowa, the development of the forests of Wisconsin and Minnesota could have not come at a better time for barn building.



Meet my Dad, Alden Wigdahl.

You will have to imagine him as a young man, about 14 years old. Dad's father, Leonard, was the second of ten children born to Rev. L. O. Wigdahl. Pastor Wigdahl established Zion Lutheran Church in Ruthven, pastored there 50 years, and together with his wife, Anna, raised a family of 10 children. He was determined to give his children the best education possible. Five of ten children went to college or special academies. But my Grandpa, Leonard, quit school in the 10th grade and wanted to farm. After homesteading several years in Montana, he married Nettie Knutsen and they settled on the "Wigdahl Farm" that Rev. Wigdahl was purchasing. Now Leonard and Nettie took over the farm and the payments.

As the Depression years arrived, times were tough for everyone with corn selling for 10 cents a bushel. There was a \$16,000 mortgage acquired when money was borrowed against the farm for college expenses for Leonard's brothers and sisters. It soon became evident that the bank would foreclose on Leonard. The young couple didn't know what they were going to do.

About that time, Grandpa's brother-in-law, John Osterhus, a very early automobile salesman, heard about

another 160-acre farm in Silver Lake Township coming up for sale. He told Leonard about this and offered to loan him \$2,000 as a down payment. Their bid of \$6,000 was the highest bid! With the help of a Federal Land Bank loan of \$4000, they had a new start!

There was a barn on the new farm, but it was kind of a shell of a building, quickly built, as cheap as possible. With some help they somehow moved the building about 200 feet to become a cattle shed. Despite summer drought, Leonard dreamed of building a new sturdy barn, capable of serving him and future generations. He made plans to begin construction on it in July 1936.

They staked out the new barn ... 34 feet wide and 64 feet long. Leonard thought it would be the greatest thing yet! They hand dug a trench all the way around for the footing and of course all sawing was done with hand saws. The main carpenter, Carl Behrensen, received 50 cents an hour and his four workers each earned 35 cents an hour. At the carpenter's suggestion they put red clay tile along the bottom to make the barn more durable. Of course, rafters were put up by hand with scaffolding. My Dad was 15 years old and acted as a "gofer", running errands for the men and fascinated at the progress, dreaming of the day he would be farming.

Dad believes the total cost of the barn was around \$4,000 because lumber was cheap back then. They brought in their own gravel, used sacks of cement, and a cement mixer with a gas engine. It took about ten scoops of gravel and two scoops of cement and water." It was in the cement mixer and transported it to the work spot in wheelbarrows.

There was already a windmill on the farm. Leonard's brothers, Sam and Carl, suggested a way to have running water without electricity. They installed a water tank, 20 feet wide and eight feet deep with a wood cover in the haymow. A gas engine at the windmill pumped the water up into the tank. Because the tank was up so high, gravity furnished running water for the toilet in the basement and the sink on the main floor. Thanks to this barn being built, they were some of the first in that area with running water with no electricity. It also provided running water for the cows and pigs in the milking area below. After several years Dad was working in the barn and noticed a menacing crack in the beam under the water tank. The tank was just too heavy and was quickly drained and removed through the haymow door.

Grandpa's brothers, Sam and Carl, who owned Wigdahl Brothers Hardware stores in Ruthven and Emmetsburg helped design a system to run

The Wigdahl Barn, Ruthven, IA

Originally farmed by Leonard and Nettie Wigdahl, later by Alden and Elsie Wigdahl, (my parents)

Dad's Barn

milking machines for Grandpa's 10 cows. A gas engine was used to create a vacuum in the pipes to bring the milk from the cows back to the tank. Carl and Sam would send their customers out to watch milking in the evenings and often they would sell one of their Surge milk machines.

The barn was originally set up to milk 10 cows on the south side. The north part of the barn housed the horses. After the arrival of tractors, the barn was converted into one for milking cows and raising pigs. I can remember keeping Dad company on cold winter nights out in the barn as he farrowed pigs. I remember the sound of the contented sows with their pigs lined up at the milk bar, the sound of the radio, which Dad contended made for more calm sows, just watching "nature happen."

