

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0683922

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED  
SEP 8 1978  
DEC 27 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  
Jones Dairy Farm  
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
Jones Avenue  
CITY, TOWN  
Fort Atkinson  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53538

VICINITY OF  
9th

COUNTY  
Jefferson

CODE  
55

CODE  
055

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Jones Dairy Farm  
STREET & NUMBER  
Jones Avenue (P.O. Box 28)  
CITY, TOWN  
Fort Atkinson  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53538

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Jefferson County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
320 South Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Jefferson  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53549

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places  
DATE  
1974  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin  
CITY, TOWN  
Madison  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53706

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The area and buildings under nomination contain the core of the original Jones farm in Fort Atkinson. It includes buildings from all periods of the farm's history, and through it the history of the Jones family in Wisconsin may be interpreted. Taken as a unit, the nominated area is an interesting setting, reflective of the Jones Dairy Farm as an example of small-town family-run big business. Left out of the nomination are the modern Jones Dairy Farm plant facilities, all of which were built after the Second World War and which are set apart from the historic area.

The oldest historic building on the Jones farm was Milo and Sally Jones's 1838 cabin. A log structure, it stood approximately thirty feet east of the present farmhouse. A depression in the ground there may indicate its precise location.

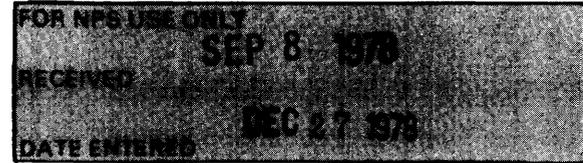
The main farmhouse is the focus of the property. It has long been the Jones Dairy Farm's symbol, with its sketch appearing on packages of the company's products. The oldest (south) portion of the house was built in the mid 1840s by Milo Jones. It is a 38 by 18 foot story-and-a-half frame structure of hand-hewn posts and beams joined by mortise and tenon, with joists, rafters, and studding of locally sawn hardwood. Interior walls and partitions were covered with plastered hardwood split lath; on the second floor most of the plasterwork is original. Family tradition has it that hardware, glass, and perhaps some woodwork and window sash for the house were brought from the East. A few original windows are thought to remain. Originally, a single-story porch ran the length of the front (east) facade much as it does today; three doors and four small windows opened onto the porch. Above the porch roof are a pair of eyebrow windows. When the original house was constructed, the first floor contained three or four rooms and the second floor, two.

The two-story portion of the farmhouse was added at the north end of the 1840s structure sometime in the 1860s. It is balloon framed, 24 by 30 feet. Originally, it had three rooms on the first floor and four on the second, but soon after construction two of the second-floor rooms were combined. The front (east) facade consists of three bays, symmetrically arranged. About the same time a story-and-a-half balloon-framed addition was made to the rear of the older portion of the house. This small structure was used for cheese making and housed the first sausage-making operation. As the sausage operation grew, the "cheese room" was removed from the house and formed the nucleus of a sausage plant some distance from the house. It has since disappeared.

Since the time of construction the Jones farmhouse has undergone a number of alterations. About 1906 two rooms on the first floor of the older wing were combined and a large fireplace was built there; at the same time the kitchen was remodeled. In 1910 a two-story enclosed porch, designed by E. Fitzgerald of Milwaukee, was added to the north side of the 1860s section. In 1922 the house underwent further remodeling under the direction of Law, Law and Potter, Madison architects: the back stairs were replaced, two bathrooms were added to the second floor, and dormers were raised on the older portion. The house is finished in white clapboard accented with black shutters.

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

The old barn was built around 1839. Framing is of 12-by-12-inch hewn oaken posts and beams joined by mortise and tenon. Board-and-batten siding was replaced with wood shingles painted white sometime in the 1930s. Windows with 6/6 lights are arranged symmetrically at first-floor level on the north, east, and west facades. The east facade contains a pair of 8/8 lit windows on the second-floor level. The building is capped by a cupola with a weathercock. A poured concrete floor and three-stall garage wing also have been added. The building is used for grounds equipment storage.

