

Wisconsin Barns:

Stewards of Our Values and Dynamic Cultural Landscapes

Final Report

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Final Report

Abstract:

Wisconsin is rooted in the agrarian rural landscape. We can make this identification while driving anywhere in the state and seeing the numerous farms adjacent to the highway or on license plates of passing cars. Barns are perhaps the most iconic symbol of this agricultural richness, earning this appointment because of their significance within the context of the farm. Sadly, the number of farms in Wisconsin is decreasing, and barns subsequently follow.

While barn preservation projects do exist, the more common outcome is neglect and eventually demolition. Our project examines two barn stories in southern Wisconsin in order to discover the factors which favor barn preservation. The Thomas Stone Barn, in Iowa County, has been beautifully preserved and still functions today. The Dougan Round Barn, in Rock County, lies in a state of neglect and is scheduled to be demolished in the near future. By contrasting these two very different narratives, we establish the factors that foster preservation, and thereby cultural values.

A. Project Introduction

Explaining the Research Question: What factors favor barn preservation?

Considering the ethnic, architectural, and agricultural histories of two southern Wisconsin barns, our research examines changing cultural influences and values that determine the succession of events, and optimal environmental and social conditions, favorable for barn preservation. One of the barns serves as an example of a success story in preservation, while the other barn showcases a slightly more dismal, though also more common, fate. In comparing the two case studies, we will be exploring the following questions:

-What are the major factors that have led to our case study of success and our case study of failure in preservation?

- How have the histories of these two barns contributed to their present day state of preservation?

- What external influences or institutional involvement regimes have played the most important roles in determining the fate of these two barns?

Before we introduce the two barns we are studying, we deliver an overview of Wisconsin barns in general. First of all, why are they important and why should preservation efforts exist to try to save them? Second, the architectural styles exhibited in various barns throughout the state differ greatly. This variation communicates much about the life of the barn, such as construction dates, farming practices, and the ethnic ties associated with the barn builder and owner. These details often contribute to the various preservation outcomes, so introducing and studying them is important.

Following this contextual abstract, we will introduce the two barns we chose as demonstrations of contrasting preservation examples. The Thomas Stone Barn of Iowa County, our success story, highlights the importance of community support and the value of unique architecture. The Dougan Round Barn in Beloit, on the other hand, demonstrates how environmental and social context, as well as funding factors, contribute to a different preservation outcome. This report comes at a crucial point for the Dougan Round Barn, as it is condemned to be torn down within the next year. A locator map is attached in the appendix, page 53. As we search for an answer to our thesis question, narrating the stories of these two barns paints an informative picture of the factors and conditions that favor barn preservation in Wisconsin. The majority of our research focuses on these specific barns and how they relate to the topic of preservation.

The aspects of the methodology and literature review that pertain to each individual section are placed within those specific sections throughout the paper. The methodology used to investigate barns in general is featured in this introduction, whereas the methodologies used to research our two barn case studies are explained at the beginning of the Thomas Stone Barn and Dougan Round Barn sections.

Methodology

The information collected in this section is largely based on secondary data sources. Since an extensive discourse already exists about barns in Wisconsin, we felt it unnecessary to conduct primary research of our own for the introduction and barn significance sections. The influential presence of barns in Wisconsin has motivated multiple authors, architects, historians, and geographers to document and write about these beautiful structures. The historical society and multiple books found on and off campus provided us with an overwhelming collection of materials to draw from.

In searching to explain the significance of Wisconsin barns, no works of literature came close to those of Jerry Apps. Apps has teamed up with various artists and architects to create a series of books called Barns of Wisconsin, the first of which was published in 1977. The books communicate passion for farm life and seek to share the strength of rural values. As Glenn Pound, the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison states in the foreword to the first book, Barns of Wisconsin “records in a moving and artistic way a part of the greatness of American life, a facet of our culture that soon will live only in history. It is a most welcome addition to the literature of American rural life,” (Pound 1977, vii). Through architectural sketches, artists’ renditions, and farmstead stories, Apps outlines the

development and history of Wisconsin barns.

In seeking to deliver an intense feeling of care and connection to barns in Wisconsin, Apps uses an emotionally captivating rhetoric. The author was born and raised on a farm in central Wisconsin, probably adding to his view that barns are extremely important. Also, since the topic he presents is without much controversy, it is easy for Apps to make convincingly potent arguments to explain the paramountcy of barns.

B. The Significance of Wisconsin Barns

Introduction

Wisconsinites sometimes take barns for granted because of their commonality on the state's landscape. Seeing barns on a daily basis can cause the viewer to overlook the meaning and importance behind these objects. Even when the importance of barns to Wisconsin culture is understood, people might continue to underestimate the value of preserving the historic structures. Although many barns still do exist across Wisconsin's landscape, we should continue to embrace any effort to keep their presence strong. The benefits of maintaining and taking pride in Wisconsin's barns are abundant, as the plethora of literature available on Wisconsin barns demonstrate.

Why should we preserve these structures?

1) Cultural Identity

"I've always felt the barn is probably the best symbol of Wisconsin. It's not a cheesehead, it's not beer, it's not cheese, it's not the Green Bay Packers. It's the barn. It's the barn after all that's on our state license plate. It's the barn that tells us who we are and where we come from," (Tischler 1999-2002).

Barns represent Wisconsin's cultural identity better than any other structure in the state. Traditionally, Wisconsin is renowned for agricultural productivity and innovation, and barns provide the basis for this strength. Crop storage, processing, cattle housing, and horse stabling all occur in the barn (Noble and Cleek 1996, 12), making it the hub of the farm, the epicenter for the action that fosters the productivity.

Along with this notion of the country life the barn embodies, barns are also prominent symbols for Wisconsin. As Tischler's quote reminds us, Wisconsin's license plate pictures the barn, countless postcards use the barn as the trademark of Wisconsin, and artists and photographers frequently use the buildings in their works.

Aside from embodying Wisconsin culture, barns also serve as representations of different ethnicities within Wisconsin. Not all ethnic groups openly embraced their heritage through architectural creations, but those who did often chose to do so through their barns. The German barn builders often used styles from their homeland, incorporating fachwork in place of wood because of the wood shortage they grew accustomed to in Europe. The Scandinavian style conversely involves large amounts of wood, and focuses on heat retention because of the influence of the cold Scandinavian climate (Tischler 1999-2002). Analyzing different barn styles can give one an idea of the heritages of both the barn maker and the barn owner.

2) Preserving History

Unlike many modern day barns which are seemingly "cookie-cutter", many of Wisconsin's traditional barns are quite distinct from one another. According to Jerry Apps, each barn "has a character of its own and makes a unique aesthetic contribution to society...

[and] the overall beauty of the countryside” (Apps 1977, 174). Barns should be saved for the simple reason that each distinct building tells a story. Every barn provides a glimpse into the past, a collection of historical memoirs built up from decade upon decade of existence. Multiple generations are often connected to each barn, adding to the list of narratives and memories engrained in every oak beam.

The barn also acts as a lens with which to document changes on the landscape, specifically with regards to farming practices. Examining the composition of a barn, from its layout to the types of machinery it holds, provides a reliable tool for determining the history of the land, both locally and regionally.

3) Falling Monuments

“Old barns don’t die easily...particularly if their roofs remain intact. With no maintenance at all they will stand for years. The paint will fade, and the boards will take on a shade of soft gray, but the barn will stand. These old barns are symbols of a changing life-style on the land, which, for many peoples, evokes feelings of sadness,” (Apps 1977, 134).

As outlined in the previous section, barns serve as a priceless time capsule, housing stories that we can use to uncover pieces of the past. The fact that many barns are suffering from neglect and vacancy says something about where our priorities lie as a modern society. “In 1935, Wisconsin, out of the nation, had the largest number of farms: 199,877... [yet] in 2005, the number of Wisconsin farms had declined to 76,500,” (Apps 2010, 10). Investigating the reasons behind this trend and the dire condition of some of the barns on these farms, along with why so many are in shambles already, is important in seeking to understand the past, present, and future of the Wisconsin vision and resident values.

4) Sense of Place

A popular discourse is emerging that stresses the theme of placelessness and the idea that humans are conceptually losing strong, rooted connections to the land (Steele 1981, 8). Society places greater value on urban settings, in general, than it does on rural landscapes. Today most Americans are born in cities and grow up living in urban environments, often having little experience with the countryside (Noble and Cleek 1996, x).

Some Americans “brand barns obsolete. We value highly what is new and modern,” (Apps 2010, 171). This is a sad fact given that many intensely meaningful human interactions with the environment and the world of nature happen in the countryside. The predominantly urbanized state we find ourselves occupying inhibits these interactions.

Barns embody human-environment interplay on a tangible level as well. The farmer keeps his tractor, his grain, and his cattle in the barn, all of which he uses on a daily basis to make his mark on the landscape. The barn, along with all of the things it contains, keeps the farmer rooted to that place, sometimes throughout his whole lifetime.

The farmer and his/her family develop a foundation and sense of rootedness on their farmstead, which in turn creates strong values like hard work, commitment, and love for the land and home setting. These values are as persistent as the massive barns themselves. The strength of these values fosters emotional connections and therefore advocacy for barn preservation. Hence, interest in the countryside is by no means dead, and environmental conservation projects and rural preservation efforts serve as examples. Barns are by no means excluded from these phenomena.

C. Significance of Architecture

Introduction

Through an examination of the architectural styles associated with Wisconsin barns and the two specific barns in our study, much about their history, function, and preservation motives can be found. The roof style of a barn can date its construction, while the layout of the barn can deliver information about the land use practices associated with that particular farmstead as well as the goals and history of the farmer who built the barn. In addition, the commonality or uniqueness of a barn in terms of architectural style can point towards ultimate reasons for preservation successes or failures (Apps & Strang, 2010). The following outlines of architectural components and connections are pertinent to the analysis of our two case studies.

The Role of Architecture

1) Commonality of Bank Barns, the general form of the Thomas Stone Barn

Bank barns are by far the most common barn style in Wisconsin and are found in every region of the state (Apps and Strang 1995, 30). Builders constructed these barns against a hill allowing for easy access to the second floor where the hay or grain was threshed and stored. The farmers keep the livestock on the first floor. Typically constructed with a stone foundation (or concrete as it became more popular), these barns better regulated the temperature for the livestock area, keeping it cool in the summer and warm in the winter. The wooden frame stood atop this stone stable. An important distinction between the bank barns of Wisconsin (or more generally the United States) and European bank barns are their orientation with regards to the hill they rest upon. The European bank barns were built perpendicular to the hill while the

barns built in Wisconsin are all set parallel to the hill (Apps and Strang 1995, 31). This style can be seen earlier on the east coast before dairy farming made its transition to Wisconsin. The Thomas Stone Barn is a somewhat unique bank barn in that it embodies a very uncommon example of Welsh masonry, as seen in the photographs in the appendix.

