

Iowa Site Inventory

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

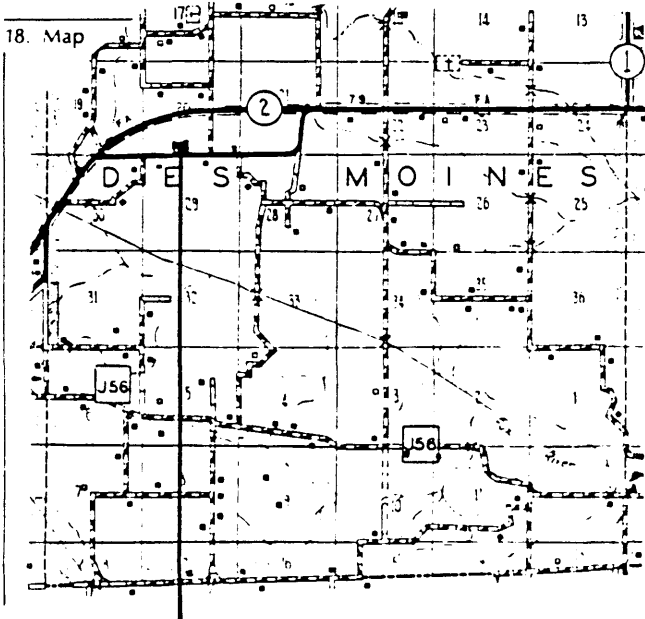
Site Number 136
District Name _____
Map Reference # 136

Identification

1. Site Name Wickfield Round Barn
2. Village/Town/City Cantril vic. Township Des Moines County Van Buren
3. Street Address Off IA 2
4. Legal Location 68 N 10 W 20 SE 1/4 of SW 1/4
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel
Rural: township range section 1/4 section of 1/4 section
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 582,570 northing 4,502,140; Acreage less than one acre
6. Owner(s) Name John Chaplin
7. Owner(s) Address R. R. #1 Cantril Iowa 52542
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Storage barn Original Sales pavilion

Description

9. Date of Construction 1917-19 Architect/Builder Alva Hunt
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 Clay Tile
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:
See reverse side.
15. Related Outbuildings and Property: barn other farm structures carriage house garage privy
 other _____
16. Is the building endangered? no yes—if so, why? poor condition of roof.
17. Surroundings of the building: open land woodland scattered outbuildings densely built-up commercial
 industrial residential other _____



19. Photo Roll 651 Frame 22 A View _____
VBD: A diameter of seventy feet, defined by the center point of the barn.

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.

50' diameter. Dutch gambrel roof, wood shingles, 8 dormers on lower part of roof, 3 on second. The basement was a dining room, the first floor a sales arena, the second floor had 8 bedrooms for guests, and the top floor was a social parlor or card room. During the 1930's it operated as a private club.

Special Function; Farm Sale type.

21. Historical Significance

Theme(s)

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

Sale barn for largest Hampshire hog farm in the world in 1919. Most unusual use of any round barn in the state and without doubt the most elaborate farm sale barn known to have existed. Originally known as the Silvers Sale Pavillion, owned and operated by Frank Silvers, a progressive and successful hog breeder and businessman. Construction of the barn cost \$20,000. The first floor, where sales were held, could comfortably seat 700 persons. Also located on this floor were Silvers' business offices. The construction, in the early 20th century, of special function barns represented an important experimental shift in the traditional use of barns. No round barns in the state are currently used as farm sale barns.

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

See Continuation Sheet.

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)

John Chaplin, RR 1, Cantril, IA 52542

Kathy Fisher, Bentonsport Coordinator, Van Buren Co. Conservation Board, RR 2, Keosauqua,
IA 52565

"Introducing Hampshires to a Community." Iowa Homestead 65 (May 13, 1920): 1, 24-26.

Soike, Lowell J. Without Right Angles. Des Moines, Iowa: Iowa State Historical Department,
Office of Historic Preservation, 1983.

Wells, Wilson L. Barns in the U.S.A. San Diego, CA: Acme Printing Co., 1976.