



**Rural Historic Structural Survey
of
Frankfort Township
Will County, Illinois**

December 2007

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

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Executive Summary

At the request of the Will County Land Use Department, acting as liaison for the Will County Historic Preservation Commission, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) has prepared this summary report of the 2005–2007 intensive survey of farmsteads in Frankfort Township in Will County, Illinois. The survey included thirty-six square miles with 74 farmsteads and related sites containing more than 310 individual structures.

The earliest settlers of European descent established homesteads in Frankfort Township beginning in the early 1830s. Intensive agricultural settlement began in the later 1830s and early 1840s. Settlement increased following the construction of the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad in 1852 and the Michigan Central Railroad's Joliet Cut-off in 1855. Two villages were established along the railroad, Mokena and Frankfort. The railroads connected farmers in Frankfort Township more directly to markets in Chicago and allowed manufactured goods to be shipped into the township. Contemporary suburban residential development began in the township along the Lincoln Highway (present-day U.S. Route 30) in the 1930s. With the construction of interstate highways in the 1960s, suburban residential development accelerated in Frankfort Township. By 2000, much of the township had been incorporated into the villages of Mokena, Frankfort, Orland Park, and Tinley Park.

Of the 74 farmsteads identified in the current survey, one site has already been listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the McGovney–Yunker Farmstead in Mokena. Six sites have the potential to be considered for Will County Historic Landmark designation or listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as additional noteworthy sites that are excluded from consideration as part of this study since they are located within the incorporated limits of the Village of Frankfort or the Village of Mokena. In some cases, the eligibility of the site would be enhanced if certain historic features were restored or non-historic cladding materials such as vinyl siding were removed. Other sites have either been designated Contributing, which means in the context of this report that they retain their overall character as historically agricultural sites but lack individual distinction; or Non-contributing, which indicates that the site lacks sufficient integrity to present the theme of agricultural history in the survey region. Due to the extent of suburban development in the township, no potential historic districts have been identified as part of the present survey.

The Frankfort Township intensive survey was performed to update the previous survey of the township performed in 1988. In the previous survey, 98 farmsteads and related sites were identified in Frankfort Township, containing at least 500 structures. Because of the rapid pace of contemporary development in Will County since 1988, the Will County Historic Preservation Commission recognized the need to reassess the agricultural heritage of the region. WJE has previously completed six intensive survey projects covering Wheatland–Plainfield–Lockport, DuPage, Homer, New Lenox, Green Garden, and Manhattan Townships. Copies of the previous survey reports were provided to public libraries in the area. Cumulatively, the surveys have documented more than 3,750 structures on more than 850 sites over 324 square miles of Will County. Performing a separate survey for each township has allowed more detailed information to be collected, such as individual photographs of each historic structure, an assessment of current conditions, and preparation of site sketch plans. With the permission of property owners, the survey work was performed with close-up access to the buildings, which allowed for close range photography and a reliable identification of building materials. The survey data was compiled and analyzed using database software and geographic information system (GIS) software.

In this report, Chapter 1 contains a description of the project methodology. Chapters 2 and 3 provide the historical and architectural context within which the surveyed farmsteads were established, grew, were reconfigured, and in some cases were abandoned. Chapter 2 covers the historical context of Will County

agriculture, as well as the historical development of Frankfort Township. Chapter 3 discusses the architectural context of the rural survey area. Chapter 4 summarizes the survey results and includes a discussion of the National Register and Will County criteria for designation of historical and architectural significance. Also in Chapter 4 are several tabulations of the survey results and an overview of a select number of historically and/or architecturally significant farmsteads. A bibliography of research sources follows the text. Appendices include historic and contemporary plat maps for Frankfort Township, and maps developed for this report to present the results of the survey and research.

CHAPTER 1

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

Background

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

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

Survey Methodology

Survey Team

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

Background Research

Work on the rural survey began in October 2005. Background research was performed at the State of Illinois Library in Springfield, the University of Illinois Libraries, the Joliet Public Library, the Frankfort Public Library, and the Mokena Public Library. In addition, extensive historic research materials compiled for previous Will County rural survey reports were available.

Field Survey

A project initiation meeting was held to discuss the project approach and scope. An initial reconnaissance survey was performed in October 2005 to identify existing farmstead sites. At that time, abandoned farmsteads or farmsteads where demolition was threatened were surveyed to an intensive level. Late in 2005, it was decided to focus on Manhattan Township and complete Frankfort Township at a later date. Intensive field survey work was performed from October 2006 through April 2007. The survey team first approached the primary residence on the site to request permission of the homeowner/tenant to conduct the survey on the farmstead site. At sites where no one was home, or where owner permission was not provided, the site was surveyed from the public right-of-way. Typically each structure on the site was photographed individually using a digital camera. A sketch plan of the farmstead was prepared. Written notes for each building included a listing of exterior materials, overall condition, and estimated decade of construction based on structural type and style. Any history information provided by the owner, such as dates of construction or names of original owners, was also noted.

Database and Base Map Preparation

Mapping for the survey was prepared using ArcGIS.¹ Baseline mapping showing roads, railways, streams, township boundaries, etc., as well as 2005 aerial photography of the survey area, was downloaded from the Illinois Natural Resources Geospatial Data Clearinghouse internet site.² Individual points were added to the baseline map at the location of each farmstead site surveyed. Each point represents a particular record in the Microsoft Access database. The database contains all field survey information; historical information specific to each property, such as names of previous owners based on historic atlases and plat maps; and the assessment of historic significance. On the database forms, the “notes” field typically contains other miscellaneous observations of the project team from the field work. Occasionally, this field contains verbal information for the resident or another source; these are so noted.

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

Presentations

A presentation of the draft survey results was made to the Will County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) on 5 September 2007. The final summary report incorporates comments provided by the HPC members and Will County staff.

Report and Submittals

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

Survey Gaps and Future Research

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

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

¹ ArcGIS is one brand of GIS software. GIS stands for geographic information system, a computerized methodology for organizing data geographically.

² <<http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/nsdihome/>>

CHAPTER 2

CONTEXT HISTORY OF THE RURAL SURVEY AREA

Geologic and Topographic Background to the Illinois Region

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

A significant feature left by the advance and retreat of glaciers in the northeast corner of the state are glacial moraines—low mounds several miles long left by the furthest advance of glaciers in the Wisconsinan period. Frankfort Township lies almost entirely within one of the most pronounced moraines, the Valparaiso Morainic System. Frankfort Township lies primarily in the Clarendon, Westmont, Keeneyville, and Wheaton Moraines of this system.

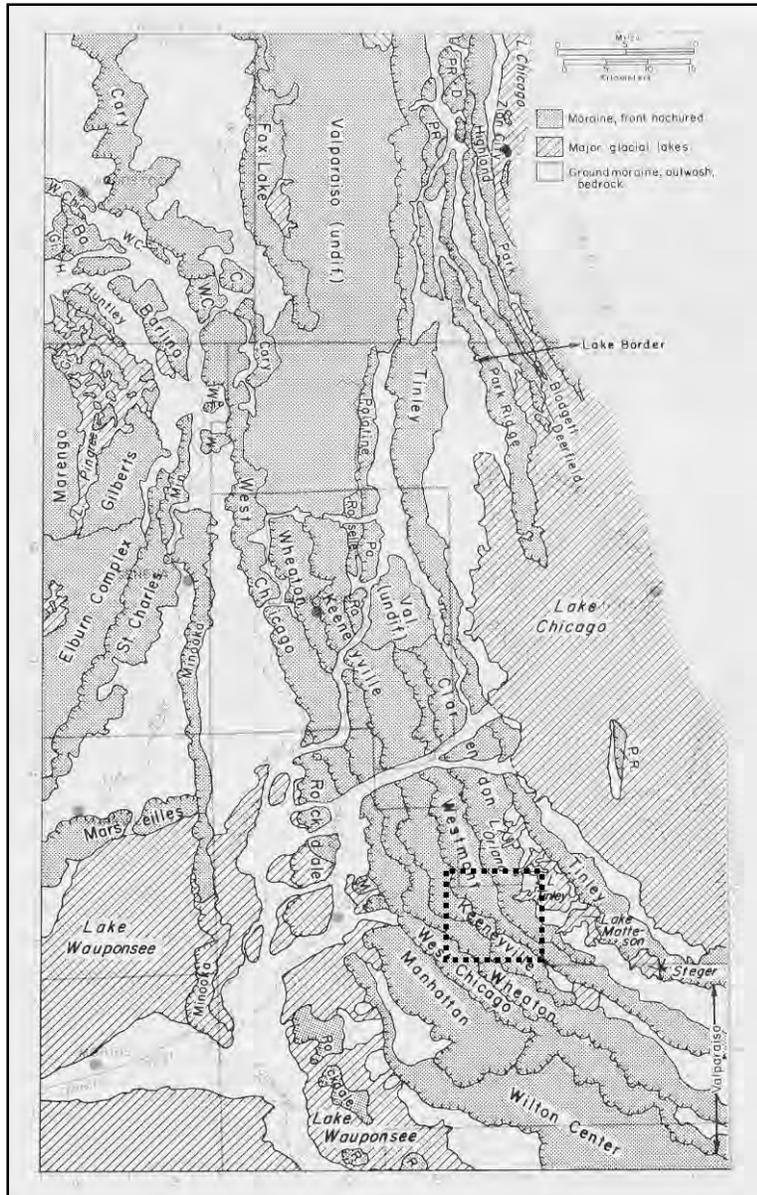
Frankfort Township is primarily drained by Hickory Creek, which flows generally from east to west, and its various tributary streams. Hickory Creek arises just east of the township in Cook County, and flows northwest from section 36 to section 15, from which it flows almost due west. The northeastern part of the township is drained by Union Ditch, which also arises just beyond the borders of the township in Cook County and flows southwest from section 1 to section 15, where it joins Hickory Creek. Hickory Creek flows into the Des Plaines River in the city of Joliet. The Hickory Creek valley is the defining geographic feature of the township. The earliest settlements in the township occurred near stands of timber along Hickory Creek, and the creek supported several mills early in the development of the township. Today, Hickory Creek is bordered by forest preserve land and forms a natural border between the villages of Mokena and Frankfort.

The northwest corner of the township is drained by an unnamed stream that arises in section 3 and flows due west to join Marley Creek in New Lenox Township. The southwest corner of the township is drained by Jackson Creek, which arises in section 33. Jackson Creek flows southwest, joining the Kankakee River just upstream of the meeting point of the Kankakee and Des Plaines Rivers, the start of the Illinois River.

The last ice sheets in this area began to retreat approximately 13,500 years ago. The retreating and melting glaciers continued to impact the area for a few more thousand years, as the outflow deposited sand and gravel.

First Nations in the Illinois Region

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



Illustrated above are the moraine systems in northeastern Illinois. Frankfort Township lies primarily in the Clarendon, Westmont, Keeneyville, and Wheaton Moraines of the Valparaiso Morainic System. (H.B. Willman, Summary of the Geology of the Chicago Area, Illinois State Geological Survey Circular 460 (Urbana, Illinois, 1971), 43.)

The first signs of specific colonization date from the Archaic Period, prior to 1000 B.C., when deer hunting and wild plant gathering supported a dispersed population. As climatic conditions changed over the next several thousand years, populations tended to concentrate near river floodplains and adjacent areas. In the Woodland Period (1000 B.C. to A.D. 1000), crude grit-tempered pottery appeared in northeastern Illinois. The end of this period saw the advent of large fortified towns with platform mounds, such as the community at Cahokia located east of St. Louis. Further north, villages in the upper Illinois River Valley lacked large platform mounds.³ It was also a period of a widespread trading network known

³ Several Woodland sites are present in the river valleys of the Des Plaines and Du Page Rivers. (John Doershuk, *Plenemuk Mound and the Archaeology of Will County*, Illinois Cultural Resource Study No. 3 (Springfield, Illinois: Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 1988), 11–14).

to modern anthropology as the Hopewell Interaction Sphere. The villages of this period were typically located on valley bottom lands, close to river transportation. Agricultural development included cultivation of floodplain lands; by A.D. 650 maize was being grown in the Illinois River valley.⁴

The time span between A.D. 1000 and the coming of European explorers and settlers is known as the Mississippian Period. Northeast Illinois was at the fringe of the larger Middle Mississippi culture present in central and southern Illinois. At the beginning of this period, the communities of large fortified towns and ceremonial platform mounds reached their zenith. Among these sites in northeastern Illinois is the Fisher site in Will County, located in Channahon Township, and the Hollstein habitation site in section 17 of Frankfort Township.

The Arrival of European Settlers

French Explorers and Settlers in the Illinois Territory

By the time of the French explorations of the seventeenth century, the native inhabitants of Illinois as a group belonged to the Algonquian linguistic family, closely related to the Chippewa. The specific tribes in the northeast Illinois region included the Miami (located on sites near the Calumet River, the juncture of the Des Plaines and Kankakee Rivers, and the Fox River) and the Illinois (present throughout the rest of modern-day Illinois). “Illinois” was a native word signifying “men” or “people.”⁵ By the early to mid-1700s, the Potawatomi moved into the area from the region of Michigan and northern Wisconsin.

In 1673, the expedition of Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet traveled primarily along the Mississippi River and up the Illinois River to the region of Cook and Will Counties.⁶ This expedition claimed the region for France. In 1678, an expedition led by Robert de La Salle with Henry Tonti and Father Hennepin explored the region along the Mississippi River and adjacent territory on behalf of France. A Jesuit mission was established at Chicago in 1696 by Father Pierre Pinet, but it failed to last more than a year. As time progressed the French centered their principal activities in the middle Mississippi valley, focusing on Fort de Chartres near Kaskaskia and its connections with Québec via the Ohio, Maumee, and Wabash Rivers and the Great Lakes, well to the south and east of the upper Illinois valley.

During this period, the Native Americans were undergoing migrations, often leading to conflict among the various tribes. The Sauk, Fox, Kickapoo, and Potawatomi displaced the Miami and Illinois in the Chicago region. The Potawatomi, followed by the Sauk and the Fox, were the predominant peoples in the northeastern Illinois by the later 1700s. Also present in the region were the Winnebago and the Shawnee.⁷

⁴ James E. Davis, *Frontier Illinois* (Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1998), 25. “The Late Woodland is a period of increasing dependence on corn agriculture, although northeastern Illinois groups appear less corn-dependent than do central and lower Illinois River valley peoples.” (Doershuk, *Plenemuk Mound and the Archaeology of Will County*, 13–14.)

⁵ John R. Swanton, *The Indian Tribes of North America* (1952, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin Number 145; reprint, Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1969), 241.

⁶ Louis Jolliet was born at Beauport, near Québec, in September 1645. He began to study at the Jesuit College of Québec in 1655 and in 1662 he received minor religious orders from Bishop Laval. After leaving the seminary and becoming a fur trader, he gained proficiency in surveying and mapmaking. Jolliet was chosen by the government of France to be a member of a delegation meeting with the chieftains of the Indian tribes assembled at Sault Sainte Marie in 1671. Beginning the next year, Jolliet led an expedition down the Mississippi, during which he traveled up the Illinois and Des Plaines Rivers. During this expedition he surmised that digging a canal to connect the waterways in this region would allow transportation from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. The Illinois and Michigan Canal constructed in the 1830s and 1840s was the realization of this route.

⁷ Jean L. Herath, *Indians and Pioneers: A Prelude to Plainfield, Illinois* (Hinckley, Illinois: The Hinckley Review, 1975), 20–21.

French colonial settlers in the southern and central portions of Illinois brought with them traditional agricultural practices from northern France, including open-field plowlands divided into longlots, and communal pasturing areas.⁸ However, unlike labor practices in France, colonial settlers utilized African slaves. By the middle of the eighteenth century, black slaves comprised one-third of the region's population.

Early settlements founded as missions and fur trading posts, such as Cahokia and Kaskaskia, developed into the core of agricultural communities.⁹ French colonial farms produced wheat for human consumption and maize as feed for hogs. A staple of the settlers' diet was wheat bread. Livestock for use as dairy production, meat consumption, and draft animals were also present on the region's farms. The open field agriculture system continued in use beyond the era of French domination, and ended only with the influx of settlers from the east coast after 1800.¹⁰

Illinois in the English Colonial Period and Revolutionary War

Land ownership was not an original right when the Virginia Company settled Jamestown in 1607. The company owned the land and paid its employees for their labor in food and supplies out of a common storehouse, limiting their motivation to farm. After a period of starvation that nearly wiped out the settlement, the company gave each employee an incentive of a three-acre garden, which led to regular land distribution consisting of a 50 acre "headright."¹¹

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

Land Division and Distribution in the New Nation

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

⁸ Carl J. Ekberg, *French Roots in the Illinois Country: The Mississippi Frontier in Colonial Times* (Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1998), 2–3. "Longlots" are, as the name implies, long narrow plots of cultivated land that developed because of the difficulty for plowing teams to turn around. Forms of longlots date back to ancient Mesopotamia; French colonial forms developed from Medieval European models. The longlots in Illinois typically had length to width ratios of 10 to 1.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 33.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 173–251.

¹¹ John Opie, *The Law of the Land: Two Hundred Years of Farm Policy* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1994), 19.

are spaced at six mile intervals between the meridians and base lines. Range Lines defined territories known as townships.¹²

On 20 May 1785, Congress adopted this system as the Land Survey Ordinance of 1785. (Eventually, frontier settlers west of Pennsylvania and north of Texas could walk up to a plat map on the wall of a regional land office and select a one quarter section property for farming, which was thought to be sufficient to sustain individual farmers.¹³) In 1787, after about twenty months of surveying work, the first national public land sales occurred, consisting of 72,934 acres with \$117,108.22 in revenue.¹⁴ Also in that year, the Ordinance of 1787 organized the Northwest Territory, including what would become Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

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

Development of the Northwest Territory

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

At this time, the Native American tribe leader Tecumseh organized the tribes of the Northwest Territory against European settlers. Although defeated in the Battle of Tippecanoe of 1811, Tecumseh remained active throughout the War of 1812 and aided British forces in capturing many European-settled areas. These reverted to American control at the end of the war. A series of treaties with Native American populations influenced the future of northeast Illinois. In 1795, a peace treaty with Native Americans included the ceding of “one piece of land, six miles square, at the mouth of the Chicago River, emptying into the southwest end of Lake Michigan, where a fort formerly stood.”¹⁵ It was on this land that Fort Dearborn was established in 1803, where a settlement of French traders and their Native American wives developed. The site grew initially from the fur trade, and despite the Fort Dearborn Massacre of 1812, more settlers came to the area.

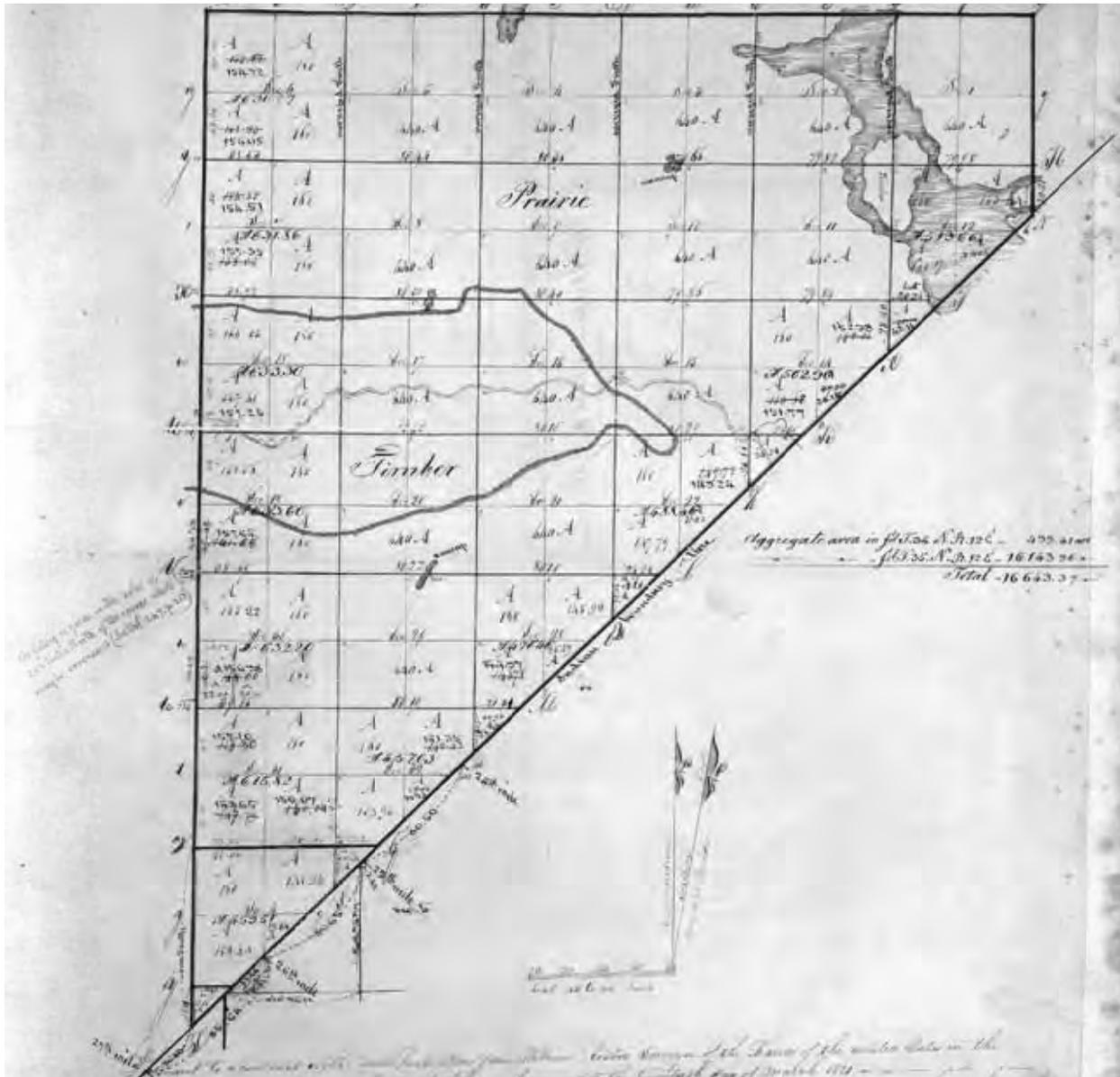
¹² Townships were the largest subdivision of land platted by the United States. After the township corners were located, the section and quarter section corners were established. Each township was six miles square and contained 23,040 acres, or 36 square miles, as nearly as possible to fit specific geographic conditions such as lakes and rivers, political boundaries such as state boundaries, as well as survey errors. Each township, unless irregular in shape due to the factors cited above, was divided into 36 squares called sections. These sections were intended to be one mile, or 320 rods, square and contain 640 acres of land. Sections were numbered consecutively from 1 to 36, utilizing the same criss-cross numbering pattern on each section regardless of national location or actual township configuration. Sections were subdivided into various smaller parcels for individual farms. A half section contains 320 acres; a quarter section contains 160 acres; half of a quarter contains 80 acres, and quarter of a quarter contains 40 acres, and so on. Today, legal descriptions of real estate continue to describe parcels according to the portion of the section within which they are located.

¹³ Opie, *The Law of the Land*, 10.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 15.

¹⁵ As quoted by A.T. Andreas in his *History of Chicago, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time* (Chicago: A.T. Andreas, 1884), 79.

Cutting across the western half of the region later known as Will County was a land corridor ceded by the Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa in a treaty signed in St. Louis on 24 August 1816. The corridor, defined by the cartographic features now known as the Indian Boundary Lines (and still present on many maps of the area), was meant to allow European settlers access to Lake Michigan for the construction of a waterway (later developed as the Illinois and Michigan Canal). The corridor was physically surveyed by James M. Duncan and T.C. Sullivan in 1819; its southern boundary was defined by a line drawn from a point on the shore of Lake Michigan ten miles south of the Chicago River, to a point on the Kankakee River ten miles north of its mouth.¹⁶ Frankfort Township is bisected by the southern Indian Boundary Line, which crosses the township diagonally from section 12 to section 32, and passes through the center of the Village of Frankfort.



The first plat of survey for Frankfort Township, dated 1829, which included the land north of the Indian Boundary Line. The land south of the Indian Boundary Line was officially open for European settlement after the 1833 treaty between the United States and the Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa tribes. Refer also to the plat maps in Appendix A.

¹⁶ *Will County Property Owners, 1842* (Joliet, Illinois: Will County Historical Society, 1973), 1.

Illinois Statehood

The United States Congress passed an enabling act on 18 April 1818 admitting Illinois as the twenty-first state as of 3 December 1818. A bill had passed Congress in early 1818 moving the northern boundary northward to include the mouth of the Chicago River within the Illinois Territory.¹⁷ The statehood act was approved despite the fact that the population of the state was only 40,258 persons, less than the 60,000 persons required by the Ordinance of 1787. The state capital was established first at Kaskaskia and moved to Vandalia two years later. Much of the land in the state was the property of the United States government. Early sales offices were located at Kaskaskia, Shawneetown, and Vincennes. Until the financial panic of 1819, there was an initial rush of sales and settlement at the southern end of the state where navigable streams and the only road system were located.¹⁸

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

The early 1830s saw the greatest land boom to that date in American history. Land sales gradually came under the control of the General Land Office as the survey moved westward. In 1834 and 1835 alone, twenty-eight million acres were shifted from closed to open land for purchase. Two years later the Van Buren administration placed an enormous 56,686,000 acres on the market. These lands were located in some of the most fertile farming regions of the nation: Illinois, Iowa, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Missouri.¹⁹ The building of the Illinois and Michigan Canal in the later 1830s and 1840s (discussed in Chapter 2) led to a land boom in Chicago, which had been platted in 1830 and incorporated in 1833.²⁰ The rate of growth in northern Illinois soon matched and then surpassed that in the southern portion of the state.

Settlement and Development of Northeast Illinois

By 1826, more European settlers began to move to the northeast Illinois region, so that by 1831 a few hamlets were present between LaSalle and Chicago. Also present in the region was a tribe of nearly 1,000 Potawatomi in the area along the Du Page River south of what would become Plainfield.²¹ At the beginning of the Black Hawk War in 1832 the largest settlement north of the Illinois River (except for Chicago) was on Bureau Creek, where there were about thirty families. A few other settlers had located along the river at Peru and LaSalle, and at Ottawa. At Walker's Grove or Plainfield, there were twelve or

¹⁷ The northern boundary of the Illinois Territory was on an east-west line from the southern line of Lake Michigan. In order to give the future state a portage on Lake Michigan, the boundary line was moved ten miles north of the initial boundary. The Congressional legislation was amended before passage, moving the future state's northern boundary a total of fifty-one miles north. This gave the region more potential economic security as well as less potential for the area to align politically with the slave states of the South.

¹⁸ Olin Dee Morrison, *Prairie State, A History: Social, Political, Economical* (Athens, Ohio: E. M. Morrison, 1960), 24–25.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 51.

²⁰ Between 1840 and 1860 the population of Chicago increased from 4,470 to nearly 100,000, growth tied to the economic boom resulting from the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. By 1890, Chicago's population was more than 1,000,000 persons (Harry Hansen, ed., *Illinois: A Descriptive and Historical Guide* (New York: Hastings House Publishers, 1974), 176–83).

²¹ Herath, 21.

fifteen families.²² Along the Du Page River, partially located in the region that would become Will County in 1836, there were about twenty families. In Yankee settlements, which embraced part of the towns of Homer, Lockport and New Lenox, there were twenty or twenty-five families. Along the Hickory in the town of New Lenox, including the Zarley settlement in Joliet Township, there were approximately twenty more families, and at the Reed's and Jackson Grove there were six or eight more.²³

In 1832, a band of Sauk Indians led by Black Sparrow Hawk resisted their deportation by European settlers from their ancestral lands. Although most of the fighting occurred in the Rock River area in Northwest Illinois and southern Wisconsin, an Indian panic swept through Will County settlements. The settlers in Walker's Grove together with about twenty-five fugitives from the Fox River area hurriedly constructed a stockade from the logs of Stephen Begg's pigpen, outbuildings, and fences ("Fort Beggs"). The prospect of engaging Indians in pitched battle from the confines of "Fort Beggs" prompted the settlers to leave the makeshift stockade in favor of Fort Dearborn in Chicago. Meanwhile homesteaders in the eastern Will County area gathered at the Gougar homestead and decided to flee to Indiana.²⁴

Also in 1832, northwest Will County was the scene of an epidemic of smallpox among the Potawatomi, inflicting a mortality rate at least twice that of European settlers. Approximately one-third of the Native American population in the region died during the epidemic.²⁵

The end of the Black Hawk War brought about the expulsion of the Sauk and Fox from lands east of the Mississippi River. Also in 1832, the Winnebago ceded their lands in Wisconsin south and east of the Wisconsin River and east of the Fox River to Green Bay. The Potawatomi, Ottawa, and Chippewa tribes still held title to land in northern Illinois outside of the Indian Boundary lines. In September 1833, a gathering of Native American chiefs and leaders was held in Chicago to "negotiate a treaty whereby the lands might be peaceably ceded, and the Indians removed therefrom, to make way for the tide of white emigration which had begun to set irresistibly and with ever increasing volume to the coveted region."²⁶ A Chicago historian, A.T. Andreas, writing in the 1880s, emphasized the disadvantaged position of the Native Americans, who had seen the effects of war on other Native Americans and experienced the ravages of epidemic on their own peoples:

Black Hawk's ill-starred campaign, followed by the subsequent treaty made by his tribe, showed them the inevitable result [that] must follow resistance. They knew quite well that they had no alternative. They must sell their lands for such a sum and on such terms as the Government agents might deem it politic or just or generous to grant. The result of the treaty was what might have been expected. The Indians gave up their lands and agreed for certain considerations, the most of which did not redound to their profit, to cede all their lands to the Government, and to leave forever their homes and the graves of their fathers for a land far toward the setting sun, which they had never seen and of which they knew nothing.²⁷

In the resulting treaty, the three tribes ceded land "along the western shore of Lake Michigan, and between this lake and the land ceded to the United States by the Winnebago nation at the treaty of Fort

²² A Potawatomi village was located to the south of Walker's Grove. (Helen Hornbeck Tanner, ed., *Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History* (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987), Map 26, 140.)

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Robert E. Sterling, *A Pictorial History of Will County*, Volume 1 (Joliet: Will County Historical Publications, 1975).

²⁵ Tanner, ed., *Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History*, 173.

²⁶ Andreas, *History of Chicago*, 123.

²⁷ Ibid.

Armstrong. . . .”²⁸ As compensation, the tribes received land on the east bank of the Missouri River and a series of monetary payments.²⁹

Emigration into Will County after the Black Hawk War increased so markedly that settlers began agitating for separation from Cook County. Residents of these settlements, then part of Cook County, demanded a more convenient place to record their land purchases and to pay their taxes. Accordingly, Dr. A. W. Bowen of Juliet and James Walker of Plainfield went to the state capital of Vandalia and successfully lobbied a detachment petition through the General Assembly. On 12 January 1836, an act was passed creating Will County from portions of Cook, Iroquois, and Vermilion Counties. Will County also included at that time the northern part of what would later become Kankakee County. (In 1845, the boundaries of Will County were changed to their present extent.) The county was named in honor of Dr. Conrad Will, a member of the state legislature who lived in the southern part of Illinois.³⁰

On 7 March 1836, an election was held to select Will County’s first public officials. They in turn set the price of tavern licenses and created a book for recording the ear markings of livestock. Since swine, sheep, cows, and other livestock freely roamed the city streets and open fields, settlers devised special ear markings consisting of slits, crops, and holes to identify their animals. These “brands” were recorded with pen and ink drawings in the county clerk’s office.³¹

The primary concern of pioneer farmers was providing food for their families and livestock. Most farmers homesteaded around wooded land to provide building materials and fuel.³² On cultivated land, settlers would need to grub out tree stumps before breaking the prairie sod with a walking plow. This latter activity was often difficult, since the soil tended to ball up on the plow. In 1833, John Lane of Lockport invented the breaking plow, which eliminated this problem. Lane’s innovation developed from an improvised steel plow attached to the plow molding board. It successfully cut the prairie sod so that the soil could be turned over.³³

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

In the late 1840s, the United States still owned 14,060,308 acres of land in Illinois. Between 1848 and 1857, much of this land passed into private hands. In addition to land that could be purchased from the government, alternate five mile sections each side of the route planned for the Illinois and Michigan

²⁸ As quoted in Andreas, *History of Chicago*, 124.

²⁹ It has been reported that Native Americans returned to Will County as late as 1900 on pilgrimages (Herath, 21):

Though officially ousted, the Indians, being great travelers, made pilgrimages back to the land of their childhood for many years. Small ragtag bands of women and children were seen as late as the 1870s along the Du Page, wending their way north in the spring and south in the fall. In 1900 an old Indian man, a small boy and a horse pulling a travois were seen along the Kankakee River.

³⁰ Born near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 3 June 1779, Conrad Will emigrated westward after studying medicine. He was instrumental in the formation of Jackson County from the lower half of Randolph County and part of present day Perry County. Will served first in the Illinois state Senate and later the state House of Representatives, until his death on 11 June 1835. On the following 12 January, the state legislature passed an act sectioning the southern portion of Cook County in northern Illinois, naming it after Conrad Will. (Alice C. Storm, *Doctor Conrad Will* (Joliet, Illinois: Louis Joliet Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1917), 1–5.)

³¹ Address of George H. Woodruff, *Sixth Annual Reunion of the Will County Pioneer Association* (Joliet: The Press Company, 1886), 5–6.

³² The abundance of timber along Hickory Creek encouraged the early settlement of Frankfort Township.

³³ Fayette Baldwin Shaw, *Will County Agriculture* (Will County Historical Society, 1980), 1. The site of Lane’s farmstead has a Will County historical marker commemorating his importance due to the invention of this plow.

Canal in western Will County were offered for sale by the canal authority. Later, alternate six mile sections on each side of the route granted to the Illinois Central Railroad (which passed through eastern Will County) were available for purchase from the railroad.³⁴ In Frankfort Township, portions of sections 25 and 36 were part of the grant to the Illinois Central.

In 1848, Illinois adopted township government as the basic level of local government, although in most locations functioning governments were not set up until 1850. By law, three services were to be provided by the townships: general assistance to the needy, property assessment for tax purposes, and maintenance of township roads and bridges. A unique feature of township government was the annual town meeting, held each April in all townships. This system continues to the present day.³⁵ Until the twentieth century, almost all public infrastructure (such as roads) was thus maintained by each township with local tax revenue.

