

McHenry County

Rural Survey

1998-1999

***Completion Report
&
Data Analysis***

Prepared by the
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

Acknowledgments


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Sincerely,



Gail A. Drabant, Chairman,

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

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Introduction

McHenry County has the dubious distinction of being the fastest-growing county in Illinois, and is facing the problem of ensuring that the rural features of the county that attract the increasing population do not disappear under the onslaught. McHenry County has had an agriculture oriented zoning ordinance since 1979, requiring a minimum lot size of 160 acres on land with agricultural zoning. While this ordinance protects farmland, it in no way encourages the preservation of historic farm structures.¹

In an effort to begin the process of preservation, in 1985 the McHenry County Department of Planning and Development completed a survey of the county, which documented 4,867 sites of pre-1945 construction. The 1985 survey identified houses/structures that were worthy of further investigation for possible historic designation at the national level. In 1990, the McHenry County Planning Commission recommended the McHenry County Board establish a Historic Preservation Study Committee.² Upon its recommendation, the county board established the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission in order to support the county's overall planning program by preserving the unincorporated historic sites and rural landscapes. To date, the commission has given landmark status to 12 structures, 2 cemeteries, and 1 natural feature in the county.³

The Commission has found it increasingly difficult to utilize the information recorded in the 1985 survey. Unfortunately, the original photographs were never dry mounted on archival paper where they could be easily referred to in conjunction with the survey information. Likewise, only residences and some major barns were surveyed. Many of the photographs were taken from the roadside, thus eliminating details. This was essentially a drive-by windshield survey which was a good start, but inadequate for classification of structures. Other buildings on farmsteads (chicken coops, corn cribs, outhouses, smokehouses, pumphouses, windmills, milkhouses and sheds), bridges, cemeteries, etc. were not included in the survey. Buildings were catalogued according to site numbers assigned by the survey team. By 1998 with the growth rate of the county it became difficult to locate structures. The Commission believed that the work started by the 1985 survey needed to be updated. Therefore, in conjunction with the county's program for a comprehensive land use plan update, the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission, conducted this Rural Survey Update.

Building on the 1985 work, this 1998-1999 Survey Update includes larger photographs, more basic information about exterior architectural styles and descriptions, construction materials, structure condition, historical integrity, approximate construction dates, and identifies the site by its Parcel Identification Number (PIN), thereby making location of the sites much more accurate. Because of the intensive nature of the process, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency required the Commission to limit the initial survey update area to sites located in the unincorporated townships of Grafton, Algonquin, Nunda, and McHenry. These townships were selected because they are under the most intense pressure from development, and because they have some of the oldest settlements in the county.

Methodology

The survey team consisted of Maryanne Wanaski, the liaison from the Planning and Development Department for the Historic Preservation Commission, members of the commission itself, namely Carol Lockwood as the supervisor of the survey and Mark Balasi as the architectural advisor. During March and April 1998, we devised field sheets based on the cards from the 1985/86 survey and on recommendations from the state coordinator. Sites were to be identified by their Parcel Identification Numbers (PIN) rather than by arbitrary numbers assigned by the field staff as in the 1985/86 survey. Using the cards and site map from the previous survey, and by extensive use of the aerial parcel maps, we tentatively matched the likely sites to the corresponding PINs.

From that information we extracted street addresses to put on the field sheets for the photography team to locate the sites. A blank field survey sheet (and a blank revised form) is in the Notes section of this report to illustrate the type of information we were attempting to gather. The aerial photos in most instances helped us to identify the number of structures on a site and a separate field sheet was provided for each structure. Any other pertinent information from the previous survey cards was also transferred to the field sheets before the photography team went out to the field. In addition to the pre-survey site preparation a barn/outbuilding/house typology was developed with Ann Swallow's review and recommendations.

To find graduate or upper-undergraduate student interns to do the bulk of the fieldwork photography, we contacted the art/architectural history and geography departments at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, Judson College and the Art Institute of Chicago. We interviewed several candidates during April and May 1998 and hired Kristen Davis and Leigh Moran as our photography team who conducted their work between May and August 1998.

We used a variety of cameras owned or borrowed by the survey team members. The cameras included a Fuji Discovery 312 Zoom (a point and shoot camera); a Minolta Freedom Tele (a point and shoot camera); a Minolta X700; a Leica R4. We used professional Kodak Tmax 100 36-exposure film for black and white prints that were developed professionally to 4x6 size. The film was purchased and developed at Images Unlimited in Woodstock, IL. The camera and film shop usually were very cooperative in processing the film, however several rolls of film were destroyed during development and needed to be re-shot. A total of 47 rolls of film was shot, resulting in approximately 1600 prints. These prints were then "scanned" onto the survey forms via computer.

The team was instructed to photograph all structures on a site, and to make any general notes about the structures on the field sheets including filling out the building materials section of the survey sheet. Also, any other information available or readily apparent (construction dates, condition of structure, unusual features, etc.) was filled out by survey team. If this required them to enter the property, the team was told that they should seek permission from the owners. Many farmsteads sit well off the road.

Closed gates, "No Trespassing" signs, and barking dogs sometimes deterred the team from approaching a site. Even so, in only a few instances was it prudent to take photos from the road only. Traffic was often a problem of highways and roads, and parking along roadsides was dangerous. Other problems were that hedges, fencing and trees also made photography difficult at times. Also, additions to houses often made it difficult to identify the original form of the structure and some residences did not seem to fall into a particular architectural style thus being categorized based on their vernacular form. Further clarification was asked of Ann Swallow where needed. She was very helpful in explaining definitions so that consistency could be greatly improved throughout the survey.

In a few locations, especially around Rawson Bridge in Nunda township and in Wonder Lake in McHenry township, it was impossible to identify the sites on the site map from the previous survey and therefore it was not possible to put either PINs or addresses on field sheets for the photography team. In those cases, the technical assistant took the old photographs, a street name from the old card, and whatever patience she could muster, and wandered the streets in the areas under question trying to match house photos with current structures and noting the street address. From the street addresses it was possible to extract the PINs from the county's Cidnet system and to place these on the field sheets.

Another problem encountered with regard to this project was the reliance on part-time and voluntary nature of the work. During the summer of 1998, both Mark Balasi and Carol Lockwood resigned from the Historic Preservation Commission due to reasons unrelated to the survey. Other members of the Commission did not step into the vacant roles, and a heavier burden therefore was placed on those able to volunteer time to the project. This time also had to be coordinated with the set-up of the computer and photograph scanning system in the Department of Planning and Development. They encountered software and hardware difficulties due to the well-publicized computer system problems existing throughout the county government including changes in top-ranking county computer personnel.

Once all of the photographs were finally able to be scanned into the computer, the huge task of data entry into Word documents took place. Since multiple people were entering the data, inconsistencies existed on formatting. However since the photographs had been meticulously labeled with their associated PIN, problems were able to be resolved. At that point commissioners were asked to review the sheets again. Several of the commissioners took binders of sheets for review. However, some claimed ignorance and others simply needed better guidance. This resulted in only one commissioner, Tony Howard, doing significant review other than Gail Drabant. Although this proved to be an extremely time-consuming task, the limited personnel actually proved to add consistency which at that point was very necessary due to sheets getting mixed up, pictures coming unpaper-clipped, etc.

Then Nina Caponne revised and reprinted the sheets (sometimes for the third time). She also tried to correct formatting inconsistencies (i.e. font, bold, spacing, etc.). When working with a scanned image however, care had to be taken to make sure the

photograph was inserted into the document in it's original scale. Several of these images had to be reinserted due to the document having an elongated image. Nina was able to correct these images.

Gail Drabant did the final proofing, final hand changes, copies, photograph attachment, maps, and binderization. We also ran into some problems with attaching the photographs. We had originally planned on using a spray mount adhesive, but it got all over everywhere and we were having problems with sheets sticking together. So at that point we switched to using double-sided Scotch adhesive tape. Since the 1987 survey photos were already attached to the survey sheets, we also attached these 1987 photographs to the county's version of the typed sheets. In all we ended up with the following binders:

~	Algonquin Township	1	Binder
~	Grafton Township	2	Binders
~	Nunda Township	2	Binders
~	McHenry Township	4	Binders
~	Report & Data Analysis	1	Binder

TOTAL Number of Binders in the 1998-99 survey = 10 Binders

A complete duplicate set of binders was made for the county, so just in the production stage, a significant amount of time was needed for copying, hole-punching, tabbing and labeling all of the survey binders.

Finally, the information for all structures surveyed was entered into an Excel spreadsheet for further data analysis. This also provided a means to verify site correlation to the previous survey. It was only then that we were able to be provided the first percentage distribution statistical data as a result of the survey (represented in chart and graph forms). (See the Data Summary charts in the beginning of each township binder and also the combined and township comparison charts.)

Since much of the report revisions relied on the availability to analyze the resulting data, the revision on the report was not done concurrent to the final revisions of the survey sheets as originally anticipated in August of 1999 when the project was replanned. However, some of the supporting appendix information was gathered and copied prior to the report revision so as to expedite the process somewhat.

As in any major survey, a methodical organized effort is needed to complete the survey. Although we incurred major computer and personnel turn-over problems and were not able to complete this project on schedule, it did however finally come to completion which was far better than the option of simply suspending all work. We have learned from the past and will be able to apply what we have learned in doing a survey to the future. Some specific areas of note follow on the next page.

Recommended changes to the above methodology for future surveying of additional townships:

- 1) It is recommended that when additional townships are surveyed, the **data be entered into a data base program** (Access is recommended) so that the printing and editing of the data can be greatly expedited. Then instead of proving typographical errors, the computer can print preformatted data based on operator options. This is a relatively simple process and would take less time to setup initially than the time incurred on the entry, editing, and proofing process for these four townships.
- 2) **Photographs should be taken during the months of March and April** if at all possible. This one change would greatly improve the quality of the photographs due to better visibility from lack of leaves.
- 3) **The structure typology should be clearly defined and understood by the surveyors.** This was evident due to inconsistent specification that they used for differing terms. This then made the review process more time-consuming.
- 4) If multiple townships are done at the same time, then **use a different color paper for each township as the survey worksheet** to make sorting visually efficient when dealing with stacks and stacks and stacks of papers.

Positive methodology points:

- 1) **All structures were photographed.** Occasionally there would be a description of two structures on the same photograph, but this was minimal. An obvious exception is for identical or similar structures (4 grain bins, 3 Harvestore silos, 2 pole buildings, etc.).
- 2) **The PIN for each site was accurately located.** There were only a few that were incorrect and most of these were due to typographical errors.
- 3) **The match up to previous survey sites was well done.** As nothing is completely perfect, this survey found errors in the previous survey that have now been corrected in this survey.
- 4) **The scanned in image of the photograph was an effective duplication tool.** Since a copy of a photograph is not nearly as clear as the scanned in image of a photograph, the ability to scan the image greatly improved availability of photographs.
- 5) **Using an Excel spreadsheet to tabulate the results.** Without being able to use the count and summations functions of spreadsheets, all tabulation would have had to be done by hand-counting. Not only would this take much longer than the time to enter the data into a spreadsheet, but then there would have been a greater factor of human error in the findings. This was minimized and additional comparison analysis was done that might not have otherwise been done if this tool had not been used.