The greenhouse stands on the foundation of Milo Jones' dairy barn, which was built sometime probably in the 1840s. A silo was added to the barn around the time of the First World War; it remains, attached to the greenhouse, which was built in the early 1930s.

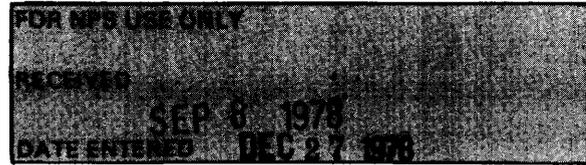
The horsebarn or carriage house was built sometime around the middle of the 19th century. It is hewn-oak framed, with a shed running the length of the south facade which gives it a salt-box appearance. The horsebarn has been substantially remodeled since about 1930: 6/6 lit windows have been added in the gable ends; the north facade has received a central Greek Revival style doorway, flanked symmetrically by a pair of 6/6 lit windows; there is a double-width overhead door in the east facade. The horsebarn is sided with clapboard, painted white, and accented with black shutters.

The sausage kitchen was built in 1907, during the period when the Jones Dairy Farm was achieving national recognition and a national market. D.I. Davis and Associates of Chicago were the architects. The building is a reinforced concrete frame with poured reinforced floors and brick walls; the building is rendered in Colonial Revival style, incorporating a gambrel roof, returns, Georgian Revival dormers, and a stylized Palladian window in the north gable end. When constructed the sausage kitchen was the height of modernism as evidenced by its construction system as well as by its extensive use of mechanical refrigeration. A number of brick additions were made to the building between 1930 and 1960, among these are massive plain rectangular additions to the east and west facades. What little meat processing presently is done in the old sausage kitchen is scheduled to be discontinued in the near future, largely owing to the building's obsolescence. Plans are for the building to remain in use indefinitely, housing a variety of operations ancillary to actual product manufacture.

Also on the grounds are a pair of Colonial Revival houses, built by sons of the Jones family who have run the business through the 20th century. The older of the two was begun as a small 32 foot square house in about 1897. In 1910 the house

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

was enlarged and remodeled under the direction of E. Fitzgerald; it was further remodeled in 1932 by Frank Riley. The other house was built in 1930-1931; its architect was Frank Riley. Today the houses are similar: both are two and a half stories high with steeply pitched roofs and dormers, both have massive chimneys at the gable ends, and both are sided in white clapboard and have black shutters. The younger of the pair also has a two-story portico which runs the length of its east facade and a sun room attached at the south side.

Addendum: Archeological Sites

In addition to the possibility of the remains of the 1838 Jones cabin still existing on the property (which would constitute an historic archeological site), three presumably prehistoric sites have been noted in the immediate area of the Jones farm. They are 47 Je 133 (the Milo Jones Farm site), 47 Je 195 (the James site), and 47 Je 200 (the Milo Jones Site), all filed in the Wisconsin Archeological Codification File at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. These sites were discovered in the 1930's, during the Wisconsin Archeological Society's Rock River Survey. Locational and other data are scanty and allow little else to be said regarding these sites; the present owner has, however, collected projectile points from plowed ground west and south of his house. This area might coincide with any of the three sites mentioned. The sites' information-bearing potentials are, at this time, unknown.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-present	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES see DESCRIPTION

BUILDER/ARCHITECT see DESCRIPTION

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The development of the Jones Dairy Farm from an important southeast Wisconsin pioneer farm into a nationally-known meat-packing industry is significant to the settlement, agricultural, commercial, and industrial history of the Fort Atkinson area and Wisconsin.

The farmstead which Milo and Sally Jones established on the Rock River in 1838 was among the first in the Fort Atkinson area. Previously, Milo had gained extensive knowledge of the upper midwest as a government surveyor, first in Michigan and then in Wisconsin and Iowa territory. In 1835, while he was surveying in Wisconsin, Milo, Solomon Juneau, E.W. Edgerton, and others formed the Rock River Claim Company, an association which aimed at securing prime tracts in the territory for speculation, development, and settlement. Milo identified Fort Atkinson as potentially a key settlement and made a claim there; in 1838 he brought his wife and children from Vermont to a log cabin which stood near the present Jones farmhouse. The following year he secured title to a large holding of excellent farmland along the Rock River.