Agricultural Development

By the 1850s, Illinois was a major agricultural state. Its corn production was 57.65 million bushels, which increased to 115.2 million in 1860, making it the leading corn producer in the nation.³⁶ Wheat was also a major crop—the state was fifth in wheat production in 1850 and first in 1860. Acreage in improved farmland increased two and one half times in the decade. Other principal farm crops were oats, rye, and barley. The average price for corn and wheat was \$1.25 per bushel. In the early- to mid-1800s, agricultural implements were primitive and included reapers, iron plowshares, and hay tenders. The first McCormick reaper in the county appeared in Wheatland Township in 1846. Some local inventions that could be attached to modify the McCormick included gearing produced by W. Holmes of Hickory Creek in Will County, produced at Adams' Foundry, followed by a turf and stubble plow.³⁷

The major crops in Will County historically have been corn and wheat, although wheat production declined in the later 1800s after infestations of the chinch bug and the army worm. (Wheat farming revived during World War I due to incentives from the U.S. government.) As early as 1850, corn was the leading crop in the survey area, since it could be fed to livestock as well as processed into other products.³⁸ Other grain crops included oats, barley (used in beer production), and rye. Potatoes were also grown in the region through the late 1800s, but several seasons of wet summers led to rotting crops, followed in subsequent years by potato bugs. Strawberries and grapes were grown in limited areas by the 1870s.³⁹

³⁴ The lands were sold to settlers and speculators. It is estimated that six million acres passed into the hands of speculators between 1849 and 1856. There were several types of speculators. Small farmers bought the land for pasturage, timber, or simply as an investment. Small businessmen also bought land as an investment, and in this group was included practically every prominent politician in Illinois except Abraham Lincoln. Professional speculators operated on a large scale, with corporations or individuals owning land in many states. Finally, East Coast capitalists invested in western lands—Samuel Allerton, a wealthy resident of New York, owned 2,000 acres in Frankfort, New Lenox, and Homer Townships in Will County and an additional 400 acres in Cook County. In time, settlers purchased the land from speculators. The Chicago Land Office was the last one opened and the last one closed, except for Springfield which took over all the unfinished work of all offices and remained open until 1877. (Shaw, *Will County Agriculture*, 1–2.)

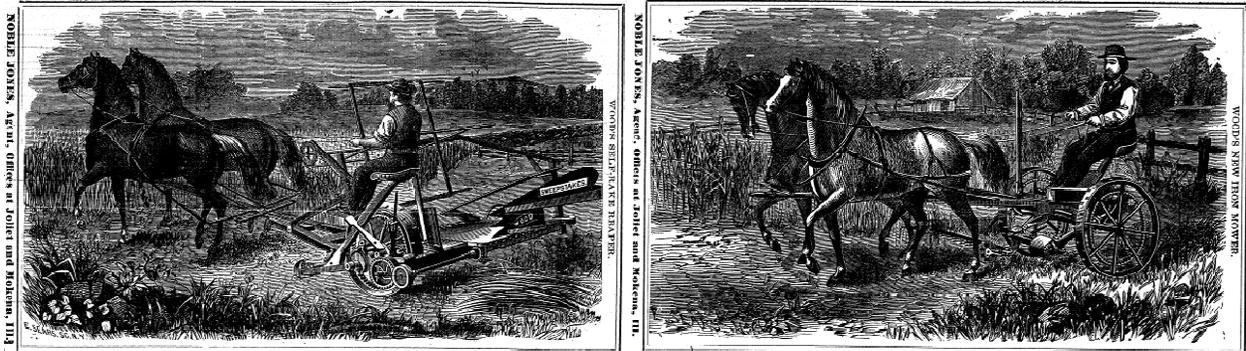
³⁵ Bryan Smith, "Township Government in Illinois: A Rich History, A Vibrant Future." <<http://www.comptrollerconnect.ioc.state.il.us>>

³⁶ "Corn" was the medieval term used in England for the grain known later as wheat. Settlers given "Indian corn" (maize) by the Native Americans began to sow it themselves, and corn (maize) became one of the leading grain crops in the United States by the 1800s. (United States Department of Agriculture, *Yearbook of Agriculture* (1936), 496.)

³⁷ Shaw, *Will County Agriculture*, 13.

³⁸ *Souvenir of Settlement and Progress of Will County Illinois* (Chicago: Historical Directory Publishing Co., 1884), 244.

³⁹ Shaw, *Will County Agriculture*, 8.



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

The change from self-sufficient farming to cash crop farming occurred during the mid-nineteenth century. Prior to that time, a farmstead typically had less than ten acres. Most farms were 80 acres in size by the end of the century, sometimes with additional parcels of 40 and 80 acres.⁴⁰ However, a few individuals in Will County owned larger parcels of land. In order to divide their parcels of land and enclosure pasturage, farmers used split-rail fencing and vegetation such as osage hedges. Other means included wire fencing, available after 1860, and barbed wire, introduced in the 1880s.⁴¹

Cattle, hogs, and sheep were also a significant part of northeastern Illinois agriculture. The Chicago Union Stock Yards, incorporated by act of the Illinois State Legislature in 1865, was a ready market. Horses were also bred, as they were an indispensable for the operation of farm machinery; oxen were also used into the 1870s. The dairy industry also was initially a significant part of the region’s agriculture.⁴²



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

⁴⁰ It should be noted that plat maps from the period reflect land ownership, not tilled land or the extent (through land leasing or barter) of a farmstead.

⁴¹ Ibid., 5.

⁴² The dairy industry in the Midwest was centered on Elgin, Illinois, and the western counties around Chicago until the beginning of World War I, after which Wisconsin came to be known as “America’s Dairyland.” (Daniel Ralston Block, “The Development of Regional Institutions of Agriculture: The Chicago Milk Marketing Order” (Ph.D. diss., University of California at Los Angeles, 1997), 49–52).

The average value of a southern Illinois farm in 1910 was \$15,000; in the northern part of the state it was \$20,700. The annual value of farm products measured in dollars rose from \$186 million in 1896 to \$277 million in 1912; this was accompanied by an increase in production of field crops by 70 percent and 76 percent respectively for those years. During this time, wheat, rye, and oat production was on the decline. Livestock production remained fairly constant in overall value but sales of animals decreased by 50 percent during this period. Vegetable production was led by root crops like potatoes, turnips, and carrots. Of orchard fruits, apples had the greatest production.⁴³

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PARRETT 12-25 TRACTOR
"Speaks for itself." One man. All purposes

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

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

In particular, there is a vast field for the development of motor truck traffic, which it has not been necessary heretofore to consider in plans for road improvement. It is believed that in many sections of the State the opportunity is big for the development of this class of traffic, and provision should be made in the future for road building on a majority of the main roads for the eight and ten ton motor truck. Already truck farmers in the vicinity of Chicago have clubbed together in the purchase of a motor truck by which a 24-hour trip has been reduced to 8 hours, while the delivery of milk from the farm to the city by motor truck is already an economic proposition.

⁴³ Morrison, *Prairie State, A History*, 98.

It is believed therefore that the construction to be undertaken on our main roads should be a character that can withstand the heavy motor traffic, heavy horse drawn traffic, as well as the lighter forms of traffic, and that a serious mistake will be made to put down any other than rigid, durable forms of pavement. In Illinois this reduces the choice of the road surface to brick and concrete.⁴⁴

With the implementation of the Civil Administrative Code in 1917, which formed the departmental structure within the executive branch, the Illinois Department of Agriculture was formed as a regulatory and promotional agency.⁴⁵

Twentieth Century Developments

Land area of farms in the Chicago area declined from 88.7 percent of total area in 1900 to 84.9 percent in 1920 and to 80 percent in 1925. In the century between 1830 and 1925, the number of farms had peaked in 1900. By 1925, the total number of farms was 5,000 less than in 1880.⁴⁶ During that same period livestock production (including swine) peaked in 1900. For the counties within fifty miles of Chicago, the average number of dairy cows per square mile of farmland declined from 46.1 in 1900 to 42.8 in 1925. Acreage in cereal production showed a gradual increase after 1925. Sheep and wool production peaked in 1880 and horses and mules in 1920, declining as a direct result of the introduction of the tractor and motor truck. Dairy production in the Chicago region peaked in 1900 and declined markedly in the following two decades.⁴⁷

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

The coming of the Great Depression deepened the crisis further. Agricultural production in Illinois collapsed from almost \$6.25 billion in 1929 to \$2.5 billion in 1933. As unemployment in industrial centers soared, some people fled to rural communities, putting additional pressure on rural areas as most did not have access to welfare relief.⁴⁸ Within days of the inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt, legislation was formulated that Congress would later pass as the Agricultural Adjustment Act. The numerous adjustment programs initiated under the New Deal led to limitations in agricultural production in order to raise crop prices to acceptable levels. These included twenty percent of the land or 1,218,062 acres used in corn production being retired; over 1,000,000 acres of land in wheat production were also retired.⁴⁹ In

⁴⁴ A.N. Johnson, "Cost of a System of Durable Roads for Illinois," in *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Farmers' Institute*, edited by H.A. McKeene (Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Journal Company, 1913), 149.

⁴⁵ Information from the website of the Illinois Department of Agriculture <www.agr.state.il.us/aghhistory.html>. The department actually dated back to 1819, when the Illinois Agricultural Association was formed. Although little is known of the activities of this early group other than a collection of letters by its founders, it established an organization that became the Illinois State Agricultural Agency in 1853. This semi-public organization continued to function until replaced in 1871 by the Department of Agriculture under the supervision of the State Board of Agriculture.

⁴⁶ Edward A. Duddy, *Agriculture in the Chicago Region* (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1929), 3.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, 4.

⁴⁸ Morrison, *Prairie State, A History*, 108.

⁴⁹ United States Department of Agriculture, *Yearbook of Agriculture* (1936), 1155–1156.

1934, 15,734,600 acres of land were in production, for a total crop value of \$218,569,000 nationally; this grew to 17,692,100 acres and a crop value of \$273,931,000 the following year.⁵⁰

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

During World War II, farmers were encouraged by the federal government to increase their production by the use of power machinery and the latest scientific processes. When a decline in demand arose, the farmer was forced to continue his heavy production rate. Cash crop income in 1950 was \$2.038 billion nationally. Of this livestock and livestock products accounted for \$1.26 billion; crops, \$763 million; and government pay for adaptation of production program, with \$10.6 million paid to the farmers in Illinois. Principal crops were corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, hay, fruit, and greenhouse products. The average value of a farm in Illinois in 1950 was \$28,400.⁵¹ The farm population in Illinois declined from 1,341,104 in 1900 to 772,521 in 1950.⁵²

The abandoning of farms and the consolidation of small farms into large ones resulted in many buildings being razed or abandoned. Moreover, changes in farming meant that many old farm buildings were too small, or unsuitable for other reasons, and were replaced by larger, more suitable and flexible structures. By the twentieth century many barns were constructed by professional builders following plans influenced by farm journals and using mass-produced lumber from a nearby yard or sawmill. In 1987, there were 1,239 farms in Will County covering 328,729 acres. Ten years later, the continued decline in agricultural production in northeastern Illinois was apparent, as farmland was lost to suburban development. In Will County in 1997, there were only 910 farms, and though the average farm was larger, the total acreage devoted to agriculture had declined by more than 10 percent to 293,526 acres.⁵³

By 1997, there were 79,000 Illinois farms utilizing 28 million acres and about 80 percent of the total land area in the state. Illinois was the leading state in agricultural-related industries such as soybean processing, meat packing, dairy manufacturing, feed milling, vegetable processing, machinery manufacturing, foreign exports, and service industries.⁵⁴

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

A while back, farmer Ray Dettmering was arrested for plowing his fields late at night in Matteson, Illinois, a rural community 30 miles southwest of Chicago. The 28-year-old farmer told police officers that he needed to prepare his fields for spring planting after days of rain had put him behind schedule. The real problem? A few years earlier, subdivisions had been built near Dettmering’s corn and soy bean fields. The new residents claimed they couldn’t hear their TVs above the tractor noise. Others were having trouble sleeping. Two neighbors complained to the

⁵⁰ Ibid., 1146.

⁵¹ Morrison, *Prairie State, A History*, 116.

⁵² Salamon, 35.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ *Illinois Agriculture Illinois Farm Facts Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service*, April 1999, <[www.nass.usda.gov/il/ website/farmfacts.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/il/website/farmfacts.htm)>.

police, and Dettmering was booked and fingerprinted. “What were these people thinking when they moved to the country?” he asked. “It’s not like these farms snuck up on them.”⁵⁵

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

In rural Illinois, you’ll find working farms. You’ll also find a level of infrastructure and services generally below that provided through the collective wealth of an urban community. Many other factors, too, make the country living experience very different from what may be found in the city.⁵⁶

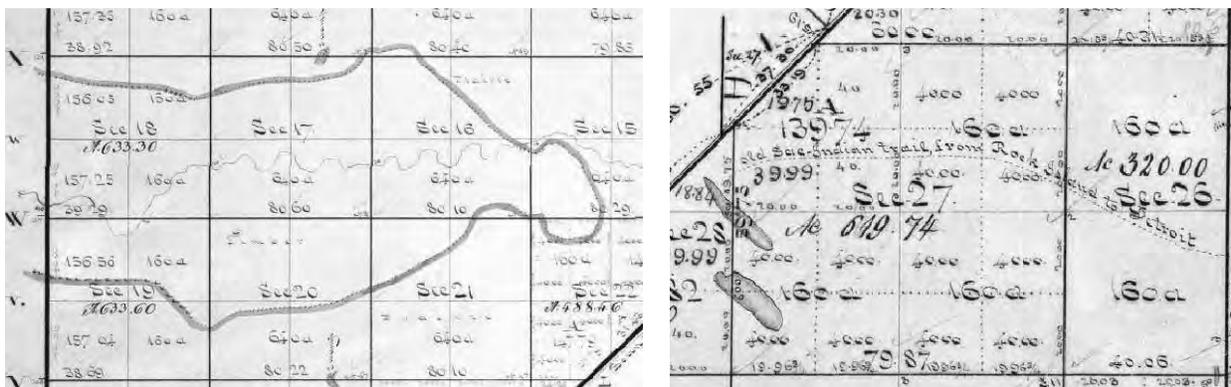
⁵⁵ Charles Lockwood, “Sprawl,” *Hemispheres*, United Airlines magazine (September 1999), 82–84.

⁵⁶ *The Code of Country Living* (Bloomington, Illinois: Illinois Farm Bureau, 1999), 3.

Frankfort Township Developmental History

Compared to other areas of Will County, Frankfort Township contains numerous archeological sites related to the prehistoric inhabitants of Illinois. Frankfort is second only to Channahon Township in terms of the number of identified sites. Of the thirty-eight known archeological sites, the majority are prehistoric camp sites of less than one acre. Most of these sites are located in sections 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19, corresponding to the heavily wooded area along Hickory Creek. Among the largest sites is the Hollstein habitation, a 30-acre site in section 17 inhabited by people of the Mississippian culture after A.D. 1000.⁵⁷

The first European settlers in Frankfort Township arrived in the early summer of 1831. John McGovney, William Moore, and William Rice of Ohio, and another man by the name of Osborne of Indiana, established homesteads near the present-day village of Mokena.⁵⁸ This location gave the settlers easy access to timber for construction and firewood. The 1834 federal land survey of Frankfort Township north of the Indian Boundary Line shows a dense stand of timber along Hickory Creek, from section 15 in the east and extending across sections 16, 17, 18, and 21, 20, 19. These initial settlers fled eastward during the Black Hawk War in spring 1832, and the next year, only McGovney and Rice returned to their homesteads.⁵⁹ The McGovney farm was located in section 17 and section 8 (site 15 in the present survey).



Left: Detail of the 1834 federal land survey of Frankfort Township, showing timber along Hickory Creek. The prehistoric inhabitants of Illinois established camp sites in this area, and the earliest European settlers in the township established their homesteads near this timber. Right: The 1839 survey of Frankfort Township south of the Indian Boundary Line shows the “old Sac [Sauk] Indian trail from Rock Island to Detroit” passing through sections 26 and 27. Portions of this prehistoric route survive as present-day Sauk Trail.

Matthew Van Horne of New York arrived in Frankfort Township in 1832. He settled in section 20, and circa 1835–1836 built a mill along Hickory Creek. At first this was only a sawmill, but soon stones for grinding corn were added as well.⁶⁰

Peter Clayes of New Hampshire, together with his sons Orlando, Levi M., and Charles, settled in Frankfort Township in 1836–1837. Orlando and Levi M. Clayes opened the first store in the township in 1836. Levi Clayes served as the first postmaster when the post office, named “Chelsea” was established in 1837.⁶¹

⁵⁷ John Doershuk, *Plenuk Mound and the Archaeology of Will County* (Springfield: Illinois Preservation Agency, 1988), Table 15.

⁵⁸ Woodruff et al. (1878), 506.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, 507.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, 507, 511.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 507, 511.

Other early settlers included Francis Owen of Kentucky, who arrived in 1835 and settled in section 19. Allen and Lysander Denny of New York arrived in 1834–1835. Allen Denny settled at the site of the present-day village of Mokena, while Lysander Denny settled along Hickory Creek, where he built a sawmill.⁶² The Denny sawmill was located in section 18, just west of present-day Wolf Road where it crosses Hickory Creek. The mill was sold to Philo A. Haven in 1839, and Lysander Denny moved to Joliet before settling in Spencer, Illinois. Allen Denny bought the mill property from Haven in 1847, but by the early 1850s, the mill had been abandoned and demolished.⁶³

After land sales in Frankfort Township began in 1836, the township filled up rapidly, and by the late 1840s, most land in the township was privately owned. By the mid-1840s, the Claves brothers closed their store, which was reopened at the same location by M. C. Farewell. The post office was moved to Matthew Van Horne's residence in section 20, and Van Horne became post master of the Chelsea post office, as well as serving as Justice of the Peace for the township. Charles Claves and M. C. Farewell platted a town, also called Chelsea, in the vicinity of the post office in 1848–1849. The site was abandoned by the 1850s when Mokena was established along the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad to the north and Frankfort Station was established in section 28 along the "Joliet Cut-off" rail line.⁶⁴ In the latter half of the nineteenth century, the two villages became the social centers of the township, with a concentration of stores, churches, and other public buildings. The development of each village is discussed in greater detail below. Prior to the construction of railroads through the township in the 1850s, all goods had to be brought to Frankfort Township by overland routes such as the east-west LaPorte Road and the north-south Chicago and Twelve Mile Grove Road.

Township governments in Illinois were organized in 1850. At the suggestion of John Cappel, the township was named for his native town of Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany.⁶⁵ Agricultural settlement in the township continued through the 1850s and 1860s, and by the 1870 census, the population of the township had increased to 1,920. The 1873 atlas map shows most of the township developed as farmland, although stands of timber remained along Hickory Creek. In 1875, the Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory was established, and a stone and brick building was constructed north of Frankfort village in section 15, along present-day U.S. Route 45. The business was owned by John and Jacob Baumgartner, George Geuther, Francis Maue, and E. Higgins. The primary products were butter and cheese.

In 1880, the township had 1,900 persons. The Elgin, Joliet, and Eastern Railroad was built across the township, parallel to and one-half mile south of the Michigan Central line, in 1889, providing another freight transportation link for agricultural products and commercial enterprises in the township. By 1900, the township population had dropped to 1,560. In the early twentieth century, dairy farming was a primary activity in the township, and the raw milk was shipped by rail to urban markets.

Between 1908 and 1928, the Joliet and Eastern traction company operated a streetcar line from Joliet to Chicago Heights that passed through the township, and a car barn was built in the village of Frankfort. As seen on the atlas map of the township from 1909, the streetcar ran parallel to the Michigan Central through the township, but turned north at the western edge of section 19 to run along present-day U.S. Route 30 to the village of New Lenox.

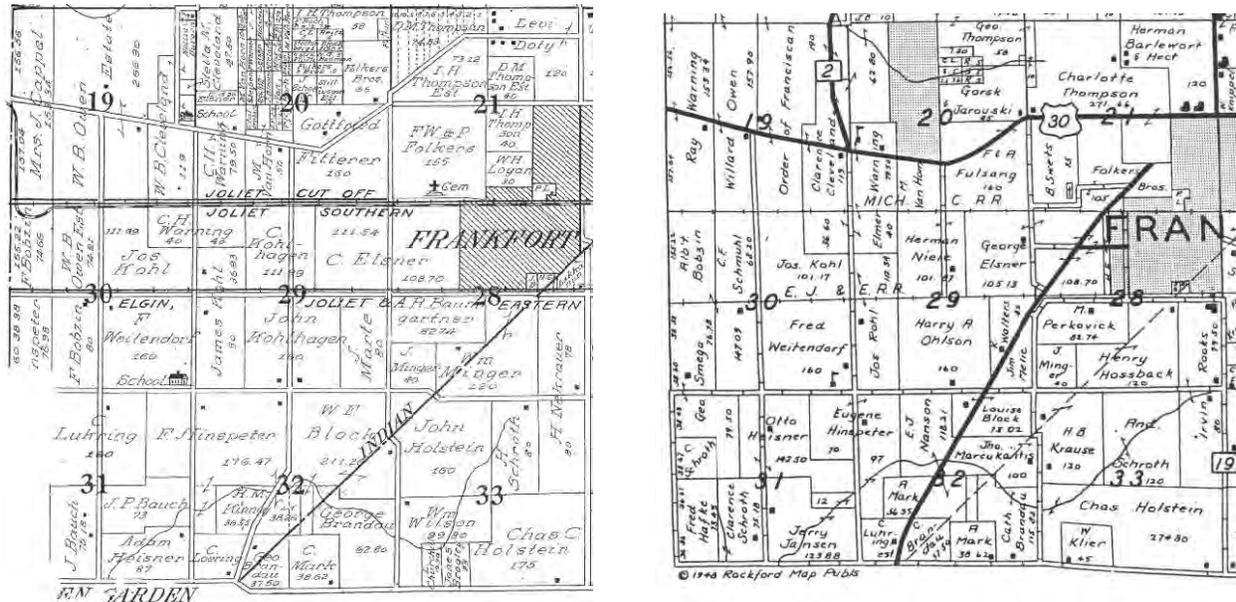
⁶² Woodruff et al. (1878), 508.

⁶³ Philip E. Vierling, *Early Water Powered Mills of the Des Plaines River and its Tributaries, Illinois*, vol. 2 (Chicago: Illinois Country Outdoor Guides, 1998).

⁶⁴ Woodruff et al. (1878), 511.

⁶⁵ Woodruff et al. (1878).

In the nineteenth century, major national east-west rail lines were built across Frankfort Township. In the twentieth century, the township was similarly crossed by new paved automobile highways. The first major transcontinental automobile route was the Lincoln Highway, which passes through Frankfort Township. In 1912, the Lincoln Highway Association was formed to promote the construction of a paved automobile route across the country from New York to San Francisco. The paved portion of the Lincoln Highway in Illinois was completed by 1920, the present-day U.S. Route 30. Also, as seen on historic plat maps, in the 1930s a new route for U.S. Highway 45 was created across the southwestern portion of the township.



The development of automobile highways in the twentieth century as a replacement for earlier rail modes of transportation is seen by comparing historic plat maps and atlases for the southwestern quadrant of Frankfort Township. Left: The 1909 atlas map shows the historic road pattern for the township, and the electric interurban streetcar line that ran parallel to the Joliet Cut-off before turning north at the western edge of section 19. Right: The 1948 plat map shows the new paved roads in the township, including the new extension of U.S. Route 45; U.S. Route 30, the Lincoln Highway; the abandonment of historic road alignments across the northern part of section 21 and southern part of section 29; and a new alignment for Wolf Road (route 2).

Suburban development came to Frankfort Township in the 1930s with the development of McIntosh's Lincoln Estates subdivision in sections 23 and 24. This development provided easy access for commuters traveling on the Lincoln Highway. Compared to contemporary suburban developments in the township, Lincoln Estates included relatively modest bungalow and cottage style houses on large lots.



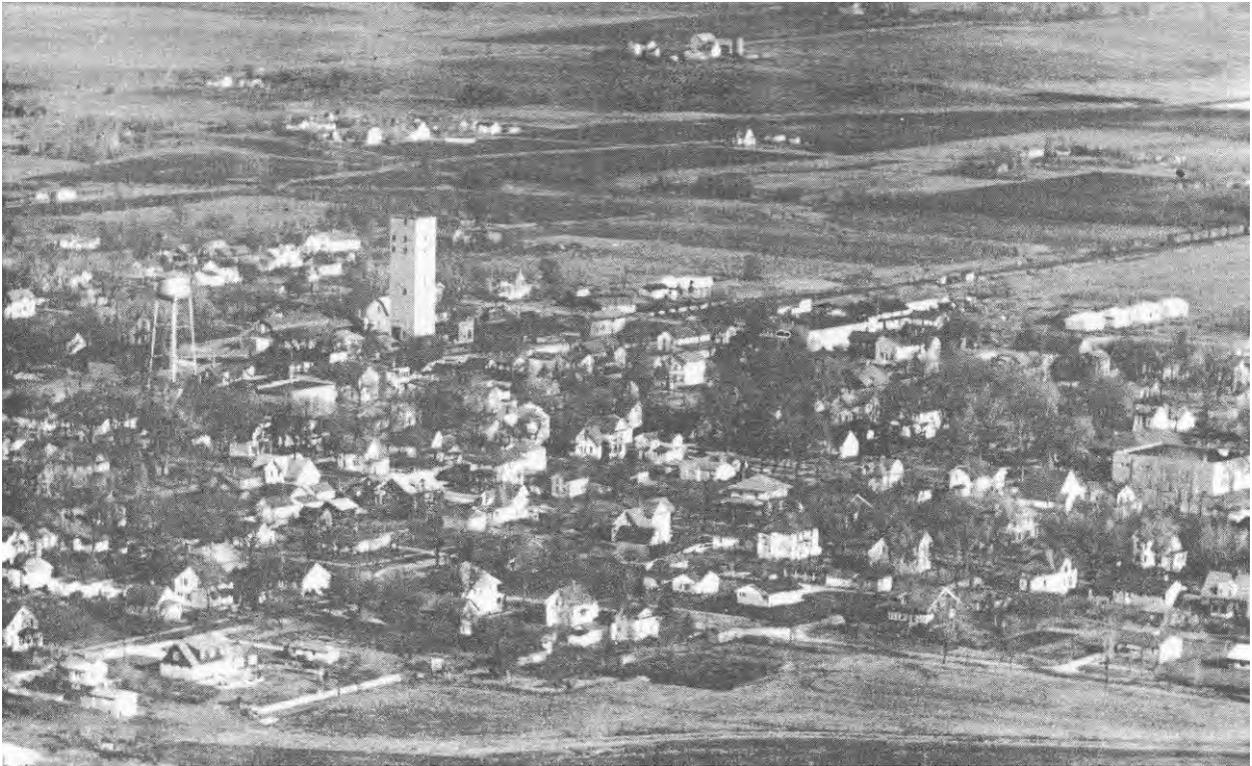
Above: Two examples of the modest bungalows and cottages built in the Lincoln Estates subdivision in the 1930s.

Since World War II, suburban development has accelerated in Frankfort Township, and much former farmland has been annexed to the villages of Mokena and Frankfort. Development accelerated with the construction of Interstate 80 across the northern portion of the township in the mid-1960s. Portions of the township have also been annexed by Tinley Park, starting in the 1970s, as well as Orland Park, since 2000. Other portions of the township, especially the eastern part of the township in sections 12, 13, 14, 23, and 24, have been developed as unincorporated subdivisions. Wooded areas of sections 16, 17, and 20 have been preserved as Will County Forest Preserve land.

The suburban development of Frankfort Township has often been accompanied by the demolition of older agricultural buildings. Relatively few former farmsteads have been adaptively reused; examples include the barn at site 2 in section 1, now reused as a banquet hall, and the farmhouse at site 102 in section 22, now expanded and used for commercial purposes. The expansion of public infrastructure to support the denser residential use of the township has also affected the formerly agricultural landscape. In the 1980s, Laraway Road, which historically terminated at Center Road in the township, was extended eastward to Harlem Avenue. Of the sites included in the present survey, the Laraway Road extension most significantly impacted site 148. The north side of the farmhouse, formerly the back, now faces the new Laraway Road. In 1991–1993, U.S. Route 45 in the northern portion of the township was widened to four lanes. As part of this project, the historic Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory was relocated to a new site in section 23.



Two examples of adaptive reuse of farm sites to contemporary commercial businesses in the township. Left: This barn in section 1 is now used as a banquet hall. Right: This commercial building on Lincoln Highway in section 22 is actually an addition to an older historic farmhouse.



1955 aerial views of the village centers of Frankfort (top) and Mokena (bottom).

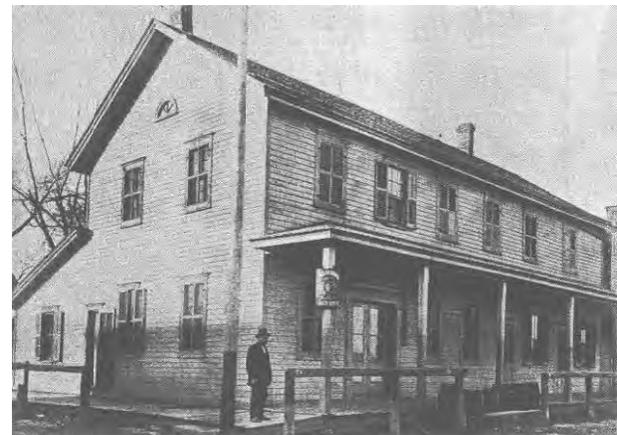
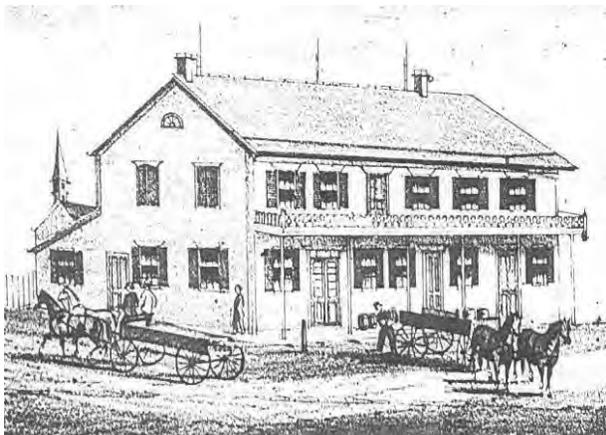
Village of Frankfort

In 1855, the Joliet and Northern Indiana Railroad (later part of the Michigan Central Railroad) built an east-west line, called the “Joliet Cut-off” through the township, and the village of Frankfort Station was laid out by Sherman W. Bowen.⁶⁶ Several new businesses were established in the town, including a general store by N. A. Carpenter, the Folkers Hotel by Johnson Folkers, and a blacksmith shop by Nicholas Fortmiller. The old Chelsea post office was moved to the town and renamed Frankfort. A grain elevator was built in the town in 1856.



Left: Frankfort grew up around the depot of the Michigan Central Railroad. Right: Today, the old Michigan Central right-of-way has been adapted for use as a trail, named the “Old Plank Road Trail.”

By the late 1870s, the village of Frankfort was somewhat smaller than the village of Mokena, with only four general stores, one hardware store, one drug store, two hotels, one harness shop, one physician, and several taverns. In 1879, Frankfort incorporated as a village, with John McDonald as the first president.⁶⁷ A volunteer fire department was organized in 1884. Among the prominent businesses in the village was the Folkers Hotel, operated for many years by Johnson Folkers and later by his three sons. In later years, the upper floor of this building was used for the telephone exchange.⁶⁸

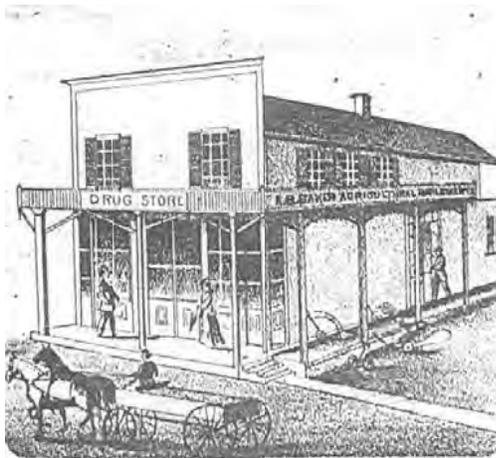


Left: The Baumann Tavern, constructed in 1868 at the corner of Kansas and Ash Streets in Frankfort, as illustrated in the 1873 atlas. It was operated by the same family for 95 years. Right: An early 1900s photograph of the structure, published in Frankfort Centennial (1955).

⁶⁶ The word “station” was dropped from the name when the village was incorporated in 1879, but the post office continued to use “Frankfort Station” until 1905.

⁶⁷ Stevens (1907), 79.

⁶⁸ Judy Herder, “Frankfort Retrospective,” <www.frankfortcountrymarket.org/home/historicalsociety.html>.



Left: This building on the north side of Kansas Street, constructed shortly after the village of Frankfort was laid out in 1855, was used as a drug store by the 1870s and also housed the Frankfort post office. Right: The building as it appeared in 1955, as Ye Olde Frankfort Tavern. Photo published in Frankfort Centennial (1955). Today it is known as the Olde Plank Trail Tavern.

During the late nineteenth century and first half of the twentieth century, Frankfort served as a marketplace for the surrounding farm community. Urban improvements in the village electric power introduced in 1913 and natural gas service in 1927. In 1914, Henry G. Luhring and Emil O. Weber organized the Frankfort-Spencer Grain Company, later renamed the Frankfort Grain Company. The old wooden grain elevator burned in 1945, and was replaced by a concrete structure.⁶⁹



Left: A granary existed on this site north of the Michigan Central right-of-way since the 1850s. In 1945, the wooden grain elevator burned and was replaced by the concrete grain elevator, which still exists today. In 1973, the Frankfort Grain Co. was converted to shops. Right: The old water tank rises above the former Michigan Central right-of-way in downtown Frankfort.