The hay mow was a magical place. The west end held hay and the east end held straw for bedding. My sister and I would play house up there in the summer. We would follow the Mama cat up after she had obviously had her kittens and find them safely tucked back in a hole in the bales. I can still hear the pigeons cooing up on the hay track. It was a daily habit to consult the cow and horse high on the silver cupola to determine the wind direction.



Dad served in the army during World War II and attended Iowa State University where he earned his degree in agronomy and met the love of his life, Elsie. Alden and Elsie were married in 1948 and lived and loved on this farm for their entire 67 year marriage, raising their four children, Diane, Barb, Susie, and Jeff, who is currently farming the land. The barn is the symbol of all they loved about this way of life they chose. They were content to be together enjoying the beauty and quiet of their beautiful farm.

Dad's gone now and his barn is quiet. But the memories are vivid ...the sounds and sights and smells of the

livestock, hard work, security, working side by side with Dad or just keeping him company in my younger days. Dad's barn aged, just as he did, but thanks to the Iowa Barn Foundation, our family was able to restore this tired structure and make it strong and straight and proud once again! This year is a very special milestone as our family hopes to meet at the farm to celebrate and honor Dad on his 100th birthday May 24. Last fall it was my privilege to share the story of Dad's Barn with the many visitors on the fall barn tour and I look forward to that again and again in future years.



There are many old houses and buildings in Decorah, but few as old as the Trout Run Farm two miles south of town. It was first owned when there were only two or three houses in the modern metropolis of Decorah. The meeting that started the Little Iowa Church, the congregation preceding the Washington Prairie Congregation, was held at the farm, and it led to the calling of Reverend Koren, the first pastor of Washington Prairie Church.