The Jones family figured prominently in the affairs of Fort Atkinson from the outset. Milo served as village president, and when Fort Atkinson was incorporated as a city in 1878, he was elected the first mayor. He also served as justice of the peace and postmaster, and represented the area at Wisconsin's second constitutional convention in 1848. In addition to his farm, Milo established two early brickyards, a tannery, and a hotel, the Green Mountain House (1848 -- razed c. 1935) which served the growing community. Sally Jones was instrumental in founding the Fort Atkinson-Congregational Church. The congregation formed at the Jones cabin in 1842; later, Milo donated land for the construction of a church proper.

Milo Jones' farm is important to the agricultural history of Wisconsin as an early example of a diversified farming operation which relied heavily on animal husbandry and commercial dairying. Through the Civil War decade Wisconsin farmers overwhelmingly engaged in single-crop agriculture. Wheat was the most important cash crop, and most depended on wheat culture to the decrement of other pursuits. The Jones farm, however, was an exception; Milo maintained a successful diversified operation from the start; his dairy herd played an important part in the total farm. Milo received his progressive agricultural outlook from his father, Edward Jones, who operated a similarly diversified farm in the Winooski Valley of Vermont.

In letters as well as in visits, Edward pressed notions of diversification and commercial dairying on his son with an evangelical's fervor. As early as 1840, Milo maintained a herd of ten milch cows and was producing cheese. In 1842 the farm produced fifteen hundredweight of cheese, one hundred pounds of butter, ten good hogs, large crops of corn and potatoes, as well as four hundred bushels of wheat, all for market.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation sheet)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 27

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	3	4,9	2	7,0	4	7	5	3	9	4,0
	ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING				
B	1,6	3	4,9	5	5,0	4	7	5	3	7	6,0
	ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See continuation sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Donath, Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

April, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

816 State Street

TELEPHONE

608/262-3390

CITY OR TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Richard K. Krumm*

TITLE

Director  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

8/29/78

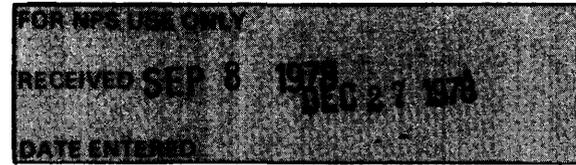
FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles DeWitt*  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST: *Kacey P. Franklin*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*[Signature]*  
DATE 12-27-78  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
DATE 12-22-78

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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

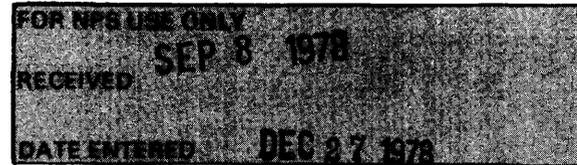
8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

By the mid 1850s the Jones dairy herd had grown to twenty-five cows and Milo had earned for himself a statewide reputation as an agriculturist of note and a proponent of commercial dairying. In January, 1857 The Wisconsin Farmer and North-West Cultivator published his recipes for making butter and cheese. Eric E. Lampard, in The Rise of the Dairy Industry in Wisconsin, found Milo's seriousness about commercial dairying to be an "important exception" to the normal pattern for Wisconsin farmers in the 1850s. In 1853 Milo became the first president of the newly created Jefferson County Agricultural Society; thereafter he served as perennial president and member of the Executive Committee. For many years the Society's annual fair was held on a part of the Jones farm. In 1870 Milo helped found the Jefferson County Dairymen's Association; Milo served as its first president, and William Dempster Hoard, who had not yet moved to Fort Atkinson, served with him as secretary.