In the decades following World War II, Frankfort experienced accelerating population growth. A new village hall was built in 1955. Suburban residential developments began in the 1950s with the annexation of the Lincoln Meadows subdivision in section 21 between U.S. Highways 30 and 45 to the village. Rapid growth continued through the 1960s and accelerated in the 1970s. The Michigan Central Railroad abandoned the line through Frankfort Township in 1972, and the route was subsequently converted to a pedestrian and bicycle trail, named the Old Plank Road Trail. Also in the 1970s, an airfield was developed south of Frankfort in section 34, which became a focus of commercial and industrial development. Rapid

⁶⁹ Maue (1928), 1103–1104. Henry Luhring's brother Christian had a farm in section 32, site 28 in the present survey.

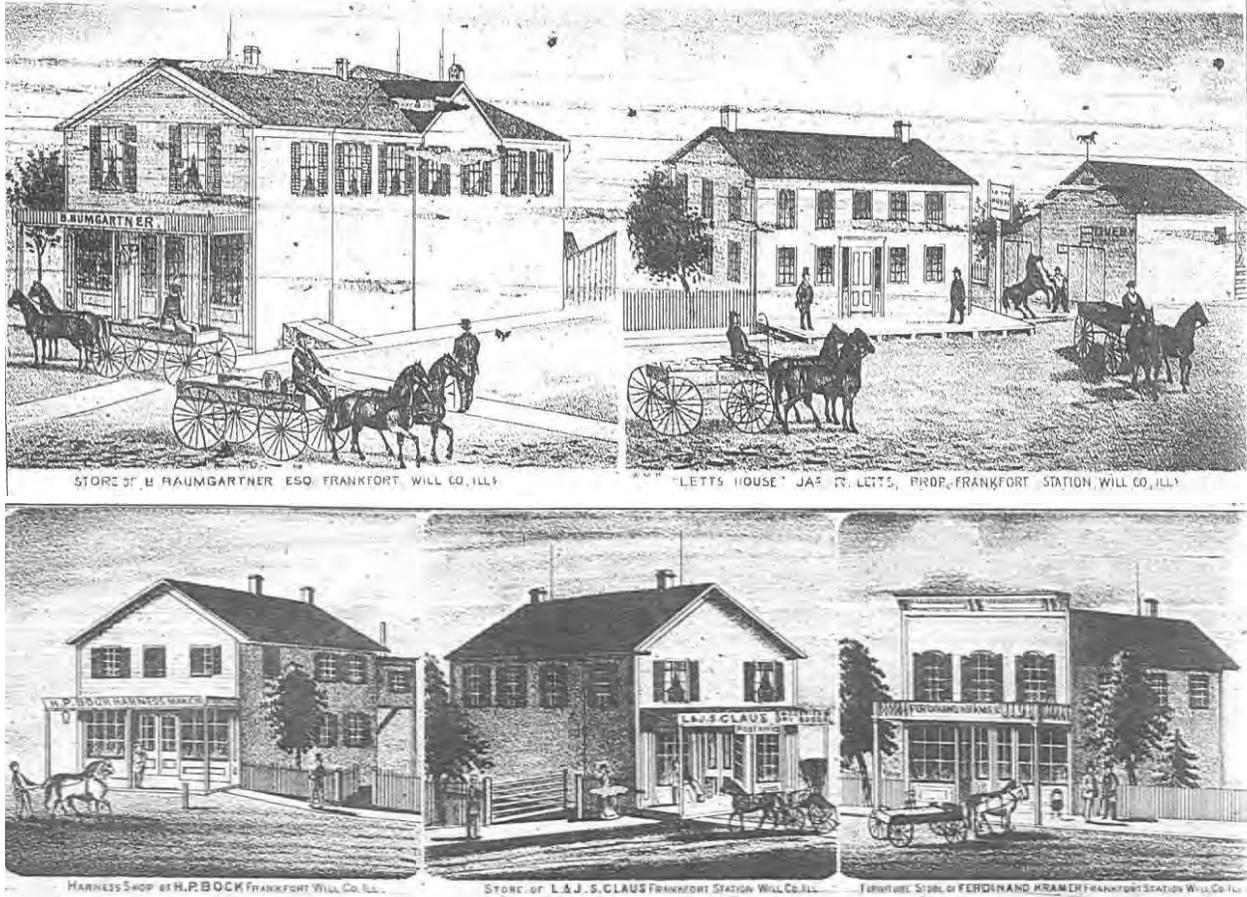
commercial and residential growth has continued into the 2000s. The 2000 census recorded a village population of 10,391 persons, a large increase over the 7,180 persons documented in the 1990 census.



Left: Circa 1905 view south from Kansas Street on Ash Street; the two buildings at left survive today. Published as Plate 184 in Robert E. Sterling, A Pictorial History of Will County (1975–1976), photograph courtesy E. N. McAllister. Right: Circa 1905 view of Conrad Sippel's saloon and ice house on the corner of Kansas and Oak Streets; today the building houses the store Mother's Nature. Published as Plate 250 in Sterling, photograph courtesy of the Frankfort Area Historical Society.



Left: Circa 1912 view of the Heusner & Mager Overland Garage at the corner of Kansas and Hickory Streets; today the building is known as Heritage Hall. Published as Plate 254 in Sterling, courtesy of Walter Pfaff and the Frankfort Area Historic Society. Right: The Frankfort State Bank, photograph published in Frankfort Centennial (1955).



Above: These illustrations of businesses in the village of Frankfort were published in the 1873 atlas.

Village of Mokena

The Chicago & Rock Island Railroad was built through Frankfort Township in 1852, connecting Joliet and Chicago. Allen Denny laid out the town of Mokena⁷⁰ in 1852, and John McGovney platted an early addition to the town.⁷¹ Mokena received a post office in 1853, and Ozias McGovney served as the first postmaster. The new town developed rapidly in the 1850s, with a blacksmith shop in 1853–1854, a steam mill in 1855, and a general store from 1851–1852 while the railroad was still under construction.



The village of Mokena grew up along the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad. Left: Undated historic view of the railroad depot in Mokena. Right: A view of the present-day Metra commuter station on the same site in downtown Mokena.

By the late 1870s, Mokena had five general stores, two hardware stores, one furniture store, three clothing stores, two blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, two harness shops, two physicians, two drug stores, three hotels, two butchers, and seven taverns. C. A. Jones published a newspaper, the *Mokena Advertiser*, from 1874 to his death in 1877.⁷² In 1880, Mokena was incorporated as a village, and Ozias McGovney served as the first president. Livestock yards for cattle and hogs awaiting shipment to the stockyards of Chicago were located south of the railroad. Also, a grain elevator was built adjacent to the railroad. The grain elevator was supplied with steam power as early as 1878, and by 1910 as much as 100,000 bushels of grain were shipped from Mokena annually. The dairy business also got an early start in Mokena, with the first can of milk being shipped by rail into Chicago in 1861. With the development of refrigerated rail cars, a dairy plant was built on Wolf Road adjacent to the railroad in 1907. This dairy was shipping two carloads of milk daily into Chicago by 1910.⁷³



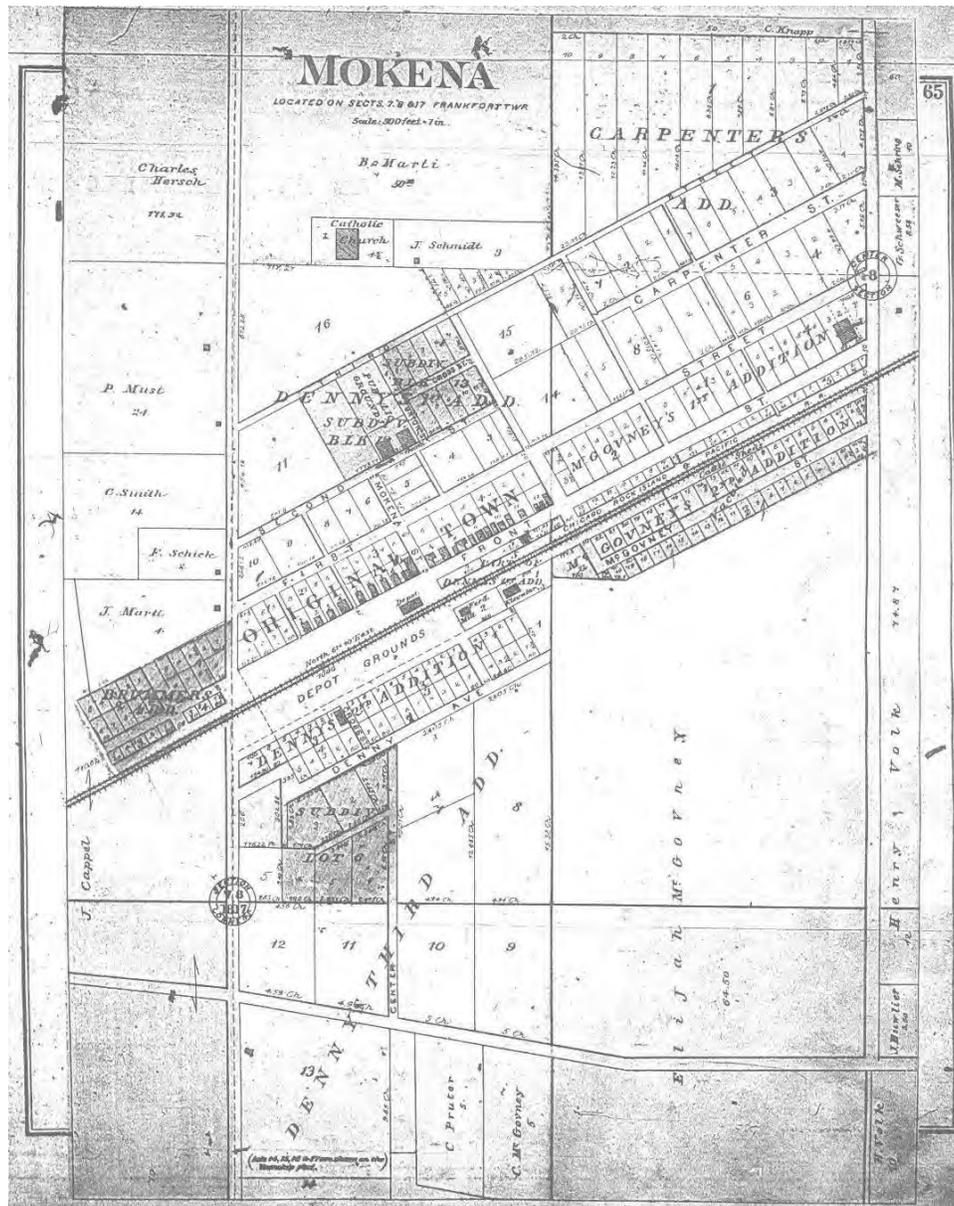
*Left: Circa 1905 view of the Mokena State Bank and Exchange Hotel on Front Street; neither building exists today. Published as Plate 183 in Robert E. Sterling, *A Pictorial History of Will County (1975–1976)*, courtesy of the Mokena State Bank. Right: The historic grain elevator alongside the Rock Island railroad in downtown Mokena.*

⁷⁰ The precise origin of the name “Mokena” is uncertain. Florence Pitman in *The Story of Mokena* states that it may be a corruption of a local Algonquian or Potawatomi word meaning “turtle” or perhaps “mudhole.”

⁷¹ Woodruff et al. (1878), 513.

⁷² Pitman (1963), 14.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, 8.



Plan of Mokena from the 1893 atlas. As late as 1940, the incorporated limits of the village had hardly expanded beyond the limits shown here.

Throughout the late nineteenth century and first half of the twentieth century, Mokena, like Frankfort, prospered as a country market town for the surrounding farmland. The population remained stable, with the 1930 census indicating a village population almost identical to 1880. Urban improvements came to the village around 1900, with the first 60,000-gallon water tower completed in 1898, the first telephone exchange opened in 1898, concrete sidewalks replaced wooden boardwalks in 1911, electric power introduced in 1913, and natural gas service in 1927. The Mokena State Bank was founded in 1909, and in 1919, William Semmler began publication of a new newspaper in Mokena, the *News-Bulletin*, which continued publication into the 1950s. A volunteer fire department was organized in 1917, with twenty-nine members.

After World War II, suburban growth began to occur in the area. Land for the first village park, Mokena Community Park, was purchased in 1953 on the south side of LaPorte Road in section 17, and the Mokena Park District was organized in 1959.⁷⁴ During the 1960s, the population grew by 60 percent, and surrounding farmland was annexed into the village. Growth only accelerated through the 1970s, when the village tripled in area, reaching 2,210 persons in population by 1976. Rapid growth has continued in recent decades, with commercial and industrial development occurring near the Interstate 80 corridor on former farmland, in addition to significant residential development. By the 2000 census, the village population had reached 14,583, a dramatic increase over the 6,128 persons recorded at the time of the 1990 census.



Left: View of Front Street in Mokena, circa 1909. Published as Plate 182 in Sterling, photograph courtesy of E. N. McAllister. Right: A present-day view of the same location, note the preservation of many of the historic buildings on this block.

⁷⁴ Florence Pitman, *The Story of Mokena* (Mokena Women's Club, 1963), 3.

Schools

The first school classes in present-day Frankfort Township were taught by Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Hiram Wood in a log schoolhouse in section 19.⁷⁵

A wooden schoolhouse was built in Mokena in 1855. This building was replaced by a two-story wooden schoolhouse with a stone foundation constructed in 1872.⁷⁶ The 1872 schoolhouse remained in use until Carpenter School was built in the 1929.

A schoolhouse was built in Frankfort in 1856 on the block bounded by Oregon, Oak, Utah, and Hickory Streets, which had been designated a “Public Square” when the village was platted. This building was replaced by a two-story structure in 1870. The 1870 school building was an Italianate wooden gable roof structure with an open cupola. The 1870 building was replaced by a new two-story structure in 1924–1925 with three classrooms, an auditorium, and two playrooms. A gymnasium addition was built with Works Progress Administration funds in 1938, and a classroom addition was built in 1962. This building is still in use today as school district offices.



Left: The 1870 Frankfort school building, demolished in the early 1920s. Right: The replacement school building constructed 1924–1925 on the same site (photograph dated 1955), which today serves as district offices.

By the 1870s, Frankfort Township had eight school districts and eight schoolhouses, including the two schools in the villages. None of the rural one-room schoolhouses is known to exist today. The system of one-room rural schoolhouses still existed into the late 1940s. In the 1950s and 1960s, the eight former districts in the township were consolidated into the present three elementary school districts.



Left: A 1955 aerial view of the Weitendorf School, located in section 30 of Frankfort Township at the corner of Laraway Road and Wolf Road. Right: A 1955 aerial view of the Rahm School, located in section 25 on 80th Avenue. Both of these rural schoolhouses were consolidated into the Frankfort school district, and neither building survives today.

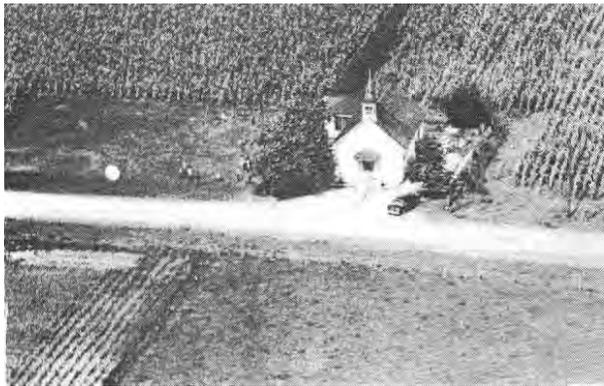
⁷⁵ Woodruff et al. (1878), 512.

⁷⁶ Woodruff et al. (1878), 513.

In 1952, the Rahm School (located in section 25) was consolidated with the Frankfort village school. In 1963, the Weitendorf School (located in section 30) was consolidated with the Frankfort village school. A new school, Chelsea School, was built on 80th Avenue in section 25 in 1965 near the former location of the Rahm schoolhouse, with additions built in 1970 and 1972. Later, in 1975 the Hickory Creek School was built on 116th Avenue, and the Grand Prairie School was built on Nebraska Avenue in section 29.

In Mokena, Carpenter School, constructed in 1929, was expanded in 1951. The Willow Crest School was built in 1956 in section 7, with major additions in 1959 and 1963. A Mokena Intermediate School was built nearby in 1969 on 195th Street. The old Carpenter School was sold to the village in 1976 for use as a village hall, and the Mokena Junior High School was constructed in 1978 in section 9.

The northeastern portion of Frankfort Township is now in the Summit Hill School District. Construction of the unincorporated subdivision Lincoln Estates began in 1930. To serve this community, the Ann Rutledge School was built in 1932 on 80th Avenue in section 23. The original one-room schoolhouse received an addition in 1946. Other one-room schoolhouses consolidated into this district included the Gatter schoolhouse on North Avenue in section 23, and the Summit Hill schoolhouse on 191st Street in section 2 (closed in 1960). The 1932 Ann Rutledge school building was replaced with a new building on the site in the 1950s. It is now used as district offices. When the Arbury Hills subdivision was developed, a new Arbury Hills School was built by the developer in 1960. Other new schools have been built since the late 1960s as residential development occurred in this portion of the township, including Frankfort Square School (opened in 1973), Indian Trail School, Dr. Julian Rogus School, Hilda Walker School, and Summit Hill Junior High School (opened in 1975).



Left: A 1955 aerial view of the Summit Hill School, located on 191st Street in section 2. This building no longer exists. Right: The former Ann Rutledge School on 80th Avenue now serves as district offices for the Summit Hill school district.

Prior to the 1950s, students in Frankfort Township wishing to attend high school had to attend Joliet Township or Bloom Township High Schools. Since 1951, all of Frankfort Township has been a part of the Lincoln Way Community High School District. The original high school opened in 1954 in New Lenox. The second campus, Lincoln Way East High School was constructed in 1977 along U.S. Route 45 in sections 16 and 21 of Frankfort Township. From fall 1977 to fall 2001, the high school district operated two campuses, one for grades 9 and 10 in Frankfort and one for grades 11 and 12 in New Lenox. Since fall 2001, both campuses have operated as four-year schools. Two new high schools for the district are planned. One of these, Lincoln Way North, is now under construction in section 13 of Frankfort Township and is expected to open in fall 2008.



Above: The first Lincoln-Way High School, opened in New Lenox in 1954. Below: The new Lincoln-Way North High School is now under construction in the northeast quarter of section 13 of Frankfort Township on farmland formerly associated with the Schmaedeke farm, site 23 in the present survey.



Churches

The first church building in the township was the Methodist Church built on Hickory Street facing the Public Square in the village of Frankfort in 1856. The congregation built a new wooden church building in 1908, and an adjacent parsonage in 1925. In 1957, a new church building was constructed on Sauk Trail southeast of the center of the village. The 1908 church building was sold to a new congregation, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. The building still exists but has been converted to a private residence.



Left: The new Frankfort United Methodist Church, constructed in 1957. Right: The 1908 wooden church building of the Methodist congregation on Hickory Street in Frankfort (1955 photograph).

Another early congregation in Frankfort was the Frankfort Baptist congregation, which built a church in 1863 on the corner of Hickory and Nebraska Streets. The church building no longer exists.

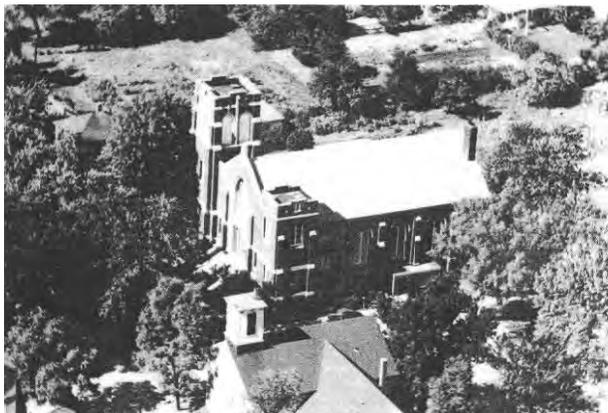
The St. Peter's German Evangelical Church was organized in 1867, and the congregation built a wooden church in the village of Frankfort in 1868. As illustrated in the 1873 atlas, this building consisted of a small gable roof structure with a hip roof steeple. This building was replaced by a brick church building in 1916, which still exists today at the corner of Ash Street and Sauk Trail. A parsonage was built in 1926, and in 1954 an educational wing was added at the southeast corner of the church. By the early 1960s, the name of the congregation had been changed to St. Peter's United Church of Christ.



Left: An aerial view of St. Peter's circa 1955, showing the educational wing at the southeast corner and the 1926 parsonage. Right: Present-day view of St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Frankfort, constructed 1916.

The Mokena Baptist congregation was first organized in 1851. After the construction of the Methodist church circa 1868, the two congregations shared a building. A legal dispute arose in the 1890s regarding which congregation owned the building, and in 1900 the court ruled in favor of the Methodists. A new Baptist congregation, Parkview Baptist Church, was organized in 1954, and a church was constructed in 1956.⁷⁷ The Methodist congregation remodeled and expanded the old wooden church in 1954, but subsequently built a new church on the south side of LaPorte Road in section 17.

St. John's United Church of Christ was originally founded as the United German Evangelical Church of Mokena in 1862. The congregation built a wooden church at the southwest corner of First and Division Streets in the village. In 1923, a new brick church building was constructed on Second Street at Mokena Street, and the original wooden church was converted to a duplex residence. The remodeled original church still exists today.⁷⁸



Left: An aerial view of St. John's in 1955. Right: A present-day view of St. John's United Church of Christ in Mokena, constructed in 1923.

On 4 November 1850, the German Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel congregation was organized with fifteen men listed as charter members. Johann Georg Geuther donated 20 acres of land at 88th Avenue on the south side of St. Francis Road. A small wooden church was built in the early 1850s; this building was replaced with a new structure in 1877. The Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery is located on this site, but the 1877 church building does not survive. In 1915, the congregation decided to relocate to the village of Mokena, and a new church was built. In 1955 a new site was purchased on La Porte Road, but it was not until 1964–1966 that the new church building was constructed.⁷⁹

St. Mary's Catholic Church was constructed in Mokena in 1864. The site was donated by the Enders family, who had a farm in the northwest quarter of section 8, of which no evidence survives today.⁸⁰ A new church was constructed at 115th Avenue and 195th Street in 1956, and a new school and church have subsequently been built on the campus. The original wooden church now serves as the cemetery chapel for the parish.⁸¹

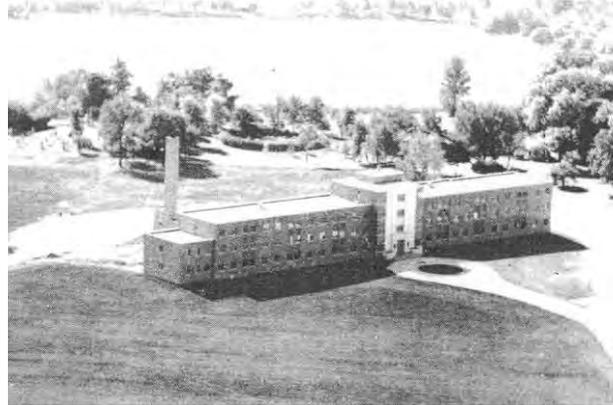
⁷⁷ Pitman, 10.

⁷⁸ Pitman, 10–11.

⁷⁹ <www.immanuelmokena.org>

⁸⁰ Florence Pitman, *The Story of Mokena* (Mokena, Illinois: Mokena Women's Club, n.d. [circa 1963]), 9.

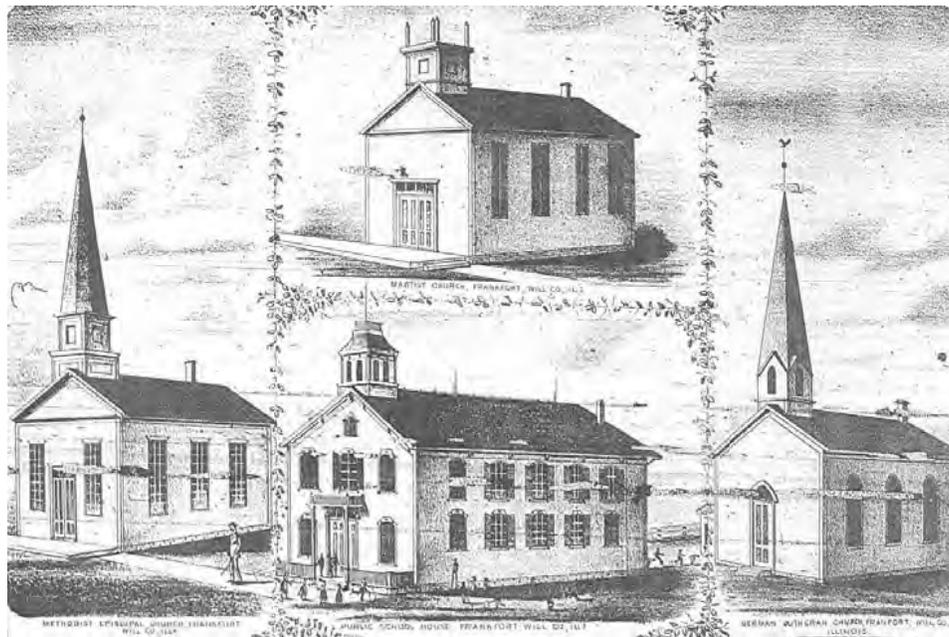
⁸¹ Pitman, 11.



Left: A 1955 aerial view of the 1864 chapel of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Mokena. Right: A 1955 aerial view of the new motherhouse of the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in section 15.

Another historic religious organization in Frankfort Township is the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart. This Catholic religious order was founded in 1866, by Sister Coletta Himmelsbach Seelbach, Germany. Due to difficult political circumstances in Germany, in 1876 the order emigrated to America, settling first in Avilla, Indiana, before relocated to Joliet in 1883. A new motherhouse (the international headquarters for the order) was built in section 15 of Frankfort Township in the 1950s. The order has continued to expand its facilities in Frankfort Township in recent decades.

The rapid suburban residential growth of Frankfort Township in the decades after World War II has led to the establishment of many new religious congregations in the township, including numerous new Christian churches as well as the American Islamic Association, a congregation organized in 1979. The Islamic congregation purchased a former farmstead at the corner of St. Francis Road and 88th Avenue in section 15, site 20 in the present survey, and constructed a mosque in 2005.



Three churches and the school house in the village of Frankfort were illustrated in the 1873 atlas of Will County. At left, the Methodist Church constructed in 1856; at top center, the Baptist Church constructed in 1863; at right, St. Peter's Lutheran Church constructed in 1868; and at bottom center, the 1870 school building. None of these buildings survives today.

Bridges

One historic bridge was identified in Frankfort Township during the present survey, a concrete span over Union Ditch on 76th Avenue in section 1, built by Will County in 1939. Due to the construction of Interstate 80 in the 1960s that blocked the continuation of 76th Street, this bridge receives very little traffic.



CHAPTER 3

AMERICAN RURAL ARCHITECTURE

Farmstead Planning

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

Development of Balloon Framing

The initial settlement of Will County coincided with one of the most revolutionary developments in American building construction: the introduction of the balloon frame. Referred to as “that most democratic of building technologies,”⁸² the balloon frame allowed the construction of a house with a minimum of labor and a moderate amount of carpentry skills. The key to the success of the balloon frame was the proper construction and erection sequence of its components. Prior to the development of the balloon frame, builders using timber for the construction of houses and other structures used structural systems such as the box frame or braced frame. It utilized heavy timbers to form posts, girts, girders, braces, and rafters, all fastened together with traditional carpentry joining such as mortise and tenons, splices, dovetails, and others. This type of structural system required builders to have a crew of five or six men to raise and set the heavy timbers.⁸³ The materials used in the construction of a balloon frame structure consisted of milled lumber that was much lighter in weight than heavy timbers.⁸⁴

Credit for the development of the balloon frame is usually given to George Washington Snow of Chicago,⁸⁵ although others give note that the originator of the system was a carpenter, Augustine Taylor, who with Snow built the first structure using balloon frame construction, St. Mary’s Church, in 1833.⁸⁶ At that time Chicago lacked a sawmill to produce the cut lumber, but mills were present in Indiana and in

⁸² Michael P. Conzen, “The Birth of Modern Chicago,” in *1848: Turning Point for Chicago, Turning Point for the Region* (Chicago: The Newberry Library, 1998), 22.

⁸³ For a thorough discussion of the early architectural history of Illinois, see Thomas Edward O’Donnell, “An Outline of the History of Architecture in Illinois,” *Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society* (Springfield, Illinois, 1931); and Thomas Edward O’Donnell, “Recording the Early Architecture of Illinois in the Historic American Buildings Survey,” *Illinois State Historical Society, Transactions for the Year 1934* (Springfield, Illinois, 1934).

⁸⁴ Advances in milling techniques in the early 1800s and the invention and development of machinery to produce nails from iron in the late 1700s and early 1800s preceded the development of the balloon frame.

⁸⁵ Paul E. Sprague, “Chicago Balloon Frame: The Evolution During the 19th Century of George W. Snow’s System for Erecting Light Frame Buildings from Dimension Lumber and Machine-made Nails,” in *The Technology of Historic American Buildings*, H. Ward Jandl, ed. (Washington, D.C.: Foundation for Preservation Technology for the Association for Preservation Technology, 1983), 36.

⁸⁶ Fred W. Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland: Balloon Frame Farmhouses of the Upper Midwest, 1850–1920* (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 1992), 14.

Plainfield in northwestern Will County.⁸⁷ However, these mills were relatively far away, and transportation of milled heavy timbers difficult and expensive. Therefore, it was necessary to develop a more economical construction system.

The classic balloon frame consists of the following elements:⁸⁸

- A sill, made from a large section of milled lumber (e.g., 4x8) or two or more smaller pieces (two 2x8s), set on a masonry or concrete foundation,
- Floor joists (2x10, 2x12, etc.), typically at 16 inches on center,⁸⁹ reinforced by diagonal bridging, nailed to the sill and nailed to:
- Studs (2x4 or 2x6), also set at 16 inches on center, running the full height of the building wall, to which is nailed:
- Ledgers to support the second floor joists,
- Exterior wall sheathing, consisting of wood boards (1x8), often set at a diagonal to create a structural diaphragm,
- A top plate on the stud wall, on which are set:
- Roof rafters (2x10, 2x12, etc.) set at 16 to 24 inches on center, to which roof sheathing consisting of wood boards are nailed, followed by wood roofing shingles,
- Exterior wall siding,
- Flooring nailed to the wood joists, consisting of two layers of wood boards (a rough board subfloor followed by a finished wood strip surface),
- Interior wall finish, consisting of wood lath nailed to the wood studs, covered by two to three layers of plaster.

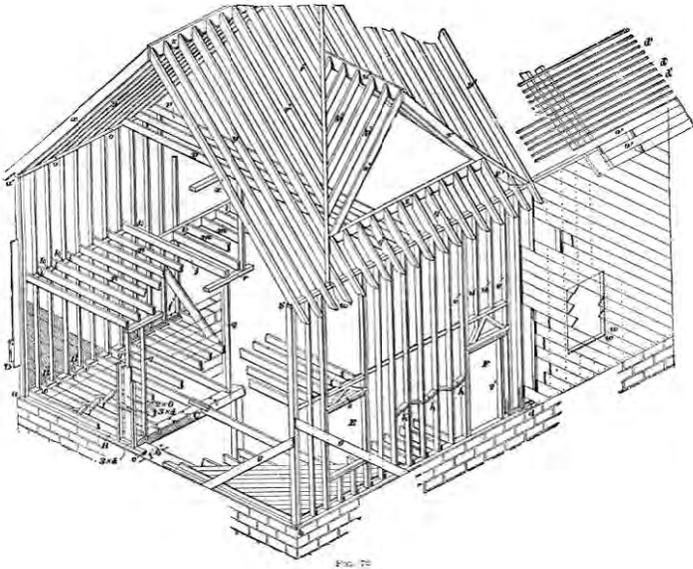
Since a carpenter with one or two helpers could frame and sheath a small one story house in one week, the balloon allowed a settler to have a dwelling on their land in a short amount of time. In addition, there was a 40 percent savings in the amount of material to enclose the same volume as compared to the braced frame.⁹⁰ Additions were as easy to construct as the original house, and easier to frame into than if braced framing was used. Another benefit of the balloon frame's light weight was that it allowed a structure to be moved more easily to a new site, if more room was needed on a property for other buildings or if additional land was obtained.

⁸⁷ Sprague, "Chicago Balloon Frame," 37.

⁸⁸ As with any new system or technique, there was a period of transition in which older framing methods were used along side balloon framing. This is discussed in Sprague, "Chicago Balloon Frame."

⁸⁹ Platform framing, also called Western framing, developed from balloon framing, allowing floor joists to be spaced up to 24 inches on center. Platform framing involved setting each floor level as a platform on the stud walls, allowing the use of shorter stud walls.

⁹⁰ Peterson, 9 and 11.



The balloon frame derived its name from the lightweight framing that allowed a large volume of space to be enclosed economically. The drawing shown above is from was published nearly sixty years after the system was developed [Masonry, Carpentry, Joinery, International Library of Technology Volume 30 (1889; reprint Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 1980), Carpentry section, drawing between pages 101 and 102]. Below right is a drawing of balloon framing from 1894 [William E. Bell, Carpentry Made Easy, or the Science and Art of Framing (Philadelphia: Ferguson Bros. & Co., 1894), plate 5]. Below left is a drawing of platform or Western framing construction, a development from balloon framing, published in the 1930s [Charles George Ramsey and Harold Reeve Sleeper, Architectural Graphic Standards, 3rd ed. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1941)].