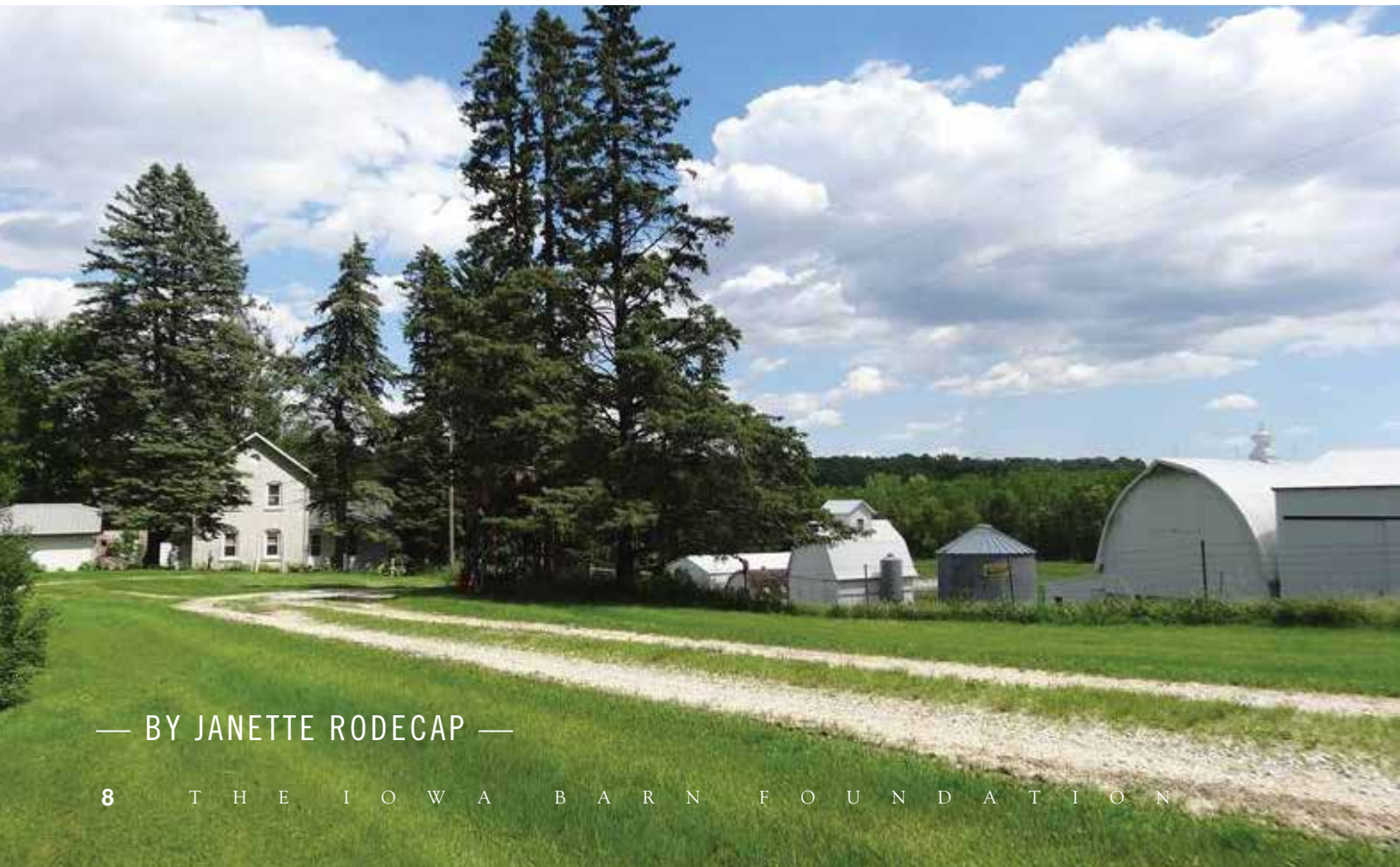
Trout Run Farm

Two prominent pastors of the day, Reverends Clausen and Brandt, visited the area in 1851 and organized three different congregations, including the Little Iowa Congregation.

Pastor Brandt presented a letter to the three congregations and one hundred five members signed it in favor of calling a pastor. The Washington Prairie members signed the letter in the log cabin located behind the present brick house on the farm. The Kerens were called on June 13, 1853 and often visited the farm, owned by Thron Lommen. Elisabeth Koren, Pastor Keren's wife, wrote in her diary the following words: "The entrance to Thron's house is not very nice; one has to cross an area something like a dunghill, where horses, oxen, cattle, swine, hens and all kinds of four-legged and two-legged creatures wander about

amiably together. Thron lives in a very large room which houses, besides him and his family, also half a score of newcomers for the winter. His elderly wife met me with many heartfelt and pious wishes that our coming hither might be a blessing both for us and others."

Thron Lommen of Valdres, Norway, and his son, Gudbrand, settled on Section 33 of Decorah Township in 1851 and bought it from the U.S. Government on July 14, 1852 for about \$150. The Kerens probably first met the Lommens in 1853, and they soon became good friends. Three Lommens from the same family, including Gudbrand, lived on the farm. They always found a place for all the new Norwegian immigrants and helped get money for them and get them started on their own farms. They always had room for every immigrant and sometimes boarded



— BY JANETTE RODECAP —

several families at a time. The Lommens also helped start the Washington Prairie-Church.

The farm was sold by the county to Ole "Horse" Lomen on April 10, 1883. He was from Norway and spoke only Norwegian. His greatest love was horses, and if he was in debt, he would rather sell a cow to get money than part with one of his horses. Lomen had forty-five horses when he sold the farm and was known all over the county for them. That doesn't mean that he took excellent care of them, though. He built a huge stone barn near the present barn with a wooden roof built out of 2 by 6's, but it was so full of manure (about two feet deep) that the horses could reach the rafters and chew on them.

Lomen built a racetrack on the north end of the flat creek bed east of the house and a baseball diamond on the south end. He also helped organize the Washington Prairie Church. Since there wasn't much of a church anywhere around, choir practice and meetings of the congregation were usually held on the farm. Church socials and picnics were always welcomed at Lomen's since they were a good excuse to show off the horses, track, and ball diamond. The first walnut log house built by the Lommens was added on to by Ole and the brick walls were constructed. The original brick can still be seen in the basement walls, and it lies beneath the present 18-inch walls in the rest of the house.

On June 10, 1884, the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad took over a thin strip of land to the east of the racetrack to continue their route past Castalia, Ossian, and Nordness north to Decorah. There were six trains a day running past the farm. The first was a morning passenger train that was followed before

noon by one train going to Decorah and one coming back. The last train of the day came into Decorah at 11 P.M. and it stayed overnight at the depot. The trains came into Decorah past the fish hatchery, Pamida, and Carlson's gravel pit and went to the Equity Sale Barn. Both passenger and freight trains ended up at the restored depot near Water Street. The BCR&N Railroad was absorbed almost immediately by the Rock Island Line, but the trains continued to run until 1960.

