Rural Historic Structural Survey
of
Wesley Township
Will County, Illinois

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July 2012

for
Will County Land Use Department
and
Will County Historic Preservation Commission

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary

At the request of the Will County Land Use Department, acting as liaison for the Will County Historic Preservation Commission, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) has prepared this summary report of the intensive survey of existing farmsteads in Wesley Township in Will County, Illinois. The survey was performed between September and December 2011 and included approximately twenty-eight square miles with 95 farmsteads and related sites containing more than 520 individual structures.

Wesley Township contains three Will County Landmarks, the Ritchie Railroad Depot, the Wesley Township Hall, and the Ritchey United Methodist Church. Of the 95 farmsteads identified in the current survey, 14 sites have the potential to be considered for Will County Historic Landmark designation or listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In some cases, the eligibility of the site would be enhanced if certain historic features were restored or non-historic cladding materials such as vinyl siding were removed. Other sites have either been designated Contributing, which means in the context of this report that they retain their overall character as historically agricultural sites but lack individual distinction; or Non-contributing, which indicates that the site lacks sufficient integrity to present the theme of agricultural history in the survey region. Additionally, the hamlet of Ritchie has sufficient historic integrity to be designated as a Will County landmark district.

The Wesley Township intensive survey was performed to update the previous survey of the township performed in 1988. Because of the rapid pace of contemporary development in Will County in the 1990s, the Will County Historic Preservation Commission recognized the need to reassess the agricultural heritage of the region. WJE has previously completed thirteen intensive survey projects in sixteen of the County's twenty-four townships covering Wheatland–Plainfield–Lockport, Du Page, Homer, New Lenox, Green Garden, Manhattan, Frankfort, Joliet–Troy, Channahon, Wilmington, Jackson, Reed, and Florence Townships as well as field survey work in Custer Township. Copies of the previous survey reports were provided to public libraries and respective governing agencies in the area. Cumulatively, the surveys have documented almost 6,500 structures on more than 1,450 sites over approximately 650 square miles of Will County. Performing a separate survey for each township has allowed more detailed information to be collected, such as individual photographs of each historic structure, an assessment of current conditions, and preparation of annotated aerial photo-plans. With the permission of property owners, the survey work was performed with close-up access to the buildings, which allowed for close range photography and a reliable identification of building materials. The survey data was compiled and analyzed using database software and geographic information system (GIS) software.

In this report, Chapter 1 contains a description of the project methodology. Chapters 2 and 3 provide the historical and architectural context, within which the surveyed farmsteads were established, grew, were reconfigured, and in some cases were abandoned. Chapter 2 covers the historical context of Will County agriculture, as well as the historical development of Wesley Township. Chapter 3 discusses the architectural context of the rural survey area. Chapter 4 summarizes the survey results and includes a discussion of the National Register and Will County criteria for designation of historical and architectural significance. Also in Chapter 4 are several tabulations of the survey results and an overview of a select number of historically and/or architecturally significant farmsteads. A bibliography of research sources follows the text. Appendices include historic and contemporary plat maps for Wesley Township, and maps developed for this report to present the results of the survey and research.

Federal Assistance Acknowledgement

The activity, which is the subject of the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey, has been financed in part with federal funds from the Department of the Interior, administered by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior nor the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior nor the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to:

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Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
One Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

CHAPTER 1

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

Background

At the request of the Will County Land Use Department, acting as liaison for the Will County Historic Preservation Commission, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) has prepared this summary report of the intensive survey of farmsteads in Wesley Township in Will County, Illinois. A previous survey of farmsteads in Will County was performed in 1988. Beginning in 1999, WJE has prepared intensive surveys of individual townships in Will County. Previous townships surveyed included Plainfield, Wheatland, and Lockport (completed November 2000), Du Page (November 2001), Homer (November 2002), New Lenox (August 2003), Green Garden (July 2004), Manhattan (September 2006), Frankfort (December 2007), Joliet and Troy (April 2009), Channahon (April 2009), Wilmington (December 2009), Jackson (December 2009), Reed (January 2011), and Florence (August 2011). Concurrently with this survey and report for Wesley Township, a report for Custer Township was prepared.

The objectives of the study are to provide comprehensive information on all historic rural structures located in the area; to assess the eligibility of rural districts or individual buildings for designation as local landmarks or nomination to the National Register of Historic Places; to inventory the existing structures in the area for future study; to provide background on significant architectural styles and rural structure types common to the area; and to provide background history of the development of the area. The present study has been developed to meet the requirements and standards of the Certified Local Government program.

Survey Methodology

Survey Team

The survey team from WJE consisted of Kenneth Itle, Michael Ford, Gregory Dowell, and Deborah Slaton. Mr. Itle served as Project Manager and developed the summary report and performed some field survey work. Mr. Ford and Mr. Dowell performed field survey work. Ms. Slaton was the reviewer of the summary report.

Background Research

Work on the rural survey began in September 2011. Background research was performed at the State of Illinois Library in Springfield, the University of Illinois Libraries, the Joliet Public Library, and the Wilmington Public Library. In addition, extensive historic research materials compiled for previous Will County rural survey reports were available.

Field Survey

A project initiation meeting was held to discuss the project approach and scope in September 2011. The previous 1988 survey and historic aerial photography of the township dating to 1939 was reviewed to identify historic and existing farmstead sites. Intensive field survey work was performed from September 2011 through December 2011. The survey team first approached the primary residence on the site to request permission of the homeowner/tenant to conduct the survey on the farmstead site. At sites where no one was home, or where owner permission was not provided, the site was surveyed from the public right-of-way. Typically each structure on the site was photographed individually using a digital camera. A sketch plan of the farmstead was prepared. Written notes for each building included a listing of exterior materials, overall condition, and estimated decade of construction based on structure type and style. Any historical information provided by the owner, such as dates of construction or names of original owners, was also noted.

Database and Base Map Preparation
Mapping for the survey was prepared using ArcGIS.[1] Baseline mapping showing railways, streams, township boundaries, etc., as well as 2005 aerial photography of the survey area, was downloaded from the Illinois Natural Resources Geospatial Data Clearinghouse internet site.[2] Additional baseline data showing roads and municipal boundaries was provided by the Will County Land Use Department. Updated 2008 aerial photography was also provided by the Will County Land Use Department for reference during the project. Individual points were added to the baseline map at the location of each farmstead site surveyed. Each point represents a particular record in the Microsoft Access database. The database contains all field survey information; historical information specific to each property, such as names of previous owners based on historic atlases and plat maps; and the assessment of historic significance. On the database forms, the "notes" field typically contains other miscellaneous observations made by the project team during the field work. Occasionally, this field contains verbal information from the resident or another source; these comments are so noted.

Prior to inserting the digital photographs into the database, the photograph files were converted from color JPG files to reduced-size black-and-white BMP files. The Microsoft Access database was used to generate the property lists included in this summary report, as well as the individual survey forms. The ArcGIS software was used to generate the maps of the survey area included in the appendix.

Presentations
A presentation of the survey results was made to the Will County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) on April 4, 2012. This final summary report incorporates comments provided by the HPC members and Will County staff on a draft of the report.

Report and Submittals
The summary report was prepared using Microsoft Word. Will County was provided with the following final materials under separate cover: printed copies of the final summary report; printed copies of the individual property survey forms; digital photographs as original color JPG files; ArcGIS mapping files; Microsoft Access database file; survey sheets as a PDF file; and report text as Microsoft Word file and a PDF file.

Survey Gaps and Future Research

The present study is not meant to be a definitive review of the history of each property surveyed; rather, based on historic research and field survey, the relative significance of each property has been assessed. In the future, as new development or renovation work may affect particular properties, the history and significance of the particular property should be researched in detail, using the present survey as a starting point.

A detailed survey of the hamlet of Ritchie was beyond the scope of this rural historic structures survey. The village contains numerous historic houses. Existing documentation of these structures is limited to photography taken as part of the 1988 survey.

The present study focused on architectural features of the survey region. Other studies could be undertaken to identify and assess cultural landscape features such as fence rows, hedges, and earthworks; to study historic transportation infrastructure such as bridges and routes in detail; or to study particular architectural themes, such as limestone masonry construction, in greater detail.

[1] ArcGIS is one brand of GIS software. GIS stands for geographic information system, a computerized methodology for organizing data geographically.
[2] <www.isgs.uiuc.edu/nsdihome/>, accessed July 2012.

The present study also is focused on built structures of the historic period. Throughout Will County are important archaeological sites. Pending further study, some of these sites may be determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D for archeology.

A number of historic farmsteads in Wesley Township were located in what is now the Kankakee River State Park. At some sites within the park, archaeological evidence of former farm buildings may remain. An archeological survey, using historic maps and the 1939 aerial photography to locate potential sites of interested, may be appropriate to document these sites.

The rural landscape of Wesley Township, looking east on Goodwin Road. The Hiram Goodwin Farmstead, site 761 in Section 8, is visible in the distance at left.

CHAPTER 2

CONTEXT HISTORY OF THE RURAL SURVEY AREA

Geologic and Topographic Background to the Illinois Region

As with most of Illinois, the survey area was profoundly altered by glaciation. Over approximately one million years during the Pleistocene era, the northern hemisphere was alternately covered by, and free of, large ice sheets that were hundreds to a few thousand feet thick. Pleistocene glaciers and the waters melting from them changed the landscapes they covered. The ice scraped and flattened the landforms it overrode, leveling and filling many of the minor valleys and even some of the larger ones. Moving ice carried colossal amounts of rock and earth, for much of what the glaciers wore off the ground was kneaded into the moving ice and carried along, often for hundreds of miles.

A significant feature left by the advance and retreat of glaciers in the northeast corner of the state are glacial moraines—low mounds several miles long left by the furthest advance of glaciers in the Wisconsinan period. The last ice sheets in this area began to retreat approximately 13,500 years ago. The retreating and melting glaciers continued to affect the area for a few thousand more years, as the outflow deposited sand and gravel. Wesley Township lies southwest of the Valparaiso Morainic System in the valley of the former glacial Lake Wauponsee. Lake Wauponsee was impounded by glacial moraines to the south but drained through a narrow gap in the moraines near the present-day city of Kankakee. The resulting Kankakee Torrent formed the Kankakee River valley and deposited sand, gravel, boulders, and rubble along the valley as well as exposing outcroppings of bedrock.[3] This glaciation led to the formation of most soils in Wesley Township. Most of the township is considered prime farmland, with Drummer silty clay loam and Elliott silt loam soil types common. Ashkum silty clay loam is especially common in the northeastern upland portion of the township. Areas of the township near the Kankakee River and along Rayns Creek and Forked Creek tend to be sandy soils less suited to agriculture.[4]

Wesley Township lies within the watershed of the Kankakee River. The Kankakee River arises near South Bend, Indiana, and flows 130 miles southwest to Aroma Park, Illinois. The river then turns abruptly northwest, ultimately reaching the Illinois River. The Kankakee River basin includes 3,125 square miles in Indiana and 2,155 square miles in Illinois, encompassing most of Iroquois and Kankakee Counties as well as the southern half of Will County. Its largest tributary, the Iroquois River, joins the Kankakee at Aroma Park in Kankakee County. The Kankakee River lies almost entirely on bedrock, with a major bedrock outcropping creating a sharp fall at Momence, Illinois.

Wesley Township is composed of that portion of congressional township 32 north, ranges 9 and 10 east of the third principal meridian, which lies east and north of the Kankakee River. The southern boundary of Wesley Township is the Kankakee River, and ultimately the entire township drains to that river. Wesley Township is drained primarily by Forked Creek. This creek, which arises in Wilton Township, flows west-southwest and enters Wesley Township at Section 1. It continues west-southwest to Section 17 near the village of Ritchie. At Ritchie, it abruptly turns and flows northwest toward Wilmington, leaving Wesley Township in section 6. In addition to Forked Creek, a minor stream system known as Rayns Creek arises just east of Wesley Township in Kankakee County and flows approximately west through Sections 24 and 25 before emptying into the Kankakee River in Section 21 of Wesley Township. Although much of the township has gently rolling terrain, Forked Creek creates a defined low valley.

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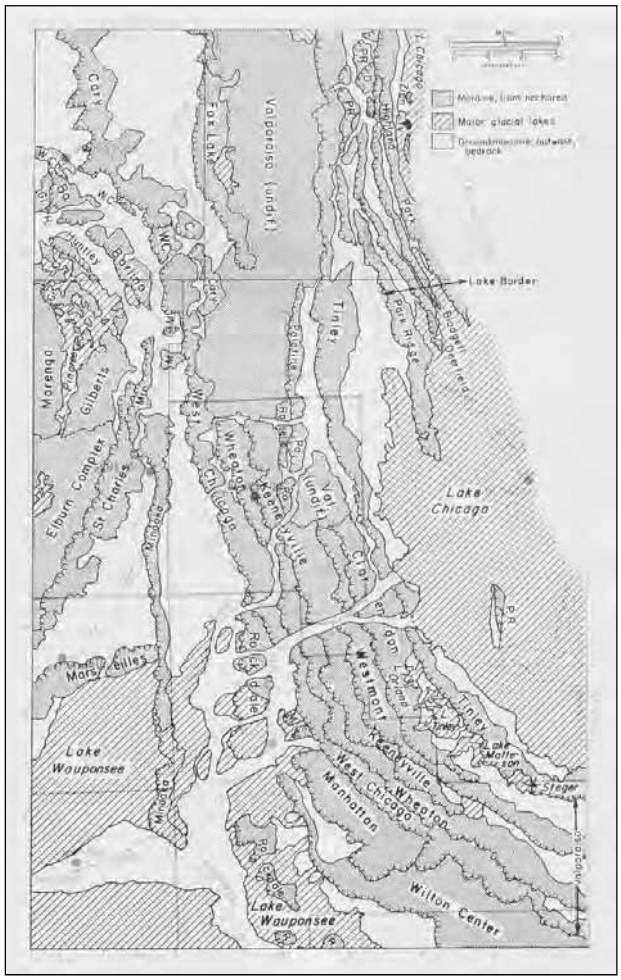
[3] *Kankakee River Basin Study: A Comprehensive Plan for Water Resource Development* (Springfield: Illinois Bureau of Water Resources, 1967), 2–8.

[4] *Soil Survey of Will County, Illinois* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, in cooperation with Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, 2004).

Early settlers quickly discovered that the upland areas in the northern and eastern parts of the township were better for agricultural purposes, with rich, deep soil that could support grain crops such as wheat, corn, rye, and oats. In contrast, the low-lying lands closer to the Kankakee River included sand ridges and were much less suitable for agriculture. Stone could be quarried along the banks of the Kankakee River. Prior to settlement, approximately half the area of the township was covered with timber, primarily along the river and Forked Creek.[5]

First Nations in the Illinois Region

Human habitation of the North American continent from the Paleo-Indian culture has been dated to the end of the last glacial advance (about 15,000 to 12,000 years ago). Increasing warmth toward the close of the Pleistocene Era caused the melting and disappearance of the ice sheet in approximately 9000 B.C. The arrival of the First Nations, or Native Americans, in the region between the middle Mississippi Valley and Lake Michigan appears to date from the earliest period following the retreat of the polar ice sheet. This time is known as the Paleo-Indian Period, when peoples in the region briefly occupied campsites, subsisting on deer, small mammals, nuts, and wild vegetables and other plants.



Illustrated above are the moraine systems in northeastern Illinois. Wesley Township lies southwest of the Valparaiso Morainic System in the Lake Wauponsee outwash area (H.B. Willman, Summary of the Geology of the Chicago Area*, Illinois State Geological Survey Circular 460 (Urbana, Illinois, 1971), 43).*

[5] George H. Woodruff, *History of Will County, Illinois* (Chicago: Wm. Le Baron, Jr., & Company, 1878), 606.

The first signs of specific colonization date from the Archaic Period, prior to 1000 B.C., when deer hunting and wild plant gathering supported a dispersed population. As climatic conditions changed over the next several thousand years, populations tended to concentrate near river floodplains and adjacent areas. In the Woodland Period (1000 B.C. to A.D. 1000), crude grit-tempered pottery appeared in northeastern Illinois. The end of this period saw the advent of large fortified towns with platform mounds, such as the community at Cahokia located east of St. Louis. Further north, villages in the upper Illinois River Valley lacked large platform mounds.[6] It was also a period of a widespread trading network known to modern anthropology as the Hopewell Interaction Sphere. The villages of this period were typically located on valley bottom lands, close to river transportation. Agricultural development included cultivation of floodplain lands; by A.D. 650 maize was being grown in the Illinois River Valley.[7]

The time span between A.D. 1000 and the coming of European explorers and settlers is known as the Mississippian Period. Northeast Illinois was at the fringe of the larger Middle Mississippi culture present in central and southern Illinois. At the beginning of this period, the communities of large fortified towns and ceremonial platform mounds reached their zenith. Wesley Township contains several known pre-European settlement archeological sites. Ten prehistoric sites have been documented; however, all are relatively minor and none have yielded substantial information. The documented sites include small mounds and encampment sites and date to the Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian periods.[8]

The Arrival of European Settlers

French Explorers and Settlers in the Illinois Territory

By the time of the French explorations of the seventeenth century, the native inhabitants of Illinois as a group belonged to the Algonquian linguistic family, closely related to the Chippewa. The specific tribes in the northeast Illinois region included the Miami (located on sites near the Calumet River, the juncture of the Des Plaines and Kankakee Rivers, and the Fox River) and the Illinois (present throughout the rest of modern-day Illinois). "Illinois" was a native word signifying "men" or "people."[9] By the early to mid-1700s, the Potawatomi moved into the area from the region of Michigan and northern Wisconsin.

In 1673, the expedition of Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet traveled primarily along the Mississippi River and up the Illinois River to the region that would become Cook and Will counties.[10] This expedition claimed the region for France. In 1678, an expedition led by Robert de La Salle with Henry Tonti and Father Louis Hennepin explored the region along the Mississippi River and adjacent

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[6] The similar Plenemuk Mound is located along the Kankakee River in Wilmington Township, Will County. See John Doershuk, *Plenemuk Mound and the Archaeology of Will County,* Illinois Cultural Resource Study No. 3 (Springfield, Illinois: Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 1988), 11–14.

[7] James E. Davis, *Frontier Illinois* (Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1998), 25. "The Late Woodland is a period of increasing dependence on corn agriculture, although northeastern Illinois groups appear less corn-dependent than do central and lower Illinois River valley peoples." (Doershuk, *Plenemuk Mound and the Archaeology of Will County*, 13–14.)

[8] Doershuk, 76–87.

[9] John R. Swanton, *The Indian Tribes of North America* (1952, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin Number 145; reprint, Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1969), 241.

[10] Louis Jolliet was born at Beauport, near Québec, in September 1645. He began to study at the Jesuit College of Québec in 1655 and in 1662 he received minor religious orders from Bishop Laval. After leaving the seminary and becoming a fur trader, he gained proficiency in surveying and mapmaking. Jolliet was chosen by the government of France to be a member of a delegation meeting with the chieftains of the Indian tribes assembled at Sault Sainte Marie in 1671. Beginning in the next year, Jolliet led an expedition down the Mississippi, during which he traveled up the Illinois and Des Plaines Rivers. During this expedition he surmised that digging a canal to connect the waterways in this region would allow transportation from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. The Illinois and Michigan Canal constructed in the 1830s and 1840s was the realization of this route.

territory on behalf of France. A Jesuit mission was established at Chicago in 1696 by Father Pierre Pinet, but it lasted only about a year. In the eighteenth century, the French centered their principal activities in the middle Mississippi valley, focusing on Fort de Chartres near Kaskaskia and its connections with Québec via the Ohio, Maumee, and Wabash rivers and the Great Lakes, well to the south and east of the upper Illinois Valley.

During this period, the Native Americans were undertaking migrations, often leading to conflict among the various tribes. The Sauk, Fox, Kickapoo, and Potawatomi displaced the Miami and Illinois in the Chicago region. The Potawatomi, followed by the Sauk and the Fox, were the predominant peoples in the northeastern Illinois by the later 1700s. Also present in the region were the Winnebago and the Shawnee.[11]

French colonial settlers in the southern and central portions of Illinois brought with them traditional agricultural practices from northern France, including open-field plowlands divided into longlots, and communal pasturing areas.[12] However, unlike labor practices in France, colonial settlers utilized African slaves. By the middle of the eighteenth century, black slaves comprised one-third of the region's population.

Early settlements founded as missions and fur trading posts, such as Cahokia and Kaskaskia, developed into the core of agricultural communities.[13] French colonial farms produced wheat for human consumption and maize as feed for hogs. A staple of the settlers' diet was wheat bread. Livestock for use as dairy production, meat consumption, and draft animals were also present on the region's farms. The open field agriculture system continued in use beyond the era of French domination, and ended only with the influx of settlers from the east coast after 1800.[14]

Illinois in the English Colonial Period and Revolutionary War

Land ownership was not an original right when the Virginia Company settled Jamestown in 1607. The company owned the land and paid its employees for their labor in food and supplies out of a common storehouse, limiting their motivation to farm. After a period of starvation that nearly wiped out the settlement, the company gave each employee an incentive of a three-acre garden, which led to regular land distribution consisting of a 50 acre "headright."[15]

French influence in the Illinois territory began to wane by the mid-1700s. The French fortification at Québec on the St. Lawrence River fell to the British in September 1759 during the French and Indian War, opening a route through the Great Lakes to the middle part of the continent. In 1763, the French ceded land east of the Mississippi to the British. In October 1765, the British took possession of Fort Chartres (and briefly renamed it Fort Cavendish), extending British authority across the continent east of the Mississippi River. Unchallenged British control of the Illinois region lasted until the Revolutionary War. In 1778, at the direction of the Governor of Virginia, George Rogers Clark led an expedition against the British and captured their posts in the frontier northwest. Clark marched across southern Illinois, and

[11] Jean L. Herath, *Indians and Pioneers: A Prelude to Plainfield, Illinois* (Hinckley, Illinois: The Hinckley Review, 1975), 20–21.
[12] Carl J. Ekberg, *French Roots in the Illinois Country: The Mississippi Frontier in Colonial Times* (Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1998), 2–3. "Longlots" are, as the name implies, long narrow plots of cultivated land that developed because of the difficulty of plowing teams to turn around. Forms of longlots date back to ancient Mesopotamia; French colonial forms developed from Medieval European models. The longlots in Illinois typically had length to width ratios of 10 to 1.
[13] Ibid., 33.
[14] Ibid., 173–251.
[15] John Opie, *The Law of the Land: Two Hundred Years of Farm Policy* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1994), 19.

by July 1778 had disarmed the British-held frontier forts of Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes, claiming the region for the newly independent American colonies.

Land Division and Distribution in the New Nation

When land claims of several of the newly independent states overlapped, the United States Congress, under the Articles of Confederation, struggled to maintain control over the territory extending to the Mississippi River. After all land west of the Pennsylvania Line to the Mississippi River was made common national property, a system of land division was developed based on meridians and base lines, subdivided further into a series of rectangular grids. In the "Rectangular System," distances and bearing were measured from two sets of lines at right angles to one another: the Principal Meridians, which run north and south, and the Base Lines, which run east and west. Subdividing lines called Range Lines are spaced at six mile intervals between the meridians and base lines. Range Lines defined territories known as townships.[16]

On May 20, 1785, Congress adopted this system as the Land Survey Ordinance of 1785. (Eventually, frontier settlers west of Pennsylvania and north of Texas could walk up to a plat map on the wall of a regional land office and select a one quarter Section property for farming, which was thought to be sufficient to sustain individual farm families.[17]) In 1787, after about twenty months of surveying work, the first national public land sales occurred, consisting of 72,934 acres and resulting in $117,108.22 in revenue.[18] Also in that year, the Ordinance of 1787 organized the Northwest Territory, including what would become Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Following ratification of the new United State Constitution in 1787, land legislation was not addressed for several years. Meanwhile, settlement continued on the portions already surveyed and sold by the government, and extended into unsurveyed land with settlement by squatters (many of whom were later evicted by federal troops). Additional federal land sales took place in 1796, and in 1800 the government opened land offices in Cincinnati, Chillicothe, Marietta, and Steubenville, all in Ohio.

Development of the Northwest Territory

In 1801, Illinois, then part of the Northwest Territory, became part of the Indiana Territory. Eight years later the Illinois Territory was formed, including the region of Wisconsin. By 1800, fewer than 5,000 settlers lived in the territorial region, with most located in the southern portion of what was to become Illinois, along the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers. The northern portion of the state was more sparsely populated, as European settlers did not begin to enter this area until the early 1800s.

In the 1810s, the Shawnee leader Tecumseh organized the tribes of the Northwest Territory against European settlers. Although defeated in the Battle of Tippecanoe of 1811, Tecumseh's warriors continued to assist British forces during the War of 1812, although areas captured by the British reverted to

[16] Townships were the largest subdivision of land platted by the United States. After the township corners were located, the section and quarter section corners were established. Each township was six miles square and contained 23,040 acres, or 36 square miles, as nearly as possible to fit specific geographic conditions such as lakes and rivers, and political boundaries such as state boundaries, as well as survey errors. Each township, unless irregular in shape due to the factors cited above, was divided into 36 squares called sections. These sections were intended to be one mile, or 320 rods, square and contain 640 acres of land. Sections were numbered consecutively from 1 to 36, utilizing the same criss-cross numbering pattern for each section regardless of geographic location or actual township configuration. Sections were subdivided into various smaller parcels for individual farms. A half section contains 320 acres; a quarter section contains 160 acres; half of a quarter contains 80 acres, and quarter of a quarter contains 40 acres, and so on. Today, legal descriptions of real estate continue to describe parcels according to the portion of the section within which they are located.

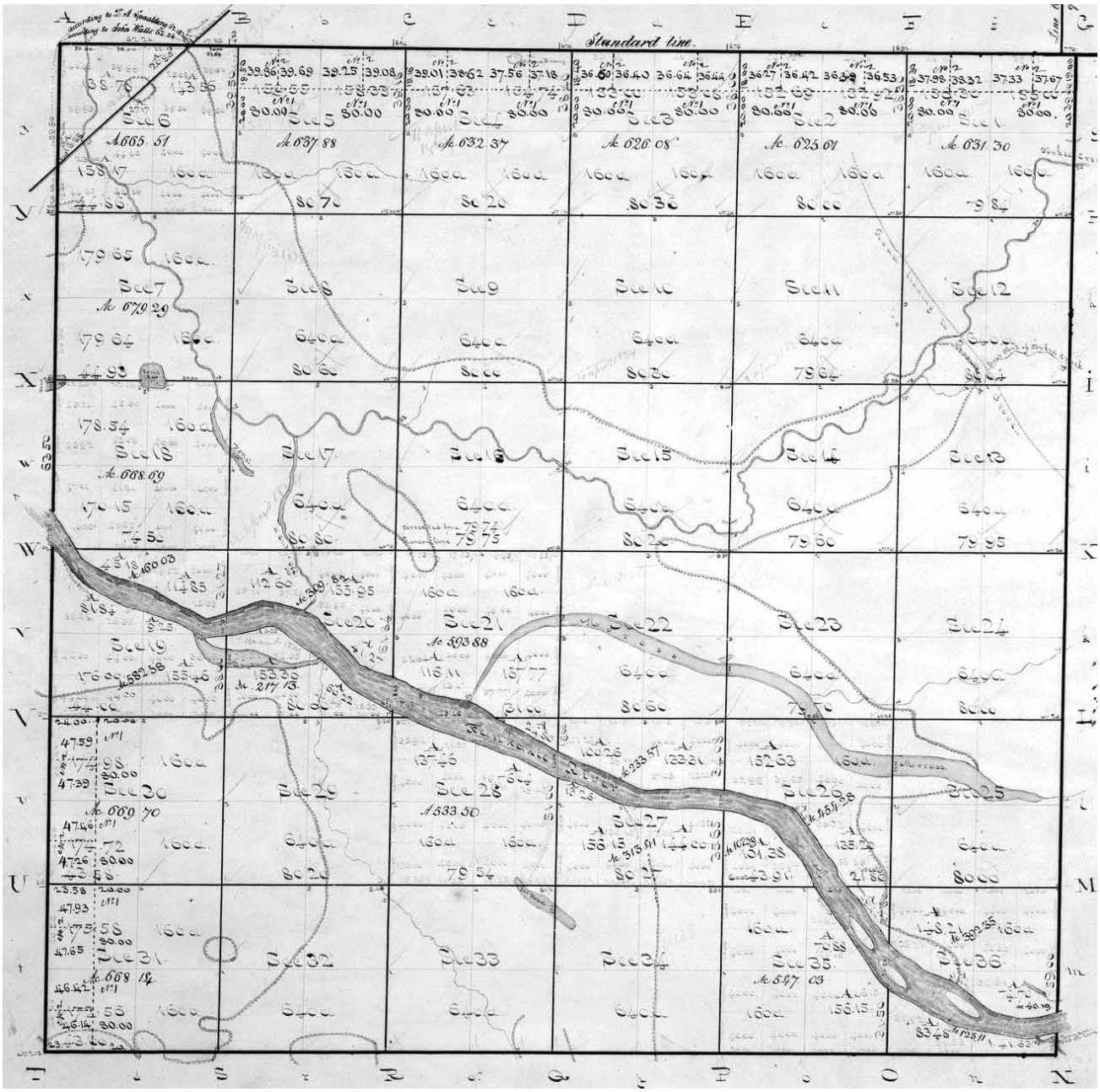
[17] Opie, *The Law of the Land*, 10.

[18] Ibid., 15.

American control at the end of the war. A series of treaties with Native American populations influenced the future of northeast Illinois. In 1795, a peace treaty with Native Americans included the ceding of "one piece of land, six miles square, at the mouth of the Chicago River, emptying into the southwest end of Lake Michigan, where a fort formerly stood."[19] It was on this land that Fort Dearborn was established in 1803, where a settlement of French traders and their Native American wives formed. The site grew initially from the fur trade, and despite the Fort Dearborn Massacre of 1812, more settlers came to the area.

Cutting across the western half of the region later known as Will County was a land corridor ceded by the Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa in a treaty signed in St. Louis on August 24, 1816. The corridor, defined by the cartographic features now known as the Indian Boundary Lines (and still present on many maps of the area), was meant to allow European settlers access to Lake Michigan for the construction of a waterway (later developed as the Illinois and Michigan Canal). The corridor was physically surveyed by James M. Duncan and T. C. Sullivan in 1819; its southern boundary was defined by a line drawn from a point on the shore of Lake Michigan ten miles south of the Chicago River, to a point on the Kankakee River ten miles north of its mouth.[20] The far northwest corner of Wesley Township contains the terminus of the southern boundary of this corridor, which runs through Section 6 of range 10 east and Sections 1 and 12 of range 9 east before terminating at the Kankakee River. The small portion of Wesley Township to the north of the line was surveyed along with present-day Florence Township in the second quarter of 1821, while the majority of the township south of the boundary line was surveyed in the second quarter of 1834 by Daniel W. Beckwith. The survey map shows the approximate location of Forked Creek crossing Wesley Township, and tree cover along this creek as well as the Kankakee River. Interestingly, present-day Rayns Creek is shown as a relatively wide watercourse labeled "morass," implying that this stream was a former channel of the Kankakee River.

[19] As quoted by A.T. Andreas in *History of Chicago, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time* (Chicago: A. T. Andreas, 1884), 79.
[20] *Will County Property Owners, 1842* (Joliet, Illinois: Will County Historical Society, 1973), 1.



Map of the 1834 survey of township 32 north, range 9 east. Tree cover is indicated along Forked Creek as well as the Kankakee River. U.S. Surveyor General's Records for Illinois, "Federal Township Plats," Record Series 953.012, Illinois State Archives.

Illinois Statehood

The United States Congress passed an enabling act on April 18, 1818, admitting Illinois as the twenty-first state as of December 3, 1818. A bill had passed Congress in early 1818 moving the northern boundary northward to include the mouth of the Chicago River within the Illinois Territory.[21] The statehood act was approved despite the fact that the population of the state was only 40,258 persons, less than the 60,000 persons required by the Ordinance of 1787. The state capital was established first at Kaskaskia and moved to Vandalia two years later. Much of the land in the state was the property of the United States government. Early land sales offices were located at Kaskaskia, Shawneetown, and Vincennes. Until the financial panic of 1819, there was an initial rush of sales and settlement at the southern end of the state, where navigable streams and the only road system were located.[22]

The Native Americans who occupied the area were divided into powerful tribes who at times fought the European settlers to hold their hunting grounds. Chief among these tribes was the Kickapoo, who were among the first to engage in war with European settlers and the last to enter into treaties with the United States government. On July 30, 1819, by the Treaty at Edwardsville, the Kickapoo ceded their land to United States and began to retreat to Osage County. By 1822, only 400 Kickapoo were left in the state. The 1832 Peace Treaty of Tippecanoe was negotiated with the Potawatomi tribe, resulting in the ceding of the land now occupied by Chicago and Joliet to the federal government.

The early 1830s saw the greatest land boom to that date in American history. Land sales gradually came under the control of the General Land Office as the survey moved westward. In 1834 and 1835 alone, twenty-eight million acres were shifted from closed to open land for purchase. Two years later the Van Buren administration placed an enormous 56,686,000 acres on the market. These lands were located in some of the most fertile farming regions of the nation: Illinois, Iowa, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Missouri.[23] The building of the Illinois and Michigan Canal in the later 1830s and 1840s led to a land boom in Chicago, which had been platted in 1830 and incorporated in 1833.[24] The rate of growth in northern Illinois soon matched and then surpassed that in the southern portion of the state.

[21] The northern boundary of the Illinois Territory was on an east-west line from the southern line of Lake Michigan. In order to give the future state a portage on Lake Michigan, the boundary line was moved ten miles north of the initial boundary. The Congressional legislation was amended before passage, moving the future state's northern boundary a total of fifty-one miles north. This gave the region more potential economic security as well as less potential for the area to align politically with the slave states of the South.

[22] Olin Dee Morrison, *Prairie State, A History: Social, Political, Economical* (Athens, Ohio: E. M. Morrison, 1960), 24–25.

[23] Ibid., 51.

[24] Between 1840 and 1860 the population of Chicago increased from 4,470 to nearly 100,000, growth tied to the economic boom resulting from the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. By 1890, Chicago's population was more than 1,000,000 persons (Harry Hansen, ed., *Illinois: A Descriptive and Historical Guide* (New York: Hastings House Publishers, 1974), 176–183).

Settlement and Development of Northeast Illinois

By 1826, more European settlers began to move to the northeast Illinois region, so that by 1831 a few hamlets were present between LaSalle and Chicago. Also present in the region was a tribe of nearly 1,000 Potawatomi in the area along the Du Page River south of what would become Plainfield.[25] In 1832, the largest settlement north of the Illinois River (except for Chicago) was on Bureau Creek, where there were about thirty families. A few other settlers had located along the river at Peru and LaSalle, and at Ottawa. At Walker's Grove or Plainfield, there were twelve or fifteen families.[26] Along the Du Page River, partially located in the region that would become Will County in 1836, there were about twenty families. In Yankee settlements, which embraced part of the towns of Homer, Lockport and New Lenox, there were twenty or twenty-five families. Along the Hickory in the town of New Lenox there were approximately twenty more families, and at the Reed's and Jackson Grove there were six or eight more.[27]

In April 1832, a band of Sauk led by Black Hawk crossed the Mississippi River into Illinois while resisting their deportation by European settlers from their ancestral lands. Although most of the fighting in this "Black Hawk War" occurred in the Rock River area in Northwest Illinois and southern Wisconsin, panic swept through Will County settlements. The settlers in Walker's Grove, together with about twenty-five fugitives from the Fox River area, hurriedly constructed a stockade from the logs of Stephen Begg's pigpen, outbuildings, and fences ("Fort Beggs"). The prospect of engaging the Sauk in pitched battle from the confines of "Fort Beggs" prompted the settlers to leave the makeshift stockade in favor of Fort Dearborn in Chicago. Meanwhile, homesteaders in the eastern Will County area gathered at the Gougar homestead and decided to flee to Indiana.[28] After several battles and raids by the Sauk on frontier forts and settlements, several hundred militia troops defeated the Sauk at the Battle of Wisconsin Heights on July 21, 1832.

Also in 1832, northwest Will County was the scene of an epidemic of smallpox among the Potawatomi, inflicting a mortality rate at least twice that of European settlers. Approximately one-third of the Native American population in the region died during the epidemic.[29]

The end of the Black Hawk War brought about the expulsion of the Sauk and Fox from lands east of the Mississippi River. Also in 1832, the Winnebago ceded their lands in Wisconsin south and east of the Wisconsin River and east of the Fox River to Green Bay. The Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa tribes still held title to land in northern Illinois outside of the Indian Boundary lines. In September 1833, a gathering of Native American chiefs and leaders was held in Chicago to "negotiate a treaty whereby the lands might be peaceably ceded, and the Indians removed therefrom, to make way for the tide of white emigration which had begun to set irresistibly and with ever increasing volume to the coveted region."[30] A Chicago historian, A.T. Andreas, writing in the 1880s, emphasized the disadvantaged position of the Native Americans, who had seen the effects of war on other Native Americans and experienced the ravages of epidemic on their own peoples:

> Black Hawk's ill-starred campaign, followed by the subsequent treaty made by his tribe, showed them the inevitable result [that] must follow resistance. They knew quite well that they had no alternative. They must sell their lands for such a sum and on such terms as the Government agents

[25] Herath, 21.
[26] A Potawatomi village was located to the south of Walker's Grove. (Helen Hornbeck Tanner, ed., *Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History* (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987), Map 26, 140.)
[27] Ibid.
[28] Robert E. Sterling, *A Pictorial History of Will County*, Volume 1 (Joliet: Will County Historical Publications, 1975).
[29] Tanner, ed., *Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History,* 173.
[30] Andreas, *History of Chicago,* 123.