Historical Context of McHenry County ~ ~ ~

Location and Geology:

McHenry County was created in the winter of 1836-37 by an act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, which parceled McHenry and Lake Counties out of Cook County. It is located in the northern tier of counties in the State of Illinois bounded on the north by Wisconsin, on the west by Boone County and on the south Kane County, and on the east by Lake County and a very small part of Cook County, thereby defining McHenry County as a "collar" county. It is 26 miles east and west by 24 miles north and south, containing 611 square miles and 17 townships.⁴

Waterways:

The Fox River, rising in Wisconsin, flows south into Lake and McHenry counties, ultimately emptying into the Illinois River. It enters McHenry County about eight miles from the Wisconsin state line in McHenry Township, flowing out of Pistakee Lake, which lies in both counties, and a little over two miles further south, the river bends westward into McHenry County. It courses down through Nunda Township until it reaches Algonquin. The Fox River was a shallow, slow-moving stream prior to the construction of a lock and dam in the early twentieth century. The Nippersink, a tributary of the Fox, rises in McHenry County and traverses the northeastern part of the county.⁵

Soil Types:

The geological resources of the county provided extensive streams, an abundance of timber and prairie vegetation, and productive soils. The geological formations in the county are largely of glacial drift. The bedrock is mainly of the Niagara group and the drift deposits are clay and hardpan with occasional beds of sand, gravel, and boulders. These are scattered throughout the mass covering the whole surface of the county at an average depth of about seventy feet. Near the Fox River the ridges contain large quantities of rolled limestone boulders, and although there were some limestone quarries, there was not a great deal of manufacturing of limestone. Good clay for brickmaking, on the other hand, was abundant in the county. The prevailing colors were red or reddish brown, although in Woodstock and McHenry a white straw-colored brick was made. These clays also were used for making drain tiles.⁶

Peat was at one time abundant in the county and in 1880 it was estimated that between 4,000 and 5,000 acres of slough in Lake and McHenry counties contained excellent peat. Although it was a good source of fuel it was not extensively used because of the wood and coal fuel sources that were available in the county. By the 1920s many of the sloughs where the peat existed had been drained and cultivated.⁷ Small lakes and ponds were originally numerous in the county, but disappeared largely due to the extensive drainage of agricultural lands which began in the latter part of the nineteenth century.⁸

Settlement and Development:

Two of the earliest settlements in the county occurred at points along the Fox River where Indians had constructed fords and eventually grew into McHenry and Algonquin. Samuel and Margaret Gillilan are recognized as the first permanent white residents in the county, arriving in the Algonquin area in 1834. Within a few years, settlements were scattered throughout the county. The Fox River shoreline remained relatively unchanged until the late 1880s with only farmsteads spread out along the river, with the exception of a small area on the east side of the river, which was part of the McHenry original town plat.⁹

Early Settlement Patterns:

The location of McHenry county seems to have always been both a benefit and a detriment to its agricultural development. When the original settlers in the county bought claims from the government they paid a fee of \$1.25 per acre and prices did not rise quickly. Settlers from the 1834-1840 period farmed their land in order to make a support their own families, not as a business proposition.

Initially wheat was the primary crop thus influencing the type of farm structures on the earliest farms. Specifically the Three Bay threshing barn that was built across the entire landscape was a direct result of wheat farming. With plenty of land and poor transportation systems, the land prices remained low, but at the same time it restricted access to markets. Farming was not initially undertaken on a large-scale basis.¹⁰ Later as dairy farming became more prevalent, several of these threshing barns were converted into dairy barns. Additionally Dairy Gambrel barns and Transverse Frame barns became commonplace on the rural farmstead. There are still some Three Bay threshing barns in McHenry County that were not converted to dairy use. In these cases instead of converting the Three Bay threshing barn, the additional Dairy Gambrel barn was built, thus saving the integrity of the threshing barns. The Three Bay threshing barns are often smaller in scale and were later used for draft horse stabling and machinery storage.

Trade Routes:

The city of Chicago has always been a major influence on the growth and development of McHenry County. Chicago was the major trading center for early county residents, though some residents in the northeastern part of the county turned to Milwaukee, Racine, or Kenosha, Wisconsin for marketing purposes.¹¹

Three main routes were used to reach McHenry County from Chicago: the Kinzie or Great Chicago Trail (presently U.S. Route 14) extended northwest from Chicago and diagonally across the county; the Rockford to Chicago Trail (presently U.S. Route 20) ran northwest from Elgin through the southwestern part of the county; and the Fox River Trail (presently U.S. Route 31) ran north from Elgin to McHenry.¹²

Railroads:

The expanding railroad system in the county helped link this area to Chicago. Algonquin, Nunda and McHenry Townships were served by the railroad line coming

north up from Elgin. Although this reached the south end of the county in the early 1850's, it was not operational all the way through McHenry Township until 1856. In the 1870s there were four lines passing through the county: the main line, or the Wisconsin division of the Chicago and North-Western, two branches of the Galena division of the same road, and the Rockford and Kenosha branch, crossing the main line at Harvard. After the arrival of the railways, towns and villages began to grow along the railway routes rather than along the navigable streams and rivers of the county. By 1920 each township, with the exception of Riley in the extreme southwestern portion of the county, had a railroad crossing some portion of its territory.¹³

Early Agricultural Pursuits:

Until the 1850's farmers concentrated mainly on raising crops, hogs or cattle primarily for their own use. The area with its well-drained soil became a successful grain-growing region by the 1860's. By the 1870's with its loamy soils, blue grass and natural brooks and springs, it then became a dairying region. Before 1866 there were no recorded cheese factories in the county, but by 1867 there were eight in operation and the number continually increased. At the time of the 1872 Plat Book there were an estimated 30 butter and cheese factories in the county and a large part of the milk produced in the county supplied the Chicago market. When the railroad system arrived, along with better cold storage systems, improved farm machinery, and engines, farmers realized that they had the means by which to produce crops and dairy items more efficiently for the larger markets and to make profits from their agricultural undertakings.¹⁴

Post-Civil War Agriculture:

By the 1870s the county was known for its large portions of good, tillable land with a landscape that included timber, prairie and groves. Because the county had many hardwood groves, there was plenty of timber for fuel, fencing and building materials. By 1870 land prices had risen to the an estimated \$60 per acre and in 1900 land prices in the county had not quite reached the \$100 per acre mark.¹⁵ The suitability of land for agriculture, especially dairying, was linked with land prices. The success of the county increased as the villages became processing plants for the goods raised on the farm and also provided supplies for agricultural needs.

Dairy statistics show that in 1877 there were 18,378 cows in the county, the number rising to 28,179 in 1883. Just under a millions pounds of cheese was produced in the county in 1877, but that more than doubled by 1883. Between those same years the number of gallons of milk sold in the county rose from 2,331,007 to 7,917, 321. In 1885 the county had fifty-three cheese factories and creameries. During the 1890s milk production, rather than cheese and butter production became the focus of dairy farmers.

20th Century Agriculture:

By the 1920s there were eight milk-bottling companies in the county with twenty-two different plant locations. It has been said that the dairy cow was the builder of

McHenry County. Milk was shipped every morning from almost every station in the county to Chicago.¹⁶

During the 1920s farmers began to use at a more frequently rate steam engines, gasoline-powered engines, and tractors. Concrete silos also made their appearances on farms. Electricity also had spread more widely throughout the county and during the late 1920s and early 1930s electricity allowed farmers to modernize their buildings and mechanize their agricultural practices.¹⁷

Automobiles:

Automobiles made the area more accessible to agricultural markets so that the population began to climb. By the 1920s dairying was carried on so extensively that the county was said to boast of the high number of cows in the county with Harvard claiming itself as the milk center. As farms expanded with more land, livestock, and equipment, it also drove up land values and prices. The county history of 1922 notes that, "Twenty years ago the prophecy that Illinois farm land would sell for at least \$200 per acre, was laughed at. Now many McHenry County farmers are refusing \$250 per acre and over for their holdings."¹⁸ The land market reversed in the late 1920s and 1930s due to the economic depression. Land prices dropped to about \$60 per acre, but pressures of increased population, increasing agricultural efficiency, and improved transportation soon led to a recovery in land values. Throughout the twentieth century this trend has been repeated every time a road is built or improved.¹⁹

Modern Dairying:

A dairying innovation came in 1953 with the introduction of bulk tank delivery. Instead of hauling milk to stations themselves, farmers could now keep cooled milk in milkhouses for pick up by refrigerated trucks. While milk remained the largest cash farm crop in the late 1960s there were three receiving and processing plants in the county taking milk from approximately 1,000 dairy farms within the county.²⁰

By the mid-1960s farming was still the county's primary industry, although the number of farms dropped from 1,879 in 1959 to 1,672 in 1964. The acreage in farms dropped from 316,645 to 304,770 during the same period, but the size of the farms increased from an average of 168.5 acres to 182.3 acres. So, there were fewer farms doing more business. Even at this stage dairying was the chief farm undertaking, but there was more competition from other farm activities such as grain and beef cattle. Vegetable produce began to appear as a substantial business as did horticultural undertakings and forestry. During the 1960s corn was still the primary crop, with oats and soy beans second and third respectively.²¹

Land Valuation and Animal Census:

By the late 1960s land in the county was valued at between \$500 and \$600 per acre. Many farmers found that they could no longer afford to buy land and rented instead, thus threatening the family farm. The number of farms in the county continued to decrease and their acreage continued to increase. In 1974 there were 1,250 farms in the county at an average size of 212 acres and a total of 50,432 cattle and calves on

those farms. The value of the average farm was \$332,986. By 1987, around the time of the previous rural survey, there were 1,136 farms in the county at an average size of 234 acres at a value of \$457,962. There were 33,307 cattle and calves on those farms, and by 1992 there were only 985 farms left in the county at an average size of 253 acres and at an average value of \$659,052. The numbers of cattle and calves on those farms was 26,220. Currently, grain farms devote themselves mostly to the production of corn, soybeans and wheat. There is also a very large horse population in the county.²² The high horse population is largely due to recreational equestrian interests. Although there are numerous horse farms that have 25 to 100 horses (for training, schooling, breeding and show purposes), it is very common to have one to four horses on small farmettes or on one to five acre residential lots. Of the townships surveyed, McHenry Township has the largest horse population (primarily in the Bull Valley area) with Algonquin Township having the least amount of horses due to its high-density residential areas.

Recent Agriculture:

Farming has become so large-scale and efficient that family farms are more likely to be unprofitable. Land is becoming too expensive to rent as farmland. At the same time, access to employment nearer the cities via the railway and tollway systems is taking workers off the land and bringing city and suburban residents to the area. This has increased land values to the point that farmers are less able to justify using their land for agricultural purposes. Land values for properties near areas that are ripe for development can be in excess of \$10,000 per acre.²³

Recent Population Growth:

The rapid population growth has contributed to the pressure of developing land. It was not until the years following the Second World War during the baby boom with the new residents who came to the county from Chicago that McHenry County saw its population climb rapidly. In 1900 the county's population was, in round numbers, 30,000. In 1920 it was 33,000 and 35,000 in 1930. In 1940 the population of the county was 37,000 and it broke the 50,000 mark in 1950. By 1960, the population reached just under 85,000 and at the end of the decade population was estimated to be 100,000. Now, in the late 1990s, we are at the 236,000 mark. Initially the eastern half of the county received the new residents with Algonquin, Nunda and McHenry townships receiving the brunt of it. New subdivisions appeared on former farmland from the city limits of McHenry, Crystal Lake and Cary-Fox River Grove-Algonquin region. New names such as Lake-in-the-Hills, Lakewood, Island Lake, Lakemore, Sunnyside, and Oakwood Hills appeared on census records after 1950.²⁴

Recent Development:

In the recent decades, development in the eastern third of the county has resulted in the conversion of thousands of acres of farmland and farmsteads to urban uses. In the western half of the county residential development has typically been in the form of large lot subdivisions or on individual five to ten acre parcels. As the consolidation of farmland holdings continues, the division and sale of small parcels containing farm

residences and farm buildings is becoming a common occurrence.²⁵

Farmers who continue to pursue agriculture find that, in order to squeeze the most efficient use out of their remaining land, they can no longer undertake traditional husbandry practices. Modern agricultural practices have generally obliterated historic field patterns, fence rows, windbreaks and much woodland. Historic landscape features are more likely to survive in the western part of the county.²⁶

The Townships: Algonquin, Grafton, McHenry, Nunda

These four townships in the southeastern portion of the county are by far the areas of the fastest growth rate of development and incorporation and therefore are more rapidly changing. In the next phase of surveying rural McHenry County, it is recommended that the townships of Burton, Richmond and Dorr should be included due to development in those areas also, but at a slightly more moderate rate.

Algonquin Township²⁷

The first white man to settle in McHenry County was Samuel Gillian who crossed the Fox River in 1834 and settled in what later became Algonquin Township. Andrew Cornish settled in the same area in 1835. Originally Algonquin was known as Cornish's Ferry due to Andrew Cornish's business of providing a ferry service across the Fox River. Later Cornish's Ferry became Osceola, a name from back in New York State. Before the adoption of the township organization the area was known as Fox township. When the new township required a name a resident proposed the name of a ship on which he had been a sailor in his youth, *Algonquin*. The town of Algonquin and Algonquin Township grew rapidly in population as a gateway to new land.

Algonquin Township is bounded on the north by Nunda Township, on the east by Lake County, on the south by Kane County and on the west by Grafton Township. The township is broken by many hills and bluffs along the Fox River and in the region of Algonquin village. Outside of the Fox River watershed, the land is well-drained and suitable for farming. The farmland in the township was adapted for both small grain and pasturelands. However, now most of this farmland has been redeveloped into residential, commercial and industrial purposes.

Algonquin village is the oldest village in the county. Crystal Lake, the largest village in the township, lies in this township and runs into Grafton township as well. Extensive incorporation has taken place in the 1990s.

Grafton Township²⁸

Grafton township is in the southern tier of townships in the county. It is bounded on the north by Dorr township, on the east by Algonquin township, on the south by Kane county and on the west by Coral township. A resident who wished to honor his old

home in New Hampshire, which was Grafton township, named it.