Erick Borseth bought the farm from the Lomen estate after Ole died in 1905. It was at the same auction where forty-five horses were sold, and it was a good sale with lots of bidding. This was partly due to the fact that there was an enormous keg of free whiskey at the sale to help in the deal making. According to one story, Erick Borseth didn't realize that he actually bought the farm until he was home the next day recovering from his hangover.

The biggest change that Borseth made was tearing down the old walnut log house with the help of Simon Stevens in 1926 or 1927. The logs were saved and used as corner fence posts. One of the old logs can still be seen today. He also tore down the stone bam in '27 or '28 and built a low basement barn in the same area. Borseth had corn, oats, and hay as his crops and milked twelve cows. He had one hundred sixty acres of land but sold forty acres to his daughter Gertrude when she married Simon Stevens. It was a gift to her for taking care of him before his death on April 16, 1932. The land was worth \$7,200 at the time of his death and it was split between Borseth's ten children. Half of his children wanted to sell the land but half of them wanted to keep it. Borseth had never really wanted the farm in the first place, so it had fall-



en into disrepair. His children also ignored the upkeep of the buildings, so they were soon falling apart.

The farm was finally auctioned on Halloween Day, 1935. There were several bidders there, including one poor, young couple who couldn't afford anything better than the run down farm. Their names were Henry and Edith Wangsness. As the bidding progressed, all of the bidders dropped out except Henry and one other man. The bidding went higher and higher, until Henry had only five cents left to bid. Suddenly, the other bidder backed down! Henry and Edith were the proud owners of a new farm for the price of \$5,733, or about \$48 an acre. Now, the average price of good farmland is now thousands of dollars higher!

The house was so run down that when they moved in on March 16, 1936, they woke up with snow on their beds. However, their troubles had only begun. One of their first projects was straightening the creek that ran past the barn. It was so close that you could sit in the barn door and fish, and Wangsnesses didn't want their barn to wash



away. An earth mover and a digger were brought in and the creek was straightened in two or three days for \$75 in 1936. It was lucky that they decided to do this, because a huge flood covered the whole valley from the railroad track to the driveway in 1941. Many horses and cows were caught and washed downstream. Most of them were found, some alive and some dead. Many different pieces of wreckage floated down through the creek, including a butter churn from Nordness that made it another mile or two beyond the farm.

There are many old stories about this Trout Run Creek, including one where oats were put in the water and they came out at Siewers Springs.

It's hard to tell which stories are true and which were entertainment. Another problem came on October

25, 1939, when the barn burned down. They had just started shredding (cutting up corn stalks and blowing them up into the bam for feed) when Henry went to the barn to take care of the stock. A spark from the shredder flew up into the barn on top of the hay and stalks, and Henry; came back to find the barn on fire. The entire shredding crew was there but they could do nothing against the strong east wind.

There was nothing to do but build a new bam, and they did that immediately. They also built most of the modern buildings on the farm and added a bedroom and bathroom onto the house. They bought the first tractor on the farm in 1942 and we still use it today. They bought the forty acres across the road in 1952 for \$8,000 and the last of the farm's one hundred sixty acres was added

in 1969 when the railroad gave its land back to Henry.

The farm was sold to my dad, John Rodecap, on November 12, 1969, when Wangsness retired from farming. He paid \$64,000 for the farm and has made very few changes in the buildings. In fact, most of Henry's tools are still stored in the same places he had them. The porch has been torn off the house, and a kitchen, living room, and deck have been added.

Trout Run Farm will continue to grow and change with times. I hope its long and interesting history will continue to be passed on to the future owners of the house. I enjoyed learning more about my home and the history of Winneshiek County, and I hope you did, too.



We are all grieving the loss of too many barns in the derecho. We are interested in knowing about these losses to Iowa's agricultural history for our records and the magazine. It would be interesting to know any history of the barn and how it was taken and how you felt about the loss.

BARN ALL-STATE TOUR 2020

Revisit Old America Close Up
on the Iowa Barn Foundation's
20th Annual All-State Barn Tour

**SATURDAY, September 26,
AND SUNDAY, September 27**
from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

America appears to be at a crossroads,
but Iowa's stately and proud barns remain, symbols
of old America. Immerse yourself in this world
on the annual self-guided barn tour sponsored by
the Iowa Barn Foundation.

