

Iowa Site Inventory

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

Site Number 57
District Name _____
Map Reference # 57

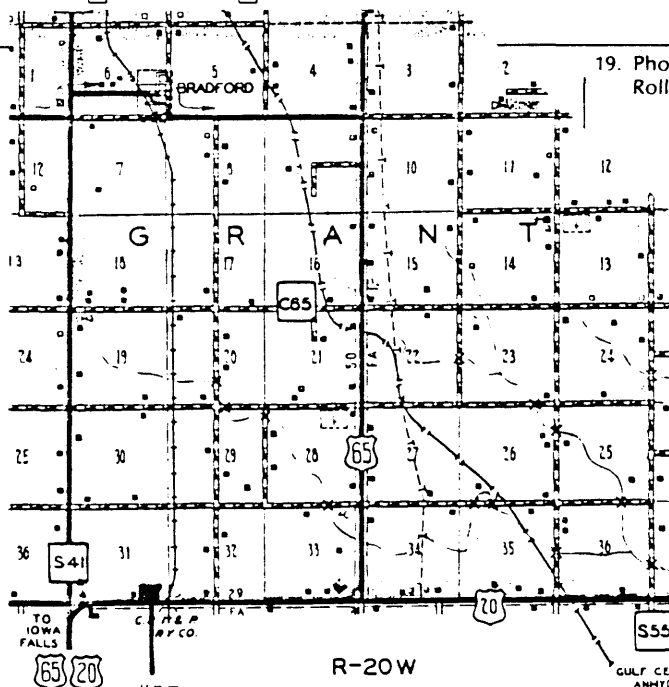
Identification

- Site Name Herman Wood Round Barn
- Village/Town/City Iowa Falls vic. Township Grant County Franklin
- Street Address US 65
- Legal Location 90 N 20 W 31 SE 1/4 of SE 1/4
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel
Rural: township range section 1/4 section of 1/4 section
- UTM Location: zone 15 easting 479,440 northing 4,711,520; Acreage less than one acre
- Owner(s) Name James Rankin
- Owner(s) Address R. R. #3 Box 331 Iowa Falls Iowa 50126
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
- Use: Present Hog barn Original Beef cattle barn

Description

- Date of Construction 1916 Architect/Builder Matt L. King, consultant/Herman Wood builder-owner.
- Building Type:
 single-family dwelling industrial other institutional religious
 multiple-family dwelling educational public agricultural
 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 590 Frame 12 A View _____

VBD: A circle 90' in diameter, based on center point of barn, includes only 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.

Interior - wedge shaped pens to central silo, Flat, rolled roof.
Central silo with unloader - 20' diameter clay tile.

Common Variation; Flat Roofed type.

True- Round; Iowa/King type; Clay Tile Supplier.
(Unknown)

True-Round; Specialty Contractor; Clay Tile Supplier.

True-Round; Farm Plan Service; Permanent Bldg. Societ

21. Historical Significance

Theme(s)

- 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.):

James Rankin, RR 3, Iowa Falls, IA 50126

King, Matt L. "An Umbrella for the Cattle." American Carpenter and Builder XXIII (June, 1917): 54-55.

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)

One of the most unusual of all Iowa round barns, the 122' diameter rolled-asphalt covered roof is suspended by galvanized wire cables hooked to rods at the top of the silo. Comparatively large, and structurally unique, this barn was truly experimental when it was built in 1916. The owner when built was Herman Wood and the building consultant was Matt King of the Permanent Buildings Society of Des Moines. King worked on the cable system design and published an account of this project in a 1917 issue of American Carpenter and Builder. The origin of the structural clay tile and the builder(s) of the barn are unknown. As an Iowa Experiment Station / Matt King influenced barn, identifying characteristics include the true-round, vitrified clay tile exterior wall and the centrally located clay tile silo. As a flat roofed variation, the main features are the flat roof and the 60' high silo which rises above the less than 20' high roof.