The rise of the Jones Dairy Farm sausage enterprise is important to the commercial and industrial history of Wisconsin. Begun in 1889, the sausage operation took an innovative approach both to production and marketing. In an era when most marketed sausage was produced in bulk by neighborhood butchers, the Jones farm began manufacturing prepackaged sausage for local, then regional, and finally national distribution. Jones' "little sausages" were among the earliest prepackaged meats to appear on the American market. Marketing strategies which took advantage of the excellent railway freight system of the turn of the century and the astute use of advertising contributed measurably to their success; in the early decades of the twentieth century "Jones Dairy Farm 'Little Sausages'" entered the American household vernacular. ✓

In the 1870s Milo Jones had passed the operation of his successful farm on to his son Milo C., who operated it successfully for about a decade. Then in 1883, he was rendered physically helpless by an attack of rheumatoid arthritis. The farm's fortunes declined until, in 1889, Milo C. hit upon the idea of making sausage for market to augment the family income. In its first years sausage making took place in a room attached to the farmhouse kitchen which previously had been used for making cheese; Milo C. directed the family operation from his bed. As the operation grew, the old cheese room was moved to a site a few hundred feet away from the house, where it became the nucleus of a sausage-making complex. In 1907, with Jones' products gaining acceptance in a national market, a modern reinforced concrete and brick "sausage kitchen" was built a couple of hundred yards south of the farmhouse. This structure, which remains in use to the present, housed the operation through the end of the second world war. Throughout the twentieth century the Jones Dairy Farm has remained an important Fort Atkinson area employer.

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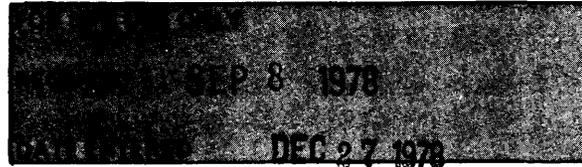
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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The present complex of buildings forms a museum of the history of the Jones family in Wisconsin. Milo and Sally Jones' original log cabin is gone, but the barn Milo built in about 1840 remains. The south wing of the farmhouse replaced the cabin in the mid 1840s; the remainder of the farmhouse was built in the 1860s, during the period of prosperity of Milo Jones' farm. The farmhouse has remained the symbol of the Jones Dairy Farm throughout its corporate history. The 1907 "sausage kitchen" remains, augmented by a modern complex a short distance away which was begun in the late 1940s. The complex as a whole is a comprehensive manifestation of small-town family-run big business, which is itself an interesting and somewhat rare phenomenon.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

- Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. VI, 1908.  
Jones Dairy Farm Papers. M77-406. State Historical Society of Wisconsin.  
Jones, Helen and Edward C. interview, February 16, 1978.  
Jones Family papers, (including manuscript letters dating to the early 1830s, deeds and land patents, and a substantial iconographic collection), in the possession of Edward C. Jones, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin.  
Lampard, Eric E. The Rise of the Dairy Industry in Wisconsin: A Study in Agricultural Change, 1820 - 1920. Madison, 1963.  
The United States Biographical Dictionary. "Wisconsin." Chicago, 1877.  
Western Historical Company, comp. History of Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Chicago, 1879.  
Wisconsin Farmer and Northwestern Cultivator. IX, January 1857.

