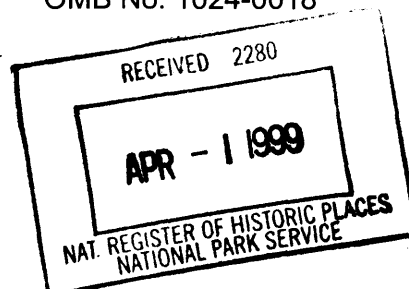


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Lenox Round Barn
other names/site number Taylor County Round Barn ("preferred")

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 1001 Pollock Blvd. N/A not for publication ___
city or town Bedford vicinity X
state Iowa code IA county Taylor code 173 zip code 50833

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally X statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Tom Morain 3/24/99
Signature of certifying official Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA
State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
4. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

___ other (explain): _____

Linda P. Clendland 5/5/99
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
"Iowa Round Barns: The Sixty Year Experiment TR"

USDI /NPS NRHP Registration Form

Lenox Round Barn

Taylor - Iowa

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Agriculture/subsistence

Sub: Animal facility

Agriculture/subsistence

Storage

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and culture

Sub: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

other/round barn

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

roof wood/shingle

walls wood

other wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Agriculture

Period of Significance

ca. 1905

Significant Dates

ca. 1905

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Lenox Round Barn

Taylor - Iowa

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Lenox Round Barn

Taylor – Iowa

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing
<u>15</u>	<u>353869</u>	<u>4504196</u>

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title <u>James Parrish</u>	<u>Board member</u>	
organization <u>Taylor County Historical Society</u>		date <u>10/30/98</u>
street & number <u>2141 200th Street</u>		telephone <u>(712) 537-2208</u>
city or town <u>Gravity</u>	state <u>IA</u>	zip code <u>50848</u>

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name <u>Taylor County Historical Society</u>	
street & number <u>1001 Pollock Blvd.</u>	Telephone <u>712-523-2041</u>
city or town <u>Bedford</u>	state <u>IA</u> zip code <u>50833</u>

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

The Lenox Round Barn is located on the Taylor County Historical Museum grounds at the west edge of Bedford, Iowa, on State Highway 2. Other historical buildings sitting on the grounds include a small church, a frame print shop, a one-room country schoolhouse (circa 1900), a log cabin, an 8 foot by 8 foot steel jail and a Burlington train caboose with waiting station. A large windmill stands adjacent to the Round Barn. Open pastures and row-crop fields form the backdrop to the site, creating a striking visual history of Iowa's proud agrarian heritage.

The Round Barn is true in its shape and was measured at 201 feet, 7 inches in circumference, 64 feet in diameter and stands 55 feet high. Its clear spanning conical-shaped roof has no interior supports and is topped by a 20-foot diameter cupola. The original metal lightning rod sits atop the cupola and protrudes through a round wooden ball.

A driveway runs directly through the center of the barn with two large rolling doors at each end. A raised haymow floor above the drive has a 10 foot by 10 foot opening at each end of it. A circular track is positioned above the floor and two large hay forks hang from it. A fork can be lowered through each 100 square foot opening to lift hay into the upper mow.

On each side of the center drive, two pie-shaped grain bins form a half circle. A 2 foot by 2 foot access door at the top of each bin opens to await grain scooped up into the bins from a stationary wagon. Through slats nailed to the underside of the raised floor, ears of corn are visible. The best ears of corn are selected from the Fall harvest and then stored to dry. The dried seed is used for the next season's planting, a common practice in the early 1900s.

Seven horse stalls form another half circle in the lower portion of the barn. All of the stalls, except for one, are designed to hold two horses. A narrow end stall is built with high partition boards and a single feed box. The isolated stall is designed to hold a stallion. Feed mangers at the front of each stall hold loose hay. From original harness hooks on the curved outer wall behind the stalls, sets of harness, horse collars, bridles and fly nets hung. Walkways are in front of and behind the semi-circle stalls.

The other half of the lower barn is open with a curved walkway next to the grain bins. The open area is designed for temporary housing and feeding of other livestock.

At the rear and above the horse stalls is a curved track attached to the upper haymow floor joists. A Loudon Machinery Company Litter Carrier bucket is connected to a rolling carriage and suspends from the track. The Litter Carrier is a large scoop-shaped vessel used for removing accumulated animal waste. A built-in chain hoist raises and lowers the bucket as needed and the waste is conveyed to a wagon for removal.