This was one of the last townships in the county to be settled. Although settlers started to come into this area in the late 1830's, it was not until 1850 that the township was organized. Also the major village in Grafton Township, Huntley, was not platted until 1851. Prior to the Civil War, Grafton Township was not as developed as most of the other townships in McHenry County. It is for this reason that there is substantially a void of prominent early farmsteads. Of course there are exceptions, but primarily the oldest farmsteads in Grafton Township have structures on a smaller or less elaborate scale than other McHenry County townships. Because it had a large amount of low, wet and untillable land in the central part of the township, it was less valuable for agricultural purposes than many other townships in McHenry County. However, by the 1870s farms in the southern and eastern parts of the township had been tilled and were being used for agricultural cultivation, and by the 1880s Grafton had been converted into primarily farming township with the emphasis on dairying. With the Chicago and North-Western railway passing through the village of Huntley, there was access to a steady market for agricultural produce.

McHenry Township

McHenry Township is bounded on the north by Richmond and Burton Townships, on the east by Lake County, on the south by Nunda Township and on the west by Greenwood Township. The Fox River traverses it north to south and it contains part of Pistakee Lake in the northeast, part of Lily Lake in the southeast, McCollum's Lake which is near the center of the township, and part of Wonder Lake which was created in 1929. It is one of the oldest settled townships in the county, and the village of McHenry once held the county seat. Originally McHenry County covered the area now contained by both McHenry County and Lake County. (The combined McHenry County began in 1836 with Lake County having its beginning in 1839.) The village of McHenry was thus in the approximate middle of the double-sized county. But only after a few years, Lake County was formed. The county seat of McHenry County was then moved from the village of McHenry to the village of Centerville which we know today as Woodstock, located in Dorr Township.

At least up until the 1920s this was one of the most fertile and productive townships in the county. However, its proximity to Chicago and the attractions of the natural features associated with the Fox River led to more diverse development that was not associated with agriculture.²⁹

The recreational potential of the Fox River was realized by 1875, when at least two steamboats advertised trips from the village of McHenry to the Chain of Lakes (Pistakee Lake, Fox Lake, and Grass Lake). The excursions reportedly were taken by pleasure-seekers, picnickers, fisherman, and hunters from the area and from as far away as Elgin and Chicago. The lotus beds in Grass Lake (Lake County) were probably the biggest attraction until they were destroyed by heavy recreational boat traffic.

As the popularity of these attractions increased, hotels and clubgrounds were con-

structed to accommodate out-of-town visitors. The first development on the McHenry County side of Pistakee Bay was probably the Spring Lake Club Grounds, located along the southern end of the bay. Other clubgrounds, resorts, and subdivisions soon were developed all around Pistakee Bay.

The size, style, and building materials used on the summer houses around the bay indicated that these turn-of-the-century summer residents were affluent. The area has declined in the latter part of this century, probably due to the declining water quality of the bay. Most residences have been converted to year-round residences; hotels have been turned into apartments or torn down, and large estates have been subdivided.

The Pistakee Bay area in general offers many preservation possibilities and the Historic Preservation Commission has already made some preliminary investigations into the area.

The depression of the 1930s brought cottage building to a halt, and forced people to sell their city houses and live in their Fox River cottages year-round. When construction resumed, the same small cottage forms were utilized, and made it difficult to date cottages along the river.³⁰ However, by examining construction materials some delineation can be determined and has been taken into account of the analysis of the survey materials.

Wonder Lake is a man-made body of water 3.5 miles long extending north-south and lying on the township line between Greenwood and McHenry townships. Starting in May, 1929 the dam was built across Nippersink Creek in the midst of farm and timberland, placing 876 acres under water. It is a shallow lake, meant to have depths ranging from twelve to eighteen feet. Summer cottages began to appear in the area in the 1930s and, after the end of the Second World War, the Wonder Lake area drew more summer residents from the Chicago area. By the 1960s it had a population of about 5,000 year-round residents. This area is notorious for having septic field problems.³¹

Nunda Township

Nunda township is bounded on the north by McHenry Township, on the east by Lake County, on the south by Algonquin Township and on the west by Dorr Township. For a short time after the township was settled in 1838 Nunda was known as Brooklyn but when they petitioned for a post office it was discovered that another Brooklyn already existed in Illinois. At a public meeting the name was changed to Nunda to honor the birthplace (in New York State) of one of the leading men in the community. The name is pronounced *Nun-Day*. Nunda Township back at settlement time attracted the more affluent settlers due to its suitable farm land and therefore grew quickly. Even now the Crystal Lake portion of Nunda Township is one of the leading economic centers of the county.

Nunda Township was home to several prominent settlers who built magnificent brick Greek Revival homes including the Holcomb, Walkup, Palmer, McMillan, and

Ellsworth families. Also of note are the substantial houses built by Dole, Pomeroy, Duffee, Gates, Stickney and Terrwilliger. One particularly important feature of several Nunda houses is the use of cobblestone in the foundation or in the entire house as in the Walkup house on Walkup Road. This feature was the trademark of local brick mason, Andrew Simon. The houses he built that have this cobblestone foundation, have evenly sized rocks from Lake Michigan in even rows sometimes forming a particular pattern. Besides cobblestone foundations, Simon used the decorative style of brickwork well known in this county where the bricks at the frieze form dentils and cornice returns and even pilasters. It is thought that other brick masons also used this technique since there are so many of these homes throughout McHenry County. Known Andrew Simon houses are noted in the survey sheets. However, several of these homes are in the municipal boundaries of Crystal Lake and are therefore not present in this survey.

The Fox River traverses the Nunda Township and surrounding it, Nunda Township does have low lands and flood plains. However, the rest of the township is high ground with rich soil. Therefore, by the 1920s the township was considered one of the finest agricultural sections in northern Illinois and dairying was then the chief industry on its farms.³²

Crystal Lake takes up a portion of the township. This was one of the earliest townships in the county to begin the process of subdivision. The Emerald Park subdivision located south of McHenry in Nunda Township was the only subdivision to develop south of the city prior to 1900.

During the 1920s subdivision activity began to take place along the shores of the Fox River from Algonquin to Pistakee Bay. More than fifty subdivisions were recorded between 1920 and 1929. The subdivisions were characterized by small cottages on narrow lots that originally were intended for summer use only, but like older residences along the Fox River and Pistakee Bay, these summer cottages have since been converted to year-round use. Many Fox River subdivisions were summertime extensions of Chicago neighborhoods, ethnic communities, or church organizations. The township listed 134 subdivisions as of 1994.³³

HISTORICAL CONTEXT Summary Statement ~

These four townships (Algonquin, Grafton, Nunda, and McHenry) have been settled, developed and continue to develop in a pattern relating to their closer proximity to the Chicago market (than other McHenry County townships) and their geological formations with respect to the influence of the Fox River and other waterways.

Building Types and Architectural Styles

Farmsteads

A typical farmstead in McHenry County as represented by the four townships surveyed, consists of a medium to large farm residence in good repair, a dairy barn in fair repair, a milkhouse located near the dairy barn, a small corn crib, a chick coop, one or two concrete silos, a metal machine shed and one or two smaller sheds. Other functional structures on farmsteads sometimes include an outhouse, windmill and/or pumphouse, smokehouse and grain bins. If the farmstead is still being used for agricultural purposes, then the primary structures are the residence, barn, silos, grain bins and pole buildings. If the farm acreage has been sold off and only the collection of farm buildings remain, then typically there are fewer structures per site including only the residence, barn, silo and a shed. If the farmstead ceased agricultural efforts long ago then usually only two structures remain (the residence and usually a modern garage). The average number of structures per site is 3 on non-farming sites and the average number of structures per site on active farms in these four townships is 6.

Residences³⁴

The most frequently occurring residential forms on farms in McHenry County in these four townships are the Upright and Wing and the Four-over-Four (or Central Hall/Double Pile). There are also several I-houses, T-Plan and L-plan houses. Later houses commonly include Foursquares, Bungalows and Cottages.

The oldest houses in the county show the variety of building materials available in the nineteenth century. Wood, of course, was plentiful, and oak was used in building houses. Fieldstone foundations were used throughout the county. Clay was available, and old brick houses used bricks produced by local brick companies.

Descriptions of the common vernacular house types found throughout McHenry County are:

Upright-and-Wing: These houses are 1 1/2 to 2 story front gable houses with a 1 to 1 1/2 story wing at right angles of lesser height. Some Upright-and-Wing houses may have started out as a Front gable to which a wing was added. A porch often was placed in the area formed by the gable front and wing. If the wing is set back from the upright, a porch is usually located in the reentrant angle. If the main entrance is in the upright, a secondary door is usually present in the wing (probably due to its use as a kitchen area), but this is not true of the upright if the main entrance is located in the wing.

Dual-Upright: This house is similar to the Upright and Wing form but has an additional Upright connected to the side wing. Therefore the side wing is actually in the center flanked on either side by an upright.

Dual-Side Wings: This is another variation of the Upright and Wing form, but with an additional side wing opposite of the other side wing. Therefore the upright is flanked on both sides with a side wing.

Four-over-Four or Central Hall/Double Pile: These are usually hipped roof shapes with a square or nearly square form, 2 story, center entry houses, that are 2 rooms deep and 2 rooms wide.

L-Plan: These are 1 1/2 to 2 story front gable houses and a wing at a right angle having uniform roof height with the upright. While the front gable and the wing may have been built in stages, they were typically built as one. With an asymmetrical L-plan facade and an intersecting gable roof, the main entrance is typically in the recessed side gable wing of the dwelling. A porch commonly is located in the reentrant angles of the house.

T-Plan: These houses are similar to the L-Plan house but have a T-shaped footprint with the extra portion being to the rear of the house.

I-House: This house type was named for its widespread distribution in the "I states" (states that begin with the letter "I," including Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa). These are side gable, 2 story, center entry houses, 1 room deep and 2 rooms wide. They date from mid-nineteenth to late nineteenth century. Single story I-houses are sometimes called Hall and Parlor Cottages, and the two-story I-Houses are sometimes known as Hall and Parlor Houses.

Foursquare: These are 2 story houses with a low pitched hipped roof and wide overhanging eaves based on a simple square or rectangular plan. Often they have front porches and a front dormer. These were built in the first half of the twentieth century, especially between 1900 and 1930.

Bungalow: These are 1 1/2 story houses with a low pitched roof, usually with a gable front, jerkin-head roof or a side gable roof with a large front dormer. The roof typically overhangs the walls. This house type was built in the first half of the twentieth century and often has Mission or Prairie style detailing.

Cottage: This term is used to refer to smaller homes of non-descript character. They are usually one-story.

Architectural Style:

Greek Revival: Typical features that may still indicate that the house was at least originally Greek Revival (if greatly remodeled) are the existence of cornice returns, six-over-six light windows, square or fluted columns, pilasters, low-pitched roofs, and vertical door panels. Although Greek Revival houses can be Gable Side or other forms, they are most commonly in these four townships of the Upright and Wing forms. These houses most often date from prior to the end of the Civil-War (1840s - 1865).

Italianate: These houses where they exist generally have better integrity than their Greek Revival counterparts. Common features include decorate brackets or corbels under the eaves (often in pairs), two-over-two light windows, Eastlake-styled detailing, square central cupolas (in the case of the square form), and decorative hood moldings over the doors and windows. In this area, Italianate houses are generally square or nearly square

in form but sometimes are also in the Upright and Wing form. These date generally post Civil-War through the 1880s.

Queen Anne: This house style is not as prevalent in rural McHenry county as in McHenry County villages. It is a very decorative style of house with much elaborate detailing. Therefore the people most associated with wanting to display their fancy home and having the means to do so were living in the villages not out on farms. Generally farmers are more pragmatic about their housing. Queen Anne houses were built from the 1880s through the turn-of-the-century or just after the turn-of-the-century.

The Queen Anne style is typified by an asymmetrical plan having high-pitched roofs, decorative bargeboards, multiple porches with turned posts and spindles at both the frieze-line and the balustrade, however cut-out balusters were also used. Some of these houses also have towers (either octagonal or round usually placed at a front corner), balconies, and surface embellishment using double bead-board or fancy-cut shingles. This style of house is most often now dubbed as "Victorian", although Victorian actual refers to an era in time (that includes Greek Revival and Italianate houses), not a particular style.

Colonial Revival: This style was used just after the turn-of-the-century with some houses having transitional elements of both Queen Anne and Colonial Revival. One main feature difference is the use of columns (made out of staved wood as in a barrel) instead of turned porch posts. Also commonly, Palladian windows were used in the gables. The other details were generally simpler as in a plain frieze-line. This style is the pre-cursor to the Foursquare style, so there are also some similarities to the Foursquare. Generally the Colonial Revival house has a more massive feel to the design than Queen Anne houses or Foursquare houses.