> might deem it politic or just or generous to grant. The result of the treaty was what might have been expected. The Indians gave up their lands and agreed for certain considerations, the most of which did not redound to their profit, to cede all their lands to the Government, and to leave forever their homes and the graves of their fathers for a land far toward the setting sun, which they had never seen and of which they knew nothing.[31]

In the resulting treaty, the three tribes ceded land "along the western shore of Lake Michigan, and between this lake and the land ceded to the United States by the Winnebago nation at the treaty of Fort Armstrong. . . ."[32] As compensation, the tribes received land on the east bank of the Missouri River and a series of monetary payments.[33]

Immigration into Will County after the Black Hawk War increased so markedly that settlers began agitating for separation from Cook County. Residents of these settlements, then part of Cook County, demanded a more convenient place to record their land purchases and to pay their taxes. Accordingly, Dr. A. W. Bowen of Juliet (present-day Joliet) and James Walker of Plainfield went to the state capital of Vandalia and successfully lobbied a detachment petition through the General Assembly. On January 12, 1836, an act was passed creating Will County from portions of Cook, Iroquois, and Vermilion Counties. Will County also included at that time the northern part of what would later become Kankakee County. (In 1845, the boundaries of Will County were changed to their present extent.) The county was named in honor of Dr. Conrad Will, a member of the state legislature who lived in the southern part of Illinois.[34]

On March 7, 1836, an election was held to select Will County's first public officials. They in turn set the price of tavern licenses and created a book for recording the ear markings of livestock. Since swine, sheep, cows, and other livestock freely roamed the city streets and open fields, settlers devised special ear markings consisting of slits, crops, and holes to identify their animals. These "brands" were recorded with pen and ink drawings in the county clerk's office.[35]

The primary concern of pioneer farmers was providing food for their families and livestock. Most farmers homesteaded around wooded land to provide building materials and fuel. On cultivated land, settlers would need to grub out tree stumps before breaking the prairie sod with a walking plow. This latter activity was often difficult, since the soil tended to ball up on the plow. In 1833, John Lane of Lockport invented the breaking plow, developed from an improvised steel plow attached to the plow molding board. This innovation successfully cut the prairie sod so that the soil could be turned over.[36]

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[31] Ibid.

[32] As quoted in Andreas, *History of Chicago,* 124.

[33] It has been reported that Native Americans returned to Will County as late as 1900 on pilgrimages (Herath, 21): "Though officially ousted, the Indians, being great travelers, made pilgrimages back to the land of their childhood for many years. Small ragtag bands of women and children were seen as late as the 1870s along the Du Page, wending their way north in the spring and south in the fall. In 1900 an old Indian man, a small boy and a horse pulling a travois were seen along the Kankakee River."

[34] Born near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 3, 1779, Conrad Will migrated westward after studying medicine. He was instrumental in the formation of Jackson County from the lower half of Randolph County and part of present day Perry County. Will served first in the Illinois Senate, and later in the Illinois House of Representatives until his death on June 11, 1835. On the following January 12, the state legislature passed an act sectioning the southern portion of Cook County in northern Illinois, naming it after Conrad Will. (Alice C. Storm, *Doctor Conrad Will* (Joliet, Illinois: Louis Joliet Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1917), 1–5.)

[35] Address of George H. Woodruff, *Sixth Annual Reunion of the Will County Pioneer Association* (Joliet: The Press Company, 1886), 5–6.

[36] Fayette Baldwin Shaw, *Will County Agriculture* (Will County Historical Society, 1980), 1. The site of Lane's farmstead at the northeast corner of 163rd Street and Gougar Road in Homer Township was marked with a historical marker commemorating his importance due to the invention of this plow. The marker was removed for its protection

The boom in agricultural production that coincided with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal in 1848 was soon followed by the introduction of railroad service in the following decade. Plank roads were also a significant mode of transportation in the mid-nineteenth century.

In the late 1840s, the United States still owned 14,060,308 acres of land in Illinois. Between 1848 and 1857, much of this land passed into private hands. In addition to land that could be purchased from the government, alternate five mile Sections on each side of the route planned for the Illinois and Michigan Canal in western Will County were offered for sale by the canal authority. Later, alternate six mile Sections on each side of the route granted to the Illinois Central Railroad (which passed through eastern Will County) were available for purchase from the railroad.[37]

In 1848, Illinois adopted township government as the basic level of local government, although in most locations functioning governments were not set up until 1850. By law, three services were to be provided by the townships: general assistance to the needy, property assessment for tax purposes, and maintenance of township roads and bridges. A unique feature of township government was the annual town meeting, held each April in all townships. This system continues to the present day.[38] Until the twentieth century, almost all public infrastructure (such as roads) was thus maintained by each township with local tax revenue.

Agricultural Development

By the 1850s, Illinois was a major agricultural state. Its corn production was 57.65 million bushels, which increased to 115.2 million in 1860, making it the leading corn producer in the nation.[39] Wheat was also a major crop—the state was fifth in the nation in wheat production in 1850 and first in 1860. Acreage in improved farmland increased two and one-half times in the decade. Other principal farm crops were oats, rye, and barley. The average price for corn and wheat was $1.25 per bushel. In the early- to mid-1800s, agricultural implements were primitive and included reapers, iron plowshares, and hay tenders. The first McCormick reaper in the county appeared in Wheatland Township in 1846. Some local inventions that could be attached to modify the McCormick included gearing produced by W. Holmes of Hickory Creek in Will County, produced at Adams' Foundry, followed by a turf and stubble plow.[40]

The major crops in Will County historically have been corn and wheat, although wheat production declined in the later 1800s after infestations of the chinch bug and the army worm. (Wheat farming revived during World War I due to incentives from the U.S. government.) As early as 1850, corn was the

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during construction of the Interstate 355 tollway extension and associated overpasses. The marker was re-erected in July 2011 about 150 feet north of its original location.

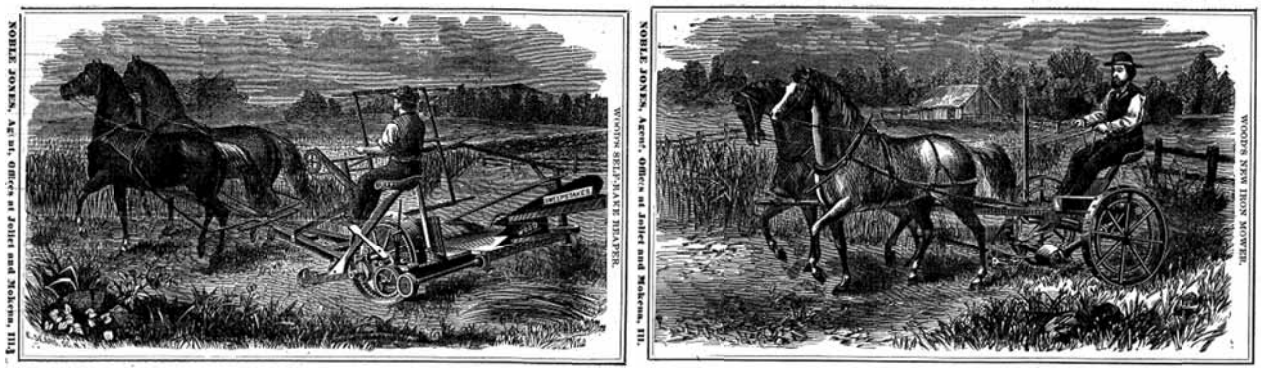
[37] The lands were sold to settlers and speculators. It is estimated that six million acres passed into the hands of speculators between 1849 and 1856. There were several types of speculators. Small farmers bought the land for pasturage, timber, or simply as an investment. Small businessmen also bought land as an investment, and in this group was included practically every prominent politician in Illinois except Abraham Lincoln. Professional speculators operated on a large scale, with corporations or individuals owning land in many states. Finally, East Coast capitalists invested in western lands—Samuel Allerton, a wealthy resident of New York, owned 2,000 acres in Frankfort, New Lenox, and Homer Townships in Will County and an additional 400 acres in Cook County. In time, settlers purchased the land from speculators. The Chicago Land Office was the last one opened and the last one closed, except for Springfield which took over all the unfinished work of all offices and remained open until 1877. (Shaw, 1–2.)

[38] Bryan Smith, "Township Government in Illinois: A Rich History, A Vibrant Future." <http://www.comptrollerconnect.ioc.state.il.us/Office/LocalGovt/TWHistory.html>, accessed July 2012.

[39] "Corn" was the medieval term used in England for the grain known later as wheat. Settlers given "Indian corn" (maize) by the Native Americans began to sow it themselves, and corn (maize) became one of the leading grain crops in the United States by the 1800s. (United States Department of Agriculture, *Yearbook of Agriculture* (1936), 496)

[40] Shaw, 13.

leading crop in the survey area, since it could be fed to livestock as well as processed into other products.[41] Other grain crops included oats, barley (used in beer production), and rye. Potatoes were also grown in the region through the late 1800s, but several seasons of wet summers led to rotting crops, followed in subsequent years by potato bugs. Strawberries and grapes were grown in limited areas by the 1870s.[42]



Two of the variety of mechanical farm implements available to Will County farmers after the Civil War. Above left: A self-raking reaper. Above right: A mower. Both of these were advertised by Noble Jones, a farm implements dealer with offices in Joliet and Mokena, in the 1872 Will County directory.

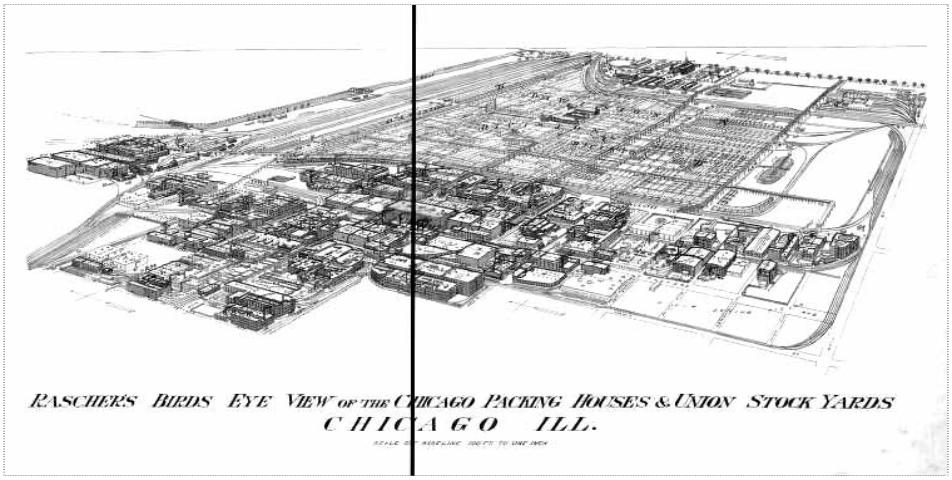
The change from self-sufficient farming to cash crop farming occurred during the mid-nineteenth century. Prior to that time, a farmstead typically had less than 10 acres. Most farms were 80 acres in size by the end of the century, sometimes with additional parcels of 40 and 80 acres.[43] A few individuals in Will County owned larger parcels of land. In order to divide their parcels of land and enclosure pasturage, farmers used split-rail fencing and vegetation such as osage hedges. Other means included wire fencing, available after 1860, and barbed wire, introduced in the 1880s.[44]

Cattle, hogs, and sheep were also a significant part of northeastern Illinois agriculture. The Chicago Union Stock Yards, incorporated by act of the Illinois State Legislature in 1865, was a ready market. In addition, horses were bred as they were an indispensable for the operation of farm machinery; oxen were also used into the 1870s. The dairy industry also was initially a significant part of the region's agriculture.[45]

The average value of a southern Illinois farm in 1910 was $15,000; in the northern part of the state it was $20,700. The annual value of farm products rose from $186 million in 1896 to $277 million in 1912; this was accompanied by an increase in production of field crops by 70 percent and 76 percent respectively for those years. During this time, wheat, rye, and oat production was in decline. Livestock production remained fairly constant in overall value but sales of animals decreased by 50 percent during this period.

[41] *Souvenir of Settlement and Progress of Will County Illinois* (Chicago: Historical Directory Publishing Co., 1884), 244.
[42] Shaw, 8.
[43] It should be noted that plat maps from the period reflect land ownership, not tilled land or the extent (through land leasing or barter) of a farmstead.
[44] Shaw, 5.
[45] The dairy industry in the Midwest was centered on Elgin, Illinois, and the western counties around Chicago until the beginning of World War I, after which Wisconsin came to be known as "America's Dairyland." (Daniel Ralston Block, "The Development of Regional Institutions of Agriculture: The Chicago Milk Marketing Order" (Ph.D. diss., University of California at Los Angeles, 1997), 49–52).

Vegetable production was led by root crops like potatoes, turnips, and carrots. Of orchard fruits, apples had the greatest production.[46]



Rascher's Bird's Eye View of the Chicago Packing Houses & Union Stock Yards (Charles Rascher, 1890; Library of Congress collection).

With the development of the gasoline engine and adaptation to the tractor, working conditions on farms improved considerably. Water could be pumped using gasoline engines instead of depending on the wind to run windmills. Engines also provided power to operate milking machines, grind feed, and run various kinds of machinery. The coming of the gas powered automobile and truck led to demands for better roads in Illinois. At the 1913 meeting of the Illinois Farmers' Institute, Illinois State Highway Engineer A. N. Johnson recognized these needs:

> In particular, there is a vast field for the development of motor truck traffic, which it has not been necessary heretofore to consider in plans for road improvement. It is believed that in many Sections of the State the opportunity is big for the development of this class of traffic, and provision should be made in the future for road building on a majority of the main roads for the eight and ten ton motor truck. Already truck farmers in the vicinity of Chicago have clubbed together in the purchase of a motor truck by which a 24-hour trip has been reduced to 8 hours, while the delivery of milk from the farm to the city by motor truck is already an economic proposition.
>
> It is believed therefore that the construction to be undertaken on our main roads should be a character that can withstand the heavy motor traffic, heavy horse drawn traffic, as well as the lighter forms of traffic, and that a serious mistake will be made to put down any other than rigid, durable forms of pavement. In Illinois this reduces the choice of the road surface to brick and concrete.[47]

With the implementation of the Civil Administrative Code in 1917, which formed the departmental structure within the executive branch, the Illinois Department of Agriculture was formed as a regulatory and promotional agency.[48]

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[46] Morrison, 98.

[47] A. N. Johnson, "Cost of a System of Durable Roads for Illinois," in *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Farmers' Institute*, edited by H.A. McKeene (Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Journal Company, 1913), 149.

[48] "History of the Illinois Department of Agriculture," from the website of the Illinois Department of Agriculture <http://www.agr.state.il.us/about/aghistory.html>, accessed July 2012. The department actually dated back to 1819, when the Illinois Agricultural Association was formed. Although little is known of the activities of this early group

Farm machinery changed drastically in the early twentieth century with the introduction of internal combustion engines. At left, a tractor advertisement from Ruge & Wilke in Beecher, Illinois, illustrates the types of tractors available in the 1910s and lists the tremendous variety of other implements available. From the Prairie Farmer's Reliable Directory of Farmers and Breeders, Will and Southern Cook Counties, Illinois *(Chicago: Prairie Farmer Publishing Company, 1918), 349.*

Twentieth Century Developments

Land area of farms in the Chicago area declined from 88.7 percent of total area in 1900 to 84.9 percent in 1920 and to 80 percent in 1925. In the century between 1830 and 1925, the number of farms had peaked in 1900. By 1925, the total number of farms was 5,000 less than in 1880.[49] During that same period livestock production (including swine) peaked in 1900. For the counties within 50 miles of Chicago, the average number of dairy cows per square mile of farmland declined from 46.1 in 1900 to 42.8 in 1925. Acreage in cereal production showed a gradual increase after 1925. Sheep and wool production peaked in 1880 and horses and mules in 1920, declining as a direct result of the introduction of the tractor and motor truck. Dairy production in the Chicago region peaked in 1900 and declined markedly in the following two decades.[50]

Although the Great Depression of the 1930s had a dramatic impact on all Americans, for American farmers the economic decline began a decade earlier. Numerous factors led to the decline of the farm economy in the post-World War I era. To meet the needs of the wartime economy that was feeding American and European populations, American farmers increased production by cultivating lands that formerly were kept fallow. Following the war, farmers continued this trend, overproducing despite reductions in demand. As commodity prices fell, so did the standard of living of many farmers since prices in the rest of the economy were increasing. Farmers went into debt, mortgaged their property, and in many cases lost their farms to creditors.

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other than a collection of letters by its founders, it established an organization that became the Illinois State Agricultural Agency in 1853. This semi-public organization continued to function until replaced in 1871 by the Department of Agriculture under the supervision of the State Board of Agriculture.

[49] Edward A. Duddy, *Agriculture in the Chicago Region* (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1929), 3.

[50] Ibid., 4.

The coming of the Great Depression deepened the crisis further. Agricultural production in Illinois collapsed from almost $6.25 billion in 1929 to $2.5 billion in 1933. As unemployment in industrial centers soared, some people fled to rural communities, putting additional pressure on rural areas as most did not have access to welfare relief.[51] Within days of the inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt, legislation was formulated that Congress would later pass as the Agricultural Adjustment Act. The numerous adjustment programs initiated under the New Deal led to limitations in agricultural production in order to raise crop prices to acceptable levels. These included 20 percent of the land or 1,218,062 acres used in corn production being retired; more than 1,000,000 acres of land in wheat production were also retired.[52] In 1934, 15,734,600 acres of land were in production, for a total crop value of $218,569,000 nationally; this grew to 17,692,100 acres and a crop value of $273,931,000 the following year.[53]

Soybeans were first planted in the late 1930s as a forage crop mainly to be fed to dairy cows and cattle. Although some soybeans were processed through a threshing machine and sold on the market it was not a popular grain product. Ten or fifteen years later, however, soybeans became a valuable food and commercial product as new uses were developed with the assistance of state and federal agricultural programs.

During World War II, farmers were encouraged by the federal government to increase their production by the use of power machinery and the latest scientific processes. When demand declined, the farmer was forced to continue his heavy production rate. Cash crop income in 1950 was $2.038 billion nationally. Of this livestock and livestock products accounted for $1.26 billion and crops for $763 million, with and government grants and subsidies the remainder, with $10.6 million in federal funding paid to farmers in Illinois. Principal Illinois crops were corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, hay, fruit, and greenhouse products. The average value of a farm in Illinois in 1950 was $28,400.[54] The farm population in Illinois declined from 1,341,104 in 1900 to 772,521 in 1950.[55]

The abandoning of farms and the consolidation of small farms into large ones resulted in many buildings being razed or abandoned. Moreover, changes in farming meant that many old farm buildings were too small or were unsuitable for other reasons; these buildings were replaced by larger, more suitable and flexible structures. By the twentieth century many barns were constructed by professional builders following plans influenced by farm journals and using mass-produced lumber from a nearby yard or sawmill. In 1987, there were 1,239 farms in Will County covering 328,729 acres. Ten years later, the continued decline in agricultural production in northeastern Illinois was apparent, as farmland was lost to suburban development. By 1997, there were only 910 farms in Will County and though the average farm was larger, the total acreage devoted to agriculture had declined by more than 10 percent to 293,526 acres. After dipping to only 830 farms in the county in 2002, the number increased slightly to 877 by 2007. The total acreage in the county continued to decline steadily, however, and by 2007 only 220,851 acres remained in agricultural use, representing less than half the total area of the county and a loss of more than 100,000 acres in the twenty years since 1987. In recent years almost half the farm acreage in the county has remained planted in corn, with soybeans covering another quarter of the acreage. Raising beef cattle, dairy, and hogs also remained significant cash products in the county. The average farm sold crops worth more than $145,000 in 2007. Between 2002 and 2007, the value of products sold directly to individual consumers by Will County farms more than doubled to $1.3 million, reflecting the increasing popularity of farmer's markets and vegetable crops in the county.[56]

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[51] Morrison, 108.
[52] United States Department of Agriculture, *Yearbook of Agriculture* (1936), 1155–1156.
[53] Ibid., 1146.
[54] Morrison, 116.
[55] Sonya Salamon, *Prairie Patrimony: Family, Farming, & Community in the Midwest* (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1992), 35.
[56] Ibid.; Census of Agriculture.

The continuing importance of Will County's agriculture is recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which considers nearly 75 percent of the county, or more than 400,000 acres, to be prime farmland:

> Prime farmland, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses. It could be cultivated land, pastureland, forestland, or other land, but it is not urban or built-up land or water areas. The soil qualities, growing season, and moisture supply are those needed for the soil to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when proper management, including water management, and acceptable farming methods are applied. In general, prime farmland has an adequate and dependable supply of moisture from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, an acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. It is permeable to water and air. It is not excessively erodible or saturated with water for long periods, and it either is not frequently flooded during the growing season or is protected from flooding. Slope ranges mainly from 0 to 6 percent. In the last two decades, a trend in land use in some parts of [Will County] has been the loss of some prime farmland to industrial and urban uses. The loss of prime farmland to other uses puts pressure on marginal lands, which generally are more erodible, droughty, and less productive and cannot be easily cultivated.[57]

By 1997, there were 79,000 Illinois farms utilizing 28 million acres and about 80 percent of the total land area in the state. Illinois was the leading state in agricultural-related industries such as soybean processing, meat packing, dairy manufacturing, feed milling, and vegetable processing, and related machinery manufacturing, foreign exports, and service industries.[58]

Recent decades have seen tremendous suburban growth in formerly rural areas near Chicago, particularly in the northern portions of Will County. Along with this suburban development has come conflict between the "new" settlers and established farmers:

> A while back, farmer Ray Dettmering was arrested for plowing his fields late at night in Matteson, Illinois, a rural community 30 miles southwest of Chicago. The 28-year-old farmer told police officers that he needed to prepare his fields for spring planting after days of rain had put him behind schedule. The real problem? A few years earlier, subdivisions had been built near Dettmering's corn and soy bean fields. The new residents claimed they couldn't hear their TVs above the tractor noise. Others were having trouble sleeping. Two neighbors complained to the police, and Dettmering was booked and fingerprinted. "What were these people thinking when they moved to the country?" he asked. "It's not like these farms snuck up on them."[59]

Perhaps in response to incidents such as this, the Illinois Farm Bureau issued a booklet in 1999 titled *The Code of County Living*, targeted at former city dwellers and suburbanites who have moved to rural areas on the metropolitan fringe. The booklet discusses the comparative limitations of rural living compared to more established suburban areas.

> In rural Illinois, you'll find working farms. You'll also find a level of infrastructure and services generally below that provided through the collective wealth of an urban community. Many other factors, too, make the country living experience very different from what may be found in the city.[60]

[57] *Soil Survey of Will County, Illinois*, 187.
[58] Census of Agriculture.
[59] Charles Lockwood, "Sprawl," *Hemispheres*, United Airlines magazine (September 1999), 82–84.
[60] *The Code of Country Living* (Bloomington, Illinois: Illinois Farm Bureau, 1999), 3.

Wesley Township Developmental History

Prior to 1832, the region that became Wesley Township was occupied by Native Americans. New settlements had been formed prior to 1832 by European-Americans in other regions of Illinois, but a band of Sauk led by Black Hawk resisted relocation from their lands in northern Illinois. The resulting Black Hawk War prevented the Wesley Township area from becoming settled until after 1832.

The first European-American settler in present-day Wesley Township was John Williams of Virginia, who first visited the township in the fall of 1833 and erected a small cabin in May 1834. Also in spring 1834, George M. Beckwith, Andrew Pettijohn, and Absalom Heyworth arrived from Indiana and settled in the township. Beckwith's brother was Daniel W. Beckwith, who surveyed Wesley Township for the federal government. Other Virginians arriving in spring 1834 were Alexander and John Frazier and James and Joseph Kelly.[61] Other settlers in the township by fall 1834 included Arthur Potts, Robert Watkins, and Hamilton Keeney, all also from Virginia.[62]

In the period 1835–1837, many more new settlers arrived in Wesley Township, including J. T. Davis (who served in Washington's Army during the Revolutionary War), George Gay, T. McCarty, Wesley Carter, William Forbes, William Goodwin, John Strunk, Henry Moore, Joseph Hadsel of New York, Daniel McGilvery of Scotland, and John G. Putnam.[63] William Forbes and his son-in-law John Strunk were local millers. William Goodwin had one of the most substantial and valuable farms in the township.[64] Another of the settlers in the mid-1830s was Elias Freer of New York. His son Joseph Warren Freer (1816–1877) later became a prominent Chicago physician. In 1846, after the death of his wife attributed to poor medical care, Freer was left a 30-year-old widower with a young son. He moved from Will County to Chicago, and asked Dr. Daniel Brainard, the founder of Rush Medical College, to accept him as a pupil. Freer received an M.D. from Rush in 1849 and stayed on as a faculty member. He served as president of the college from 1871 until his death in 1877. Another son of Elias Freer, L. C. P. Freer, was a prominent Chicago attorney.[65]

By the 1840s, settlement had increased, and settlers including James Gould, John Kilpatrick, Anson Packard, David Willard, B. F. Morgan, and Richard Binney, all from New York; Robert Kelly of New Orleans; and William Killey of the Isle of Man started farmsteads in Wesley Township.[66] Willard served as County Judge for Will County.

Pioneer settler John Frazier, who married the widow of George M. Beckwith after the latter's death in 1845, served as the first supervisor of Wilmington Township in 1850. At that time, Wilmington Township encompassed all of present day Florence and Wesley townships. When the townships were divided in 1851, Frazier continued as supervisor of Wesley Township.[67] Other township officers in 1851 included Elias Freer (Clerk), David Willard (Assessor), Anson Packard, James Gould, and Daniel McGilvery

[61] Woodruff (1878), 601.
[62] Ibid., 602.
[63] Ibid.
[64] Ibid., 603.
[65] Ibid.; John Long Wilson, *Stanford University School of Medicine and the Predecessor Schools: An Historical Perspective*, manuscript, 1998, (online at http://elane.stanford.edu/wilson/index.html, accessed July 2012), citing H. A. Kelly and W. L. Burrage, eds., *American Medical Biographies* (Baltimore, Maryland: The Norman, Remington Company, 1920), s.v. "Freer, Joseph Warren" and David J. Davis, ed., *History of Medical Practice in Illinois*, vol. 2, 1850–1900 (Chicago: Lakeside Press, R. R. Donnelley and Sons Company, 1955), 205–206, 419.
[66] Woodruff (1878), 603.
[67] Ibid., 601–602, 605.

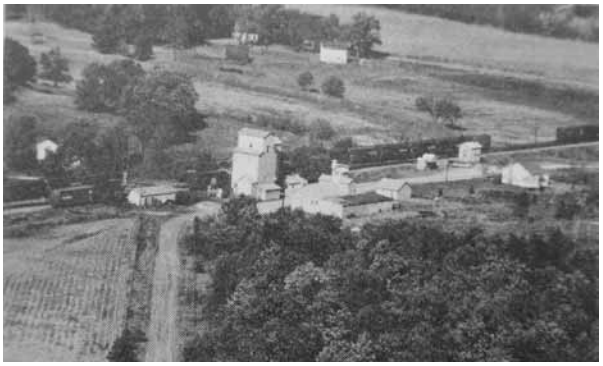
(Commissioners of Highways), B. F. Morgan (Collector), David Willard and Alfred Warner (Justices of the Peace), Daniel Ferris and Palmer Robinson (Constables), and Samuel Jewet (Overseer of the Poor).[68]

In 1880, the Wabash Railroad built a new route across Will County, curving through Sections 5, 8, 17, and 18 of Wesley Township. A small depot (little more than a warming shelter) was built on the John Ritchey farm in Section 17, where the rail line crossed the historic road parallel to the Kankakee River (present-day Illinois Highway 102).[69] This location quickly became the nucleus of the new town of Ritchey (later spelled Ritchie). Ritchie was named after local resident John Ritchey. He was born in Ohio in 1819, and he married Ms. Martha K. Jones in 1849. John and Martha Ritchey moved to Wesley Township in 1852, purchasing 160 acres in Section 17. John Ritchey served in several township positions including School Director, Township Supervisor, Collector, and Justice of the Peace. John Ritchey died at his home in the town of Ritchey in 1892 at the age of seventy-three.[70] In the late nineteenth century, the small hamlet included a grain elevator and several houses as well as a community hall, known as Neese's Hall, and Landon's General Store.

View of Ritchie, circa 1909. The smaller building on the right was known as Neese's Hall, while the two-story building on the left was Landon's General Store. The hall has been demolished. The former grocery store was later reduced to a one-story building and served as the township hall; today it is a private club. Plate 183 from Robert E. Sterling, A Pictorial History of Will County, Volume II *(Joliet: Will County Historical Publications Company, 1976), citing photo courtesy of Mrs. Gladys Goodwin.*

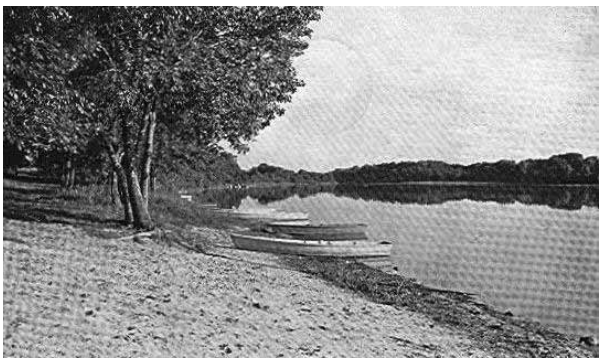
[68] Ibid., 605.
[69] The depot, relocated to Section 20, was designated a Will County Landmark on October 17, 2002.
[70] W. W. Stevens, *Past and Present of Will County, Illinois* (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing, 1907), 760.

In 1900, the population of Wesley Township was 630. In about 1903, the Wabash Railroad raised its grade and straightened its route through the township.[71] The project required the construction of two new bridges: one over Forked Creek and the adjacent road (present-day Illinois Highway 102) and the second over the Kankakee River. The steel bridges supported on limestone piers still exist as prominent local structures (refer to Bridges, page 30 below). The re-routing of the railroad, combined with the establishment of a new grain and freight depot one mile north at Ballou (also called North Ritchey) in Section 5 of the township, undermined the potential for commercial growth in Ritchie. The historic passenger depot was also relocated north to Ballou. However, the new station site apparently proved unsuccessful, and the passenger depot was later moved back closer to Ritchie, and a second grain depot was established in Section 18.



Left: The Ritchie Grain Depot. Right: The grain depot at Ballou. Both views from John Drury, This is Will County, Illinois *(Chicago: The Loree Company, 1955). Both of these grain depots remain in operation, although the railroad no longer serves these locations and few of the historic buildings visible here survive.*

In addition to shipment of farm products, passenger service on the railroad allowed for visitors to the Kankakee River in Wesley Township. The riverfront area south of Ritchie became a summertime vacation destination starting in the 1880s. Campgrounds and cottages were developed along the river, from Wilmington south into Section 20 of Wesley Township. The area along the river in Section 12 and 13 was known as Rest Haven and featured a beach along the river. Many small vacation bungalows were built along the river in the township in the 1920s and 1930s.



Left: The Rest Haven beach in Wesley Township, circa 1941. Postcard provided by Sandy Vasko. Right: This cottage adjacent to site 852 in Section 20 is typical of the early twentieth century riverfront recreational development in the township.

[71] The 1902 county map shows the original alignment of the railroad, while the 1909 atlas map shows the altered alignment. A plaque on the Kankakee River bridge indicates that it was fabricated in 1903, although the superstructure is marked "1902."

The general store in Ritchie closed circa 1940. The building was reduced to a single story in height in about 1947 and thereafter served as the Wesley Township Hall.[72] After World War II, residential development expanding from Wilmington resulted in the establishment of new subdivisions in the northwestern portion of Wesley Township. The most concentrated area of development was the Lakewood Shores subdivision in Section 1 (range 9 east) in far northwestern Wesley Township. Beginning in the 1950s, ranch houses were built facing the river and one parallel inland street on 155 acres previously owned by C. S. Nowell.

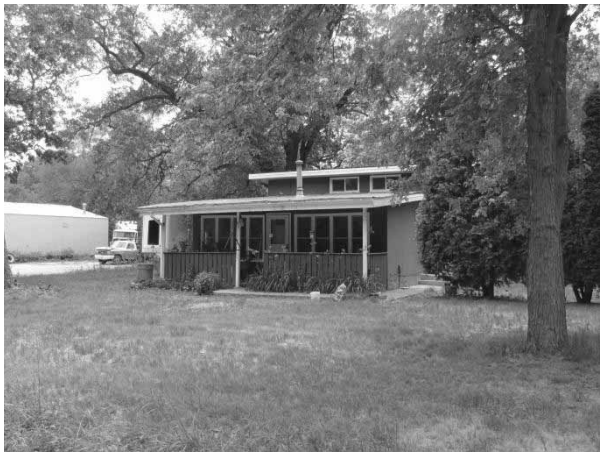
Starting in the 1930s, much of the land fronting the Kankakee River in Sections 21, 22, 26, 27, 35, and 36 of the township was acquired by the Illinois Light and Power Co. (predecessor to today's Commonwealth Edison), perhaps with the intention of building a power plant in the area. No development ever occurred, and the power company turned over 1,715 acres to the state in 1956. The area became Kankakee River State Park, which extends approximately seven miles on both sides of the river from Wesley Township into Kankakee County.

Aerial view of Ritchie, 1955. The Wesley Township Hall is the white building at right. The Ritchey United Methodist Church is obscured by trees in the distance. In the far distance is the Wabash Railroad bridge over Forked Creek (pictured on page 30 of this report). The hamlet had grown little beyond the limits established in the nineteenth century.

Aside from the Lakewood Shores subdivision, relatively little twentieth century development occurred in the township. Passenger service on the Wabash Railroad ended in the 1960s, and the former rail line was converted to the Wauponsee Glacial Trail. The former station building was relocated to a nearby farmstead in Section 20. Wesley Township remained primarily agricultural into the 2000s. The hamlet of Ritchie remains little larger than its extent in the nineteenth century. A number of historic houses line Illinois Route 102 and Angle Road, with a few 1950s era ranch-type houses interspersed.

[72] The Wesley Township Hall was designated a Will County Landmark on December 15, 2005.


Two examples of late nineteenth century houses on Angle Road in Ritchie.

Left: A Queen Anne style house at the south edge of Ritchie on Illinois Highway 120. Right: Ritchie includes a few more recent houses, such as the interesting 1950s split level house adjacent to the Ritchey United Methodist Church.


Left: The former township hall in Ritchie, now a private club. Right: The former Wabash Railroad Ritchie Depot, now relocated to the Hiles Farmstead in Section 20 along Illinois Highway 120.

Schools

The first school was taught in the kitchen of John Williams's log cabin by John Frazier in the winter of 1836–1837. The first school building was constructed in the summer of 1837 along the banks of the Kankakee River. This was the first school building in Will County. By 1841, three school districts, each with one school, were in operation in the township. It was only in 1846 that the eastern portion of present-day Custer Township, south of the Kankakee River, was separated from the Wesley Township school districts as a new District No. 4.[73] By 1860, a total of five one-room schoolhouses were in operation in Wesley Township, increasing to seven by 1877.[74] The school enrollment in Wesley Township in 1877 was 252. By 1920, enrollment in Wesley Township schools had dropped to 178, but seven one-room schoolhouses were maintained.[75] By 1948, enrollment had continued to decrease, with only 150 elementary pupils in the township, although all seven one-room schoolhouses remained open.[76]

One-room Schoolhouse in 1948	Location	Status
Binney School	Section 26, NE 1/4	Demolished
Carter School	*	—
Ritchie School	Section 18, NE 1/4	Converted to residence, site 739
Main[e] School	Section 12, NW 1/4	Demolished
Morgan School	Section 9, NW 1/4	Demolished
Moulton School	Section 7, NW 1/4	Demolished
Union School	*	—

*One of these schools was located in Section 15, and one in Section 21, although the available historical references do not clarify the location of these two schools. Both have been demolished.

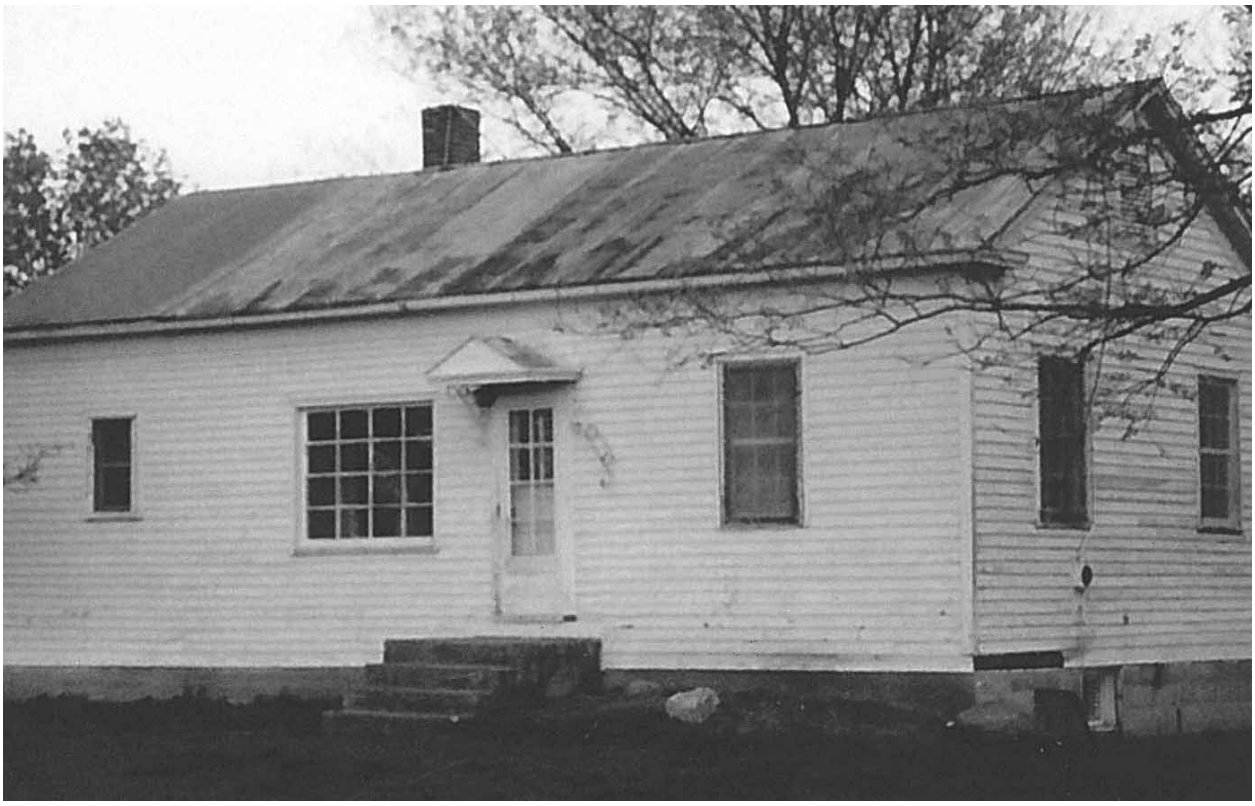
In 1953, the Wesley Township schools were consolidated into the Wilmington-Lorenzo District 209U, and all of the one-room schoolhouses were closed. This unified district covers an expansive geographic area that was served by several dozen separate school districts in the 1920s. Bruning Elementary School was built in 1961 in the Lakewood Shores area in Section 1 (range 9 east) in northwestern Wesley Township; the remaining schools were all in Wilmington Township. By the 1960s, the district operated five elementary schools (Central, Bruning, Brookside, Northcrest, and Lorenzo) and a combined middle school-high school.[77]

Currently, the district maintains four schools: Bruning Elementary School for kindergarten and first grade; Stevens Intermediate School for students in second through fifth grades at 221 Ryan Street in Wilmington, built in 1971; Wilmington Middle School for sixth through eighth grades at 715 South Joliet Street in Wilmington, built in 1953; and Wilmington High School, constructed in 2008. The intermediate and middle schools share the same campus at the south end of Wilmington. The present-day intermediate school was formerly the high school, until the opening of the new high school one-half mile east. The historic Central School in the block bounded by Jackson, Kankakee, Van Buren, and Joliet streets in downtown Wilmington, recently known as Booth Elementary School, has been closed since 2008.