A large hay rope extends from the haymow above. The lower end of the rope is looped on a hook mounted beside the ground-level barn door. From there, the rope winds its way through a series of wooden pulleys suspended throughout the mow and the second end is tied to a hay fork. When the rope is removed from its door hook and attached to a horse, the horse pulls large forks of hay up into the mow.

Access to the full multi-level haymow is gained via a curved stairway built next to one of the circular grain bins. Curved 1 inch by 8 inch horizontal shiplap boards line each side of the stairs.

When standing in the haymow and gazing upwards, the view is spectacular. Equally spaced 18 foot long, 2 inch by 6 inch roof rafters narrow as they extend upward. The rafters support a 42-foot diameter ring which is formed by bending and laminating six 1 inch by 6 inch boards together, creating a perfect circle. A circular hay track and two rolling carriages with attached hay forks hang from the ring. The next set of equally-spaced 14 foot long, 2 inch by 6 inch rafters extend upward from the hay ring to form the 20-foot

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Section 7 Page 2

Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

diameter laminated cupola ring. On top of the ring sits the cupola itself. Sheathing boards, 1 inch by 2 inch and spaced 4 inches on center, extend from the eaves to the cupola ring. Each row is bent to form a circle. From the ground looking up, a dome-like picture emerges from the seemingly endless number of gradually narrowing circular sheathing boards connected to narrowing rafters.

Eight angled 6 inch by 6 inch tornado braces, 22 feet in length, are bolted to the hay ring and nailed to the outer portion of the haymow floor. The braces are set at a counterclockwise angle in order to offset seasonal tornado-force winds that rotate in a clockwise motion.

The barn was first built on a farm five miles south of Lenox, Iowa, in Taylor County. The exact year of construction has not been conclusively determined. The barn is believed to have been built between 1905 and 1907. Because of the barn's unique size and difficult building style, the time period for completion must have been lengthy. There was no electricity in this rural area in the early 1900s. Only handsaws and tools could have been used in its building. This is one of only two round barns in Southwest Iowa.

J.E. Cameron was the owner and was thought to be the designer and builder of the Round Barn. The barn remained in the family until 1996. By then it was near collapse and was given to the Taylor County Historical Society on the condition it be moved to the museum grounds, restored and made available for public viewing.

With the help of a professional mover, a structural engineer, an architectural firm, contractors and volunteers, the barn was moved and reassembled by May of 1998. Secretary of the Interior Standards and Guidelines were strictly followed. Prior to the move, disassembled timbers were color-coded and numbered for proper re-assembly and structurally damaged framing was replaced, whenever possible, with matching timbers from old previously disassembled barns. The roof shingles were replaced with Red Cedar shingles that closely matched the original. Scrapings from the barn were used to match the original paint. The round barn is painted yellow and boasts dark green trim.

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Section 8 Page 3

Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

Because of its unique shape and method of construction, the Lenox Round Barn is significant under Criterion C. From its steep-pitched free-standing roof, its tornado-resistant support beams, and its pie-shaped circular grain bins, the barn is a good example of a rare architectural form and provides a look backward to Iowa's agrarian heritage. The moved barn is significant primarily for its architectural value and for retaining the integrity of its construction after being relocated to a site appropriate for public viewing.

Round barns appeared during two periods in Iowa's history—the 1880s and the years between 1905 and 1920. This type of construction included true round barns, octagon barns, and other polygonal structures. The evolution of agriculture made round barns obsolete and they are fast disappearing. Farmers no longer use work horses, hay is no longer stored loosely in hay lofts and smaller wooden grain bins built inside barns are not practical. The modern upkeep expense of the grand old buildings became impractical as the structure was seldom used and repair did not fit within most farm budgets.

Every horizontal exterior portion of the Lenox Round Barn forms a true circle, including the conical-shaped roof and twenty-foot diameter cupola. The curved design is not only pleasing to the eye, but is extremely functional and durable. Built in a region where high winds and tornadoes are not infrequent, round barns survive when flat-surfaced, square or rectangular types are often severely damaged or destroyed. The ingenious design of the angled tornado bracing in the Lenox Round Barn proved its worth during a 1972 storm. The round barn survived tornado-force winds, receiving only minor damage. A large rectangular building standing adjacent to the round barn was totally destroyed.

