

Iowa Site Inventory

Office of Historic Preservation
Iowa State Historical Department
East 12th & Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Site Number 55
District Name _____
Map Reference # 55

Identification

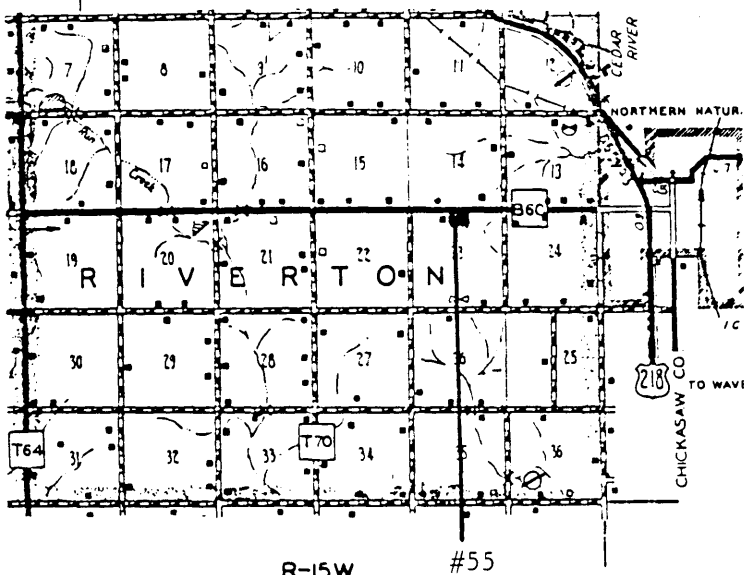
- Site Name Brooks Round Barn
- Village/Town/City Charles City vic. Township Riverton County Floyd
- Street Address West of US 218
- Legal Location 94 N 15 W 23 NW 1/4 of NE 1/4
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel
Rural: township range section 1/4 section of 1/4 section
- UTM Location: zone 15 easting 533,890 northing 4,755,130; Acreage less than one acre
- Owner(s) Name Mrs. Loretts T. Borchardt
- Owner(s) Address 710 8th Ave. Charles City Iowa 50616
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
- Use: Present Dairy barn Original Dairy barn

Description

- Date of Construction 1914 Architect/Builder Emil Cabel, Builder/Dale Butler, Supervisor
- Building Type:

<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial			
- Exterior Walls: clapboard stone brick board and batten shingles stucco
 other clay tile
- Structural System: wood frame with interlocking joints wood frame with light members (balloon frame)
 masonry load-bearing walls iron frame steel frame with curtain walls reinforced concrete
 other _____
- Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated
- Integrity: original site moved—if so, when? _____
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:
See reverse side.
- Related Outbuildings and Property: barn other farm structures carriage house garage privy
 other _____
- Is the building endangered? no yes—if so, why? _____
- Surroundings of the building: open land woodland scattered outbuildings densely built-up commercial
 industrial residential other _____

18. Map



19. Photo

Roll 418 Frame 14 View _____

VBD: A circle 74' in diameter, based on center point of barn, includes attached vaulted addition, excludes windmill.

MAY 27 1986

Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

20. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

N/A

Continuation of 14. Integrity.

Ground floor - stanchions surround central clay tile silo, 16' x 54'. Main floor - double horse stalls and grain bins in circular arrangement. Barn diameter - 60'. 21 windows on ground floor. 16 on main. Litter carrier on each floor and hay track in loft. Main floor of reinforced concrete. Asphalt shingles originally. Cost probably \$4,000 - \$7,000.

21. Historical Significance

Themes(s) True-Round True-Round Iowa/King type; Supplier Unknown. Specialty Contractor; Supplier Unknown.

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

See Continuation Sheet.

22. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

"Round barns feature of area." Charles City Press (May 3, 1984).
Frudden, W.E. "A Round Dairy Barn of Hollow Tile." Building Age (June 1915): 27-28.
Frudden, W.E. Farm Buildings: How to Build Them. Charles City, Iowa: Privately Printed, 1916.
Soike, Lowell J. Without Right Angles. Des Moines, Iowa: Iowa State Historical Department, Office of Historic Preservation, 1983.

Prepared by _____ Date _____
Address _____ Telephone _____
Organization _____

For Office of Historic Preservation Use Only

1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: _____
- Determination of Eligibility

Review and Compliance Project:

- Other _____
- Other _____
- Other _____

2. Subject Traces

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

3. Photo Images _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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Continuation Sheet

Item Number(s)

A "...departure from the ordinary type of farm barn..." according to W.E. Frudden in his June, 1915, Building Age article. The circular interior arrangement around the central clay tile silo had the advantage of "...a great saving of time when feeding stock;" twenty-one ground level and sixteen main level windows, and the rooftop cupola, allowed ventilation and plenty of sanitizing sunlight; the self-supporting, single hip gambrel roof provided for "...the greatest possible storage for hay;" asphalt shingles protected against fire hazard; and the round form, compared to the traditional rectangular form, required fewer materials, therefore less cost, for "...nearly the same cubical content." This was an innovative barn in the mid-1910s.

The supplier of the 10" thick structural clay blocks is unknown. As a dairy barn, the ground level of the Brooks Round Barn was built with twenty pipe stanchions facing a circular concrete manger. A feed alley surrounds the silo.