[73] Woodruff (1878), 605.
[74] Leslie Joseph Farrington, "Development of Public School Administration in the Public Schools of Will County, Illinois, As Shown in a Comparison of Three Selected Years: 1877, 1920, and 1965." (Ph.D. diss., Northern Illinois University, August 1967), 69. The references cite eight schools in 1860 and ten schools in 1877 for township 32 north, range 10 east. As shown on the 1862 and 1873 atlas map, three schools were located in eastern Custer Township south of the Kankakee River. Therefore, five schools and seven schools respectively were located in Wesley Township alone.
[75] Farrington, 134.
[76] Ibid., 229.
[77] Ibid., 232–235.

This residence in Section 18 is the remodeled former Ritchie School building (site 739 in the present survey).

Left: One of the former one-room schoolhouses in Wesley Township, location undetermined. Photograph provided by Sandy Vasko. Right: The former Main School on Ballou Road in Section 12 of Wesley Township, as it appeared in the 1988 survey.



The former Moulton School as it appeared circa 1980. The building was subsequently demolished. Photograph provided by Denise Issert.

The historic Central School in downtown Wilmington, recently known as Booth Elementary School, has been closed since 2008.

Churches and Cemeteries

David Blackwell, an itinerant Methodist preacher, organized the first church congregation in the vicinity in the winter of 1834–1835. The congregation remained active, but no permanent church building was constructed until the 1880s.[78] Many of the early settlers in the township were Methodist, and the name of the township honors the English theologian and founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley (1703–1791). Finally, circa 1882, the congregation built the Methodist Episcopal Church of Wesley (today known as the Ritchey United Methodist Church).[79] The church is on the west side of present-day Illinois Route 102 at the far north end of the platted area of Ritchie. The church building has a stone foundation, exposed above grade due at the rear due to the slope of the ground down to an adjacent unnamed stream tributary to Forked Creek. The wood-framed structure has Gothic arch window and door openings and a small steeple at the front facade. Vinyl siding, a new asphalt shingle roof, and storm windows over the original four-over-four double hung windows have been installed in recent years. The Ritchey United Methodist Church was designated a Will County Landmark on October 18, 2007.

There are two historic cemeteries located in Wesley Township. The larger and more prominent of these is the Wesley Cemetery, established in 1856 at the southwest corner of Section 15. This cemetery contains a number of large and sculptural grave markers as well as a large granite mausoleum dedicated to John Ritchey. A second, smaller cemetery exists in Section 6 near the Gooding–Issert Farmstead.

Top: The Ritchey United Methodist Church. Bottom: Views of Wesley Cemetery.

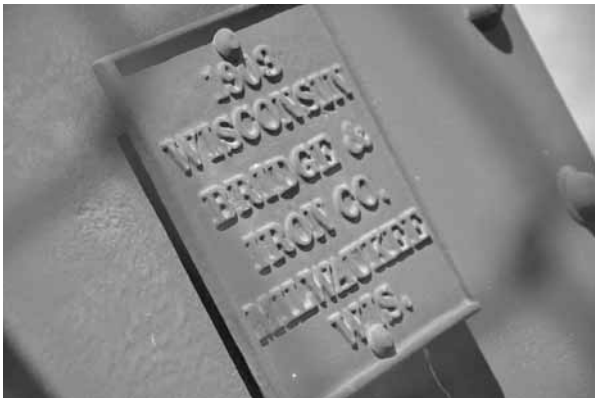
[78] Woodruff (1878), 604.

[79] According to the Will County landmark application, the congregation's written records indicate that the building was constructed in 1884; however, accounts in the *Wilmington Advocate* newspaper from 1882 suggest that the building was constructed in that year.

Bridges

When the Wabash Railroad shifted its route through Wesley Township circa 1903, two new bridges were constructed. The first bridge spans Forked Creek in Section 18 as well as the adjacent roadway, present-day Illinois Route 102. This bridge features limestone piers and abutments. The superstructure consists of parallel steel girders. The second bridge crosses the Kankakee River into Custer Township in Section 19. This bridge is also supported on limestone piers (three of which are in the middle of the river) and includes three identical steel Pratt truss spans. Both of these bridges are now part of the Wauponsee Glacial Trail.

In the 1988 survey, a number of steel truss road bridges were documented in Wesley Township. These spans have been replaced in recent decades with contemporary bridges. However, one circa 1930s concrete bridge survives where Ballou Road crosses Forked Creek at Sections 6–7. Also, historic limestone bridge abutments exist in Section 15, where a historic farm road crossed Forked Creek at the centerline of the southwest quarter. Chicago Road was extended south two miles from Donohue Road to Illinois Route 102 in the 1940s, and this bridge and farm road were abandoned soon thereafter.



Top: The former Wabash Railroad bridge over Forked Creek in Section 18. Bottom: The former Wabash Railroad bridge over the Kankakee River in Section 19.

Top: The Ballou Road bridge over Forked Creek is a circa 1930s concrete span. Bottom: Limestone bridge abutments remain along Forked Creek in Section 15. The bridge and road alignment at this location were abandoned after Chicago Road was extended south in the 1940s.

CHAPTER 3

AMERICAN RURAL ARCHITECTURE

Farmstead Planning

The relationship of the farmhouse to the barn and other farm buildings was generally determined by five factors: topography, weather conditions, convenience and labor efficiency, land survey organization, and, most importantly for some settlers, ethnic or regional tradition. A south facing orientation secured maximum light; an orientation toward the east allowed a barn to place its back against west prevailing winds. Local snow accumulation also influenced barn locations. In much of the Midwest, the geometric grid of roads and survey lines was basically aligned with compass directions, and farmers often lined up their barns and farm buildings in conformity. Where the terrain was more rugged, farmers followed the contours of the land in laying out buildings. In terms of labor efficiency, the barn did not need to be near the house except in areas where winters were cold and harsh. It was desirable to locate the barn closer to the field and other outbuildings than to the house.

Development of Balloon Framing

The initial settlement of Will County coincided with one of the most revolutionary developments in American building construction: the introduction of the balloon frame. Referred to as "that most democratic of building technologies,"[80] the balloon frame allowed the construction of a house with a minimum of labor and a moderate amount of carpentry skills. The key to the success of the balloon frame was the proper construction and erection sequence of its components. Prior to the development of the balloon frame, builders using timber for the construction of houses and other structures used structural systems such as the box frame or braced frame. It utilized heavy timbers to form posts, girts, girders, braces, and rafters, all fastened together with traditional carpentry joining such as mortise and tenons, splices, dovetails, and others. This type of structural system required builders to have a crew of five or six men to raise and set the heavy timbers.[81] The materials used in the construction of a balloon frame structure consisted of milled lumber that was much lighter in weight than heavy timbers.[82]

Credit for the development of the balloon frame is usually given to George Washington Snow of Chicago,[83] although others give note that the originator of the system was a carpenter, Augustine Taylor, who with Snow built the first structure using balloon frame construction, St. Mary's Church, in 1833.[84] At that time Chicago lacked a sawmill to produce the cut lumber, but mills were present in Indiana and in

[80] Michael P. Conzen, "The Birth of Modern Chicago," in *1848: Turning Point for Chicago, Turning Point for the Region* (Chicago: The Newberry Library, 1998), 22.
[81] For a thorough discussion of the early architectural history of Illinois, see Thomas Edward O'Donnell, "An Outline of the History of Architecture in Illinois," *Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society* (Springfield, Illinois, 1931); and Thomas Edward O'Donnell, "Recording the Early Architecture of Illinois in the Historic American Buildings Survey," *Illinois State Historical Society, Transactions for the Year 1934* (Springfield, Illinois, 1934).
[82] Advances in milling techniques in the early 1800s and the invention and development of machinery to produce nails from iron in the late 1700s and early 1800s preceded the development of the balloon frame.
[83] Paul E. Sprague, "Chicago Balloon Frame: The Evolution During the 19th Century of George W. Snow's System for Erecting Light Frame Buildings from Dimension Lumber and Machine-made Nails," in *The Technology of Historic American Buildings*, H. Ward Jandl, ed. (Washington, D.C.: Foundation for Preservation Technology for the Association for Preservation Technology, 1983), 36.
[84] Fred W. Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland: Balloon Frame Farmhouses of the Upper Midwest, 1850–1920* (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 1992), 14.


Traditional heavy timber braced framing is used at the historic bank barn on the Gooding–Issert Farmstead, site 725 in Section 6 of Wesley Township.

Plainfield in northwestern Will County.[85] However, these mills were relatively far away, and transportation of milled heavy timbers difficult and expensive. Therefore, it was necessary to develop a more economical construction system.

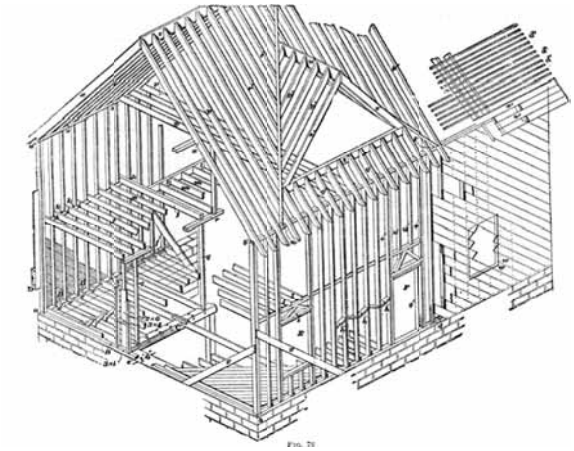
The classic balloon frame consists of the following elements:[86]

- A sill, made from a large section of milled lumber (e.g., 4x8) or two or more smaller pieces (two 2x8s), set on a masonry or concrete foundation,
- Floor joists (2x10, 2x12, etc.), typically at 16 inches on center,[87] reinforced by diagonal bridging, nailed to the sill and nailed to:
- Studs (2x4 or 2x6), also set at 16 inches on center, running the full height of the building wall, to which is nailed:
- Ledgers to support the second floor joints,
- Exterior wall sheathing, consisting of wood boards (1x8), often set at a diagonal to create a structural diaphragm,
- A top plate on the stud wall, on which are set:
- Roof rafters (2x10, 2x12, etc.) set at 16 to 24 inches on center, to which roof sheathing consisting of wood boards are nailed, followed by wood roofing shingles,
- Exterior wall siding,
- Flooring nailed to the wood joists, consisting of two layers of wood boards (a rough board subfloor followed by a finished wood strip surface),
- Interior wall finish, consisting of wood lath nailed to the wood studs, covered by two to three layers of plaster.

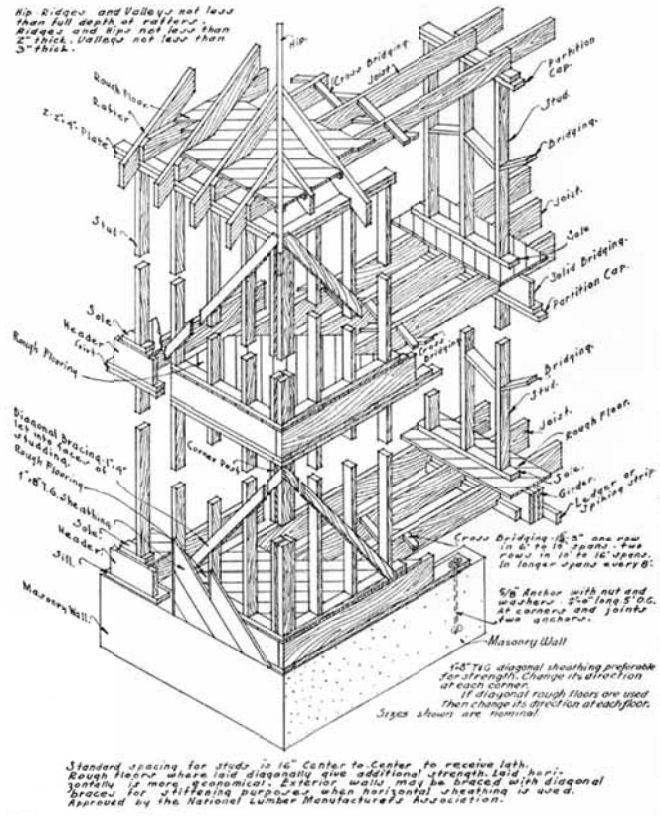
Since a carpenter with one or two helpers could frame and sheath a small one story house in one week, the balloon allowed a settler to have a dwelling on their land in a short amount of time. In addition, there was a 40 percent savings in the amount of material to enclose the same volume as compared to the braced frame.[88] Additions were as easy to construct as the original house, and easier to frame into than if braced framing was used. Another benefit of the balloon frame's light weight was that it allowed a structure to be

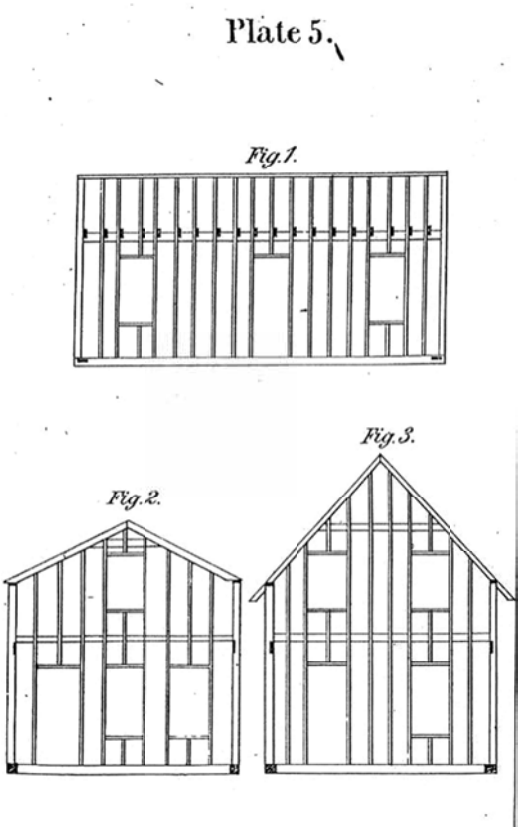
[85] Sprague, "Chicago Balloon Frame," 37.
[86] As with any new system or technique, there was a period of transition in which older framing methods were used alongside balloon framing. This is discussed in Sprague, "Chicago Balloon Frame."
[87] Platform framing, also called Western framing, developed from balloon framing, allowing floor joists to be spaced up to 24 inches on center. Platform framing involved setting each floor level as a platform on the stud walls, allowing the use of shorter stud walls.
[88] Peterson, 9 and 11.

moved more easily to a new site, if more room was needed on a property for other buildings or if additional land was obtained.



*The balloon frame derived its name from the lightweight framing that allowed a large volume of space to be enclosed economically. The drawing shown above is from was published nearly sixty years after the system was developed [*Masonry, Carpentry, Joinery*, International Library of Technology Volume 30 (1889; reprint Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 1980), Carpentry section, drawing between pages 101 and 102]. Above right: Twentieth century plank frame barns, like this barn at the Curl Farmstead (now the John Wesley Preserve owned by the Will County Forest Preserve District, site 775 in Section 12) use balloon framing techniques. Below right is a drawing of balloon framing from 1894 [William E. Bell,* Carpentry Made Easy, or the Science and Art of Framing *(Philadelphia: Ferguson Bros. & Co., 1894), plate 5]. Below left is a drawing of platform or Western framing construction, a development from balloon framing, published in the 1930s [Charles George Ramsey and Harold Reeve Sleeper,* Architectural Graphic Standards*, 3rd ed. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1941)].*





Farming trade publications touted the benefits of the balloon frame.[89] Its inherent advantages led American farmers to adopt the balloon frame as the standard structural framing system for houses by the end of the century. Although many ethnic groups brought their own techniques of constructing farmhouses and farm buildings with them to the United States, they often adopted balloon framing techniques in whole or in part and adapted it to their traditions.[90]

As different architectural styles were introduced, the balloon frame was easily modified to create the forms and spaces required. Albert Britt of Illinois, in his book *An America That Was,* describes his family's new farmhouse that "cost nearly a thousand dollars":[91]

> Farmhouses were built without benefit of architect or reference to a particular style or period. Such plans as existed were principally in the head of the local carpenter who bossed the job. Ours was named Perkins and he came from Alexis, all of six miles away . . . A model of our house could have been made easily with a set of child's building blocks, but it was roomy and comfortable without dormers, turrets, or scrollsaw ornamentation, which were unpleasantly common on dwellings of that time. Prime consideration was enough interior space to suit a family's needs, and if the house was leakproof through rain and snow and windproof for anything short of a cyclone, all hands were satisfied. Houses were painted white, window blinds green. Barns were always painted red and as the color weathered some of the barns were beautiful. If a barn was in sight from the road it usually had the year of construction painted on it in large white numerals.[92]

With the completion of the new farmhouse, Britt goes on to describe how the older farm structures were adapted for new functions: "with the building of a new home the little old one became a stable for horses, and the lean-to kitchen the family smokehouse."[93] This shows the flexibility that the framing system allowed, since these new functions required new or larger openings, relocating the structure, or construction of additions.

[89] Peterson, 15–24.
[90] One example was German-Russian farmers from Eastern Europe: "German-Russians eventually combined *Batsa* brick with balloon-frame construction, placing clay brick in walls between the studs to stabilize and insulate the dwelling." (Michael Koop, "German-Russians," in *America's Architectural Roots: Ethnic Groups that Built America*, Dell Upton, ed. (New York: Preservation Press, John Wiley & Sons, 1986), 131.)
[91] Albert Britt, *An America That Was* (Barre, Massachusetts: Barre Publishers, 1964), 33.
[92] Ibid.
[93] Ibid.

Masonry Construction

Brick

Historically, brick masonry construction is relatively uncommon in the rural areas of Will County. However, perhaps due to its proximity to Wilmington and the transportation provided by the Kankakee River, Wesley Township does have a few examples of nineteenth century brick masonry residences located near the river. The survey area also contains a number of historic early twentieth century brick masonry houses. More commonly, the locally abundant limestone was used for masonry foundations throughout the township.

Left: The high-style circa 1860s Italianate brick masonry house at the Killey Farmstead, site 731 in Section 6. Right: The mid-nineteenth century brick house at the McGovern Farmstead, site 751 in Section 12.

There are several early twentieth century brick masonry bungalow-style houses in Wesley Township. Left: The John H. Goodwin Farmstead, site 821 in Section 17. Right: The Erwin Goodwin Farmstead, site 762 in Section 8.

Joliet Limestone

One building material dating from the earliest period of European settlement in Will County was limestone quarried from the Des Plaines, Du Page, and Kankakee River Valleys. These same regions later provided gravel for use in concrete construction in Will County and the Chicago area. The limestone material quarried in the Des Plaines River Valley is referred to as Joliet Limestone. These quarries were utilized first for limestone for masonry construction but are primarily used today as sources of gravel.

The area surrounding Joliet contains abundant supplies of limestone, derived predominantly from the Niagaran strata. Owing to oxidation of ferrous minerals contained in the stone, the color of the stone ranges from buff near the surface to gray tones at deeper levels. Its surface is a hard, compact and slightly porous, brittle dolomite. The stone has thin seams of greenish clay (chert) running through the whole mass, which upon long exposure in alternately wet and dry conditions causes the solid calcium carbonate layers to delaminate.[94]

A prosperous period for quarrying stone in the Joliet area began during the 1830s and lasted until nearly the end of the century. Martin H. Demmond was the first to quarry stone in the Joliet district, most likely on the bluffs west of the Des Plaines River overlooking the fledgling Joliet settlement. Commercial quarrying activities began about a decade later, when William Davidson and his brother opened the first of their quarries in 1845, one mile south of Joliet at a point where the canal turns west-southwest with the curve of the river.[95]

The opening of the I & M Canal in 1848 provided an easy means to transport stone quarried in western Will County. Also, by the mid-1850s tracks for the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad had been laid between the river and canal, affording quarries access to more transportation facilities. The limestone industry grew steadily, both in number and acreage size of firms.

The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 provided enormous stimulation to the stone quarrying industry. Not only was stone needed at once to replace destroyed buildings, especially in the city center, but new building ordinances created a “fire” zone in which wood construction was (in theory) prohibited. Many new quarries were started to cater to the increased demand. For example, the Joliet Stone Company incorporated in 1872.[96] As the quarry industry peaked in the 1880s, many smaller businesses were bought out by much larger operations or forced by competition to abandon their sites. The consolidation of established quarries changed the methods of the business. Tools to crush, cut, rub, and saw stone became more advanced and raised production, while some of the old established quarries saw themselves eclipsed by newer and larger enterprises.

Local limestone was frequently used for foundation construction in Wesley Township, and more rarely for entire buildings. Both of these examples are from the William Goodwin Farmstead, site 763 in Section 9.

[94] Linda Ponte, “The Celebrated Joliet Marble Field,” in *An Historical Geography of the Lower Des Plaines Valley Limestone Industry, Time and Place in Joliet,* Michael Conzen, ed. (Chicago: The University of Chicago, 1988), 15.
[95] Robert E. Sterling, *Joliet: Transportation and Industry: A Pictorial History* (St. Louis, Missouri: G. Bradley Publishing, Inc., 1997), 116.
[96] Ibid.

However, the development of smoother business links with customers in metropolitan areas could not offset competition from alternative sources with superior building stone, especially limestone quarried near Bedford, Indiana. The availability of the more durable Indiana limestone and the discovery of the lack of long-term durability of the Joliet stone, in addition to the introduction of other building materials such as concrete, led to the gradual decline of the Joliet area stone industry. Some quarries survived by shifting production to crushed stone to use as aggregate for concrete or road and railroad construction.

Concrete

Although concrete was used by the Romans in antiquity, its use in recent times dates from the mid-nineteenth century. In 1860, S. T. Fowler patented a type of reinforced concrete wall construction, but it was not until the 1870s and 1880s that examples had actually been constructed. By 1900 numerous systems of reinforced concrete construction had been patented.[97]

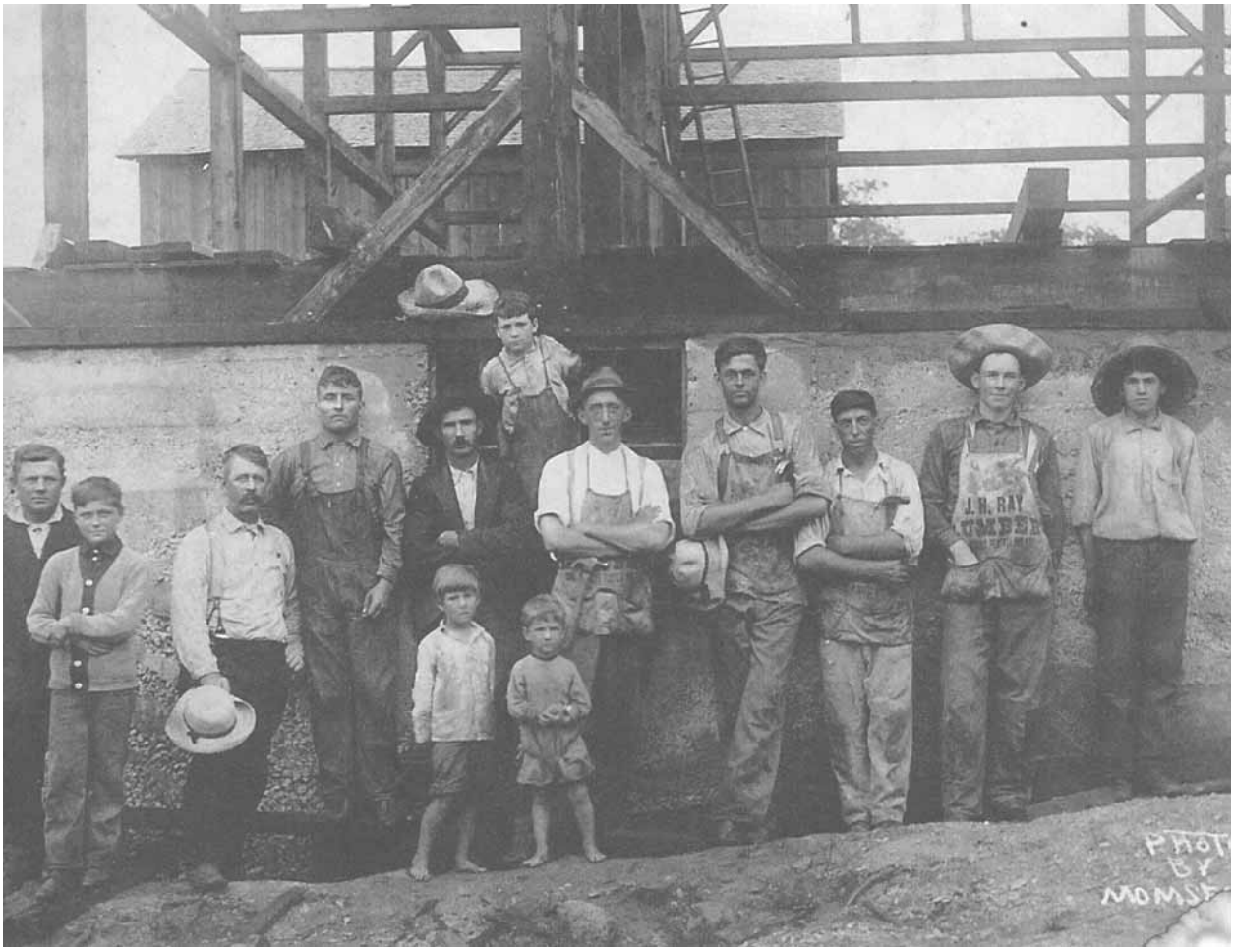
Concrete was seen as a material with great potential for use on the farm. Farmers were given guidance in using concrete on the farm, recommending its use in a variety of structures:

> Concrete can be used on the farm for residences, barns, poultry houses, garages, piggeries, stalls and mangers, milk houses, machine sheds, ice houses, silos, all kinds of tanks and troughs, vats and wallows, manure pits, septic tanks, piers and foundations, sidewalls, steps, driveways, hen nests, pump pits, fence posts, etc. . . .
>
> Of all the buildings on the farm, which should be built of concrete, probably none is more important than the silo. Here is a structure in which it is essential to keep the silage fresh in order that the stock may be keep thrifty and growing all winter. The silo prevents a waste of corn stalks, which contain about one-third of the food value of the entire crop, and it enables a large number of animals to be maintained on a given number of acres. The concrete silo is ratproof, windproof, fireproof and will withstand cyclones. It will not dry out in the hot summer months, keeps the silage in perfect condition and can be constructed at a moderate first cost. There are four types of silos: Monolithic, cement block, stave and cement plaster construction.
>
> . . . Concrete buildings contain no crevices in which to harbor vermin, and this freedom from lice makes it possible for the birds to retain more flesh at the end of the setting period and therefore more strength. Poultry can withstand dry cold when housed, but cannot endure dampness or drafts from below, and a concrete floor will also keep out rats. Instances are known where concrete is used successfully for nests, dropping platforms and roosts, thus greatly simplifying the problem of cleaning. The first requirement of a milk house is that it is scrupulously clean, and the construction should be such as to eliminate breeding places for germs and cracks or crevices for dirt to collect, making cleaning difficult or impossible. A milk house properly constructed of concrete fulfills these requirements, and concrete floors are recommended for sanitary reasons, with proper provisions for draining. The milk house should be located with reference to other buildings, such as stables and manure pits.[98]

The survey area contains relatively few examples of cast-in-place concrete structures, which were generally observed only for building foundations.

[97] William B. Coney, "Preservation of Historic Concrete: Problems and General Approaches," National Park Service Preservation Brief 15, 2.
[98] "The Use of Concrete Work on the Farm," *Building Age* (February 1917), 102–103.

Cast in place concrete was commonly used in the survey area for foundations starting in the first decades of the twentieth century Left: This crib barn at the Hanford Farmstead, site 778 in Section 13, has a raised concrete foundation. Right: An unusual example of an entirely concrete building is this small storage building at the John H. Goodwin Farmstead, site 821 in section 17.



Construction of a new barn at the Jones–Marshall Farmstead, site 724 in Section 6, in 1913. Note the rough cast-in-place concrete foundation supporting heavy timber wood framing. This large gambrel roof bank barn was demolished prior to 1988, although fragments of the concrete foundation survive. Photograph provided by present property owner.

Concrete Block

Beginning in the early 1900s, mass production of concrete block units succeeded after several earlier developments failed to lead to widespread production.[99] Harmon S. Palmer patented a cast iron machine with a removable core and adjustable sides in 1900, allowing companies and cottage industries to spring up across the country. Palmer founded the Hollow Building Block Company in 1902, selling $200 block machines. Other manufacturers who flooded the market with similar machines (without directly infringing on Palmer's patent) led to increased use of concrete block in building construction.

The blocks were produced by mixing Portland cement, water, sand, and gravel aggregate; placing the mixture in the machine and tamping it down to eliminate voids; and pulling a lever to release the block from the machine. Newly made blocks were stacked until the concrete cured, typically for one month. Blocks were made with a variety of face textures and even color, with "rockface" block being one of the most popular styles.[100]

Left: Detail of the "rock face" concrete block foundation of the bungalow-style house at the Neese–Carver Farmstead, site 733 in Section 6. Right: The same farmstead also includes one of two concrete block crib barns in the township as well as a concrete stave silo.

Although early block machines and block manufacturers produced units relatively larger than contemporary units, by the mid-1920s standards were introduced by concrete products organizations that included fabrication of units 8 by 8 by 16 inches in size. Other standards, produced by the National Association of Cement Users, the Concrete Producers Association, and the Concrete Block Manufacturers Association, promoted testing to improve quality.[101] However, concrete block began to fall out of favor as a building facing material during this same period. During the 1930s, smooth-faced block began to dominate the industry as architectural styles changed. Also by the later 1930s, mass production of block units began to supplant the use of earlier concrete block machines.

Just as with concrete, farmers were encouraged to use concrete block for their structures. At the annual meeting of the Illinois Farmers' Institute in 1913, one lecturer discussed concrete block for silos:

> It is clear that the cash outlay for material becomes of the first importance and cost of labor becomes second. To illustrate, a man in such circumstances might have gravel on his farm. Also, he might have lumber, which he could use temporarily for the scaffold. The cost of cement block molds is slight, and if this man were somewhat of a mechanic, he would find it advantageous to

[99] Pamela H. Simpson, *Cheap, Quick, and Easy: Imitative Architectural Materials, 1870–1930* (Knoxville, Tennessee: University of Tennessee Press, 1999), 11.
[100] Ibid., 24.
[101] Ibid., 21–22.

> secure a mold or molds and make his own cement blocks at odd times. In this way a cement block silo could be built with less cash outlay than any other form of silo.[102]

Building trade journals also promoted the use of concrete block on the farm:

> If one may judge from the demand and the variety of uses to which it is put, the concrete block is the most important of all cement products. When properly made it has not failed to give satisfaction as a building material and much of its popularity has resulted from the pleasing architectural effects that have been brought about. Hollow blocks represent a considerable saving in cost, without reducing the strength so as to impair the safety of the building. The use of facings to bring about pleasing exterior treatments has its advantages while the interior air chambers allow them to conduct heat or cold but slowly. This fact makes buildings of this material warm in winter.

The survey area has a few historic structures built of concrete blocks, including outbuildings as well as garages. Concrete block is also widely used for building foundations in the survey area.

By the 1910s, farmers had several choices of silos using concrete block. Both advertisements are from the farm journal Hoard's Dairyman, *1909.*

[102] M.L. King, "Planning the Silo," in *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Farmers' Institute,* H.A. McKeene, ed. (Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Journal Company, 1914), 64.

Classification of Farmhouses

Most built structures can be grouped into one of three categories of stylistic classification: "high style," where the building clearly relates to a defined architectural style in form and detail; vernacular or "folk architecture," where builders or owners without formal architectural training construct buildings based on regional or cultural customs, and where stylistic elements derived from style books are applied or mixed within the same structure; and utilitarian, where style is entirely secondary and efficient use of materials is the primary factor in the design. Most buildings fall into the categories of vernacular and utilitarian. Farmhouses were usually built by a builder or carpenter, and reflect general types of houses popular at the time. A discussion of the utilitarian types of farm buildings is covered later in this chapter. The discussion below first describes the architectural *styles* found to some degree in the survey area. This is followed by an outline of the *types* of farmhouses, since most of these structures are better categorized by this means, with only the applied ornament being classified by style. Some houses in the survey area have undergone extensive renovations, making identification of a style or type difficult. In these situations, an assessment has been made as to possible original style or type with notes made in the comment portion of each survey form giving additional information on additions or alterations.

Architectural Style

In the second half of the nineteenth century, architectural styles were disseminated through style books promoting not only aesthetic features of houses but also the orderly qualities for a proper domestic environment.[103] Another source of building ideas was agricultural journals. Although carpenters and builders rarely followed such books and journals exactly, these publications did influence the types of houses being constructed (as discussed in the next section) as well as the stylistic elements applied to those houses. Although it is unlikely that many of the buildings in the survey area were built using designs or supervision of academically trained architects, many of the farmhouses were built by carpenters and builders competent at applying fashionable architectural styles in their work.

Greek Revival

The Greek Revival style was popular in the United States beginning in the 1820s and continued in some regions until the 1870s. Inspired by archaeological excavations and measured drawings of ancient Greek temples, the style was developed by America's first trained architects and spread by pattern books that influenced carpenters and builders across the relatively young United States. American culture found an identification with the democracy in Ancient Greece. Greek Revival buildings have simple rectilinear forms, prominent classical ornament, molded cornices and window lintels, and other ornamental motifs inspired by Classical architecture. The style's simple massing and details went along with the sometimes limited materials and resources of rural areas. Several examples of Greek Revival style houses likely dating to the 1850s or 1860s were observed in the township.

Gothic Revival

Gothic Revival was roughly contemporary with Greek Revival, although with very different inspiration. It utilized late Medieval Gothic forms that have vertically oriented massing with steeply sloped roofs, and detail features such as pointed arches, narrow lancet windows, decorative bargeboards and finials, battlemented parapets, and clusters of chimney stacks. Like Greek Revival, pattern books guided architects and builders. Andrew Jackson Downing's *The Architecture of Country Houses* helped popularize this style. Gothic Revival architecture was not observed in the survey area.

[103] Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland*, 68.

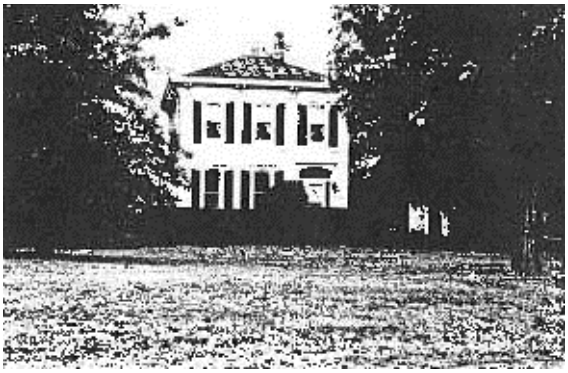

Left: The large house at the William Goodwin Farmstead, site 763 in section 9, exemplifies the Greek Revival style. Right: Willard House, site 713 in section 4, shows the use of Greek Revival style on a house with a front-facing gable. Both of these houses feature gable returns and moldings and trim inspired by classical architecture.

Second Empire

The Second Empire style took its name from the public buildings with mansard roofs built under French emperor Napoleon III. (The first empire was the reign of his uncle, Napoleon). The style was transformed and applied in the United States to domestic as well as institutional buildings. In addition to the mansard roof and architectural features often present on Italianate buildings, Second Empire buildings often feature rich classical or baroque detailing and dormer windows with moldings or hoods. No examples of Second Empire are extant in the survey area.

Italianate

Italianate, or Italianate Victorian, was one of the most popular and fashionable building styles in the mid-1800s, popular from about 1850 to 1880. Inspired by Italian Renaissance architecture, Italianate style houses feature rectilinear massing, low pitched roofs, overhanging eaves with bracketed cornice, and tall rectangular windows. Other features often present are moldings or hoods around window lintels (which are sometimes arched) and polygonal or rectangular bays or towers. Several examples of Italianate style houses were identified within the survey area.

Left: The house at the Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead, site 757 in section 7, shows characteristics of the Italianate style, including tall windows with elaborate surrounds and a bracketed cornice below a shallow-sloped hip roof. Right: The 1988 survey photograph of this house shows the original front entrance door and surround, as it appeared before recent remodeling work.

Queen Anne

Popular in the last two decades of the nineteenth century, this building style in its purest form utilized irregular, asymmetrical massing and floor plans, several types of building materials, and extensive ornament to create an eclectic architectural tapestry that was often picturesque and entertaining. None of the farmhouses in the survey region reflect all of the primary elements of Queen Anne, although the massing and details of some of them show Queen Anne influence, likely due to the influence of the style on builders and carpenters. The name "Queen Anne" for this style of design was popularized by nineteenth century English architects led by Richard Norman Shaw, although the architectural precedents from the reign of Queen Anne (1702–1714) have little connection to this heavily ornamented style. Where present, Queen Anne style detailing on houses in the survey area tends to be limited to elements such as porches.

Left: The house at the Hiram Goodwin Farmstead, site 761 in section 8, has simple detailing including project window head trim and wide trim at the eaves. Right: The house at the O'Connor–Kennedy Farmstead site 770 in section 11, has a Queen Anne style front porch.