The vertical windows surrounding the cupola are visually attractive and functional. Air flows in from any direction and enters the barn's hay loft, helping to dry loose and uncured hay. Because of the round design of the haymow, cured hay lies equal distance from any point to the center hay chute. A rectangular or square barn of equal square footage required hay to be moved further distances. The location of the round barn's drive, with raised loft above, provides an easy and efficient way for wagons to load and unload.

The benefits of the circular design are also apparent on the ground floor. The four grain bins are positioned near the center point of the barn, with the horse and livestock feeding areas forming a circle nearby. Hay, dropped through the chute at the barn center, and grain, shoveled from the bins, were within a short distance to hungry livestock. The benefits of this design were realized and appeared more than a half century later in the architectural design of hospitals. The winged extensions of the building were built in a circular pattern, out from a center hub. The nurses' stations were located at the hub with patients' rooms extending out from center.

The Loudon Machinery Company of Fairfield, Iowa, has been historically recognized for the functional quality of its agricultural hardware, manufactured during the early part of this century. The use of the Loudon hardware is visible throughout the Lenox Round Barn. All of the doors are equipped with Loudon rollers; the litter bucket bears the original stenciled Loudon name; the hay forks, carriages and curved tracks were all manufactured by Loudon. The curved litter bucket track is unique. At the point the bucket enters the drive, it is designed to pivot out of the way, allowing wagons loaded high with hay or grain to pass through unobstructed. The bucket could then be swung back in place so waste could be dumped into empty wagons sitting on the drive.

Although J.E. Cameron was named as the owner, builder and designer of the barn, it is believed by some historians that Lew Phillips may have played a role in its construction. His sons, L.E., Frank and Waite

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Section 8 Page 4

Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

Phillips were the founders and early owners of the Phillips Petroleum Co. (Phillips 66). They were born and raised on a farm in Taylor County. During the 1920s and 1930s they became quite prominent and acquired great wealth. In the book "Beyond the Hills," the life story of Waite Phillips, his father Lew is described as "not only a farmer but master carpenter, amateur architect and building contractor. He was credited with constructing many fine houses and barns throughout the region." In the early 1900s Lew's boys were old enough to help take care of farm tasks and Lew became more active as a builder. Lew and his family were living on a farm approximately three miles from the Cameron farm. His participation in its construction has been discussed with four living grandchildren, including Waite's son, Elliott. Although the grandchildren have no direct knowledge of Lew's role in building the round barn, they believe his participation was highly probable.

Only 160 round barns were known to have been built in Iowa, including those built in both the octagonal and polygonal shapes. Very few remain today although one round barn still stands, in disrepair, in Southwest Iowa. The Lenox Round Barn is one of the larger of the unique types built in the State.

Since its removal to a new location, the Round Barn has found new life through appropriate rehabilitation and expanded visitor interest. It was used as part of the teaching curriculum by public schools from both Page and Taylor Counties. During the last part of May, 1998, buses loaded with students arrived at the museum grounds to spend time learning of their state's agrarian past. The barn was the focal point of the visit. It served as a hands-on classroom and demonstrated turn-of-the-century farming practices, architectural design and farm life in general.

During the period between April 1 and August 24, 1998, 2,221 guests from 37 states and four countries visited the Lenox Round Barn.

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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

Crosson, Frank E. History of Taylor County Iowa. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1910.

Deeds Records Book. Taylor County Records Office: Bedford, Iowa.

Grantor Index Farmlands (A.G.). Taylor County Records Office: Bedford, Iowa.

Land Transfer Book (Book 4) 1905-07. Taylor County Auditors Office: Bedford, Iowa.

People of Taylor County. Compiled by Taylor County Historical Society. Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing Co., 1981.

Soike, Lowell J. Without Right Angles. Iowa Historical Society, 1983.

State Historical Society of Iowa. Historic Preservation Bureau Files: Des Moines, Iowa.

Taylor County Plat Book (current). Taylor County Auditors Office: Bedford, Iowa.

Visitor's Daily Record Book. Taylor County Historical Society: 1998

Wallis, Michael. Beyond the Hills. Oklahoma Heritage Association: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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Section 10 Page 6

Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

Verbal boundary description

A circle 80 feet diameter, based on the center point of the barn, and excluding any detached nearby buildings.

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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor – Iowa

Verbal boundary description

The nominated property includes only the subject round barn. All other structures are excluded.