Barns awarded restoration grants by the Iowa Barn
Foundation because of their importance historically
or architecturally will be on the tour.

Other important barns restored by owners can also
be viewed. 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.

**Because of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, please
wear a mask at the barns, and keep social distance of
at least six feet. The barn owners will appreciate it.
You may want to see the sites from your vehicle.**

For information about the tour,
go to IowaBarnFoundation.org, or
call Roxanne Mehlich, 641-487-7690.



WEST-CENTRAL COUNTIES



Clancy Barn

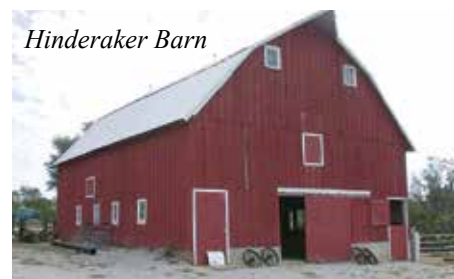
Clancy Barn, 1866 Marengo, Pomeroy
(Calhoun County) – Intersection of IA 4
and IA 7. The barn was built in 1948 by
Lee and Maureen Olson, along with local
carpenter George Julifs. Maureen and Lee
put pieces of the barn together in the ma-
chine shed prior to erection of the build-
ing. In 1962 the farm was purchased by
Leo and Geraldine Clancy of Pomeroy.
Geraldine and Maureen Olson were sis-
ters. Leo Clancy was one of the charter
members of the Iowa Charolais Assn.
and served as the Charolais superinten-
dent at the Iowa State Fair for 25 years.



Ellis Barn

Ellis barn, 2370 Fletcher Avenue, Lytton
(Calhoun County) - 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.

Hinderaker barn, 2698 Jaguar Trail,
Guthrie Center (Guthrie County) - From
Guthrie Center, go west on IA 44 for 3
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.



Hinderaker Barn

NORTHWEST COUNTIES

Jones Barn



Jones Barn, 2138 Verdin Avenue, Ocheyedon (Osceola County) - From highway 59, turn east on A34 (220th St) and go 9 miles to Verdin Avenue. Turn north on gravel. Barn is ½ mile north on east side of road. One of the largest barns in the area, it was built in 1917 and is unusual.

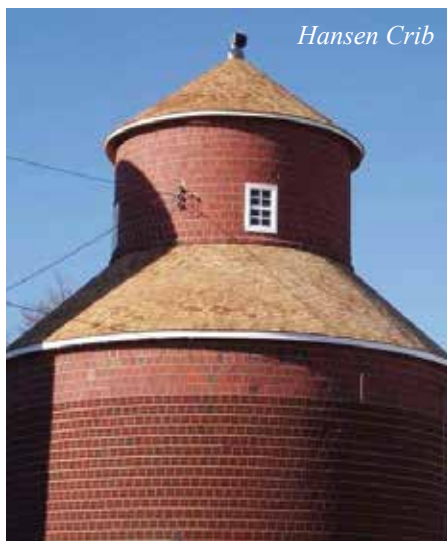
Buyert Barn



New! Buyert Barn, 3387 Grant Avenue, 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 Street, then turn right onto Grant Avenue. 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.

Hansen Crib, 4015-340th Avenue, Ruthven. (Clay County) - Take N18 four miles south of Ruthven. One-of-a-kind landmark corner crib, built in 1940s, holds 7000 bushels of ear corn and 4000 bushels of small grain. In middle is a bucket system that transports ear corn to the top of the corner crib and releases it into multiple outlets. Grandfather of owner died when owner's father was 18 and he had to take over farm.

Hansen Crib



Wigdahl Barn 4030 360th Avenue, 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 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.

Wigdahl Barn



Harvey Barn



SOUTHWEST COUNTIES

New! Murphy Barn, 59039 750th Street, Anita (Cass County) – South of Anita on IA 148. Sears barn built in 1953 and shipped to Iowa by train with the help of six teams of horses. (No photo available)



Vandewater Barn

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



Haugen Barn

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.