Colonial and Georgian Revival

After the comparative excesses of the Italianate, Second Empire, and Queen Anne styles, the Colonial and Georgian Revival styles are more restrained and utilize stricter use of ornament and proportion. Introduced on the east coast at the end of the nineteenth century, the Colonial Revival style spread to the Midwest over the next decade and became an influential style for larger homes and public buildings into the 1930s. The rectilinear forms of Colonial Revival structures are often symmetrical and have gabled roofs with dormers, classical columns and ornament, and ornamental window shutters. Georgian Revival buildings differ in that they adhere more closely to symmetrical floor plans, have strong cornice lines, Flemish bond brick coursing, watertables, and other elements of traditional Colonial period architecture. A few houses in the survey area have Colonial Revival or Georgian Revival style elements.


The house at the Killey Farmstead, site 731 in section 6, appears to have a complex architectural history. Left: The front portion of the house appears to be a mid-nineteenth century Italianate style residence, exemplified by the shallow-slop hip roof, corner quoins, and tall proportioned windows. Right: The house also has Georgian Revival style elements that likely date to a twentieth century remodeling. These elements include the elaborate front entrance surround.


Left: The rear wing of the Killey Farmstead house has additional Georgian Revival style elements, including the gable with cornice returns, circular gable window, and projecting first floor bay window. Right: The early twentieth century house at the Flint Farmstead, site 789 in section 13, has a Colonial Revival-inspired front porch.

Craftsman or Arts and Crafts Style

The Arts and Crafts movement originated in England in the mid-nineteenth century, although it did not become fashionable in the United States until the first two decades of the twentieth century. The style favored simple designs with natural materials, low-pitched roofs, battered wall treatments, exposed rafters, and casement and double hung windows. A number of the houses in the survey include Craftsman or Arts and Crafts style features.

Prairie Style

The Prairie Style was developed by several architects in the Midwest but originated chiefly from the Chicago area, where Frank Lloyd Wright, Walter Burley Griffin, Marion Mahony Griffin, William Purcell, and George Elmslie (among others) formulated a set of principles uniquely suited to and inspired by the American suburban and rural landscape. In many ways this style developed from the Arts and


The bungalow at the John H. Goodwin Farmstead, site 821 in section 17, has Craftsman style detailing, including the wood brackets at the overhanging eaves. Left: Overview of the house. Right: Detail of brackets.


The Kimble House, site 852 in section 20, is a distinctive local example of Arts and Crafts style design. Left: The west side of the house has a projecting porch and a rectangular bay window. Right: The east side is similar but includes a massive stone fireplace.

Crafts movement, although it was a distinct style with its own characteristics. Prairie Style structures are characterized by broad, horizontal massing, hipped and gabled roofs with deep overhangs, asymmetrical floor plans, and geometric detailing based on nature motifs. Natural and earth-toned materials such as wood, stucco, and brick predominate, and windows often have leaded glass windows that repeat and develop nature motifs. The style was fashionable from around 1895 to 1920. The survey area does not have any "high style" Prairie Style houses.

Tudor Revival

From about 1910 to 1940, Tudor Revival was one of several fashionable revival styles in practice. Based on English late medieval architecture, the style was adapted to unique American building forms created by the balloon frame. Although Tudor Revival buildings were also built in stone, the use of wood and stucco to imitate a half-timbered appearance was a predominant feature. Often times only the ground or first floor was clad with stone while the upper story was clad with wood and stucco "half-timbering." The style also utilized asymmetrical floor plans and massing, narrow multi-paned windows, prominent masonry chimneys, and steeply sloped roofs. No Tudor Revival style houses were observed during the field survey.

House Types

Vernacular residential dwellings are not always suited to classification by architectural style because style is not the primary organizing principle in their design. Most vernacular houses relate to a *type* that describes or classifies their massing and floor plan. This section discusses the different types of housing found specifically in the survey area. Additional types and subtypes do exist but have been excluded because they are not pertinent to the discussion of Wesley Township.

During the survey, very few structures could be readily identified that date from the earliest period of settlement (approximately the 1840s and 1850s). House types dating from the earliest settlement may have used configurations known as single pen or double pen, which basically are one or two room houses respectively. A double pen dogtrot consists of two rooms with the space in between covered by the roof. A saddlebag house is similar to the double pen except for the inclusion of a central chimney between the two rooms.

The house types classified below are those that are typically found in the survey area. As with any classification system, alternate systems could be utilized. Most of the definitions provided below were derived from *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* by Stephen C. Gordon.[104] Building forms followed the movement of settlers from New England westward through the Ohio Valley to Illinois.[105] However, a significant number of the settlers in the survey area were new immigrants to the United States. Their influence on the region's buildings is visible in some of the extant house types, but more readily visible in the barns and other farm structures.

I House

The name "I House" was first recognized in 1930 as a housing type in Indiana that had originated in the Middle Atlantic states. The form was later identified in the other Midwestern "I" states of Illinois and Iowa.[106] The form consists of a two story, one room deep plan that is at least two rooms wide. Chimneys were often placed at each end of the floor plan. A few examples of the I House type were identified in Wesley Township during the survey.

The house at the McGovern Farmstead, site 751 in section 12, is a local example of the I House type.

[104] Stephen C. Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* (Columbus, Ohio: Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992).

[105] For overviews of patterns of ethnic migration and diffusion, see Fred B. Kniffen, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," in *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture,* Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, eds. (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986); and John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer, *Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1989).

[106] Kniffen, 7–8.

Hall and Parlor

The Hall and Parlor house is a simple rectangular plan dwelling one to one-and-a-half stories in height, with a side oriented gable roof. In plan, these types of houses have one larger room for the kitchen and daily living and a side room used as a more formal parlor or a bedroom. There is often an addition at the rear of the house extending from the parlor side. Chimneys are often placed at each end of the house. The type was used less often after the late 1800s.[107] No Hall and Parlor houses were identified in the survey area.

New England One and a Half

This house type is a rectangular plan dwelling, one to one-and-a-half stories in height and at least two bays wide. Flanking a central entrance hall and stairs are two large rooms with two or more smaller rooms across the rear of the house. Some houses of this type are not symmetrical across the front, depending upon the interior layout. New England One and a Half houses were popular from the earliest days of settlement in Will County in the 1830s up to the Civil War. They often include Greek Revival ornament, such as pilasters, architraves, cornice returns, and entablature panels. Farming settlers emigrating from New England, where this house type originated, brought this house type with them to the Midwest. No examples of the New England One and a Half type were identified in the survey area.

Side Hallway

Side Hallway houses are typically simple rectilinear volumes, two stories in height, and often with gable roofs oriented to the front or the side. In plan the entry is at the end bay of the front elevation, opening into the main stair hall. Adjacent to the hall is the main parlor with additional rooms at the rear of the house. The form was popular until the 1880s.[108] Several Side Hallway type houses were identified in the survey area. Some houses may have been originally constructed as Side Hallway types but have evolved to other types through subsequent additions.

The houses at the Killey Farmstead (site 731 in section 6, left) and the Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead (site 757 in section 7, right, 1988 photograph) exemplify the mid-nineteenth century Side Hallway type.

[107] Gordon, 125. Since the form can be confused with later cottage types of houses, one feature that can date it properly is the height to width ratios of the window openings: tall window openings usually date a house to the 1800s.

[108] Ibid., 126.

Upright and Wing

The Upright and Wing was popular in the mid to late 1800s.[109] The type consists of an upright portion with a gable end, usually one-and-a-half to two stories, and a one to one-and-a-half story wing. The gable end of the wing is usually at or below the eave of the upright. Upright and Wing type houses have T- or L-shaped floor plans. Inside, the wing contains a kitchen and one or two bedrooms and the upright a parlor and additional bedrooms.[110] The Upright and Wing type is common throughout Will County and is prevalent in Wesley Township.

Upright and wing type houses common in Wesley Township. Top left: The house at the Marshall–Edwards Farmstead, site 771 in section 11. Top right: The house at the Hazelton–Bell Farmstead, site 773 in section 12. Bottom left: The house at the Curl Farmstead, now part of the John Wesley Forest Preserve, site 775 in section 12. Bottom right: The house at the Ryan–Byron Farmstead, site 791 in section 14.

[109] Peterson groups the Upright and Wing with the Gabled Ell type (both being forms of L- or T-plan houses), making it "the most numerous and familiar farmhouse type in the Upper Midwest…" (Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland*, 96.) Peterson also notes that many L- and T-plan houses are the result of additions being constructed to existing rectangular house forms (Ibid., 99).

[110] Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*, 132.

Gabled Ell

The Gabled Ell house type usually dates from the two decades after the Civil War.[111] It has an L-shaped plan, sometimes with additions to form a T-shaped plan, and usually is two stories in height with a gabled roof. Within the main "L" there is often a porch. In most arrangements, the gable end of the shorter of the two wings faces the street or main approach with the broad side of the other wing at the side. The Gabled Ell type is common in Wesley Township.

Upright and wing type houses common in Wesley Township. Top left: The house at the Warner–Butterfield Farmstead, site 867 in section 21. Top right: The Michael Byron, Jr., House, site 870 in section 22. Bottom left: The house at the Paine Farmstead, site 884 in section 24. Bottom right: The house at the Beckwith Farmstead, site 890 in section 25.

Four-over-Four

The Four-over-Four basically consists of a central hallway flanked by two rooms on each side in a house two to two-and-a-half stories in height. This house type usually has a gable roof, with the ridge line running parallel to the front face. Exploiting balloon frame construction, the form was popular in the middle 1800s, although it returned during the vogue of the Colonial and Georgian Revival styles. A few Four-over-Four type farmhouses were identified in Wesley Township.

[111] Ibid., 136.


Examples of the Four-over-Four house type in Wesley Township. Left: The William Goodwin Farmstead, site 763 in Section 9. Right: The Byron–McCorkle Farmstead, site 882 in Section 24.

Gable Front

The Gable Front house describes a variety of house types dating from the mid-1800s through the 1920s. It is similar to the Four-over-Four, except that the main entrance at the gable end facing the street or main approach. It is also similar to the Side Hallway type, and usually has a rectangular floor plan. A number of Gable Front type houses were identified in Wesley Township. Most local examples are two stories in height.


Two examples of the Gable Front type in Wesley Township: at left, the Hennebry Tenant Farmstead, site 707 in Section 2; at right, the O'Connor–Kennedy Farmstead, site 770 in Section 11. Both of these houses have been expanded in recent decades with one-story additions.

American Foursquare

The American Foursquare[112] was introduced around 1900 and continued to be popular until the 1920s. It consists of a two to two-and-a-half story block with a roughly square floor plan with four rooms on each floor. Roofs are hipped or pyramidal, with dormer windows (hipped and gable) on at least the front elevation and sometimes the side and rear elevations. Foursquares usually have front porches but may also have bay windows (some extending both stories) and one story rear additions. Many Foursquares were built from plans developed by local lumber companies or mail order sources that advertised in farm journals; others were purchased whole and delivered as pre-cut, ready-to-assemble houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company or home manufacturers. American Foursquare type farmhouses are common in the survey area.

[112] The term "American Foursquare" was coined by Clem Labine, former editor of the *Old-House Journal.* (Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*, 137.)


Left: The house at the Jones–Marshall Farmstead, site 724 in Section 6 exemplifies the American Foursquare type. Right: The house at the Powers–Flint–Hollenbeck Farmstead, site 789 in Section 13, was originally a similar design but has recently built one-story additions at either side.

Bungalow

The term bungalow derives from the word *bangla*, an Indian word adopted by the British in the nineteenth century for a one story house with porches. The American house form descended from the Craftsman movement, using natural materials and simple forms to create an informal domestic environment. Popular from approximately 1905 to 1935, there are two basic types of bungalows (and numerous subtypes), each deriving its name from the dominant roof forms. The Dormer Front Bungalow (also called the Shed Roof Bungalow) has a gable or shed roof turned parallel to the front elevation and a single large dormer. The Gable Front has a front facing gable, with the ridge of the roof running perpendicular to the main elevation. The relatively few examples of the Bungalow type in the survey area are somewhat simpler than those found in city and suburban neighborhoods and lack stylistic features such as exposed roof beams, ornamental wall trim, or shingle siding. Bungalow type houses are numerous in the survey area.


The bungalow type house is common in Wesley Township. Left: the Kennedy–Williams Farmstead, site 712 in Section 3. Right: the Binney–Neubeck Farmstead, site 885 in Section 24.

Cape Cod

The Cape Cod was a popular house type from the 1920s to the early 1950s. The type was inspired by eighteenth century cottages in Massachusetts and Virginia.[113] The Cape Cod has a simple rectangular plan, one story in height with dormers and a gable roof. A few Cape Cod type houses in Wesley Township were documented during the survey.

Two examples of the Cape Cod type in Wesley Township: at left, the Johnson Farmstead, site 704 in Section 2; at right, the Franklin–Smith Farmstead, site 876 in Section 23.

Ranch

Because the ranch type is a relatively recent domestic architecture development (it generally dates from the post-World War II era), ranch style houses were generally not recorded in the rural survey. The presence of a ranch style house was noted on the site plan of surveyed farmsteads to indicate that these houses likely replaced the original house on the site or provided an additional dwelling on the property. Ranch style houses are usually one or at most two stories and have rambling floor plans and relatively low-pitched hipped or gabled roofs. Although much of the newer housing in recently developed areas has features and elements reminiscent of older architectural styles (Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial, or even Queen Anne), its true architectural lineage traces back to the ranch houses of the 1950s and 1960s.

Two examples of the mid-twentieth century Ranch type in Wesley Township: at left, the Norman Hazelton Farmstead, site 700 in Section 1; at right, the Clark–Luehrs Tenant Farmstead, site 790 in Section 14.

[113] Ibid., 140.

Development of the Barn

The barns of the Midwest have several typical functions: animal shelter, crop storage, crop processing, equipment storage, and machinery repair. However, barns also have specialized functions designated by adjectives such as "sheep" barn or "dairy" barn. In some instances a substitute term was used such as hog house or implement shed, especially if a larger multipurpose "barn" is also on the farm. Nonetheless, these structures shared some similar forms and structural systems.[114]

Pioneer settlers, faced with clearing virgin forest or breaking sod, usually had little time to do more than erect a roughhouse and perhaps a crude animal shelter in the first years of settlement. Not until after some ten years on a homestead, or perhaps not even until the second generation, did the pioneer have the means to construct a large barn.[115]

The need for large barns necessitated the development of structural systems to enclose large volumes of space. As the frontier of settlement passed into the Midwest, many early barns were constructed of logs by settlers who either possessed log-building skills or gained these techniques by association with other ethnic or cultural groups. Although the eastern Midwest was well forested, providing sufficient log materials, the prairies of the central Midwest (including Illinois) had less forested land to supply log construction. Therefore, other solutions were required.[116]

The skeletal framework of barns consists typically of sill timbers resting directly on the foundation (usually stone, although concrete was introduced in the early 1900s). The sills also form the substructure for the floor joists and wall framing. The barn's joists sometimes remained round, except for the top side, which was flattened to accommodate floorboards. Most early barns had a gable roof composed of rafters, rough sawn boards, and wooden shingles. Vertically attached boards, some as large as fourteen inches wide, ran from the sill to the top plate of the wall for siding on timber frame barns.[117]

As discussed earlier in this chapter, light framing techniques and advanced wood milling machines influenced the development of Midwestern farmhouses. However, barns continued to be built with heavy timber. As these large framing members became scarce and expensive in the early twentieth century, new innovations were sought, such as plank framing that featured the substitution of plank lumber for heavy long, square timbers.[118]

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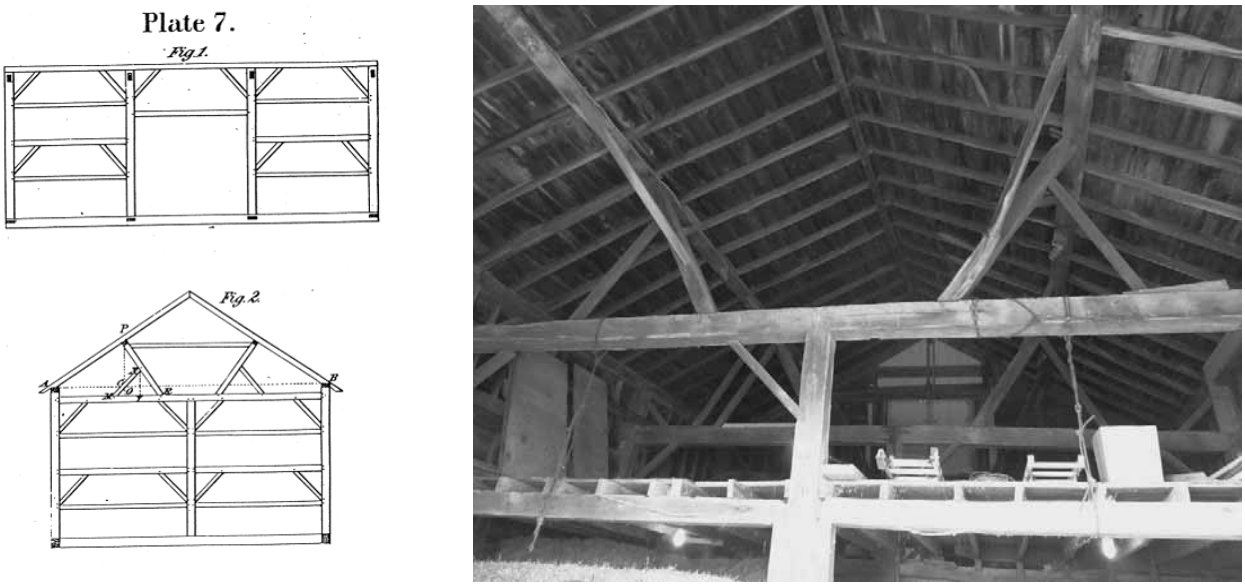
[114] Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, "The Farm Barns of the American Midwest," in *Barns of the Midwest,* Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, ed. (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995), 9.
[115] Hubert G.H. Wilhelm, "Midwestern Barns and Their Germanic Connections," in *Barns of the Midwest,* 65.
[116] Ibid.
[117] Ibid., 48–50.
[118] Lowell J. Soike, "Within the Reach of All: Midwest Barns Perfected," in *Barns of the Midwest,* Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, ed. (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995), 147. Two major forms of plank framing developed. The first took dimension plank lumber and imitated heavy timber framing, carrying the loads through posts and beams. The second type opened up the center of the barn by using a truss for the framing bents. This was followed by an adaptation of the balloon framing for barn construction. Stud walls replaced posts and girts for handling loads; roof loads were carried by trusses made from lighter weight lumber (Ibid., 155–156).



Left: A drawing of heavy timber barn framing from 1894 [William E. Bell, Carpentry Made Easy, or the Science and Art of Framing *(Philadelphia: Ferguson Bros. & Co., 1894), plate 7]. Right: This type of braced framing is evident at the historic barn on the William Goodwin Farmstead, site 763 in Section 9 of Wesley Township.*

At the beginning of the twentieth century, new barn building ideas emerged from a growing field of experts: agricultural engineers, experiment station researchers, and commercial farm planning services. The American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE) soon contained a committee on farm structures after its formation. The result of these efforts widened the variety of barn building plans available to farmers and encouraged improved building standards.[119] At about this time, manufacturers and marketers of pre-cut, ready-to-assemble houses (such as the American Foursquare house type discussed above) entered the market for barn construction. Two major Iowa firms, the Louden Machinery Company of Fairfield and the Gordon-Van Tine Company of Davenport, advertised plans for their pre-cut barns along with their pre-cut homes.

Engineering research led to the development of framing for gambrel roofs, culminating in the Clyde or Iowa truss. (The shape of the gambrel roof allowed a larger loft space to store hay than the gable roof allowed.) The first step in this development was the work of John Shawver of Ohio, who developed a gambrel truss form using sawn lumber. The Iowa truss was developed by A.W. Clyde, an engineer with the Iowa State College farm extension service, around 1920. It allowed construction of a stiff frame at far lower cost than the Shawver truss, which required expensive extra-length material.[120]

[119] Ibid., 158.

[120] Ibid. The open loft, free from interior braces like those used in the Shawver and Iowa trusses, was finally achieved with the laminated gothic arch roof. The gothic roof was developed over a two decade period, with an early system using sawn boards 12 inches wide, 1 inch thick, and 3 to 4 feet long from which the outside edge was shaved to the needed curvature. Three or four plies were laminated together with nails, with splices staggered along the curve. These rafters were placed 2 feet on center. However, due to the material wasted in shaving the lumber and the labor consumed in sawing and nailing, farmers and builders were slow to adopt this system. Bent or sprung arches were the second major type of curved rafter construction, first used in an experiment in Davis, California, in 1916. The perceived savings in material and labor required to produce the same contour by bending instead of sawing, made this system more popular. Bent-rafter gothic arch construction, although more economical in labor and material, proved less rigid that the more expensive sawed type. For this reason, many farmers adopted a combination of the two, with the sawed rafters spaced every 8 to 12 feet and the bent rafters spaced between, twenty-four inches on center (Ibid., 161–2).

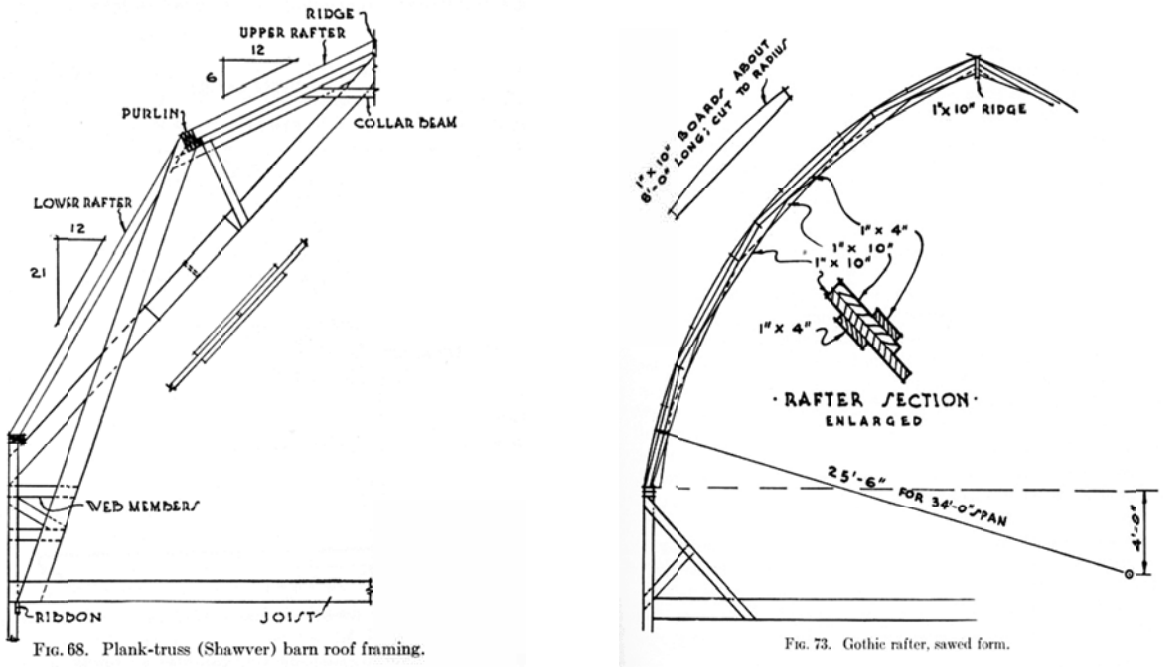


FIG. 68. Plank-truss (Shawver) barn roof framing.

FIG. 73. Gothic rafter, sawed form.

The Shawver and sawn gothic arch barn roof rafters. [Deane G. Carter and W.A. Foster, Farm Buildings*, third edition. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1941), 136, 141.]*

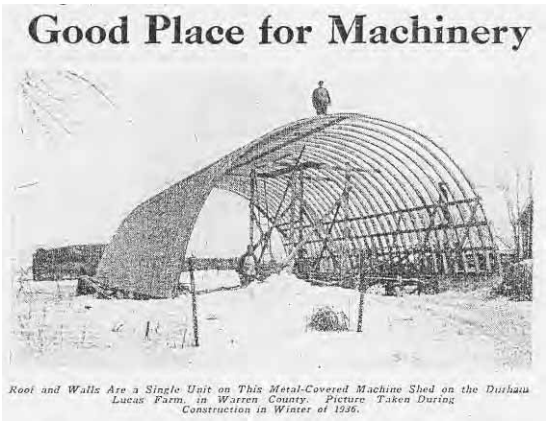
During the 1930s, the Gothic roof entered the last phase of its evolution. At Iowa State Agricultural College, Henry Giese tested existing types of laminated bent rafters in an attempt to solve their shortcomings. Working in collaboration with Rock Island Lumber Company, distributor of Weyerhauser Forest Products, he explored the potential of modern glues to yield a stronger bent rafter. Using Douglas fir, clear of knots and defects, glue-laminated under approximately 100 pounds per square inch of pressure and shaped to an arch form, the rafter was stronger than those laminated conventionally with nails and bolts (either the shaved- or bent-lumber techniques). Rafter performance was also improved with the use of hinge connections at the supports. Weyerhauser was marketing these factory-built rafters under the trademark of Rilco by 1938.[121] The United States Forest Products Laboratory also performed tests on glued laminated construction. Their laboratory tests showed that laminated rafters were two to four times stronger than ordinary bent and sawed rafters laminated with nails.[122]

The two-story loft barn ceased to be built shortly after World War II.[123] In the first half of the twentieth century the dependence on draft animals waned and mechanical power in the form of tractors increased, and farmers no longer needed loft space.[124] Farmers began to build fewer custom wood frame structures, which were susceptible to fires, as manufactured buildings using steel became available. Early metal-barn types, such as Quonsets, developed initially in the 1930s and gained a notable measure of popularity among some Midwestern farmers immediately after World War II. One of the leading manufacturers of Quonset barns and sheds was the Great Lakes Steel Corporation of Detroit, whose structures were purported to be fireproof, rat-proof, and sag-proof. Corrugated metal was also a suggested covering for

[121] Ibid., 162–163.
[122] Ibid., 164.
[123] Ibid., 165.
[124] In 1930, 61,000 combines were counted by the U.S. Census; in 1953, 918,000. One in six farmers already owned a tractor by 1932. In 1944, 14 percent of the nation's hay was harvested with windrow balers; by 1948, the figure was 46 percent. See Glenn A. Harper and Steve Gordon, "The Modern Midwestern Barn, 1900–Present," in *Barns of the Midwest,* Noble and Wilhelm, ed., 225.

wooden barn siding, and organizations as the Asbestos Farm Service Bureau promoted the use of asbestos-based cement boards for re-siding old barns.[125]

Because lofts were no longer needed, one-story barn construction became more standard in the postwar years. The shift from loose to baled or chopped hay reduced the need for haymows as many farmers adopted the "loose-housing" or "loafing" system for housing cattle. University of Wisconsin agricultural scientists argued that cows would be more content and give more milk if they were allowed to roam in and out of the barn at will. The loose-housing system resulted in the construction of one-story galvanized all-steel barns.[126] The pole barn was a simple method for constructing the necessary enclosure for farm implements and the limited amount of hay still required on the farm. Pole barns use round poles set into small, individual foundations, to which engineered roof trusses and wall girts and siding are attached. The structural concept for the modern pole barn was developed by H. Howard Doane of St. Louis in the early 1930s. He and George Perkins, his farm manager, used creosoted wood poles (which were commonly used for telephone poles) for the vertical structural members.[127] Pole barns and manufactured buildings are common throughout the survey area, and remain the standard means of construction for contemporary farm buildings.



Left: An advertisement for a metal covered machine shed similar in form to a Quonset shed, from the Peoria publication The Illinois Farmers Guide*, August 1939. Right: An advertising postcard for a Morton Building, manufactured by Interlocking Fence Company of Morton, Illinois.*

[125] Ibid., 226.
[126] Ibid., 225.
[127] Ibid.

Barn Types

As with house types, several systems have been used to classify barns, either by function; shape and structural system; ethnic traditions and their influence; or regional characteristics and commonalties.[128] The classification types developed below are based on Allen G. Noble and Richard K. Cleek's *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns & Other Farm Structures* and Allen G. Noble's *Wood, Brick & Stone.* Classification is generally made by the shape and function of the barn.

Three-bay Threshing Barn

The three-bay threshing barn (also called the English barn) was introduced into North America through English colonial settlement in southern New England.[129] The English and continental European immigrants of the early 1800s introduced this barn type to the Midwest. It was originally designed as a single function barn to store or process grain and was most suitable for small-scale, subsistence farms. It is a single level, rectangular structure divided into three parts or sections, each termed a bay.

Unlike other areas in Will County, Three-bay Threshing barns are uncommon in Wesley Township. One examples includes the barn at the Hiles Farmstead, site 863 in Section 20.

Large double doors are centered on both long sides of the structure. Hand threshing with a grain flail was done in the central bay, sometimes called the threshing bay. Following threshing, the large doors were opened to create a draft, which, during winnowing, would separate the chaff from the heavier grain, and carry it away. Flanking the central bay were the other two bays of generally equal dimensions. One was used during the fall or winter to store sheaves of harvested grain, awaiting threshing. The other bay was used for storing the threshed grain, commonly in bins, and straw, which was used as feed and bedding for horses and cattle.[130] Early examples had steeply pitched (over 45 degrees) gable roofs and low stone foundations. They were sided in vertical boards with small ventilation openings high on the gable ends.

[128] Often there are more conflicts than agreements between different classification systems. The types defined herein seem to best describe the structures actually present and the social and ethnic origins of their builders.

[129] Fred B. Kniffen, "Folk-Housing: Key to Diffusion," in *Common Places, Readings in American Vernacular Architecture,* Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, ed. (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 11.

[130] Charles Calkins and Martin Perkins, "The Three-bay Threshing Barn," in *Barns of the Midwest,* Allen G. Noble and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm, ed. (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995), 40–41.

Windows are largely absent, although later versions included them at animal stall locations. Gable-end sheds were a common addition.[131]

Eventually, as dairying replaced wheat production in the agricultural economy, the threshing/storage function of this barn type became less important. At first animals were not housed in the structure, although interior remodeling was often made to introduce animal stalls in one of the two side bays. This effectively reduced the grain storage and processing function and only offered shelter for a modest number of animals.[132] In some cases this barn type was lifted up and placed onto a raised basement, which then could house the animals, especially dairy cows.[133]

Raised, Bank, and Basement Barns

The raised or bank barn originated in central New York as a shelter for dairy cattle. It was the first multi-purpose barn to gain widespread popularity. These barns are usually larger than three-bay threshing barns and have a ground floor level for cattle and dairy cows with an upper level for hay and feed storage. This upper level is reached by an earthen ramp, bridge, or the natural slope of an embankment. Basement barns are similar to raised barns, in that the foundation walls extend up to the bottom of the second floor. However, basement barns do not have ramps nor are they sited to utilize the natural topography to access the second floor. Unlike other areas of Will County, the relatively hilly topography of Wesley Township means that bank barns are very common, representing about one-quarter of the historic barns documented during the survey.

Many bank barns in Wesley Township overlook the valleys formed by the Kankakee River or Forked Creek. Left: A very large and well-preserved mid-nineteenth century bank barn at the Gooding–Issert Farmstead, site 725 in Section 6. right: Another well-preserved nineteenth century bank barn at the Warner–Butterfield Farmstead, site 867 in Section 21. The foundations of these two barns are locally quarried limestone.

[131] Allen G. Noble and Richard K. Cleek, *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns and Other Farm Structures* (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1995), 77.
[132] Allen G. Noble, *Wood, Brick and Stone*, The North American Settlement Landscape, Volume 2: Barns and Farm Structures (Amherst, Massachusetts: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984), 56–58.
[133] Calkins and Perkins, "The Three-bay Threshing Barn," *Barns of the Midwest*, 59.


Left: The bank barn at the Paine–Corlett–Beckwith Farmstead, site 884 in Section 24. Right: The bank barn at the Binney Farmstead, site 885 in Section 24, includes a small forebay at the basement level (visible at right).

German Barn

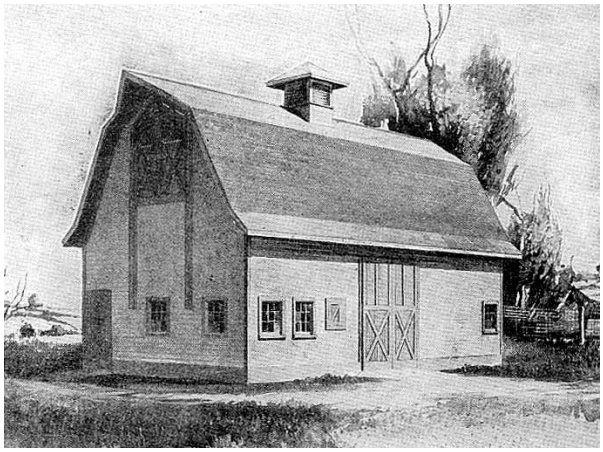
German barns, also called German/Swiss barns or Pennsylvania barns, include a group of barns introduced into the Delaware valley by German-speaking settlers. It was one of the first American barn types to combine crop storage and animal shelter. It became a structure synonymous with Pennsylvania Dutch culture and its mixed grain-livestock agriculture. These barns had a lower story partially cut into the natural slope of the land and an upper level that was accessed from a slope or ramp. A forebay is formed by recessing the ground floor wall and enclosing it at each end with the masonry gable end walls. Another distinctive feature is the use of a combination of stone masonry and wood framed and sheathed walls: stone was typically reserved for gable end walls and/or north facing walls. This barn type was not observed in the survey area.

Plank Frame Barn

This relatively small barn type originated in the eastern Midwest around 1875.[134] Plank frame barns can have gable or gambrel roofs and are typically one story in height plus a large hay loft. They are multi-purpose, with small ground floor windows for animal stalls and a large sliding door for equipment. Their floor plans are usually small, approximately 30 by 40 feet. Plank frame barns use small dimension milled lumber rather than the heavy timber framing of earlier barn types. The plank frame barn type is very common in Wesley Township, representing about 40 percent of the historic barns surveyed.


Left: The gambrel-roof barn at the Butcher Farmstead, site 726 in Section 6, exemplified the plank frame type. Right: The plank frame barn at the Curl Farmstead, site 775 in Section 12. This farmstead is now owned by the Will County Forest Preserve District.

[134] Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book,* 117

Left: A typical plank frame barn at the Reay–Melbourn Farmstead, site 730 in Section 1 in the western part of the township. Right: An example of the plank frame barn type illustrated in Smith & Betts Farm and Building Book *(Chicago: The Radford Architectural Company, 1915).*

Three-ended Barn

This barn type is a modification to the three-bay threshing barn, adding a hay barn addition perpendicular to an existing barn. This addition, sometimes called a straw shed, could have less height than the main portion of the barn or be taller than the main barn. The additions could also have an open bay at ground level into which a cart could drive to unload hay into the loft space. No three-ended barns were identified in the survey area.

Round Barn

Non-orthogonal barns (round or polygonal in plan) were popular in the first two decades of the twentieth century. In Illinois, agriculture professor Wilber J. Fraser of the University of Illinois promoted the use of round barns. No existing round barns were documented in the survey area.

Round Roof Barn

Round roof barns came into existence with structural advances in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Although called round, roof shapes for this type are often gothic arch in form. The name describes the roof shape, although the configuration of their floor plans were usually based on more typical barn types such as plank frame, dairy, or raised barns. Round roof barns were present in Wesley Township historically, but no intact examples survive today.


Left: The round roof barn at the John Goodwin Farmstead, site 764 in Section 9, recently collapsed. Right: The Richardson–Cusick Farmstead, site 767 in Section 10, has this gambrel-roof dairy barn.

Wisconsin Dairy Barn

A barn associated with dairying is the Wisconsin dairy barn, which originated at the Wisconsin's Agricultural Experiment Station at Madison around 1915. It was specially designed to provide a structure for efficient dairy farming. This large barn was typically 36 by 100 feet or larger. It had a gambrel roof or occasionally a round roof, although early versions were often gable-roofed with horizontal boarding. Rows of small windows and gable-end doors were typical. There was usually a large gable-end loft opening and a triangular hay hood. Frequently there are roof ventilators.[135] A few dairy barns were identified in the survey area.

Feeder Barn

During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, Illinois and Iowa developed into the regional center for beef production. Farmers with rougher land, more suited to cattle than crops, raised their cattle from birth to finished beef. They fattened their stock on surplus corn, alfalfa, and feed supplements, and sold them to the rail-connected beef-processing industry in Chicago. The industry was also aided by the introduction of the refrigerated box car. In order to build a barn to hold cattle and hay, the feeder barn (sometimes called the hay barn) was developed. Cattle are housed and fed on the ground floor with a loft above to hold hay. Several examples of the feeder barn type were identified in Wesley Township.

Left: The feeder barn at the Marshall–Edwards–Bell Farmstead, site 771 in Section 11, has a larger rooftop feed chute. Right: The feeder barn at the Bunker–Donohue Farmstead, site 772 in Section 11, has shed-roof bays on either side to shelter equipment.

Pole Barn

The latest major barn type, called the pole barn, evolved in the eastern Midwest. The walls of the building are hung on poles that are driven into individual footings buried in the ground below the frost line. The floor is typically concrete slab or dirt. There is no loft. Later versions usually have metal siding, especially those erected after World War II.[136] The pole barn is an example of economical construction techniques applied to modern agriculture.

Quonset Shed

Sometime referred to as Quonset "huts," this metal building type is named for the U.S. Naval Air Station at Quonset Point in Davisville, Rhode Island, where sheds of this type were built in 1942, although wood-framed examples were already common in the 1930s. Its universal use in the military during World War II made Quonset sheds seem to be an ideal economical building type in the postwar years, finding use as storage facilities, offices, homes, and commercial ventures such as movie theaters. Military

[135] Noble and Cleek, 77.
[136] Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book,* 120.

Quonsets often had steel framing members to support the corrugated galvanized metal sheathing, but civilian examples used wood framing as well. Only a few examples were identified in Wesley Township.

Typical pole barns in Wesley Township. Left: The Bunker–Donohue Farmstead, site 772 in Section 11. Right: The Marshall Farmstead, site 808 in Section 15.

Manufactured Building

While pole barn structures use manufactured materials assembled by a local builder or the farmer himself, manufactured buildings originated in the early decades of the twentieth century but were offered as a complete system from the 1940s. Companies including Butler, Bryant, and Morton have produced manufactured buildings that are present in Will County. Such buildings offer quick construction time and potentially lower cost because of the use of standardized components. The buildings also allow for large floor areas, giving farmers flexibility of usage. This building type remains ubiquitous in Will County for newly constructed agricultural buildings.