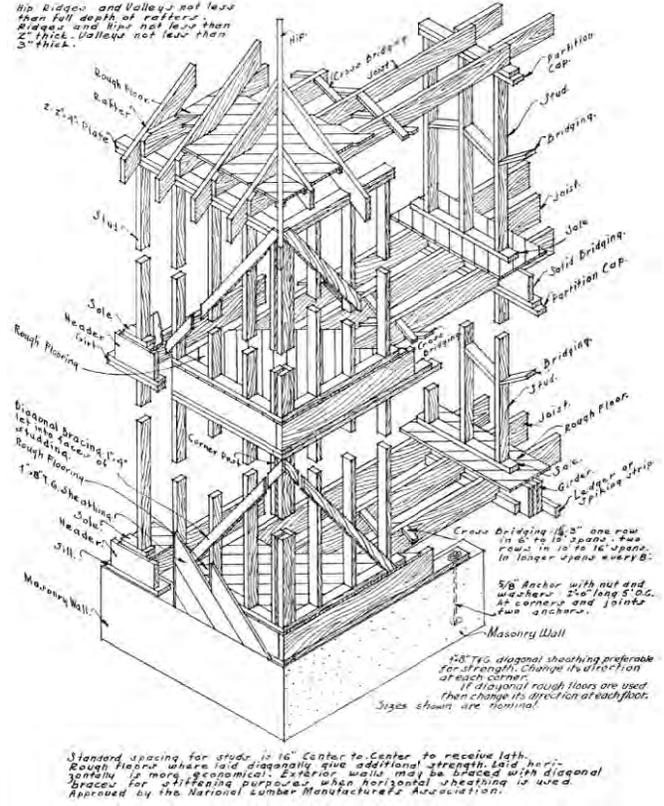
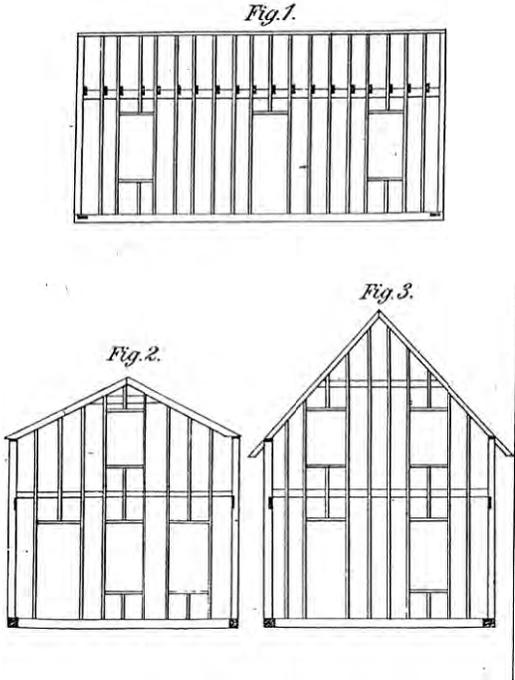


Plate 5,



Farming trade publications touted the benefits of the balloon frame.⁹¹ Its inherent advantages led American farmers to adopt the balloon frame as the standard structural framing system for houses by the end of the century. Although many ethnic groups brought their own techniques of constructing farmhouses and farm buildings with them to the United States, they often adopted balloon framing techniques in whole or in part and adapted it to their traditions.⁹²

As different architectural styles were introduced, the balloon frame was easily modified to create the forms and spaces required. Albert Britt of Illinois, in his book *An America That Was*, describes his family's new farmhouse that "cost nearly a thousand dollars".⁹³

Farmhouses were built without benefit of architect or reference to a particular style or period. Such plans as existed were principally in the head of the local carpenter who bossed the job. Ours was named Perkins and he came from Alexis, all of six miles away . . . A model of our house could have been made easily with a set of child's building blocks, but it was roomy and comfortable without dormers, turrets, or scrollsaw ornamentation, which were unpleasantly common on dwellings of that time. Prime consideration was enough interior space to suit a family's needs, and if the house was leakproof through rain and snow and windproof for anything short of a cyclone, all hands were satisfied. Houses were painted white, window blinds green. Barns were always painted red and as the color weathered some of the barns were beautiful. If a barn was in sight from the road it usually had the year of construction painted on it in large white numerals.⁹⁴

With the completion of the new farmhouse, Britt goes on to describe how the older farm structures were adapted for new functions: "with the building of a new home the little old one became a stable for horses, and the lean-to kitchen the family smokehouse."⁹⁵ This shows the flexibility that the framing system allowed, since these new functions required new or larger openings, relocating the structure, or construction of additions.

⁹¹ Peterson, 15–24.

⁹² One example was German-Russian farmers from Eastern Europe: "German-Russians eventually combined *Batsa* brick with balloon-frame construction, placing clay brick in walls between the studs to stabilize and insulate the dwelling." (Michael Koop, "German-Russians," in *America's Architectural Roots: Ethnic Groups that Built America*, Dell Upton, ed. (New York: Preservation Press, John Wiley & Sons, 1986), 131.)

⁹³ Albert Britt, *An America That Was* (Barre, Massachusetts: Barre Publishers, 1964), 33.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

Masonry Construction

Brick

Historically, masonry construction was somewhat uncommon in the survey area. Few historic brick structures exist in the survey area. The historic brick buildings in the survey area were typically built in the first decades of the twentieth century.



Examples of brick masonry construction in the rural survey area. Left: Circa 1920s house on U.S. Route 45 in section 22. (Demolition of this house is imminent.) Right: The second floor of the Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory is one of the few nineteenth century structures built using brick to survive in the township. The building was originally located on U.S. Route 45 in section 15 but was relocated to section 23.

Concrete

Although concrete was used by the Romans in antiquity, its use in recent times dates from the mid-nineteenth century. In 1860, S.T. Fowler patented a type of reinforced concrete wall construction, but it was not until the 1870s and 1880s that examples had actually been constructed. By 1900 numerous systems of reinforced concrete construction had been patented.⁹⁶

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

Concrete can be used on the farm for residences, barns, poultry houses, garages, piggeries, stalls and mangers, milk houses, machine sheds, ice houses, silos, all kinds of tanks and troughs, vats and wallows, manure pits, septic tanks, piers and foundations, sidewalls, steps, driveways, hen nests, pump pits, fence posts, etc.

Of all the buildings on the farm, which should be built of concrete, probably none is more important than the silo. Here is a structure in which it is essential to keep the silage fresh in order that the stock may be kept thrifty and growing all winter. The silo prevents a waste of corn stalks, which contain about one-third of the food value of the entire crop, and it enables a large number of animals to be maintained on a given number of acres. The concrete silo is ratproof, windproof, fireproof and will withstand cyclones. It will not dry out in the hot summer months, keeps the silage in perfect condition and can be constructed at a moderate first cost. There are four types of silos: Monolithic, cement block, stave and cement plaster construction.

... Concrete buildings contain no crevices in which to harbor vermin, and this freedom from lice makes it possible for the birds to retain more flesh at the end of the setting period and therefore

⁹⁶ William B. Coney, "Preservation of Historic Concrete: Problems and General Approaches," National Park Service Preservation Brief 15, 2.

more strength. Poultry can withstand dry cold when housed, but cannot endure dampness or drafts from below, and a concrete floor will also keep out rats. Instances are known where concrete is used successfully for nests, dropping platforms and roosts, thus greatly simplifying the problem of cleaning. The first requirement of a milk house is that it is scrupulously clean, and the construction should be such as to eliminate breeding places for germs and cracks or crevices for dirt to collect, making cleaning difficult or impossible. A milk house properly constructed of concrete fulfills these requirements, and concrete floors are recommended for sanitary reasons, with proper provisions for draining. The milk house should be located with reference to other buildings, such as stables and manure pits.⁹⁷

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

Concrete Block

Beginning in the early 1900s, mass production of concrete block units succeeded after several earlier developments failed to lead to widespread production.⁹⁸ Harmon S. Palmer patented a cast iron machine with a removable core and adjustable sides in 1900, allowing companies and cottage industries to spring up across the country. Palmer founded the Hollow Building Block Company in 1902, selling \$200 block machines. Other manufacturers who flooded the market with similar machines (without directly infringing on Palmer's patent) led to increased use of concrete block in building construction.

The blocks were produced by mixing Portland cement, water, sand, and gravel aggregate; placing the mixture in the machine and tamping it down to eliminate voids; and pulling a lever to release the block from the machine. Newly made blocks were stacked until the concrete cured, typically for one month. Blocks were made with a variety of face textures and even color, with "rockface" block being one of the most popular styles.⁹⁹

Although early block machines and block manufacturers produced units relatively larger than contemporary units, by the mid-1920s standards were introduced by concrete products organizations that included fabrication of units 8 by 8 by 16 inches in size. Other standards, produced by the National Association of Cement Users, the Concrete Producers Association, and the Concrete Block Manufacturers Association, promoted testing to improve quality.¹⁰⁰ However, concrete block began to fall out of favor as a building facing material during this same period. During the 1930s, smooth-faced block began to dominate the industry as architectural styles changed. Also by the later 1930s, mass production of block units began to supplant the use of earlier concrete block machines.

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

It is clear that the cash outlay for material becomes of the first importance and cost of labor becomes second. To illustrate, a man in such circumstances might have gravel on his farm. Also, he might have lumber, which he could use temporarily for the scaffold. The cost of cement block molds is slight, and if this man were somewhat of a mechanic, he would find it advantageous to secure a mold or molds and make his own cement blocks at odd times. In this way a cement block silo could be built with less cash outlay than any other form of silo.¹⁰¹

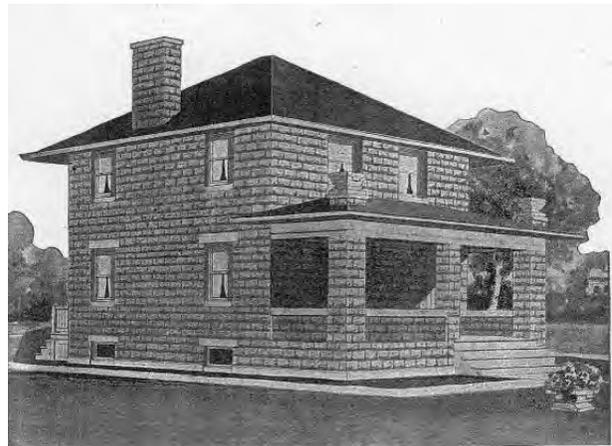
⁹⁷ "The Use of Concrete Work on the Farm," *Building Age* (February 1917), 102–103.

⁹⁸ Pamela H. Simpson, *Cheap, Quick, and Easy: Imitative Architectural Materials, 1870–1930* (Knoxville, Tennessee: University of Tennessee Press, 1999), 11.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, 24.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, 21–22.

¹⁰¹ M.L. King, "Planning the Silo," in *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Farmers' Institute*, H.A. McKeene, ed. (Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Journal Company, 1914), 64.



*The survey area has a small number of concrete block structures, including primarily utilitarian farm outbuildings. Top left: Detail of the concrete block front porch on the house at site 6 in section 12. At top right is an illustration from Wm. A Radford's *Cement Houses and How to Build Them* (circa 1910). Bottom left: The concrete block silo at site 6 in section 12. Bottom right: The concrete block feeder barn at site 146 in section 34.*



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

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

The survey area has many good examples of the use of concrete block, generally for utilitarian structures. The one farmhouse built from concrete block is an American Foursquare types, since that was the most popular style of rural residential construction in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

OWN A SILO BUILT OF CEMENT



Farmers, my new Cement Stone Silo Folder is ready. I want you to have one, and to personally write you important Silo matters to keep "under your hat." I'll make you wise to money-saving. Mustn't fool with wood silos. They'll rot or burn-up. FACT. Your farm is plenty good enough for a genuine fire-proof, frost-proof, rot-proof, INDESTRUCTIBLE Silo. Easy to build—and cheap. I'll tell how and won't charge for Estimates, Plans, Specifications or Diagrams. Merely get your name to me quick and you'll know Silo Facts that no other living man outside my factory knows. Address: **O. G. MANDT, Pres., MANDT MFG. CO., Dept. 561, Hollandale, Wis.**

Mandt Says "Build It of Cement"

Listen! The man who puts up a wood silo invites Trouble. If it doesn't burn down, blow over or waste pieces it rots out, that's certain. Round to do it, Sir. Ensilage contains moisture and sharp acids that eat right into wood or metal. Your wood silo springs a leak in jig time, spoiling tons and tons of valuable ensilage.



Of course you need a Silo. But are you going to experiment a while before getting the right kind? Why don't you get one that is Fire-Proof, Rot-Proof, Frost-Proof, Water-Proof and Rat-Proof—in other words, an Indestructible Cement-Stone Silo? Do you think a permanent silo of this kind costs too much? If you do, then I know you haven't seen my estimate, figures and book of facts that I have just finished writing. You need it mighty bad—and quick.

Get My New Folder on Indestructible Cement Silos

I am the pioneer in modern manufacturing cement-stone construction. In my new folder I tell you things about silo building that no man living outside my factory knows. Don't you want this information? Don't you want to know "how" and "how little" it costs to build an everlasting Indestructible Cement-Stone Silo? All FREE.

May I tell you what farmers who have tried both Wood and Indestructible Cement Silos found out? Well, then, right away, get your name to me personally for the New Folder and you'll soon know it all. Address me this way.

**O. G. MANDT, President,
Mandt Manufacturing Company,
Dept. 561, Hollandale, Wis.**
Write MANDT about EVERLASTING CEMENT-STONE POSTS

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

Limestone

One building material dating from the earliest period of European settlement in the survey area was limestone quarried from the Fox and Du Page River valleys. The numerous quarries in northwestern Will County were utilized first for their limestone reserves but are primarily used today as sources of gravel.

The area surrounding Joliet contains abundant supplies of limestone, derived predominantly from the Niagaran strata. Owing to oxidation of ferrous minerals contained in the stone, the color of the stone ranges from buff near the surface to gray tones at deeper levels. Its surface is a hard, compact and slightly porous, brittle dolomite. The stone has thin seams of greenish clay (chert) running through the whole mass, which upon long exposure in alternately wet and dry conditions causes the solid calcium carbonate layers to delaminate.¹⁰²

A prosperous period for quarrying stone in the Joliet area of Will County began during the 1830s, and by 1850 a chain of quarries was developing against the bluffs on the western bank of the Des Plaines River. The limestone industry grew steadily, both in number and acreage size of firms. The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 provided enormous stimulation to the stone quarrying industry. Not only was stone needed at once to replace destroyed buildings, especially in the city center, but new building ordinances created a "fire" zone in which wood construction was in theory prohibited. Many new quarries were started to cater to the increased demand.¹⁰³

As the quarry industry peaked in the 1880s, many smaller businesses were bought out by much larger operations or forced by competition to abandon their sites. The consolidation of established quarries

¹⁰² Linda Ponte, "The Celebrated Joliet Marble Field," in *An Historical Geography of the Lower Des Plaines Valley Limestone Industry, Time and Place in Joliet*, Michael Conzen, ed. (Chicago: The University of Chicago, 1988), 15.

¹⁰³ Ibid.

changed the methods of the business. Tools to crush, cut, rub, and saw stone became more advanced and raised production, while some of the old established quarries saw themselves eclipsed by newer and larger enterprises. However, the availability of more durable Indiana limestone starting in the latter part of the nineteenth century and the discovery of the lack of long-term durability of the Joliet stone, in addition to the introduction of other building materials such as concrete, led to the decline of the stone industry in Will County.

Throughout the first two decades of the twentieth century, the industry continued to decline. In an Illinois Geological Survey report of 1925, it was reported that “the main uses of dolomite from this area are for road material, concrete, flux, agricultural purposes, building stone, and sidewalks.”¹⁰⁴ The report also stated that building stone or flagstone (for sidewalks) was no longer a major product of the quarries, and that “with the present tendency towards the use of brick and artificial stone, it seems fairly certain that the dimension stone industry of this area is not a growing industry.”¹⁰⁵ A number of quarries remain in business today, depending on the demand for crushed stone to keep their sites open and active.¹⁰⁶

Due to the remoteness of Frankfort Township from the primary quarrying sites in northwestern Will County, very few limestone masonry structures exist in the township. In the nineteenth century, limestone was used primarily for building foundations.



Limestone in historic Frankfort Township buildings is most commonly used for foundations, such as these bank barns. Left: The barn at the McGovney–Yunker farm in section 17. Right: The barn at site 12 in section 4.

¹⁰⁴ Fisher, 118. In the mid-1920s, Illinois State Penitentiary at Stateville (now Stateville Correctional Center) was under construction and utilized concrete extensively. Gravel for the concrete mixing was quarried by inmates in the region. But the primary involvement of the Illinois prison system with the Des Plaines valley limestone industry was the quarry at the “old prison” at Joliet (now Joliet Correctional Center). The quarry at the prison, using inmate labor, produced stone material for construction, although use of this stone began to be restricted to state agencies after the early 1900s.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid., 119.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

Classification of Farmhouses

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

Architectural Style

In the second half of the nineteenth century, architectural styles were disseminated through style books promoting not only aesthetic features of houses but also the orderly qualities for a proper domestic environment.¹⁰⁷ Another source of building ideas was agricultural journals. Although carpenters and builders rarely followed such books and journals exactly, these publications did influence the types of houses being constructed (as discussed in the next section) as well as the stylistic elements applied to those houses. Although it is unlikely that many of the buildings in the survey area were built using designs or supervision of academically trained architects, many of the farmhouses were built by carpenters and builders competent at applying fashionable architectural styles in their work.

Greek Revival

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

Gothic Revival

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

¹⁰⁷ Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland*, 68.



Left: Although greatly altered, the house at site 112 in section 26 has some remaining details in the Greek Revival style, such as the cornice returns at the roof eaves.

Italianate

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



Left: The landmark potential house at site 103 in section 22 has intact Italianate style details including the eave brackets, circular attic window, and porch columns. Right: Although obscured by the addition of vinyl siding, the house at site 106 in section 23 was built with Italianate style eave brackets and window hoods.

Second Empire

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

Queen Anne

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



Left: The house at site 6 in section 12 has complex massing and eclectic detailing that relates to the Queen Anne style. Right: This house on Schoolhouse Road in Mokena, site 168 in section 8 in the present survey, is a former farmhouse with Queen Anne style decorative trim and shingle siding in the gable.

Colonial and Georgian Revival

After the comparative excesses of the Italianate, Second Empire, and Queen Anne styles, the Colonial and Georgian Revival styles are more restrained and utilize stricter use of ornament and proportion. Introduced on the east coast at the end of the nineteenth century, the Colonial Revival style spread to the Midwest over the next decade and became an influential style for larger homes and public buildings into the 1930s. The rectilinear forms of Colonial Revival structures are often symmetrical and have gabled roofs with dormers, classical columns and ornament, and ornamental window shutters. Georgian Revival buildings differ in that they adhere more closely to symmetrical floor plans, have strong cornice lines, Flemish bond brick coursing, watertables, and other elements of traditional Colonial period architecture. No examples of Colonial Revival design were identified in the survey area.

Craftsman or Arts and Crafts Style

The Arts and Crafts movement originated in England in the mid-nineteenth century, although it did not become fashionable in the United States until the first two decades of the twentieth century. The style favored simple designs with natural materials, low-pitched roofs, battered wall treatments, exposed rafters, and casement and double hung windows. Although there are no true examples of Craftsman or Arts and Crafts farmhouses in the region, there are a few with elements having its stylistic influence.



Left: This house at site 22 in section 14 has a broad front porch characteristic of Craftsman design. Right: The house at site 20 in section 15 has Craftsman style details such as eave brackets.

Prairie Style

The Prairie Style was developed by several architects in the Midwest but originated chiefly from the Chicago area, where Frank Lloyd Wright, Walter Burley Griffin, Marion Mahony Griffin, William Purcell, and George Elmslie (among others) formulated a set of principles uniquely suited to and inspired by the American suburban and rural landscape. In many ways this style developed from the Arts and Crafts movement, although it was a distinct style with its own characteristics. Prairie Style structures are characterized by broad, horizontal massing, hipped and gabled roofs with deep overhangs, asymmetrical floor plans, and geometric detailing based on nature motifs. Natural and earth-toned materials such as wood, stucco, and brick predominate, and windows often have leaded glass windows that repeat and develop nature motifs. The style was fashionable from around 1895 to 1920. The survey area does not have any “high style” Prairie Style houses.

Tudor Revival

From about 1910 to 1940, Tudor Revival was one of several fashionable revival styles in practice. Based on English late medieval architecture, the style was adapted to unique American building forms created by the balloon frame. Although Tudor Revival buildings were also built in stone, the use of wood and stucco to imitate a half-timbered appearance was a predominant feature. Often times only the ground or first floor was clad with stone while the upper story was clad with wood and stucco “half-timbering.” The style also utilized asymmetrical floor plans and massing, narrow multi-paned windows, prominent masonry chimneys, and steeply sloped roofs. The survey area does not have any Tudor Revival style houses.

House Types

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

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

The house types classified below are those that are typically found in the survey area. As with any classification system, alternate systems could be utilized. Most of the definitions provided below were derived from *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* by Stephen C. Gordon.¹⁰⁸ Building forms followed the movement of settlers from New England westward through the Ohio Valley to Illinois.¹⁰⁹ However, a significant number of the settlers in the survey area were new immigrants to the United States. Their influence on the region's buildings is visible in some of the extant house types, but more readily visible in the barns and other farm structures.

I House

The name "I House" was first recognized in 1930 as a housing type in Indiana that had originated in the Middle Atlantic states. The form was later identified in the other Midwestern "I" states of Illinois and Iowa.¹¹⁰ The form consists of a two story, one room deep plan that is at least two rooms wide. Chimneys were often placed at each end of the floor plan. Only one surviving example of the I House type was identified in Frankfort Township during the survey.

Hall and Parlor

The Hall and Parlor house is a simple rectangular plan dwelling one to one-and-a-half stories in height, with a side oriented gable roof. In plan, these types of houses have one larger room for the kitchen and daily living and a side room used as a more formal parlor or a bedroom. There is often an addition at the rear of the house extending from the parlor side. Chimneys are often placed at each end of the house. The type was used less often after the late 1800s.¹¹¹ No Hall and Parlor houses were identified in the survey area. Some houses in the survey may have started as Hall and Parlor types, but through renovations and additions have evolved into other forms.

¹⁰⁸ Stephen C. Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* (Columbus, Ohio: Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992).

¹⁰⁹ For overviews of patterns of ethnic migration and diffusion, see Fred B. Kniffen, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," in *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, ed. (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986); and John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer, *Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1989).

¹¹⁰ Kniffen, 7–8.

¹¹¹ Gordon, 125. Since the form can be confused with later cottage types of houses, one feature that can date it properly is the height to width ratios of the window openings: tall window openings usually date a house to the 1800s.

New England One and a Half

This house type is a rectangular plan dwelling, one to one-and-a-half stories in height and at least two bays wide. Flanking a central entrance hall and stairs are two large rooms with two or more smaller rooms across the rear of the house. Some houses of this type are not symmetrical across the front, depending upon the interior layout. New England One and a Half houses were popular from the earliest days of settlement in Will County in the 1830s up to the Civil War. They often include Greek Revival ornament, such as pilasters, architraves, cornice returns, and entablature panels. Farming settlers emigrating from New England, where this house type originated, brought this house type with them to the Midwest.



The house as Site 152 in section 35 is the only surviving example of the New England One and a Half house type in Frankfort Township.

Side Hallway

Side Hallway houses are typically simple rectilinear volumes, two stories in height, and often with gable roofs oriented to the front or the side. In plan the entry is at the end bay of the front elevation, opening into the main stair hall. Adjacent to the hall is the main parlor with additional rooms at the rear of the house. The form was popular until the 1880s.¹¹² No Side Hallway type houses were identified in the survey area.

¹¹² Ibid., 126.

Upright and Wing

The Upright and Wing was popular in the mid to late 1800s.¹¹³ The type consists of an upright portion with a gable end, usually one-and-a-half to two stories, and a one to one-and-a-half story wing. The gable end of the wing is usually at or below the eave of the upright. Upright and Wing type houses have T- or L-shaped floor plans. Inside, the wing contains a kitchen and one or two bedrooms and the upright a parlor and additional bedrooms.¹¹⁴ The Upright and Wing type is common in the survey area, representing about one-third of the surviving historic farmhouses.



Upright and Wing farmhouses are common in the survey area. Top left: Site 28 in section 32. Top right: Site 155 in section 36. Bottom left: Site 30 in section 29. Bottom right: Site 14 in section 5.

Gabled Ell

The Gabled Ell house type usually dates from the two decades after the Civil War.¹¹⁵ It has an L-shaped plan, sometimes with additions to form a T-shaped plan, and usually is two stories in height with a gabled roof. Within the main “L” there is often a porch. In most arrangements, the gable end of the shorter of the two wings faces the street or main approach with the broad side of the other wing at the side. The Gabled Ell type is also common in the survey area, representing about one-third of the surviving historic farmhouses.

¹¹³ Peterson groups the Upright and Wing with the Gabled Ell type (both being forms of L- or T-plan houses), making it “the most numerous and familiar farmhouse type in the Upper Midwest...” (Peterson, *Homes in the Heartland*, 96.) Peterson also notes that many L- and T-plan houses are the result of additions being constructed to existing rectangular house forms (Ibid., 99).

¹¹⁴ Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*, 132.

¹¹⁵ Ibid., 136.



The Gabled Ell farmhouse type is relatively common in the survey area. Top left: Site 52 in section 4. Top right: Site 138 in section 33. Bottom left: Site 146 in section 34. Bottom right: Site 150 in section 35.

Four-over-Four

The Four-over-Four basically consists of a central hallway flanked by two rooms on each side in a house two to two-and-a-half stories in height. This house type usually has a gable roof, with the ridge line running parallel to the front face. Exploiting balloon frame construction, the form was popular in the middle 1800s, although it returned during the vogue of the Colonial and Georgian Revival styles. No Four-over-Four farmhouses were observed in the survey area.

Gable Front

The Gable Front house describes a variety of house types dating from the mid-1800s through the 1920s. It is similar to the Four-over-Four, except that the main entrance at the gable end facing the street or main approach. It is also similar to the Side Hallway type, and usually has a rectangular floor plan. Only a few examples of the Gable Front type were observed in the survey area.

American Foursquare

The American Foursquare¹¹⁶ was introduced around 1900 and continued to be popular until the 1920s. It consists of a two to two-and-a-half story block with a roughly square floor plan with four rooms on each floor. Roofs are hipped or pyramidal, with dormer windows (hipped and gable) on at least the front

¹¹⁶ The term “American Foursquare” was coined by Clem Labine, former editor of the *Old-House Journal*. (Gordon, *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*, 137.)

elevation and sometimes the side and rear elevations. Foursquares usually have front porches but may also have bay windows (some extending both stories) and one story rear additions. Many Foursquares were built from plans developed by local lumber companies or mail order sources that advertised in farm journals; others were purchased whole and delivered as pre-cut, ready-to-assemble houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company or home manufacturers. Several examples of the American Foursquare type were observed in the survey area.



The American Foursquare is another farmhouse type that is somewhat common in the survey area. Left: Site 22 in section 13. Right: Site 21 in section 14.

Bungalow

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



The survey area has a few bungalow type farmhouses. Left: Site 8 in section 11. Right: Site 20, section 15.

Cape Cod

The Cape Cod was a popular house type from the 1920s to the early 1950s. The type was inspired by eighteenth century cottages in Massachusetts and Virginia.¹¹⁷ The Cape Cod has a simple rectangular plan, one story in height with dormers and a gable roof.



Left: One Cape Cod type house was identified in the present survey, at site 11 in section 4. The flat roof wing in the foreground is a later addition. Right: Ranch type houses in the rural survey include the house at site 31 in section 28, constructed circa 1948 for the Berlin L. Reagan farm.

Ranch

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

¹¹⁷ Ibid., 140.

Development of the Barn

The barns of the Midwest have several typical functions: animal shelter, crop storage, crop processing, equipment storage, and machinery repair. However, barns also have specialized functions designated by adjectives such as “sheep” barn or “dairy” barn. In some instances a substitute term was used such as hog house or implement shed, especially if a larger multipurpose “barn” is also on the farm. Nonetheless, these structures shared some similar forms and structural systems.¹¹⁸

Pioneer settlers, faced with clearing virgin forest or breaking sod, usually had little time to do more than erect a roughhouse and perhaps a crude animal shelter in the first years of settlement. Not until after some ten years on a homestead, or perhaps not even until the second generation, did the pioneer have the means to construct a large barn.¹¹⁹

The need for large barns necessitated the development of structural systems to enclose large volumes of space. As the frontier of settlement passed into the Midwest, many early barns were constructed of logs by settlers who either possessed log-building skills or gained these techniques by association with other ethnic or cultural groups. Although the eastern Midwest was well forested, providing sufficient log materials, the prairies of the central Midwest (including Illinois) had less forested land to supply log construction. Therefore, other solutions were required.¹²⁰

The skeletal framework of barns consists typically of sill timbers resting directly on the foundation (usually stone, although concrete was introduced in the early 1900s). The sills also form the substructure for the floor joists and wall framing. The barn’s joists sometimes remained round, except for the top side, which was flattened to accommodate floorboards. Most early barns had a gable roof composed of rafters, rough sawn boards, and wooden shingles. Vertically attached boards, some as large as fourteen inches wide, ran from the sill to the top plate of the wall for siding on timber frame barns.¹²¹

As discussed earlier in this chapter, light framing techniques and advanced wood milling machines influenced the development of Midwestern farmhouses. However, barns continued to be built with heavy timber. As these large framing members became scarce and expensive in the early twentieth century, new innovations were sought, such as plank framing that featured the substitution of plank lumber for heavy long, square timbers.¹²²

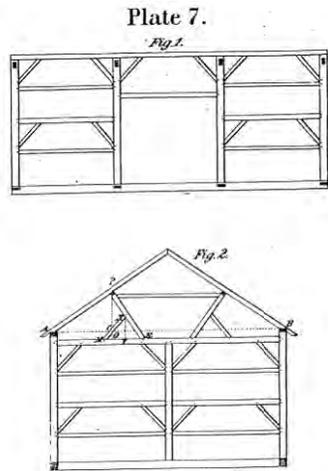
¹¹⁸ Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, “The Farm Barns of the American Midwest,” in *Barns of the Midwest*, Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, ed. (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995), 9.

¹¹⁹ Hubert G.H. Wilhelm, “Midwestern Barns and Their Germanic Connections,” in *Barns of the Midwest*, 65.

¹²⁰ Ibid.

¹²¹ Ibid., 48–50.

¹²² Lowell J. Soike, “Within the Reach of All: Midwest Barns Perfected,” in *Barns of the Midwest*, Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, ed. (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995), 147. Two major forms of plank framing developed. The first took dimension plank lumber and imitated heavy timber framing, carrying the loads through posts and beams. The second type opened up the center of the barn by using a truss for the framing bents. This was followed by an adaptation of the balloon framing for barn construction. Stud walls replaced posts and girts for handling loads; roof loads were carried by trusses made from lighter weight lumber (Ibid., 155–156).



A drawing of heavy timber barn framing from 1894 [William E. Bell, *Carpentry Made Easy, or the Science and Art of Framing* (Philadelphia: Ferguson Bros. & Co., 1894), plate 7]. The nineteenth century braced frame barn in section 31 of Frankfort Township shown at right shows similar framing and bracing.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, new barn building ideas emerged from a growing field of experts: agricultural engineers, experiment station researchers, and commercial farm planning services. The American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE) soon contained a committee on farm structures after its formation. The result of these efforts widened the variety of barn building plans available to farmers and encouraged improved building standards.¹²³ At about this time, manufacturers and marketers of pre-cut, ready-to-assemble houses (such as the American Foursquare house type discussed above) entered the market for barn construction. Two major Iowa firms, the Loudon Machinery Company of Fairfield and the Gordon-Van Tine Company of Davenport, advertised plans for their pre-cut barns along with their pre-cut homes.

Engineering research led to the development of framing for gambrel roofs, culminating in the Clyde or Iowa truss. (The shape of the gambrel roof allowed a larger loft space to store hay than the gable roof allowed.) The first step in this development was the work of John Shawver of Ohio, who developed a gambrel truss form using sawn lumber. The Iowa truss was developed by A.W. Clyde, an engineer with the Iowa State College farm extension service, around 1920. It allowed construction of a stiff frame at far lower cost than the Shawver truss, which required expensive extra-length material.¹²⁴

¹²³ Ibid., 158.

¹²⁴ Ibid. The open loft, free from interior braces like those used in the Shawver and Iowa trusses, was finally achieved with the laminated gothic arch roof. The gothic roof was developed over a two decade period, with an early system using sawn boards 12 inches wide, 1 inch thick, and 3 to 4 feet long from which the outside edge was shaved to the needed curvature. Three or four plies were laminated together with nails, with splices staggered along the curve. These rafters were placed 2 feet on center. However, due to the material wasted in shaving the lumber and the labor consumed in sawing and nailing, farmers and builders were slow to adopt this system. Bent or sprung arches were the second major type of curved rafter construction, first used in an experiment in Davis, California, in 1916. The perceived savings in material and labor required to produce the same contour by bending instead of sawing, made this system more popular. Bent-rafter gothic arch construction, although more economical in labor and material, proved less rigid than the more expensive sawed type. For this reason, many farmers adopted a combination of the two, with the sawed rafters spaced every 8 to 12 feet and the bent rafters spaced between, twenty-four inches on center (Ibid., 161–2).

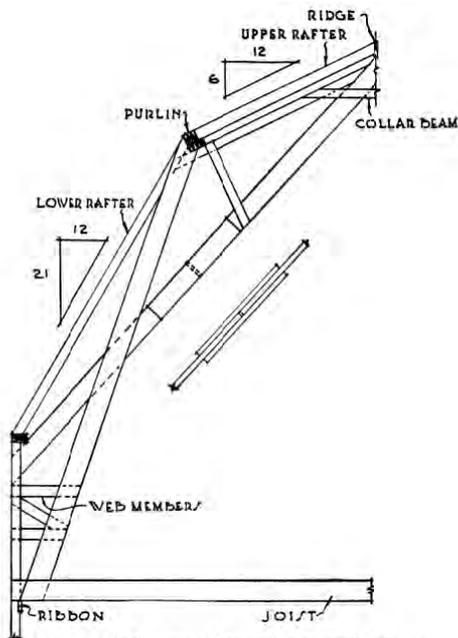


FIG. 68. Plank-truss (Shawver) barn roof framing.

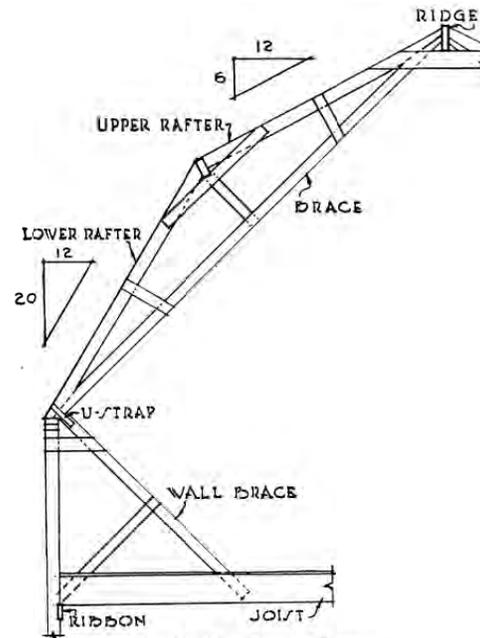


FIG. 69. The Iowa roof truss.