Barns ³⁶

Dairy Gambrel barns are the most common type of barn in these four townships and are almost always large in size. Additions to these barns take many forms including "T" or "L" shaped additions, but most commonly as a shed addition to the side that forms a salt-box shape and often using a different type of foundation. Barn roofs with wood shingles rarely survive; barn roofs usually are asphalt shingles, roll asphalt material or sheet metal. Barn foundations were typically coursed fieldstone until the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when poured concrete began to be used for foundation material. There are barns where fieldstone foundations are still observable, but the cement holding the stones together is crumbling away and some barn owners have poured concrete foundations around the original foundation. Barns built in the early twentieth century generally have poured or block foundations.

Descriptions of the common barn styles found throughout McHenry County are:

Dairy Gambrel: These barns have a gambrel roof (two-slopes to each side) and a full aisle running end-to-end with entrances at both ends. The lower portion is divided

into stantions for approximately two-thirds of the barn with the remaining being divided into box stalls. The upper level is used for hay and straw storage. The entrance for the haymow is quite often on the side and banked for full access. Usually there are silos and a milkhouse attached to this type of barn. These barns were built from the 1880s through the 1940s.

Three Bay: These are gable roofed barns with the two entrances on either side to allow for horses to be driven through instead of turning the horses when bringing in wagons for threshing. One end is the threshing floor with storage for the bundles and loose straw at the other end. This is an earlier form of the barn with many dating to pre-Civil War. However, most have now been converted to other agricultural purposes either including stables, livestock shelter and dairying.

Transverse Frame: These barns also have a gable roof as with the Three Bay barn, but these are later barns built primarily for dairying and therefore have entrances at either end and layouts similar to the Dairy Gambrel barn.

Pole Buildings: These barns are of course modern metal structures but are herein classified as a barn based on their scale. The larger 2-story or massive pole buildings are classified as barns with the smaller ones falling into the shed classification.

Gothic Arched: These barns are similar to the Dairy Gambrel barns except that their roof shape is that of a gothic arch (rounded with a slight point at the ridge line). These barns were typically built in the later time period (the 1920s through the 1950s) and were the ultimate in maximizing the quantity of hay storage possible.

Silos³⁷

Silos were used for storing fodder or silage. They were mostly placed directly at the end of the feeding alley or end of the barn. Sometimes they were placed along the long side of the barn. Early silos were of **wood** or **brick**, but by about 1900 they came to be replaced by **poured concrete** and **concrete staved** silo types. Some silos of glazed **Terra Cotta** tile were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s. In the 1930s and 1940s **molded concrete block** silos were built in addition to the concrete staved silos. Beginning in the late 1940s the glass lined steel silos called "A.O. Smith **Harvestore**" were introduced. McHenry County is the location of the first vertical silo in the United States, built by Lewis Hatch near Spring Grove. There are many different types of silos throughout the county. Wooden silos still exist, but are in disrepair; brick silos, if they still survive, are concentrated in the eastern half of the county; glazed tile silos are more likely to survive.

Milkhouses³⁸

Milkhouses are very common. Milk houses are used for washing equipment and for cooling and storing milk. They usually were attached to the main dairy barn, and are not free-standing elements. Typically the milk house is one story high with a gable or shed roof and is constructed of masonry materials (at least on the bottom one-third of the structure).

Other Outbuildings and Structures³⁹

Corncribs: These buildings are used for storage of ear corn and come in a wide variety of sizes and forms. They often have a rectangular plan, are 1 or 1-1/2 stories high with a gable roof, and use spaced horizontal wood slats that allow for air circulation. Some cribs were designed to also store grains, with those areas sided in tight, typically vertical board, siding. Often a cupola is on the ridge to aid in drying. Small rectangular corncribs often look like sheds because they have been resided and used for other purposes. Later crib forms developed with the use of different materials and were circular or oval in plan. There are a few larger two-story corn cribs in these townships. Small round wire corncribs are still fairly common. Oval-shaped corncribs made of concrete blocks in the 1920s and 1930s are still observable, and appear most often in the southwestern part of the county. Now, vented metal bins often are used to store corn.

The style of corn cribs drastically changed when agricultural methods changed. Initially corn was picked and stored in ear form in cribs. Since the corn was very susceptible to mold, these cribs had to be well-vented. Later, when new machinery was introduced that actually shelled the corn while picking the corn, these early corn cribs became unusable. At that point corn dryers and grain bins were introduced. If a farmer does not have a large enough operation to have a dryer then the corn is taken from the field for processing elsewhere and then directly to market. Therefore, the functional need for corn cribs was greatly reduced.

By far the most common form of the corn crib in these four townships is the **transverse aisle** type. This has an aisle through the middle for venting with corn storage areas on both sides. Several of these transverse aisle corn cribs only have corn storage on one side and the other side is used as shed area thus making it a functionally combination structure. Also common is the **round wire mesh** corn crib which provides maximum venting, but little weather protection. It also has a vent that runs through the middle and out the bottom on one side. The **slant-sided** corn crib is a variation on the transverse aisle corn crib where the surface of both side is slanted in at the bottom. This is done to help control ventilation and corn exposure to weathering. A another variant is the **salt-box** shaped corn-crib which simply has one side extend so that the slope on one side is longer. This provides additional storage. Of particular note is that although the slats are generally horizontal, some are diagonal and even one corn crib in these townships has vertical slats. Less common forms include **hexagonal**, **octagonal**, **cross-gambrel** (gambrel roof with perpendicular gambrel cupola), **slant-roofed**, **cross-gothic** and **masonry oval**.

Chicken Coops: Features that can quickly classify a shed into the chicken coop function include a row of small windows along one side and multiple metal vents, although some further inspection is sometimes needed. The actual form of these are based on roof styles. Types include **slant-roofed**, **salt-box**, **front gabled**, **side gabled**, and **broken gable** (where the ridge line is uneven so that there can be clerestory windows along the top).

Garages: These are one story buildings used for the storage of farm or automotive vehicles. The most common types include **front gable, side gable** and **pyramidal**.

Granaries: These were built with tight wood boards and were used to store grain and shell corn. Often tongue and grooved siding was used. Granaries often have an elevator or cupola that projects at the center of the gable or gambrel roof. With the development of alternative construction materials, such as the metal bin for ear corn storage and the perforated metal or glazed concrete tile for crib storage, the earlier wood corn cribs were gradually outdated. Also, as silos came to be used for storing animal food, the need for as many granaries and cribs diminished.

Pump House: This is a building that housed the pump for the well, and, prior to the electrification of farms, was placed adjacent to or under the windmill. Pumphouses survived, especially if dairy farmers used them to cool milk. They are generally gable-roofed or pyramidal-roofed structures that are wood sided and have minimal windows if any.

Outhouses: Relatively few outhouses have survived. They have for the most part rotted away. However, remaining ones are often two-seaters with slant roofs or side gabled.

Shed: These are utilitarian buildings described by the roof shape and typically were used for storing farm implements or a variety of other items. These are generally one-story and are **front gabled, side gabled, saltbox, slant-roofed** or **modern pole buildings**. There are also a few **quonsets, pyramidal** and **hexagonal** sheds in these townships.

Windmills: Prior to electrification, windmills provided power to pump from the well. Abandoned windmill towers are becoming more rare.

Tabulated Results

This table compares the number of sites surveyed in 1986 and 1998, taking into account new municipal boundaries.

Township	Algonquin	Grafton	McHenry	Nunda	Totals
PIN Prefix:	19- and 20-	18-	9- and 10-	14- and 15-	
Unincorporated Area in acres, 1997	8,592.65	12,734.85	18,018.68	18,064.80	57,410.98
Unincorporated Area in acres, 1998	8,262.72	12,350.42	17,658.08	17,979.48	56,250.70
Unincorporated Square Miles, 1997	13.43	19.91	28.15	28.23	89.72
Unincorporated Square Miles, 1998	12.91	19.30	27.59	28.10	87.90
Number of Sites, 1986	62	105	280	172	619
Number of Sites, 1998	33	57	243	105	411
No. of 1998 Structures	106	349	710	463	1,628
Average # of Structures Per Site	3.2	6.1	2.9	4.4	3.9

Survey Observations

Some interesting observations based on the survey data are as follows:

- ~ With the exception of Grafton all of the other three townships have **predominately residential structures**, closely followed by barns and sheds. (Grafton's shed count outweighs it's house count.)
- ~ The **predominant house form is Upright and Wing** excepting the cottages of Wonderlake. (Most other cottage communities have been annexed or formed their own village. Therefore Wonderlake is more comparable to the other cottage communities.)
- ~ **Greek Revival is the most used style** in rural architecture when there are recognizable style elements that have not been eliminated by subsequent remodeling. Even without remodeling, Greek Revival is still thought to be the predominate style since that is the time period when much of the development of farm land occurred.
- ~ In all townships the **Dairy Gambrel barn is the most common barn type** with Three Bay barns being the next most common.
- ~ **Concrete staved silos are overwhelmingly the most common** in all but McHenry Township. In McHenry Township, poured concrete silos are most common.
- ~ There are other types of silos (wood, brick, molded block and tile) only in Grafton and McHenry townships.
- ~ The distribution across townships of chicken coop styles is fairly even, although **Nunda township is void of any broken gable (uneven ridge) coops.**
- ~ **Corn cribs are predominantly transverse aisle** with only three **hexagonal cribs** remaining. These should also be examined as to the amount of cribs with **diagonal siding**. McHenry contains the only **vertical slat** corn crib.
- ~ **Windmills, outhouses, smokehouses and pumphouses are diminishing** since their functional need has been removed and are most susceptible to demolition by neglect. Many of these will no doubt crumble into the landscape.
- ~ The overall historical integrity of rural structures is generally poor or fair at best excepting some examples that have been maintained and are in their original state. Therefore **when preservation opportunities arise** with structures with good historical integrity, the owners must be made aware of their significance and **preservation must be encouraged.**

The following are sites that were deemed important from prior analysis based on prior surveys. Unfortunately most have now been incorporated. Therefore, the focus and direction of sites needing preservation needs to be redirected to good examples of particular structure forms and where the site or structure is one of the few remaining examples in the area. This has been done on a county-wide basis by other commission members. (See Comprehensive Landmark List and Historic Sites Map at the end of this report.) Further, this list is revised on a yearly basis. The information in this survey will be taken into consideration at the next review of potential landmarks.

Some of the previous sites likely to be worthy of further investigation include:⁴⁰

Algonquin Township:

(see former site 4606) The Turner Camp, on Algonquin Road Section 24 SW located near Algonquin. This was the home base for the Turner National Gymnastics Team. The camp was started across the river near Cary in 1904 and moved to its present location in the 1920s. The dining hall is the only structure that actually was moved - it was cut into four parts and floated across the river on beer barrels. Other old structures include a men's club house, a ladies' club house, and an activity center. The 300 or more cottages on the property were built at various times. For many years all cottages were required to be identical in size (14' x 20') though in recent years additions have been permitted. Former surveyors said this should definitely be considered for National Register. This site did not appear on the 1986 Survey Map and therefore was overlooked by the 1998 Survey Update.

McHenry Township:

PIN 10-30-101-002 (see former site 2314) 1500 Chapel Hill Road, McHenry, Section 30 NW. Reportedly both the house and barn were built in the 1840s. Upright and wing farmhouse fairly original in form. Barn not actively used for farming.

The area around Pistakee Lake has undergone some preliminary investigation by the Historic Preservation Commission. Because the 1986 Survey Map did not point to sites in this area, the 1998 Survey Update Team was not aware of it and hence, the area was not documented in the 1998 Survey. However, the 1986 Survey contains the following information about some of the properties:

(see former sites 3052-3061). These are groups of buildings on Harrison Lane, McHenry IL, Section 17 SW. The Pink Harrison Resort on Pistakee Lake is a mixture of very small cottages and marina facilities. This resort dates to the early part of the 20th century. The Harrison family members still resided in McHenry County in 1986, and if they are still in the area, could likely provide extensive history and documentation.

(see former site 3062) Oak Grove Road, McHenry Section 17 SW. The Oak Park Hotel on Pistakee Lake [adjacent to Pink Harrison's] has been a landmark on Pistakee Lake since the turn of the century. The hotel is pictured in the 1908 McHenry County Atlas. An article in the March 22, 1934 McHenry Plaindealer reported that the tavern and dining room were bombed causing extensive damages to the hotel. The exterior of the hotel structure and adjacent tavern [which is believed to have been a bowling alley] appear much as they did in the 1908 photo. The hotel also has been used as a boarding house or apartment building.