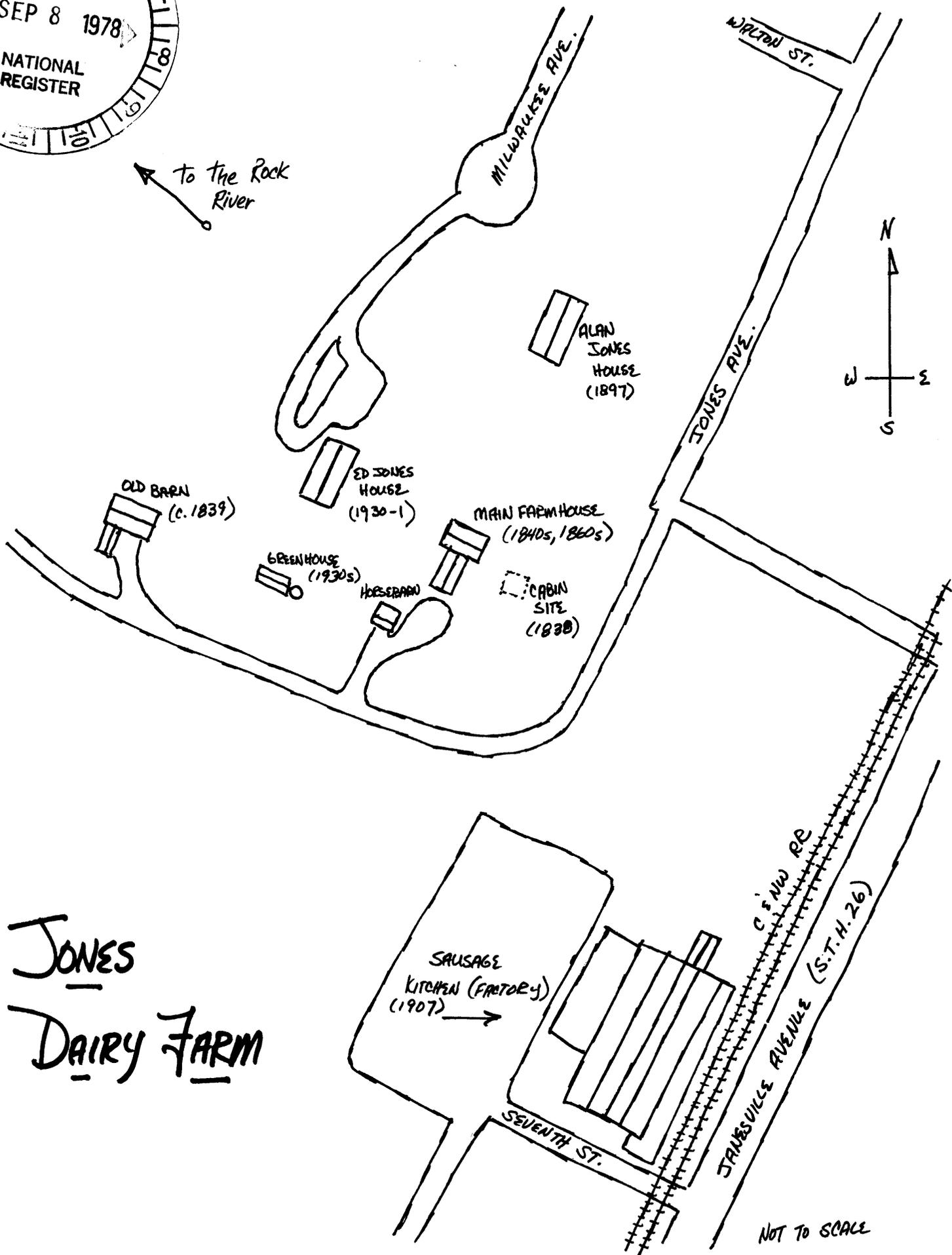
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Beginning at the SW corner of Lot 4, Block "F", Milo Jones Addition,  
S 62°-45' E 144'; S 27°-45' W 60'; S 65°-30' E 120'; S 24°-30' W 124.7';  
S 65°-30' E 68.9'; N 26°-30' E 66'; S 62° E 66'; S 26° W 66'; S 62°-45'  
E 132'; S 26°-30' W 249'; Southeasterly along South Fifth Street 110';  
Southwesterly along the C&NW RR. right-of-way 750'; Northwesterly along the North  
side of South Seventh Street at right angles to the C&NW RR. right-of-way 205';  
Southwesterly along the west side of Jones Avenue to the North-South 1/4 line  
of Section 4; North along said North-South 1/4 line to the Rock River; Easterly  
along said river to the Northwest corner of D403-312; S 40° E 377' to point  
of beginning.

RECEIVED  
SEP 8 1978  
NATIONAL REGISTER

To the Rock River



# JONES DAIRY FARM

NOT TO SCALE

DAD 4.10.78