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



Chizek Barn

turn left (west) onto 250th Street. Barn built by Albert Chizek, owner's grandfather, in 1942. It has an open loft area.

Rory Friedow Barn 1680 Ladd Avenue, Kanawha (Hancock County). Seven miles west of Klemme (Hwy 69) on B55 (170 th St), then ¼ mile south on Ladd Ave. Floyd Friedow built the barn and hog house in 1925. He and his three sons (Doyce, Verlyn & Milton) were known for their quality Poland China hogs. In 1955 they sent breeding stock to a farm in Cuba via train and airplane. The barn 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.

Dodd Barn, 1854 40th Street, Ackley (Franklin County) - 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.



Dodd Barn



Rory Friedow Barn

SOUTHEAST COUNTIES



Strabala Barn

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.

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).

Rigsby Hill/Parsons Barn, 22055 Hwy 1, Keosauqua (Van Buren) County - On Hwy IA 1, south of Keosauqua Bridge, at the top of the hill on the west side. This is a small, but important, Pennsylvania-style barn built for practical purposes rather than tradition on a gorgeous site above a village. The National Register barn was built in 1869.



Murphy Barn



*Rigsby Hill/
Parsons Barn*

CENTRAL COUNTIES



*Rand Faaborg
Barn*

New! Rand Faaborg Barn, 3490 370th Street, Radcliffe (Hamilton County) – From I-35, near Randall, go east on D65, then north on R77 (Young Avenue), then east on 370th Street. 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.



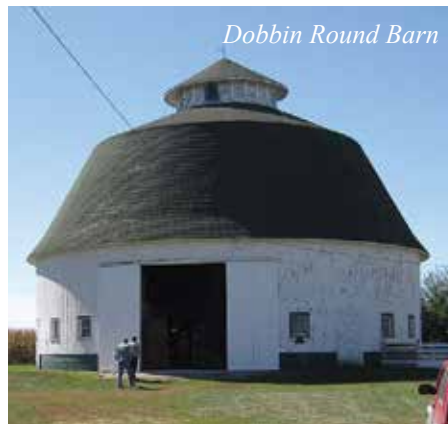
Pfantz Barn



Boriskey Barn

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.

Pfantz Barn, 210 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



Dobbin Round Barn

horse broker. The barn has such unique features as handmade screens and a milk cellar. Note the balloon rafters.

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 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.



Buck Barn

Buck Barn, 285th Street, State Center (Marshall County) - From State Center, go west one mile to Cooper Avenue (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.

CENTRAL COUNTIES

(continued)



Rimathe Barn



Uetz Barn

Rimathe Barn, 51349 Highway 210, Slater (Story County) - It's the first farm east of Slater on IA Highway 210. This 30x50 foot 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.

SOUTH-CENTRAL COUNTIES



McBroom-Hargis Barn

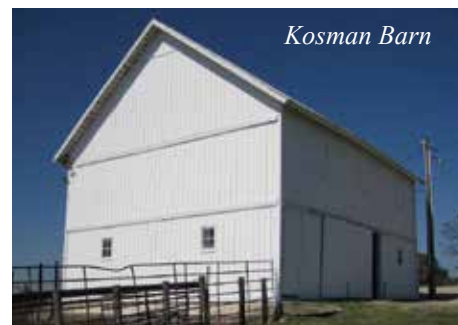
McBroom-Hargis Barn, 1218 Highway 169, Winterset (Madison County) - Barn is five miles south of I-80 (Adel, De Soto, Winterset exit) on US 169. Article in Madison County paper (1884) discussed this barn, "It would be the largest barn in this part of the county." It has a wooden track, post and beam,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

Gillespie Barn, 1257 Highway 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.

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



Kosman Barn

Partridge Barn, 32086 252th Street, Lineville (Decatur County) - From I-35, go east on IA 2 to Leon and continue 8 miles east of Leon to the intersection of IA 2 and County Road R69 (Woodland Road). Turn right onto Woodland Road and go 5.5 miles to 252nd Street (which is about a mile south of the old Woodland Town site at the intersection of J46). Turn left (east) onto 252th Street (the first left south of Woodland), and the barn is 1/4 mile down the road on the north side. Barn (56x32) built in 1930 by William Massey who wanted the largest and fanciest barn in the area. It was built prior to the Depression and he lost the farm. Blocks delivered by train from Lineville. It was 10 miles by horse and wagon. Barn is in beautiful area.