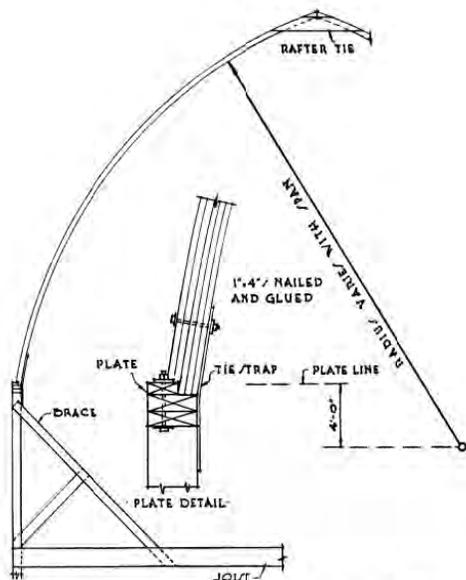


FIG. 72. Laminated, bent rafter in Gothic arch.

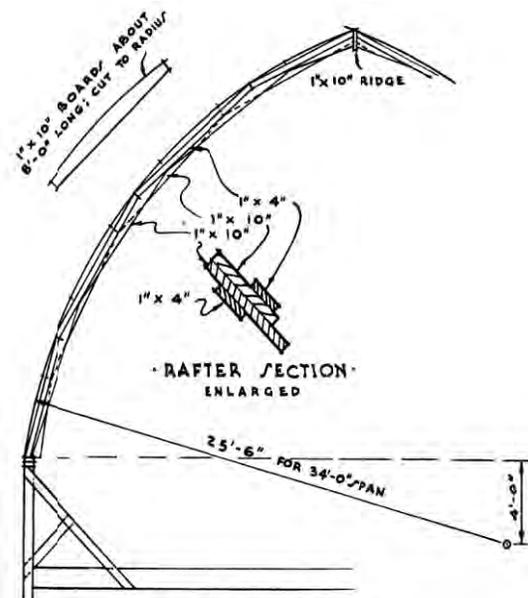


FIG. 73. Gothic rafter, sawed form.

The Shawver, Iowa, laminated gothic arch, and sawn gothic arch barn roof rafters. [Deane G. Carter and W.A. Foster, Farm Buildings, Third Edition. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1941], 136, 138, 140, and 141].

During the 1930s, the Gothic roof entered the last phase of its evolution. At Iowa State Agricultural College, Henry Giese tested existing types of laminated bent rafters in an attempt to solve their shortcomings. Working in collaboration with Rock Island Lumber Company, distributor of Weyerhaeuser Forest Products, he explored the potential of modern glues to yield a stronger bent rafter. Using Douglas fir, clear of knots and defects, glue-laminated under approximately 100 pounds per square inch of pressure and shaped to an arch form, the rafter was stronger than those laminated conventionally with nails and bolts (either the shaved- or bent-lumber techniques). Rafter performance was also improved with the use of hinge connections at the supports. Weyerhaeuser was marketing these factory-built rafters

under the trademark of Rilco by 1938.¹²⁵ The United States Forest Products Laboratory also performed tests on glued laminated construction. Their laboratory tests showed that laminated rafters were two to four times stronger than ordinary bent and sawed rafters laminated with nails.¹²⁶



Left: This detail of the arched roof barn on site 115 in section 27, the Stauffenberg–Hansen farm, shows the use of shaved and bent lumber to create the arched roof form. Right: The arched roof barn on the Berlin L. Reagan farm, site 31 in section 28, was constructed circa 1948 and is a very late example of this barn type.

The two-story loft barn ceased to be built shortly after World War II.¹²⁷ In the first half of the twentieth century the dependence on draft animals waned and mechanical power in the form of tractors increased, and farmers no longer needed loft space.¹²⁸ Farmers began to build fewer custom wood frame structures, which were susceptible to fires, as manufactured buildings using steel became available. Early metal-barn types, such as Quonsets, developed initially in the 1930s and gained a notable measure of popularity among some Midwestern farmers immediately after World War II. One of the leading manufacturers of Quonset barns and sheds was the Great Lakes Steel Corporation of Detroit, whose structures were purported to be fireproof, rat-proof, and sag-proof. Corrugated metal was also a suggested covering for wooden barn siding, and organizations as the Asbestos Farm Service Bureau promoted the use of asbestos-based cement boards for re-siding old barns.¹²⁹

Because lofts were no longer needed, one-story barn construction became more standard in the postwar years. The shift from loose to baled or chopped hay reduced the need for haymows as many farmers adopted the “loose-housing” or “loafing” system for housing cattle. University of Wisconsin agricultural scientists argued that cows would be more content and give more milk if they were allowed to roam in and out of the barn at will. The loose-housing system resulted in the construction of one-story galvanized all-steel barns.¹³⁰ The pole barn was a simple method for constructing the necessary enclosure for farm implements and the limited amount of hay still required on the farm. Pole barns use round poles set into small, individual foundations, to which engineered roof trusses and wall girts and siding are attached. The structural concept for the modern pole barn was developed by H. Howard Doane of St. Louis in the early 1930s. He and George Perkins, his farm manager, used creosoted wood poles (which were commonly

¹²⁵ *Ibid.*, 162–163.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, 164.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*, 165.

¹²⁸ In 1930, 61,000 combines were counted by the U.S. Census; in 1953, 918,000. One in six farmers already owned a tractor by 1932. In 1944, 14 percent of the nation’s hay was harvested with windrow balers; by 1948, the figure was 46 percent. See Glenn A. Harper and Steve Gordon, “The Modern Midwestern Barn, 1900–Present,” in *Barns of the Midwest*, Noble and Wilhelm, ed., 225.

¹²⁹ *Ibid.*, 226.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, 225.

used for telephone poles) for the vertical structural members.¹³¹ Pole barns and manufactured buildings are common throughout the survey area, and remain the standard means of construction for contemporary farm buildings.



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

¹³¹ Ibid.

Barn Types

As with house types, several systems have been used to classify barns, either by function; shape and structural system; ethnic traditions and their influence; or regional characteristics and commonalities.¹³² The classification types developed below are based on Allen G. Noble and Richard K. Cleek's *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns & Other Farm Structures* and Allen G. Noble's *Wood, Brick & Stone*. Classification is often by ethnic influence, which is appropriate to the region of the rural survey because of the Scottish, Irish, and German origins and ancestry of many of its settlers; or it is by the shape and configuration of the barn.

Three-bay Threshing Barn

The Three-bay Threshing barn (also called the English barn) was introduced into North America through English colonial settlement in southern New England.¹³³ The English and continental European immigrants of the early 1800s introduced this barn type to the Midwest. It was originally designed as a single function barn to store or process grain and was most suitable for small-scale, subsistence farms. It is a single level, rectangular structure divided into three parts or sections, each termed a bay.

Large double doors are centered on both long sides of the structure. Hand threshing with a grain flail was done in the central bay, sometimes called the threshing bay. Following threshing, the large doors were opened to create a draft, which, during winnowing, would separate the chaff from the heavier grain, and carry it away. Flanking the central bay were the other two bays of generally equal dimensions. One was used during the fall or winter to store sheaves of harvested grain, awaiting threshing. The other bay was used for storing the threshed grain, commonly in bins, and straw, which was used as feed and bedding for horses and cattle.¹³⁴ Early examples had steeply pitched (over 45 degrees) gable roofs and low stone foundations. They were sided in vertical boards with small ventilation openings high on the gable ends. Windows are largely absent, although later versions included them at animal stall locations. Gable-end sheds were a common addition.¹³⁵

Eventually as dairying replaced wheat production in the agricultural economy, the threshing/storage function of this barn type became less important. At first no animals were housed in the structure, although interior remodeling was often made to introduce animal stalls in one of the two side bays. This effectively reduced the grain storage and processing function and only offered shelter for a modest number of animals.¹³⁶ In some cases this barn type was lifted up and placed onto a raised basement, which then could house the animals, especially dairy cows.¹³⁷

¹³² Often there are more conflicts than agreements between different classification systems. The types defined herein seem to best describe the structures actually present and the social and ethnic origins of their builders.

¹³³ Fred B. Kniffen "Folk-Housing: Key to Diffusion," in *Common Places, Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, ed. (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 11.

¹³⁴ Charles Calkins and Martin Perkins, "The Three-bay Threshing Barn," in *Barns of the Midwest*, Allen G. Noble and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm, ed. (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995), 40–41.

¹³⁵ Allen G. Noble and Richard K. Cleek, *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns and Other Farm Structures* (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1995), 77.

¹³⁶ Allen G. Noble, *Wood, Brick and Stone*, The North American Settlement Landscape, Volume 2: Barns and Farm Structures (Amherst, Massachusetts: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984), 56–58.

¹³⁷ Calkins and Perkins, "The Three-bay Threshing Barn," *Barns of the Midwest*, 59.



Left: This barn at site 103 in section 22 is an exemplary Three-bay Threshing barn. Right: The barn at site 147 in section 34, the Schrader–Geuther farm, shows how the Three-bay Threshing form was adapted to include animal stalls at one end.

Raised, Bank, and Basement Barns

The Raised or Bank barn originated in central New York as a shelter for dairy cattle. It was the first multi-purpose barn to gain widespread popularity. These barns are usually larger than Three-bay Threshing barns and have a ground floor level for cattle and dairy cows with an upper level for hay and feed storage. This upper level is reached by an earthen ramp, bridge, or the natural slope of an embankment. Basement barns are similar to Raised barns, in that the foundation walls extend up to the bottom of the second floor. However, Basement barns do not have ramps nor are they sited to utilize the natural topography to access the second floor. This barn type is relatively common in Frankfort Township.



The rolling topography of Frankfort Township allows for numerous Bank barns that are sited to take advantage of natural slopes. Left: The barn at site 19 in section 15, the Baumgartner–Marti farm. Right: The barn at site 15 in section 17, the McGovney–Yunker farm.

German Barn

German barns, also called German/Swiss barns or Pennsylvania barns, include a group of barns introduced into the Delaware valley by German-speaking settlers. It was one of the first American barn types to combine crop storage and animal shelter. It became a structure synonymous with Pennsylvania Dutch culture and its mixed grain-livestock agriculture. These barns had a lower story partially cut into the natural slope of the land and an upper level that was accessed from a slope or ramp. A forebay is formed by recessing the ground floor wall and enclosing it at each end with the masonry gable end walls. Another distinctive feature is the use of a combination of stone masonry and wood framed and sheathed

walls: stone was typically reserved for gable end walls and/or north facing walls. This barn type was not observed in Frankfort Township.

Plank Frame Barn

This relatively small barn type originated in the eastern Midwest around 1875.¹³⁸ Plank frame barns can have gable or gambled roofs and are typically one story in height plus a large hay loft. They are multi-purpose, with small ground floor windows for animal stalls and a large sliding door for equipment. Their floor plans are usually small, approximately 30 by 40 feet. Plank frame barns use small dimension milled lumber rather than the heavy timber framing of earlier barn types. Plank frame barns are relatively uncommon in Frankfort Township.

Three-ended Barn

This barn type is a modification to the Three-bay Threshing barn, adding a hay barn addition perpendicular to an existing barn. This addition, sometimes called a straw shed, could have less height than the main portion of the barn or be taller than the main barn. The additions could also have an open bay at ground level into which a cart could drive to unload hay into the loft space. Only one three-ended barn was observed in Frankfort Township.



One Three-ended barn was observed in Frankfort Township, this barn at site 10 in section 4.

Round Barn

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

Wisconsin Dairy Barn

A barn associated with dairying is the Wisconsin Dairy barn, which originated at the Wisconsin's Agricultural Experiment Station at Madison around 1915. It was specially designed to provide a structure for efficient dairy farming. This large barn was typically 36 by 100 feet or larger. It had a gambrel roof or occasionally a round roof, although early versions were often gable-roofed with horizontal boarding. Rows of small windows and gable-end doors were typical. There was usually a large gable-end loft opening and a triangular hay hood. Frequently there are roof ventilators.¹³⁹ Frankfort Township has numerous examples of the dairy barn type.

¹³⁸ Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 117

¹³⁹ Noble and Cleek, 77.



Dairy barn examples. Left: Site 2 in section 1. This barn has been adaptively reused as a banquet hall. Right: This exemplary dairy barn is located at site 124 in section 28, the Nekrauer-Fitterer farm.

Feeder Barn

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



Left: One example of a feeder barn at site 146 in section 34. Right: A historic round roof barn at site 115 in section 27, the Stauffenberg-Hansen farm.

Round Roof Barn

Round Roof Barns came into existence with structural advances in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Although called round, roof shapes for this type are often gothic arch in form. The name describes the roof shape, although the configuration of their floor plans were usually based on more typical barn types such as Plank frame, Dairy, or Raised barns. There are two known examples of barns of this type in Frankfort Township; refer to the illustrations on page 59.

Pole Barn

The latest major barn type, called the pole barn, evolved in the eastern Midwest. The walls of the building are hung on poles that are driven into individual footings buried in the ground below the frost line. The floor is typically concrete slab or dirt. There is no loft. Later versions usually have metal siding, especially those erected after World War II.¹⁴⁰ The pole barn is an example of economical construction techniques applied to modern agriculture.

Quonset Shed

Sometimes referred to as Quonset “huts,” this metal building type is named for the U.S. Naval Air Station at Quonset Point in Davisville, Rhode Island, where sheds of this type were built in 1942, although wood-framed examples were already common in the 1930s. Its universal use in the military during World War II made Quonset sheds seem to be an ideal economical building type in the postwar years, finding use as storage facilities, offices, homes, and commercial ventures such as movie theaters. Military Quonsets often had steel framing members to support the corrugated galvanized metal sheathing, but civilian examples used wood framing as well. Where observable, the examples present in the rural survey area usually have wood framing. Their use in the survey area includes implement sheds, animal shelters, and other types of storage.



Above: Examples of Quonset sheds in Frankfort Township include this small shed on site 103 in section 22 (left) and this large machine shed on site 120 in section 27 (right). Below: Pole barns are a twentieth-century farm building type, typically one-story buildings with corrugated metal siding. The example at left is from Manhattan Township. The example at right is at site 116 in section 27 of Frankfort Township.



¹⁴⁰ Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 120.

Manufactured Building

While pole barn structures use manufactured materials assembled by a local builder or the farmer himself, manufactured buildings were developed as a complete system in the 1940s. Such buildings offer quick construction time and potentially lower cost because of the use of standardized components. The buildings also allow for large floor areas, giving farmers flexibility of usage. This building type remains common for newly constructed agricultural buildings in the survey area.



Left: An older type of manufactured building at site 124 in section 28. Right: A manufactured building newly constructed in 2005 at site 12 in section 4.

Grain Elevators

Grain elevators began to be constructed alongside developing rail systems during the second half of the nineteenth century. Early elevators were often associated with the flour mills they served. They were usually timber-framed structures, as were the mills themselves.¹⁴¹ Concrete grain elevators and silos, usually constructed in banks of two to ten or more, were constructed in the early decades of the twentieth century.

Corncribs

Pioneer farmers frequently built log corncribs during their two centuries of migration into and settlement of the Midwest. Most crude frontier log cribs were little more than bins, loosely constructed of saplings or split rails and laid up with saddle notching to hold them together.¹⁴² Sometimes the logs were skinned to lessen the danger of infestation by worms and insect. The bin-like cribs were typically covered with thatch or cornstalks to help shed the rain; a board and shingle roof took more effort, required nails, and therefore was more expensive. Unfortunately, thatch roof corncribs were more readily infested by rodents. Log construction of corncribs remained popular through the 1800s in areas where timber resources proved readily accessible.

The invention of the circular saw in 1860 and its growing adaptation to steam power by mid-century made lumber cheap enough for general use on outbuildings such as corncribs, enabling later versions to be built of narrow lumber slats.¹⁴³ The corncrib usually rested on log or stone piers.¹⁴⁴ In constructing a frame corncrib, two methods of attaching the slat siding or cribbing were used. The slats were attached

¹⁴¹ Keith E. Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture* (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988), 176.

¹⁴² Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 170–171.

¹⁴³ Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture*, 26.

¹⁴⁴ Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 155.

either horizontally or vertically; cribbing attached diagonally for extra strength seems to have come into practice about 1900.¹⁴⁵

The size of the corncribs remained small, even as corn production rose during much of the nineteenth century, in part due to the practice of corn shocking. Corn could be gradually “shucked out” as needed and hauled to the crib or barn for milling and feeding to livestock. Large corncribs were unnecessary since farmers could leave much of their corn in the field until spring.¹⁴⁶ Crib width was influenced by the climate of a region; drier conditions allowed for wider cribs with no increased loss of corn due to mold. As corn production outgrew the single crib in the developing Corn Belt, double cribs were formed by extending the roof over a pair of cribs to form a gable roof. If the gap between the cribs was then lofted over, extra space was gained beneath the roof for overflow storage of ear corn. Spreading the cribs apart not only increased the loft space but created a storage area below for wagons, tools, and implements. These structures, called crib barns, became common in the Midwest by 1900.¹⁴⁷ The creation of larger corncribs and their overhead grain bins depended upon the invention of new methods to raise the grain and ear corn higher than a farmer could scoop it. High cribs were made possible by the commercial adaptation of continuous belt and cup elevators from grain mills and by the portable grain elevator grain.

In the early decades of the twentieth century, both concrete and steel were promoted as alternative construction materials for corncribs and grain elevators. The use of hollow clay tiles was also encouraged in those parts of the Midwest where they were manufactured, notably in Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana.¹⁴⁸ The most common variety of concrete corncrib was made of interlocking stave blocks, which had been cast with ventilating slots. In some cases, steel wires or rods were incorporated in the vents to keep out rodents. The blocks were laid up in the form of a circular bin. These were encircled with steel rods, enabling the structure to withstand lateral pressures from the corn heaped within. Single and double bin corncribs of this type were most common, although four-bin corncribs were not unusual. Between 1900 and 1940, concrete was promoted as a do-it-yourself material, poured into rented forms, for building corncribs.¹⁴⁹

No wood frame corn cribs were observed during the survey. Crib barns, silos, and metal grain bins are much more common.

¹⁴⁵ Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture*, 27.

¹⁴⁶ Keith E. Roe, “Corncribs to Grain Elevators: Extensions of the Barn,” in *Barns of the Midwest*, 170.

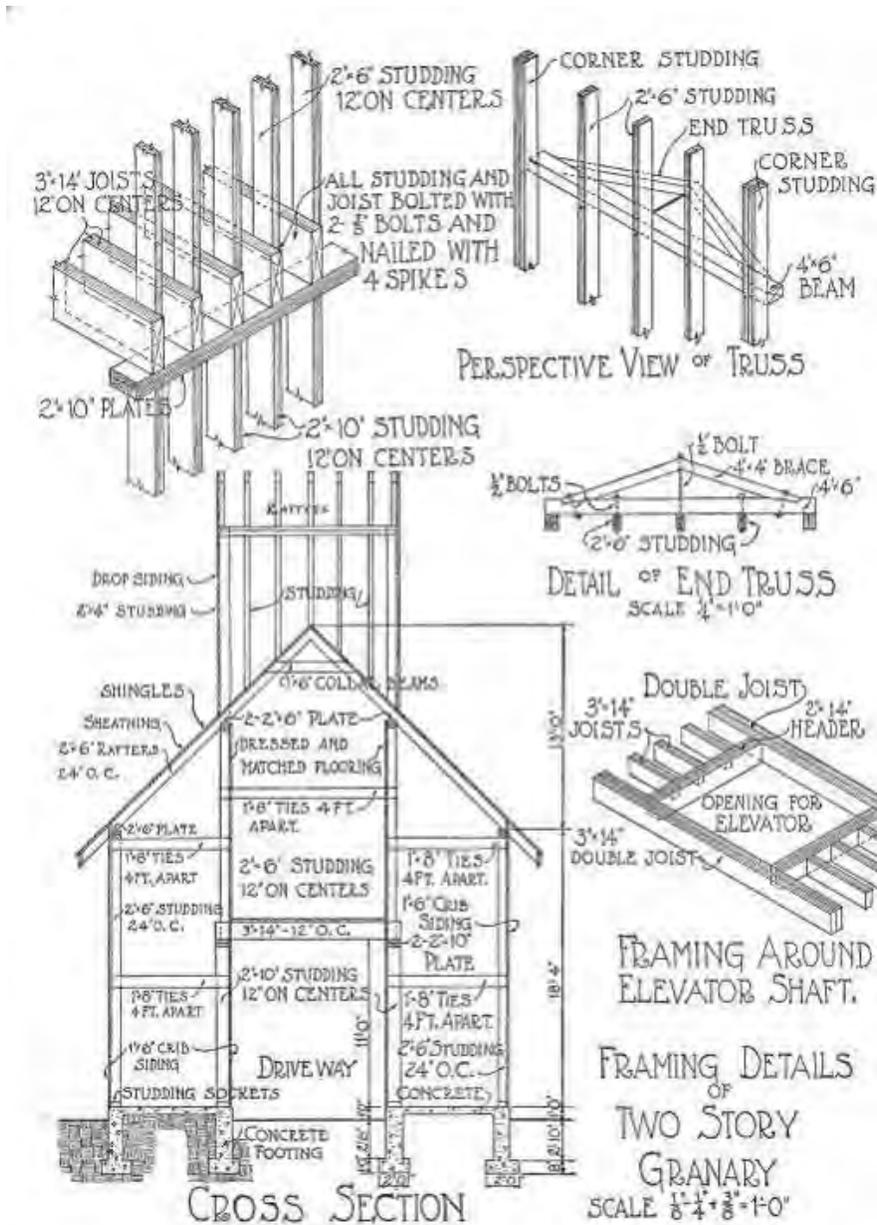
¹⁴⁷ Roe, *Corncribs in History, Folklife, and Architecture*, 60.

¹⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, 177.

¹⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, 176.

Crib Barns

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



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



Wood crib barns are common in the survey area. From upper left, these examples are in section 4 and section 17; section 22 and section 23; section 34 and section 35.



This combination corn crib and granary built with concrete staves provides economical, firesafe, ratproof storage for grain and ear corn.

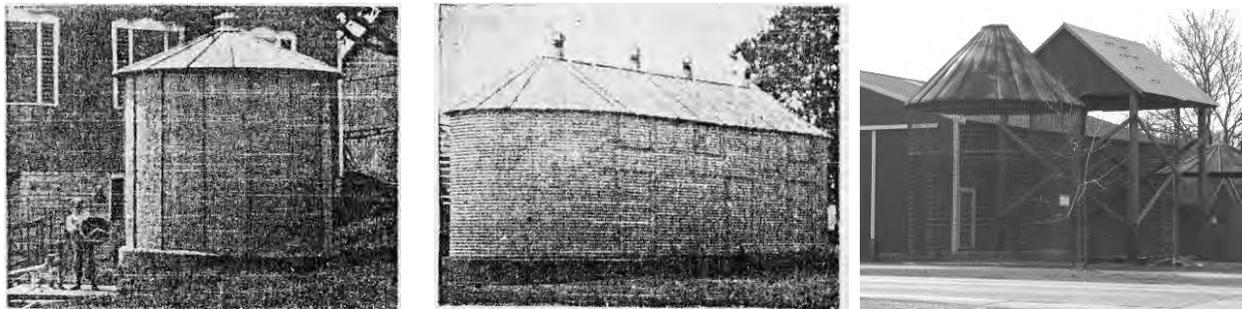


Left: an illustration of a concrete block crib barn from Plans for Concrete Farm Buildings (Portland Cement Association, n.d. [circa 1920s]). The illustration is very similar to the crib barn on the Scheer-Woodcock farm, site 21 in section 14 in the present survey, shown at right.

Metal Bins

Metal construction for corn storage came into use early in the twentieth century and was promoted by the steel industry during World War I as a crop saver for the patriotic farmer. Rectangular or hexagonal corncribs were constructed from flat, galvanized-steel sheet metal with ventilating perforations. Corrugated, curved sheets created the more common cylindrical bin type, which was usually topped with a conical roof. The steel corncrib had wall ventilation slits and, most times, a roof ventilator at its peak.¹⁵⁰ Steel was ideal for fabricating standard parts, as well as being vermin-proof. Proper design of metal bins included such factors as ventilation, consideration of structural loads from the feed to be contained, and use of a concrete or heavy timber foundation with the exterior walls anchored to the foundation. Roofs usually consisted of overlapping sheets to form a conical form.¹⁵¹

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



Above left and center: Illustrations of two types of metal corn bins from *The Illinois Farmer's Guide*, August 1939. Above right: Wire mesh grain bins are relatively uncommon in the survey area, but several examples survive at the McGovney–Yunker farm, site 15 in section 17. Below: Metal grain bins dating from the 1930s to the 2000s are present in the survey area, including these metal bins at site 120 in section 27 (left) and at site 150 in section 35.



¹⁵⁰ Ibid.

¹⁵¹ R.E. Martin, “Steel Bin Design for Farm Storage of Grain,” *Agricultural Engineering* (April 1940): 144 and 146.

Silos

Silos are structures used for preserving green fodder crops, principally field corn, in a succulent condition. Silos are a recent phenomenon, employed only after 1875 and not truly established until shortly before the turn of the century. The stored green fodder material is termed ensilage, which is shortened to silage. The acceptance of silos was gradual, but this type of structure eventually came to be enthusiastically embraced by farmers because it offered certain advantages. First, larger numbers of cattle could be kept on the farm because the food value of corn is greater than that of a combination of hay and grain. Second, less water was needed for stock in the winter, lessening labor requirements as frequent ice breaking and thawing was no longer required. Finally, because succulent green fodder could be fed throughout the year, cows produced milk during the entire winter season, increasing the income of the farm.¹⁵²

The first silos were pits excavated inside the barn. The earliest upright or tower silos date from the late 1880s and were rectangular or square in form and constructed with the same materials and techniques as those used in the barn itself, with framed lumber walls.¹⁵³ Many were constructed within the barn building.¹⁵⁴ Later examples of this silo type had rounded corners on the inside formed by a vertical tongue-in-groove lining. The rectangular silo appeared in some areas as late as 1910. The octagonal silo type that followed attempted to achieve the advantages of a circular silo while keeping the ease of angular construction. In the 1890s circular forms began to be seen. A shift from the rectangular to the circular stems from the efficiency of the circular form in storing corn ensilage by eliminating air space and thereby reducing spoilage.

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

Masonry silos, constructed of hollow clay tile, brick, or concrete block, appeared in the first decades of the twentieth century. In comparison with the other two types of silos, brick silos were more difficult to construct because of the time required to erect the relatively small masonry units. There were many patents on concrete blocks for silo purposes, with some blocks curved and other finished with rock-faced building blocks. Some patented blocks had reinforcing sold with the blocks or integral with the block units.¹⁵⁵ Concrete block silos were finished on the interior with a layer of cement mortar to seal joints that might otherwise leak air or water.

The hollow clay tile silo, generally known as the “Iowa Silo,” was developed by the Experiment Station of the Iowa State College and erected during the summer of 1908 on the college farm.¹⁵⁶ Brick and tile companies manufactured curved blocks for silos, advertising them in farm journals. The main complaint regarding the hollow block silo was that the masonry units were porous and leaked water. The mortar joints on both inside and outside of wall needed to be properly pointed as a precaution against leakage. Some silo builders washed the interior of the wall with cement mortar as a further precaution. Steel reinforcing consisted of heavy wire embedded in the mortar joints.

¹⁵² Noble, *Wood, Brick and Stone*, 71–72.

¹⁵³ Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 158.

¹⁵⁴ Ingolf Vogeler, “Dairying and Dairy Barns in the Northern Midwest,” *Barns of the Midwest* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 1995), 108.

¹⁵⁵ W.A. Foster, “Silo Types and Essentials,” *Hoard’s Dairyman* (21 February 1919) 201, 216, 217, and 232.

¹⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

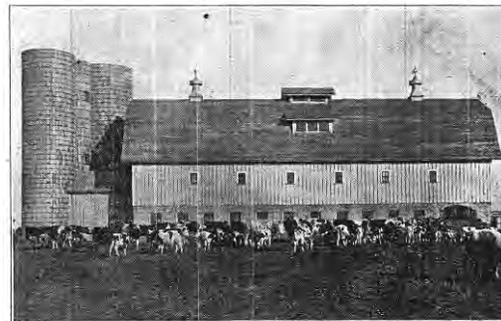
Concrete stave silos were constructed as early as 1904 in Cassopolis, Missouri, which used book-shaped staves.¹⁵⁷ Several patents existed for cement stave silos, including that of the Mason & Lawrence of Elgin, Illinois, dating from 1914.¹⁵⁸ Farmers also could make their own concrete staves or blocks to construct a silo or other farm structure. Concrete staves could vary in size, but were often approximately 30 inches long, 10 inches wide, and 2-1/2 inches thick. One end of the block was concave and the other convex to allow fitting the blocks in the assembled structure.¹⁵⁹

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

Concrete stave silos are quickly and easily erected. Three men can easily erect two average sized silos each week and some crews can do better than that, especially when the proper equipment is at hand. . . . Concrete staves are generally set up dry, no mortar being used in the joints. In some types a grove is molded entirely around the edge of the stave. . . . The hoops or steel rods, placed to reinforce the silo, are set as the erection of the wall progressed. Hoops are usually composed of two or three sections, depending upon the diameter of the silo. The sections are joined by means of special lugs. After the hoops are placed in position they are drawn tight enough to hold them in position. . . . After the entire silo walls are completed, the hoops are drawn tight, care being exercised to draw them all to the same tension. . . . After the walls are erected and the hoops tightened, the interior walls are ready for a wash that seals the joints and produces a smooth, impervious surface. A cement wash, made of a mixture of cement and water and of the consistency of thick paint, is often used.¹⁶⁰



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



TWIN SILOS ON THE SILVER LEAF DAIRY FARM, JOLIET, ILL., W. P. KREIMEIER, PROP.

J. H. HOLMES
MEMBER CEMENT STAVE SILO ASSOCIATION—MANUFACTURER AND ERECTOR OF
CEMENT STAVE SILOS

HENNEBRY BROS., SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES
PHONE 1767-J JOLIET, ILL.
FACTORY: GARDNER, ILL.

The J. H. Holmes Cement Stave Silos are the original Cement Stave Silos. They have been in use in your own locality for the past eleven years. Every stave is the same size and strength, trowel plastered and guaranteed. Not a bad silo in use with over 200 users in Will County.

¹⁵⁷ Foster, "Silo Types and Essentials." Patents were granted on this type of stave silo in 1908, and the type was known commercially as the Playford patent cement stave silo.

¹⁵⁸ "How to Make and Sell Concrete Silo Staves," *Concrete* (October 1927): 32–35.

¹⁵⁹ David Mocine, "Keep Workmen Busy the Year Round," *Concrete Products* (January 1948): 161.

¹⁶⁰ "How to Make and Sell Concrete Silo Staves," *Concrete* (October 1927) 32–35.

Silos constructed with monolithic concrete walls also appeared in the early decades of the twentieth century. Concrete silos were built using “slip-forms,” with the forms usually about two feet high and lifted once the level below had cured sufficiently, leaving horizontal cold joints between each level.¹⁶¹ Such silos could be expensive to construct since labor was required to prepare the concrete and lift the forms. However, forms could be rented from contractors or cement manufacturers. Farmers who chose to build a concrete silo could obtain guidance from farm and building trade journals. Qualities of the reinforcing steel and type, concrete components and mixing, formwork, and concrete placement were outlined, as stated in this excerpt from *Hoard’s Dairyman* from 1919:

When used, the cement should be in perfect condition and contain no lumps, which cannot readily be pulverized between the fingers. Sand and gravel or broken stone should conform to the requirements of proper grading and cleanliness. . . . Water must be clean, free from oil, alkali, silt, loam, and clay in suspension. Steel used in reinforcement should be secured from one of the manufacturers specializing in steel for use in concrete construction. . . . Wire mesh fabrics may be used instead of steel bars but if used should contain an amount of metal equal in cross-section area to the rods for which substituted.¹⁶²

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

The question of general arrangement of the farm buildings is too often neglected. This should be of second consideration, as there is beauty in utility. Often the upper portion of a well-built silo showing above the sloping roof of some of the other buildings adds very materially to the general appearance of the group of buildings. Also the side near the top often affords the best place for the farm name.¹⁶³

Farm journals gave their readers information for constructing a silo with the “essential features . . . necessary to secure good, sweet silage,”¹⁶⁴ focusing primarily on the silo walls. Wall strength, smoothness of interior wall surfaces, and air and water tightness were considered essential features. The foundation for the silo typically consisted of a wall ten inches minimum in width extending below the frost line and six to eight inches above grade. Conical roof shapes were common on some early silos, but gambrel and, later, domical roofs became more prevalent.¹⁶⁵ An essential feature of any roof was a snug fit to prevent birds from entering the silo.

After 1949, a new type of silo appeared: the blue Harvestore silos. Constructed of fiberglass bonded to sheets of metal, they were first introduced in Wisconsin. The glass-coated interior surface prevented silage from freezing and rust from forming. Because the container was airtight, the silage would not spoil. Augers, derived from coal-mining equipment, were used to bore the silage out at the bottom of the silo, a great change from the earlier top-unloaded silos. A large plastic bag at the top of the structure allowed changes in gas pressure to be equalized, and took up the space vacated by removal of silage.¹⁶⁶ In 1974 the company launched another line of products for the containment of manure called Slurrystore. By

¹⁶¹ The presence of cold joints had the potential to allow air to enter the silo. Therefore, it was important to coat the silo interior with a layer of cement mortar. As with other silo types, this mortar layer needed to be renewed periodically.

¹⁶² H. Colin Campbell, “Concrete Silo Construction,” *Hoard’s Dairyman* (21 February 1919): 200.

¹⁶³ King, “Planning the Silo,” in *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Illinois Farmers’ Institute*, 64.

¹⁶⁴ W.A. Foster, “Silo Types and Essentials,” *Hoard’s Dairyman* (21 February 1919): 201.

¹⁶⁵ Gambrel and domical roofs allowed for filling the silo to the top of the outer wall, maximizing the storage capacity.