2) From Wheat to Dairy

Nearing the end of the nineteenth century the dominant form of agriculture in Wisconsin underwent a fundamental shift from cereal to livestock. A combination of immigration, market influence, and ecological conditions caused the switch. Yankee settlers left the eastern United States for Wisconsin because of low wheat prices and depleted soils (Apps and Strang 1995, 22). Wheat production in Wisconsin skyrocketed upon their arrival, partially due to their predisposition to the crop and partially because of the well-suited Wisconsin soils (Russell 1901, 4). However, just like in the eastern United States, wheat production proved unsustainable in Wisconsin as the soil quickly lost fertility. This difficulty, combined with chinch bugs and falling wheat prices due to an overabundance of the crop, drove farmers away from wheat production and into dairy farming (Russell 1901, 4).

Dairy farming already had a short history in the eastern states, so these farmers often brought small scale dairy production experience with them in addition to their knowledge of wheat. Dairy farming did not diminish soil quality as wheat production had; in fact quite the contrary happened (Russell 1901, 4). The benefits of dairy production were also visible economically. When comparing the counties where dairying had been heavily adopted (mostly in eastern Wisconsin) to those where it had not, the counties with more dairy farming showed

an increase in land prices (Russell 1901, 4). All in all, this fundamental shift in farming practices outlined above influenced an increase in the construction of dairy barns like the Thomas Stone Barn, built in 1881, and the Dougan Round Barn, built in 1911.

3) Dairy Barns

Within the form of dairy barns, design styles not only have aesthetic appeal, as we will see in the following section on the Thomas Stone Barn, but also functional appeal. Jerry Apps rightly notes that the most obvious feature differing among dairy barns is the type of roof. The early barn architects built almost exclusively with gable roofs. This style was the easiest to build as it consisted of only two planes and can be seen more commonly on smaller barns. (Apps and Strang 1995, 50; Apps 1996, 11). Even within this style of roof, the pitch varies. For example, Norwegian barns typically had a more steeply sloped roof compared to their homeland neighbors, the Finnish (Apps and Strang 1995, 25). Gambrel roofs are composed of four planes, with the middle two at a shallower slope and the outer two much steeper. This style has functional benefits including increased storage space on the second story as well as the advantage of being able to walk upright throughout the entire second story (Apps and Strang 1995, 49). Variations arose out of these two typical styles. A Dutch Gambrel includes an extra eave on either side of the roof. A monitor style roof arose out of a gable-topped barn with additions on either side lower than the existing eaves, while a salt box is a continuance of a single side below the other (Apps and Strang 1995).

As the dairy industry grew in Wisconsin so did experimentation in barn form. While octagonal and round barns had been used since antiquity, they first gained popularity in the

United States in the mid-19th century (Apps and Strang 1995, 42). Octagonal and round barns grew out of the attempt to increase efficiency. 'Round barns require less material to build, while having just as much square footage', (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). More about this distinct style will be discussed in the following section about the Dougan Round Barn.

4) Round Barns, the general form of the Dougan Barn

The advent of the uniquely styled polygonal and round barns is anything but new. Rather, these designs have been around since antiquity (Apps and Strang 1995, 42). Their introduction into the American rural landscape began in the early 19th century and grew in popularity until the early 20th century (Apps and Strang 1995, 42-44). Their burgeoning popularity at this time can be attributed in part to their promotion by farm journals and state agricultural experiment stations (McMahan 1991, 12).

Agricultural experts of the late 19th and early 20th centuries promoted round barns because the style "embodies several fundamental features believed to be worthy of general imitation." (King 1890, 3). Franklin H. King designed a round barn and published the plan in the 1890 Annual Report for the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station (McMahan 1991, 13). This plan became the prototype for round barns, after which the Dougan barn was eventually built. The construction plans were intended to increase efficiency in construction and production. The economy of construction included the minimization of building materials through the circular form, which in turn maximized space inside the barn (King 1890, 3). A distinct feature of the round barn is the inclusion of the silo within the barn. This allows for minimal labor during feeding (Zeasman, Humphrey, and Schindler 1921, 5). This design

eventually allowed for the elimination of internal vertical support posts, as new round barns included a self-supported roof (Zeasman et al 1921, 7).

D. The Dougan Round Barn

Methodology

This methodology section explains the primary and secondary data sources our group used to investigate the Dougan Round Barn preservation story.

1) Multiple Newspaper Articles, Letters, and Photographs

Our group collected dozens of newspaper articles, mainly from the Beloit Daily News, that discuss and document the issues that caused the demise of the Dougan Round Barn. We also have letters of correspondence between Robert Hallett and various members of the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn that illustrate the turmoil that existed within the group, as we will narrate later on. In addition, we collected historic photographs of the barn from different perspectives. Repeat photographs were taken on November 29, 2010 for comparison, and are included in page 56 of the appendix. The drastic differences between the two sets of photos blatantly show the deterioration of the barn.

2) Plat Maps

Plat maps of Section 32 in Turtle Township, Rock County, show the details of the ownership changes that the property experienced. The plat maps also document the construction of Interstate 90, and how the road split the property in half.

3) Interviews

More than any other primary data sources, such as plat maps and photographs, the interviews we conducted with two pivotal actors in the Dougan Barn case provided a bounty of information that directly relate to our research question. Without these two sources, our project would not have been as successful.

i. Interview with Robert Hallett

The main informational interview we conducted was with Mr. Robert Hallett, who was the President of the now extinct Friends of the Dougan Round Barn group. The group fought to save this historic barn during the 1990s, an effort which ultimately failed. The format of the interview was mainly conversational, and our group took digital notes on a laptop. A question prompted by our group would often lead to a monologue about a multitude of topics on the part of Mr. Hallett. He was very open and eager to talk about the barn and all of the details and events that surround it. A full version of the interview can be found in the appendix, page 45.

ii. Interview with Jacqueline Dougan Jackson

Another vital interview we conducted was with Jacqueline Dougan Jackson, who grew up on the Dougan farm and has been an integral part of preservation efforts. The interview was also conversational, and we took handwritten notes. The interview took place at the Dougan Barn, so it was slightly more informal than the sit down with Robert Hallett. Through this interview with Mrs. Jackson, we gathered more information about the barn's unique family history and its importance to the family and Beloit community. Through Mrs. Jackson's insights, in collaboration with the insights we gained from the interview with Mr. Hallett, we acquired a more first- hand perspective on the influencing factors that caused the demise of the

Dougan Round Barn and its ultimate turn away from preservation. For a complete narrative of the encounter with Mrs. Jackson, see the appendix, page 49.

Introduction: Setting and History

The Dougan Round Barn is located just outside the City of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin. According to Jacqueline Dougan Jackson, who grew up on the farm, this location was desirable because of its proximity to the dairy market that the Beloit community provided (J. D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). Mark Twain Kellor, the architect, built the barn in 1911 (Barn Journal 2010, 1). Wesson J. Dougan, an ex-minister turned dairy farmer, was the original owner of the barn. Wesson ran a very scientifically oriented farm, working with the University of Wisconsin Agriculture Department from the start. Dougan and Kellor worked directly with Franklin King, a professor of agricultural physics at the University of Wisconsin, to design the barn (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). “Daddy Dougan”, as he was referred to locally, is credited with painting five goals for the Dougan farmstead on the silo in front of the main doors to the barn, as shown below and described in page 54 of the appendix.

“The Aims of this farm

1. Good Crops.
2. Proper Storage
3. Profitable Livestock
4. A Stable Market
5. Life as Well as a Living”

-W.J. Dougan

His son Ronald eventually inherited the farm, and continued the innovative business that existed on “the forefront of scientific developments in milk production including early

experiments with artificial insemination”, (Barn Journal 2010, 1). Ronald Dougan also experimented with hybrid corn production, selling his product throughout the Midwest. Corn curls, and consequently the entire snack food industry, began in this barn (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010).

The Dougan Round Barn has a 68 foot diameter and is 60 feet tall. The barn is topped with a round gambrel roof, which is also tied to the interior silo, (Barn Journal 2010, 1). The milking stations were set up on the ground floor, while hay rested on the upper level of the barn. During our visit to the barn with Jacqueline Jackson, she showed us how grain from upstairs travelled down an innovative shoot to the ground floor where the cows fed. Proper ventilation techniques, along with providing adequate lighting for the dairy cows, were important aspects of the Dougan barn layout that had to be taken into special account.

“Many windows indicate the concern for light and ventilation: twenty six-over-six windows on the ground story, nine six-over-six windows on the mow story, and four small windows high in the rafters. Air ducts are placed between the basement windows, wooden shafts on the sides of the silo circulate air to the top of barn, and two ventilators project from the roof,” (WHS, Additional Comments Tab, 1996-2010).

All of these design efforts were not enough to keep round barn construction alive, however. The Dougan barn is one of the last true round barn examples, embodying a style which waned in popularity shortly after this specific example took form (White 1916, 6; Zeasman et al 1921, 5).

1) Form and Function

The popularity of round barn style began to fade shortly after Kellor built the Dougan Round Barn in 1911. The institutions who originally endorsed these designs began to advertise

the disadvantages the round barn poses, lessons that could only be learned through time and experience. For example, because the silos are usually situated in the center of round barns, the task of filling it is complicated. After the center silo in the Dougan barn suffered from a lateral crack, the family had to insert metal belts around the structure (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). Also, round barns could not be enlarged to accommodate changes in size of a farmers herd (Zeasman et al 1921, 5). Finally, providing adequate lighting to the center of the barn for the health of the dairy cows was too difficult within the round barn design (White 1916, 8). Due to all of these challenges, barn design style began to move back to the traditional rectangular barn during the 1920s (White 1916, 6; Zeasman et al 1921, 5).

2) Family Heritage and Personal Stories

The Dougan Round Barn, like many others, has a history that cannot be separated from those who lived, worked, and depended on the barn. However, unlike most barns, The Dougan Round Barn is the focal point of a family's social history in the book Stories from the Round Barns, by Jacqueline Dougan Jackson. Jackson grew up on the Dougan farmstead, and spend much of her early years in and around the barn. As one of her anecdotes begins, "There is the land. In the center of the land are the farm buildings. In the center of the buildings is the round barn," (Jackson 1997, 1). This first passage illustrates the barn as a pinnacle of the lives for the farming family. At a young age Jackson described the relationship between the stories, the farm, and the people as a log of elm wood, "everything, in all directions, in all dimensions, is bound together," (Jackson 1997, 5). Jackson's book does not contribute significantly to an understanding of the specific factors that favor barn preservation, due to the fact that most of

her accounts are from an era before the movement to preserve the barn began. But, her stories do provide insights into the personal connections and family legacies that keep us as Wisconsinites interested in barns.

Currently, Jackson is working on a new book, which is the first of three and will hopefully be released during the first part of 2011. The series will tell the story of the farm from beginning to end. The work is divided into 3 books which are organized by concentric circles that start with the center silo, barn, and milk barn in the first book and work outward to the big house, workload, town, neighbors, state, nation, and world in the second and third books. A major theme within the books is 'the farm's influence on the world and the world's influence on the barn', (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). "My books are the legacy of this barn. They help people know what this farm was, what it did for people, and what they did for it", (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010).