(see former sites 3079-3089) Rocky Beach Road Section 17 SW McHenry. This is a group of buildings on the road. This area is a concentration of very large residences and mansions and was once an exclusive summer recreational area on Pistakee Bay. The area developed in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Very little is presently known about the history of these sites, but documentation is certainly possible. Local folklore describes residents and visitors as Chicago mobsters, crooked politicians, etc. during the Prohibition. Some houses have been kept in excellent condition while neighboring property has been allowed to deteriorate or has been severely altered.

(see former sites 3129-3143) Bay View, McHenry Section 17 SE. These sites are located in an area known as Palm Beach. The residences are not as large or impressive as the previous sites, but they are a combination of unusual, unique and intact residences. This area also includes a lovely old hotel that is used as a Catholic Retreat. There was interest among some of the owners in establishing a Historic District.

PIN 10-19-251-013(see former site 3143) 1850 New Bay Road, McHenry, Section 19 NW. This was known as the George J. Sayer Farm No 1. The farmstead was included in the 1986 Survey because the barns on the property are very large. The smallest of the three barns contains a concrete silo going up through the inside of the barn. The 1986 Survey believed it should be considered for National Register status.

Now incorporated (see former site 3339) 1702 Riverside Drive north of McHenry section 26 NE. This small Greek revival house has a cobblestone foundation. It is believed to be one of the first structures built along the Fox River north of McHenry. The house was included in the list primarily because of the foundation.

Now Incorporated (see former site 3401) 2502 Orchard Beach McHenry Section 24 SE. This residence in Orchard Beach Subdivision was probably constructed around the turn of the century. One of the residents reported that the house was used as a seminary in the 1930s.

Unincorporated Wonder Lake began as a summer vacation or recreational area in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. It contains many small summer cottages, most of which have been converted to year-round residences after a great deal of

alteration. Very few cottages appear to be architecturally significant and would not, in and of themselves, appear to be candidates for preservation activities. Many of the houses are now being raised and remodeled to reinforce the foundations and add extra floors. However, that should not automatically preclude the area from being considered as a historic district based on criteria other than architecture, though it seems unlikely that the area would qualify.

Nunda Township:

PIN 14-17-402-012 (see former site 2170) 6650 Crystal Springs Road, Crystal Lake. This is a Greek Revival brick residence reported to have originally been built in 1837, making it one of the oldest houses in the county. It now has two main sections to it. It is now located in a subdivision near Holcombville School.

1998 Site Observations:

Additionally, sites that need further investigation that may be suitable for landmark designation include:

Algonquin Township:

PIN 19-25-100-011 (Previous site 1955) **Central Hall Double Pile Italianate** home in much of its original state.

PIN 20-06-100-005 (Previous site 1989) **L-Plan Italianate** home that is very massive. This has been added onto but needs closer inspection.

Grafton Township:

PIN 18-05-300-001(Previous site 1351) **Transverse Aisle corn crib** with diagonal slats. Closer inspection is needed to determine if it is also slant-sided (Not apparent from photograph angle).

PIN 18-07-200-003 (Previous site 1354) **Hexagonal corn crib** with diagonal slats that is in fairly good condition.

PIN 18-14-400-003 (Previous site 1845) **Broken Gable (Uneven ridge) chicken coop** in fairly good condition.

PIN 18-29-300-002 (Previous site 1370) **Brick silo** in good condition. Also has a former smokehouse on site made of brick.

PIN 18-30-400-016 (Previous site 1736) **Limestone Gothic Revival** house from the 1840's.

PIN 18-31-200-014 (Previous site 1594) **Italianate** home that has been added onto the rear, but the original portion has retained its integrity.

PIN 18-34-400-002 (Previous site 1819) **Greek Revival house** with all of its original details (six-over-six windows, cornice returns, front entry surround with transom and side-lights, and original porch). However, the original clapboard is currently covered with asbestos siding. This house could be restored. It even has a cobblestone foundation.

Nunda Township:

PIN 14-01-200-001 (Previous site 4723) **Stone cottage** that is described by the surveyor as a smokehouse. However, resident claims this to be the original house on the property. This needs further investigation.

PIN 14-09-100-001 (Previous site 2492) This **Italianate** is endangered due to encroaching subdivisions and will become part of McHenry. Much of its original features exist, but needs a little extra care.

PIN 14-10-451-002 (Previous site 4689) This **L-Plan house** has its original siding (in need of paint) and even a full Palladian window in the gable. This needs further inspection, but have potential.

PIN 14-17-402-007 (Previous site 2172) This **molded cement block garage** has excellent integrity and has more design elements than the normal garage. Its lintel is stamped with "1929 Kleinrath".

PIN 14-17-402-012 (Previous site 2170) This excellent **Greek Revival brick Upright and Wing** (with dual side wings, but both on the same side) belonged to the Holcomb family of Bull Valley (as in Holcombville school and Holcombville Cemetery).

PIN 14-18-402-002 (Previous site 4695) This **Dairy Gambrel barn** is in excellent condition with excellent integrity. It is very representative of the Dairy Gambrel style of barn.

PIN 14-22-126-010 (Previous site 4687) This **Queen Anne cottage** is in poor condition and is continually getting worse. To bad someone doesn't save this house.

PIN 14-29-153-015 (Previous site 2184) This **hipped roof garage** has a dormer and some original doors.

McHenry Township:

PIN 09-07-226-006 (Previous site 2421) This **small fieldstone building** needs further inspection. The survey notes listed it as an outhouse, but it may have been a smokehouse.

PIN 09-09-100-002 (Previous site 2197) This is a good representative **Transverse Frame barn** that is still in good condition.

PIN 09-14-300-003 (Previous site 2152) This **bungalow** is a good example of this style, excepting of course the asbestos siding that could be removed.

PIN 09-16-200-006 (Previous site 2082) This **Colonial Revival house** is one of the more grand rural houses. Although it needs restoration (asbestos removal), it still has all of its representative details including the original porch columns and the Palladian window.

PIN 09-16-200-008 (Previous site 2079) This **Queen Anne house** retains much of its features and details (gable and corner brackets ornamentation), but needs its asbestos removed to reveal it's true grandor. However, as this area is being developed for subdivisions, it will soon be demolished.

PIN 09-16-400-016 (Previous site 2078) This **Colonial Revival house** directly across the street from the previous site is also slated for demolition for subdivisions.

PIN 09-19-400-005 (Previous site 161) This **Queen Anne house** is in good condition with only minor alterations to the porches that could be restored.

PIN 09-22-426-001 (Previous site 2140) The Peterson farmstead has now been incorporated into the city of McHenry and given landmark designation. This is well deserved with its brick **Greek Revival house and wood stave silos**.

PIN 09-32-100-007 (Previous site 2273) This **oval masonry corn crib** in good condition is the only corn crib of this type in these four townships.

PIN 10-31-101-012 (Previous site 3329) This **I-House** has the highway encroaching onto it. Although the porch was altered, it has much of its original details.

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 20-06-100-005

1 of 3

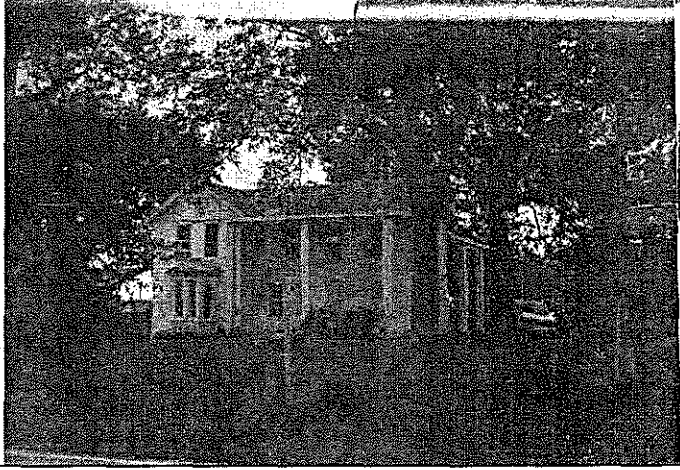
Location: 1916 Crystal Lake Avenue

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	"L" Plan	Italianate	Wrap around porch with columns Rear addition

Circa: 1880 - 1910	Condition: Fair	Integrity: Poor
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD									
Architect/Builder: Unknown	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Individual:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Farmstead:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">National Register:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Local:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Criteria:</td> <td>/14</td> <td colspan="2">(See reverse side of criteria listing)</td> </tr> </table>	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:	Local:	Criteria:	/14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)		
Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:	Local:							
Criteria:	/14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)								

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone Walls: Clapboard Roof: Asphalt shingle Porch: Front with columns	20 rooms Front half is the original, only the cement foundation of the barn remains Previous site = 1989



Roll No./Neg.No.: MM/16 Surveyed by: LM & KD Date: 7-28-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 19-25-100-011

1 of 6

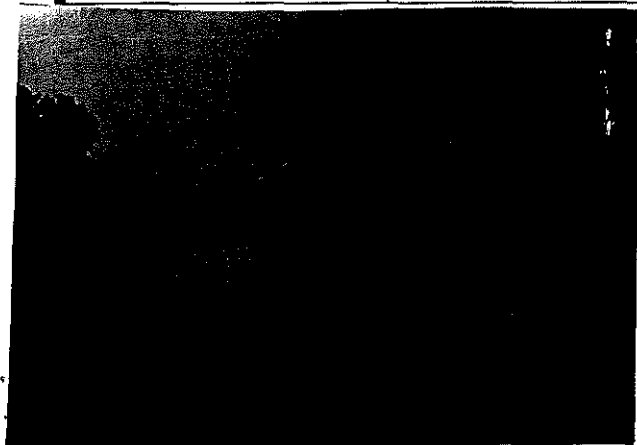
Location: No street address

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Central hall Double pile	Italianate	

Circa: 1860-1880	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
----------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	
Walls: Clapboard	
Roof: Asphalt shingle	
Porch: Open with original corner brackets and posts	
	Ornamental corbels in the eaves
	Previous site = 1955



Roll No./Neg.No.: NN/21

Surveyed by: LM&KD

Date: 8-22-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 18-05-300-001

7 of 7

Location: 12919 Hensel Road (south side)

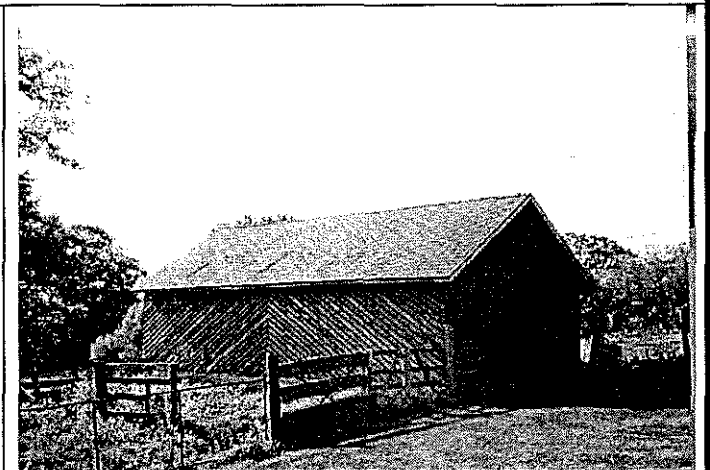
Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outbuilding Corn crib	Transverse aisle		

Circa: 1900 - 1930	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source:	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria:	/14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Concrete Walls: Diagonal vertical slats Roof: Asphalt shingles Porch:	Corn crib

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll no./Neg: GG/11 **Surveyed by:** KD **Date:** 7/27/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 18-07-200-003

4 of 5

Location: 13409 Hemmingson Rd.