¹⁶⁶ Noble and Cleek, *The Old Barn Book*, 108–9.

1999, over 70,000 of Harvestore structures of various sizes (tall or short, narrow or stout) had been built.¹⁶⁷

Silos are fairly common in the rural survey area. The majority use concrete stave construction.



Concrete stave silos are common in Frankfort Township, including these examples at site 115 in section 27, site 152 in section 35, and site 29 in section 32.



Left: Site 120 in section 27 has a cast concrete silo, the only such example in Frankfort Township. Right: Clay block silos are also present in the township, although relatively uncommon. This example is at site 14 in section 5.

¹⁶⁷ Harvestore Systems, DeKalb, Illinois, www.harvestore.com

Other Farm Structures

We did much of our own carpentering as a matter of course. The farmer who couldn't build his own henhouse or woodshed wasn't much of a farmer.¹⁶⁸

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



Above: Two of several small outbuildings present on the McGovney–Yunker farm in section 17. Below left: The steel windmill at site 12 in section 4, the Fuchs–Hecketsweiler farm. Below right: A chicken coop at site 147 in section 34.



¹⁶⁸ Britt, *An America That Was*, 127.

CHAPTER 4

SURVEY SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Period of Significance: 1845 to 1970

The nine townships that have been intensively surveyed to date were first settled by farmers of European origin in the late 1820s and early 1830s. Settlers first came to the region of present-day Frankfort Township in the early 1830s, and much of the township had been settled by the late 1840s.

Farming would continue to be the dominant use of the land in the survey region until the recent past. Suburban development, the defining element that would alter the economic development of the region, did not begin on a large scale until after World War II. As early as 1946, the village of Park Forest was established just north of Monee in Cook County. By 1970, Interstates 55, 57, and 80 had been constructed across Will County. The interstate system allowed for intensive suburban development to occur, as agriculture declined as a major social and economic force in Will County. Therefore, a closing date for the period of agricultural significance would fall approximately around 1970.

The use of the closing date of 1970, however, does not mean that all elements constructed prior to that time were surveyed. Only a select number constructed between 1950 and 1970 have been included. Horse farms in Frankfort Township generally have not been included, unless they are located on a historic agricultural site. The contemporary horse farms not included in the survey of Frankfort Township were omitted because of their apparent disconnection to the earlier agricultural economic life of the region; this applies to only a few properties in the township. Agricultural support structures such as manufactured buildings or grain bins that may post-date 1970 were included in the documentation of historic farmsteads.

Significance

National Register and Local Landmark Criteria

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

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information in prehistory or history.¹⁶⁹

The three criteria that are most applicable to the rural survey area are A, B, and C. Under Criterion A, the survey region has significance as a historic agricultural region with over 100 years of historical

¹⁶⁹ Quoted from National Register Bulletin 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, 1997), 2; originally published in *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 60*.

significance. The survey region has less significance under Criterion B, except on a local level as discussed below. Under Criteria A and C, the survey region contains architecturally significant structures that represent the diverse range of agricultural practices that occurred during the period of significance.

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

Criteria for Consideration of Nomination. The Commission may recommend to the County Board the designation of landmarks and preservation districts, where not more than fifty percent (50%) of the property owners whose property is located within the boundaries of the proposed district object to designation, when after a thorough investigation results in a determination that a property, structure or improvement, or area so recommended meets one (1) or more of the following criteria:

- a) It has character, interest, or value which is part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of a local community, the County of Will, State of Illinois or the Nation;
- b) Its location is a site of a significant local, County, State, or National event;
- c) It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the local community County or Will, State of Illinois, or the Nation;
- d) It embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials;
- e) It is identified with the work of a master builder, designer, architect, engineer, or landscape architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the local area, County of Will, State of Illinois, or the Nation;
- f) It embodies elements of design, detailing, materials, or craftsmanship that render it architecturally significant;
- g) It embodies design elements that make it structurally or architecturally innovative;
- h) It has a unique location or singular physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual feature;
- i) It has character which is a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure with a high level of integrity or architectural significance;
- j) It is suitable for preservation or restoration;
- k) It is included in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Illinois Register of Historic Places.
- l) It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to pre-history, history or other areas of archaeological significance.

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

One of the differences between national and local listing is that local significance may be easier to justify than national significance. Properties that are eligible and listed as local landmarks, but may be more difficult to nominate for the National Register, receive important recognition and thereby afforded a certain measure of protection. Eventually, these properties could be listed as National Register properties if the case for their nomination improves. Additionally, local landmark designation often gives protections that National Register listing does not. The suggested properties have been researched sufficiently in performing this survey to merit consideration as Will County Landmarks.¹⁷⁰ It should be

¹⁷⁰ It is useful at this point to provide general readers of this report with information on the issues surrounding the designation of a property as a Landmark as embodied in the Will County Preservation Ordinance. (The issues discussed herein are current as of the date of this report.) Landmarks may be properties (including districts), structures, or natural features. Any individual or group may propose a property for designation to the Historic

noted that some of the properties with local landmark potential could be determined, after performing additional research, to have sufficient significance for National Register designation.

Another measure of recognition is the listing of farmsteads that have been “owned by a straight or collateral line of descendants of the original owner for at least 100 years.”¹⁷¹ Since 1972, the Illinois Department of Agriculture has administered the Illinois Centennial Farms Program. Illinois has been settled by farmers since the early 1800s, meaning that some farms have been in the same family for more than 100 years. To recognize the achievement of 150 years of ownership, the Illinois Sesquicentennial Farms Program was established in 2000. Application for either program requires a written legal description and the familial line of farmer owners.

Integrity

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

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

Another issue that defines the integrity of a structure is the presence of historically appropriate materials. Since a 150-year-old farmhouse is unlikely to have all of its original wood siding in place, an appropriate replacement would be wood siding material of similar dimension to the original. The presence of artificial or synthetic siding material, such as metal, aluminum, or vinyl siding, seriously detracts from the integrity of the building or element. It should be noted that this applies not only to farmhouses but barns and other agricultural support buildings. To address the addition of contemporary finish materials to historic buildings while still identifying structures of historic interest, this survey report uses the terminology “potentially” significant. This terminology is used to describe structures for which the overall form and architectural character remains intact, but for which contemporary finish materials have been added to the

Preservation Commission. Although the property owner does *not* need to be the party proposing designation, and the property owner does *not* need to grant consent in event of approval by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Will County Board, the property owner is notified in accordance with legal requirements of public hearings (adjacent property owners are notified as well).

The Will County Preservation Ordinance protects historic sites designated as Landmarks from alteration and demolition. (The ordinance also has a clause that provides for the review of demolition permits on buildings and structures 30 years and older.) All work on the Landmark (with the exception of normal maintenance) must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission prior to beginning work, although work limited by economic hardship or in response to emergency situations is allowable with proper documentation. Demolition of a Landmark is permitted only after review of the demolition application by the Historic Preservation Commission, who may require written, graphic, and/or photographic documentation of the Landmark prior to demolition. Owners of Will County Landmarks are not obligated to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore their properties; however, owners may be eligible for low-interest loans, tax credits, or grants to assist with such actions. (Source: “Will County Landmark Nomination Questions,” n.d.)

¹⁷¹ Introduction to the Illinois Centennial Farms Program application form, Illinois Department of Agriculture.

building exterior. The removal of these finish materials and the repair of the original wood siding (which typically is left in place in such installations) is a straightforward activity that, if implemented, would restore the integrity of these historic structures. Although the presence of contemporary finish materials generally disqualifies a structure from individual listing as a historic landmark in some registries, this survey report is intended to serve as a planning tool, and the identification of sites with a potential to be listed as historic landmarks increases the usefulness of this tool.

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

Preservation of a building or district and its historic character is based on the assumption that the retention of historic materials and features and their craftsmanship are of primary importance. Therefore, the underlying issue in any discussion of replacement materials is whether or not the integrity of historic materials and craftsmanship has been lost. Structures are historic because the materials and craftsmanship reflected in their construction are tangible and irreplaceable evidence of our cultural heritage. To the degree that substitute materials destroy and/or conceal the historic fabric, they will always subtract from the basic integrity of historically and architecturally significant buildings.¹⁷²

Contributing and Non-contributing Properties

Many of the farmsteads and supporting rural sites in the survey can be considered contributing to a potential rural heritage district or simply retain the character of an agricultural development. In evaluating the sites in this survey, a contributing site is one that retains a *coherent* appearance as a farmstead or whatever its original function once was. Most of the structures on the property were observed to be in good or fair condition, although a few of the structures might be considered to be in poor condition. Non-contributing sites are listed as such because they lack integrity, such as potentially significant structures that have been significantly altered or were observed to be in poor condition. Abandoned farmsteads are also generally listed as non-contributing.

Will County Land Use Department Planning Documents

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

The new *Land Resource Management Plan* also includes discussion of different forms of development in rural areas, both historically and at present. This includes preserving the character of hamlets and other small rural crossroad settlements. Contemporary development trends include Conservation Design Subdivisions, which rearrange the typical layout of streets and housing lots, setting aside a substantial amount of land as permanent open space. Conventional Suburban Residential subdivisions typically consume the entire development parcel. Historic structures and landscapes are specifically recognized in the *Land Resource Management Plan* as meriting protection when developing a Conservation Design Subdivision.¹⁷³

¹⁷² John H. Myers, with revisions by Gary L. Hume, *Preservation Brief No. 8, Aluminum and Vinyl Siding on Historic Buildings: The Appropriateness of Substitute Materials for Resurfacing Historic Wood Frame Buildings* (October 1984).

¹⁷³ To view the *Land Resource Management Plan* in its entirety, please visit <http://www.willcountylanduse.com/>

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

Potential Historic Districts, Thematic Designations, and Landmarks

Due to the extensive contemporary development which has occurred in most of Frankfort Township, no potential historic districts have been identified as part of the present survey. The villages of Mokena and Frankfort both date to the 1850s; the potential for historic districts encompassing the historic core of these villages was beyond the scope of this study.

Individual Landmarks

One property included in the present survey, the McGovney–Yunker Farmstead, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. Throughout Frankfort Township, there are a number of individual sites that have clear potential for local landmark status. These notable farmsteads are discussed individually in the following section. Some of these sites may also have the potential for National Register nomination after additional research. It is clear from the limited research performed for this survey that some of the sites listed below would likely be considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This does not mean that other sites are not eligible; merely that further study is required before a determination of eligibility could be made.

Will County landmark eligible properties include the following:

- Site 12 PIN 09-04-200-024 9861 187th Street Fuchs–Hecketsweiler farmstead
- Site 6 PIN 09-12-200-011 7551 191st Street Younker farmstead
- Site 21 PIN 09-14-400-007 20252 S. Indian Court Geuther tenant farm A
- Site 24 PIN 09-14-400-012 8300 North Avenue Frederick Gatter house
- Site 25 PIN 09-23-200-010 8309 North Avenue Frederick Gatter barn
- Site 147 PIN 09-34-200-013 22550 Pfeiffer Road Schrader–Geuther farmstead

The following properties are historically distinctive but are not included in the list of Will County landmark eligible properties because they are located within the incorporated limits of the Village of Mokena or the Village of Frankfort:

- Site 15 PIN 09-17-108-008 10840 LaPorte Road McGovney–Yunker farmstead
- Site 103 PIN 09-22-200-007 Lincoln Highway Scheer–Wieland farmstead
- Site 102 PIN 09-22-400-011 9029 Lincoln Highway Geuther tenant farm B
- Site 158 PIN 09-23-300-031 Lincoln Highway Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory¹⁷⁴
- Site 124 PIN 09-28-400-027 650 Center Road Nekrauer farmstead

These properties, as well as other farmsteads associated with prominent families in Frankfort Township, are discussed in detail beginning on page 119.

Irmp/Irmpmain.html, or contact the Will County Land Use Department, Planning Division, at (815) 727-8430.

¹⁷⁴ The Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory has been relocated from its historic site. Therefore, nomination of the property under the National Register of Historic Places would require special consideration.



Aerial composite photograph of Frankfort Township, 1999.

Survey Summary

The survey of Frankfort Township documented 318 structures, including 67 houses, 35 main barns, and 35 crib barns, on 74 sites. The previous survey of Manhattan Township documented more than 700 structures, including 116 houses and 66 main barns, on 120 sites. Cumulatively since 1999, the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey has documented more than 3,750 structures on more than 850 sites.¹⁷⁵ The tables below provide a statistical breakdown of the survey results for Frankfort Township, with Manhattan Township provided for comparison. The approximate cumulative totals since 1999 are also provided. For house and barn types that are common in the survey area, a percentage is given. This represents the fraction of buildings in that township that are of the type indicated. No percentage is given for uncommon types, as this would not be meaningful statistically. These percentages are useful for comparing the relative preponderance of a particular building type in different townships.

Farmhouses

House Type	Frankfort	Percent	Manhattan	Percent	Totals
I House	1	–	1	–	27
Hall and Parlor	0	–	0	–	20
New England 1-1/2	1	–	0	–	8
Four over Four	0	–	8	7 %	70
Side Hallway	0	–	0	–	7
Upright and Wing	18	27 %	16	14 %	161
Gabled Ell	17	25 %	34	30 %	147
Gable Front	2	–	4	3 %	45
Foursquare	4	6 %	19	17 %	77
Bungalow	4	6 %	6	5 %	33
Cape Cod	1	–	1	–	24
Ranch	10	15 %	16	14 %	*
Other	9	–	11	–	100
Totals	67		116		720

* Included in “Other” category.

Barns

Barn Type	Frankfort	Percent	Manhattan	Percent	Totals
Three-bay Threshing	10	29 %	33	50 %	162
Bank	5	14 %	1	–	15
Raised	0	–	0	–	6
Pennsylvania German	0	–	0	–	9
Three-ended	1	–	1	–	9
Plank frame	1	–	13	20 %	88
Feeder	3	8 %	5	8 %	21
Dairy	13	37 %	11	17 %	70
Round roof	2	–	0	–	5
Round	0	–	2	–	2
Other or Unclassified	0	–	0	–	14
Totals	35		66		401

¹⁷⁵ It should be noted that the rapid suburbanization of Will County means that some of these structures have already disappeared. For example, the 1999–2000 survey documented sites in Plainfield and Wheatland Townships. During an updated survey by WJE for the Village of Plainfield of the village’s planning area in 2005–2006, it was found that 35 of 112 farmstead sites existing in 1999 had been demolished within the intervening six years.

Outbuildings

Building Type	Frankfort	Manhattan	Green Garden	Totals
Animal shed or shelter	4	10	22	80
Barn (secondary)	2	5	4	26
Cellar	1	1	0	4
Chicken coop	5	18	24	105
Corn crib	0	0	4	13
Crib barn	35	54	83	342
Foundation	3	14	21	67
Garage	19	37	72	245
Horse stable	2	1	0	7
Hog house	2	1	2	14
Implement shed	1	6	31	182
Machine shed	6	29	11	50
Mesh bin	5	3	7	42
Metal bin	31	137	94	355
Milk house	2	11	29	88
Pole barn / Manufactured building	30	87	90	268
Privy	0	1	2	7
Pump house / Well house	4	14	3	62
Shed	36	67	65	287
Silo	23	24	49	227
Smoke house	0	2	5	21
Summer kitchen	3	6	3	22
Windmill	1	5	3	37
Other	1	22	17	77
Totals	216	555	641	2,628
Total, including houses and barns	318	737	862	3,752

Comparison to 1988 Survey Results

As part of the data compilation, a limited comparison was made between the results of the 1988 reconnaissance survey of Will County and the existing conditions in Frankfort Township in 2006–2007. The 1988 survey, conducted by Michael A. Lambert in August–October 1988 for the State of Illinois, was a reconnaissance-level survey performed from the public right-of-way. In the 1988 survey of Frankfort Township, 98 farmstead sites were documented.¹⁷⁶

Among the farmstead sites documented in 1988, no historic structures survive at forty sites. Most of these farmsteads have been lost to contemporary suburban development. A few properties are still actively farmed, but the consolidation of farms into larger operations rendered houses and barns surplus. Alternatively, the farmstead site may remain active, but with all historic structures replaced with contemporary buildings.

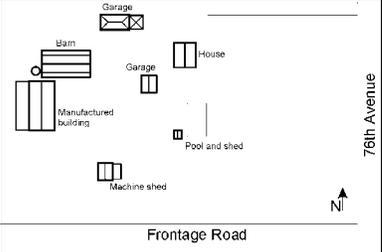
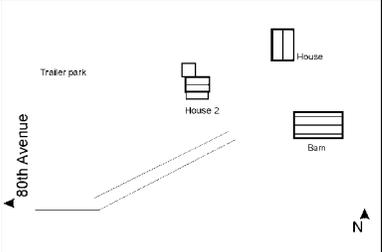
In addition, at four sites included in the present survey, contributing historic structures have been lost since 1988. This includes the loss of the original house or major historic outbuildings such as barns or crib barns. This must be considered an underestimate of the loss of historic structures since 1988, since this determination could be made only when the 1988 survey photograph clearly shows a historic building

¹⁷⁶ Excluded from this total are seventeen sites that were not documented during the 1988 survey, but which are included in the present survey and therefore obviously existed at that time.

that no longer exists. The loss of historic structures on a property often seems to be related to the end of active farming and a change to residential use of the property.

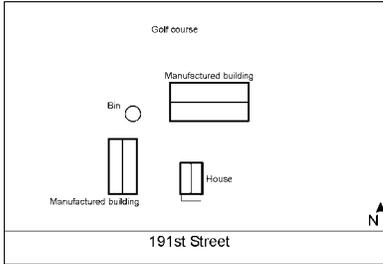
The following series of tables list farmsteads and sites included in the Frankfort Township survey and their potential for landmark designation; farmhouses, with type; and barns, with type. The ID numbers listed on the tables correlate to the maps included in Appendix C.

Table 1. Surveyed Farmsteads and Related Sites

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
3	09-01-000-000	76th Avenue	bridge	Contributing
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;"></div> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> </div>				
1	09-01-100-029	76th Avenue		Contributing
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> </div> <p data-bbox="256 1188 594 1209">1872 directory: John Schoenick, farmer</p>				
2	09-01-300-010	80th Avenue		Contributing
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> <div style="width: 25%; height: 115px; border: 1px solid black;">  </div> </div> <p data-bbox="256 1713 561 1734">1872 directory: John Hauser, farmer</p>				

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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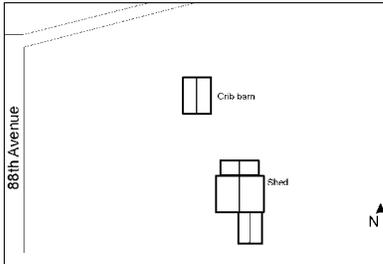
4	09-01-300-022	191st (Cleveland) Street		Non-contributing
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Only relatively small outbuildings visible in 1955 aerial photography.

Now surrounded by golf course.

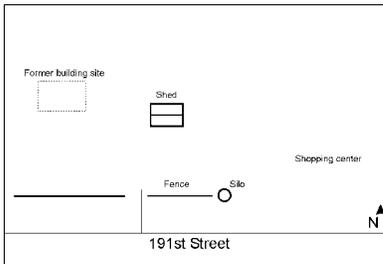
33	09-02-300-004	88th Avenue	Hendrickson-Geuther farm	Non-contributing
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1872 directory: Frederick Henrichson, farmer House and other outbuildings demolished since 1988 survey. See 1955 aerial photograph. Portion of original farmstead north of Interstate 80 was subdivided in 1990s.

Only crib barn and sheds exist on site.

7	09-02-300-004	191st (Cleveland) Street	Hohenstein-Langland farm	Non-contributing
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House, barn, and other outbuildings were under demolition when documented during the 1988 survey. Simon Hohenstein was born in Germany in 1837 and emigrated to Green Garden Township with his father's family in 1854. He purchased this farm in section 2 in 1865. After 1883, Hohenstein rented out this farm and moved his residence to a farm in the southeast quarter of section 25 (no longer existing). [PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM, 1890, pp. 732-733.]

Only silo and one shed remain on site.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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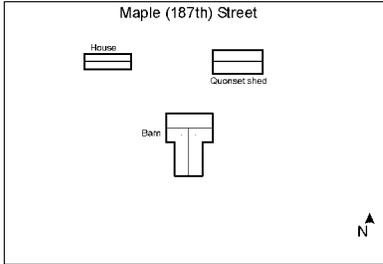
11	09-04-100-012	187th (Maple) Street	Maue-Smith farm	Contributing
<p>1872 directory: William G. Jones, farmer</p>			<p>now used by "Crown Painting"</p>	

52	09-04-101-001	183rd Street	Edward Maue farm	Contributing
<p>Recently built office building and parking lot just to the south of this farmstead. Former southward continuation of 104th Avenue has been removed. Located within Village of Orland Park.</p>				

12	09-04-200-024	187th (Maple) Street	Fuchs-Hecketsweiler farm	Local landmark potential
<p>1872 directory: Christian Fox, farmer</p>				

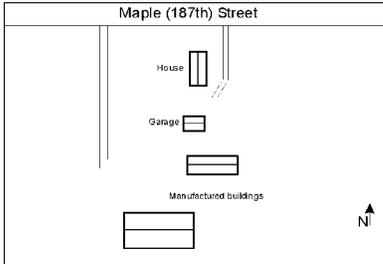
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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10	09-04-300-015	187th (Maple) Street	Maue farm	Contributing
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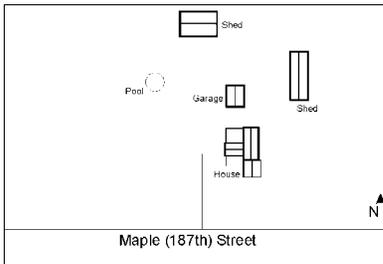
Sketch from 1873 atlas. No existing buildings survive from 1870s. See summary report for Maue family biographical information.

53	09-04-400-027	187th (Maple) Street		Non-contributing
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1872 directory: Daniel Calmer, farmer

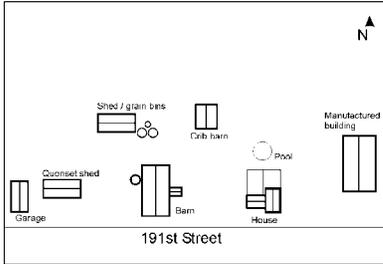
13	09-05-300-010	187th (Maple) Street		Non-contributing
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1872 directory: Westly Jones, farmer

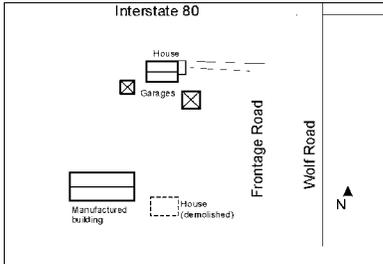
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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14	09-05-400-016	191st (Cleveland) Street	Schweser farm	Contributing
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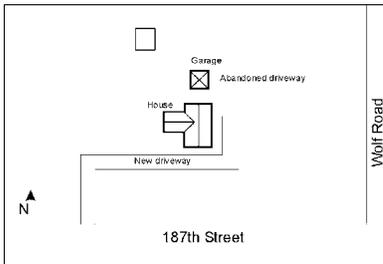
John Schweser (1812-1877)
 Lorence Schweser (1849-1932)

166	09-06-200-025	Wolf Road		Non-contributing
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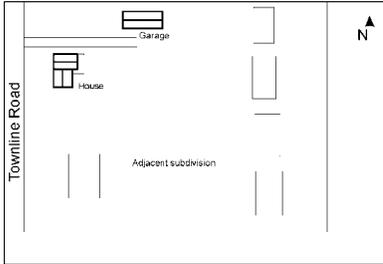
Adjacent historic house demolished since 2005.

167	09-06-200-030	187th Street		Non-contributing
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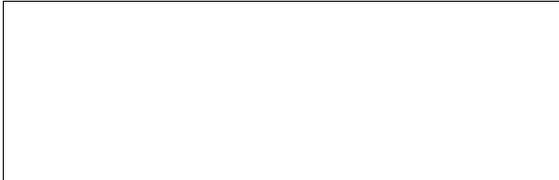


ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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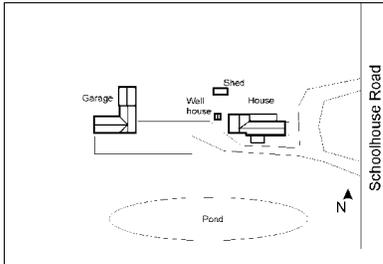
68	09-06-305-012	Townline Road		Contributing
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1872 directory: Allen D. Denny, residence in Mokena (village). Charles Denny, a Revolutionary War veteran, came to Frankfort Township and died in 1839.



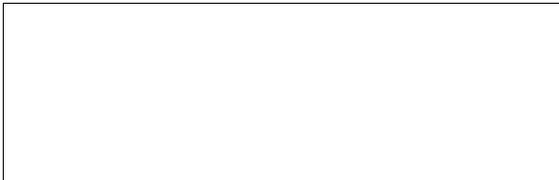
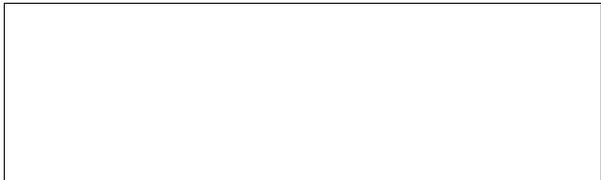
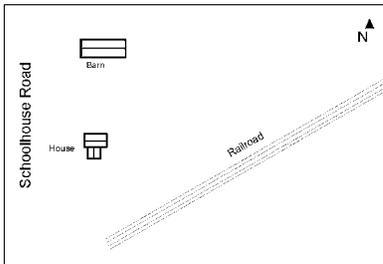
73	09-08-109-063	Schoolhouse Road	Knapp-Weber farm	Contributing
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Unchanged since 1980 aerial photograph.

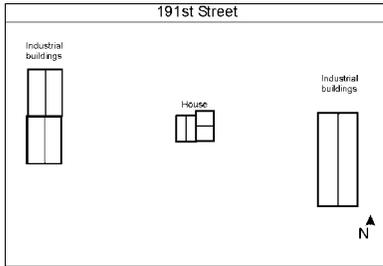


168	09-08-400-001	Schoolhouse Road	Schweser-Benson farm	Local landmark potential
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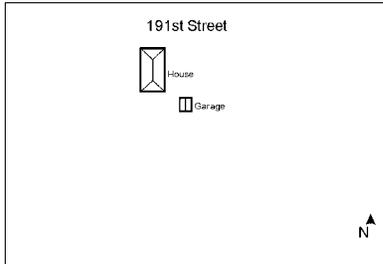
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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75	09-09-100-016	191st (Cleveland) Street	Schweser-Cappel farm	Non-contributing
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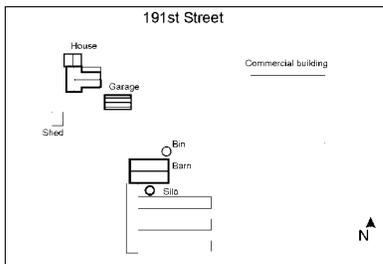
1872 directory: Nick Martin [sic], farmer.
John Schweser (1837-1917), wife Barbara (1849-1920)

8	09-11-100-002	191st (Cleveland) Street		Contributing
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Not visible in 1939 aerial photography

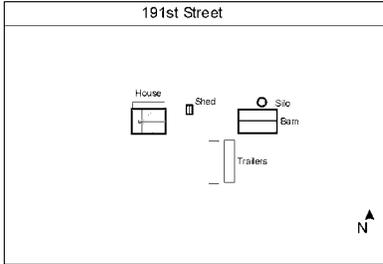
5	09-12-100-003	191st (Cleveland) Street	Werner farm	Contributing
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1872 directory: Gottlieb Werner, farmer, residence at SE 1/4 section 12.
Gottlieb Werner (1821-1906)
Frederick Werner (1869-1944), wife Anna B. Werner (1877-1961)

ID PIN Street Name Name Landmark Potential

6 09-12-200-011 191st (Cleveland) Street **Yunker farm** Local landmark potential

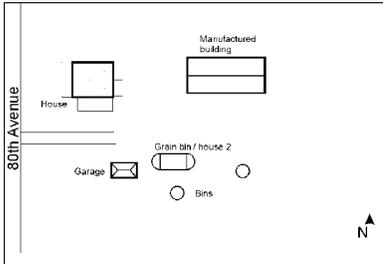


1872 directory: Gottlieb Werner, farmer, residing SE 1/4 of section 12.
 Gottlieb Werner (1821-1906)
 This farmstead was likely developed by Nick Yunker in the first decade of the 1900s.
 Nick Yunker (1874-1958)

Silo constructed of concrete block, extended upwards with concrete stave.

22 09-13-151-004 80th Avenue

Contributing

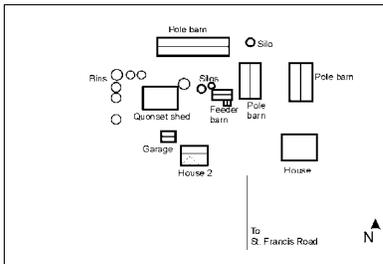


1872 directory: Christian Robb, farmer
 See 1955 aerial photograph for original outbuildings; all demolished prior to 1988.

23 09-13-200-003 St. Francis Road

Schmaedeke farm

Contributing

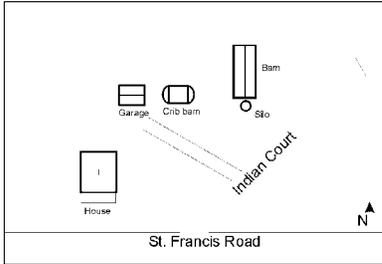


1872 directory: James Reid, farmer, and Alexander Reid, farmer
 Circa 2006, 92 acres at north half of NE 1/4 sold to Lincolnway Community High School District 210.

Owner permission not available to conduct intensive survey.

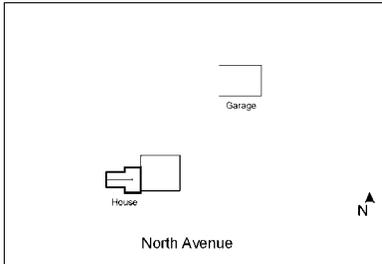
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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21	09-14-400-007	S. Indian Court	Scheer-Woodcock farm	Local landmark potential
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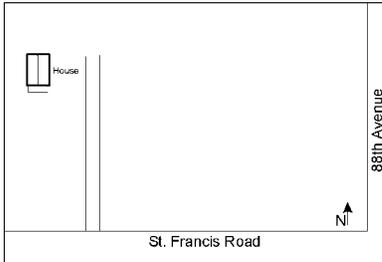
1872 directory: Earnst Eisenbrantt [sic], farmer
 All historic outbuildings survive, but their existing condition is poor.
 Elmer Woodcock

24	09-14-400-012	North Avenue	Frederick Gatter house	Local landmark potential
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This is the historic house of the farmstead. See site 25 in section 23 for barn.
 1872 directory: Frederick Gutter, farmer

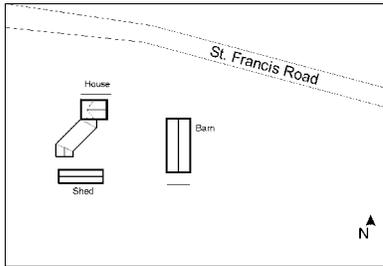
20	09-15-200-016	St. Francis Road		Contributing
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1872 directory: Philip Stellwagen, farmer

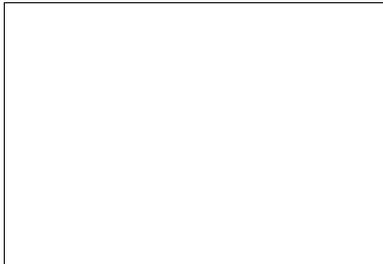
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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19	09-15-300-015	St. Francis Road	Baumgartner–Marti farm	Contributing
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1872 directory lists Jacob Baumgartner, farmer, residing SW 1/4 of section 16.

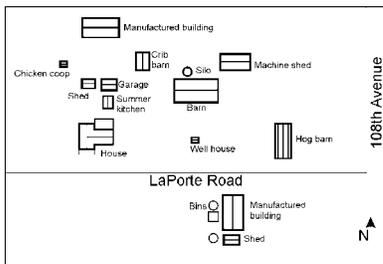
94	09-16-200-025	LaPorte Road		Non-contributing
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1872 directory: John Wendel, farmer
All historic outbuildings demolished since 1988 survey. This property can therefore be excluded from any future field survey or documentation work for historic farmsteads.

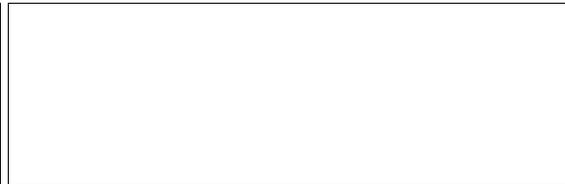
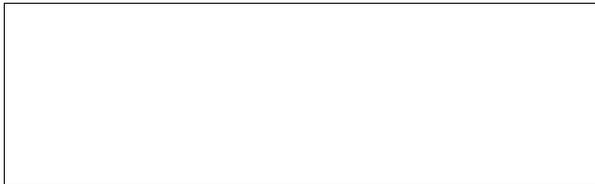
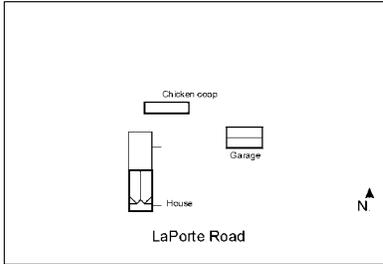
Double frontage onto Burke Court. No outbuildings survive.

15	09-17-108-008	LaPorte Road	McGovney–Yunker farm	National Register potential
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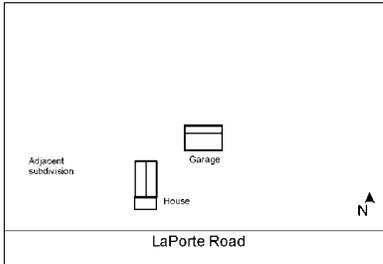


ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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17	09-17-200-008	LaPorte Road		Contributing
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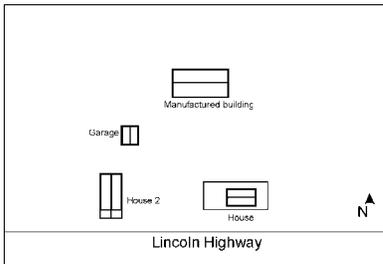
18	09-17-201-019	LaPorte Road		Non-contributing
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1872 directory: Paulus Volk, farmer, residence at NW 1/4 of section 11.



