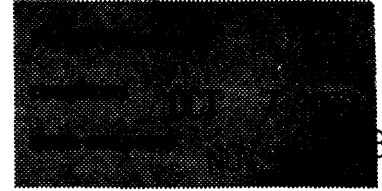


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



86

Continuation sheet SHPO Certification

Item number 12

Page 2<sup>4</sup>

Property Title: C. A. Rownd Round Barn  
Site Number: 19

Location: 5102 South Main  
Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County

This property is nominated as part of the the Thematic Resource Nomination Iowa Round Barns: A Sixty Year Experiment. This resource was accepted by the State National Register Nominations Review Committee and I submit it for addition to that thematic nomination.

David E. Crosson  
State Historic Preservation Officer

September 26, 1986  
Date:

# Iowa Site Inventory

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

Site Number 19  
District Name Iowa Round Barns: Thematic  
Map Reference # 19

## Identification

1. Site Name C. A. Rownd Round Barn
2. Village/Town/City Cedar Falls Township        County Black Hawk
3. Street Address 5102 South Main
4. Legal Location T-89N R-14W 24 S.W. 1/4 of N.E. 1/4  
Urban: subdivision Rural: township block range parcel section 1/4 section of 1/4 section
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 544,120 northing 4,704,900; Acreage less than one acre
6. Owner(s) Name Mr. Merrill Oster, Oster Communications
7. Owner(s) Address 219 Parkade Cedar Falls Iowa 50613  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present unknown Original

## Description

9. Date of Construction 1911 Architect/Builder C. A. Rownd, owner-builder
10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling  industrial  other institutional  religious  
 multiple-family dwelling  educational  public  agricultural  
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other locally produced concrete blocks (8" x 10" x 24")
12. 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 \_\_\_\_\_
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. 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:  
no known major changes
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other \_\_\_\_\_

18. Map



19. Photo

Roll \_\_\_\_\_ Frame \_\_\_\_\_ View \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description:

A circle, based upon the center point of the barn's interior, having a diameter of 100 feet. Includes barn only.

# Significance

(Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 20. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure      A boulder and concrete foundation four feet deep and three feet in
- c. Not eligible/intrusion      width supports 18' high walls of hollow concrete block which measure 8" x 10" x 24". A four inch concrete floor supported the ground level interior plan. That level was essentially a circular arrangement of walkways, curved rows of cow stalls, an off-center hay driveway and central stalls and mangers, and a circular series of horse stalls.

On the floor above were hay storage and a grain bin with service chutes.

The second floor is a clearspan, the roof being supported by a single laminated beam which incircles the perimeter of the inside wall. The large cupola, still in place, stands fifty-five feet above the ground level. The barn has a two-pitch gambrel roof. Windows located near the eaves provide additional interior light.

The barn measures 66' in diameter.

## 21. Historical Significance

Theme(s) Davidson-King Influenced Round Barns, Clay and Concrete

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure      This early true-round concrete block barn was featured in The Farm
- c. Not eligible/intrusion      Cement News, published by Universal Portland Cement in April 1912. Touted as "an ideal sanitary barn of concrete" it was constructed by C. A. Rownd who made his own ashlar-faced blocks on the site. Rownd adopted the true-round form because of its resistance to wind pressure and because the plan allowed him an additional one thousand square feet of interior space than would a rectangular barn of equal wall length.

The barn was associated with a 120 acre farm at the time of its construction. Rownd was an advocate of using concrete construction on the farm. He also employed this material in all of the outbuildings, and the farmhouse as well.

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

Dan Dundon, "Around the barn" Waterloo Courier, October 26, 1977, p. 36.  
The Farm Cement News, Universal Portland Cement, "A Circular Concrete Block Barn", 3-5, (Universal Portland Cement, April 1912).

Prepared by James E. Jacobsen Date April 29, 1986  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization Iowa Office of Historic Preservation

### For Office of Historic Preservation Use Only

<p>1. Office Information Sources on this Property</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> County Resource File</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Windshield Survey</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> National Register</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Grants-In-Aid: _____</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determination of Eligibility</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Review and Compliance Project:</p> <p>_____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>
<p>2. Subject Traces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. _____</li> <li>b. _____</li> <li>c. _____</li> <li>d. _____</li> <li>e. _____</li> </ul>	<p>3. Photo Images _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>