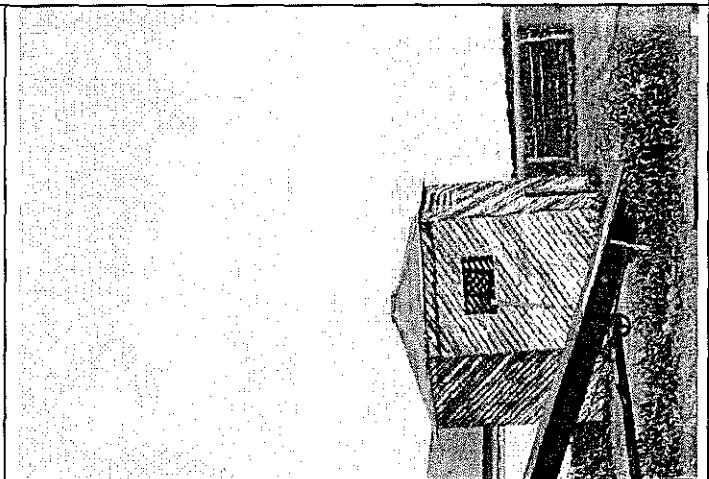
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outbuilding Corn crib	Hexagonal		

Circa:	Condition:	Integrity:
1900 - 1930	Good	Good

Source:	Landmark Evaluation:	TBD
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual: Farmstead	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: None Walls: Diagonal wood slats Roof: Asphalt sheets Porch:	

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: DD/19

Surveyed by: KD LM

Date: 7-29-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 18-14-400-003

7 of 8

Location: 9051 Ackman Road (south side)

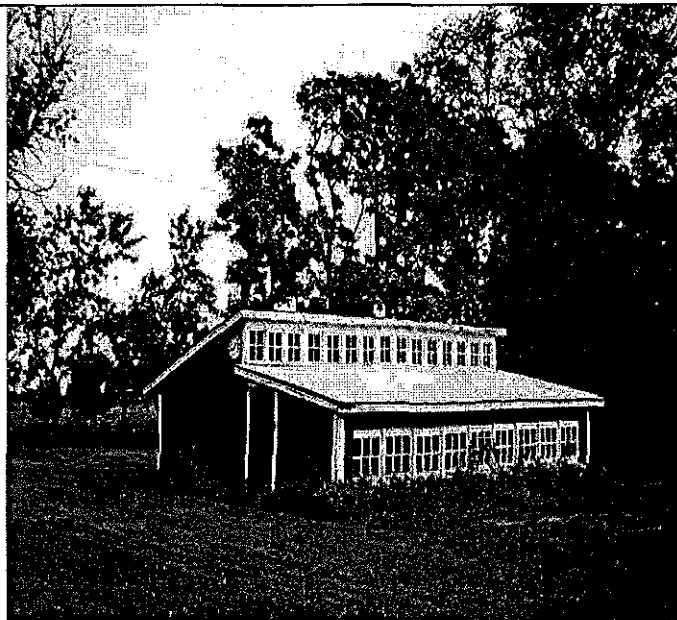
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outbuilding Chicken coop	Broken gable		

Circa: 1890-1920	Condition: Fair	Integrity: Good
----------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat Book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD	
Architect/Builder: unknown	Individual: Farmstead	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Concrete Walls: Beveled clapboard Roof: Metal Porch:	

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number 18-29-300-002 3 of 6

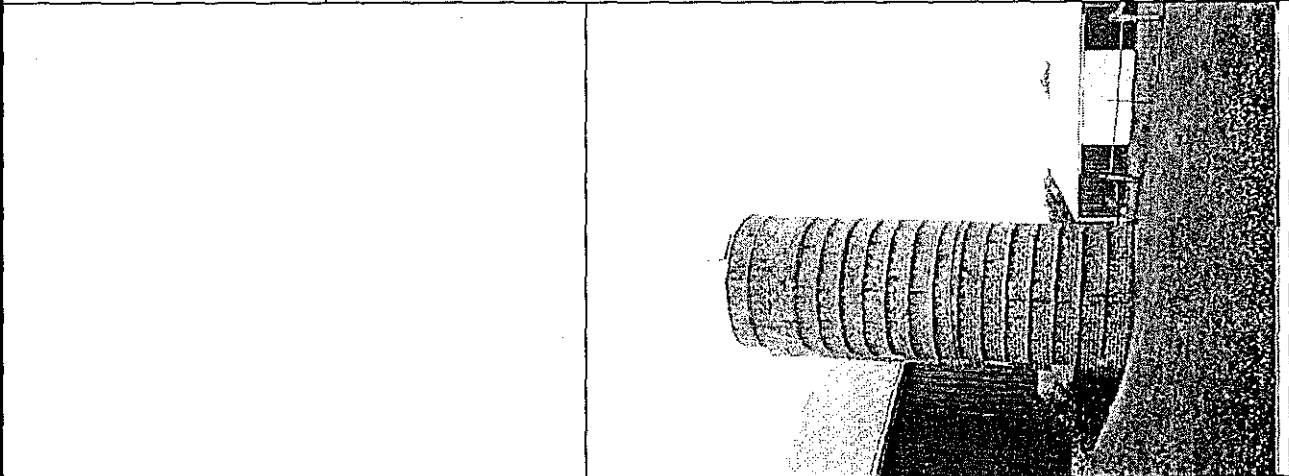
Location: 12914 W. Main Street Road (must be tax bill address)
 Marengo and Huntley Road (just east of Coyne Station Road)

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Silo			

Circa: 1890 - 1920	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual: Criteria:	Farmstead: /14	National Register: Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials: Foundation: Stone and concrete Walls: Brick Roof: Metal dome Porch:	HISTORY:
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Roll no./Neg: PA/3

Surveyed by: KA&LM

Date: 8/24/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number 18-30-400-016 1 of 3

Location: 11514 Hemmer Road (east side)

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Cross plan	Gothic revival	Replacement windows Addition for new entry

Circa: 1841 - 1850	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:
	Criteria:	/14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)
Local:			

Materials:	HISTORY:		
Foundation: Brick	"Prescott Whittemore House" circa 1841		
Walls: Limestone	Plaqued by McHenry County Historical Society		
Roof: Asphalt shingles	Lace edging along eaves – Carpenter Gothic features		
Porch:	Previous site = 1736		

additional
1998
views (2)
mounted
on back



Roll no./Neg. PP/18 & PP19 side & PP21 rear Surveyed by: LM & KD Date: 8/24/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number 18-31-200-014 1 of 8

Location: No street address

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Cental hall Double pile	Italianate	2 story gable addition to rear

Circa: 1860 - 1910	Condition: Excellent	Integrity: Good
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Source: 1872 Plat book 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	Original portion has excellent integrity
Walls: Clapboard	Original 2-over-2 windows and paired corbels in eaves
Roof: Asphalt shingle	
Porch: Front and side both open	Previous survey = site 1594



Roll no./Neg: PA/3

Surveyed by: KA&LM

Date: 8/24/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 18-34-400-002

1 of 5

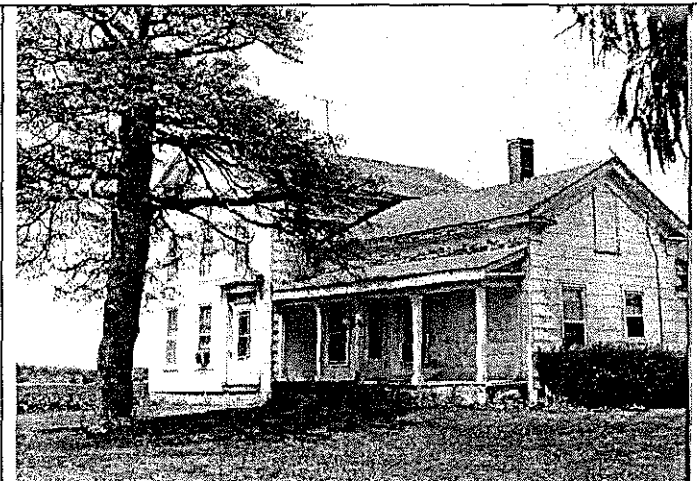
Location: 6616 Mensching Road

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Upright and wing	Greek revival	Major addition to rear

Circa: 1850 - 1865	Condition: Fair	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Small stone and cement line up in a pattern	Cidnet says is owned by Sun Valley, addition in rear, but character of house – has not been altered
Walls: Asbestos over clapboard	Newer metal pole building – also on property
Roof: Asphalt shingles	Still has its six-over-six windows, cornice returns, original square porch columns and front door surround
Porch: Front with columns	Also has cobblestone foundation
	Previous site = 1819



Roll no./Neg: EE/17 **Surveyed by:** KD & LM **Date:** 7/29/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-01-200-001

3 of 10

Location: 114 South River Rd (east side)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outbuilding Smokehouse	Gabled		New door and windows

Circa: 1860	Condition: Excellent	Integrity: Good
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Source: 1995 Sidwell Map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	Large stone chimney
Walls: Fieldstone	New brick inside hearth
Roof: Asphalt shingle	Owner suggests not a smokehouse but one of the original houses in land track grant
Porch:	



Roll No./Neg.No.: W29

Surveyed by: LM&KD

Date: 7-14-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-09-100-001

1 of 3

Location: 1207 S. Crystal Lake Rd (west side)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	<i>Central Hall</i>	Italianate	Major addition in rear

Circa: 1860 - 1880	Condition: Good	Integrity: Excellent
------------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: <i>n.a./Unknown</i>	Individual: Criteria:	Farmstead: <i>/14</i>	National Register: Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Poured Walls: Clapboard Roof: Asphalt shingle Porch: Front stoop	Unique shutters, green with cutout diamonds, moldings and front decorative piece (old attic window), peaked windows, addition has been converted to apartments. <i>Original two-over-two windows.</i> <i>Unique to this area</i> <i>for both it's excellent integrity & for this type of layout.</i> Previous site = 2492



McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-10-451-002

1 of 2

Location: 1909 Rt. 31 (west side)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	"L"-Plan		

Circa: 1880 - 1910	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1995 Sidwell Map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: n.a.	Individual: Criteria: /14	Farmstead:	National Register: Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Poured concrete	Linked with PIN: 14-10-300-002
Walls: Clapboard	Moldings around windows.
Roof: Asphalt shingle	Paladin window on end
Porch: Front with columns	<i>previous site = 4689</i>



Roll No./Neg.No.: AA22

Surveyed by: LM&KD

Date: 7-17-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-17-402-007

2 of 3

Location: 2605 Walkup Rd

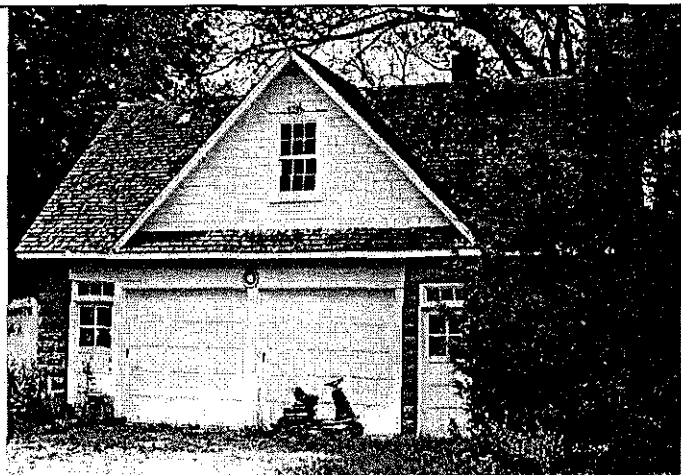
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Garage			Major addition

Circa: 1910 - 1930	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone and poured concrete	Lintel says "1929 Kleinrath"
Walls: Molded Block and wood shingles	Brick chimney 2 car garage
Roof: Wood shingle	Previous survey 2172
Porch:	

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: T34

Surveyed by: KD&LM

Date: 7-13-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-17-402-012

1 of 3

Location: 6517 Colonel Holcomb Drive

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Upright and wing	Greek revival	Middle section is replica of original

Circa: 1837	Condition: Good	Integrity: Excellent
-----------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	Previous survey says house dates from 1837
Walls: Brick	Owner of residence is the developer for surrounding subdivision
Roof: Asphalt shingle	<i>In very good condition</i>
Porch: Rear enclosed	Some alterations to middle section (new windows)
	Used to belong to the Holcomb family buried in close cemetery
	Previous site = 2170

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: U1 Surveyed by KD&LM Date: 7-12-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-18-402-002

2 of 4

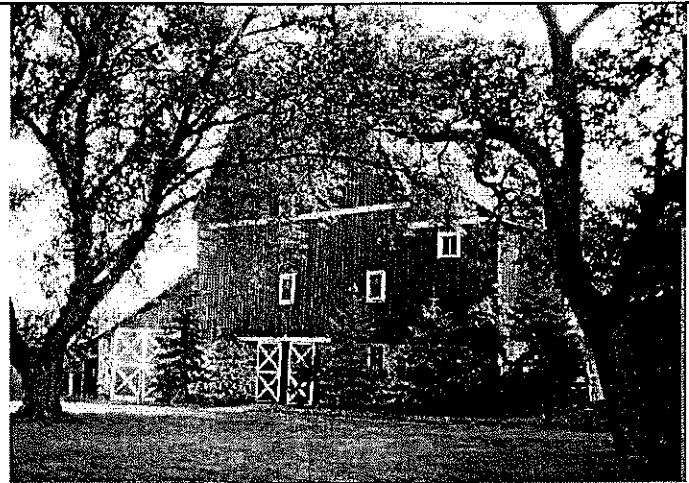
Location: 2612 Oak Ridge Rd (east side)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Barn	Dairy gambrel		