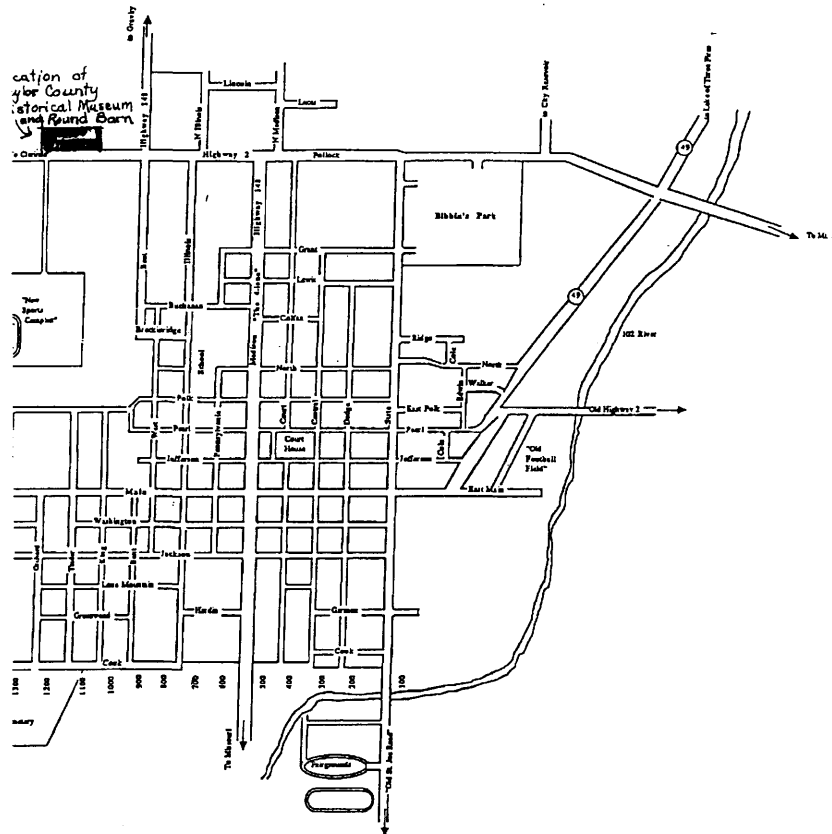
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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

Geographical map of Lenox Round Barn.



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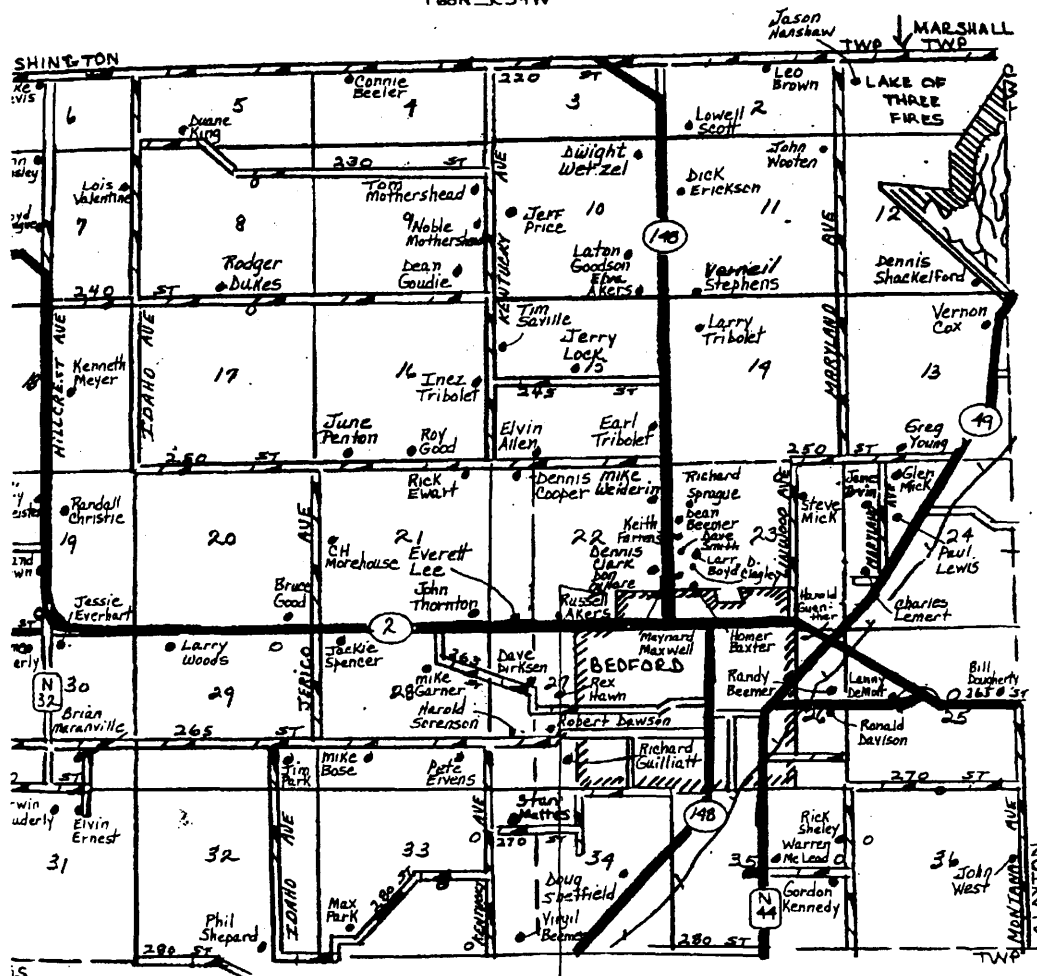
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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor – Iowa