Partridge Barn

NORTHEAST COUNTIES

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 nearby is 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.



Birkedal Barn



Yunker Barn

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).

The Miller Barn 310 20th Street, SW, Waverly (Bremer County) - on IA 3, 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. Built in 1914 by W.H. Miller and his brother, Gilbert, it is constructed with



Miller Barn



Mikesh Barn

locally grown cedar and native oak. 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.

Mikesh Barn, 2714 County Road A14, Decorah (Winneshek County) - The barn is west of US 52, on County Hwy A14, close to the Minnesota/Iowa boundary. This dairy barn was believed to be built in the early 1900's. It has been painstakingly restored in 2017/2018, by a mother and son who live on the property. They now use the barn for calves and small farm animals.

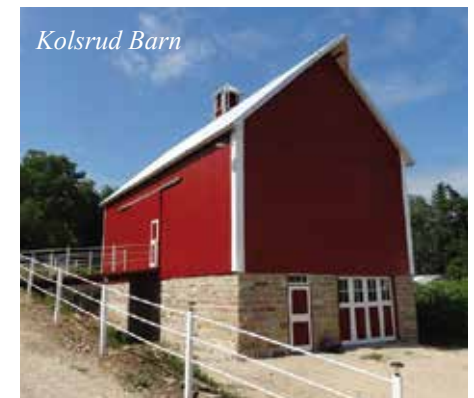
Lea-Oakley Barn, 2279 County Road W42, Decorah (Winneshek County) - From IA 9, near the Decorah airport, turn south onto W42. Native limestone Norwegian barn was built by John Johnson in 1862. Original materials are intact. Barn has a gambrel roof with wooden shingles that was probably added at a later date. Original roof would have been a gable roof. It is a 2-story stone barn.



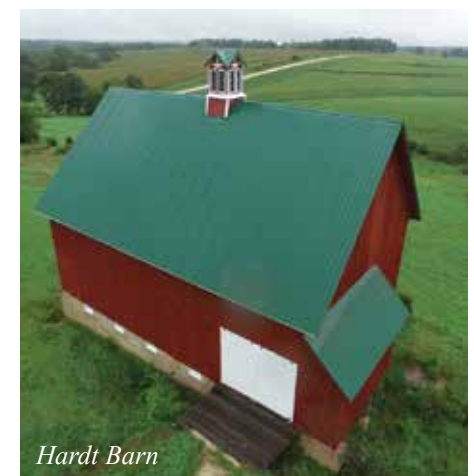
Lea-Oakley Barn

Kolsrud Barn, 1243 Gjeffe Drive, Waukon (Allamakee County) - From intersection of IA 9 and IA 76, 1 mile south of Waukon, travel 4.7 miles east on IA 76 toward Rossville. About 1.7 miles before Rossville turn left on Cardinal Road (gravel). Travel 1.1 mile to north. Turn right onto Gjeffe Drive (gravel) and follow it east and northeast for half a mile to the barn. Known as Jacob Johnson/Clark, the Kolsrud barn was built in 1870. Jacob Johnson came from Norway and purchased the barn with 80 acres in 1862. He paid \$500 for the farm. Oxen and timber were used in barn from his farm. Rock quarried from 100 yards from barn location. (Award of Distinction).

Hardt 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 attached to the barn.



Kolsrud Barn



Hardt Barn

EAST-CENTRAL COUNTIES

Hayward Barn



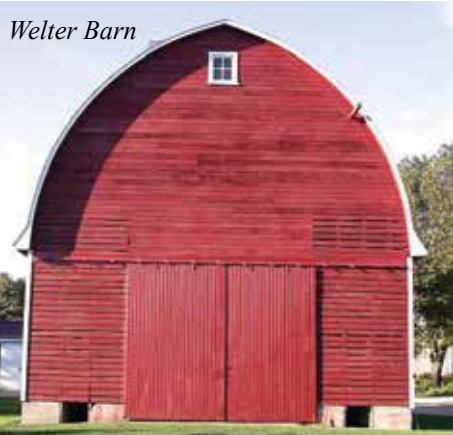
Hayward Round Barn, 1520 Hwy V37, Dysart (Tama County) - 3.5 miles north of Dysart on Hwy V37. Owner's great-grandfather, Charles Hayward, purchased farm in 1881. Built in 1916, is 66 feet in diameter. It may have been constructed by Johnston Brothers Clay Works, Ft. Dodge because of size of clay bricks used. In addition, the Corn Crib will be open. The owner writes: "We know very little about the building of the Corn Crib, except believe it was built at the same time, or shortly after the Round Barn, because of the materials used (hollow tile bricks) and the style in which it was built, typically used by Johnson Brick and the Works of Fort Dodge, around the time (1917). We have been told that this style of corn crib is very rare – in fact, it may be the only one of its kind".