Circa: 1890-1910	Condition: Excellent	Integrity: Excellent
----------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------

Source: 1995 Sidwell maps	Landmark Evaluation:	TBD
Architect/Builder:	Individual: Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	Double vented
Walls: Vertical plank	Transverse aisle
Roof: Asphalt shingle	Ramped with extensions on sides
Porch:	



Roll No./Neg.No.: SS16

Surveyed by: LM

Date: 8-31-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-22-126-010

1 of 2

Location: 3109 Rt. 31 (west side)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	"T" Plan	Queen Anne	

Circa: 1890 - 1910	Condition: Poor	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD	
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual: Criteria:	Farmstead: /14
	National Register: Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Block	Is being demolished by abuse. In very bad shape.
Walls: Clapboard	
Roof: Asphalt shingle	
Porch:	
	Now home of "Greg's Auto Service." Decorative trellises and carved wood in eaves, central brick chimney.
	This one should have been saved, but might be in too bad of shape, much worse condition then when this photo was taken.
	Previous site = 4687



Roll No./Neg.No.: AA15

Surveyed by: KD

Date: 7-17-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 14-29-153-015

2 of 3

Location: 4516 Maine, corner of Hillside

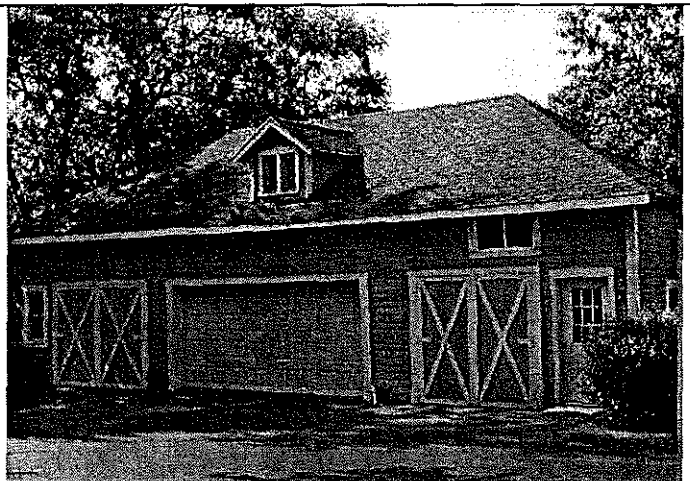
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outbuilding Garage			

Circa: 1920	Condition: Excellent	Integrity: Poor
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Source: 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD									
Architect/Builder: Unknown	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Individual:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Farmstead:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">National Register:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Local:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Criteria:</td> <td>/14</td> <td colspan="2">(See reverse side of criteria listing)</td> </tr> </table>	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:	Local:	Criteria:	/14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)		
Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:	Local:							
Criteria:	/14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)								

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Concrete Walls: Beveled clapboard Roof: Asphalt shingle Porch:	2 car garage with 2 sets of barn doors Hipped roof with dormer

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: V14 **Surveyed by:** LM&KD **Date:** 7-13-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 09-07-226-006

2 of 2

Location: 4918 Wonder Lake Rd (just south of church)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outhouse			

Circa: 1860 - 1880	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source:	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:
	Criteria: /14	Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY: Fieldstone Gable roof-thatch
Foundation:	
Walls: Fieldstone	
Roof: Thatch	
Porch:	

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: CL 6/2 **Surveyed by:** CL **Date:** 7-20-98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 09-09-100-002

2 of 5

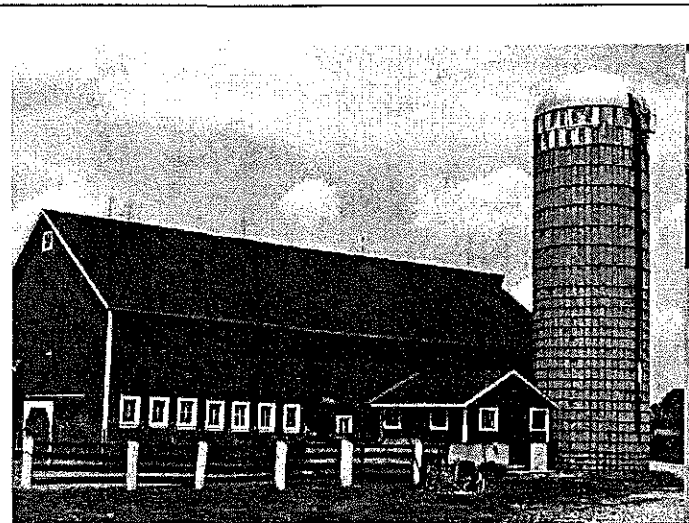
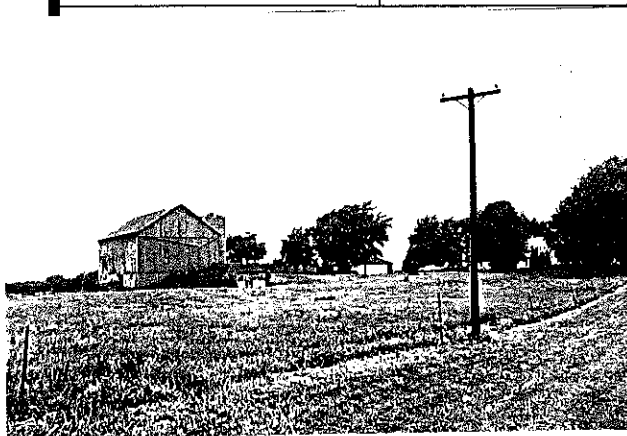
Location: 5516 Barnard Mill Road, Ringwood

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Outbuilding Barn, <i>Silo</i> & <i>milkhouse</i>	Transverse frame		

Circa: 1890-1910	Condition: Excellent	Integrity: Good
----------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------

Source: Architect/Builder: <i>Unknown</i>	Landmark Evaluation: Criteria: /14	TBD Individual: Farmstead National Register: Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)
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Materials: Foundation: Concrete Walls: Vertical Plank Roof: Asphalt shingles Porch:	HISTORY: Barn has "broken gable" extension at rear, gabled milk house Silo, staved with metal dome roof Main barn no vents on ceiling Previous site = 2197
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Roll No./Neg.No.: M/17

Surveyed by: KD/LM

Date: 06/23/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number

09-14-300-003

1 of 4

Location: 3303 Richmond Road, McHenry (Set way back off west side of Rt. 31)

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style	Alterations:
Residence	Bungalow		

Circa: 1910 - 1930	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1995 Sidwell	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:
	Criteria: /14	Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Block	Dormer with hipped roof & <i>tiny diamond windows on sides</i>
Walls: Asbestos	
Roof: Asphalt shingle	
Porch: Front with columns	
	Brick chimney
	Swayed extension over porch
	Previous survey site = 2152



McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number 09-16-200-006 1 of 7

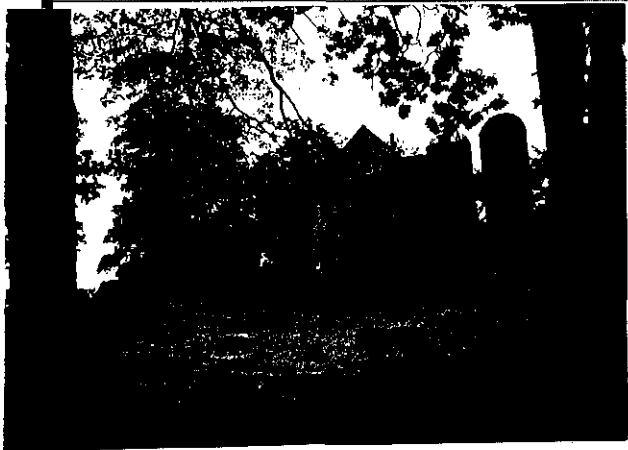
Location: 3916 Ringwood Road, Ringwood
 East side, Ringwood Road McHenry Twp.

Function:	Form:	Arch. Style	Alterations:
Residence	"L" Plan	Colonial revival	Some windows changed asbestos siding added

Circa: 1890-1910	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
----------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	Moldings over front door and 2 nd floor window in front
Walls: Asbestos	Main frame is a gable with ornamental overhang
Roof: Asphalt shingle	Arched decorative windows; very ornate moldings
Porch: TWO Porches with hipped roof and columns	Dormer windows on 3 rd floor and Paladion window in gable
	Decorative braces under roof overhang
	Decorative wood shingle remain on rear wall
	2 story bay forms a pseudo-turret shape
	Previous site = 2082



McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 09-16-300-008

1 of 5

Location: 3505 Ringwood Rd

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Cross plan	Queen Anne	

Circa: 1890-1910	Condition: Fair	Integrity: Good
----------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: John W. Smith	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	
Walls: Asbestos	
Roof: Wood shingle	
Porch: Open	

Covered side porch with trim

Tenant says that this farm and one across the street 09-16-400-016 are soon to knocked down.
Farm dates from 1840's.

Previous site = 2079



: LM Date: 6-3-98

← extra 1998 view

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number 09-16-400-016 1 of 5

Location: 3502 Ringwood
 SE corner, Ringwood & McCullom Lake Road McHenry Twp.

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style	Alterations:
Residence	Cross plan	Colonial revival	

Circa: 1900 - 1930	Condition: Good	Integrity: Poor
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Source: 1872 Plat Book 1995 Sidwell	Landmark Evaluation: TBD	
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual: Farmstead: National Register: Local:	
	Criteria: /14 (See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	From aerial, it appears that a large barn on eastern side of farmstead was removed. 2 ½ story residence; gambrel roof with intersecting gable Curved, columned, 2-sided porch Foundations of two demolished barns remain Previous site = 2078
Walls: Clapboard and asbestos	
Roof: Asphalt shingle	
Porch: Wrap around	



McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number 09-19-400-005 1 of 5

Location: 7204 Rt. 120, McHenry
North side

Function:	Vernacular:	Arch. Style	Alterations:
Residence	"T" Plan	Queen Anne	<i>Porch ornamentation removed</i>

Circa: 1890 - 1900	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

Source: 1995 Sidwell map	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	One end chimney
Walls: Clapboard	Impossible to get a clear picture because of huge trees
Roof: Asphalt shingle	Queen Anne style ornament on gables
Porch: <i>Redone</i>	<i>Previous survey = 161</i>



McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 09-22-426-001

1 of 8

Location: 4112 W. McCullom Lake Road (east of lake)

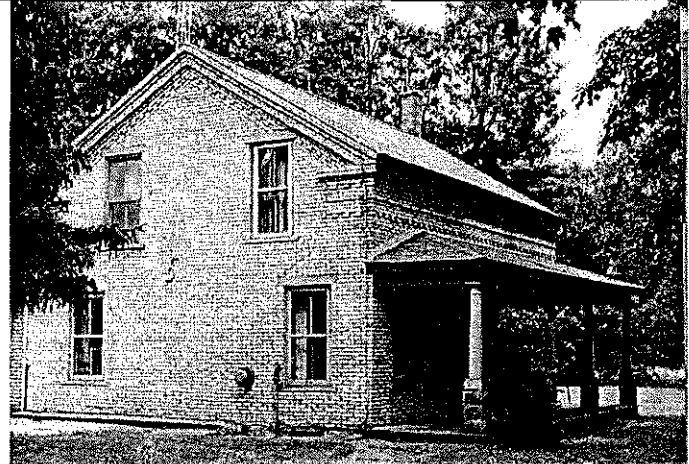
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	Side gable	Greek revival	Porch redone in 1930's

Circa: 1850	Condition: Good	Integrity: Good
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Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:
	Local:		
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	<p>HISTORY: <i>This has now been annexed into the City of McHenry</i> Decorative brickwork forms cornice returns and dentils This pin will be deleted to create 09-22-426-003, 004, and 005 House is 166 years old (known as the the Peterson Farmstead) 2 chimneys Dirt in basement Indian arrowhead found on the farm Stained glass windows (grapes are located in the home) Plank floor upstairs Original 6-over-6 windows replaced in 1870's with 2-over-2 windows This site is owned by the City of McHenry & has been plaqued with <i>preservation ordinance backing</i> Previous survey site = 2140</p>
Foundation:	
Stone	
Walls:	
Brick	
Roof:	
Asphalt shingle	
Porch:	
Hipped roof with columns	

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: J21

Surveyed by: KD&LM

Date: 6-22-99

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 09-22-426-001

3 of 8

Location: 4112 W. McCullom Lake Rd (east of lake)