Plat Map of

BEDFORD-BENTON

T6BN_R34W



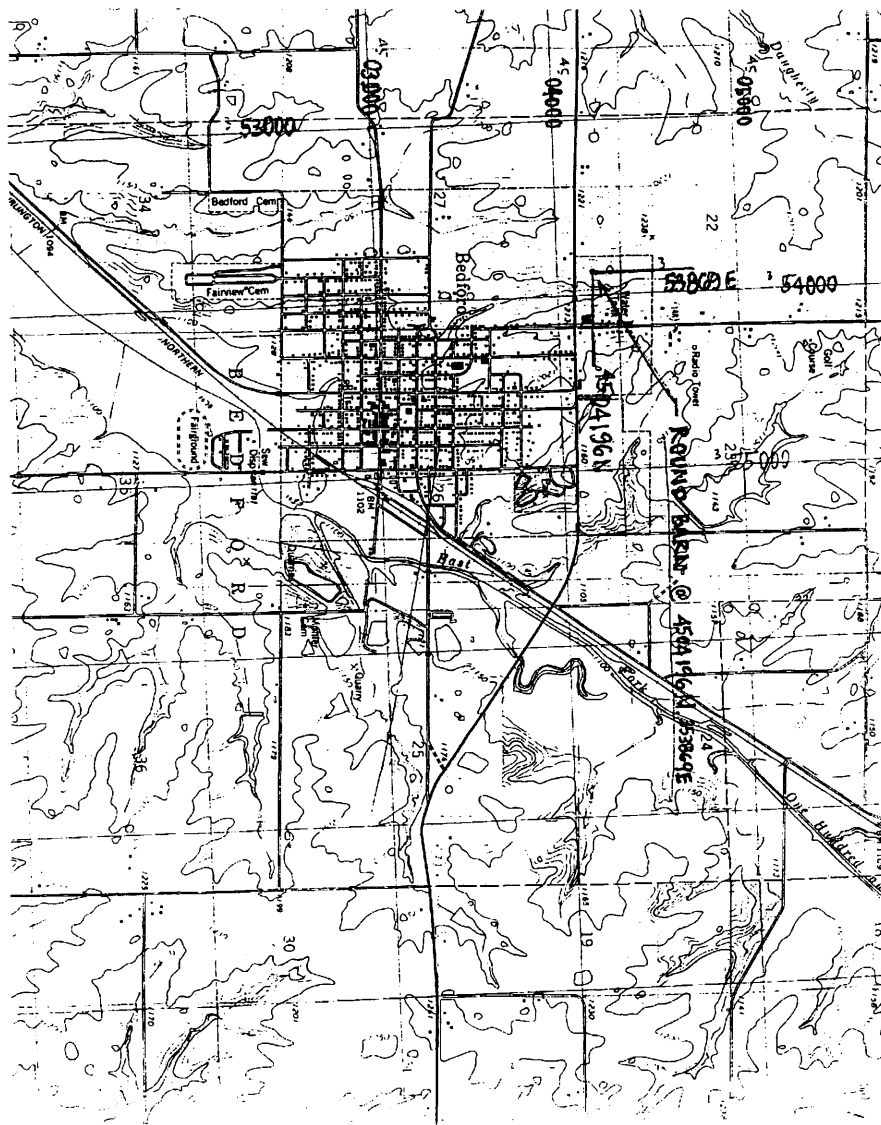
Location of Taylor County Museum
and Round Barn

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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa
USGS Map.