99	09-20-300-014	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Leffler-Warning farm	Non-contributing
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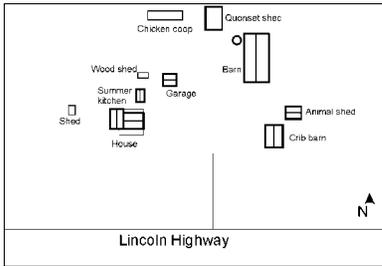


Christ H. Warning (1868-1936) was born in Germany, and came to Mokena with his parents in 1881. He started farming in 1893 as a tenant elsewhere in the township, and in 1901 he purchased this farm. He had a large dairy in the early 1900s but discontinued it in 1915. He served as road commissioner and on the school board. His son Elmer (born 1905) inherited the farm. [HISTORY OF WILL COUNTY (1928), 724-725; 1057-1058.

John Leffler (1831-1913) was a Civil War veteran with Company E of the 88th Illinois Volunteers, and he likely acquired this farm shortly after the Civil War. The later owner of this farm, W. Leffler, may refer to his younger brother, Wendell Leffler (1845-1920)

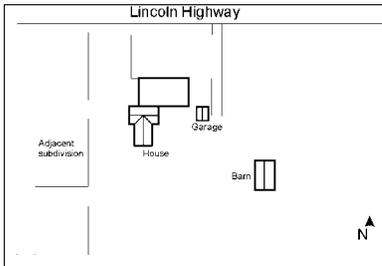
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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103	09-22-200-007	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)		Local landmark potential
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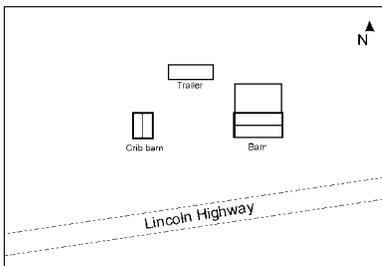
1872 directory: John Shair senior, farmer, residing SW 1/4 section 14.
See summary report for more details on this site.

102	09-22-400-011	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Geuther tenant farm	Local landmark potential
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1872 directory: John G. Geuther, farmer, residing NE 1/4 section 3.
See summary report for biographical information on Geuther family.

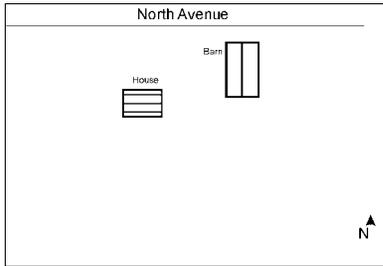
105	09-23-100-011	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Frederick Scheer barn	Contributing
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1872 directory: Carl Elligan, farmer
These are the historic outbuildings of the farmstead. See site 106 for house.

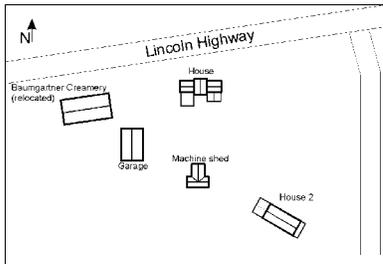
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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25	09-23-200-010	North Avenue	Frederick Gatter barn	Local landmark potential
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This is the historic barn of the farmstead. See site 24 in section 14 for house.
1872 directory: Frederick Gutter, farmer

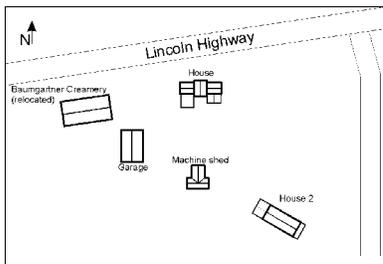
158	09-23-300-031	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory	Local landmark potential
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Original located on east side of U.S. Route 45 in Section 15. Circa 1991, historic building relocated to site 106 in section 23 to allow for widening of highway. Documented in Historic American Building Survey, 1990.

Eligibility for National Register status would require special consideration for relocated structure.

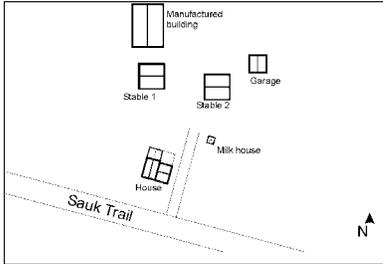
106	09-23-300-031	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Frederick Scheer house	Contributing
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1872 directory: Carl Elligan, farmer
This is the historic house of the farmstead. See site 105 for outbuildings.

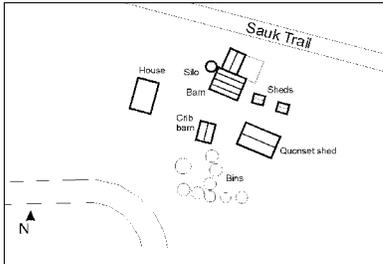
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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112	09-26-300-007	Sauk Trail	Dr. Newton Holden farm	Contributing
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1872 directory: Dr. N.P. Holden, physician and surgeon, residence in section 26

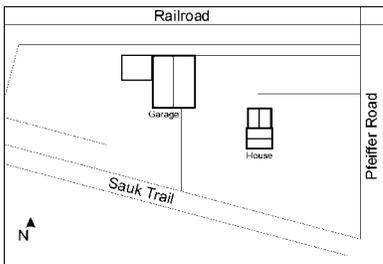
120	09-27-105-027	Sauk Trail		Contributing
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For the biography of a possible ancestor of A. Krusemark, see Maue (1928), 766.

Surveyed from public right-of-way only.

117	09-27-200-008	Sauk Trail		Non-contributing
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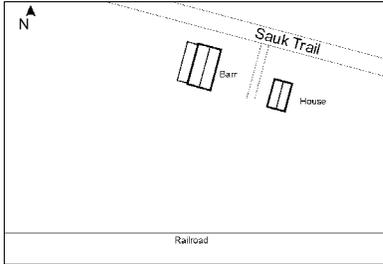


1872 directory: Bobzine, farmer, residing E 1/2 of NE 1/4 section 27.

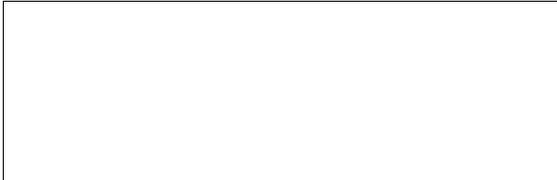
now "Wilson Paving" office and garage.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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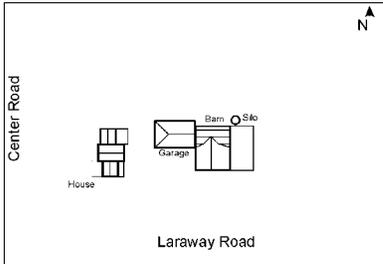
118	09-27-200-010	Sauk Trail		Contributing
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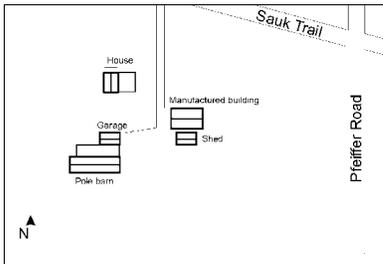
1872 directory: John Fink, farmer



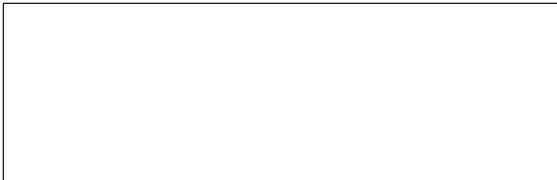
121	09-27-300-032	Center Road		Contributing
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116	09-27-400-020	Sauk Trail		Contributing
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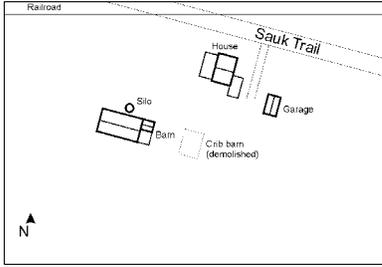


1872 directory: Bobzine, farmer, residing E 1/2 of NE 1/4 section 27.



ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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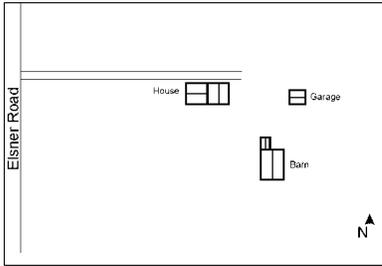
115	09-27-400-040	Sauk Trail	Stauffenberg–Hansen farm	Contributing
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Refer to summary report for Holden family, George M. Holden. 1872 directory: H.C. Stauffenberg, farmer. Heinrich Stauffenberg (1818-1896), wife Auganesa (1826-1901). Their son Fred Stauffenberg (1861-1905).

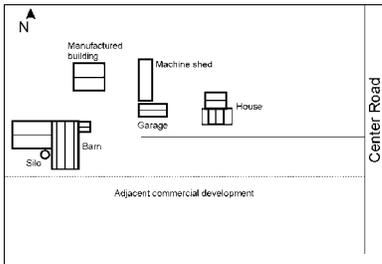
The barn and silo are the only surviving historic structures on this site. They were likely constructed after 1905 when Peter Hansen acquired farm.

31	09-28-300-018	Elsner Road (104th Avenue)	Berlin L. Reagan farm	Contributing
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Not visible in 1939 aerial photography. Developed circa 1948-1949 by Berlin L. Reagan.

124	09-28-400-027	Center Road	Nekrauer—Fitterer farm	Local landmark potential
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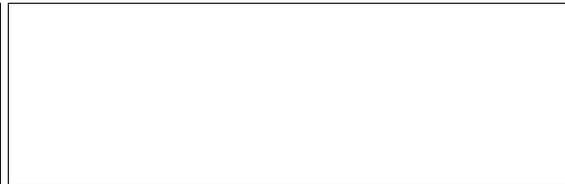
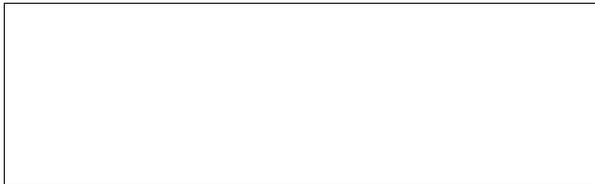
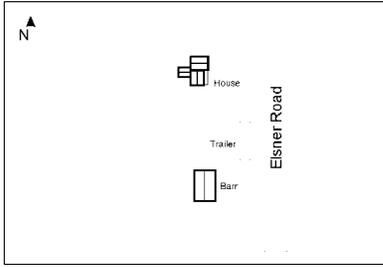


Henry Nekrauer (1849-1917), wife Mary (1855-1934) Gottfried Fitterer came to Will County in 1894, but resided on a farm in the southeast quarter of section 20. [1918 directory]

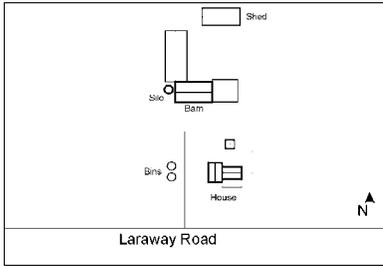
Some outbuildings demolished since 1988. Rated as Local landmark potential due to large, well preserved, and exemplary Dairy Barn.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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30	09-29-400-005	Elsner Road (104th Avenue)		Contributing
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26	09-30-300-006	Laraway Road		Contributing
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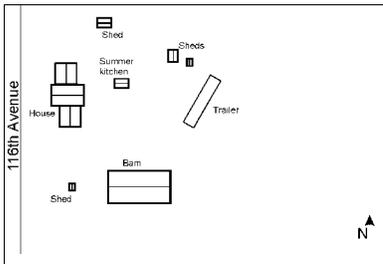
Several outbuildings demolished since 1988 survey.



27	09-31-400-012	116th Avenue		Contributing
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Wheeler-Bauch tenant farm

Contributing



1872 directory: D.N. Wheeler, farmer, residence at E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of section 31. This was a tenant farm. Jacob P. Bauch (1861-1940) acquired his homestead after marrying Elizabeth Baumgartner in 1884. He retired from farming in 1919 and resided in Frankfort. Most likely, he owned this site but it was farmed by a tenant.

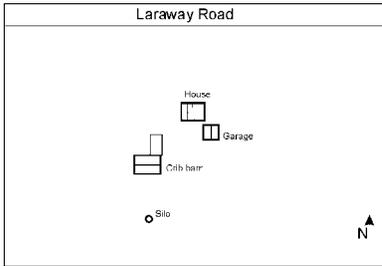
Abandoned after 1988 survey, all structures in poor condition.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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29 09-32-100-003 Laraway Road

Fox-Hinspeter farm

Contributing

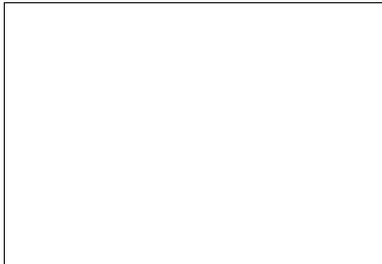


1872 directory: Henry Fox, farmer

137 09-32-200-002 Elsner Road (104th Avenue)

William Block farm

Non-contributing

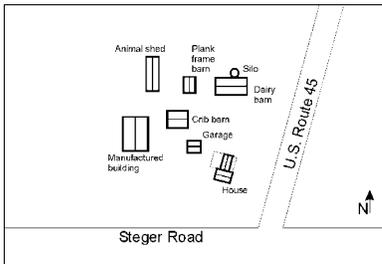


See 1955 aerial photograph.

28 09-32-300-006 LaGrange Road (U.S. 45)

Holden-Sanders farm

Contributing

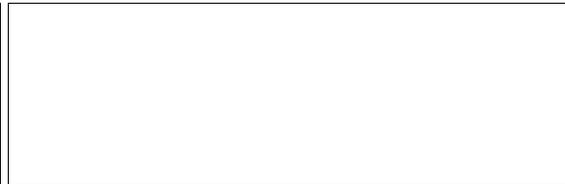
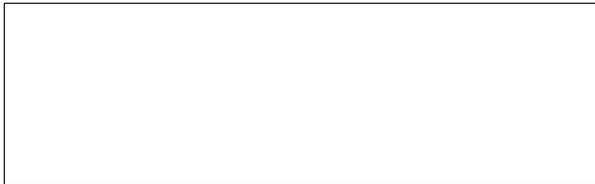
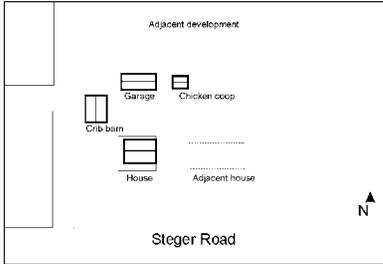


1872 directory: A.E. Holden, farmer.
 Christian Luhring [or Loering] was the son of Christian and Margaret Luhring, who emigrated from Germany and lived in Joliet. The elder Luhring bought a farm in Frankfort Township in 1891 but died in 1899. [HISTORY OF WILL COUNTY (1928), 727-728; 1103-1104.] Lester Christianson may be a relation by marriage to the Luhring family.

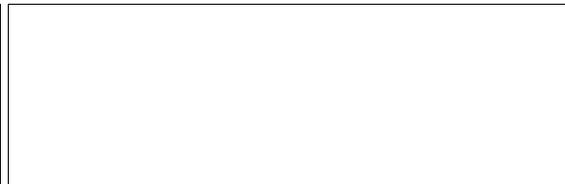
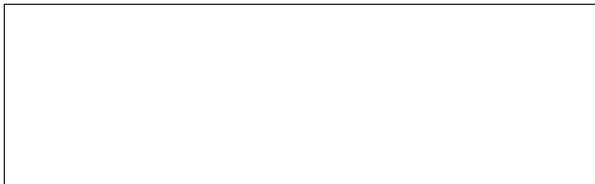
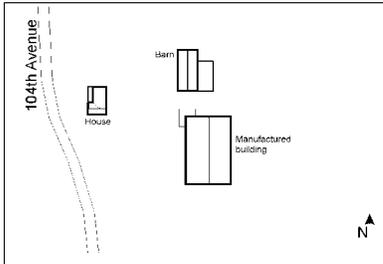
Surveyed from road right-of-way.

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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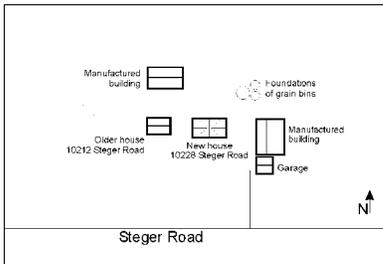
136	09-32-400-005	Steger Road	Conrad Mark farm	Contributing
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138	09-33-100-010	Elsner Road (104th Avenue)		Contributing
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144	09-33-300-016	Steger Road		Non-contributing
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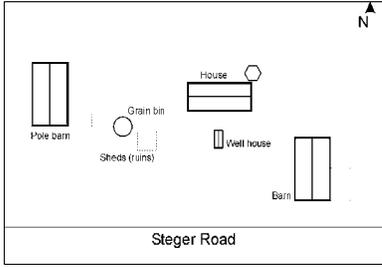
No historic buildings remain on site. Unchanged since 1988 survey.

Surveyed from road right-of-way

ID PIN Street Name Name Landmark Potential

142 09-33-400-001 Steger Road

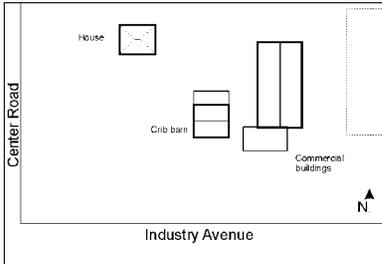
Contributing



1872 directory: Peter Calmer, farmer

149 09-34-100-060 Center Road

Contributing

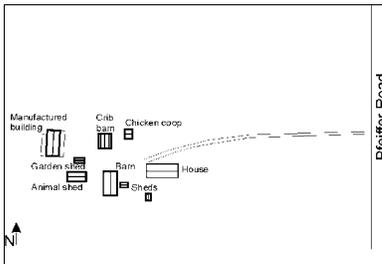


1872 directory: John Lapin, farmer

Carroll Distributing & Construction Supply, Inc.
Barking dogs - closer survey not possible

147 09-34-200-013 Pfeiffer Road (88th Avenue) **Schrader–Geuther farm**

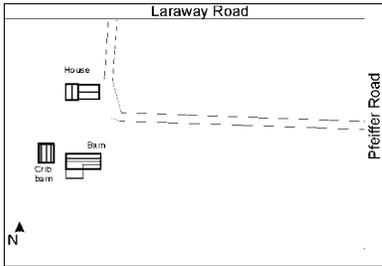
Local landmark potential



1872 directory: Henry Schrader, farmer (Frederick Schrader, site 148)

ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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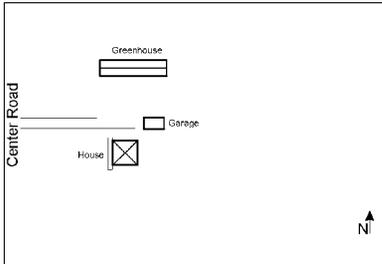
148	09-34-200-016	Laraway Road		Contributing
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1872 directory: Frederick Schrader, farmer (Henry Schrader, site 147)
 1955 Drury book lists owner as Joe M. Scott.
 The original "back" of the house, facing north, now appears as the "front" of the house, following the extension of Laraway Road circa 1970.

Surveyed from road right-of-way only.

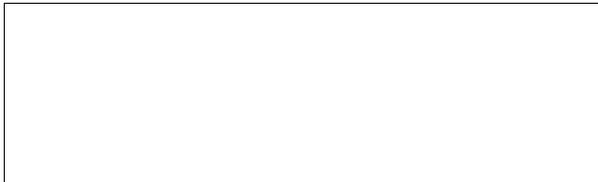
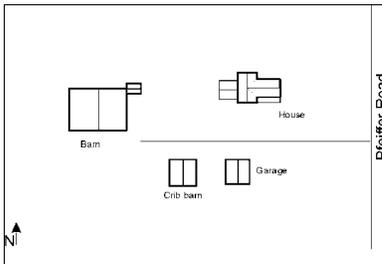
145	09-34-300-010	Center Road	Bettenhausen-Schoelling farm	Non-contributing
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1872 directory: Jacob Gabelman, farmer

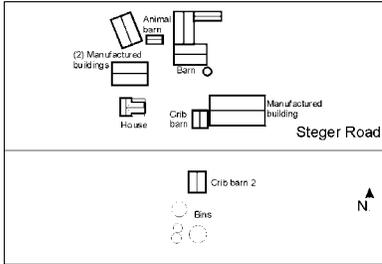
Surveyed from road right-of-way.

146	09-34-400-019	Pfeiffer Road (88th Avenue)		Contributing
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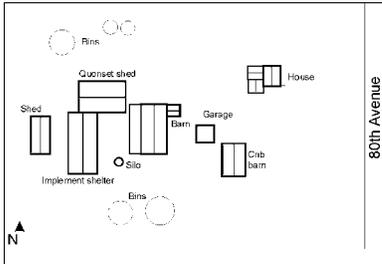
ID	PIN	Street Name	Name	Landmark Potential
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150	09-35-300-009	Steger Road	Fred Block farm	Contributing
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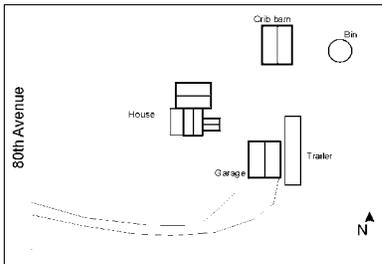
1872 directory, Fred Block, farmer

152	09-35-400-005	80th Avenue	Karch-Heisner farm	Contributing
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Henry J. Karch was born near Frankfurt-am-Rhein, Germany and came to Will County in 1850 and died in 1888. [PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM, 1890, p.237]

155	09-36-100-009	80th Avenue	Charles Rahn farm	Contributing
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1872 directory: Charles Rum, farmer

ID PIN Street Name Name Landmark Potential

156 09-36-300-043 Steger Road Engleman farm Contributing

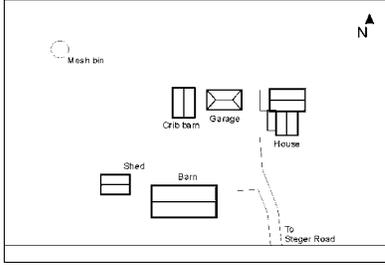


Table 2. Farmhouses

ID	PIN Date	House Type Significance	Style	Materials
1	09-01-100-029 1895	Gabled Ell Contributing		Foundation: unknown Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
2	09-01-300-010 1970s	Ranch Non-contributing		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
4	09-01-300-022 1930s	Bungalow Non-contributing		Foundation: Brick Walls: Wood shingle Roof: Asphalt shingle
11	09-04-100-012 1950s	Cape Cod Contributing	Tudor	Foundation: Concrete Walls: Brick Roof: Asphalt shingle
52	09-04-101-001 1908	Gabled Ell Contributing		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
12	09-04-200-024 1880s	Upright and wing Landmark potential		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
10	09-04-300-015	Trailer house Non-contributing		Foundation: Walls: Roof:
53	09-04-400-027 1950s	Ranch Non-contributing		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Brick Roof: Asphalt shingle
13	09-05-300-010 1870s	Upright and wing Non-contributing		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
14	09-05-400-016 1880s	Upright and wing Contributing		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
166	09-06-200-025 1940	Ranch Non-contributing		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
167	09-06-200-030 1948	Ranch Non-contributing		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Cement asbestos shingle Roof: Asphalt shingle

ID	PIN <i>Date</i>	House Type <i>Significance</i>	Style	Materials	
68	09-06-305-012 <i>1880s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation:	Unknown
				Walls:	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
73	09-08-109-063 <i>1900s</i>	Gable Front <i>Contributing</i>	Colonial Revival	Foundation:	Concrete
				Walls:	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
168	09-08-400-001 <i>1880s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Local landmark potential</i>	Queen Anne	Foundation:	unknown
				Walls:	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
75	09-09-100-016	Upright and wing <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation:	Concrete block
				Walls:	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
8	09-11-100-002 <i>circa 1940</i>	Bungalow <i>Contributing</i>	Craftsman	Foundation:	Concrete block
				Walls:	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
5	09-12-100-003 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation:	Unknown
				Walls:	Vinyl siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
6	09-12-200-011 <i>1900s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Landmark potential</i>	Eclectic	Foundation:	Brick
				Walls:	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
22	09-13-151-004 <i>1907</i>	American Foursquare <i>Contributing</i>	Craftsman	Foundation:	Concrete
				Walls:	Stucco
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
23	09-13-200-003 <i>1968</i>	Ranch <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation:	Concrete
				Walls:	Brick
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
21	09-14-400-007 <i>1920s</i>	American Foursquare <i>Landmark potential</i>	Craftsman	Foundation:	Concrete block
				Walls:	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
24	09-14-400-012 <i>1860s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Local landmark potential</i>		Foundation:	Unknown
				Walls:	Wood siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle
20	09-15-200-016 <i>1910s</i>	Bungalow <i>Contributing</i>	Craftsman	Foundation:	Concrete block
				Walls:	Aluminum siding
				Roof:	Asphalt shingle

ID	PIN <i>Date</i>	House Type <i>Significance</i>	Style	Materials
19	09-15-300-015 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>	Eclectic	Foundation: Limestone Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
94	09-16-200-025 <i>1978</i>	Ranch <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Brick Roof: Asphalt shingle
15	09-17-108-008 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Landmark potential</i>	Italianate	Foundation: Limestone Walls: Wood siding / cement asbestos shingle Roof: Asphalt shingle
17	09-17-200-008 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
18	09-17-201-019 <i>1900s</i>	Gable Front <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
99	09-20-300-014 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
103	09-22-200-007 <i>1870s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Landmark potential</i>	Italianate	Foundation: Limestone Walls: Cement asbestos shingle Roof: Sheet metal
102	09-22-400-011 <i>1880s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
25	09-23-200-010 <i>1990s</i>	Contemporary <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Wood Roof: Asphalt shingle
158	09-23-300-031 <i>1875</i>	n/a <i>Landmark potential</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Brick Roof: Asphalt shingle
106	09-23-300-031 <i>1870s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>	Italianate	Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
112	09-26-300-007 <i>1860s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>	Greek Revival	Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle

ID	PIN <i>Date</i>	House Type <i>Significance</i>	Style	Materials
120	09-27-105-027 <i>1870s</i>	I-house <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: unknown Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
117	09-27-200-008	Contemporary <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
118	09-27-200-010 <i>1900s</i>	Two-flat <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
121	09-27-300-032 <i>1880s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
116	09-27-400-020 <i>1870s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
115	09-27-400-040 <i>2000s</i>	Contemporary <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete block Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
31	09-28-300-018 <i>1948</i>	Ranch <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
124	09-28-400-027 <i>1880s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
30	09-29-400-005 <i>1880s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
26	09-30-300-006 <i>1870s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
27	09-31-400-012 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
29	09-32-100-003	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle

ID	PIN <i>Date</i>	House Type <i>Significance</i>	Style	Materials
28	09-32-300-006 <i>1870s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
136	09-32-400-005 <i>2000s</i>	Contemporary <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
138	09-33-100-010 <i>1870s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
144	09-33-300-016 <i>1970s</i>	Contemporary <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Stone / wood siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
142	09-33-400-001	Ranch <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
149	09-34-100-060 <i>1914</i>	American Foursquare <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Unknown Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
147	09-34-200-013 <i>2000s</i>	Ranch <i>Non-contributing</i>	Contemporary	Foundation: Concrete Walls: Brick Roof: Asphalt shingle
148	09-34-200-016 <i>1880s</i>	Upright and wing <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: unknown Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
145	09-34-300-010 <i>1990s</i>	American Foursquare <i>Non-contributing</i>		Foundation: Concrete Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
146	09-34-400-019	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Unknown Walls: Faux stone / Aluminum siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
150	09-35-300-009 <i>1880s</i>	Gabled Ell <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Unknown Walls: Vinyl siding Roof: Asphalt shingle
152	09-35-400-005 <i>1860s</i>	New England One-and- <i>Contributing</i>		Foundation: Limestone Walls: Cement Asbestos Shingle Roof: Asphalt shingle

ID	PIN	House Type	Style	Materials
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Significance</i>		
155	09-36-100-009	Upright and wing		Foundation: Limestone
	<i>1870s</i>	<i>Contributing</i>		Walls: Wood
				Roof: Asphalt shingle
156	09-36-300-043	Upright and wing		Foundation: Concrete block
	<i>1875</i>	<i>Contributing</i>		Walls: Vinyl siding
				Roof: Asphalt shingle

Table 3. Barns

ID	PIN Date	Barn Type Significance	Materials	
1	09-01-100-029 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
2	09-01-300-010 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Vinyl siding
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
11	09-04-100-012 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle / sheet metal
12	09-04-200-024 <i>1880s</i>	Bank barn <i>Landmark potential</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Wood siding
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
10	09-04-300-015 <i>1880s</i>	Three-ended <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	unknown
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Sheet metal
14	09-05-400-016 <i>1880s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Unknown
			Walls:	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal
168	09-08-400-001 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
5	09-12-100-003 <i>1870s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
6	09-12-200-011 <i>1900s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Wood
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
23	09-13-200-003 <i>1950s</i>	Feeder barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Concrete block
			Roof:	Cement asbestos shingle
21	09-14-400-007 <i>1900s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Wood shingle
19	09-15-300-015 <i>1870s</i>	Bank barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Wood / asphalt siding
			Roof:	Sheet metal

ID	PIN <i>Date</i>	Barn Type <i>Significance</i>	Materials	
15	09-17-108-008 <i>1870s</i>	Bank barn <i>Landmark potential</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
103	09-22-200-007 <i>1870s</i>	Bank barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
102	09-22-400-011 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Asphalt sheeting
			Roof:	Corrugated sheet metal
105	09-23-100-011	Bank barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
25	09-23-200-010 <i>1860s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Local landmark potential</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
120	09-27-105-027 <i>1910s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	unknown
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
118	09-27-200-010 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Vinyl siding / asphalt siding
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
121	09-27-300-032 <i>1900s</i>	Plank frame <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Wood siding / plywood
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
115	09-27-400-040 <i>1900s</i>	Round roof barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Wood
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
31	09-28-300-018 <i>1940s</i>	Round roof barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Wood siding
			Roof:	Sheet metal
124	09-28-400-027 <i>1920s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Local landmark potential</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
30	09-29-400-005 <i>1880s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Wood
			Roof:	Sheet metal
26	09-30-300-006 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	
			Walls:	
			Roof:	

ID	PIN <i>Date</i>	Barn Type <i>Significance</i>	Materials	
27	09-31-400-012 <i>1870s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Wood
			Roof:	Sheet metal
28	09-32-300-006 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	unknown
			Walls:	Board and batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
138	09-33-100-010 <i>1870s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
142	09-33-400-001 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Vertical wood boards
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
147	09-34-200-013 <i>1870s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete block
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
148	09-34-200-016 <i>1910s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	unknown
			Walls:	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
146	09-34-400-019	Feeder barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Concrete
			Walls:	Concrete block
			Roof:	Asphalt shingle
150	09-35-300-009 <i>1900s</i>	Dairy barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal
152	09-35-400-005 <i>1870s</i>	Three-bay Threshing <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	Limestone
			Walls:	Board & batten
			Roof:	Wood shingle
156	09-36-300-043 <i>1960s</i>	Feeder barn <i>Contributing</i>	Foundation:	None
			Walls:	Sheet metal
			Roof:	Sheet metal

Notable Farmsteads in Frankfort Township

McGovney–Yunker Farmstead

Site 15

John McGovney, originally of Adams County, Ohio, was one of the first settlers of present-day Frankfort Township in 1831. His father, James McGovney, had emigrated from northern Ireland and married Nancy Crockett, a relative of Davy Crockett.¹⁷⁷ His son John W. was the first European child born in the township, in spring 1832. After fleeing east during the Black Hawk War of 1832, John McGovney returned with his wife Nancy and their children to settle permanently on this farm in sections 8 and 17 in 1833. When land sales for Frankfort Township began in 1836, John purchased the southwest quarter of section 17, together with his son William W. McGovney. The east half of the southwest quarter of section 8, which comprises most of the present-day farmstead, as well as the east half of the northwest quarter of section 8, were purchased in 1838.

John McGovney died on March 11, 1859, after which the youngest of his eight children, Elijah McGovney, continued to farm the original homestead. Many of the surviving historic buildings on the site, such as the farmhouse, bank barn, and other outbuildings, were built while Elijah McGovney worked the farm.

By the 1870s among John McGovney sons, William W. McGovney was farming in New Lenox Township, and Thomas G. McGovney was residing in Joliet.¹⁷⁸ Ozias McGovney, another of John's sons, was born in Ohio in 1824 and moved to Will County with his parents in 1831. He was an attorney and served as justice of the peace for 21 years. He married Matilda J. Elsworth in 1846. Their son, Ozias Erwin McGovney, was born in Mokena in 1855. He established a general store in Manhattan and became the first mayor when Manhattan incorporated in 1886. Later he returned to Mokena and served as postmaster and president of the village board. He died in 1910.¹⁷⁹

In the twentieth century, Elijah McGovney's son L. Edward McGovney took over the farm as a tenant. Elijah McGovney died in 1921, and following a three year dispute among the McGovney heirs, the farm was sold to Fred Yunker (1869–1949) and his wife Carrie Cappel (1878–1961) in 1924.¹⁸⁰ The Yunker family made a number of changes and additions to the farmstead, including new outbuildings such as the hog house, machine shed, and wire mesh grain bins on the south side of LaPorte Road.

Following Fred's death in 1949, his son Edwin W. Yunker and his wife Laverne took over the farm. Several additional outbuildings were added to the site by Edwin Yunker, including the garage and manufactured building at the north end of the site, and a new manufactured building on the south side of LaPorte Road, replacing an earlier shed visible in the 1955 aerial photograph. Edwin W. Yunker was one of the original board members for the Mokena Park District in 1958.