Analysis and Findings

The information found in this section only pertains to the Dougan Round Barn case study. Our outline and analysis of this specific story does not directly answer our research question. Rather, it is useful in establishing the factors that we use in the project results section to compare to those of the Thomas Stone Barn and ultimately answer our research question. In the case of the Dougan Round Barn, changes within the field of agriculture, issues of ownership, turmoil within preservation organizations, and funding problems caused the demise of the barn.

- 1) The Preservation Story of the Dougan Round Barn

i. Current State: Crucial Timing, Community Involvement and Beloit

The timing of this project comes at a crucial point for the Dougan Round Barn, which suffers from neglect and disrepair. On Friday, October 15 of 2010, the Beloit Daily News released an article saying that the City of Beloit will tear down the “grain bins, old ice house, main Dougan farmhouse, and other outbuildings” in the coming weeks (Gavan 2010). On November 29, 2010 we visited the barn and saw that the demolition had occurred. Pictures of the aftermath, as well as examples of the waste and graffiti that plague the property, are included in the appendix, page 53. The barn and the silo are safe for now, but the building is not structurally sound and will too disappear in the coming years without the installation of a new roof. Our project will help expose the Dougan story to a more broad audience in the hopes of perhaps creating some productive attention towards preservation, especially given the urgency of the case.

‘Friends of the Dougan Round Barn’ was an organization in Beloit which focused on raising money for preserving the barn, along with general upkeep and trash cleanup on the property. Mary Frey, one of the now extinct organization’s members, has been driving out to the farmstead “every week to mow, trim trees, and clean up garbage. But after years of vandalism and other wear and tear, she’s seen the barn’s structural integrity slipping and the outbuildings slowly falling apart,” (Gavan 2010). The present day condition of the farmstead masks all of the preservation efforts that have already taken place. The ‘Friends of the Dougan Round Barn’ raised over \$85,000 during the 1990s, which is not a negligible amount considering the small size of the organization (Gavan 2010). Unfortunately, the money raised was not

enough to replace the roof, which was the essential renovation component that would have kept the barn standing well into the future.

Because of all the difficulties that haunt the Dougan farmstead along its uphill journey towards preservation, the chance to save the barn is largely lost. The Dougan family no longer owns the property, the barn has fallen out of the public spotlight, and turmoil among preservation actors has stopped any progress in its tracks. In light of these setbacks, the barn has suffered permanent structural degeneration, which makes any chance of preservation much more labor intensive and therefore unlikely. The push for relocation no longer remains a viable solution to the vacancy problem that characterizes the property (The Barn Journal 2010, 1). The community suggestion to revamp the barn as a Welcome Center, which would have been called “America’s Dairyland and Heritage Site”, on the Wisconsin-Illinois border was an idea that could have done wonders for the barn as well as Wisconsin. The Dougan Round Barn could have served as a reminder to the power of persistence and commitment, a dedication to Wisconsin’s agrarian heritage and continuing productivity.

The legacy of this barn will live on in a different form, however. Once the City of Beloit tears down the walls and bulldozes the foundation, the memories born in and around the barn will still live on. Jacqueline Dougan Jackson’s books will provide evidence of the life that once flourished on the Dougan farmstead. The deterioration of the family business and the subsequent ownership changes showcase a sad story that is characteristic of so many barns across Wisconsin. The story of the failed preservation of the Dougan Round Barn is outlined below.

ii. Contributing Factors: The Demise of the Barn and Unsuccessful Preservation

As of now, the Dougan Round Barn story is one of little success in terms of preservation. After the dairy operation that once operated out of the farmstead was shut down, the property left the Dougan hands and eventually fell under unpopular ownership. The barn has since been decaying and falling apart, and the community support, mainly in terms of funding, has largely diminished since the 1990s (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

a. Changes within the Agricultural Sector

During the 1960s, agriculture in the United States made a shift. Large businesses like Cargill, Monsanto, and Archer Daniel Midland took over the agricultural industry, creating factory farms revolved around efficiency and streamlining. Smaller scale farm operations lacked the technology and innovation to successfully compete. “Agribusiness killed the farm” by driving out the middle sized farmers like the Dougan family (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). In the case of the Dougan operation, the changes that agribusiness catalyzed within the dairy world left the small scale family operation without any choice but to shut down.

The changes in agriculture during the second half of the 20th century had repercussive effects, like the closure of the Dougan dairy. As pasteurization came into play, milk didn't have to be as fresh and therefore wasn't delivered daily (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). As the role of the milkman diminished, refrigeration also increased, making it easier and less labor intensive to keep milk in the cooler at the grocery store. Mrs. Jackson told us she routinely wondered how the family was able to survive financially due to its dependence on milk profits (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). She mentioned that for every bottle of milk sold, they only

received a profit of two cents per bottle. Furthermore, women increasingly entered the workforce during the later half of the 20th century. Therefore, no one was home to accept a milk delivery and it became easier to stop at the supermarket to buy milk supplied by larger shipments.

Mrs. Jackson outlined the life of modern day cows versus the life of cows over the Dougan farm history as an example of the shifts that she has seen in dairy operations over her lifetime. Jacqueline said that dairy cows on their farm would live 10-16 years, on a twice a day milking schedule, and cows today live roughly two years, and are milked four to five times a day. The Dougans would put their cows to pasture to graze on grass, only supplementing their diet with a small amount of grain (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). Now, some cows spend their adult years only eating grain, which isn't good for their digestive systems, but definitely increases their production rates (J.D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). These broader system changes indirectly influenced the fate of this barn. If the business that kept the farm alive no longer operated, then the barn as a centerpiece on the property ceased to be important.

b. Ownership Conflicts

One of the factors which led to the failed preservation effort of the Dougan Round Barn was the struggle for ownership by the organization pledged to its preservation. After the creation of the non-profit Friends of the Dougan Round Barn group, problems arose with the acquisition of the property on which the barn stood.

Ronald A. Dougan sold the property to the Springbrook Associates in 1971 (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). At this point, the four Dougan siblings, sons and daughters of

Ronald, had since moved away from the farm to pursue their own careers (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). Ronald had stopped operation of the dairy farm in the preceding decade. The decision to sell the property was deliberate and largely due to lack of utilitarian value, as the Dougans had always run a successful dairy operation (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

The construction of Interstate 90 also contributed to the decision to sell, as it caused land prices to rise in the area. Prior to the construction of Interstate 90, which now runs adjacent to the barn, the Dougan property included several parcels centered around the farm buildings and was located between Turtle Creek and Colley Road, in the northwest corner of section 32 (see page 64 of the appendix for 1956 plat map). The interstate, upon its construction, cut through the southeast corner of the property. According to Jacqueline Dougan Jackson's estimates, between 1971 and 1972 property taxes increased 2000%, which solidified the decision to sell the property (Jacqueline D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). The 1970 plat map of Turtle Township, Rock County shows the Dougan property which lies adjacent to City of Beloit property separated by railroad tracks (see page 64 of the appendix for 1970 plat map). In the next available plat map of the area from 1984, after the sale of the property, this same plot is included in the lands owned by the City of Beloit (see page 65 of the appendix for 1984 plat map).

The purchaser, Springbrook Associates, was a group of successful local Beloit businessmen working together in several different business pursuits, including industrial ventures and real estate. The property, including all farm buildings, was under the ownership of Springbrook Associates for nearly 30 years. The buildings were left untouched as was the

case with many of the Springbrook Associates real estate assets. The owners “never drove a nail in a building for anything,” (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

Springbrook Associates parceled and built the mobile home park that now stands on the western end of the old Dougan property. This improvement, in strictly real estate terms, while under the initiative of Springbrook Associates was done surreptitiously without accrediting the company. The park was built in the intervening years between the sale of the property to Springbrook Associates in 1971 and 1978, when the mobile home community becomes apparent in aerial photographs (see page 65 of the appendix for aerial photograph, 1978). As one can see the mobile home park greatly encroaches on the barn and the old Dougan farmstead. Other than this minimal building, little had been done to the property or the farm buildings after their acquisition by Springbrook Associates.

c. Turmoil within the Preservation Organization

The Friends of the Dougan Round Barn, a group we have already mentioned in previous sections, was instrumental in the attempt to preserve the barn. Robert Hallett, a Beloit native who grew up near the barn and is now a structural relocation specialist, was the president of the group during the 1990s (Robert Hallett, 14 November, 2010). In order to gauge the community support for barn preservation, the group held open community discussion panels where “seventy to eighty people showed up” (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010) for each meeting. The group was instrumental in raising community awareness about the barn as well as creating support for the barn’s growing preservation movement. Ultimately, however,

turmoil among the group members about different visions for the future of the barn caused the group to disintegrate in 1999, as is outlined below (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

In 1996, the City of Beloit condemned the barn and the surrounding buildings due to their condition of disrepair. An order for demolition was drafted and only with the aid of the nascent organization, Friends of the Dougan Round Barn, was the demolition postponed. At this point serious issues regarding the acquisition of the property became clear. After several meetings of the preservation organization, member Mary Frey arranged for the sale of the property to herself and her partner Bill Wieland (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). However, the sale came with a clause that did not allow for the removal of the barn from the property, without permission from Springbrook Associates. The sale of the barn and the clause in the deed allowed for improvements to the barn, but did not assure preservation of the barn or the property. Springbrook Associates never intended for the property to be preserved, but rather intended to profit from selling the property for industrial development given its proximity to the interstate (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

After the property was sold to Frey and Wieland, opinions about the future of the property became split within the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn. Some residents, such as Mary Frey herself, believed that the barn should remain on its current property, while others such as Brian Pionke, a historical representative in Beloit, believed the barn should be moved to another location (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). In response, Mr. Hallett and the other members of the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn stepped in and created two committees to discuss the different options for the future of the barn.

Frey and Weiland led the first committee, and wanted to keep the barn in its present location. According to Mr. Hallett, Wieland “is a hot shot landlord in the city of Beloit” who is a real “chimpanzee on a leash” and is as “coarse as a corn cob,” (Hallett, 14 November 2010).

Additionally, Wieland has a reputation around Beloit as someone who is connected to inherited property and acts as a “bad slumlord” who “runs buildings to the ground,” (Hallett, 14 November 2010). In 2002, Wieland was fined nearly \$70,000 for outstanding municipal code violations on several of his Beloit properties, which were added on top of another \$50,000 in outstanding fines (Beloit Daily News, 5 March, 2002). Wieland claims the city is trying to dispossess him of his property, calling the city administration a “cesspool” (Beloit Daily News, 5 March, 2002).