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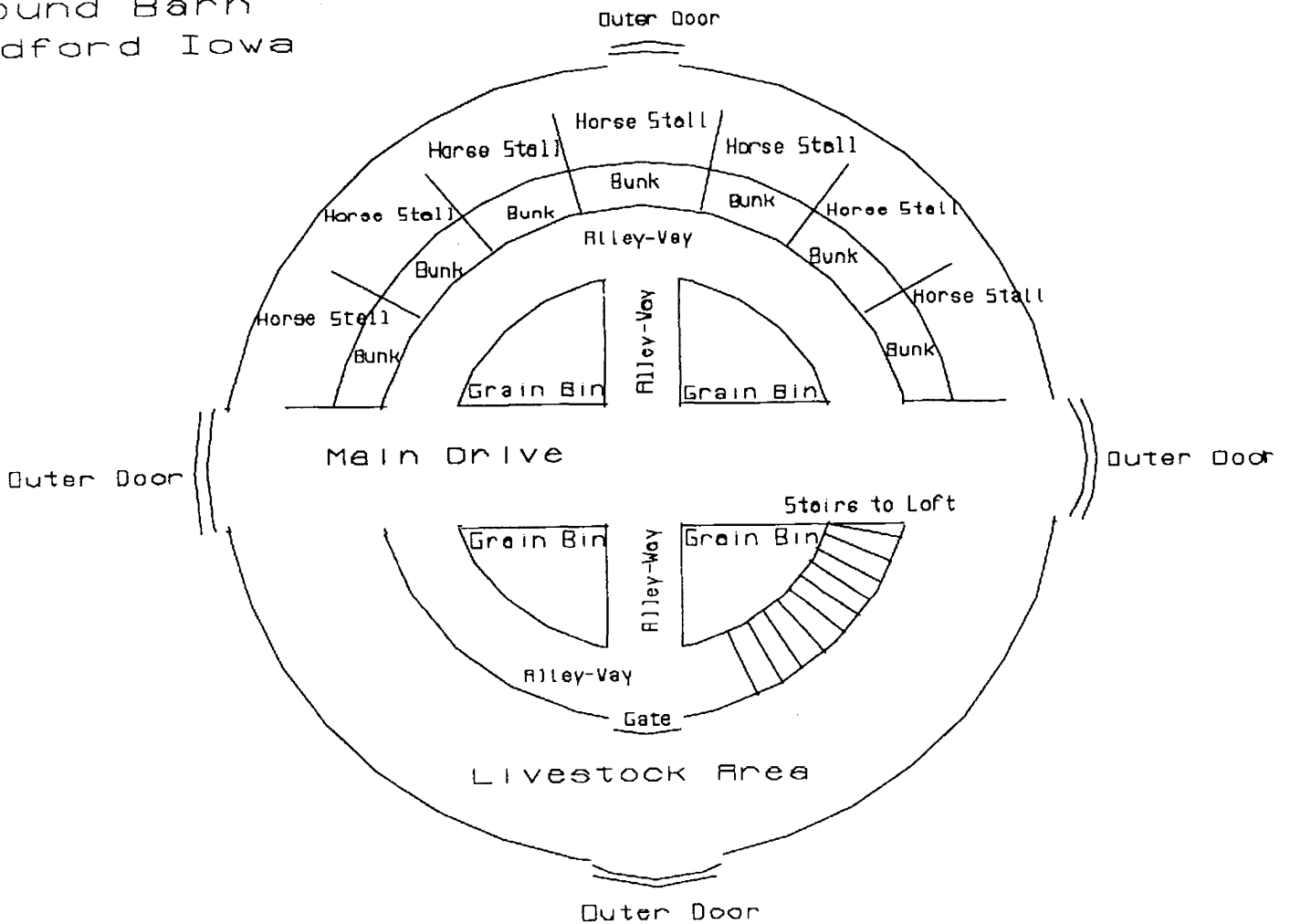
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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor - Iowa

Schematic Drawing of Lenox Round Barn.

Round Barn
Bedford Iowa



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Lenox Round Barn
Taylor – Iowa

Black and White Photographs (9) of Lenox Round Barn.