Left: The Carey–Donahue Farmstead, site 794 in Section 14, has this quonset shed. Right: A twentieth century manufactured building is present at the A. E. Jackson Farmstead, site 768 in Section 10.

Grain Elevators

Grain elevators began to be constructed alongside developing rail systems during the second half of the nineteenth century. Early elevators were often associated with the flour mills they served. They were usually timber-framed structures, as were the mills themselves.[137] Concrete grain elevators and silos, usually constructed in banks of two to ten or more, were constructed in the early decades of the twentieth century.

Corncribs

Pioneer farmers frequently built log corncribs during their two centuries of migration into and settlement of the Midwest. Most crude frontier log cribs were little more than bins, loosely constructed of saplings or split rails and laid up with saddle notching to hold them together.[138] Sometimes the logs were skinned to lessen the danger of infestation by worms and insect. The bin-like cribs were typically covered with thatch or cornstalks to help shed the rain; a board and shingle roof took more effort, required nails, and therefore was more expensive. Unfortunately, thatch roof corncribs were more readily infested by rodents. Log construction of corncribs remained popular through the 1800s in areas where timber resources proved readily accessible.

The invention of the circular saw in 1860 and its growing adaptation to steam power by mid-century made lumber cheap enough for general use on outbuildings such as corncribs, enabling later versions to be built of narrow lumber slats.[139] The corncrib usually rested on log or stone piers.[140] In constructing a frame corncrib, two methods of attaching the slat siding or cribbing were used. The slats were attached either horizontally or vertically; cribbing attached diagonally for extra strength seems to have come into practice about 1900.[141]

The size of the corncribs remained small, even as corn production rose during much of the nineteenth century, in part due to the practice of corn shocking. Corn could be gradually "shucked out" as needed and hauled to the crib or barn for milling and feeding to livestock. Large corncribs were unnecessary since farmers could leave much of their corn in the field until spring.[142] Crib width was influenced by the climate of a region; drier conditions allowed for wider cribs with no increased loss of corn due to mold. As corn production outgrew the single crib in the developing Corn Belt, double cribs were formed by extending the roof over a pair of cribs to form a gable roof. If the gap between the cribs was then lofted over, extra space was gained beneath the roof for overflow storage of ear corn. Spreading the cribs apart not only increased the loft space but created a storage area below for wagons, tools, and implements. These structures, called crib barns, became common in the Midwest by 1900.[143] The creation of larger corncribs and their overhead grain bins depended upon the invention of new methods to raise the grain and ear corn higher than a farmer could scoop it. High cribs were made possible by the commercial adaptation of continuous belt and cup elevators from grain mills and by the portable grain elevator grain.

In the early decades of the twentieth century, both concrete and steel were promoted as alternative construction materials for corncribs and grain elevators. The use of hollow clay tiles was also encouraged in those parts of the Midwest where they were manufactured, notably in Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana.[144] The most common variety of concrete corncrib was made of interlocking stave blocks, which had been cast

[137] Keith E. Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture* (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988), 176.
[138] Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 170–171.
[139] Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture*, 26.
[140] Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 155.
[141] Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture*, 27.
[142] Keith E. Roe, "Corncribs to Grain Elevators: Extensions of the Barn, " in *Barns of the Midwest*, 170.
[143] Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture*, 60.
[144] Ibid., 177.

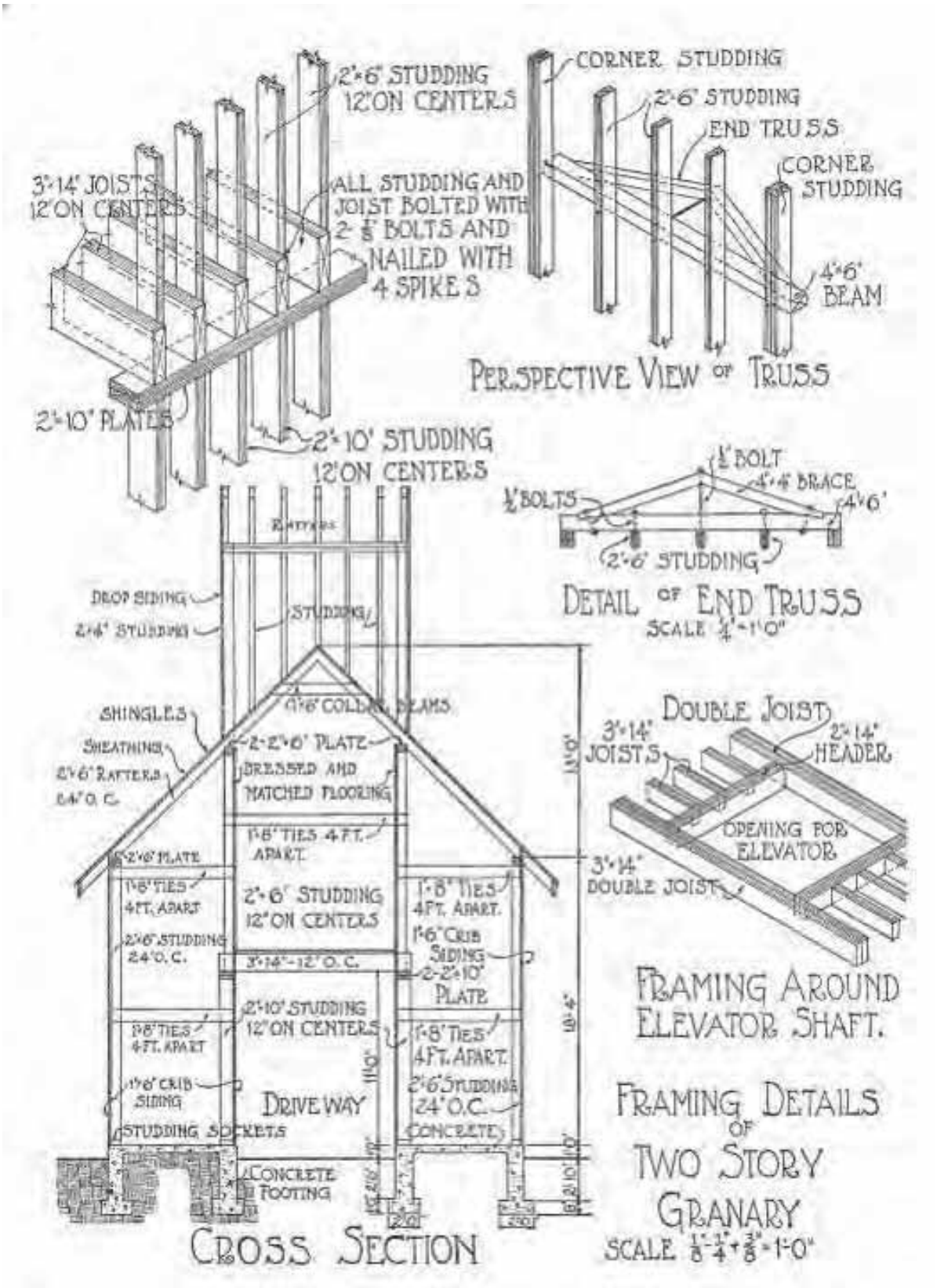
with ventilating slots. In some cases, steel wires or rods were incorporated in the vents to keep out rodents. The blocks were laid up in the form of a circular bin. These were encircled with steel rods, enabling the structure to withstand lateral pressures from the corn heaped within. Single and double bin corncribs of this type were most common, although four-bin corncribs were not unusual. Between 1900 and 1940, concrete was promoted as a do-it-yourself material, poured into rented forms, for building corncribs.[145] Wood-framed corn cribs are not common in the survey area. Crib barns, silos, and metal grain bins are much more common.

Crib Barns

Crib barns are simple structures formed of pens or cribs that have a space between the cribs for implement storage. There are two basics types: crib barns with the gable or roofline parallel to the cribs, and transverse crib barns with the roofline perpendicular to the pens. The configuration of crib barns developed from practical limitations and needs, such as the height to which a scoopful of corn could be pitched from a wagon (which dictated the bin height) and the size of farm equipment (which dictated the spacing between bins). Later crib barns, including many examples in the survey area, have mechanical elevators housed in a small projecting cupola at the ridge of the crib barn roof. Crib barns are present on approximately one-quarter of the farmstead sites surveyed.

Examples of crib barns in Wesley Township. Top left: The crib barn at the Umsted–Hennebry Farmstead, site 793 in Section 14, is a typical small crib barn likely dating to around 1900. Top right: The crib barn at the O'Brien Farmstead, site 706 in Section 2, is a larger example on a concrete foundation, typical of the 1920s and 1930s. Bottom left: The curved-end mansard roof crib barn at the Richardson–Cusick Farmstead, site 767 in Section 10, is a distinctive concrete block structure; similar crib barns are seen throughout Will County. Bottom right: The two-story crib barn at the Beckwith Farmstead, site 890 in Section 25, is a unique example of the crib barn type.

[145] Ibid., 176.



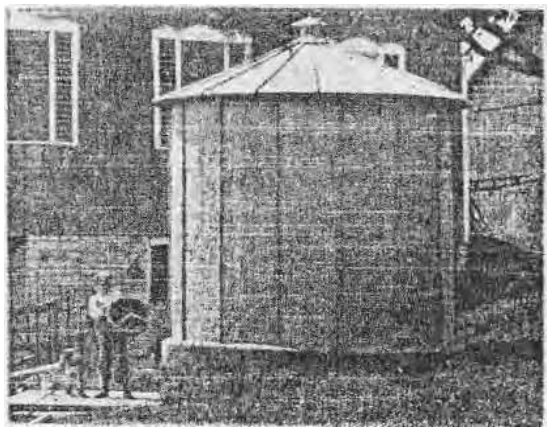
Crib barns, usually with two bins, abound in the survey area. Illustrated above are framing details of a crib barn from Smith & Betts Farm and Building Book *(Chicago: The Radford Architectural Company, 1915).*

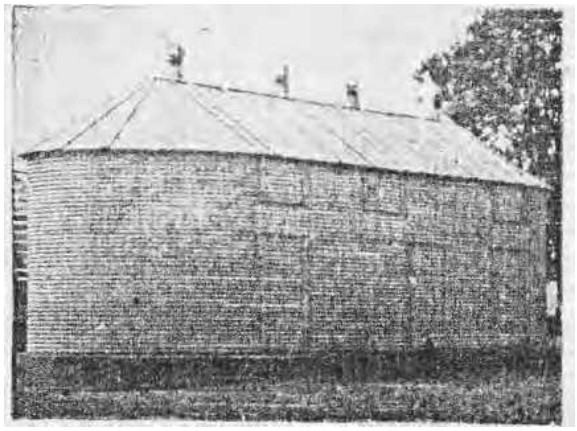
Metal Bins

Metal construction for corn storage came into use early in the twentieth century and was promoted by the steel industry during World War I as a crop saver for the patriotic farmer. Rectangular or hexagonal corncribs were constructed from flat, galvanized-steel sheet metal with ventilating perforations. Corrugated, curved sheets created the more common cylindrical bin type, which was usually topped with a conical roof. The steel corncrib had wall ventilation slits and, most times, a roof ventilator at its peak.[146]

Steel was ideal for fabricating standard parts, as well as being vermin-proof. Proper design of metal bins included such factors as ventilation, consideration of structural loads from the feed to be contained, and use of a concrete or heavy timber foundation with the exterior walls anchored to the foundation. Roofs usually consisted of overlapping sheets to form a conical form.[147]

Corn bins made of steel rods or heavy wire mesh also became available in the 1930s. The wire mesh type was particularly popular after World War II because of its low cost, ease of filling, and low maintenance. Wire mesh-type bins have fallen out of favor since the 1980s, but the solid metal bins are still commonly used today. Grain bins are less common in Wesley Township than other areas of Will County.





Above: Illustrations of two types of metal corn bins from The Illinois Farmer's Guide, *August 1939. Below: Examples of 1930s era metal bins, at the Neese–Carver Farmstead, site 733 in Section 6 (left) and the A. E. Jackson Farmstead, site 768 in Section 10.*

[146] Ibid.

[147] R.E. Martin, "Steel Bin Design for Farm Storage of Grain," *Agricultural Engineering* (April 1940): 144 and 146.

Silos

Silos are structures used for preserving green fodder crops, principally field corn, in a succulent condition. Silos are a recent phenomenon, employed only after 1875 and not truly established until shortly before the turn of the twentieth century. The stored green fodder material is termed ensilage, which is shortened to silage. The acceptance of silos was gradual, but this type of structure eventually came to be enthusiastically embraced by farmers because it offered certain advantages. First, larger numbers of cattle could be kept on the farm because the food value of corn is greater than that of a combination of hay and grain. Second, less water was needed for stock in the winter, lessening labor requirements as frequent ice breaking and thawing was no longer required. Finally, because succulent green fodder could be fed throughout the year, cows produced milk during the entire winter season, increasing the income of the farm.[148]

The first silos were pits excavated inside the barn. The earliest upright or tower silos date from the late 1880s and were rectangular or square in form and constructed with the same materials and techniques as those used in the barn itself, with framed lumber walls.[149] Many were constructed within the barn building.[150] Later examples of this silo type had rounded corners on the inside formed by a vertical tongue-in-groove lining. The rectangular silo appeared in some areas as late as 1910. The octagonal silo type that followed attempted to achieve the advantages of a circular silo while keeping the ease of angular construction. In the 1890s circular forms began to be seen. A shift from the rectangular to the circular stems from the efficiency of the circular form in storing corn ensilage by eliminating air space and thereby reducing spoilage.

The wooden-hoop silo was formed with wood, soaked and shaped into gigantic circular hoop forms and then fastened together horizontally in the tower shape. This style did not become popular because the hoops tended to spring apart. A more common type of wood silo was the panel or Minneapolis silo, also known by several other names. It was advertised in numerous farm journals in the early twentieth century. It consisted of ribs set about 20 inches to 24 inches apart and horizontal matched boards (known as staves) set in grooves in the ribs. Steel hoops were placed around silo to lock the boards in place. This type of silo was made with either single or double wall construction and was polygonal in plan.

Masonry silos, constructed of hollow clay tile, brick, or concrete block, appeared in the first decades of the twentieth century. In comparison with the other two types of silos, brick silos were more difficult to construct because of the time required to erect the relatively small masonry units. There were many patents on concrete blocks for silo purposes, with some blocks curved and other finished with rock-faced building blocks. Some patented blocks had reinforcing sold with the blocks or integral with the block units.[151] Concrete block silos were finished on the interior with a layer of cement mortar to seal joints that might otherwise leak air or water.

The hollow clay tile silo, generally known as the "Iowa Silo," was developed by the Experiment Station of the Iowa State College and erected during the summer of 1908 on the college farm.[152] Brick and tile companies manufactured curved blocks for silos, advertising them in farm journals. The main complaint regarding the hollow block silo was that the masonry units were porous and leaked water. The mortar joints on both inside and outside of wall needed to be properly pointed as a precaution against leakage. Some silo builders washed the interior of the wall with cement mortar as a further precaution. Steel reinforcing consisted of heavy wire embedded in the mortar joints.

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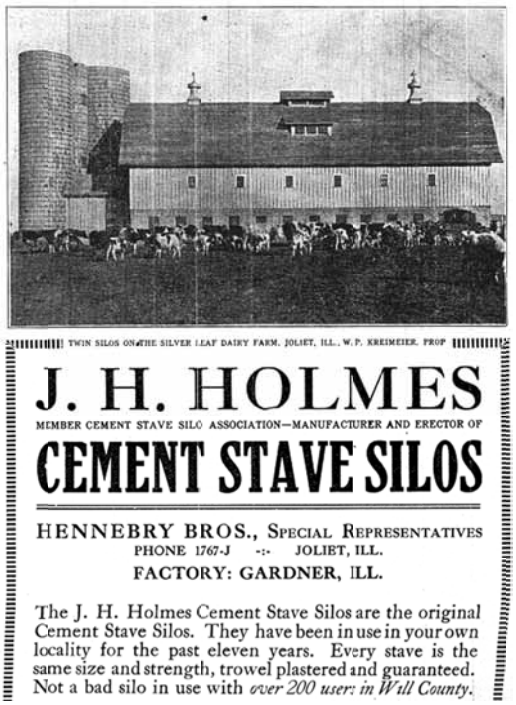
[148] Noble, *Wood, Brick and Stone*, 71–72.
[149] Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 158.
[150] Ingolf Vogeler, "Dairying and Dairy Barns in the Northern Midwest," *Barns of the Midwest* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 1995), 108.
[151] W.A. Foster, "Silo Types and Essentials," *Hoard's Dairyman* (21 February 1919) 201, 216, 217, and 232.
[152] Ibid.

Concrete stave silos were constructed as early as 1904 in Cassopolis, Missouri, which used book-shaped staves.[153] Several patents existed for cement stave silos, including that of the Mason & Lawrence of Elgin, Illinois, dating from 1914.[154] Farmers also could make their own concrete staves or blocks to construct a silo or other farm structure. Concrete staves could vary in size, but were often approximately 30 inches long, 10 inches wide, and 2-1/2 inches thick. One end of the block was concave and the other convex to allow fitting the blocks in the assembled structure.[155]

This excerpt from *Concrete* magazine from 1927 outlines the erection procedure for a concrete stave silo:

> Concrete stave silos are quickly and easily erected. Three men can easily erect two average sized silos each week and some crews can do better than that, especially when the proper equipment is at hand. . . . Concrete staves are generally set up dry, no mortar being used in the joints. In some types a grove is molded entirely around the edge of the stave. . . . The hoops or steel rods, placed to reinforce the silo, are set as the erection of the wall progressed. Hoops are usually composed of two or three sections, depending upon the diameter of the silo. The sections are joined by means of special lugs. After the hoops are placed in position they are drawn tight enough to hold them in position. . . . After the entire silo walls are completed, the hoops are drawn tight, care being exercised to draw them all to the same tension. . . . After the walls are erected and the hoops tightened, the interior walls are ready for a wash that seals the joints and produces a smooth, impervious surface. A cement wash, made of a mixture of cement and water and of the consistency of thick paint, is often used.[156]



Above: A detail view of the steel hoops and turnbuckles on a concrete stave silo. Right: An advertisement for concrete stave silos from the Prairie Farmer's Reliable Directory *(1918), 359.*

[153] Foster, "Silo Types and Essentials." Patents were granted on this type of stave silo in 1908, and the type was known commercially as the Playford patent cement stave silo.
[154] "How to Make and Sell Concrete Silo Staves," *Concrete* (October 1927): 32–35.
[155] David Mocine, "Keep Workmen Busy the Year Round," *Concrete Products* (January 1948): 161.
[156] "How to Make and Sell Concrete Silo Staves," *Concrete* (October 1927) 32–35.

Silos constructed with monolithic concrete walls also appeared in the early decades of the twentieth century. Concrete silos were built using "slip-forms," with the forms usually about two feet high and lifted once the level below had cured sufficiently, leaving horizontal cold joints between each level.[157] Such silos could be expensive to construct since labor was required to prepare the concrete and lift the forms. However, forms could be rented from contractors or cement manufacturers. Farmers who chose to build a concrete silo could obtain guidance from farm and building trade journals. Qualities of the reinforcing steel and type, concrete components and mixing, formwork, and concrete placement were outlined, as stated in this excerpt from *Hoard's Dairyman* from 1919:

> When used, the cement should be in perfect condition and contain no lumps, which cannot readily be pulverized between the fingers. Sand and gravel or broken stone should conform to the requirements of proper grading and cleanliness. . . . Water must be clean, free from oil, alkali, silt, loam, and clay in suspension. Steel used in reinforcement should be secured from one of the manufacturers specializing in steel for use in concrete construction. . . . Wire mesh fabrics may be used instead of steel bars but if used should contain an amount of metal equal in cross-section area to the rods for which substituted.[158]

In 1913, farmers were lectured at the annual gathering of the Illinois Farmers' Institute not only about the utility of the silo but also other issues to consider:

> The question of general arrangement of the farm buildings is too often neglected. This should be of second consideration, as there is beauty in utility. Often the upper portion of a well-built silo showing above the sloping roof of some of the other buildings adds very materially to the general appearance of the group of buildings. Also the side near the top often affords the best place for the farm name.[159]

Farm journals gave their readers information for constructing a silo with the "essential features . . . necessary to secure good, sweet silage," focusing primarily on the silo walls.[160] Wall strength, smoothness of interior wall surfaces, and air and water tightness were considered essential features. The foundation for the silo typically consisted of a wall ten inches minimum in width extending below the frost line and six to eight inches above grade. Conical roof shapes were common on some early silos, but gambrel and, later, domical roofs became more prevalent.[161] An essential feature of any roof was a snug fit to prevent birds from entering the silo.

After 1949, a new type of silo appeared: the blue Harvestore silos. Constructed of fiberglass bonded to sheets of metal, they were first introduced in Wisconsin. The glass-coated interior surface prevented silage from freezing and rust from forming. Because the container was airtight, the silage would not spoil. Augers, derived from coal-mining equipment, were used to bore the silage out at the bottom of the silo, a great change from the earlier top-unloaded silos. A large plastic bag at the top of the structure allowed changes in gas pressure to be equalized, and took up the space vacated by removal of silage.[162] In 1974 the company launched another line of products for the containment of manure called Slurrystore. By

[157] The presence of cold joints had the potential to allow air to enter the silo. Therefore, it was important to coat the silo interior with a layer of cement mortar. As with other silo types, this mortar layer needed to be renewed periodically.
[158] H. Colin Campbell, "Concrete Silo Construction," *Hoard's Dairyman* (21 February 1919): 200.
[159] King, "Planning the Silo," in *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Farmers' Institute,* 64.
[160] W.A. Foster, "Silo Types and Essentials," *Hoard's Dairyman* (21 February 1919): 201.
[161] Gambrel and domical roofs allowed for filling the silo to the top of the outer wall, maximizing the storage capacity.
[162] Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 108–109.

1999, over 70,000 of Harvestore structures of various sizes (tall or short, narrow or stout) had been built.[163]

Silos are not particularly common in Wesley Township. The observed examples typically use concrete stave construction.

Silos in Wesley Township. Left: A concrete stave silo at the Neese–Carver Farmstead, site 733 in Section 6. Middle: A pair of concrete stave silos and one metal silo at the Bunker–Donohue Farmstead, site 772 in Section 11. Right: A Harvestore silo at the Hiram Goodwin Farmstead, site 761 in Section 8.

[163] Harvestore Systems, DeKalb, Illinois, <www.harvestore.com>, accessed July 2012.

Other Farm Structures

> We did much of our own carpentering as a matter of course. The farmer who couldn't build his own henhouse or woodshed wasn't much of a farmer.[164]

Farmhouses, barns, corn cribs, and silos make up approximately half of the buildings surveyed as part of this study. The remaining outbuildings include many of the building types illustrated below. They include chicken houses, hog houses, milk houses, smokehouses, water tanks and windmills. As implied by the above quote, many of these outbuildings likely were built by the farmers themselves.

Above: Smaller outbuildings such as these chicken coops at the Charles Hazelton Farmstead, site 702 in Section 1 (left) and at the Kennedy–Williams Farmstead, site 712 in Section 3 (right) were often built by the farmers themselves. Below: Unique outbuildings documented in the survey include the summer kitchen at the Butcher Farmstead, site 726 in Section 6, and the privy at the Warriner Family Houses, site 825 in Section 15.

[164] Britt, *An America That Was*, 127.

CHAPTER 4

SURVEY SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Period of Significance: 1835 to 1970

The first settlement by settlers of European origin occurred in Will County in the 1830s. Settlers first came to Wesley Township in 1834, although large portions of the township were sold to private owners only in the late 1840s. An approximate starting date of 1835 is used for the period of significance.

Wesley Township began its development as a farming community, with the nearby city of Wilmington serving as the primary market and commercial town for the residents of the township. The Kankakee River formed an important artery for travel in the nineteenth century.

Following construction of the Wabash Railroad in 1880, the settlement of Ritchie was established in the township, but this new village never developed into a major commercial center, and a second grain depot at Ballou in Section 5 attracted some local business. Development of Ritchie was further stunted by the relocation of the railroad toward the west to provide a better crossing of the Kankakee River around 1900. Wesley Township remained an entirely rural community up to 1940.

After World War II, residential development expanding from Wilmington resulted in the establishment of new subdivisions in the northwestern portion of Wesley Township. New residential enclaves and campgrounds were built along the banks of the Kankakee River as far south as Section 20; the riverfront portions of the eastern half of the township were incorporated into Kankakee River State Park in 1956. When school consolidation occurred in the 1950s, the historic connections that had always made Wesley Township socially and economically joined to the City of Wilmington were reinforced.

Unlike other areas of the county that have seen significant commercial, industrial, and residential development since 1990, Wesley Township has been little affected by new construction. A closing date of 1970 is used for the period of significance, for consistency with other portions of Will County.

The use of the closing date of 1970, however, does not mean that all elements constructed prior to that time were surveyed. Only a select number constructed between 1950 and 1970 have been included. Agricultural support structures such as manufactured buildings or grain bins that may post-date 1970 were included in the documentation of historic farmsteads.

Significance

National Register and Local Landmark Criteria

A selected number of properties within the rural survey area are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation, as cited below, provide standards that significant historic properties are required to meet in order to be listed in the National Register:

> The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
> A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
> B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
> C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
> D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information in prehistory or history.[165]

The three criteria that are most applicable to the rural survey area are A, B, and C. Under Criterion A, the survey region has significance as a historic agricultural region with over 100 years of historical significance. The survey region has less significance under Criterion B, except on a local level as discussed below. Under Criteria A and C, the survey region contains architecturally significant structures that represent the diverse range of agricultural practices that occurred during the period of significance.

In addition to eligibility for national listing, properties within the survey region are also eligible for local Will County listing, either individually as landmarks or as a group as a preservation district. The following are the criteria for Will County landmark listing as stated in the Will County Preservation Ordinance:

> Criteria for Consideration of Nomination. The Commission may recommend to the County Board the designation of landmarks and preservation districts, where not more than fifty percent (50%) of the property owners whose property is located within the boundaries of the proposed district object to designation, when after a thorough investigation results in a determination that a property, structure or improvement, or area so recommended meets one (1) or more of the following criteria:
> a) It has character, interest, or value which is part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of a local community, the County of Will, State of Illinois or the Nation;
> b) Its location is a site of a significant local, County, State, or National event;
> c) It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the local community County or Will, State of Illinois, or the Nation;
> d) It embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials;
> e) It is identified with the work of a master builder, designer, architect, engineer, or landscape architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the local area, County of Will, State of Illinois, or the Nation;
> f) It embodies elements of design, detailing, materials, or craftsmanship that render it architecturally significant;
> g) It embodies design elements that make it structurally or architecturally innovative;

[165] Quoted from National Register Bulletin 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, 1997), 2; originally published in *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 60*.

h) It has a unique location or singular physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual feature;
i) It has character which is a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure with a high level of integrity or architectural significance;
j) It is suitable for preservation or restoration;
k) It is included in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Illinois Register of Historic Places.
l) It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to pre-history, history or other areas of archaeological significance.

In the event a property, structure, or an area is found to be of such significant character and quality where it is determined that its designation as a landmark or preservation district is in the overall best interest of the general welfare, any person may nominate and the Commission may recommend to the County Board such appropriate designation.

One of the differences between national and local listing is that local significance may be easier to justify than national significance. Properties that are eligible and listed as local landmarks, but may be more difficult to nominate for the National Register, receive important recognition and thereby afforded a certain measure of protection. Eventually, these properties could be listed as National Register properties if the case for their nomination improves. Additionally, local landmark designation often gives protections that National Register listing does not. The suggested properties have been researched sufficiently in performing this survey to merit consideration as Will County Landmarks.[166] It should be noted that some of the properties with local landmark potential could be determined, after performing additional research, to have sufficient significance for National Register designation.

Another measure of recognition is the listing of farmsteads that have been "owned by a straight or collateral line of descendants of the original owner for at least 100 years."[167] Since 1972, the Illinois Department of Agriculture has administered the Illinois Centennial Farms Program. Illinois has been settled by farmers since the early 1800s, meaning that some farms have been in the same family for more than 100 years. To recognize the achievement of 150 years of ownership, the Illinois Sesquicentennial Farms Program was established in 2000. Application for either program requires a written legal description and the familial line of farmer owners.

[166] It is useful at this point to provide general readers of this report with information on the issues surrounding the designation of a property as a Landmark as embodied in the Will County Preservation Ordinance. (The issues discussed herein are current as of the date of this report.) Landmarks may be properties (including districts), structures, or natural features. Any individual or group may propose a property for designation to the Historic Preservation Commission. Although the property owner does *not* need to be the party proposing designation, and the property owner does *not* need to grant consent in event of approval by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Will County Board, the property owner is notified in accordance with legal requirements of public hearings (adjacent property owners are notified as well).
The Will County Preservation Ordinance protects historic sites designated as Landmarks from alteration and demolition. (The ordinance also has a clause that provides for the review of demolition permits on buildings and structures 30 years and older.) All work on the Landmark (with the exception of normal maintenance) must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission prior to beginning work, although work limited by economic hardship or in response to emergency situations is allowable with proper documentation. Demolition of a Landmark is permitted only after review of the demolition application by the Historic Preservation Commission, who may require written, graphic, and/or photographic documentation of the Landmark prior to demolition. Owners of Will County Landmarks are not obligated to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore their properties; however, owners may be eligible for low-interest loans, tax credits, or grants to assist with such actions. (Source: "Will County Landmark Nomination Questions," n.d.)

[167] Introduction to the Illinois Centennial Farms Program application form, Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Integrity

One important issue in the consideration of significance of a property or site is its historical and architectural integrity. This can be defined as the degree that a structure or group of structures retains its original configuration and materials, and that these materials are in good enough condition that measures can be taken to extend their service life. Replacement of selected elements, such as rotted wood members, may be necessary, but total replacement is not necessary. The issue applies primarily to the exterior of the structure, although in some cases the integrity of the interior may be a factor as well.

In the areas of Will County included in this and past intensive surveys, individual buildings on farmsteads may be in poor condition or significantly altered. In these instances, determination of significance can only be made on the historical importance of the original owner or builder. Some farmstead sites have an eroded integrity because of the loss of one or more significant structures, making it difficult to recognize the agricultural connections of the site. Determination of integrity has to be made on a case by case basis. In many instances, the presence of a former farmhouse or barn alone communicates agricultural origin of the site.

Another issue that defines the integrity of a structure is the presence of historically appropriate materials. Since a 150-year-old farmhouse is unlikely to have all of its original wood siding in place, an appropriate replacement would be wood siding material of similar dimension to the original. The presence of artificial or synthetic siding material, such as metal, aluminum, or vinyl siding, seriously detracts from the integrity of the building or element. It should be noted that this applies not only to farmhouses but barns and other agricultural support buildings. To address the addition of contemporary finish materials to historic buildings while still identifying structures of historic interest, this survey report uses the terminology "potentially" significant. This terminology is used to describe structures for which the overall form and architectural character remains intact, but for which contemporary finish materials have been added to the building exterior. The removal of these finish materials and the repair of the original wood siding (which typically is left in place in such installations) is a straightforward activity that, if implemented, would restore the integrity of these historic structures. Although the presence of contemporary finish materials generally disqualifies a structure from individual listing as a historic landmark in some registries, this survey report is intended to serve as a planning tool, and the identification of sites with a potential to be listed as historic landmarks increases the usefulness of this tool.

This issue is addressed in *Preservation Brief No. 8: Aluminum and Vinyl Siding on Historic Buildings*, which states the following:

> Preservation of a building or district and its historic character is based on the assumption that the retention of historic materials and features and their craftsmanship are of primary importance. Therefore, the underlying issue in any discussion of replacement materials is whether or not the integrity of historic materials and craftsmanship has been lost. Structures are historic because the materials and craftsmanship reflected in their construction are tangible and irreplaceable evidence of our cultural heritage. To the degree that substitute materials destroy and/or conceal the historic fabric, they will always subtract from the basic integrity of historically and architecturally significant buildings.[168]

Contributing and Non-contributing Properties

Many of the farmsteads and supporting rural sites in the survey can be considered contributing to a potential rural heritage district or simply retain the character of an agricultural development. In evaluating the sites in this survey, a contributing site is one that retains a *coherent* appearance as a farmstead or

[168] John H. Myers, with revisions by Gary L. Hume, *Preservation Brief No. 8, Aluminum and Vinyl Siding on Historic Buildings: The Appropriateness of Substitute Materials for Resurfacing Historic Wood Frame Buildings* (October 1984).

whatever its original function once was. Most of the structures on the property were observed to be in good or fair condition, although a few of the structures might be considered to be in poor condition. Non-contributing sites are listed as such because they lack integrity, such as potentially significant structures that have been significantly altered or were observed to be in poor condition. Abandoned farmsteads are also generally listed as non-contributing.

Will County Land Use Department Planning Documents

In April 2002, Will County adopted a new *Land Resource Management Plan*. The plan addresses the importance of Will County Landmarks and National Register designated properties and sites through preservation planning. The document is also very realistic, recognizing that growth likely will occur and, if not regulated properly, could have a detrimental impact on the character of the County's rural areas. The *Land Resource Management Pla*n focuses primarily on land use and development forms, but advocates that the preservation of rural areas should include the preservation of those elements significant to agricultural production and the agricultural landscape, such as rural structures. Therefore, the *Land Resource Management Plan* supports the goals for the preservation of rural structures.

The new *Land Resource Management Plan* also includes discussion of different forms of development in rural areas, both historically and at present. This includes preserving the character of hamlets and other small rural crossroad settlements. Contemporary development trends include Conservation Design Subdivisions, which rearrange the typical layout of streets and housing lots, setting aside a substantial amount of land as permanent open space. Conventional Suburban Residential subdivisions typically consume the entire development parcel. Historic structures and landscapes are specifically recognized in the *Land Resource Management Plan* as meriting protection when developing a Conservation Design Subdivision.[169]

A detailed review of the new *Land Resource Management Plan,* and its application to the rural survey area, is beyond the scope of this report. However, the information provided in this new document should be considered in the development of protection measures for the rural heritage areas and sites discussed below.

Municipal and County Government Coordination

Most of Wesley Township is unincorporated, including the hamlet of Ritchie. A small area at the extreme northwestern portion of the township is within the corporate limits of the City of Wilmington. No farmstead sites were identified within these limits. Generally, the Will County Historic Preservation Commission does not consider landmark nominations for properties within incorporated municipalities. However, the City of Wilmington does not have a local historic preservation ordinance. Through the passage of a municipal ordinance granting Will County the authority to designate a property, a property nominated within the municipality could proceed through the normal landmark designation review process. If, in the future, the City of Wilmington were to adopt a local historic preservation ordinance, jurisdiction of county landmarks within the municipality would be transferred to local from county jurisdiction. If a municipality without a local historic preservation ordinance were to annex a property that is already designated as a county landmark, the Will County preservation ordinance would continue to govern protection of the property.

[169] To view the *Land Resource Management Plan* in its entirety, please visit <http://willcountylanduse.com/document/policy-gateway>, or contact the Will County Land Use Department, Planning Division, at (815) 727-8430.

Potential Historic Districts, Thematic Designations, and Landmarks

Ritchie Historic District

There is also the potential for establishment of a historic district encompassing the unincorporated hamlet of Ritchie. Based on the results of the historic research and documentation conducted as part of this project, the hamlet retains integrity. The potential historic district is anchored by two existing Will County landmarks, the Ritchey United Methodist Church at the north end, and the Wesley Township Hall at the south end. Between these two surviving public buildings are about a dozen nineteenth century residences facing Illinois Route 102 and Angle Road, many of which have high integrity. The district would be centered along these two major roads, extending west to include the former Ritchie School at the corner of Angle Road and Wesley Lane. A suggested boundary for this potential historic district is provided in Appendix B.

Individual Landmarks

There are three existing Will County landmarks in Wesley Township: the Ritchie Railroad Depot, documented as part of the Hiles Farmstead, site 863 in the present survey, and designated a Will County Landmark on October 17, 2002; Wesley Township Hall, designated on December 15, 2005; and Ritchey United Methodist Church, designated October 18, 2007. There are no National Register-listed properties in the township.

Left: The Ritchie Railroad Depot, now relocated to the Hiles Farmstead. Right: The former Wesley Township Hall.

Above: Views of Ritchey United Methodist Church.

Based on the research performed for this survey, there are fourteen farmstead sites with the potential to be nominated as Will County landmarks. Of these fourteen farmsteads, two sites are additionally considered to be National Register-eligible due to their association with pioneer farm families and because they include architecturally significant historic buildings. This does not mean that other sites are not eligible, only that further study is required before a determination of eligibility can be made.

The following properties are considered to be eligible for Will County landmark designation.

- Site 713 PIN 25-04-300-004 Willard House (page 130)
- Site 725 PIN 25-06-400-012 Gooding–Issert Farmstead (page 125); National Register-eligible
- Site 731 PIN 25-06-300-001 Killey Farmstead (page 124); National Register-eligible
- Site 733 PIN 25-06-300-006 Neese–Carver Farmstead (page 131)
- Site 757 PIN 25-07-100-010 Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead (page 131)
- Site 761 PIN 25-08-400-003 Hiram Goodwin Farmstead (page 127)
- Site 763 PIN 25-09-100-007 William Goodwin Farmstead (page 127)
- Site 767 PIN 25-10-100-008 Richardson–Cusick Farmstead (page 132)
- Site 852 PIN 25-20-101-002 Kimble House (page 132)
- Site 863 PIN 25-20-200-001 Fred M. Hiles Farmstead (page 133)
- Site 864 PIN 25-20-200-003 Thomas Hiles Farmstead (page 133)
- Site 867 PIN 25-21-200-002 Warner–Butterfield Farmstead (page 134)
- Site 882 PIN 25-24-100-004 Byron–McCorkle Farmstead (page 135)
- Site 890 PIN 25-25-400-005 Beckwith Farmstead (page 136)

None of the identified properties is located within the incorporated limits of the City of Wilmington. The properties listed above, as well as other farmsteads associated with prominent families in Wesley Township, are discussed in detail beginning on page 124.

