

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: Allis Barn (Reliance Stock Farm)

COUNTY: Fillmore

CURRENT NAME: Rissman Ranch

CITY/TWP.: Carrolton Twp.

LEGAL DESC.:

See continuation sheet

ADDRESS:

Preston mn
County State Aid Highway 17

MAD 1 5 82

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u> x </u>	Excellent <u> </u>	Local <u> X </u>	Primary <u> Agriculture </u>
Structure <u> </u>	Good <u> X </u>	State <u> </u>	Secondary <u> </u>
Object <u> </u>	Fair <u> </u>	National <u> </u>	Others <u> </u>
District <u> </u>	Deteriorated <u> </u>		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:	Yes <u> </u> No <u> X </u> Restricted <u> </u>	PRESENT USE:
VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD:	Yes <u> X </u> No <u> </u>	Barn
OCCUPIED:	Yes <u> X </u> No <u> </u>	

DATE CONSTRUCTED:	circa 1899	ORIGINAL USE:	Barn
ORIGINAL OWNER:	Jere Allis	ARCHITECT/BUILDER:	Unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: William & Lois Rissman Rt. 3 Preston, MN 55965	ACREAGE: Less than one acre <u> x </u>
LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Fillmore County Historical Society, Box 193, Preston, MN 55965	UTM REFERENCE: Preston Quad 15 / 577950 / 4840010
FORM PREPARED BY: Robert M. Frame III, Ph.D.	
DATE: February 9, 1981	

DESCRIPTION:

The Allis Barn is a 50 x 100 foot three-story barn of pegged-timber construction, built on a exposed stone foundation. The gable roof is aligned on a north-south axis and has two large ventilating monitors located on the roof ridge. Large rectangular wagon doors with glass transom windows are centered in the south and west facades. Multi-light rectangular sash are located in bays across the upper level of the east and west facades with double-hung sash at the first story level of the west facade. The south end of the first floor was enclosed and paneled to form office space and living quarters for herdsman. This area contains six-over-six double-hung sash. A Fairbanks wagon scale is located just inside the south door and a stone silo is situated outside the barn's northwest corner. At one time a railroad spur from the nearby Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railway was located near the barn.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Allis Barn is significant as a representative of the nineteenth century stock farm phenomenon and for its association with the Edward P. Allis Company and Allis family of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In addition, and perhaps more important today, the barn is a well-known local agricultural landmark. The barn site was purchased in 1885 by the Edward P. Allis Company, important flour mill machinery manufacturers who were instrumental in designing and supplying mills throughout Minnesota. In 1890 the property was deeded to Edward's son Jere who formed the Reliance Stock Farm, named for his father's famous Reliance Works in Milwaukee. Jere Allis established a reputation for raising thoroughbred cattle, swine, and horses, and constructed two race tracks on his property. In 1899, he announced plans to construct a new barn and it is believed, though not documented, that the barn was prefabricated in Milwaukee and shipped to the present location by rail. Soon thereafter, about 1900, Jere Allis sold the property and became a flour mill proprietor in Pennsylvania. The structure has remained in its original use as a barn.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Commencing at the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 21, Township 103, Range 10; thence due north 300 feet along the quarter section line; thence east 250 feet, to arrive at a point of beginning; thence due north 200 feet; thence due east 200 feet, thence due south 200 feet; thence due west 200 feet to point of beginning.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lanesboro Leader, May 6, 1899.

History of Fillmore County. 1882. p. 468.

Drake, Charles R. and Vienna L. River Valley Echoes. Rochester: Whiting Printers, 1969. Pp. 47-51.