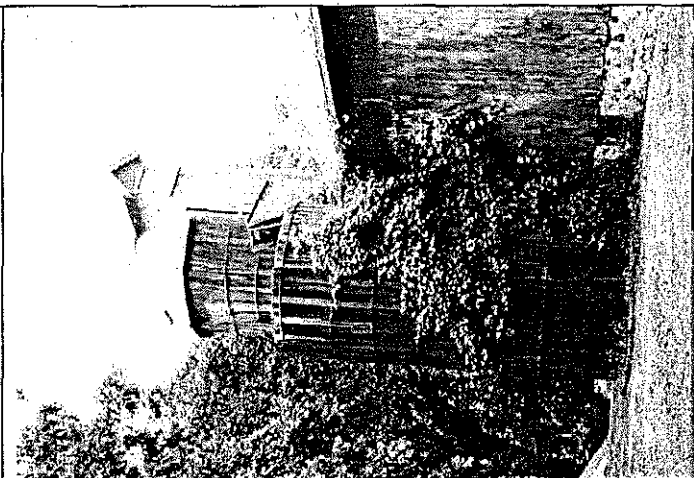
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Twin silos	Wooden staved		

Circa: 1875 - 1895	Condition: Fair	Integrity: Good
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Source:	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: Unknown	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register:
	Criteria: /14	Local: (See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Concrete	Wooden silo with windows
Walls: Wood staved	Tenant claims they are the only remaining wooden silos in county
Roof: Asphalt shingle	
Porch:	

Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: K2

Surveyed by: KD&LM

Date: 6-22-99

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 09-32-100-007

2 of 9

Location: 533 Draper Road

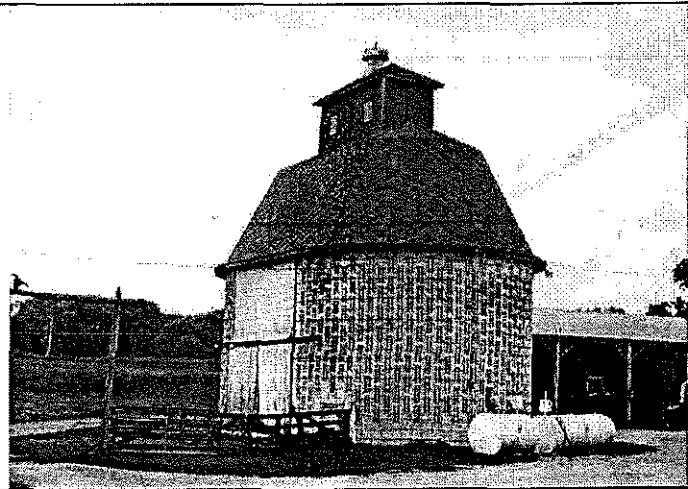
Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Corn Crib	Oval/6 sides		

Circa: 1880 - 1910	Condition: Excellent	Integrity: Good
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Source:	Landmark Evaluation:	TBD
Architect/Builder: <i>Unknown</i>	Individual: Farmstead: National Register: Local: Criteria: /14 (See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials: Foundation: Concrete Walls: <i>Masonry</i> Roof: Asphalt shingles Porch:	HISTORY: Ear corn crib, oats in bins in center, unique siding so wind can blow through, but not rain, lumber twists in spiral, rounded shape - oval.
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Site Plan
(not to scale) N



Roll No./Neg.No.: R/10 **Surveyed by:** LM/KD **Date:** 07/06/98

McHenry County Rural Historic Survey

Parcel Identification Number: 10-31-101-012

1 of 7

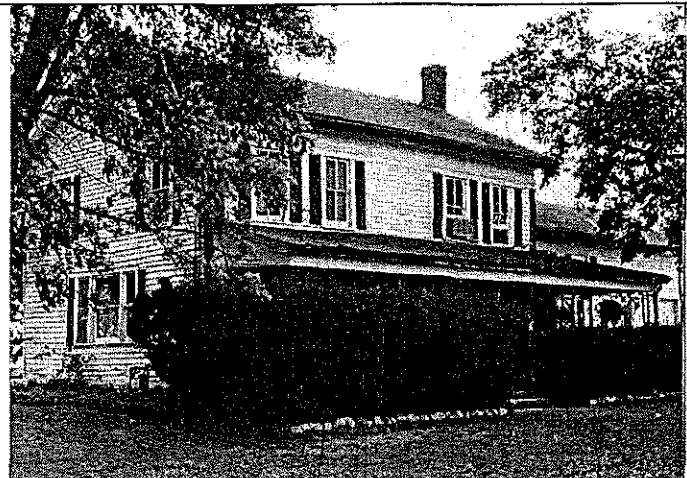
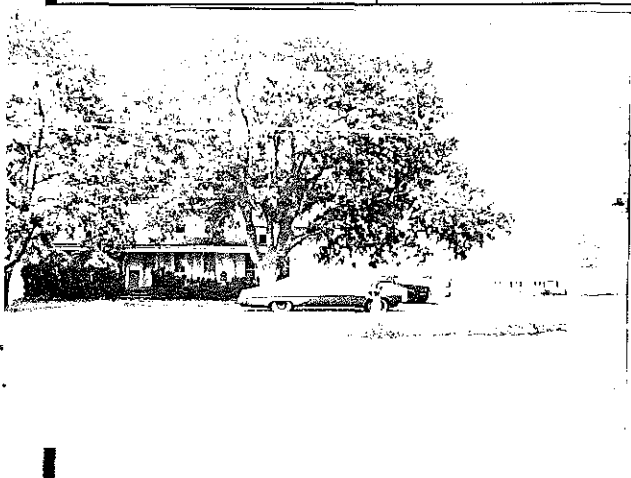
Location: 2014 Rt. 120 (north side)

Function:	Vernacular Type:	Arch. Style:	Alterations:
Residence	"T" House	<i>Greek Revival</i>	Major addition Front porch Lower windows changed

Circa: 1860 - 1880	Condition: Good	Integrity: Fair
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Source: 1872 Plat book	Landmark Evaluation: TBD		
Architect/Builder: <i>Unknown</i>	Individual:	Farmstead:	National Register: Local:
	Criteria: /14	(See reverse side of criteria listing)	

Materials:	HISTORY:
Foundation: Stone	Needs exterior work
Walls: Clapboard	Pilasters at corners
Roof: Asphalt shingle	2 stories, needs a paint job
Porch: <i>Bead board ceiling on porch, but posts & railings changed</i>	Porch needs new roof
	House across 120 used to be the workers quarters
	Previous site = 3329



Current and Future Status of the Project

It is impractical and unnecessary to provide all the descriptive information about every site. The Historic Preservation Commission as a whole needs to evaluate which sites are worthy of full investigation, and then provide information about past and present use and ownership of those sites. Included in this report is the county-wide Comprehensive Landmark List for all plaquing organizations in the county. From this comprehensive list, the Commission has identified potential landmarks. These are indicated at the end of the Comprehensive Landmark List and are also indicated on the Historic Landmark Map following the list. (Note that the 1872 Plat Book map and the map from the early 1900's for each township follow the Historic Landmark Map.

From this survey, it is evident that additional site inspection will be required as this list is revised. For the farmsteads that the Commission wishes to investigate, useful information will be gleaned from agricultural census reports as long as they bear in mind that agricultural census reports are notoriously inaccurate, especially during the nineteenth century. This information will supplement the survey observation section.

Data gaps have occurred to a small degree when site correlation could not be made to the previous site. However, by using the aerial photographs, farmsteads not able to be equated to their previous site were still surveyed. Previous sites that could not be found have in most cases been demolished. With the high growth of these townships few abandoned buildings remain very long without being burnt down (either by planned or unplanned means). In verifying the actual survey sheets, they are estimated to be at this point in time highly accurate.

Other data gaps have occurred by simply not having more information about each specific property. Although complete ownership lineage can only be determined through deed research and therefore not feasible for all sites, this could be done for individual significant sites. Additionally tax records and tax assessor data could be used to determine when some of the structures were built on a particular site. Also those sites where historic photographs or lithographs are available, could be compared to current structures to better determine their historic integrity.

While it is disappointing that this project was substantially delayed, the Commission regards this survey as a tool. It is not an end in itself; it is rather a means to an end. Aside from the now available data itself, this process has greatly increased each commissioner's knowledge not only of the particular structure typology used, but from the standpoint of what still remains out there in these four townships worthy of preservation. The degree of success of this project is certainly successful in content although unsuccessful in timeliness. From that aspect the Commission is satisfied that the survey even with the delays has provided them with valuable information with which to carry on its work.

Conclusion

Since 1990, McHenry County has experienced great growth in population and development pressures jeopardize historical properties and rural resources.

While it is unlikely that these four townships contain any sites suitable for the National Register, it is important to realize that historical significance is not limited to just the “big-name” items. What might be termed mundane often is what is most representative of the lives of the ordinary people, who greatly outnumber those people who have been endowed with historical greatness.

Humble homesteads often have a more lively connection with these ordinary people, because they actually used and touched these houses and barns and sheds as they went about their daily business and built the county. In that regard, the vernacular structures are representative of various aspects of local McHenry County history and representative examples are worthy of preservation prior to their total elimination from our landscape.

Just as the log home was once commonplace in rural McHenry County but now rare, the early settlement structures (Greek Revival houses, I-Houses and Three Bay barns, for example) are quickly being erased from our landscape. With the analysis tools of this survey, we can now know when a particular vernacular form of a structure is endangered, thus we as a commission will be able to be more pro-active with historic preservation in these townships.

Notes

1. Nancy L. Baker, *McHenry County Rural Historic Structures Survey, Survey Narrative* (McHenry County Department of Planning: Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 1987), 3.
2. *Ibid.*, 22; McHenry County Historic Preservation Study Committee, *McHenry County Historic Structure Survey: An Analysis* (McHenry County Department of Planning, 1985), 1; *McHenry County in the Twentieth Century 1968-1994* (McHenry County: McHenry County Historical Society and Heart Publications, Inc., 1994), 2223.
3. *MCHP Study Committee*, 1.
4. *McHenry County Historic Preservation Plan: County History* (McHenry County Department of Planning, 1991), 1.
5. *Ibid.*
6. *Ibid.*
7. *Ibid.*, 2.
8. *Ibid.*, 1.
9. *Ibid.*, 2.
10. *History of McHenry County Illinois*, Vol. I (Chicago: Munsell Publishing Co., 1922), 197; Lowell Albert Nye, ed., *McHenry County Illinois 1932-1968* (Woodstock: McHenry County Board of Supervisors, 1968), 55.
11. Baker, 2.
12. *Ibid.*, 1-2.
13. *History of McHenry County*, Vol. I., 223-24.
14. *Ibid.*, 218-219.
15. Nye, 55.
16. *Ibid.*, 56; *History of McHenry County*, Vol. I, 220, 222, 223.
17. *McHenry County in the Twentieth Century*, 1968-1994, 94-95, 105.
18. *History of McHenry County* Vol. I, 198.
19. Nye, 55.
20. *Ibid.*, 103.
21. *Ibid.*, 176.
22. *Ibid.*, 55.
23. *Northwest Herald*, Real Estate Advertisements, 1999, *passim*.
24. Nye, 79, 124, 163.

25. *McHenry County in the Twentieth Century, 1968-1994*, 14.
26. *Ibid.*; Baker, 19.
27. *History of McHenry County*, Vol. I, 358-59; Nye, 225, 362.
28. *History of McHenry County*, Vol. I, 397; Nye, 226, 607-8.
29. *History of McHenry County*, Vol. I, 433; Nye, 222.
30. Baker, 15-17.
31. *Ibid.*, 13-15; Nye, 93-96.
32. *History of McHenry County*, Vol. I, 442; Nye, 227-8, 773.
33. Baker, 17.
34. *Ibid.*, 11-12; Stephen C. Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* (Columbus, Ohio: Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992), *passim*.
35. John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer, *Common Houses in America's Small Towns* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1989), 140; Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990), 438-40; Alice Novak Edwards and Karen Lang Kummer, *The Architectural.Historic Resources of Quincy's Northwest Neighborhood. Survey Report: Phase Two* (Quincy Preservation Commission, 1996), 49.
36. Baker, 8-10; Gordon, *passim*.
37. Baker, 10.
38. Anne McGuire and Associates, *Orland Rural History Survey* (Village of Orland Park: 1995), 36-37.
39. *Ibid.*, Baker, 11.
40. Baker, 35-39.

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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815/334-4560 FAX# 815/337-3720

June 1, 1998

To Whom It May Concern:

Interns will be conducting a survey of historic structures in *unincorporated* McHenry, Nunda, Algonquin and Grafton Townships this summer. This project was initiated by the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission and funded by grant money from the Illinois State Preservation Agency. This work updates the previous 1986 survey. Photographs will be taken of each building built before 1945. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, or wish to verify this project, please contact Maryanne Wanaski at the above address or phone number.

Thank you.

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission
Rural Structures Survey
1998–1999

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