The remaining members of the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn favored moving the barn to an alternate location since it would better ensure the long run preservation and stability of the structure (Jacqueline D. Jackson, 29 November 2010). The proposed plan to move the barn to the other side of the interstate was aided by local property owner Lester Wallace. Wallace owned the land east of the interstate in the southeast and northwest corners of sections 29 and 32, respectively (see page 66 of the appendix, 1998 plat map). He generously donated one acre and negotiated the sale of two to three more acres for the relocation of the barn near the Wisconsin state welcome center (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

d. Funding Issues

The issue of funding plays a pivotal role in the Dougan Round Barn story. Around the time of the creation of the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn, the group was well on track to collecting enough money to revamp the barn. Prior to the sale of the barn to Frey and Wieland,

the group was able to raise approximately \$5,500 from a wide variety of sources (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). A substantial amount of the profits Jacqueline Dougan Jackson earned from her book collection as well as her own personal money were poured into the barn. Money was also gathered from prominent academics throughout agricultural departments who knew and respected the Dougan family and their barn. A final source of income came from Ron Dougan Jackson's prior community involvement with school aged children, who had since grown up and moved around the country (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010). Mr. Hallett noted that the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn received numerous financial donations from individuals who had visited the barn earlier in their lives and remembered the importance and impact the barn had on their lives.

Although the group had raised a substantial quantity of money for the barn by the time of their disintegration, they decided to donate the leftover sum, of more than \$14,000, to the National Dairy Shrine. The sum was simply not enough to make any substantial difference to the state of the barn (Beloit Daily News, 23 December, 2000). Mr. Hallett mentioned that 'the group was unwilling to financially support the barn while it was in the hands of Frey and Wieland, but still remained committed to the overall preservation movement surrounding the barn' (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

When asked how much the money factor played a role in the fate of the barn, Robert Hallett replied:

'The economy tanked, a lot of the contributors in the area dead. I have a pessimistic view of the economy jumping back. Who's gonna sugar daddy this thing? There's no money left to help out the barn. Also, Springbrook profits from real estate investments. It's their interest, and the reason for the way that they negotiated the sale' (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

E. The Thomas Stone Barn

Methodology

This methodology section explains the primary and secondary data sources synthesized to develop and analysis of the Thomas Stone Barn preservation story.

1) Photographs and Documents

Original photographs show the uniqueness of many of the barn's attributes, as well as the beauty and originality of the surrounding landscape. In addition, the National Historic Places registration form for the Thomas barn provided insights into the factors that allowed for preservation of the barn. Furthermore, documents that the Driftless Area Land Conservancy created which relate to the barn and its surrounding landscape aided our investigation. These documents show how the support of powerful community organizations can immensely help preservation efforts.

2) Interview

An interview conducted with Douglas Thomas, who grew up on the farmstead, provided a first-hand perspective behind the motivation and steps necessary to preserve the barn. Mr. Thomas painted a clear picture of the ease with which the preservation effort unfolded. For a synopsis of the interview, see page 51 of the appendix.

Introduction: Setting and History

The Thomas Stone Barn, built in 1881 in southwestern Wisconsin by Walter Thomas, tells stories symbolic of its place and history in Wisconsin's cultural and physical settings. The unique stone structure still stands today in the Town of Brigham, Iowa County, Wisconsin

(Kolkowski 2008). This location, known as the Driftless Area, is unique within Wisconsin and even rare relative to North America. While the rest of Wisconsin's physical landscapes are remnants of glacial retreat, this area in southwest Wisconsin was left untouched by glaciers. The human cultures that settled here and which live here today may be shaped by the rare qualities they are surrounded with (Ostergren and Vale, 2001). Conservation projects such as those surrounding the Thomas Stone Barn can help to preserve the physical and cultural attributes of our landscapes (National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2010).

The Thomas Stone Barn has remained in the family's ownership for over three generations. The original barn owners, Walter and Margaret Thomas, came from Wales in the British Isles in 1850 and started farming wheat and raising pigs and cattle. When they acquired their Barneveld farm, it prospered due to contextual influences of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, which was planned to go through his property. Prior to the railroad's arrival, farmers drove their cattle on foot or horseback to the rail stop in Arena, Wisconsin to eventually sell. With the Barneveld stop, the time and labor necessary for this migration was no longer necessary and the farm's productivity increased as a result. Furthermore, the town grew to 400 people in 1891 and continued to increase thereafter, providing a larger market-base for the farm's products (Bachner 2000, 12). As a result of this growth, Walter Thomas built the stone barn with his brother-in-law Isaac Jones, a Welsh mason expert (DALC, 2005). According to the Driftless Area Land Conservancy (hereby referred to as DALC), Jones' involvement with the construction of churches and cathedrals in Wales equipped him with masterful masonry skills (DALC 2005).

Jones constructed the barn in the style of a three-bay thresher, and the building was primarily used for dairy purposes. Before dairy, however, the barn design allowed for horse stables, and is the reason why the barn has thirteen doors on the south side. Later, the barn was adapted for cattle and other farm animals by altering the internal organization to store more hay for a herd of nearly 1000 head of cattle during the winter. Currently, it is used to raise beef cattle, corn, soybeans, and alfalfa by Harold Thomas, his wife Amy, and their son Doug (Kolkowski, 2008).

David Harold Thomas, known as Harold, was born in 1922 and grew up on the Thomas farm, learning to care for the land and the barn. These farm techniques and treasures have been in Harold's life since before he was born and make for one of his undying passions, according to information from the DALC. Also according to this literature, and the interview we conducted with Doug Thomas, his family shares passions to preserve agricultural heritage and lands. The evolution of the barn structure, the family values, and the surrounding landscape are all important for understanding why the Thomas Stone Barn could achieve a permanent preservation status. Precedent studies of the barn and interviews conducted with the Thomas family provided a valuable base for our research to build upon.

The barn's construction reflects careful attention to architectural details. The large size alone is rare, making it a well-known local landmark along a well-traveled highway. The barn's walls are tapered, measuring 24" at the base and 17" at the top. Functionally, this creates a more sturdy structure, subject to fewer repairs throughout its lifetime (Kolkowski 2008). The upper level is spaced to allow for the storage of 10,000 small bales of hay. Besides the large impressive qualities of the barn, it is unique in its small details, including the fact that the barn

was assembled from stone extracted from a local rock quarry just north of the farm, an extremely time consuming task. Intricate arches, as a result, adorn the building's windows and doors, exhibiting sophistication and building quality (Kolkowski 2008). Furthermore, distinctive blue ventilated windows, which lie beneath the arched masonry, allow for better air flow. All of these features are pictured in the appendix, page 59.

These architectural gems garnered attention and support from conservation agencies as well, such as the Nature Conservancy and the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Jeffris Family Foundation (National Trust for Historic Preservation, n.d.). As part of the barn's restoration process, specific planning was necessary to preserve these details. The data we present in the following sections shows how the intricate details and rare qualities of the Thomas Stone Barn have impacted its preservation, especially with regards to the barn's intimate connection to the Driftless landscape and people.

Analysis and Findings

As with the Analysis and Findings in the Dougan Barn section, this section only presents the information that pertains to the preservation of the Thomas Stone Barn. Our complete analysis of the findings as they relate our thesis question will be found after the specific case studies. For the Thomas Stone Barn, community involvement, adequate funding and ideal location, and its role as a model for preservation all contribute to a successful preservation story. Our explanation follows.

1) Community Involvement

Blogs such as Kristin Kolkowski's demonstrate public interest in historic preservation (Kolkowski, 2008). Also, Anne Bachner wrote extensively about the Thomas family and Stone Barn in her book, Prairie Legacy. As these sources prove, the barn has a special value for people in the surrounding communities besides the immediate family's historical involvement and support. In April 2005, the DALC held an Open House at the Thomas Farm which attracted nearly 700 visitors and supporters. The DALC president Doug Cieslak explained, "People had been admiring the barn for 50 to 60 years. They were excited to get an up-close and personal look," (National Trust for Historic Preservation n.d.). This support can serve as a contributing factor to the barn's state of preservation.

2) A Keystone Project

This preservation project and the DALC involvement served as a keystone project for other preservation endeavors by preserving both natural and cultural heritage simultaneously. The project pioneered preservation of a historic structure in conjunction with land, and did so at the Thomas's urging. The work on this project highlights the reasons why organizations become involved in barn preservation, as well as how partnerships among various groups can positively influence the surrounding lands and cultures (DALC, 2005). The project enabled the Thomases to continue farming and will protect the historic, scenic, natural, and agricultural values of this farm for years to come.

3) A Preservation Success

With encroaching development and road construction, the landscape in Iowa County has been changing. However, pieces of the past will remain, regardless of the pressures of growth, which will preserve the history of this landscape. Still in ownership by the original

Thomas family, the Thomas Stone Barn is one time capsule that maintains its unique connection to the environmental and cultural past (DALC, 2005). The barn's preservation is made possible by a community advocacy group, the DALC, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources through the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Program (DALC, 2005).

In the late 1900s Harold Thomas sought out organizations and barn enthusiasts to earn the barn's listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places in 2001. Also, in 1997 Thomas sold 79 acres of back pasture to The Nature Conservancy which remains as a managed prairie in the 50,000 acre Military Ridge State Trail (National Trust for Historic Preservation n.d.).

In 2000, the DALC was formed as a non-profit land trust which works to protect and preserve the unique natural resources of southwestern Wisconsin counties. As with the Thomas farm, DALC accomplishes their goals by working with private landowners on a voluntary basis to obtain development rights by either purchasing easements or properties outright. Furthermore, the easements will remain with the deed even if the property is sold. The organization is unique because it partners with eight other agencies to form the Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area (MRPHA), unlike other groups working on preservation cases. Through these programs, agricultural grasslands can be preserved and the fragmentation and conversion of these lands into residential and commercial zoned uses can be prevented (DALC, 2005).

In March of 2005, the DALC and other groups obtained a conservation and historic preservation easement from the Thomas family. Their work with various other agencies, and the funding they gained from the 2002 Farm Bill, paved the way for the easement purchase.

With the 2002 Farm Bill came the possibility to match funds to keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural use through the USDA's Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP). Also, farm lands with historically or archaeologically significant sites became eligible for funding (National Trust for Historic Preservation n.d.). As a result, the Thomas family received 50% of the funding from the easement program and the other 50% from the WDNR. "The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is pleased to partner with the Department of Natural Resources and the Driftless Area Land Conservancy in protecting this working farm and historic barn," said Pat Leavenworth, NRCS State Conservationist (National Trust for Historic Preservation n.d.). By selling this easement, the Thomas family was able to restore the barn, have it protected in the future, and prevent further development on the land it stands on.

Today, the sale of the easement has allowed for \$30,000-\$40,000 in improvements for the stone barn. These improvements include a new roof constructed of the building's original treatment, cedar shingles. Furthermore, the DALC hired an architect to specifically monitor the barn overtime (DALC, 2005).

F. Project Results

Introduction

This results section is a compilation of the data that we have collected and analyzed for the two individual barns. We acquired information about all of the components of our research that we planned on investigating.

1. We have finished collecting information on Wisconsin barns as a general overview. Their significance and value, and how they act as stewards of our cultural landscapes through architecture, history, and agriculture is included.