New! Kishman Barn, 14918 X Avenue, Cedar Falls, (Grundy County) – From Dike, go east on 160th Street, then turn left (north) onto Cnty T65 (X Avenue and Fredsville Avenue). Built in the mid

Kisman Barn



Welter Barn



1800s as a dairy barn, this barn is still held up by the original rock foundation and has exceptionally long timber that constructed the frame, done with mortise and tennon joints.

Welter Barn, 13725 X Avenue, Cedar Falls (Grundy County) - From Dike, go east on 160th St, then turn left (north) onto Cnty T65 (X Ave and Fredsville Ave). (X Avenue is also shown on Google as T65 and Fredsville Ave.) Original blueprints developed by Iowa State University agriculture engineering department. It was built in 1947. Working farm was purchased in 1867 by Ole Johnson and has been in the same family since.

Frost Barn



New! 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).

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

Dighton Barn



Jack Smith Family Barn

120th Ave). Round barn on National Register was built in 1914 by Rob Kirkpatrick, grandfather of owner. It is intricate. (Adopt-a-Barn Award).

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).

Kaufman Barn, 6206 291st Street (Streff Road), St. Donatus (Jackson 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: web-site map programs may not be accurate for this barn)"The 30x80-foot bank barn

Kaufman Barn



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)

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 Avenue. The barn, which stands at the end of dead end road next to the county's rodeo grounds (297th Avenue), was built about 1939. (No photo available)

Clasen Barn 25219 200th Street, Bellevue (Jackson County) - Follow IA 62 southwest from Bellevue, then turn right onto 200th Street. Wider-than-usual barn has bark on support timbers.

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



Clasen Barn



Martin Barn



Schroeder Barn



Schneckloth Crib

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)

Schneckloth 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, 11150 New Liberty Rd., Maysville (Scott County) - From Exit 292 of I-80, go northwest on IA 130 towards Maysville (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



Frye Barn

Alfred Frye. The barn was originally white, but was painted red about ten years ago. All siding is original. All stone and brickwork was tuckpointed 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.

Zelle Barn, 1503 Holland Street, Le Claire (Scott County) - Take Exit 306 off I-80. Turn left at lights (north) and go through Le Claire. Turn left (west) onto Holland Street. Continue uphill for 1.5 miles until blacktop ends. Drive is 100 feet on right. This is a 19th century family farm. One of the few barns left in the area.



Zelle Barn

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.



LIFETIME CONTRIBUTORS (From 1997-2019)

250,000 - \$1,000,000

THE FRED MAYTAG FAMILY FOUNDATION, NEWTON

\$100,000-\$250,000

THE BROWN FOUNDATION, INC., HOUSTON, TX

\$50,000-\$100,000

DAVID BRUSTKERN, WEST DES MOINES
IOWA WEST FOUNDATION, COUNCIL BLUFFS
ROY AND ROBERTA REIMAN AND THE REIMAN
FOUNDATION, INC., MILWAUKEE, WI

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ROXANNE MEHLISCH, ZEARING
JACQUELINE ANDRE AND RICHARD SCHMEAL,
HOUSTON, TX

\$10,000-\$25,000

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\$5,000-\$10,000

RICHARD AND JANET ANDRE, SANTA FE, NM
ANONYMOUS
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DOROTHY EWING, AMES (FOR SOLON BUDEWING
ENDOWMENT)
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MATT AND JUDY SMITH, MARSHALLTOWN

\$2,500-\$5,000

ALL CUTS (RAY MCFARLAND), AMES
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BOYD FAMILY FOUNDATION, INDIANOLA
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