Survey Summary

The survey of Wesley Township documented approximately 520 structures, including 83 houses and 36 major barns on 95 farmsteads and related sites. Cumulatively since 1999, the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey has documented more than 6,500 structures on more than 1,450 sites.[170] The tables below provide a breakdown of the survey results for Reed, Custer, Florence, and Wesley Townships.[171]

Farmhouses

House Type	Reed	Custer	Florence	Wesley	Totals
I House	—	2	—	1	33
Hall and Parlor	—	—	—	—	20
New England 1-1/2	—	1	—	1	11
Four over Four	—	1	3	3	91
Side Hallway	—	1	3	3	20
Upright and Wing	3	5	12	14	229
Gabled Ell	—	11	13	13	260
Gable Front	3	11	3	4	90
Foursquare	—	—	8	4	108
Bungalow	3	6	3	7	76
Cape Cod	—	1	3	5	48
Ranch	9	18	9	20	*
Other	—	12	4	8	257
Totals	18	69	61	83	1,243

* Ranch type houses are grouped with the "Other" category.

Barns

Barn Type	Reed	Custer	Florence	Wesley	Totals
Three-bay Threshing	—	1	4	2	188
Bank	—	2	2	9	36
Raised	—	—	—	—	9
Pennsylvania German	—	—	—	—	9
Three-ended	—	—	—	—	12
Plank frame	3	10	16	17	153
Feeder	—	6	4	4	51
Dairy	1	2	3	3	103
Round roof	—	—	—	1	7
Round	—	—	—	—	2
Other or Unclassified	2	—	1	—	21
Totals	6	21	30	36	591

[170] It should be noted that the rapid suburbanization of Will County since survey work began in 1999 means that some of these structures have already disappeared. For example, the 1999–2000 survey documented sites in Plainfield and Wheatland Townships. During an updated survey by WJE for the Village of Plainfield of the village's planning area in 2005–2006, it was found that 35 of 112 farmstead sites existing in 1999 had been demolished during the intervening six years.

[171] These townships have been selected for comparison since they are geographically close to Wesley Township and have been surveyed recently. Note that these tabulations do not include any structures located on the former Joliet Arsenal site in Florence Township. Typically, ruins of buildings, trailer homes, and site features such as swimming pools are excluded from the tabulation, although these structures are photographically documented on the individual site survey forms.

Outbuildings

Building Type	Reed	Custer	Florence	Wesley	Totals
Animal shed or shelter	4	8	18	20	148
Barn (secondary)	—	1	—	—	27
Cellar	1	2	4	—	17
Chicken coop	1	6	7	8	147
Corn crib	—	—	—	1	16
Crib barn	—	16	31	26	495
Foundation	—	9	6	8	103
Garage	13	50	40	67	628
Horse stable	—	5	1	2	24
Hog house	1	—	—	—	16
Implement shed	—	6	3	9	204
Machine shed	9	23	21	33	206
Mesh bin	—	3	2	—	48
Metal bin	18	77	38	50	626
Milk house		2	2	5	99
Pole barn / Manufactured building	14	39	44	55	589
Privy	—	—	1	1	14
Pump house / Well house	3	9	4	6	118
Shed	12	54	34	75	623
Silo	3	6	6	12	287
Smoke house	—	—	1	2	30
Summer kitchen	—	—	1	—	30
Windmill	—	2	4	1	53
Other	6	18	5	20	171
Totals	85	336	273	401	4,719
Total, including houses and barns	109	426	364	520	6,553

Comparison to 1988 Survey Results

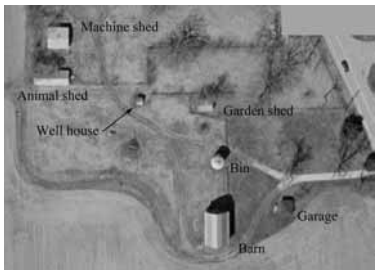
As part of the data compilation, a limited comparison was made between the results of the 1988 reconnaissance survey of Will County and the existing conditions in Wesley Township in 2012. The 1988 survey, conducted by Michael A. Lambert in September–October 1988 for the State of Illinois, was a reconnaissance-level survey performed from the public right-of-way. In the 1988 survey of Wesley Township, approximately 600 buildings on 101 farmstead sites were documented.[172] Among the farmstead sites documented in 1988, no historic structures survive at 16 sites in Wesley Township. Most of these historic farmsteads have been lost due to a decline in the agricultural economy of the area; relatively little new development has occurred in the township. In addition, on at least four sites, major contributing structures such as the original house or barn have been lost since 1988.

The following table lists all farmsteads and sites included in the survey area of Wesley Township and each site's potential for landmark designation. The table also includes photographs of the house and barn on each site and other noteworthy information as available. Two other tables list farmhouses with type and major barns with type. The identification numbers listed on the tables correlate to the maps included in Appendix B.

[172] Excluded from this total are farmstead sites in Wesley Township that were not documented during the 1988 survey, but which are included in the present survey and therefore obviously existed at that time.

Table 1. Surveyed Farmsteads and Related Sites in Wesley Township

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
730	24-01-200-004	Water Street	**Reay–Melbourn Farmstead**	Contributing

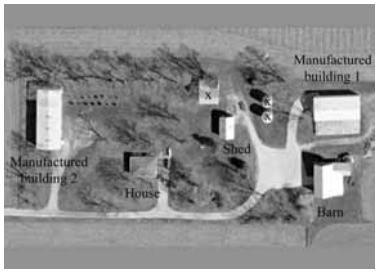


House demolished since 1988 survey.

751	24-12-103-001	Hintze Road	**McGovern Farmstead**	Contributing

752	24-12-202-008	Hintze Road	**Finger–Neese–Austin Farmstead**	Contributing

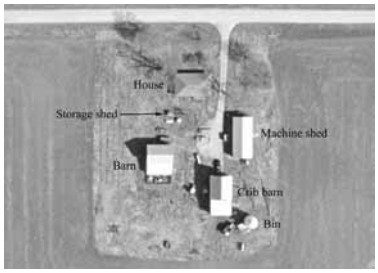
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
700	25-01-100-001	Martin Long Road	**Norman Hazelton Farmstead**	Contributing




1918 also lists Ernest Hazelton, wife Carrie, tenant on farm owned by W. Hazelton, resident since 1891

(2) grain bins and one other outbuilding recently demolished.

701	25-01-100-007	Wesley Road	**Hazelton–Phelan Tenant Farmstead**	Contributing




Woodruff (1878), 787.

702	25-01-300-005	Ballou Road	**Charles Hazelton Farmstead**	Contributing


Woodruff (1878), 787.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
706	25-02-100-004	Symerton Road	**O'Brien Farmstead**	Non-contributing

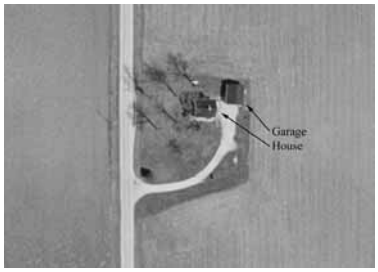
1888 directory lists T. W. Kahler in Florence Township sec. 35

Outbuildings are PIN 25-02-100-003.

704	25-02-200-007	Kennedy Road	**Johnson Farmstead**	Non-contributing

Historic house and barn demolished after 1955 but before 1988. Historic crib barn demolished after 1988.

707	25-02-300-010	Symerton Road	**Hennebry tenant farm**	Contributing

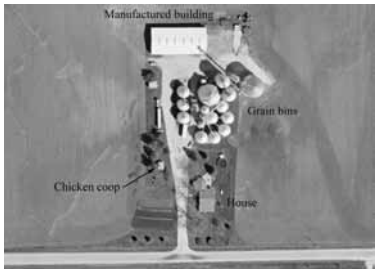


ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
711	25-03-100-002	Old Chicago Road	**Cossett Farmstead**	Non-contributing

Illustrated in 1873 atlas, plate 137.

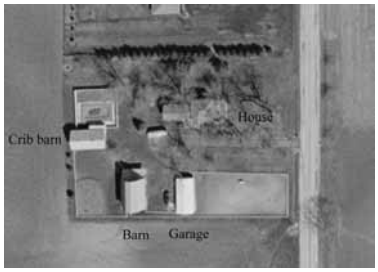
Only a historic crib barn remains on site. Unchanged since 1988 survey.

712	25-03-400-003	Ballou Road	**Kennedy–Williams Farmstead**	Contributing

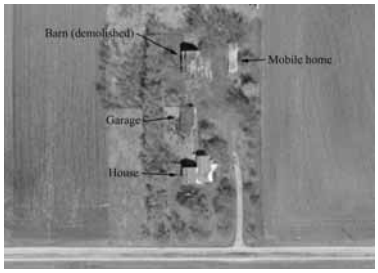


Outbuildings at north part are PIN 25-03-400-010

718	25-04-200-005	Old Chicago Road	**Ward–Menozi Farmstead**	Contributing



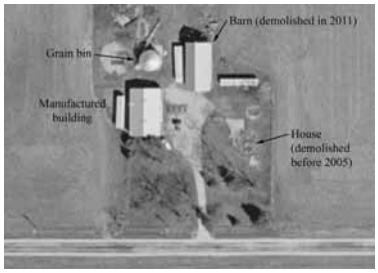
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
713	25-04-300-004	Ballou Road	**Willard House**	Local landmark potential



Illustrated in 1873 atlas, plate 138. Woodruff (1878), 791. Chapman Brothers (1890), 376–378.

Historic barn (see 1955 aerial view) demolished since 2005.

717	25-04-400-013	Ballou Road	**Butterfield-Whitmore Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Demolition permit issued 7/20/2011; historic barn demolished.Trailers also removed. Only metal building and grain bin exist.

722	25-05-200-006	Phillips Road	**Moran–Long Farmstead**	Non-contributing

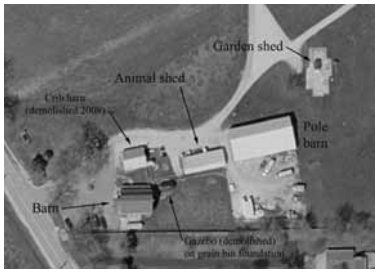
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
719	25-05-300-009	Ballou Road	**Linton–Martin Farmstead**	Contributing

723	25-05-300-012	Ballou Road	**Ballou Grain Elevator**	Contributing

Also 1988 No. 5-03 and 5-04.

729	25-06-100-019	Illinois Route 102	**Frank Heck House**	Contributing

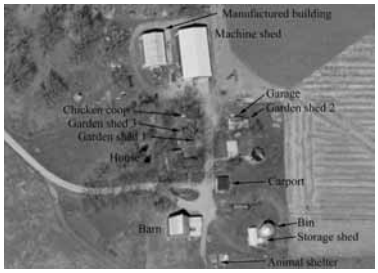
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
728	25-06-100-026	Illinois Route 102	**Heck–Butcher Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Historic house seen in 1955 view demolished prior to 1988 survey.

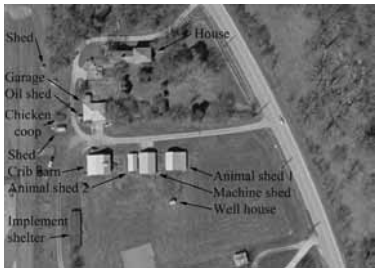
"Starvation Hill" Adaptively reused barn. Demolition permit issued 11/14/2008; former crib barn/garage demolished, visible in 2005 aerial photography and 1988 survey.

726	25-06-200-001	Gooding Road	**Butcher Farmstead**	Contributing



Woodruff (1878), 787.
Stevens (1907), 828–831.

731	25-06-300-001	Illinois Route 102	**Killey Farmstead**	National Register potential



William and Mary Killey settled in Wesley Township in the 1840s. John Killey acquired 80 acres of SE 1/4 of sec. 1, 11/12/1847. 1860 census: William (67) and Mary (62) Killey, son John (33), all born on Isle of Man.

Some outbuildings may be an adjacent PIN

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
733	25-06-300-006	Illinois Route 102	**Neese–Carver Farmstead**	Local landmark potential

724	25-06-400-003	Ballou Road	**Jones–Marshall Farmstead**	Contributing

Associated with farmland in the SW 1/4 of sec. 5 adjacent. Only foundation ruins of historic outbuildings survive.

725	25-06-400-012	Ballou Road	**Gooding–Issert Farmstead**	National Register potential

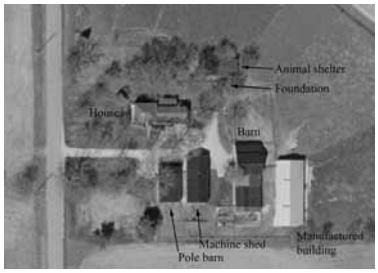
Illustrated in 1873 atlas, plate 135.
Woodruff (1878), 787.
Stevens (1907), 828–831.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
753	25-07-100-001	Hintze Road	**Oil Storage**	Non-contributing

Tanks across Route 102 demolished in the 2000s.

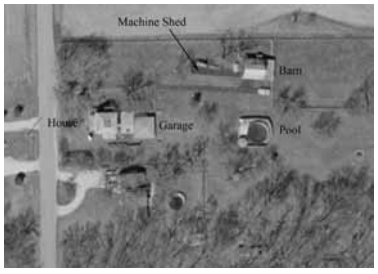
Small non-historic sheet metal office building adjacent.

757	25-07-100-010	Rivals Road	**Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead**	Local landmark potential

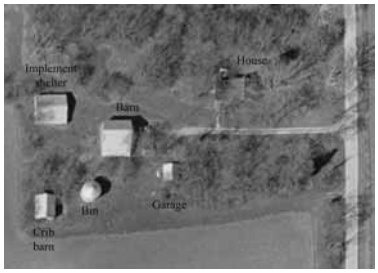


Between 2005–2007, a small portion of farmland was sold to Wesley Township for new township road maintenance faciilty.

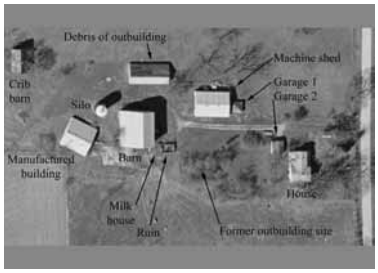
758	25-07-300-008	Rivals Road	**Leasure–Wesoloski Farmstead**	Contributing



ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
762	25-08-200-008	Indian Trail Road	**Erwin Goodwin Farmstead**	Contributing



761	25-08-400-003	Indian Trail Road	**Hiram Goodwin Farmstead**	Local landmark potential



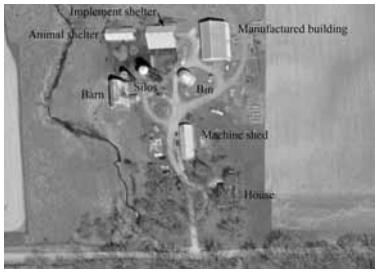
763	25-09-100-007	Indian Trail Road	**William Goodwin Farmstead**	Local landmark potential

Woodruff (1878), 787. William Goodwin (Sr.) died in 1877.

Crib barn demolished within last few years.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
765	25-09-200-001	Ballou Road	**O'Connor–Carterfield Farmstead**	Contributing

764	25-09-300-001	Goodwin Road	**John Goodwin Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Woodruff (1878), 789.

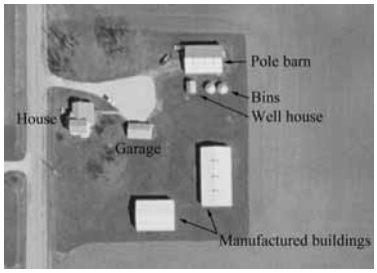
Barn, partially collapsed, is only surviving historic structure.

766	25-09-400-005	Old Chicago Road	**Gould–Mayo Farmstead**	Contributing

Woodruff (1878), 787. James Gould died in 1876.

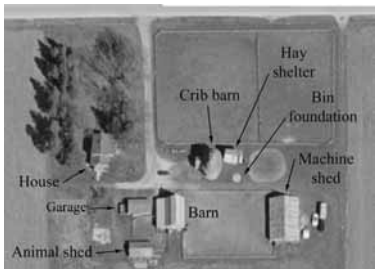
House is only remaining historic structure

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
768	25-10-100-005	Old Chicago Road	**A. E. Jackson Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Woodruff (1878), 787. James Gould died in 1876.

767	25-10-100-008	Ballou Road	**Richardson–Cusick Farmstead**	Local landmark potential

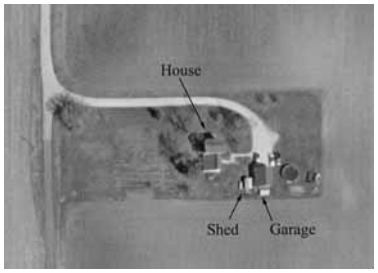


Woodruff (1878), 789.

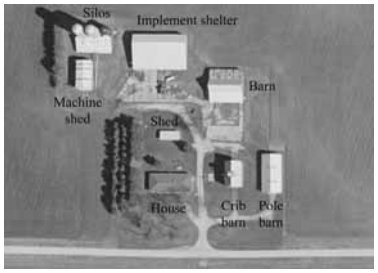
Locally distinctive crib barn

771	25-11-100-004	Ballou Road	**Marshall–Edwards–Bell Farmstead**	Contributing

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
770	25-11-100-006	Symerton Road	**O'Connor–Kennedy Farmstead**	Contributing



772	25-11-200-002	Bell Road	**Bunker–Donohue Farmstead**	Contributing



1918: C. J. Warriner, wife Florence Griffith, children Lyla, Mabel, Vernon, Willie, Florence, Herbert, Caroline, Wesley; tenant on 150 acres owned by Perry Carey; resident since 1877.

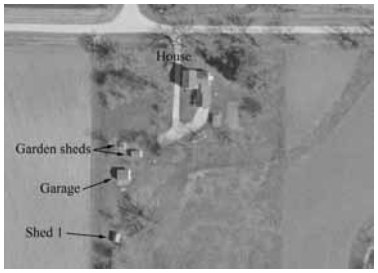
775	25-12-200-001	Ballou Road	**John Wesley Preserve: Curl Farmstead**	Contributing

Acquired by Curl family, longtime tenants on farm, in early 1970s.

Now owned by Will County Forest Preserve District. Demolition has been proposed.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
776	25-12-200-004	Ballou Road	**Gilbert Curl Farmstead**	Contributing

773	25-12-300-004	Bell Road	**Hazelton–Bell Farmstead**	Contributing

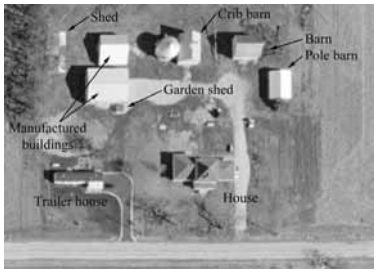


777	25-12-400-006	Warner Bridge Road	**Quigley Tenant Farmstead**	Non-contributing

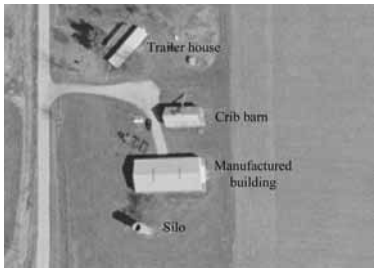
Only one outbuilding remained at site in 2005, since demolished and replaced by hay shelter. All structures documented in 1988 survey have been demolished.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
778	25-13-200-001	Warner Bridge Road	**Hanford Farmstead**	Contributing

789	25-13-400-005	Manteno Road	**Powers–Flint–Hollenbeck Farmstead**	Contributing



793	25-14-100-002	Danielson Road	**Umsted–Hennebry Farmstead**	Contributing



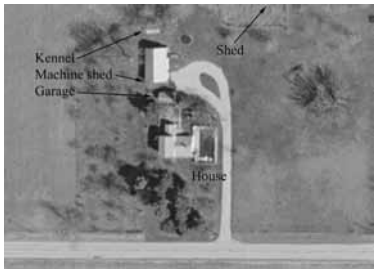
Illustrated in 1873 atlas, plate 137.

Unchanged since 1988 survey.

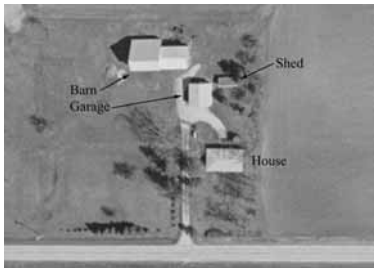
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
794	25-14-100-009	Donahue Road	**Carey–Donahue Farmstead**	Contributing

Some outbuildings on PIN 25-14-100-008

791	25-14-400-009	Manteno Road	**Ryan–Byron Farmstead**	Contributing

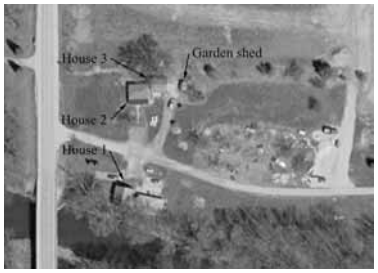


790	25-14-400-012	Manteno Road	**Clark–Luehrs Tenant Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Crib barn demolished since 1988.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
804	25-15-100-004	Old Chicago Road	**Site 804**	Non-contributing

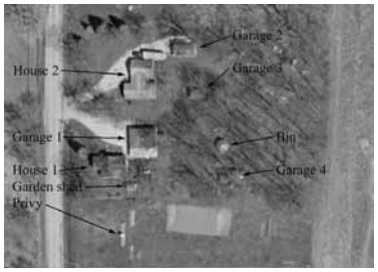


Also PIN 25-14-100-006. Unchanged since 1988 survey.

801	25-15-100-008	Old Chicago Road	**Site 801**	Non-contributing

Nothing at this site in 1939.

825	25-15-100-019	Old Chicago Road	**Warriner Family Houses**	Non-contributing

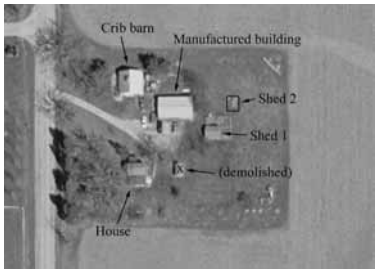


Ranch house is PIN 25-15-100-007 at 34601 Old Chicago Road

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
802	25-15-100-024	Donahue Road	**Pat Hennebry Farmstead**	Non-contributing

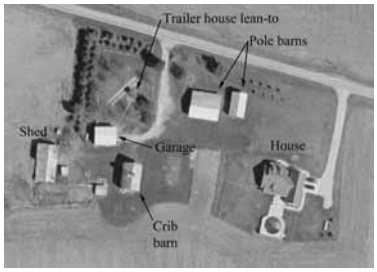
Nothing existed at this site in 1939.

769	25-15-100-030	Old Chicago Road	**Jones–Hennebry Tenant Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Demolition permit issued 3/01/2010. Historic house demolished and replaced with existing house on site.

799	25-15-200-006	Donahue Road	**Jones–Hennebry Farmstead**	Non-contributing



Illustred in 1873 atlas, plate 134.
Woodruff (1878), 788.

New house since 1988, replacing trailer house.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
800	25-15-200-008	Donahue Road	**Kelly–Schafroth Farmstead**	Non-contributing

compare to site 891

One outbuilding survives. Unchanged since 1988 survey.

805	25-15-300-015	Old Chicago Road	**Site 805**	Non-contributing

Not pictured in 1955 Drury book, but visible in background in picture of site 808.

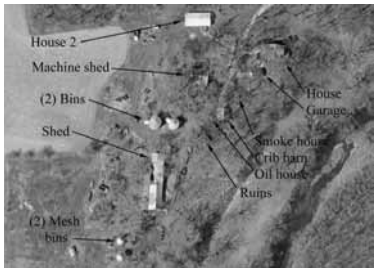
Historic bridge abutment adjacent to north of manufactured building.

808	25-15-300-016	Old Chicago Road	**Marshall Farmstead**	Non-contributing

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
721	25-17-103-001	Illinois Route 102	**Ritchey United Methodist Church**	Local landmark

819	25-17-105-001	Goodwin Road	**Vogel Barn**	Contributing

821	25-17-200-001	Goodwin Road	**John H. Goodwin Farmstead**	Contributing



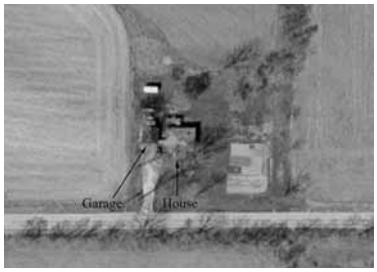
Woodruff (1878), 789.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
848	25-17-301-014	Illinois Route 102	**Wesley Township Hall**	Local Landmark

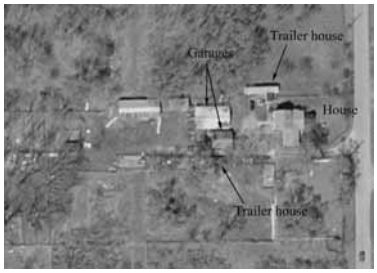
823	25-17-304-007	Illinois Route 102	**Johnston Farmstead**	Local landmark potential

Some newer outbuildings at east part of site are PIN 25-17-400-003

814	25-17-400-002	Manteno Road	**Site 814**	Non-contributing



ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
839	25-18-100-043	Rivals Road	**Stewart–Allot–Wurtz Farmstead**	Non-contributing



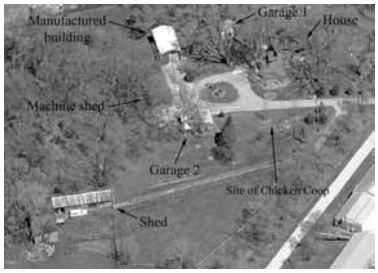
739	25-18-200-007	Angle Road	**Ritchie School**	Contributing

Former schoolhouse, adaptively reused as residence

754	25-18-200-009	Illinois Route 102	**Gundy Farmstead**	Contributing

Barn demolished since 1988.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
835	25-18-200-019	Elevator Road	**Brinkman Farmstead**	Contributing

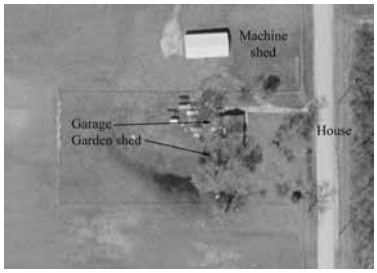


834	25-18-200-027	Elevator Road	**Ritchie Grain Elevator**	Contributing

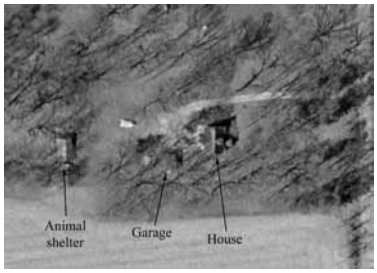
Demolition permit issued 6/02/2009. Structure between silos and office building demolished at that time.

831	25-18-301-012	Angle Road	**McIntyre–Gundy Farmstead**	Contributing

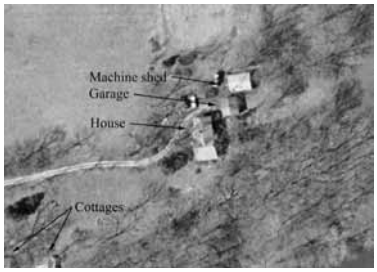
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
838	25-18-302-003	Rivals Road	**Larsen Farmstead**	Non-contributing



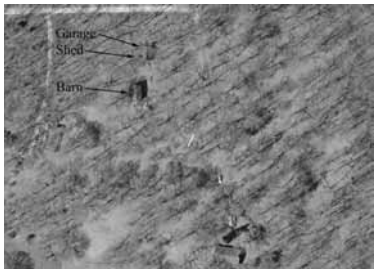
853	25-18-402-003	Wesley Road	**Turner–Flood Farmstead**	Contributing



852	25-20-101-002	Wesley Road	**Kimble House**	Local landmark potential



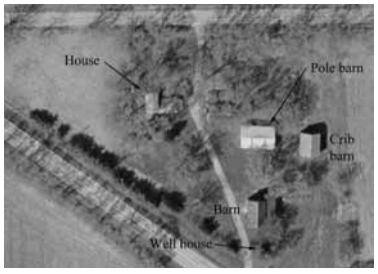
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
851	25-20-101-010	Walton Road	**Site 851**	Contributing



863	25-20-200-001	Illinois Route 102	**Fred M. Hiles Farmstead**	Local landmark potential

Chapman Brothers (1890), 281–282

864	25-20-200-003	Illinois Route 102	**Thomas Hiles Farmstead**	Local landmark potential



Chapman Brothers (1890), 281–282

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
783	25-21-100-018	Illinois Route 102	**Robert E. Goodwin Farmstead**	Non-contributing

Only a small garage survives.

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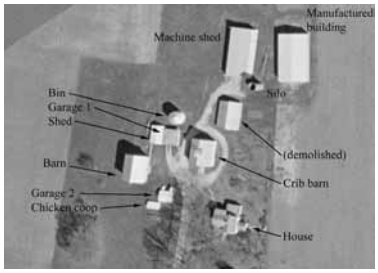
867 25-21-200-002 Illinois Route 102 **Warner–Butterfield Farmstead** Local landmark potential



Woodruff (1878), 790; Chapman Brothers (1890), 693–694

One pre-1955 outbuilding demolished within last several years.

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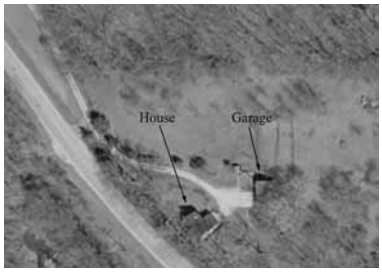
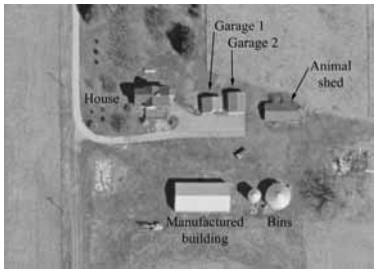
865 25-21-300-003 Illinois Route 102 **Flood–Williams Farmstead** Contributing



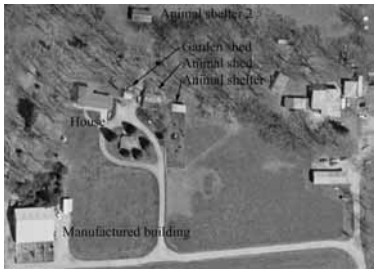
Limited access for survey.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
870	25-22-200-002	Byron Road	**Michael Byron Jr. House**	Contributing

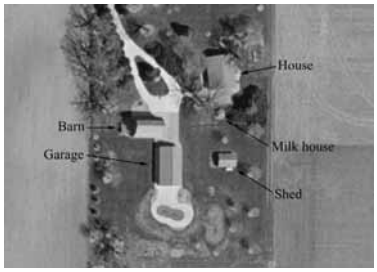


Demolition permit issued 7/20/2011; unclear if any structures removed.

873	25-22-400-007	Thornton Road	**McConlaugue–Burns Farmstead**	Non-contributing

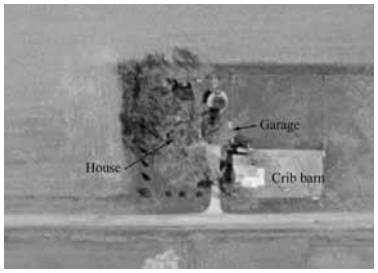


874	25-23-100-004	Manteno Road	**Pickhardt–Burton Farmstead**	Contributing

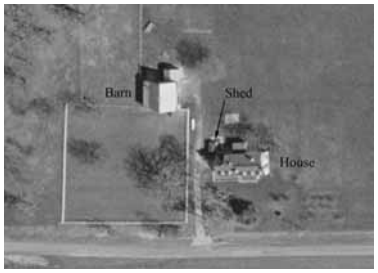


Historic house demolished since 1988.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
875	25-23-300-010	Thornton Road	**Norman Butterfield Farmstead**	Non-contributing

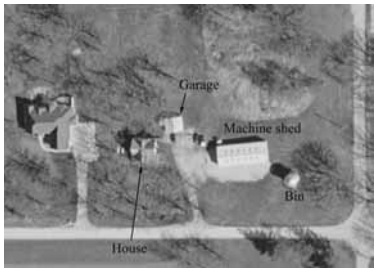


876	25-23-400-011	Thornton Road	**Franklin–Smith Farmstead**	Contributing

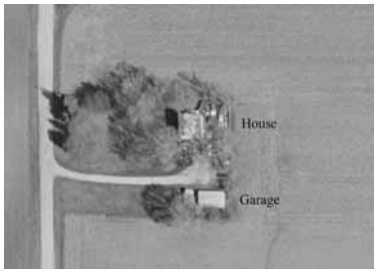


also in 1888 directory:
J. A. Franklin, sec. 23, 13 acres
B. Franklin, sec. 23, 7 acres

879	25-23-400-018	Thornton Road	**Babcock–Thornton Farmstead**	Contributing

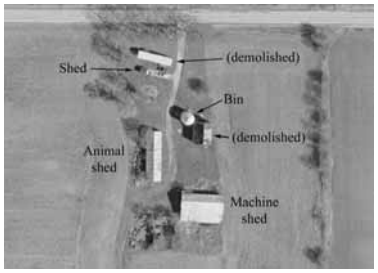


ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
882	25-24-100-004	Mary Byron Road	**Michael Byron House**	Local landmark potential



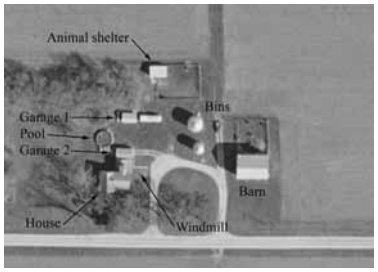
see 780

883	25-24-200-001	Manteno Road	**Hennebry Tenant Farmstead**	Non-contributing

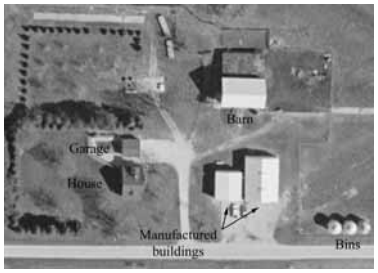


Crib barn demolished since 1988.

884	25-24-300-003	Thornton Road	**Paine–Corlett–Beckwith Farmstead**	Contributing



ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
885	25-24-400-001	Thornton Road	**Binney Farmstead**	Contributing



see 871, 889

886	25-24-400-002	Thornton Road	**Dickinson–Strawson Farmstead**	Non-contributing

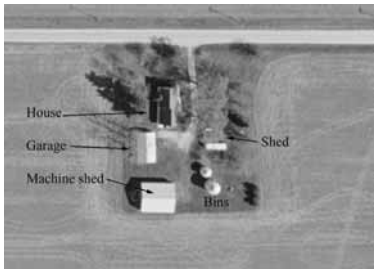
House and two other outbuildings demolished since 2005.

887	25-25-100-001	Thornton Road	**Corlett–Burns Farmstead**	Non-contributing

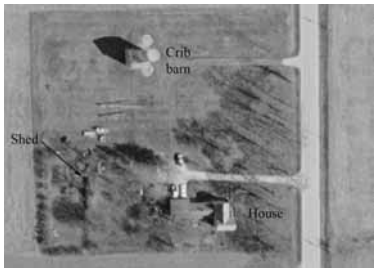
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
891	25-25-100-005	Mary Byron Road	**Kelly Tenant Farmstead**	Non-contributing

compare to site 800

888	25-25-200-001	Thornton Road	**Milton Farmstead**	Non-contributing



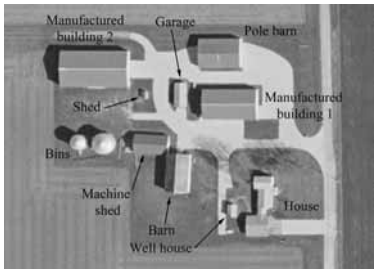
890	25-25-400-005	Warner Bridge Road	**Beckwith Farmstead**	Local landmark potential



Woodruff (1878), 787.