2. We have completed data collection for the Thomas Stone Barn. The family and agricultural history of the farmstead and the barn has been sufficiently researched. Our interview of primary importance, with Doug Thomas, is complete and presented within the context of our research question.
3. We have completed data collection for the Dougan Round Barn in Beloit. The history of the barn, as well as its form and function are thoroughly investigated. Our main interview, with Robert Hallett, is finished and analyzed within the context of our research question. We also spoke with Jacqueline Dougan Jackson, who grew up on the dairy farm and gave us personal accounts and a tour of life on the farm along with her involvement in the preservation effort. We have also collected aerial photographs, plat maps, Wisconsin Historical Society documents, and historic and current photographs.

An analysis of how all of these components compile to answer our research question is below.

Answering the Thesis Question

Our data from the Dougan Round Barn points to the conclusion that insufficient funding, erratic community involvement and circumstances, and personal agency are the main factors that cause attempts at preservation to fail. Our analysis of the Thomas Stone Barn suggests that adequate funding provided from multiple institutions, community support, and personal agency allowed for the successful preservation of the barn. Through comparing these findings from the two barns, we were able to extrapolate the exact differences that caused the distinct stories, and therefore the final factors that favor barn preservation.

With respect to the Dougan Barn, funding, community involvement and circumstances, and personal agency are the main factors that caused the preservation effort to fail. The involvement of the community, through people like Robert Hallett and Friends of the Dougan

Round Barn, was crucial in instigating the initial push for preservation. However, the politics of the Beloit community and the urbanization surrounding the city ultimately dissolved the project. The people involved within the Beloit community were ultimately charged with determining the fate of the barn, for their decisions and actions caused the events that unfolded. As Robert Hallett said in our interview, “The people involved are the bottom line. It’s all about the people, it always has been”, (Robert Hallett, 14 November 2010).

In the case of the Thomas Stone Barn, Doug Thomas attributed the preservation success to “great family pride” and the ‘neighbors’ admiration of our barn.’ (Doug Thomas, 9 December 2010). He presented a clear argument that the people involved strictly benefited the cause, as there is a clear absence of any party’s obstruction, opposition, or apathetic attitude toward the project. The setting surrounding the barn also nurtured the movement to preserve the structure. The uniqueness of the driftless landscape motivated support from outside conservation organizations, which saw the barn as a compliment to its beautiful surroundings.

1) The Factors the Favor Barn Preservation

Funding and community involvement are the two main sub-factors that influence preservation. The organizations and people acting within a community create movements that ultimately either support or dislodge the funding and steps necessary for preservation success. Funding and community involvement, however, are not the ultimate factors. Geography, timing, and personal agency determine the role that these two sub-factors play in preservation.

i. Geography

One of the main reasons the Dougan Round barn is in disarray at this point is because of its geographic proximity to the city of Beloit. Ironically, this same proximity is why the Dougans chose to build at this site in the first place. Throughout the years, however, the city of Beloit has expanded into the surrounding countryside, placing the Dougan Round Barn closer to the hands of urban development. The fact that a mobile home park sits adjacent to the western edge of the property, and interstate 90 runs through the eastern edge of the property, is testimony to this sprawl.

Geography also plays a crucial role in the condition of the Thomas Stone Barn. Support, in the form of guidance and funding, from conservation and preservation organizations was largely motivated by the positioning of the barn within the beautiful and unique driftless landscape of southwestern Wisconsin. Additionally, the barn sits in a perpetually rural setting, and does not suffer from the same urban encroachment as the Dougan Round Barn. Perhaps the presence of this barn within such an agrarian landscape makes it more representative of the values of the surrounding community and therefore worthy of their support.

ii. Timing

Barn preservation projects are impossible to extract from a contemporary temporal context. Most of the barns that people seek to preserve today were built at least a century ago, and will probably fall within the next century unless they are adequately maintained. What this means is that preservation projects are rooted within the late 20th and early 21st centuries. If the projects are not undergone within the current time period, these barns will likely decay as a result.

Narrowing the scope, the preservation of a particular barn is also contingent on the temporal alignment and accurate unveiling of the steps necessary to save the building. If the chronology of the process occurs in bad timing or incorrectly, the entire project could be compromised.

As we can see in the narrative of the Dougan Round Barn, funding sources and community involvement and support varied through time. Any minute incongruence associated with the willingness of any of the stakeholders to support preservation could have been the determining factor that led to the barn's demise. Theoretically, if the initiative to save the barn would have begun even a year earlier, the conditions could have aligned to create an environment friendly for preservation.

The succession of the preservation movement of the Thomas barn, given the data collected, could not have been more convenient with respect to time. In 1997, the first step was taken for preservation of the Thomas Stone Barn and area. Harold Thomas sold 79 acres of pasture to the Nature Conservancy, which is now part of the 50,000 acre Military Ridge Prairie Heritage area. Moving along, in 2001 the stone barn became listed on both the state and national registers of historic places. With timely funding from the 2002 Farm Bill, the conservation easement for the property guaranteed continued agricultural use of the land and the barn. In contrast to the Dougan Round Barn, the timing surrounding the movement for the stone barn's preservation was a helpful, rather than an inhibiting, factor.

iii. Personal Agency

Perhaps most important is the factor of personal agency. Besides being contingent on history and geography, the people involved ultimately determine the fate of a barn.

The commitments that previous and current owners exhibit towards the barn produce and decide the condition it will be kept in. For years the Dougan family maintained and cared for the round barn, as it directly impacted and protected their way of life. Once the barn switched hands, however, it no longer played such a monumental role in the lives of the new owners. The Thomas Stone Barn, comparatively, has stayed with the Thomas family since its creation. The stone barn has passed down through three generations within the family, making it part of their heritage and legacy.

Actors within the community also determined the fate of these two barns. Turmoil, distrust, and disagreements among the preservation actors in the round barn case largely overshadowed any attempt to successfully save the barn. If the members of Friends of the Dougan Round Barn would have worked together and had the same motivations to preserve the barn, it probably would be standing at the Wisconsin welcome center, safe from the destruction and crowdedness of its current location. The family and community surrounding the stone barn, conversely, worked together and supported one another, cultivating a sense of mutual pride and value for the barn.

Ultimately, the framework to preserve a barn always exists. Preservation is in the hands of individual people, however. If the agents in charge of determining the fate of a barn choose not to act in favor of preserving the structure, then preservation will likely not ensue. Their decisions and actions are geographically contingent and regulated by time.

G. Future Research

Our group is satisfied with the data we collected and the information we discovered during our investigation. Primary data was abundantly available for both of the barns we studied, and their histories and current conditions painted clear pictures of the benchmark factors that produced successes or failures in barn preservation.

That being said, the semester-long nature of our project, along with all the other projects in the class, constricted our research somewhat. For example, we were unable to get in touch with some of our prospective interview subjects because they are big organizations that take a while to respond to phone calls and/or emails. Aside from establishing contacts, the single semester nature of the project stunted the man hours that our group members could put into research, travel, writing, and meeting. Finding time when four full-time university seniors are able to meet and do group work every week is a difficult task. We feel that this issue at least minutely disrupted the potential of our project.

Provided with more time, our group would have studied and investigated the preservation stories of more barns across the state in addition to the two southern Wisconsin barns we researched. Drawing accurate conclusions from two case studies is difficult, and we feel as though an analysis of additional information about other barns throughout the state would strengthen our answer to the thesis question. This could only have happened if time and money would not have been limiting factors.

While additional barn studies could contribute to a specific understanding of the structural and cultural motivations behind preservation, our project could also benefit from contacting and/or researching the roles of parties of opposition or disinterest. On a broad scale,

subdivision developers, regional planners, historic preservationists, and city and county officials could speak to the expanding trend of urban development and other issues related to the factors working against barn preservation.

Along these same lines, contacting various preservation agencies (like the Wisconsin Barn Preservation Program) around the state and within specific counties would provide more generalizable information as to the factors that foster an environment suitable for preservation throughout the state. The overarching applicability of our study is tainted by the issue that we only feature two Wisconsin barns. Insights and suggestions from preservation agencies would have made generalizability more obtainable.

With specific respect to the Dougan Round Barn study, there are a few possible sources that would have been useful if our group would have had the time, connections, and funding to conduct further research. In an attempt to present the other side of the preservation failure story, an interview with Bill Wieland and/or Mary Frey would have been beneficial. In the eyes of Robert Hallett and Jacqueline Dougan Jackson, Wieland and Frey were the bad guys who blocked the preservation of the barn. Perhaps talking to them would have revealed a different twist to the story. Also, interviewing more of the former members of the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn would have strengthened our findings. Interviewing members of the community who benefitted from the barn's agricultural products, or school children who learned about dairy science from visits to the farmstead in their youth would give us insights into the broader impacts of the Dougan Round Barn.

With regards to the Thomas Stone Barn, multiple sources could have expanded and strengthened our research. We attempted to contact the Driftless Area Land Conservancy

multiple times, by phone and e-mail, to schedule an interview. The organization, however, never replied to our messages. An interview with the organization would have provided a heightened sense of the exact role outside organizations played in the preservation success of the barn. Rather, we relied almost solely on the interview with Doug Thomas and the historic register nomination to gain an understanding of the DALC's role.

H. Conclusion and Discussion

Considering the constraints outlined in the future research section, our project successfully analyzes the histories, current conditions, and implications of the fates of the Thomas Stone Barn and the Dougan Round Barn in southern Wisconsin. Broadening our findings to apply to all of Wisconsin's barns, however, is not possible. The project demonstrates how personal agency and geographic and temporal contingency play the most pivotal roles in the preservation of a specific barn. Therefore, relaying the factors that allowed for the preservation of one barn to the case of a different barn is unrealistic.

Despite their relative geographic proximity to one another, and a shared background filled with dairy and family legacy, these two barns tell contrasting stories of preservation. The Thomas Stone Barn is securely being preserved while the Dougan Barn faces the possibility of demolition in the near future. Their differing stories are symbolic of Wisconsin's diversity, both in the physical landscape and its inhabitants. Much more than simple histories of farmsteads, the narratives of these two barns root us in place and give us insight into the past that created the cultural, agricultural, and ethnic landscapes that we as Wisconsinites occupy today. Our examination of these two barns show how changes in external influences such as the economy,

agricultural industry, and political engines represent our cultural values and influence everyday life on Wisconsin's farmsteads.

Barn preservation actors have rightfully given the Thomas Stone Barn and Dougan Round Barn a lot of attention. These iconic structures of Wisconsin can teach us a multitude about our values and the consequences of our decisions. We hope our project can offer more to this body of literature as well as shed a somewhat different light on the preservation of rural Wisconsin culture and history, and its implications for the future of Wisconsin.

I. Appendix

1. Interviews

Privacy Statement:

Dear _____ (Mr. Hallett, Mrs. Jackson, Thomas Family),

We are students at UW Madison conducting a research project for our undergraduate colloquium class in the geography department. Our project is focused on investigating the factors and conditions that favor barn preservation in Wisconsin through a comparison study of the Thomas Stone Barn in Iowa County and the Dougan Round Barn in Beloit. Comparing the narratives of these two distinct barns through time, through archival research, interviews, and supplemental literature, will allow us to interpolate the circumstances that lead to successful preservation cases.

Your privacy is of the utmost importance to us. You have the option to decline to answer any of the questions during the interview. Upon your request, we will use an alias in place of your name in our final paper and presentation and will withhold any personally divulging information. The information we collect from the interview will only be used in our academic project, and will not be shared without your consent. Electronic recording devices will not be used during the interview.

We greatly appreciate your participation in this project. If you wish, we would be happy to send you an electronic copy of our final project results after we finish our study. Our group will also be presenting our project at a public symposium in mid-December. We can keep you informed of the specific date and time as we receive updates if you would like to attend the event.

If, at any time, you have any questions, thoughts, or concerns, feel free to contact any of our group members. Thank you once again for your participation in our project.

Sincerely,

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Scott Moucka	moucka@wisc.edu	630.302.9697
Ryan Norris	rnorris@wisc.edu	609.462.8853

Interview with Robert J. Hallett; 10 November 2010

Interviewer: How did you become connected to the barn initially?

Mr. Hallett: Grew up close to the barn. Then became part of its preservation story, many years later. He was consulted about the structural state and architecture of the barn, for the potential relocation idea.

Efficient dairy there for years, unique academic farmers. Beloit college and UW connections and involvement. The family is “cut from a completely different cloth”. Entire formally educated, participated in ag. research, other fields. Connected to Hoards Dairy Museum in Madison. Ron is Jackie’s dad. He’s friendly – a ‘come see the barn’ attitude. Ron would sponsor all the grade school classes to come to the dairy, tour it.

Hallett claims to have ‘back of his hand familiarity’ with the barn, which will be 100 years old next year. Aside from the barn, a cement block building, which used to serve as a volunteer fire department, is the only structure left on the property now.

In 1971 the Dougan family sold the property to Springbrook Associates, which was a conglomeration of a group of 10 professional men with money from Beloit. (Harry Moore). The group had a history of ‘east side purchases’, and they built the trailer park that now surrounds the property. Their m.o. – “never drove a nail in a building for anything” – stood just the way it was. The barn has stood empty since that shift in ownership.

The barn has had two roofs since its construction, the original roof and a paper rood that was installed in 1950.

In 1996, the city of Beloit condemned the building, which caused an uprising. Brian Pionke, Beloit’s historical representative was truly interested in representing the property. Springbrook’s position was that anyone could have the barn, and remove it from the property. Industrial development was the real interest. It’s right next to the freeway, where there’s no residential zoning. Brian also talked to Jackie, before she came out with Stories from the Round Barn, and Mr. Hallett (who was consulted about the structural shape) about moving it. (weight.. loading... etc.. 320,000 lbs total to move...)

Brian Pionke and Bob Hallett decided to have an open community discussion, where “70/80 people showed up”. They had 3 meetings and formed Friends of the Dougan Round Barn. The Dougan family asked Bob to chair it, which he did until 1999. Hap Hornbostel was the treasurer, an engineer with Beloit corp.

Mary Frey steps out of the community and says that the barn doesn’t have to be moved, but Mr. Pionke says that it has to go. Mr. Hallett takes up the chair position and said, “let’s look at both these avenues... we’d certainly like not to move it..” They formed 2 committees to research the possibilities involved with both scenarios. He didn’t want them to have to “back up to get to fork we’re already on”.

According to Mr. Hallett, Mary Frey is “a pretty sharp cookie, very polished”. She worked for Less Aspen congressmen in Kenosha for years, and now she works for Beloit college in some kind of social affairs department.

Mary Frey is romantically involved with Bill Wieland, who is a hot shot landlord in city of Beloit, and is as “coarse as a corn cob”. A real “chimpanzee on a leash”. He’s primarily connected to inherited property, and is unrelated to Springbrook Associates. He’s well-to-do and has a reputation for being a “bad slumlord” who “runs buildings to the ground, tares them down”. In the past, he has run up big fines on buildings (see articles), at times over \$40,000-80,000. “Opposites attract”
Mary negotiated the sale from the Springbrook Associates to herself and Wieland, and everyone in the community consequentially ‘fell away because of his reputation’. “Now no one will touch the barn”.

According to Hallett, the situation in a nutshell: money was coming into the Friends of the Round Barn from Jackie’s first book sales (and signing event), her personal money, Mr. Hallett’s personal investments, and Hap Hornbostel’s personal money as well. Mr. Hallett knew that outside investors would look at a the board’s own investments. “Jackie dumped tons of money”. There was a total of about \$5,500 in donations. Mr. Hallett pressed pledges instead of money, because returning money from a non-for profit messes up tax forms for the years included. The group stopped taking money around 1998 ish (between forming the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn and the ownership of Springbrook Associates.). In the end, over \$250,000 in pledges from around the nation.

Interviewers: How did the group generate so many funds for the barn from around the nation?

Mr. Hallett: Mainly because of the strong family connection to ag and academics – drew in lots of people. Rob’s elementary school tour kids were all grown up and remember the barn and sent money back.

A panel formed after the group disintegrated and Frey and Wieland had the property, to talk about the barn more. They had 3 meetings. In the 2nd meeting Jackie slammed a notebook. Mr. Hallett knew “she’s done”.. “She couldn’t deal with it anymore”. She still says, “I support the barn project, but won’t support any financial donations to Wieland and Frey”.

Selling the property was a deliberate business decision; the Dougans weren’t hurting for money. The family originally had two farms, and the interstate split the properties. The \$4,100 dollars left after the disintegration of Friends of the Dougan Round Barn was given to Hoard’s Dairy Museum.

“Wieland has dealt with it like everything else”. “That’s where it sits right now”. Wieland and Frey “conned volunteers” into fixing up the outside.

Paul Rasmussen, who works for the City of Beloit, was asked to stand back from the demolition of the barn when the Friends of the DRB was formed. He agreed on Mr. Hallett’s word alone. There has been a standing order since 1996. It’s in the hands of Wieland to repair it at this point.

The corporate counsel in Beloit said to be careful about talking about tearing it down because there would be a big uproar.

Interviewers: Could you tell us a little more about the idea to relocate the barn to the Wisconsin welcome center at the Illinois border?

Mr. Hallett: Lester Wallace, a local farmer who bought and sold farms, and made good money doing it, owned land on the southeast corner of I-90 and Colley Road, directly across the interstate from barn. Now there’s a Staples distribution warehouse. Jackie told him they needed to consider moving the barn. His land was on the north edge of the welcome center, and he carved out a piece of 2 to 3 acres to donate to the organization.

Wieland and Frey had to buy the barn to keep the group from moving it. The deed is marked that the barn can never be moved from the property – technically... unless Springbrook would take it out of the deed, with DoDaDae and Wieland, it wasn't going to happen. Springbrook hasn't had any involvement since late 90s.

Interviewers: How much did the money factor play a role in the fate of the barn?

Mr. Hallett: The "economy tanked, a lot of the contributors in the area dead". He has a pessimistic view of the economy jumping back. "Who's gonna sugar daddy this thing?". There's no money left to help out the barn. Also, Springbrook profits from real estate investments. It's their interest, and the reason for the way that they negotiated the sale.

Interviewers: What will the ultimate fate of the DRB be?

Mr. Hallett: "I think it's going to go down". Wieland's going to wait for it to be torn down, and then sell the property as casino land. The Casino hasn't been approved yet. There had to be a local referendum, which it passed, but they need to get more approvals yet.

The land just east and north of the barn, between the barn and interstate, is worth big money. Earl Boutelle realized that it's a centerpiece for corporate development if the land's fixed up. You "can't do much with ag anymore. Where there's real money, they're not standing around feeding hogs".

DoDaDai corporation now owns it. "Frey told Dougan and I the name was a camptown races reference".

Interviewer: What's the value in preserving the barn?

Mr. Hallett: "If you can't see your past, you can't see your future". Looking at the architecture in the old buildings here, there's so much labor and effort and mind put into anything that's built. He's in the recycling business – saving trees. As a country, we think nothing of buildings.. "20 years and shove it in a landfill". Here's another example in the barn. 'It represents a way of life that's virtually gone'. "Less than 4% of the populace in the country is directly involved in ag. We don't know where our food comes from". Society just doesn't get it. "We don't get it".

"We live in a square barn world". There are very few round barns now. "Any round barn draws attention, it draws connection to other projects", the social and academic fields both. There's such a vibrant history with round barns.

Interviewers: Aren't there protections for the barn since it's on so many historic registers?

Mr. Hallett: Not when building requires 60-80 % repairs do they have say. DRB is definitely over the required amount, even in 1996. The entire building leans on a cement silo, that stops short of the roof. There's a wooden block that's part of that silo that's rotting. Three planks in one spot connect the walls to the silo in the center. There are no timbers in the barn, it's all planks from the sawmill put together in dutch lap siding (tongue and groove vertical placement, nailed right to the studs). It's twisting counterclockwise. All round barns do that through time and hypothesized magnetic force component.

Notes on the pictures we got:

Farm days exp – 1960. Ron Dougan sponsored it. “Farm Progress Days”. Paper roof

From the east – we can get the shot.
From the south also.

Interviewers: Have you been involved in other barn preservation projects?

Mr. Hallett:

He’s picked up and moved many barns, also for underside repair work and foundation issues. He has contracted to a lot of not for profit restoration project like the Rock River Thresh Restoration project. He sat on that board. He has also moved an old town hall building and a sorghum building, most striking from a long list of others.

Interviewers: What factors, besides money, do you see as playing a crucial role in the DRB preservation story, along with the other projects you’ve worked on?

Mr. Hallett: The people involved are the bottom line. “It’s all about the people, it always has been”.

Interviewers: In an ideal world, would you like to see the barn moved or kept on the property?

Mr. Hallett: Hard for the national register to recognize buildings that have been moved from their origins, so people try to keep them where there are. Proponents of moving the barn say that it’s going to get built in over the years, so it becomes difficult to get money in. Moving it to the highway makes it more visible, because the highway is so highly trafficked. This gets the DOT and tourism departments involved, along with the city and county, so the barn’s always in focus. Also, you can get an opening from the rest center into it. Continuing financial support would be the number one enemy for relocation, especially because generational values and interests in the barn project fluctuate through time.

Extras/Clarifications:

“America’s Dairyland and Heritage Site” for welcome center title

‘Round barns require less materials to build, while having just as much square footage.’
The main disadvantage is adding onto it.

-telling an idiot to pee in the corner of round barns joke

“We’ve bought the barn, now you can fix it up”. Frey came to Mr. Hallett’s house and said that.

Douigans intentionally sold it to Springbrook.

DRB “is a local icon”.