Outbuildings are PIN 25-25-400-004

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
877	25-26-400-001	Mary Byron Road	**Cowan–Butterfield Farmstead**	Contributing



871	25-27-200-001	Illinois Route 102	**Babcock–Warriner Farmstead**	Non-contributing

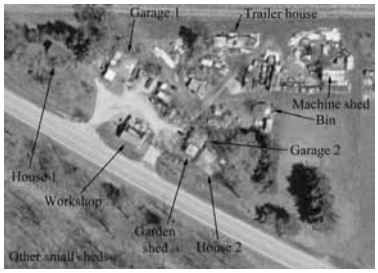


Table 2. Farmhouses in Wesley Township

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
700		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1960s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick
				Roof:	Asphalt Shingle
701		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1970s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
702		Gabled Ell	Queen Anne	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
704		Cape Cod	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1980s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick, vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
706		Side Hallway	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1910s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
707		Gable Front	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
712		Bungalow	Craftstman	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1910s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding, aluminum siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
713		Upright and Wing	Greek Revival	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1857	*Local Landmark Potential*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
718		American Foursquare	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
719		Gabled Ell	Queen Anne	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Cement asbestos, wood shingle
722		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1930s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood shingle
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
723		—	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
724		American Foursquare	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1913	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
725		New England One and	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Local landmark potential*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
726		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1940s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
729		Bungalow	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Asphalt sheeting
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
731		Side Hallway	Italianate/Georgi	**Foundation:**	Unknown
	1884	*National Register potential*		**Walls:**	Brick
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
733		Bungalow	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1920s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
739		Schoolhouse	—	**Foundation:**	Stone, concrete block
	19th c.	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Aspahlt shingle
749		Contemporary	—	**Foundation:**	Unknown
	1990s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
751		I House	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
752		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
754		Gable Front	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
757		Side Hallway	Italianate	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1870s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
758		American Foursquare	—	**Foundation:**	Unknown
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
761		Gabled Ell	Queen Anne	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1870s	*Local landmark potential*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
762		Bungalow	Craftsman	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1920s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick, asphalt shingle
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
763		Four over Four	Greek Revival	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
764		Split Level	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood siding, board and batten
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
765		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Stone, concrete
	1900s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Sheet metal
766		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
767		Four over Four	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1900s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
768		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
769		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	2010	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick, vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
770		Upright and Wing	Queen Anne	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1870s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Aluminum siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
771		Upright and Wing	-	**Foundation:**	Stone, Concrete
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt Shingle

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
772		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1960s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Aluminum siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
773		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
775		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	c. 1900	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
776		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1960s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
778		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Stone, concrete block
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
789		American Foursquare	Colonial Revival	**Foundation:**	Stone, concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
790		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1960s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick, vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
791		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
794		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
799		Cape Cod	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1990s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Brick
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
801		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Unknown
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Stucco
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
805		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
808		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1940s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding, stucco
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
814		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
821		Bungalow	Craftsman	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1920s	*Local landmark potential*		**Walls:**	Brick, wood shingle
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
823		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block, stone
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
831		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1870s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
835		Upright and wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
838		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Aluminum siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
839		Gable Front	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1910s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Cement asbestos shingle
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
852		Bungalow	Arts and Crafts	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1930s	*Local landmark potential*		**Walls:**	Wood shingle, board and batten
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
853		Cape Cod	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
863		Gabled Ell	Queen Anne	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Local landmark potential*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
864		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood panelboard
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
865		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Unknown
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
867		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1900s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
870		Gabled Ell	Queen Anne	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Aluminum siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
873		Split Level	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
874		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1990s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
875		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1940s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
876		Cape Cod	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1990s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Sheet metal
877		Upright and Wing	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
879		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1910s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
882		Four over Four	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Local landmark potential*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
884		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
885		Bungalow	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1920s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle

ID		House Type	Style	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*			
888		Gable Front	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1940s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Sheet metal
890		Gabled Ell	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
891		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1960s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
804		Cape Cod	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1940s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
825		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
871		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1900s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Sheet metal
				Roof:	Sheet metal
825		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1960s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Cement board siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
871		Ranch	—	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1950s	*Non-contributing*		**Walls:**	Asphalt shingle
				Roof:	Sheet metal

Table 3. Barns in Wesley Township

ID	Barn Type	Materials	
	Date	***Significance***	
700	Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Wood Siding
			Roof: Sheet Metal, Wood Shingle
701	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1910s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Sheet metal
702	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Wood plank
			Roof: Sheet metal
718	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Asphalt shingle
719	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Brick-pattern sheet metal
			Roof: Sheet metal
725	Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Local landmark potential*	**Walls:** Sheet metal
			Roof: Sheet metal
726	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1920s	*Local landmark potential*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Sheet metal
728	Dairy barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1910s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Asphalt shingle
730	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1910s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Sheet metal
			Roof: Sheet metal
733	Dairy barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Corrugated sheet metal
			Roof: Corrugated sheet metal
757	Feeder barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Wood panels
			Roof: Corrugated sheet metal
758	Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1960s	*Non-contributing*	**Walls:** Wood panel
			Roof: Sheet metal

ID	Barn Type	Materials	
	Date	***Significance***	
761		Bank barn	**Foundation:** Stone
	1860s	*Local landmark potential*	**Walls:** Corrugated sheet metal
			Roof: Corrugated sheet metal
762		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:** Stone
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Corrugateg sheet metal
			Roof: Sheet metal
763		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:** Unknown
	1890s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Sheet metal
			Roof: Sheet metal
763		—	**Foundation:** Stone
	—	*Non-contributing*	**Walls:** —
			Roof: —
764		Round roof barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1920s	*Non-contributing*	**Walls:** Wood plank
			Roof: None
767		Dairy barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Fiberboard, plywood
			Roof: Corrugated sheet metal
771		Feeder barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1960s	*Non-contributing*	**Walls:** Sheet Metal
			Roof: Sheet Metal
772		Feeder barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1940s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Metal, wood
			Roof: Sheet metal
775		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Sheet metal
776		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Sheet metal
789		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:** Concrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Sheet metal
			Roof: Cement asbestos shingle
790		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:** Cocnrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Sheet metal
			Roof: Sheet metal
794		Three-bay threshing barn	**Foundation:** Stone
	1880s	*Contributing*	**Walls:** Board and batten
			Roof: Asphalt shingle

ID		Barn Type	Materials	
	Date	*Significance*		
802		Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1940s	*Non-contributing*	**Walls:**	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal
819		Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Stone, concrete
	1860s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Wood siding, corrugated sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal
823		Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1890s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Wood siding
			Roof:	Sheet metal
851		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Wood siding
			Roof:	Sheet metal
863		Three-bay threshing barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete block
	1890s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Wood plank
			Roof:	Sheet metal
864		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Wood siding
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
867		Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1870s	*Local landmark potential*	**Walls:**	Wood siding
			Roof:	Sheet metal
874		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1920s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Wood plank
			Roof:	Cement asbestos shingle
876		Plank frame barn	**Foundation:**	Concrete
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal
877		Feeder barn	**Foundation:**	Unknown
	1900s	*Contributing*	**Walls:**	Vinyl siding
			Roof:	Sheet metal
884		Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Local landmark potential*	**Walls:**	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal
885		Bank barn	**Foundation:**	Stone
	1860s	*Local landmark potential*	**Walls:**	Board and batten
			Roof:	Sheet metal

Notable Farmsteads in Wesley Township

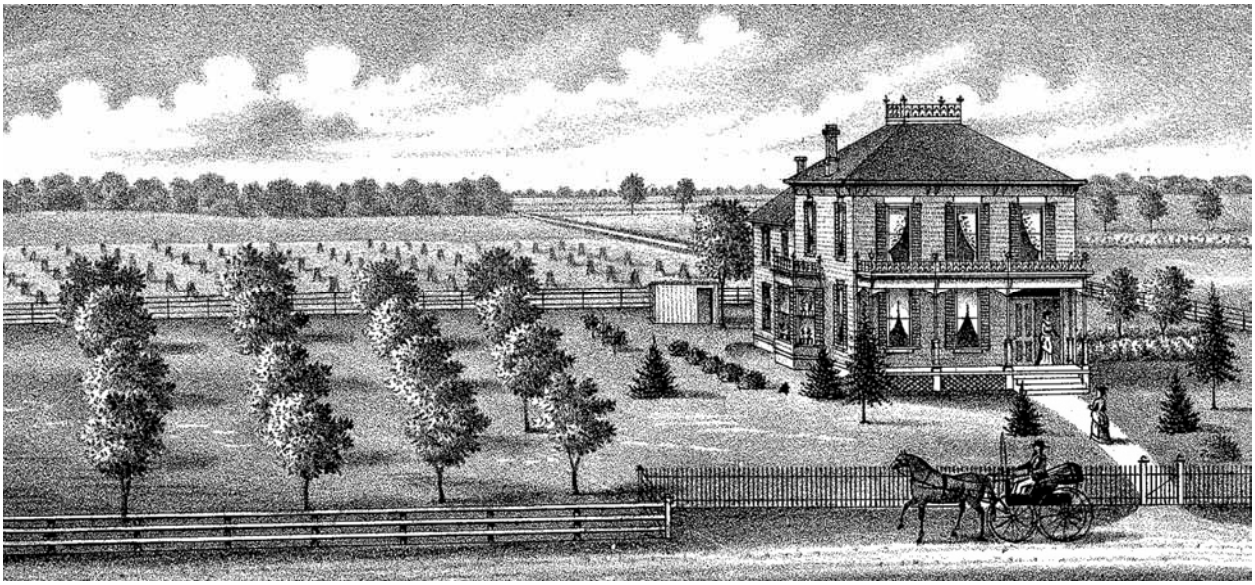
Killey Farmstead ***Site 731 (PIN 25-06-300-001)***

William and Mary Killey were natives of the Isle of Man. With their young son John, they immigrated to the United States in 1827, settling near Cleveland, Ohio. The family moved to Wesley Township in 1839. William acquired 80 acres in November 1847, primarily the southeast quarter of section 1 of congressional township 32 north, range 9 east, but extending eastward to include the small parcel in section 6 of congressional township 32 north, range 10 east, where the farmstead structures are located. The family at first resided in a small log house, built in 1834 by the first owner of the property. The 1860 census lists William, aged 67; Mary, aged 62; and their son John, aged 33. Mary died in 1861, and William died in 1872.[173]

William and Mary's son John Killey was born on the Isle of Man on April 2, 1825. He acquired 120 acres of land in Wesley Township and also inherited his father's farm, which he worked from age 18. John Killey married Jane Schoonmaker in 1865, and they had one son, George W. After Jane's death in 1868, John remarried, to Maria Butler Singleton, in 1870. John and Maria had one daughter, Mary. By the 1880s, John was the owner of 217 contiguous acres in sections 1, 6, and 12. The existing brick masonry Italianate style house was built by John Killey in 1884 at a cost of $3,000.[174]

By 1918, the farmstead was owned by John's son George. George W. Killey was born in 1866 in Will County. He and his wife Dorothy had four children, Irma, Helen, Dorothy, and John. By the time of George Killey's ownership, the farm had increased to 260 acres. In the mid-twentieth century, the farmstead was owned by George and Dorothy's son John. After four generations of ownership, the farm was sold by the Killey family in the 1990s.

Due to the well preserved Italianate and Georgian Revival style brick masonry house and the association of the property with a pioneer farm family of Wesley Township, the Killey Farmstead is considered to be eligible for listing in the National Register as well as designation as a Will County landmark.



The residence of John Killey, as illustrated in Chapman Brothers (1890), 513.

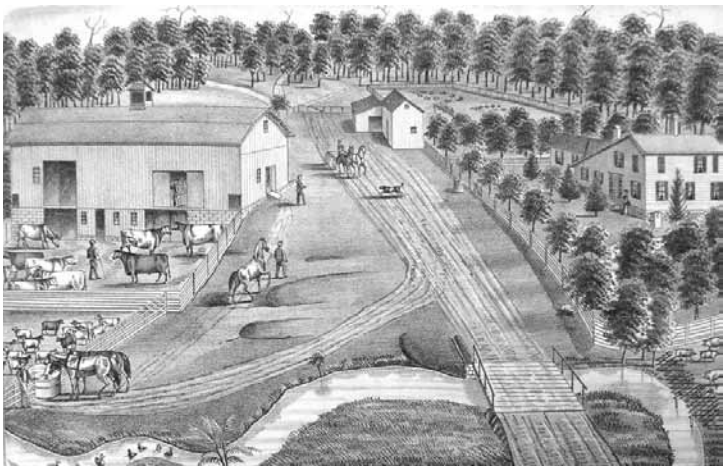
[173] Stevens (1907), 842; *Portrait and Biographical Album of Will County, Illinois* (Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1890), 512.
[174] Stevens (1907), 842–843; Chapman Brothers (1890), 512–515.

The front portion of the house was built by John Killey in 1884 in the Italianate style. The front entrance and rear wing in the Georgian Revival style were likely added by Killey descendants in the twentieth century.

Gooding–Issert Farmstead ***Site 725 (PIN 25-06-400-012)***
Butcher Farmstead ***Site 726 (PIN 25-06-200-001)***

George Gooding was born in Canandaigua, New York, in 1802. He married Achsah Reed of Connecticut in 1826, and they had seven children, of whom five survived to adulthood.[175] The family came west to Wesley Township in 1856 and purchased a 280-acre farm. At the 1860 census, George and Achsah's sons Alanson (aged 20) and George (aged 19) were both still living at home. As seen on the 1873 atlas map of the township, George Gooding owned an extensive portion of sections 5 and 6. George Gooding died in 1883, and his wife died in 1884.

The 1893 and 1909 atlas maps indicate that the family homestead, site 725 in the present survey, was inherited by George (Jr.), while his brother Alanson had purchased an adjacent farm, site 726 in the present survey. As listed in the 1918 directory, George Gooding married Elizabeth Allott. They had three daughters, Nettie, May, and Edna, who inherited the farmstead in the twentieth century. Later, the farm was acquired by Victor Issert. It remains owned by Issert descendants today. Due to the well preserved 1860s barn and house on the site and its association with a pioneer farm family, the Gooding–Issert Farmstead is considered to be eligible for listing in the National Register as well as designation as a Will County landmark.



A view of George Gooding's farm in 1873, plate 135 in the Combination Atlas Map of Will County.

[175] Woodruff (1878), 787–788; Stevens (1907), 828.


The bank barn and house built by George Gooding, likely in the 1860s, still exist at the farmstead.

The adjacent Butcher Farmstead, site 726 in the present survey, was first developed on farmland owned by George Gooding by his son Alanson Gooding. Alanson was born in 1835 in Canandaigua, New York. For many years, he assisted his father's stock-raising business in the buying and shipping of animals to market in Chicago. He resided in Wilmington Township and served as supervisor from 1881 to 1890. In this position he served on the building committee for the construction of the third Will County Courthouse in Joliet (completed in 1887 following a design by John C. Cochrane, who also designed the Illinois State Capitol). He also served as mayor of Wilmington for four years. In 1891, he left the livestock trading business and took up farming at this site, as indicated by the 1893 atlas map. Alanson married Jenet Thompson in 1865, and they had one son, George S., who later moved to Idaho. After Jenet's death in 1892, Alanson remarried, to Nettie Smith; they had one son, Edward, born in 1899.[176] Many of the surviving outbuildings on the farmstead date to the early twentieth century and were likely built while Alanson Gooding owned the property but while the Butcher family resided there as tenants. As indicated in the 1918 directory, Charles Butcher and family were farming this site, which was owned by Edward Gooding at that time. As indicated by plat maps, the Butcher family had purchased the property by 1940. It remains owned by Butcher descendants today.


The Butcher Farmstead, site 726 in the present survey, has a number of early twentieth century outbuildings, including the gambrel-roof barn (left) and chicken coop (right).

[176] Stevens (1907), 828–831.

Goodwin Family Farmsteads

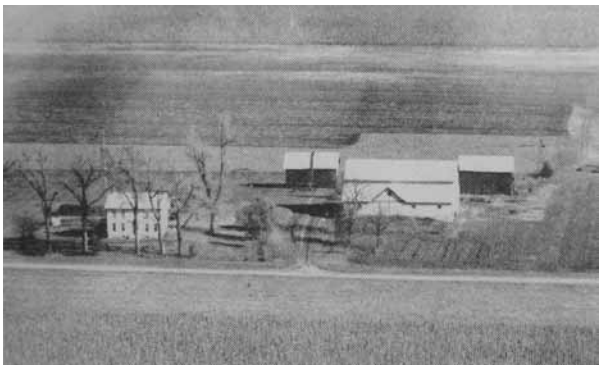
William Goodwin Farmstead	***Site 763 (PIN 25-09-100-007)***
Erwin Goodwin Farmstead	***Site 762 (PIN 25-08-200-008)***
John Goodwin Farmstead	***Site 764 (PIN 25-09-300-001)***
Hiram Goodwin Farmstead	***Site 761 (PIN 25-08-400-003)***
Robert E. Goodwin Farmstead	***Site 783 (PIN 25-21-100-018)***
John H. Goodwin Farmstead	***Site 821 (PIN 25-17-200-001)***
Vogel Barn	***Site 819 (PIN 25-17-105-001)***

William Goodwin was born in New York in 1815. He settled in Joliet in 1832, and in 1844 established a farm in Wesley Township. After a few years prospecting for gold in California in the 1850s, he returned to Wesley Township. He married Rebecca Althouse, a native of Virginia. Their children included Elizabeth (born circa 1841), wife of Hazard Jones; Hiram (born circa 1845); Dolly (born circa 1849); George (born circa 1853); Erwin (born circa 1854); John (born circa 1856); William Jr.; and Philip. William Goodwin, Sr., died in 1877.[177] As shown on the 1873 atlas map of the township, William Goodwin owned 670 acres in sections 5, 8, 9, and 16, with the homestead located in section 9, site 763 in the present survey.

The 1893 plat map shows the farmsteads owned by the sons of William and Rebecca Goodwin. The family homestead in the northwest quarter of section 9, site 763, was owned by son John in 1893, as well as site 764 in the southwest quarter of section 9. Nearby, site 762 in the northeast quarter of section 8 was owned by son Erwin, and site 761 in the southeast quarter of section 8 was owned by son William Jr., along with farmland in sections 16 and 17. A forty-acre parcel of farmland in section 8 was owned by daughter Elizabeth Goodwin Jones. The farmsteads at sites 761, 762, 763, and 764 remain owned by the Goodwin family today. Due to the presence of intact historic structures, site 761 and 763 are considered to be Will County landmark eligible.

Left: The Greek Revival style house at the William Goodwin farmstead (site 763) likely dates to the 1850s or 1860s. Right: A stone and brick masonry smokehouse is one of the historic mid-nineteenth century outbuildings on the site.

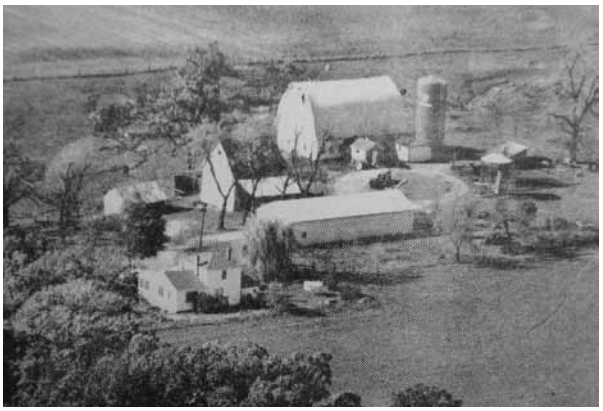
[177] Woodruff (1878), 603, 787; 1850 census.




Left: The 1955 aerial view of the farmstead shows the large bank barn on the site. Right: The barn has been demolished, but its stone foundation remains.


Left: The farmhouse at site 761, the Hiram Goodwin Farmstead, was likely built in the 1880s, when William Goodwin (Jr.) had inherited the farm from his father. Right: The historic outbuildings on the site include a bank barn and crib barn.


Left: The farmhouse at site 762, the Erwin Goodwin Farmstead, was likely built in the early part of the twentieth century. Right: The farmstead also has an early twentieth century barn.




Left: The 1955 aerial view shows the John Goodwin Farmstead, site 764. Right: The arched-roof barn on the site, likely dating to the 1910s and visible in the 1955 view, has partially collapsed.

In the twentieth century, Goodwin descendant Robert E. Goodwin established a farmstead in section 21, site 783 in the present survey. Only an abandoned garage remains at this farmstead site.

The farmstead in section 17, site 821 in the present survey, was apparently established by descendant John H. Goodwin in the early part of the twentieth century. The farmstead was established on farmland that had been owned by the family since at least the 1860s.

One other notable farmstead is connected with the Goodwin family. A farmstead in section 17, site 819 in the present survey, was likely established in the 1860s by G. Vogel. The farm was acquired by the Goodwin family in the first decade of the twentieth century. Although now abandoned, the large bank barn built by Vogel remains on the site.

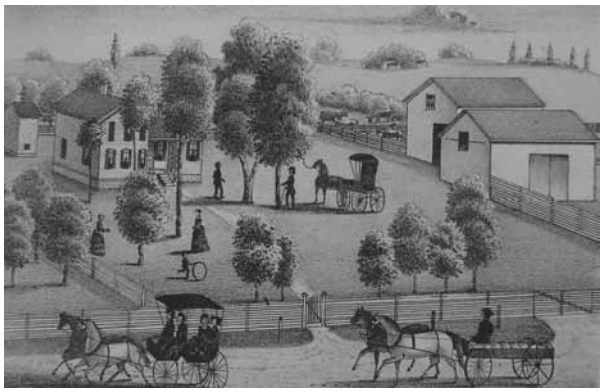

Left: The Craftsman style bungalow at the John H. Goodwin Farmstead, site 821 in the present survey. Right: The Vogel Barn, site 819 in the present survey, owned by the Goodwin family in the twentieth century.

Willard House ***Site 713 (PIN 25-04-300-004)***

David Willard was born in Allegany County, New York, in 1818. His father, Daniel Willard, served in the army during the War of 1812. David first worked as a raftsman on the Allegheny River, guiding timber downstream to lumber mills. After marrying Hodah Axtell in the spring of 1844, he moved to Wesley Township and settled this farmstead. The existing house on the site was built by Willard in 1857. In 1852, Hodah's father, Chauncey Axtell, also moved to Wesley Township, residing at a house in Section 5 (the current location of the Ballou Grain Elevator, site 723 in the present survey) until his death in 1864.

In addition to farming, David Willard served in numerous public offices. He was first elected Township School Treasurer in 1846. In 1848 he was elected Justice of the Peace, a position he held until 1865. In 1865, he was elected Judge of the County Court. He served as judge until 1873. During his second term in office (1869–1873), he moved with his family to Joliet. After 1873, Willard retired to his farm in Wesley Township. David and Hodah Willard had two children who survived to adulthood, a daughter, Lois, and a son, Reuel, both of whom resided in Joliet.[178]

After Willard's death in the 1890s, the farmstead was sold to other owners and rented to tenants. The existing house was built by Willard in 1857 and is an excellent local example of Greek Revival styling applied to an Upright and Wing type house.



Left: The Willard House, site 713 in the present survey. Right: The Willard farm as illustrated in the Combination Atlas Map of Will County *(1873), plate 138. The house is little changed from its appearance at that time.*

[178] Woodruff (1878), 791; Chapman Brothers (1890), 376–378.

Neese–Carver Farmstead ***Site 733 (PIN 25-06-300-006)***

This farmstead was owned by the Whitten family in the nineteenth century. The 1909 plat map lists G. W. Neese as the owner. As stated in the 1918 directory, Neese, his wife Isabella, and their children owned 326 acres and had resided in the county since 1878. By 1940, the farm had been acquired by L. J. Carver. Carver apparently owned the land until the mid-1970s. The farmstead contains an extensive collection of intact outbuildings and a bungalow style house. All of these structures were likely built in the 1930s or 1940s for Carver. As a well-preserved example of a circa 1940 farm complex, the farmstead is considered eligible for listing as a Will County landmark.

The Neese–Carver Farmstead includes a bungalow-type house and an extensive group of concrete masonry outbuildings, most of which were likely built for L. J. Carver around 1940. This farmstead is considered local landmark-eligible, due to its intact group of structures all dating to the same era.

Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead ***Site 757 (PIN 25-07-100-010)***

The 1873 plat map indicates that H. Moulton was the owner of this farm. The 1918 directory lists C. C. Moulton with his wife Elva, although they are listed as residing in the county only since 1916. After 1948, L. A. Bitterman is listed as the owner on plat maps. As a well-preserved example of the Italianate style, this property is considered to be Will County landmark eligible.

The Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead includes this Italianate style house. The basic historic form and character of the house is intact, despite the conversion of the original front entrance to a window and construction of a large addition at the rear.

Richardson–Cusick Farmstead ***Site 767 (PIN 25-10-100-008)***

On the 1873 plat map, A. Richardson is listed as the owner of this site. Amasa Richardson was born in Vermont in 1805. In 1828, he married Martha Goodwin, and the couple purchased a farm in St. Lawrence County, New York. In 1856, they moved to Illinois and settled on this 170-acre farm. Together, they had nine children. One of their sons, Joseph W. Richardson, served with the Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry during the Civil War, dying of typhoid fever in November 1861. Amasa Richardson served as School Director and through the 1870s and 1880s as Justice of the Peace. His sons Alfred and Franklin managed the family farm into the early twentieth century.[179] William Cusick is shown as the owner on the 1928 plat map. Many of the surviving outbuildings date to the early part of the twentieth century. This property is considered to be Will County landmark eligible.

The Richardson–Cusick Farmstead has a small dairy barn and a large concrete masonry crib barn.

Kimble House ***Site 852 (PIN 25-20-101-002)***

The Kimble House is considered local landmark eligible as a distinctive local example of early twentieth century Arts and Crafts design. The 1955 aerial view in *This is Will County* documents Mr. & Mrs. Kenesaw Kimble as the owners of this property.

The Kimble House is a distinctive local example of Arts and Crafts style design. Left: The west side of the house has a projecting porch and a rectangular bay window. Right: The east side is similar but includes a massive stone fireplace.

[179] Woodruff (1878), 789; Chapman Brothers (1890), 430–431.

Hiles Family Farmsteads ***Site 863 (PIN 25-20-200-001)***
Site 864 (PIN 25-20-200-003)

Thomas Hiles, born in England in 1827, came to the United States in the late 1840s. He settled in Wesley Township in 1850 and worked as a farm laborer for Elijah Freer for two years. Saving his earnings, around 1852 he purchased 80 acres in the northeast quarter of Section 20, site 864 in the present survey. He married Sarah Carpenter on September 5, 1852. They had six children, including sons Fred M., born in 1867, and Benjamin T., born in 1880. Mrs. Hiles died in 1880, shortly after the birth of Benjamin. Thomas Hiles served as Township Trustee in the 1870s and 1880s, and also was a director of the school board. Ultimately, his property grew to encompass about 200 acres in Sections 20 and 21, extending down to the Kankakee River.[180] Thomas Hiles likely died in the first decade of the twentieth century.

Among his sons, Fred M. Hiles became the owner of an adjacent farmstead in Section 20 (site 863), while Benjamin T. Hiles inherited the family homestead (site 864). As listed in the 1918 directory, Fred M. Hiles and his wife Della R. had children Gussie, William, and Earl. Farmstead site 863 remained owned by the Hiles family into the 1980s. This farmstead contains a Queen Anne style house likely built by Fred Hiles, and the Will County landmark Ritchie Railroad Depot has been relocated to this farmstead. The adjacent homestead, site 864, remains owned by Hiles descendants today. Due to their association with a pioneer family and historic buildings, both of these sites are considered Will County landmark eligible.

Above: The Queen Anne style house at the Fred M. Hiles Farmstead, site 863 in the present survey. Below: The Thomas Hiles Farmstead contains several surviving nineteenth century structures, including the Upright-and-Wing type house and the main barn.

[180] Chapman Brothers (1890), 281–282.

Warner–Butterfield Farmstead ***Site 867 (PIN 25-21-200-002)***

Alfred Warner was born in 1814 in Livingston County, New York. His father Asahel Warner served in the army during the War of 1812 and was a member of the New York state legislature. Alfred married Rachel L. Curtis of New York in 1839, moved to Ohio in 1844, and ultimately settled in Wesley Township in 1849 on 217 acres of land in Section 20. One brother, Harvey Warner, owned a nearby farm in Section 26, while a second brother, Asahel H. Warner, owned a farm in Section 36, the site of Warner's Landing on the Kankakee River.[181]

In 1853, Alfred Warner went to Australia, leaving Mrs. Warner in charge of the farm. Alfred and Rachel's son Norman was born in New York in 1839. He joined the Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry in 1861. He was severely wounded at the battle of Deep Bottom, Virginia, on August 16, 1864, resulting in the amputation of his lower right leg. Rachel Warner went to Virginia to care for her son, and after the war she moved to Wilmington. Norman secured a clerkship in the War Department and then enrolled in the Columbia Law School. Upon completing his studies, Norman Warner established a law practice in Rockford, Illinois, and his mother joined him in that city. The farm remained in the Warner family but was worked by tenants. In 1875, Alfred Warner returned from Australia, reuniting with his wife and retiring to the farmstead in Wesley Township.[182] This farmstead was acquired by the Butterfield family by 1940. Due to the presence of well-preserved nineteenth century buildings and its association with a locally prominent family, this farmstead is considered to be Will County landmark eligible.

The Warner–Butterfield Farmstead contains a number of historic outbuildings, including a bank barn and crib barn. The existing house and bank barn were likely built by the Warner family, while the other outbuildings were likely added after the Butterfield family acquired the site.

The home of Asahel H. Warner in Section 36 as illustrated in the Combination Atlas Map of Will County *(1873), plate 135. This was the site of Warner's Landing on the Kankakee River. No trace of the farmstead structures remains, and the land is part of the Kankakee River State Park.*

[181] Woodruff (1878), 789, 790.
[182] Ibid. (1878), 790; Chapman Brothers (1890), 693–694.

Byron–McCorkle Farmstead ***Site 882 (PIN 25-24-100-004)***

Michael Byron is identified as the owner of this farmstead on the 1873 atlas map. It remained in the Byron family until the 1950s. By 1955, it had been acquired by Edwin R. McCorkle. Due to the presence of a preserved mid-nineteenth century house, this site is considered to be Will County landmark eligible.

The Byron–McCorkle Farmstead is notable for the well-preserved mid-nineteenth century house at the site.

Beckwith Farmstead ***Site 890 (PIN 25-25-400-005)***

George M. Beckwith was a native of Pennsylvania who settled in Illinois in the 1810s. After serving as a Captain in the Black Hawk War, George Beckwith came to Wesley Township in 1834, settling this farmstead in section 25. He purchased the south half of section 25, the west half of section 36, and portions of section 26 to the Kankakee River in the government land sale of November 1838. George Beckwith and his wife Phoebe had died by the time of the 1850 census, and their children Harriet A., Guy, and Hannah are listed as residing with the Frazer family. Guy M. Beckwith was born in Wesley Township in 1840 and served in Civil War as part of the 100th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. In 1868 he married Orcelia E. Pain, a native of Michigan. They had three children and lived on the 228-acre farm acquired by his father.[183] The Beckwith heirs owned the farmstead buildings through the 1990s, although much of the farmland in section 25 was sold to the University of Illinois in the late 1960s. Due to its association with a pioneer family and preserved historic buildings, this site is considered to be Will County landmark eligible.

Above: The Beckwith Farmstead contains a well-preserved Gabled Ell type house and a unique two-story crib barn. Below: The farmstead as it appeared in 1955.

[183] Woodruff (1878), 787; 1850 census; Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales database.

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Previous Surveys

In 1988, Will County performed a survey of unincorporated rural areas, documenting approximately 4,867 structures dating from before 1945. The documentation, performed by architect Michael A. Lambert, consisted of black and white photographs and a completed information card utilizing a format established by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. Recorded information included the approximate age, architectural style, construction materials, noticeable additions or alterations, and overall condition of the structure. For most sites, survey data was gathered from the public right-of-way. In addition to the survey a report was prepared, "Historic Structures of Will County," dated 1991. The report examined the overall rural themes present in the county and identification of noteworthy structures.

In 1999, the Will County Land Use Department, acting as liaison for the Will County Historic Preservation Commission, engaged Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. to perform an intensive survey of Wheatland, Plainfield, and Lockport Townships in northwest Will County, Illinois. In 2001, an intensive survey was performed of Du Page Township in Will County, followed by Homer Township in 2002; New Lenox Township in 2003; Green Garden Township in 2004; Manhattan Township in 2006; Frankfort Township in 2007; Joliet and Troy Townships in 2009; Channahon Township, Jackson Township, and Wilmington Township in 2009; and Reed Township and Florence Township in 2011. The resulting reports from these surveys were used as a basis for developing this report.

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GLOSSARY

abutment A masonry mass (or the like) which receives the thrust of an arch, vault, or strut.

adaptive reuse The conversion or functional change of a building from the purpose or use for which it was originally constructed or designed. Such conversions are accomplished with varying degrees of alterations to the building. The more change that is necessary, the less likely that particular new use is appropriate for a historic building.

addition An extension or increase in floor area, number of stories, or height of a building or structure.

arch A curved construction which spans an opening; usually consists of wedge-shaped blocks call voussoirs, or a curved or pointed structural member which is supported at the sides or ends. Arches vary in shape from semicircular and semi-elliptical to bluntly or acutely pointed arches.

architectural conservation The science of preserving architecture and its historic fabric by observing and analyzing the evolution, deterioration, and care of structures; the conducting of investigations to determine the cause, effect, and solution of structural problems; and the directing of remedial interventions focused on maintaining the integrity and quality of historic fabric.

balloon frame A system of framing a wooden building where all vertical structural elements of the exterior walls and partitions consist of light single studs (usually 2x4, but sometimes larger) which may extend the full height of the frame and are fastened by nails to the studs. Balloon framing differs from a braced frame in that a balloon framed wall acts as a bearing wall and does not rely on posts and beams to support joists.

baluster One of a number of short vertical members, often circular in section used to support a stair, porch, or balcony handrail or a coping.

balustrade An entire railing system (as along the edge of a balcony) including a top rail and its balusters, and sometimes a bottom rail.

barrel vault A masonry vault of plain, semicircular cross section, supported by parallel walls or arcades and adapted to longitudinal areas.

bay one architectural subdivision of a wall, roof, or structure marked by repetition of similar elements, such as columns or windows.

beam A horizontal structural member whose prime function is to carry transverse loads, as a joist, girder, rafter, or purlin

brick A solid or hollow masonry unit of clay or shale, molded into a rectangular shape while plastic, and then burnt in a kiln

column A slender vertical element carrying compressive loads from other structural elements above.

contributing A historic property which retains historical integrity and forms a part of a grouping of related properties

corbel In masonry, a projection or one of a series of projections, each stepped progressively farther forward with height; anchored in a wall, story, column, or chimney; used to support an overhanging member above or, if continuous, to support overhanging courses

cornice The exterior trim of a structure at the meeting of the roof and wall or at the top of the wall in the case of a parapet, usually consisting of bed molding, soffit, fascia, and crown molding; any molded projection which crowns or finishes the part to which it is affixed; the third or uppermost division of an entablature, resting on the frieze; an ornamental molding, usually of wood or plaster, running round the walls of a room just below the ceiling; a crown molding; the molding forming the top member of a door or window frame

course a continuous horizontal range of masonry units such as bricks, as in a wall.

dormer a projecting structure built out from a sloping roof, usually containing a vertical window or louver.

elevation A drawing showing the vertical elements of a building, either exterior or interior, as a direct projection of the vertical plane; also used for the exterior walls of a building other than the facade (front).

fabric The structural and material portions that make up the building (frames, walls, floors, roof, etc.).

facade The exterior face of a building which is the architectural front, sometimes distinguished from the other faces by elaboration of architectural or ornamental details.

gable The vertical triangular portion of wall at the end of a building having a double-sloping roof, from the level of the cornice or eaves to the ridge of the roof.

gambrel A roof which has two pitches on each side.

hip A roof which has equal pitches on all sides of a building.

integrity A district, site, building, structure, or object with intact original location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, to an extent that its historic character is discernible.

oist One of a series of parallel beams of timber, reinforced concrete, or steel used to support floor and ceiling loads, and supported in turn by larger beams, girders, or bearing walls; the widest dimension is vertically oriented.

landmark A property or district which has been designated by a government entity as possessing historic significance.

lintel A horizontal structural member (such as a beam) over an opening which carries the weight of the wall above.

mansard A roof having a double slope on four or more sides of the building, the lower slope being much steeper.

mortar A mixture of cementitious materials (such as cement and/or lime) with water and a fine aggregate (such as sand); can be troweled in the plastic state; hardens in place. When used in masonry construction, the mixture may contain masonry cement or ordinary hydraulic cement with lime (and often other admixtures) to increase its plasticity and durability.

mortise A hole, cavity, notch, slot, or recess cut into a timber or piece of other material; usually receives a tenon, but also has other purposes, as to receive a lock.

National Register of Historic Places The official list of the Nation s cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register includes districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and cultures.

National Historic Landmark NHL . Historic and archeological sites, buildings, and objects possessing exceptional value as commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States. NHLs are buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects are of exceptional national significance in American history and culture.

non-contributing A property physically located within a historic district or area of study which does not relate to the defined criteria of historic significance for the area.

parapet A low guarding wall at any point of sudden drop, as at the edge of a terrace, roof, battlement, balcony, etc; in an exterior wall, fire wall, or party wall, the part entirely above the roof.

pointing In masonry, the final treatment of joints by the troweling of mortar into the joints. The removal of mortar from between the joints of masonry units and the replacing of it with new mortar is properly called "repointing."

pyramidal A hip roof in which all planes of the roof come together at a single point.

rehabilitation Returning a property to a state of usefulness through repair or alteration which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historical, architectural, and cultural values.

restoration Accurately recovering the form and details of a property and its setting as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of later work or by replacement of missing earlier work.

ridge The horizontal line at the junction of the upper edges of two sloping roof surfaces.

shed A roof consisting of a single, sloping plane.

significant A district, site, building, structure, or object that has integrity and that is associated with historical events or patterns of events; or that are associated with the lives of significant persons; or that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, style, period, or method construction, or possess high artistic values.

sill A horizontal timber, at the bottom of the frame of a wooden structure, which rests on the foundation; the horizontal bottom member of a window or door frame.

spandrel In a multistory building, a wall panel filling the space between the top of the window in one story and the sill of the window in the story above.

stabili ation Applying measures designed to reestablish a weather-resistant enclosure and the structural stability of an unsafe or deteriorated property while maintaining the essential form as it exists at present.

stud An upright post or support, especially one of a series of vertical structural members which act as the supporting elements in a wall or partition.

tenon The projecting end of a piece of wood, or other material, which is reduced in cross section, so that it may be inserted in a corresponding cavity (mortise) in another piece in order to form a secure joint.

tension The state or condition of being pulled or stretched.

truss A structure composed of a combination of members that resist axial loads, usually in some triangular arrangement so as to constitute a rigid framework.

vault A masonry covering over an area which uses the principle of the arch.

wythe One thickness of brick or other masonry material in a wall, commonly about 4 inches.