Interview with Jacqueline Dougan Jackson; 29 November 2010

We met Mrs. Jackson at the Dougan Round Barn just outside of Beloit, WI. After taking pictures of the barn's exterior and the surrounding property for approximately thirty minutes, Mrs. Jackson arrived and presented each of our group members with a copy of her most recent book, More Stories From the Round Barn. She mentioned that she started thinking about writing books about the farm for her grandfather when she was only 15 years old. After receiving our copy of the book, we started walking around the barn in search of a way inside. We hoped that the City of Beloit workers had forgotten to board up one of the doors, but we had no luck. Standing outside in the frigid air actually paralleled the cold mood that currently surrounds the barn. Our inability to experience the barn's interior symbolized the ever-slipping accessibility to a way of life that once flourished on this property and across Wisconsin; the mid-sized family farm. In addition, litter and decay plague the virtually abandoned property, but the personal recollections and observations of Mrs. Jackson provided a warm contrast to the physical state of the barn and our cold November setting.

Mrs. Jackson said right away that she tries to avoid Colley Road, where the barn is located, as it saddens her. The last time she was there was roughly 1.5 years ago when she visited the barn to make plaster copies of her father's and uncle's 7 and 9 year old handprints, respectively, in the cement on the ground floor. Since her last visit to the barn, the property had undergone various changes. Most notably was the destruction of the house where she grew up and other surrounding buildings.

Mrs. Jackson pointed out details of the functions of the barn while she shared stories with us from her past. She boasted that corn curls, and consequentially the entire snack food industry besides potato chips began in this barn. She showed us how the grain used to travel from upstairs storage, down a shoot to where the animals fed. We also learned about the former location of the horse barn, which was demolished to make room for the mobile home park. Mrs. Jackson also narrated the story of the center silo, which had to be belted after a lateral crack structurally compromised it in the 1950s. The name R.A. Dougan, Jackie's dad, is inscribed in the concrete outside of the barn. She also mentioned that "building the barn was the highlight of her father's life", (Mrs. Jackson). It was obvious from the memories and vivid recollections that this place meant something to Jacqueline Jackson and her family, more than any sum of money or real estate project could embody.

The reasons she gave for the farm failing (barn failing too therefore):

1. "Agribusiness killed the farm", by driving out the middle sized farmers like the Dougan family (Mrs. Jackson). Large businesses (which Jackie described as "factory farms") like Cargill, Monsanto, and Archer Daniel Midland have taken over the agricultural industry. Mrs. Jackson gave the example of the life of modern day cows versus the life of cows over the Dougan Farm history. Jacqueline said that dairy cows on their farm would live 10-16 years, on a twice a day milking schedule, and cows today live roughly two years, and are milked four to five times a day. The Dougans would put their cows to pasture to graze on grass, only supplementing their diet with a small amount of grains (Mrs. Jackson). Now, some cows spend their adult years only eating grain, which isn't good for their digestive systems (Mrs. Jackson). These broader system changes indirectly influenced the fate of this barn.

2. The second half of the 20th century changes in agriculture had repercussive effects. As pasteurization came into play, milk didn't have to be as fresh and therefore wasn't delivered daily (Mrs. Jackson). As the role of the milkman diminished, refrigeration also increased, making it easier and less labor intensive to keep milk in the cooler at the grocery store. Jackie told us she routinely wondered how the family was able to survive financially due to its dependence on milk profits. She mentioned that for

every bottle of milk sold, they only received a profit of two cents per bottle (Mrs. Jackson). Furthermore, women increasingly entered the workforce during the latter half of the 20th century. Therefore, no one was home to accept a milk delivery and it became easier to stop at the supermarket to buy milk supplied by larger shipments.

3. The construction of I-90 through the property caused land prices to soar. Property taxes went up 2000% between 1971 and 1972, according to Mrs. Jackson's estimates. This is the reason her dad sold the farm. They also sold 200 acres adjacent to the farm, demanding the same price as Lester Wallace, who lives on the east side of the highway and also sold some of his land when the highway went through. Wallace also set aside some of his property for the Welcome Center relocation project.

4. People in the community directly impacted the barn's future. When the Friends of the Dougan Round Barn formed and started their push for preserving the barn, "it hadn't occurred to me that we could save it," (Mrs. Jackson). But, in order to do so, they "had to move it," (Mrs. Jackson). This assertion by Mrs. Jackson conflicted with the intentions of the barn's new owners, Bill Wieland and Mary Frey. Furthermore, a representative from the Wisconsin Historical Society favored Bill and Mary's side, saying that keeping the barn at its original location was the correct choice (Mrs. Jackson). Ultimately, "The effort to preserve the barn failed because Bill (Wieland) and Mary (Frey) double crossed us and stepped in so we couldn't restore it", (Mrs. Jackson). The restoration project was \$4,000-5,000 underway at that point. The Friends of the Dougan Round Barn told Frey and Wieland, "We have the plans," (Mrs. Jackson). Lester Wallace, across the highway, 'didn't want to get caught in the middle of some big fight,' so he pulled out his offer for the Welcome Center barn plot (Mrs. Jackson). The Friends of the Dougan Round Barn organization decided to just pull out and give up on it because they refused to continue their efforts to preserve the barn while it was in the hands of Frey and Wieland. "It'll cost a tremendous lot to take the barn. The City will probably charge Bill and Mary, who will probably never pay it", (Mrs. Jackson).

5. She also mentioned the mobile home park as a reason for the neglect and disrespect. Jackie explained that "the park was not supposed to be there," but once the property was obtained by Frey and Wieland, "it went up immediately" (Mrs. Jackson). The development of the park caused the value of the property to decrease immensely. The barn, as a result, was equated with a less-than prosperous landscape and lost the attention of those who might find the barn's presence humbling and beautiful.

Details/Extra Quotes:

Different "delegations" (from as far away as Kansas) would come and tour the barn, guided by Jacqueline's dad. For two weeks in the spring and fall, Ron Dougan would also invite every first grader in town to come visit the farm. It was also common for Sunday school children to visit the farmstead (Mrs. Jackson).

"There's so much to tell, so much connected to this place it's sad to see it go", (Mrs. Jackson).

Jacqueline is releasing a new book (the first of three), hopefully during the first part of 2011, that tells the story of the farm from beginning to end. The work is divided into 3 books which are organized by concentric circles that start with the center silo, barn, and milk barn in the first book and work outward to the big house, workload, town, neighbors, state, nation, and world in the second and third books. A major theme within the books is 'the farm's influence on the world and the world's influence on

the barn', (Mrs. Jackson). "My books are the legacy of this barn", (Mrs. Jackson). They help people "know what this farm was, what it did for people, and what they did for it", (Mrs. Jackson).

Jacqueline also left us with a DVD full of pictures from the life of the barn and farmstead.

Interview with Douglas Thomas; 9 December 2010

We spoke with Doug Thomas over the phone in order to conduct our interview. The interview lasted about twenty minutes. We were only able to ask Doug specific questions regarding the barn, probably because the phone based nature of the interview inhibited more informal conversation and storytelling.

Interviewer: What, in your mind, was the motivation to preserve the barn?

Mr. Thomas: "If something happened, it could never be replaced," and "once it's gone, it's gone." The rarity of Stone Barns in general and the way in which this one was built also make this particular barn worth saving. Thomas explained the origins of the Welsh stone mason who designed and built the barn, describing the influence of church architecture in Wales on the barn's keystone window embellishments.

Interviewer: What impact did the surrounding community have on the fate of your barn?

Mr. Thomas: The neighbors were very supportive and thought it "was worthwhile" to preserve it they viewed it as "an icon". There was also a lot of help and support from the organizations that helped preserve the barn. Thomas listed a few: the Driftless Area Land Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Thomas also brought a book, by Anna Bachner, about the barn's history and the Thomas family to our attention. Her support of the barn is another example of the prevalence of community attention and support.

Interviewer: Did the barn have a meaningful impact in your life? What did it symbolize for you?

Mr. Thomas: "I grew up on the farm." "It meant hard work (laughs)."

Interviewer: Do you find value in preserving this sort of rural landscape?

Mr. Thomas: This was a huge factor in preserving the barn and the land around it. The Thomas family is aware of the diminishing rural landscapes and increasing sprawl and suburban landscapes. He said, 'we value these sorts of green spaces.' A golf course development exists near the land they own already, and they are very proud to have put this land aside with the help of the conservation easement, securing it from similar developments. Because of this, the land will always remain zoned for agriculture and it cannot be developed in a different way. The barn is a big part of the land, he explained. It shows that with hard work, they could have a productive dairy farm. Furthermore, Thomas explained that all the materials used to build the barn came from the surrounding area.

Interviewer: What impact did the Driftless Area Land Conservancy and their contributions have on the barn?

Mr. Thomas: The Driftless Area Land Conservancy greatly influenced the successful preservation of the barn. In conjunction with other organizations and a conservation easement they were able to allocate the funds for necessary maintenance and preservation of the barn. Specifically, the DALC paid to put a new roof on the barn.

2. Imagery: locator map and original photography

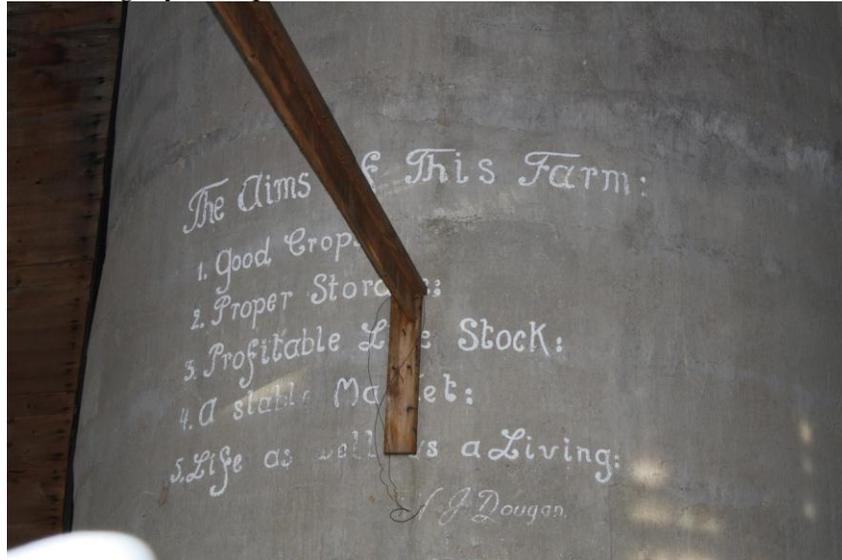
a. Locator map



created by Scott Moucka

b. Dougan Round Barn

- i. *center silo aims*: These goals represent the values that the barn embodied, while it was still in operation, for the Dougan family. The fact that Ron Dougan chose to write “Life as well as a Living”, shows that the lifestyle exercised on the farmstead was much more than economically driven. Ron conscientiously chose to run his farm with honor, integrity, and passion; all of which created a robust life on the property.