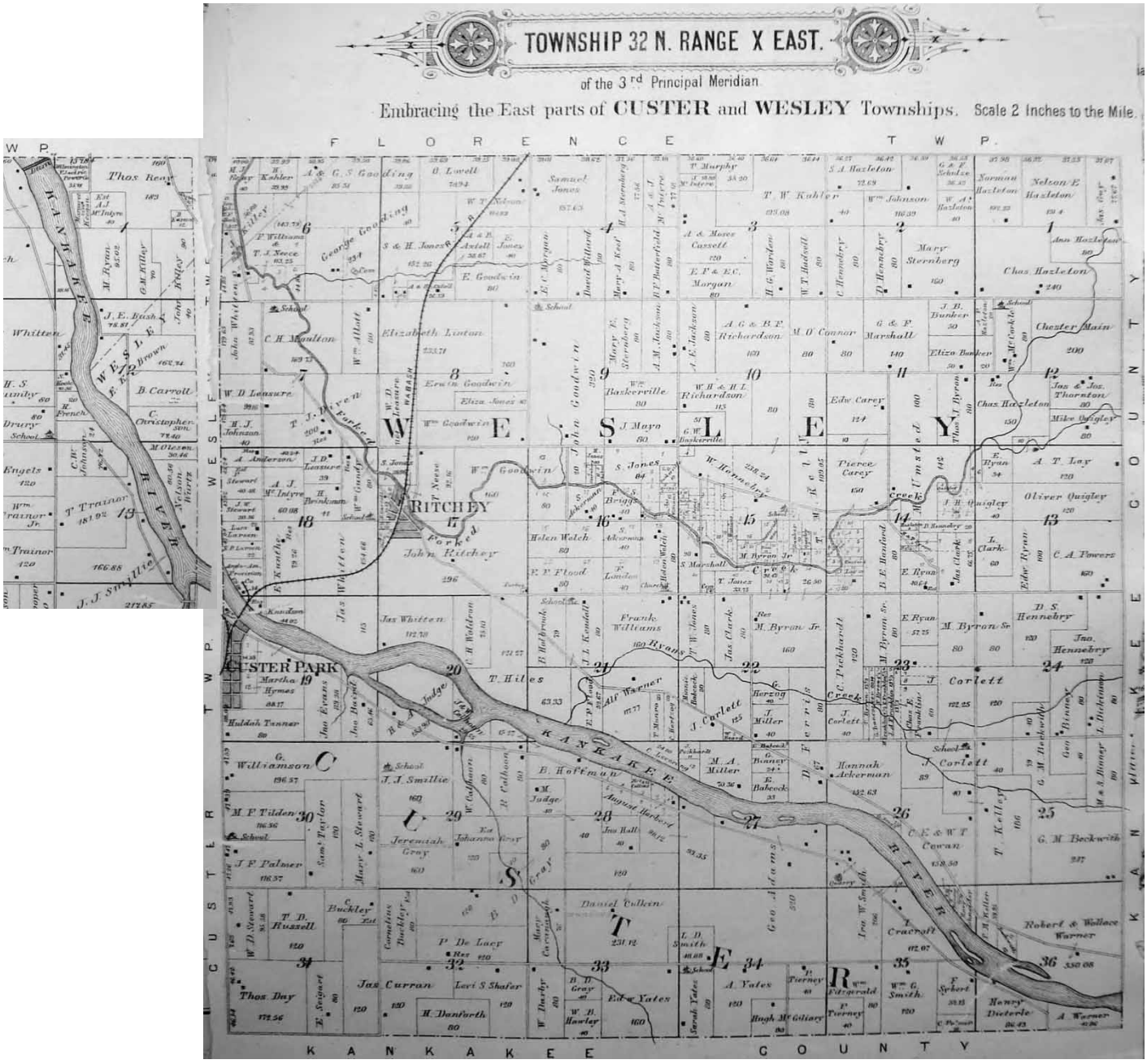
APPENDIX A

HISTORIC PLAT MAPS

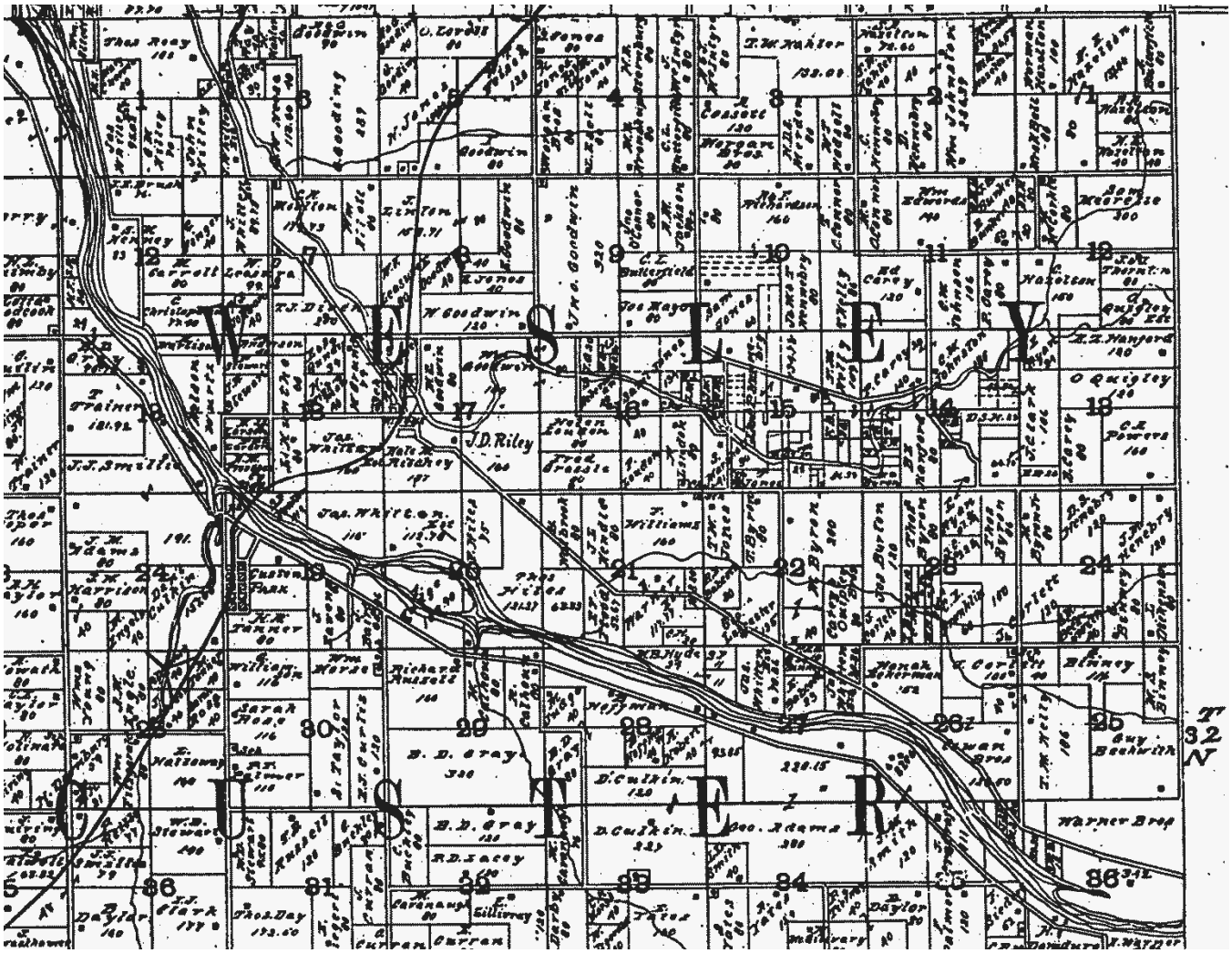
This appendix contains historic farm atlas and plat maps for Wesley Township. Refer to Bibliography for map sources.

Wesley Township 1862

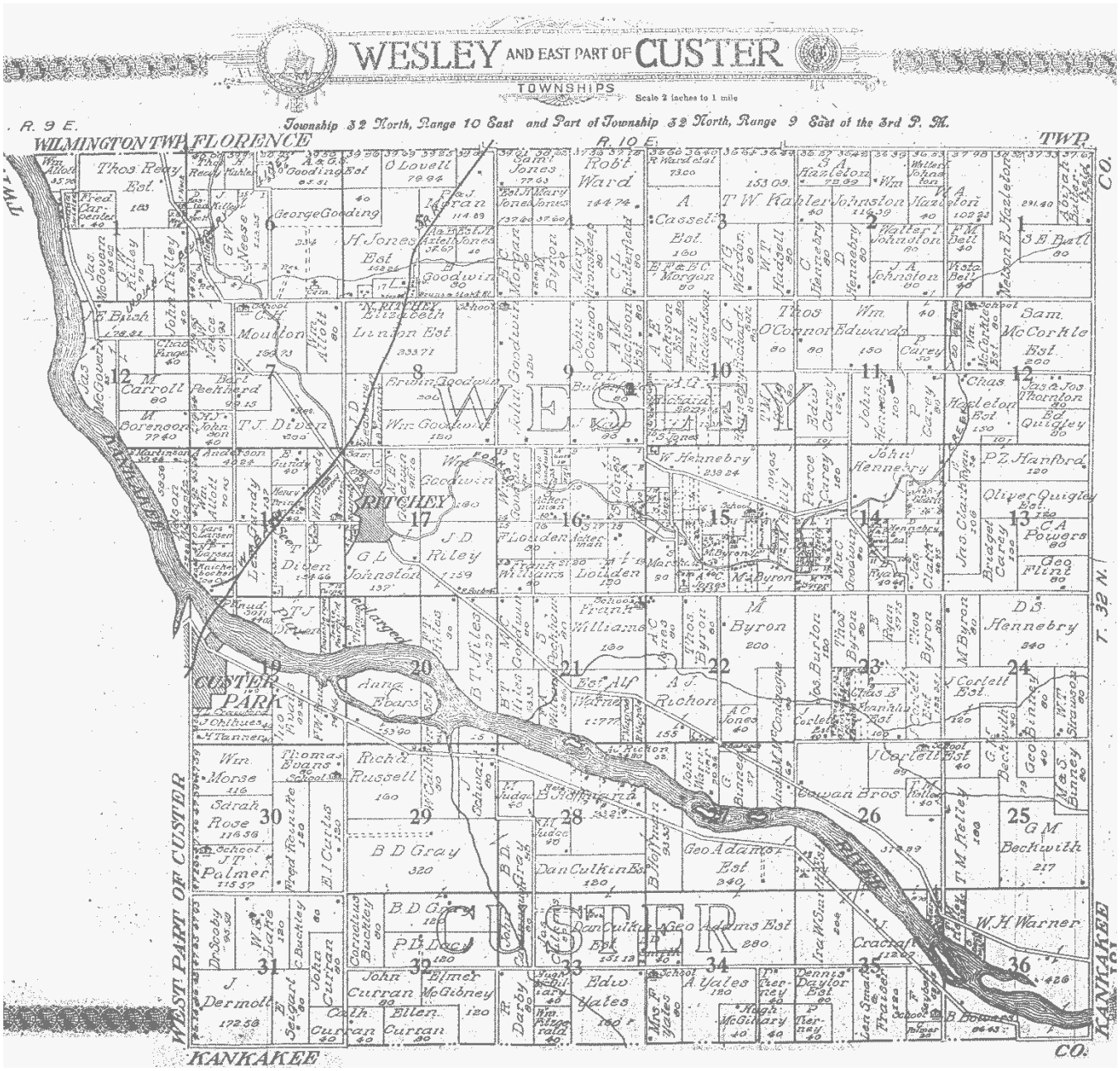
Wesley Township 1873



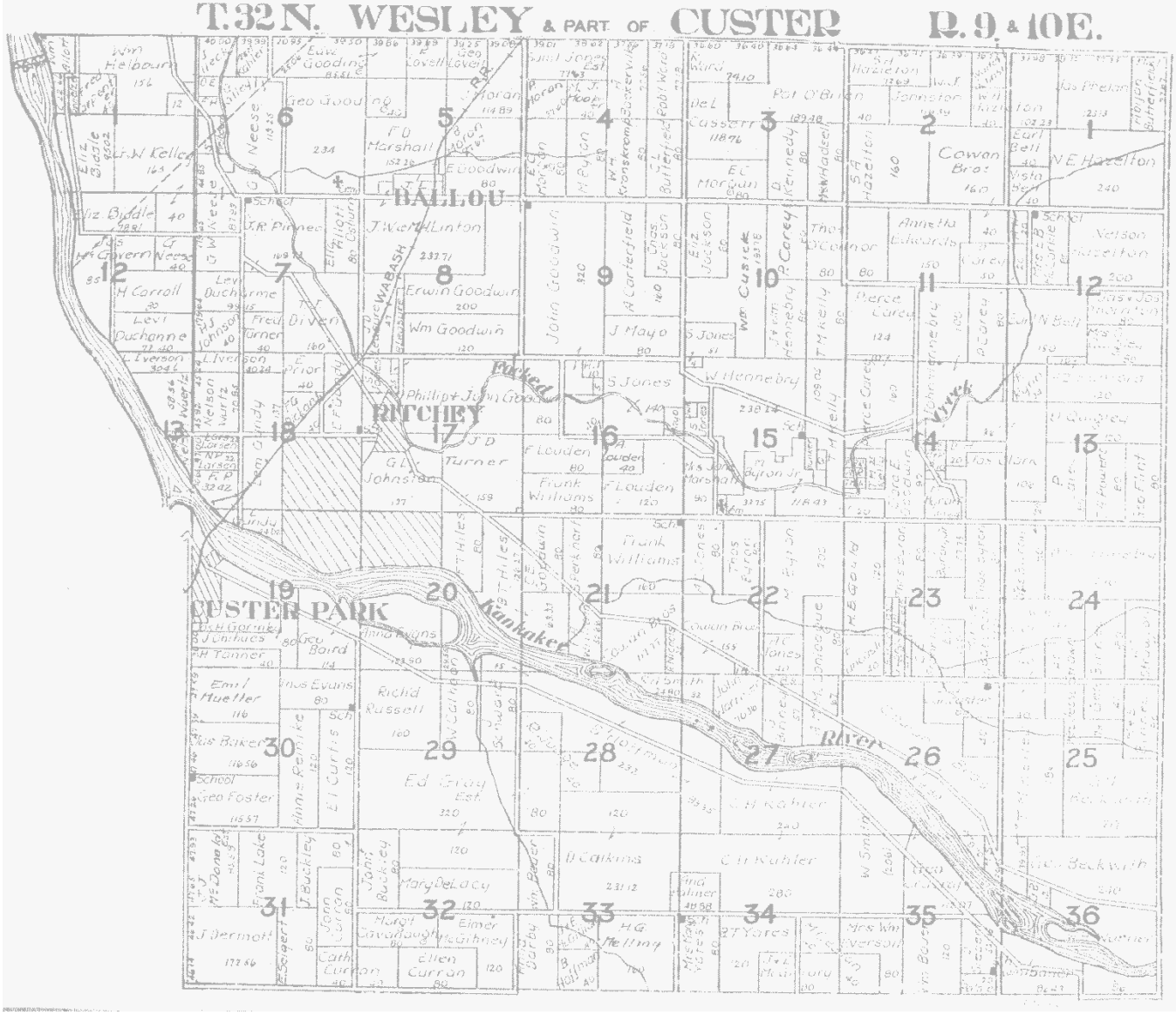
Wesley Township 1893



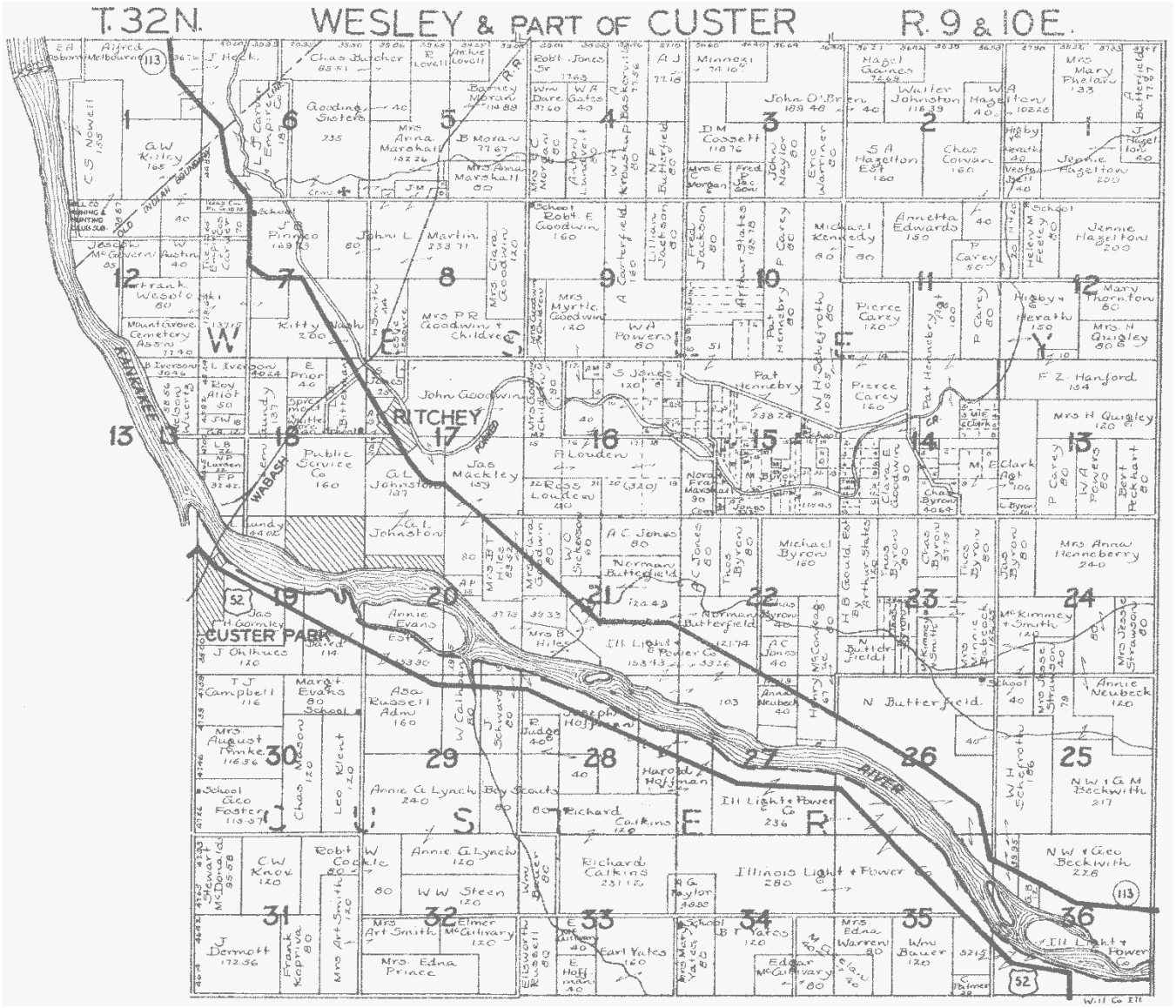
Wesley Township 1902



Wesley Township 1909



Wesley Township 1920s



Wesley Township circa 1940

APPENDIX B

SURVEY MAPS

The following maps were generated as part of this study using ArcGIS software. The background baseline mapping data were provided by the Will County Land Use Department. The contemporary aerial photography that forms the background for the maps is dated 2009. The historic aerial photography of Maps 6 and 7 is dated August 3–4, 1939.

This appendix contains:

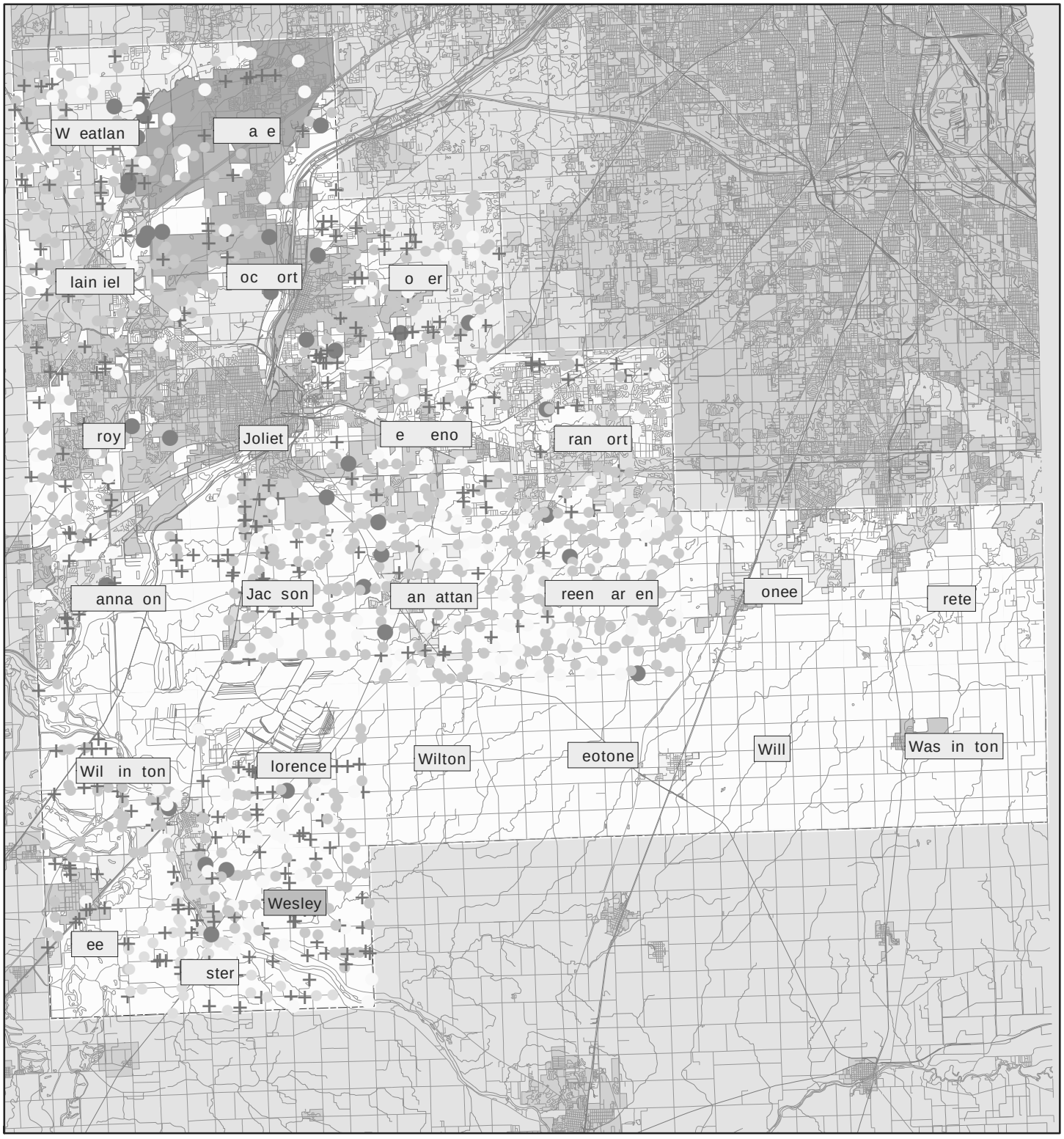
Key to Properties by Map ID Number

ID	PIN Number	Address	Name	Significance of Site
700	25-01-100-001	Martin Long Road	Norman Hazelton Farmstead	Contributing
701	25-01-100-007	Wesley Road	Hazelton–Phelan Tenant Farmstead	Contributing
702	25-01-300-005	17292 Ballou Road	Charles Hazelton Farmstead	Contributing
704	25-02-200-007	17941 Kennedy Road	Johnson Farmstead	Non-contributing
706	25-02-100-004	33049 Symerton Road	O Brien Farmstead	Non-contributing
707	25-02-300-010	33211 Symerton Road	Hennebry tenant farm	Contributing
711	25-03-100-002	Old Chicago Road	Cossett Farmstead	Non-contributing
712	25-03-400-003	18658 Ballou Road	Kennedy–Williams Farmstead	Contributing
713	25-04-300-004	19740 Ballou Road	Willard House	Local landmark potential
717	25-04-400-013	Ballou Road	Butterfield-Whitmore Farmstead	Non-contributing
718	25-04-200-005	33016 Old Chicago Road	Ward–Menozi Farmstead	Contributing
719	25-05-300-009	20670 Ballou Road	Linton–Martin Farmstead	Contributing
721	25-17-103-001	Illinois Route 102	Ritchey United Methodist Church	Local landmark
722	25-05-200-006	32814 Phillips Road	Moran–Long Farmstead	Non-contributing
723	25-05-300-012	20520 Ballou Road	Ballou Grain Elevator	Contributing
724	25-06-400-003	20798 Ballou Road	Jones–Marshall Farmstead	Contributing
725	25-06-400-012	21204 Ballou Road	Gooding–Issert Farmstead	National Register potential
726	25-06-200-001	32801 Gooding Road	Butcher Farmstead	Contributing
728	25-06-100-026	1763 Illinois Route 102	Heck–Butcher Farmstead	Non-contributing
729	25-06-100-019	1827 Illinois Route 102	Frank Heck House	Contributing
730	24-01-200-004	Water Street	Reay–Melbourn Farmstead	Contributing
731	25-06-300-001	1850 Illinois Route 102	Killey Farmstead	National Register potential
733	25-06-300-006	1960 Illinois Route 102	Neese–Carver Farmstead	Local landmark potential
739	25-18-200-007	20830 Angle Road	Ritchie School	Contributing
751	24-12-103-001	Hintze Road	McGovern Farmstead	Contributing
752	24-12-202-008	101 Hintze Road	Finger–Neese–Austin Farmstead	Contributing
753	25-07-100-001	Hintze Road	Oil Storage	Non-contributing
754	25-18-200-009	20981 Illinois Route 102	Gundy Farmstead	Contributing
757	25-07-100-010	33891 Rivals Road	Moulton–Bitterman Farmstead	Local landmark potential
758	25-07-300-008	34061 Rivals Road	Leasure–Wesoloski Farmstead	Contributing
761	25-08-400-003	34232 Indian Trail Road	Hiram Goodwin Farmstead	Local landmark potential
762	25-08-200-008	33560 Indian Trail Road	Erwin Goodwin Farmstead	Contributing

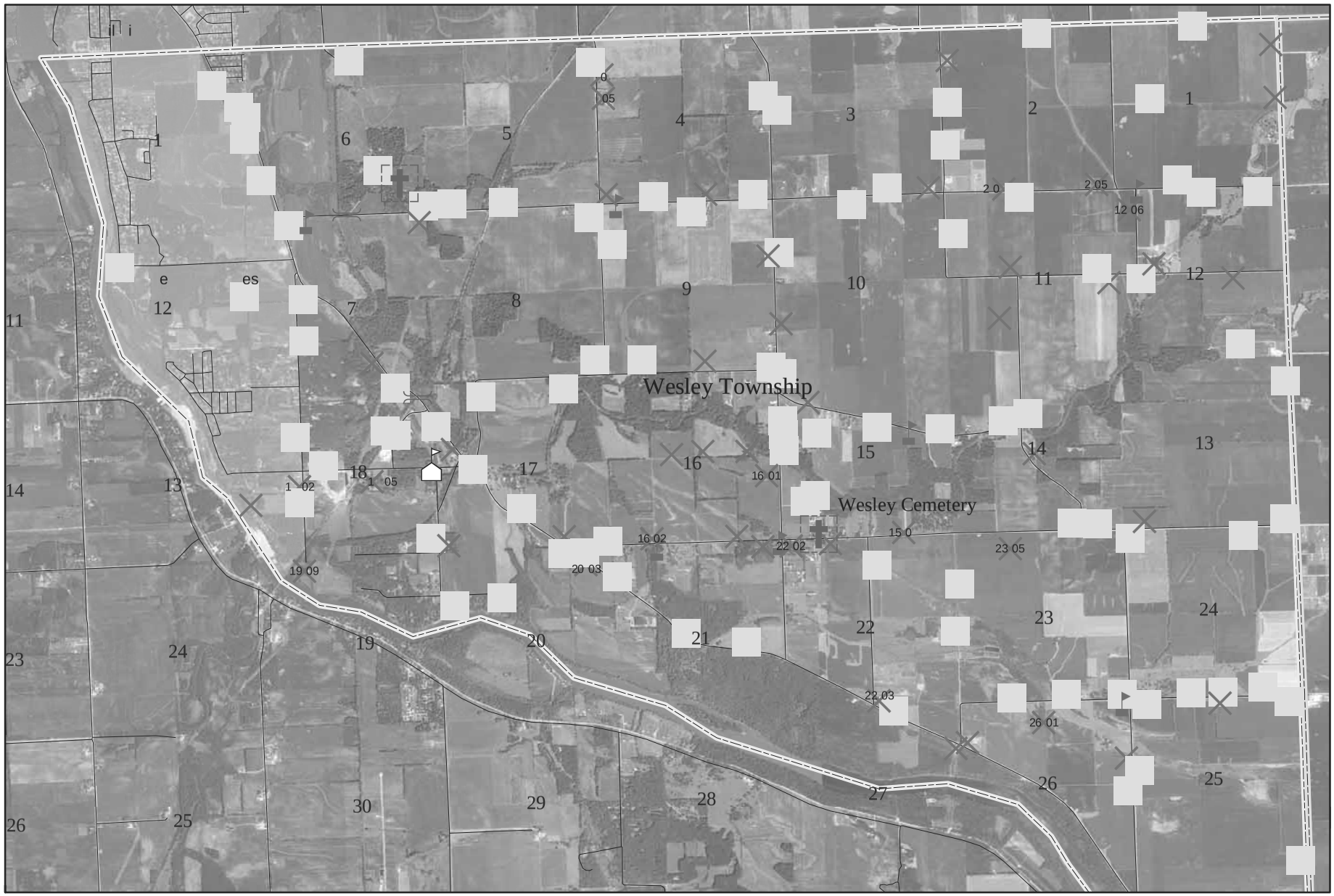
ID	PIN Number	Address	Name	Significance of Site
763	25-09-100-007	33689 Indian Trail Road	William Goodwin Farmstead	Local landmark potential
764	25-09-300-001	Goodwin Road	John Goodwin Farmstead	Non-contributing
765	25-09-200-001	19581 Ballou Road	O Connor–Carterfield Farmstead	Contributing
766	25-09-400-005	34294 Old Chicago Road	Gould–Mayo Farmstead	Contributing
767	25-10-100-008	18831 Ballou Road	Richardson–Cusick Farmstead	Local landmark potential
768	25-10-100-005	33739 Old Chicago Road	A. E. Jackson Farmstead	Non-contributing
769	25-15-100-030	34307 Old Chicago Road	Jones–Hennebry Tenant Farmstead	Non-contributing
770	25-11-100-006	33681 Symerton Road	O Connor–Kennedy Farmstead	Contributing
771	25-11-100-004	18049 Ballou Road	Marshall–Edwards–Bell Farmstead	Contributing
772	25-11-200-002	Bell Road	Bunker–Donohue Farmstead	Contributing
773	25-12-300-004	17361 Bell Road	Hazelton–Bell Farmstead	Contributing
775	25-12-200-001	17195 Ballou Road	John Wesley Preserve: Curl Farmstead	Contributing
776	25-12-200-004	6905 Ballou Road	Gilbert Curl Farmstead	Contributing
777	25-12-400-006	Warner Bridge Road	Quigley Tenant Farmstead	Non-contributing
778	25-13-200-001	Warner Bridge Road	Hanford Farmstead	Contributing
783	25-21-100-018	Illinois Route 102	Robert E. Goodwin Farmstead	Non-contributing
789	25-13-400-005	16832 Manteno Road	Powers–Flint–Hollenbeck Farmstead	Contributing
790	25-14-400-012	17722 Manteno Road	Clark–Luehrs Tenant Farmstead	Non-contributing
791	25-14-400-009	Manteno Road	Ryan–Byron Farmstead	Contributing
793	25-14-100-002	Danielson Road	Umsted–Hennebry Farmstead	Contributing
794	25-14-100-009	18154 Donahue Road	Carey–Donahue Farmstead	Contributing
799	25-15-200-006	18725 Donahue Road	Jones–Hennebry Farmstead	Non-contributing
800	25-15-200-008	Donahue Road	Kelly–Schafroth Farmstead	Non-contributing
801	25-15-100-008	34481 Old Chicago Road	Site 801	Non-contributing
802	25-15-100-024	19021 Donahue Road	Pat Hennebry Farmstead	Non-contributing
804	25-15-100-004	34681 Old Chicago Road	Site 804	Non-contributing
805	25-15-300-015	34713 Old Chicago Road	Site 805	Non-contributing
808	25-15-300-016	34919 Old Chicago Road	Marshall Farmstead	Non-contributing
814	25-17-400-002	Manteno Road	Site 814	Non-contributing
819	25-17-105-001	20153 Goodwin Road	Vogel Barn	Contributing
821	25-17-200-001	20153 Goodwin Road	John H. Goodwin Farmstead	Contributing
823	25-17-304-007	20448 Illinois Route 102	Johnston Farmstead	Local landmark potential
825	25-15-100-019	34667 Old Chicago Road	Warriner Family Houses	Non-contributing

ID	PIN Number	Address	Name	Significance of Site
831	25-18-301-012	21302 Angle Road	McIntyre–Gundy Farmstead	Contributing
834	25-18-200-027	34511 Elevator Road	Ritchie Grain Elevator	Contributing
835	25-18-200-019	34512 Elevator Road	Brinkman Farmstead	Contributing
838	25-18-302-003	34822 Rivals Road	Larsen Farmstead	Non-contributing
839	25-18-100-043	34522 Rivals Road	Stewart–Allot–Wurtz Farmstead	Non-contributing
848	25-17-301-014	20601 Illinois Route 102	Wesley Township Hall	Local Landmark
851	25-20-101-010	20497 Walton Road	Site 851	Contributing
852	25-20-101-002	35357 Wesley Road	Kimble House	Local landmark potential
853	25-18-402-003	35034 Wesley Road	Turner–Flood Farmstead	Contributing
863	25-20-200-001	20207 Illinois Route 102	Fred M. Hiles Farmstead	Local landmark potential
864	25-20-200-003	20139 Illinois Route 102	Thomas Hiles Farmstead	Local landmark potential
865	25-21-300-003	19660 Illinois Route 102	Flood–Williams Farmstead	Contributing
867	25-21-200-002	19380 Illinois Route 102	Warner–Butterfield Farmstead	Local landmark potential
870	25-22-200-002	Byron Road	Michael Byron Jr. House	Contributing
871	25-27-200-001	18780 Illinois Route 102	Babcock–Warriner Farmstead	Non-contributing
873	25-22-400-007	18402 Thornton Road	McConlaugue–Burns Farmstead	Non-contributing
874	25-23-100-004	18399 Manteno Road	Pickhardt–Burton Farmstead	Contributing
875	25-23-300-010	Thornton Road	Norman Butterfield Farmstead	Non-contributing
876	25-23-400-011	17930 Thornton Road	Franklin–Smith Farmstead	Contributing
877	25-26-400-001	36390 Mary Byron Road	Cowan–Butterfield Farmstead	Contributing
879	25-23-400-018	17636 Thornton Road	Babcock–Thornton Farmstead	Contributing
882	25-24-100-004	35149 Mary Byron Road	Michael Byron House	Local landmark potential
883	25-24-200-001	17039 Manteno Road	Hennebry Tenant Farmstead	Non-contributing
884	25-24-300-003	17306 Thornton Road	Paine–Corlett–Beckwith Farmstead	Contributing
885	25-24-400-001	17150 Thornton Road	Binney Farmstead	Contributing
886	25-24-400-002	Thornton Road	Dickinson–Strawson Farmstead	Non-contributing
887	25-25-100-001	Thornton Road	Corlett–Burns Farmstead	Non-contributing
888	25-25-200-001	Thornton Road	Milton Farmstead	Non-contributing
890	25-25-400-005	35588 Warner Bridge Road	Beckwith Farmstead	Local landmark potential
891	25-25-100-005	36247 Mary Byron Road	Kelly Tenant Farmstead	Non-contributing

WESLEY TOWNSHIP
Map 1: Will County Key Map



WESLEY TOWNSHIP
Map 2: Overview of Survey



WESLEY TOWNSHIP
Map 3: Significance of Sites

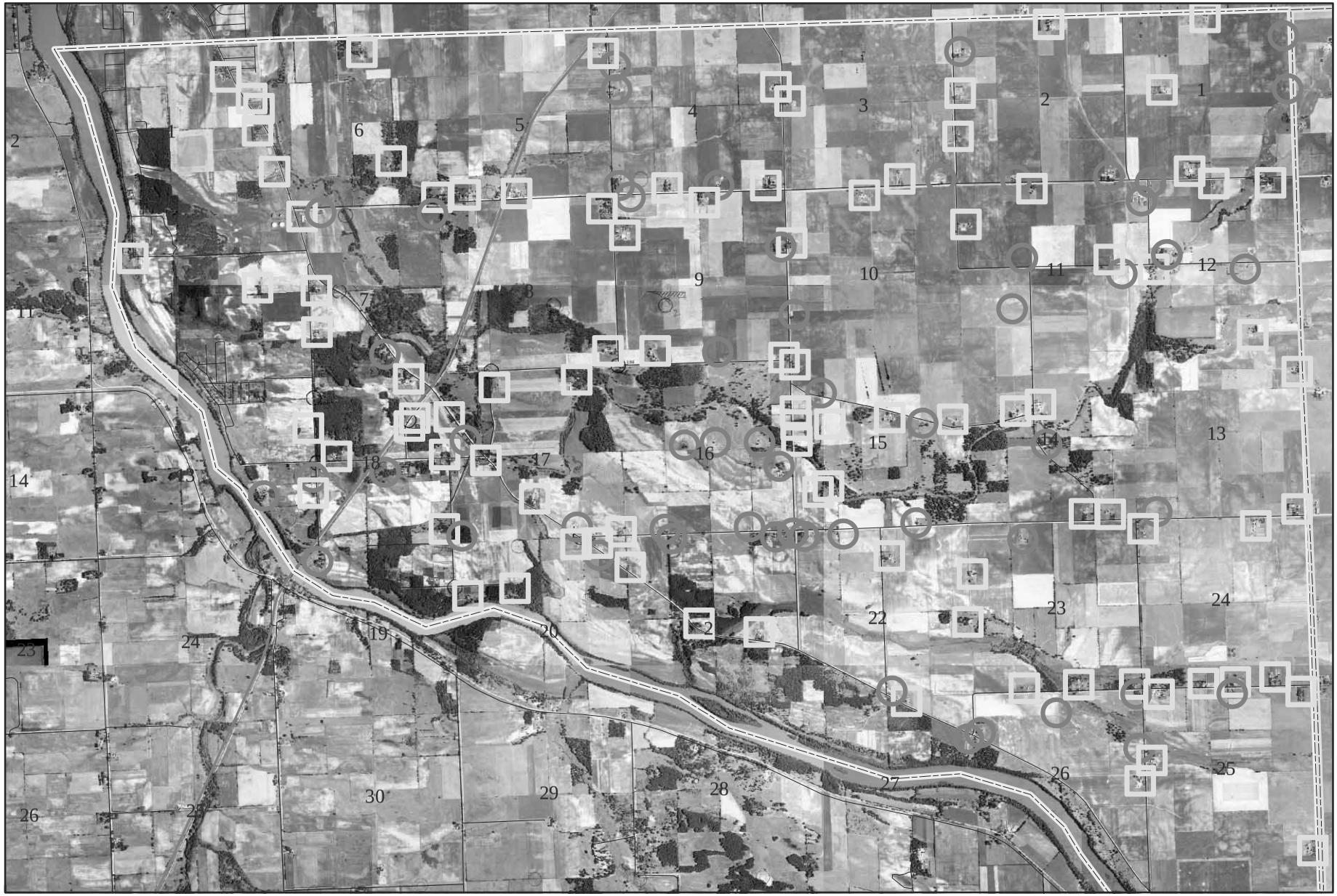
National Register potential
Local landmark potential
Contributing
Non-contributing

0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

N W E S

WESLEY TOWNSHIP
Map 4: 1939 Aerial Photography

Existing site
Demolished site



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

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WESLEY TOWNSHIP
Map 5: Potential Ritchie Historic District