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
29 November 2010

- ii. *Springbrook graffiti*: The word ‘Springbrook’ is spray painted on the concrete foundation of the demolished horse barn, which probably communicates the dislike of the shifts in ownership that the barn underwent.



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
29 November 2010

iii. *garbage and litter*: This abandoned couch illustrates the neglect that the property suffers from.



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
29 November 2010

iv. *demolished outbuildings*: Clutter and leftover building materials resulted from the aftermath of the demolition of some of the outbuildings.



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
29 November 2010

v. *comparative photographs*: The black and white photographs are courtesy of Robert Hallett. The exact dates of their origin are unknown, but Hallett's best estimates land somewhere in the range of 1920-1950. The color photographs were taken by Madelin Jensen on November 29, 2010. Notice the degraded nature of the barn, from the disintegrating walls to the moss-covered roof. Also, our group was unable to enter the barn when we visited it because the doors are boarded shut and fences block all the openings, which is probably because entry into the structure would be a safety hazard.

1. west side: Capturing a current photo from the exact perspective of the earlier snapshot is impossible because of encroachment from the mobile home park. But, the intact cow entrance shown below is still visible. This entrance speaks to Wesson's ingenuity in his farming practice. The cow entrance incorporated a 'fly-catch', or escape slit for insects, in the ceiling. The catch let light in, which attracted flies and drew them away from the inside of the barn (J.D. Jackson 29 November 2010).





2. east side: These photos clearly document the demolition of the buildings surrounding the barn, as well as the regrowth of trees on the property. Also notice the changes that have taken place on the ground floor.



3. south side: The old rectangular barn (front, left in the historic photograph) is gone. The round barn is also missing one of the ventilation pipes that originally occupied the roof.



c. Thomas Stone Barn

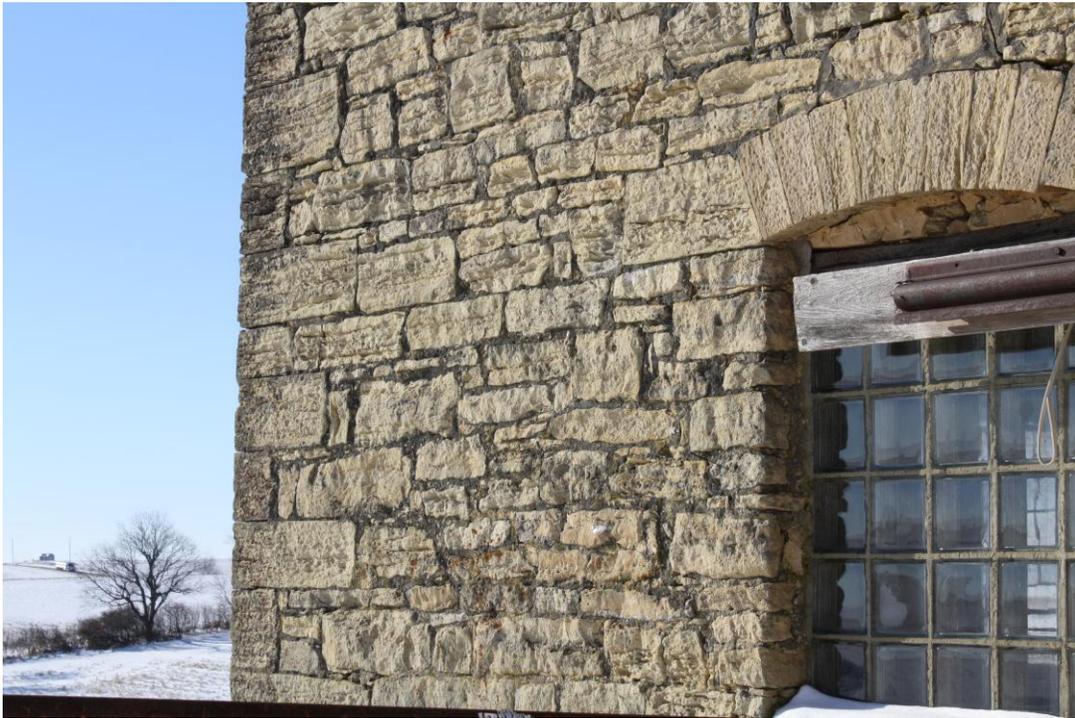
We made initial observations of the Thomas Stone Barn and surrounding landscape on December 6th, 2010. Our group took repeat photographs of the barn, most notably the north-facing façade. From this angle, the two original wood-plank doors are visible. Additionally, the roof exists in pristine condition, the keystone arches remain intact, the blue ventilated windows are in no need of maintenance and their paint remains un-chipped. These features, in stark contrast to the Dougan's state of disrepair, appear as if they were built in recent years. With a closer view of the barn, the stones were much larger than expected. The mortar between them was solid with only miniscule cracks near a north-facing window. Stepping down towards the south cow-pasture, the barn's massive qualities became more apparent. Looking upward, we observed the interlocking stones that compose the barn's sturdy corners. We wondered about the structures sturdiness and long-lasting qualities even without the access to maintenance funds. To the south, the surrounding land, also in a secure state of preservation, was beautiful. The original context in which the barn was built and operating is still apparent today next to a beautiful valley characteristic of a driftless landscape.

i. north side, general view



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010

ii. *stone masonry*



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010

iii. *surrounding valley*



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010

iv. *distinctive arched windows*



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010

v. *unique red doors*



Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010



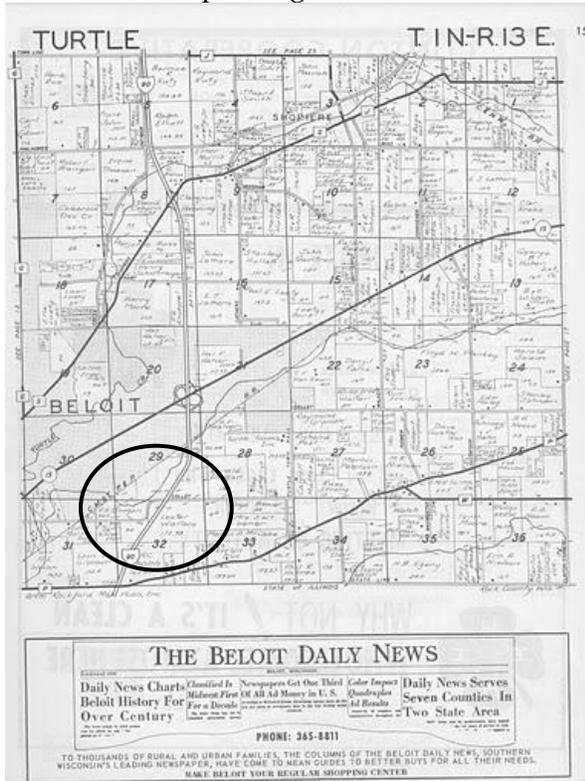
Photograph by Madelin Jensen
6 December 2010

3. Plat Maps and Aerial Photographs

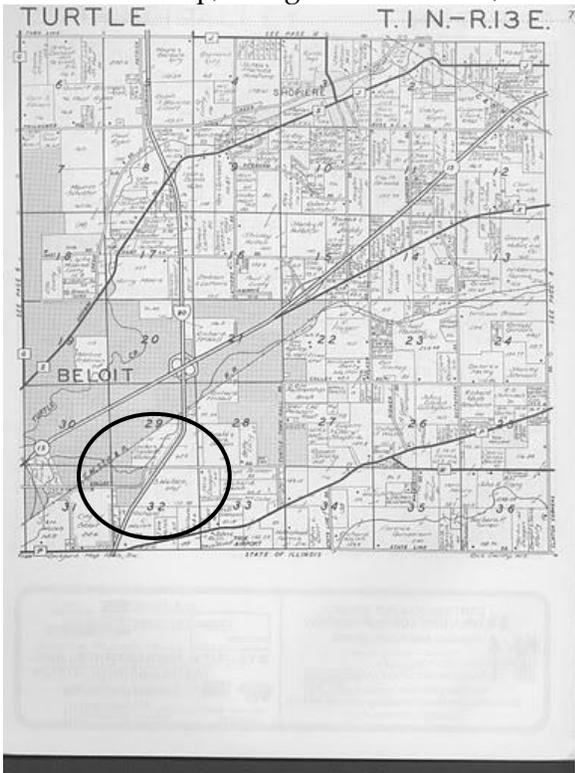
a. 1956 Plat Map, Dougan Round Barn, Section 32, Turtle Township, Rock County, WI



b. 1970 Plat Map, Dougan Round Barn, Section 32, Turtle Township, Rock County, WI



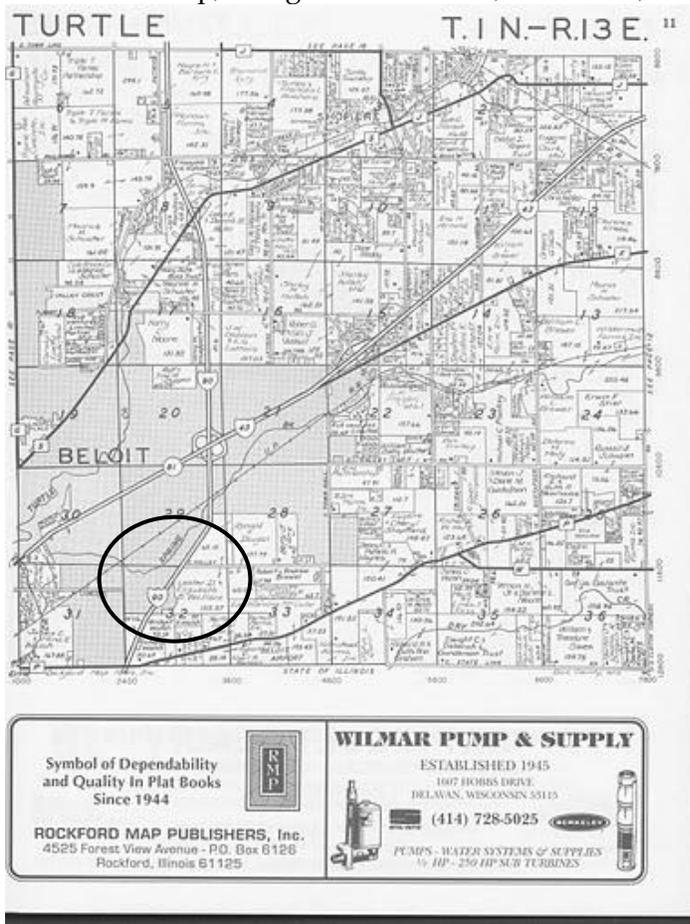
c. 1984 Plat Map, Dougan Round barn, Section 32, Turtle Township, Rock County, WI



d. 1978 Aerial photograph, Section 32, Turtle Township, Rock County, WI. Mobile home park construction, visible directly west of the Dougan Round Barn.



e. 1998 Plat map, Dougan Round barn, Section 32, Turtle Township, Rock County, WI



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