Laverne Yunker died in 1995, and Edwin Yunker lived on the farmstead until his death in 2002.¹⁸¹ The farm was purchased by Mokena Park District in 1997. The McGovney–Yunker farmstead was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.¹⁸²

¹⁷⁷ Maue (1928), 679; Pitman (1963), 3.

¹⁷⁸ Woodruff et al. (1878), 506–511.

¹⁷⁹ Woodruff et al. (1878), 850; Maue (1928), 678–679. See also biography and portrait of Ozias' son Ona E. McGovney in Maue, 800–801.

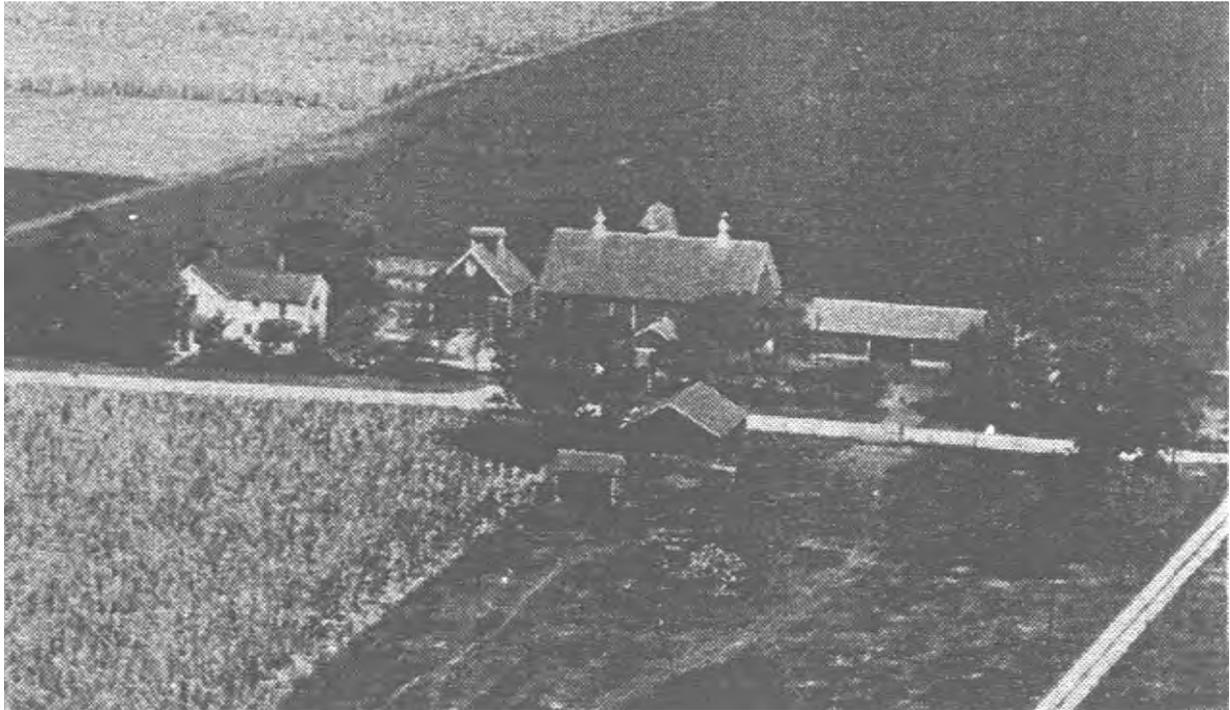
¹⁸⁰ Carrie Cappel Yunker was the daughter of Fred and Katherina Schweser Cappel. This Cappel family is apparently no relation of the Frederick Cappel who named Frankfort Township. See Maue (1928), 718–719.

¹⁸¹ Census of St. John's United Church of Christ Cemetery, 56. Edwin W. Yunker (1918–2002), wife Laverne M. (1919–1995).

¹⁸² For a detailed description of the farm buildings and historical background of the site, refer to the National Register Nomination Form, prepared by Jennifer Medema, Mokena Area Historical Society, December 9, 2005.



Above: The historic nineteenth century and early twentieth century buildings at the McGovney–Yunker farmstead include the house, crib barn, summer kitchen, and bank barn. Below: An aerial view of the farm in 1955, shortly after the farm passed from Fred Yunker to Edwin Yunker.



Scheer Family Farmsteads

Sites 103, 105, and 106

John Scheer, born in 1800, and his wife Bina, together with their children John, Conrad, Peter, Mary, Frederick, Philopena, and Valentine emigrated from Bavaria, Germany in 1847. Three more children, Nicholas, Julia, and Caroline, were born after the family arrived in Frankfort Township. They settled a farm on 84th Avenue in section 14, of which no evidence survives today. The 1860 census lists all of their children as residing at home.¹⁸³

By the 1870s, several of John and Bina’s children were farming in Frankfort Township. Nicholas owned the old family farm in section 14. Peter, born in Bavaria in 1836 and married to Louisa Dralle, had a farm in sections 15 and 22.¹⁸⁴ This farm was documented in the 1988 survey but has since been demolished.

Frederick Scheer, John and Bina’s son, owned a farm in section 23, comprising sites 105 and 106 in the present survey (PIN 09-23-100-011 and 09-23-300-031). Frederick was born in 1839 in Germany. He married Elizabeth Rheingley, and they had two children, Louisa and Herman.¹⁸⁵ This farm remained in the Scheer family into the 1940s, when it was acquired by the Folkers family.



The Frederick Scheer farm includes a three-bay threshing barn, sites 105 in the present survey, and an upright and wing house, site 106 in the present survey. In recent years, historic buildings from elsewhere in Frankfort Township have been relocated to site 106, including the Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory. Below left: a detail of the Frederick Scheer farmhouse. Below right: a second historic house on the site, relocated to this farmstead since the 1988 survey.



¹⁸³ William Scheer is shown as on historic plat maps as owning a 160 acre farm in sections 13 and 14, of which no evidence survives today. According to the 1860 census, he was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, in 1833, and is therefore not likely related to the John Scheer family.

¹⁸⁴ Woodruff et al. (1878), 854.

¹⁸⁵ Woodruff et al. (1878), 854.

John G. Scheer, John and Bina's son, owned the farm in the northeast quarter of section 22 (site 103, PIN 09-22-200-007 in the present survey) by 1873. This farm remained in the Scheer family into the 1910s, after which it was owned by the Wieland family.

The 1918 directory lists Fred Wieland (1859–1930) and his wife Mary Gungle Wieland (1870–1949) as owners of the farm, with their children Josephine, George, Fred W., Henry, Benedict, and Dora. After their mother's death in 1949, the farm was inherited by George Wieland (1898–1974) and his sister Dora Wieland (1900–1985). This historic farmstead is currently vacant.



The John G. Scheer farm, site 103 in section 22 contains a number of well preserved historic buildings, including the Upright and Wing farmhouse with Italianate details and the bank barn with a limestone foundation. Below: a detail of the house, and the crib barn on the site.



Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory***Site 158***

The Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory (sometimes referred to as the Baumgartner Creamery) was established in 1875, and this stone and brick building was constructed north of Frankfort village in section 15, along present day U.S. Route 45. The business was owned by John and Jacob Baumgartner, George Geuther, Francis Maue, and E. Higgens. The stone and brick building cost \$6,000 to construct, and yielded sales of approximately \$10,000 annually at the height of its operations. The primary products were butter and cheese. As noted in the HABS documentation of the building compiled in 1990, the ground floor would have contained milk tanks, presses, and other cheese making equipment. The second floor would have contained the dry room and curing area used for aging cheese. Milk would have been skimmed by hand, with the cream processed into butter, and the milk separated into curds and whey. The curds formed the basis for production of the cheese, while the whey was collected and sold to area farmers for animal feed.¹⁸⁶

The factory closed around 1895, when better railroad transportation allowed local dairy farmers to sell milk more profitably to dairies in urban areas. Also, the factory proved unable to attract a sufficient quantity of milk to allow for efficient operations. On the 1873 atlas map of Frankfort Township, another cheese factory is indicated in the southeast quarter of section 3 on land owned by J. G. Geuther, Jr.; this earlier cheese factory may have been a predecessor of the Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory. After the factory closed, the building was used for storage, although it is rumored to have been used to illicitly brew beer during Prohibition in the 1920s.¹⁸⁷

The Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory is the last surviving building of this type in Will County and as such is a very significant local example of the nineteenth century local dairy economy in the county. To accommodate the widening of U.S. Route 45 in 1991, the building was relocated to a new site in section 23. Since the building has been moved from its historic site, nomination of this building to the National Register of Historic Places would require special consideration and justification of significance. As seen in HABS photographs dated 1990, the building had significantly deteriorated prior to its relocation, and it remains abandoned and in poor condition today. A non-historic wooden lean-to visible at the north end of the building in a pre-1980 photograph had been removed by 1990.



Left: Present-day view of the cheese factory, now relocated to Site 106 in section 23. Right: HABS photograph of the cheese factory at its original location along U.S. Route 45, 1990.

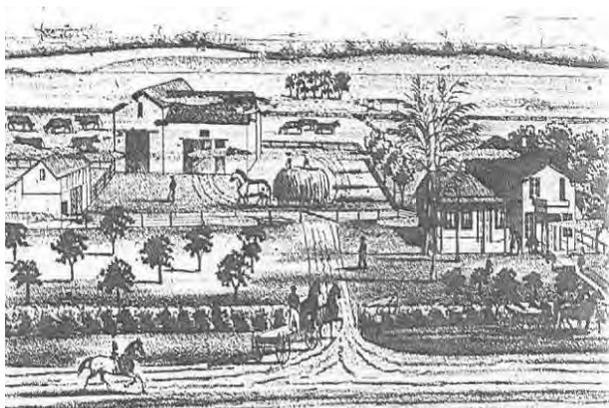
¹⁸⁶ Historic American Buildings Survey, "Baumgartner Creamery," HABS No. IL-1160.

¹⁸⁷ Refer to Florence Pitman, *The Story of Mokena* (1963), 19.

Maue Family Farmsteads

Sites 10, 11, and 52

Daniel and Sarah Maue established their original homestead in the southwest quarter of section 4, site 10 in the present survey. According to the 1873 atlas patron's directory, Daniel Maue emigrated from Germany and arrived in Will County in 1847. This farm site is still owned by Maue descendants today. Although none of the buildings depicted in the 1873 atlas survive, the site contains a historic three-ended barn and Quonset shed.



The Daniel Maue farmstead, as depicted in the 1873 atlas. None of these buildings survives today, although the farm site still exists and contains a late nineteenth century three-ended barn and mid-twentieth century Quonset shed (right).

Daniel and Sarah's son Edward G. Maue was born in 1864. Circa 1886, he purchased a 120 acre farm in partnership with his brother George, site 52 in the present survey. In 1895, Edward married Margaret Schweser, and shortly thereafter he bought out George's stake in the farm and expanded it to 160 acres. Edward G. Maue continued to farm until his death in 1928. Edward and Margaret had six children. Their daughter Amanda married William Schuldt and farmed the Maue Farmstead.¹⁸⁸ Margaret died circa 1950, and her son Robert Maue inherited the farm. The farm remained in the Maue family through the rest of the twentieth century. A gabled ell farmhouse, likely built by Edward G. Maue, still exists on the site. No historic outbuildings remain and much of the farmland has been developed for commercial purposes. Site 11 in the present survey was also owned by the Maue family in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, but was sold by the 1940s. Historic buildings on the site included the three-bay threshing barn.



Left: This gabled ell farmhouse at site 52 was likely built by Edward G. Maue circa 1890s. Right: Site 11 includes this three-bay threshing barn, likely built when the Maue family owned this farm.

¹⁸⁸ August Maue, *History of Will County, Illinois* (Topeka and Indianapolis: Historical Publishing Company, 1928), 733–734. The relationship of the author of this book, August Maue, to the Maue family of Frankfort Township is not known.

Frederick Gatter Farmstead

Sites 24 and 25

Frederick Gatter was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, in 1835. He came to Frankfort Township with his father, Casper Gatter, in 1841.¹⁸⁹ After a few years in Pennsylvania, Casper Gatter purchased sixty acres of government land at this location. Casper died in 1844. Frederick worked for a time as a salesman in Chicago before returning to the family farm. In 1862, Frederick married Catherine Maue, one of the daughters of Francis Maue.

Frederick and Catherine Gatter had one daughter who survived to adulthood, Freddie (1873–1952), who married Philip J. Stellwagen (refer to George Stellwagen house, site 20, below). By 1907, Frederick Gatter had acquired a fifteen acre parcel at the north edge of the village of Frankfort, and he and Catherine resided there. Philip and Freddie Stellwagen were rented the family farm.¹⁹⁰ Frederick died in 1916, and Catherine died in 1923, after which Philip and Freddie inherited the farm.¹⁹¹

Plat maps indicate that the farm was owned by Philip and Freddie Stellwagen until their deaths in 1947 and 1952, respectively.¹⁹² Subsequently, the historic house and barn have been under separate ownership. A contemporary house has been built adjacent to the historic barn, and the historic house has been somewhat remodeled and expanded.



Left: The Frederick Gatter house, built circa 1860s; site 24 in section 14 in the present survey. Right: The Frederick Gatter barn, site 25 in section 23 in the present survey.

¹⁸⁹ The 1873 atlas patron’s directory lists the date of Gatter’s arrival in Will County as 1845.

¹⁹⁰ W. W. Stevens, *Past and Present of Will County, Illinois* (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1907), 555–556.

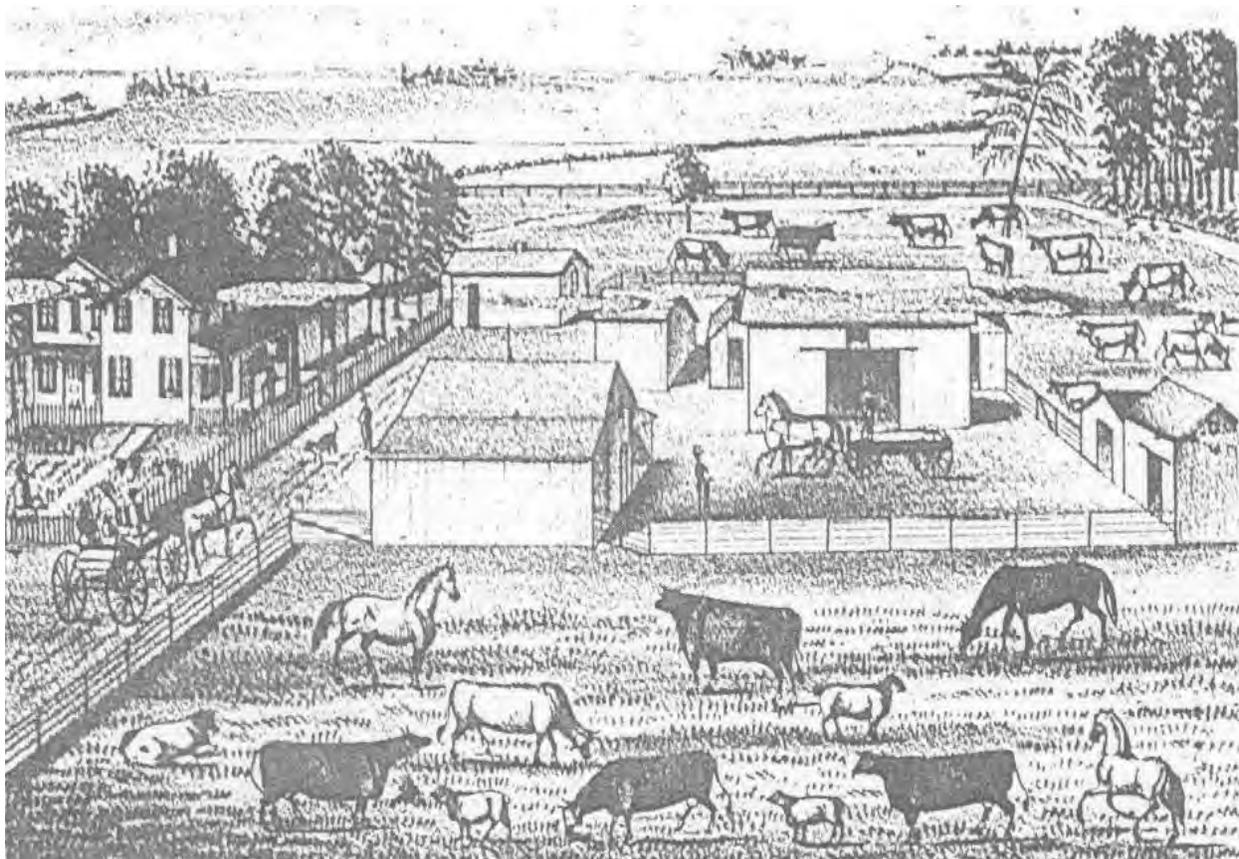
¹⁹¹ Pleasant Hill Cemetery Lot 274: Frederick Gatter, 27 October 1835–20 April 1916; Catherine, 23 August 1843–27 December 1923. Also buried here are three infant children: Albertine, Charlotte A., and Rosina.

¹⁹² Pleasant Hill Cemetery Lot 191: Philip J. Stellwagen, 24 April 1874–9 September 1947; Fredia E., 13 July 1873–21 March 1952; son Frederick G., 18 October 1902–25 September 1934.

Geuther Family Farmsteads

Sites 9, 33, 94, 102, and 147

John George Geuther (1805–1889) was born in Weidhausen, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Germany, and emigrated to Frankfort Township in 1848 with his wife, Kunigunde “Cora” Pfitzemeier (1808–1882), and their children. After renting a farm for a year, he purchased 160 acres in the southeast quarter of section 3. After three years, he purchased a new farm in the southeast quarter of section 15. He also owned 160 acres in Green Garden Township. Geuther donated 20 acres on the south side of St. Francis Road at 88th Avenue for the original German Evangelical Lutheran church building in the early 1850s. The Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery currently occupies the site. John George died on April 26, 1889.¹⁹³



This illustration of the John George Geuther farm in the southwest quarter of section 15 was published in the 1873 atlas of Will County. This farm was documented as site 15-08 in the 1988 survey, at which time the historic barn and several outbuildings still existed, but the last remaining structures at this site were demolished early in 2005.

The oldest son of John and Cora was John Nicholas Geuther. He emigrated in 1844 and settled in Charleston, South Carolina. After the Civil War, he joined his family in Illinois and farmed in Green Garden Township.

Another of John and Cora’s sons, Johann G. Geuther (1830–1890) came with the family to Frankfort Township. Johann married Elisabeth Baumgartner (1821–1899) in the 1850s. Their children included Helen, Carrie, Julia, Nicolaus (1857–1897), Fred (1860–1947), John George, and Charles (1865–1959).

¹⁹³ *Portrait and Biographical Album* (1890), 480–482; Maue (1928), 1099–1100. These two sources contain some seemingly contradictory discussion of the Geuther family, the clarity of which is not helped by the repetition of names and initials through the generations and the anglicization of the German first names in the written histories. This section is the author’s interpretation of these two sources, supplemented by the cemetery census compiled by the South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society. Spellings of names are taken from the cemetery census.

Johann was struck and killed by a Rock Island Railroad train in 1890.¹⁹⁴ Johann and Elisabeth’s son Fred purchased 160 acres in Frankfort Township after his marriage in 1885 to Emma Schmuhl, and acquired 160 more acres after his grandfather’s death in 1889. He retired from active farming in 1900, and sold the farm in the mid-1920s.

The youngest son of John and Cora, Jonathan George Geuther (1838–1905) first rented the farm in section 3 from his father, site 9 in the present survey. After John’s death in 1889, Jonathan retained the family farm in the southwest quarter of section 15. The largest land owner in the township, he also owned 177 acres in section 22, 157 acres in section 23, and 77 acres in section 7; as well as large holdings in Green Garden Township, Manhattan Township, New Lenox Township, and Cherokee County, Iowa. Jonathan George was married in 1861 to Wilhelmina “Mina” Eisenbrandt (1844–1872), and they had four children: John, George, Henry, and Mary. After Mina’s death, he was married in 1875 to Dorothea Raedlein (1852–1926), and they had six children: Annie, Bertha, Nicholas (1878–1945), Eddie, Clara, and Otto.

Five existing sites documented as part of the present survey are associated with the Geuther family:

Site 9 in the present survey was the original farmstead purchased by John George Geuther circa 1849. The 1873 plat map indicates a cheese factory on this farm. After the death of John George Geuther in 1889, this site became part of the farm of Fred Geuther. In the mid-1920s, Fred sold this farm to the Kohl family. The last remaining structures on this site were demolished in 2006.

Site 33 in the present survey was a farm originally developed by Fred Henrickson. By 1900, this farm had been acquired by the Jonathan Geuther family, passing to his son Nicholas after Jonathan’s death in 1905. The farm was sold to Clayton Chilvers after Nicholas Geuther’s death in 1945. The only surviving historic building at this site is a crib barn.



Left: This crib barn is the only surviving historic structure at site 33, one of the tenant farms owned by the Geuther family. Right: This plank frame barn survives on site 102, as does the original farmhouse, which has been greatly remodeled for commercial purposes.

Site 94 in the present survey was acquired by Charles Geuther (Johann and Elisabeth’s son) by 1900. Charles is listed as the owner on 1902 and 1909 atlas maps, and he owned 320 acres operated as a dairy farm. He retired in 1905. His daughter Lydia E. (1896–1990) married Lawrence F. Kohl (1888–1976), and they continued to farm after Charles’ retirement. Another of Charles’ children, Milton C. Geuther,

¹⁹⁴ The *Portrait and Biographical Album* gives the name of the son killed by the train in 1890 as John George Geuther, Jr.

was an officer of the Mokena State Bank in the 1920s.¹⁹⁵ Twentieth century plat maps indicate that the farm site was owned by Kohl & Geuther. The farm remained in the Kohl family until the property was subdivided in the late 1990s. Although some historic outbuildings remained at this site at the time of the 1988 survey, currently only a non-historic ranch house remains at the site.

Site 102 in the present survey was a tenant farm acquired by the Geuther family prior to 1873. In the first half of the twentieth century, it was owned by Henry Geuther, Jonathan and Mina's son. The farm remained in the Geuther family into the 1940s when it was sold. The historic house and barn on the site were constructed when the farm was owned by the Geuther family. By the 1950s, this farm was owned by Fred W. and Leona Wieland. Fred was the son of Fred and Mary Wieland and grew up nearby at site 103 (see Scheer Family Farmsteads, Sites 103, 105, and 106, above). A historic barn survives at this house, as does the original farmhouse, although the house has been greatly altered for commercial purposes.

Site 147 in the present survey (PIN 09-34-200-013) was a farm first developed by Henry Schrader prior to 1873. By circa 1900, the farm had been acquired by Jonathan Geuther, and was later owned by his sons Henry and Nicholas, although most likely the farm was rented out. The farm had been sold by the 1940s. Several historic outbuildings survive at this site.



Historic outbuildings at site 147 include the crib barn (left) and threshing barn (right). The crib barn is notable for the unusual side dormer for the grain elevator; typical crib barns would instead have a cupola at the ridgeline.

¹⁹⁵ Maue (1928), 700–701.

Fuchs–Hecketsweiler Farmstead

Site 12

This farmstead was apparently first developed by Christian Fuchs (1808–1874) and his wife Christiana (1817–1905). The 1873 atlas translates the family name and lists the owner of this site as “C. Fox.”¹⁹⁶ The large bank barn on the farm was likely built by Christian. After Christian died in 1874, the farm was inherited by his son Julius (1848–1924). Many of the other buildings on the site, including the Upright and Wing house and other outbuildings, were most likely built by Julius. Julius was apparently married three times, to Johanna (1867–1892), Friedericka (1866–1894), and Lizzie (1870–1940).

The 1918 directory lists Fred Fuchs as a tenant on 120 acres owned by Julius Fuchs, and indicates that Fred had lived in the county since 1894. This may mean that Fred was born in 1894, the son of Julius and Friedericka. Circa 1940, the farm was sold to the Hecketsweiler family. Martha Hecketsweiler is listed as the owner on plat maps from 1942 to 1970.



Top left: Although now clad with vinyl siding, the historic massing and character of the Upright and Wing farmhouse on the site is apparent. Historic outbuildings on the site include the bank barn (top right) and crib barn (bottom left).

¹⁹⁶ The word *Fuchs* is German for *fox*. The family relationships and years of birth–death given in this section are based upon burials in St. John’s United Church of Christ Cemetery in Mokena.

Scheer–Woodcock Farmstead

Site 21

According to historic plat maps, in the nineteenth century, this site was owned by Ernst Eisenbrandt and later John G. Geuther. In the first decade of the twentieth century, it was acquired by the John Scheer family. The 1909 atlas lists John Scheer as the owner of this site, while the 1918 directory lists Fred Scheer (born 1878, died November 1918) as residing in section 14 of Frankfort Township. Refer to the discussion of Geuther and Scheer family farmsteads, above.

As indicated by the 1920s plat map of the township, this farmstead was likely acquired by Elmer Woodcock after Fred Scheer’s death in 1918. Most likely, the existing American Foursquare style house and crib barn on the site were built by Woodcock. By 1942, the farm had been acquired by Richard Barr.



Top: the well-preserved American Foursquare house on this site was likely built for the Elmer Woodcock family circa 1920. Bottom: the surviving outbuildings on the site are in deteriorated condition. The crib barn (left photograph) was also likely built by Woodcock, while the threshing barn on the site likely dates to the Geuther or Scheer family ownership of the farm.

Nekrauer–Fitterer Farmstead

Site 124

As documented on historic atlases and plat maps, this farm was owned by the Nekrauer family from the 1870s to the death of Henry Nekrauer in 1917. Most likely, the existing Upright and Wing house on the site was built by the Nekrauer family. The 1918 directory lists Gottfried Fitterer as residing in section 20, and historic plat maps also show him as owning 160 acres in the southeast quarter of section 20. Most likely, he acquired this farmstead in section around 1917 but rented it out to tenants. The large dairy barn on the site was presumably built by Fitterer in the late 1910s or early 1920s. The farm had several other owners through the 1940s and 1950s.



Left: The Upright and Wing farmhouse on the site likely was constructed by the Nekrauer family in the 1870s. Right: The exemplary and well-preserved dairy barn on the farm was most likely constructed in the 1920s, when Gottfried Fitterer owned the site.

Nick Yunker Farmstead

Site 6

Historic plat maps and the style of construction suggest that this farmstead was first developed as a tenant farm by Gottlieb Werner before being sold to Nick Yunker (1874–1958), likely around the time of Werner’s death in 1906.¹⁹⁷ The farm was owned by Yunker until his death in the late 1950s. The farm includes a well preserved Queen Anne style house with a detailed concrete block front porch, and a threshing barn with a concrete block silo.



Left: The historic barn and silo on the farm. Right: The well preserved Queen Anne style farmhouse on the site has an interesting concrete block front porch.

¹⁹⁷ South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society Cemetery Census of Frankfort Township (2000).

Karch-Heisner farm

Site 152

Henry J. Karch was born near Frankfurt-am-Rhein, Germany. He came to Will County in 1850. The existing New England One and a Half type house on this farmstead was likely built by Karch in the 1850s. He died in 1888, after which his son Fred Karch owned this site.¹⁹⁸

In the first half of the twentieth century, this farm was owned by Bartel Heisner, who was born in Frankfort Township in 1883 and married Louisa Mark, one of the daughters of Conrad and Elisabeth Mark.¹⁹⁹



The New England One and a Half type house and threshing barn on the site were built by the Karch family in the nineteenth century. Other outbuildings on the site, such as the crib barn and Quonset shed, were likely built by the Heisner family in the first half of the twentieth century.

¹⁹⁸ *Portrait and Biographical Album* (1890), 237.

¹⁹⁹ *The Family of Johann Conrad Mark and Elisabeth Heussner* (manuscript, archival collection, Frankfort Public Library).

Holden Family Farmsteads***Sites 28, 112, and 115***

Phineas Hemmenway Holden was born in New Hampshire in 1792. He married Betsey Parker in 1817, and they settled on a small farm in Groton, New Hampshire. In 1836, the Holden family moved west to Illinois. Phineas's younger brother Josiah had settled a farm along the Du Page River seven miles south of Plainfield in 1834. In August 1836, Holden staked a claim of 160 acres in Skunk Grove along Hickory Creek in section 26 of present-day Frankfort Township. No evidence of this farm survives in the present day. The children of Phineas and Betsey included Elizabeth, Newton, Mary E., David L., Charles C.P., Sarah Ann, George M., Mira Jane, and Levi. Betsey Holden died in 1869, and Phineas died in 1872.²⁰⁰

Phineas and Betsey's son Charles C. P. Holden served in the 5th Regiment Illinois Volunteers during the Mexican-American War in 1847–1848. After an unsuccessful attempt mining in California during the gold rush of 1850–1851, he returned to Chicago to work in the land department of the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1861, he was elected to the Chicago Common Council, and in December 1870, he was voted president of the council. As president of the council, he played an important role in organizing the relief operations following the Chicago Fire in 1871. After an unsuccessful campaign for mayor of Chicago in November 1871, he left city government in 1872. He was elected County Commissioner in Cook County in 1874 and president of the county board in 1876.



Portrait of Charles C. P. Holden, 1870s.

On the 1862 map of the township, Phineas and Betsey's son David L. Holden is listed as the owner of a farm in section 26; their son Levi P. Holden is listed as the owner of a farm in section 35; and their son George M. is listed as farming the original family farmstead; but no evidence of any of these farms survives at the present time. George M. is also shown as owning a nursery in section 27; this property is site 115 in the present survey. Levi P. Holden was major in command of Company E of the 88th Illinois Volunteers during the Civil War, and David L. Holden was a sergeant in the 53rd Regiment.

Historic plat maps also list A. E. Holden as the owner of a farm in section 32, site 28 in the present survey. According to the 1860 census, Abel Holden was born in Vermont in 1806. He may have been a brother or cousin of Phineas.



The Abel Holden Farmstead in section 32, site 28 in the present survey, includes a well preserved Upright and Wing house,

²⁰⁰ Woodruff et al. (1878), 840–842.

Phineas and Betsey's son Dr. Newton P. Holden was born in New Hampshire in 1820. He was educated at Rush Medical College in Chicago and received his diploma in 1846. He married Caroline Parish in 1847, and they had four children, Sarah, Wright P., Milton, and Frank. He purchased a farm in section 26 (site 112 in the present survey) in 1854, where the family resided. By the 1860 census, Phineas and Betsey are listed as residing with Newton's family. He retired from medical practice in 1878.²⁰¹



The Upright and Wing house at the Newton Holden farm, site 112 in the present survey, was likely built for Dr. Holden in the 1860s. The only surviving historic outbuilding on the site is the well house, likely built in the early twentieth century when the farm was owned by Fred Rahm.

²⁰¹ Woodruff et al. (1878), 839–840.

Schweser–Cappel Farmstead***Site 75***

In the 1860s, this site was owned by the Jeremiah Mahoney, who was born in 1812 in Ireland and had emigrated to Illinois by the late 1830s.²⁰² In the 1870s, the site was acquired by Nicholas Marti, who was born in Switzerland in 1824 and came to Will County in 1851. He married Mary Baumgartner.²⁰³ Later, the farm was acquired by John Schweser (1837–1917). Most likely, the existing Upright and Wing house on the site was built by either Marti or Schweser.

Emil D. Cappel (1884–1941) purchased the 116-acre John Schweser farm (site 75 in the present survey) shortly after World War I. Emil was the son of John Cappel (1846–1897) and the grandson of Frederick Cappel (born 1802), who selected the name of “Frankfort” for the township in honor of his birthplace, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany. John Cappel owned a farm in section 10 of which no evidence survives. He served as Deputy Sheriff, Collector, and Township Clerk for Frankfort Township. He lived in the village of Mokena, where he had a butcher and livestock business.²⁰⁴

Emil Cappel raised livestock at his farm and also served as Highway Commissioner for Frankfort Township in the 1920s. From 1926, Emil’s younger brothers Fred and Albert operated the firm Cappel Brothers in Mokena, selling grain, livestock feed, coal, salt, and tile.²⁰⁵ After Emil’s death in 1941, the farm was sold to James Tilsey. The farm has since been developed for commercial and industrial uses, although the Upright and Wing farmhouse survives and has been converted for office use.



The Upright and Wing farmhouse at site 75 has been remodeled for commercial use.

²⁰² 1860 census.

²⁰³ Woodruff et al. (1878), 850.

²⁰⁴ Woodruff et al. (1878), 838.

²⁰⁵ Maue (1928), 708–709.

George Stellwagen House

Site 20

Philip Stellwagen was born in Heimersheim, Germany, in 1803 and emigrated to the United States in 1842. He settled at this farm in Frankfort Township in 1844. He and his wife Margaret had several children in Germany (Matthias, Jacob, and William) as well as three more children born after they arrived in the United States (Philip, Henry, and Adam).²⁰⁶

Philip's son Matthias Stellwagen (1832–1888) was born in Germany and emigrated with his parents. Matthias married Margaret (1838–1913) in 1859, and they had six children: William (1860–1925), John (1861–1938), Margaret Caroline (who married Fred Marti of Frankfort Township), Henry (born 1865), Philip Jacob (1874–1947), and George A. (1875–1951). By the 1870s, Matthias and Margaret owned 240 acres across sections 14 and 15 of Frankfort Township and section 32 in Orland Township of Cook County.²⁰⁷ Matthias' son Philip married Freddie Gatter; refer to the discussion of the Frederick Gatter farmstead above.

After his Margaret's death in 1913, her son George A. Stellwagen inherited the farm in section 15, site 20 in the present survey. George built the existing Craftsman style bungalow sometime in the 1910s, most likely before his wife Bertha's death in 1916. Although no agricultural outbuildings survive on the site, the well-preserved gable front bungalow includes a concrete masonry porch and wooden eave brackets. George died in 1951, and the farm was inherited by his daughter, Georgiana Stellwagen French.



The George Stellwagen house includes a concrete masonry porch and wooden eave brackets.

²⁰⁶ 1860 census.

²⁰⁷ Woodruff et al. (1878), 854; Maue (1928), 714.

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Previous Surveys

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

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

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GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

gambrel. A roof which has two pitches on each side.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

shed. A roof consisting of a single, sloping plane.

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

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

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

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

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

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

tension. The state or condition of being pulled or stretched.

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

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

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

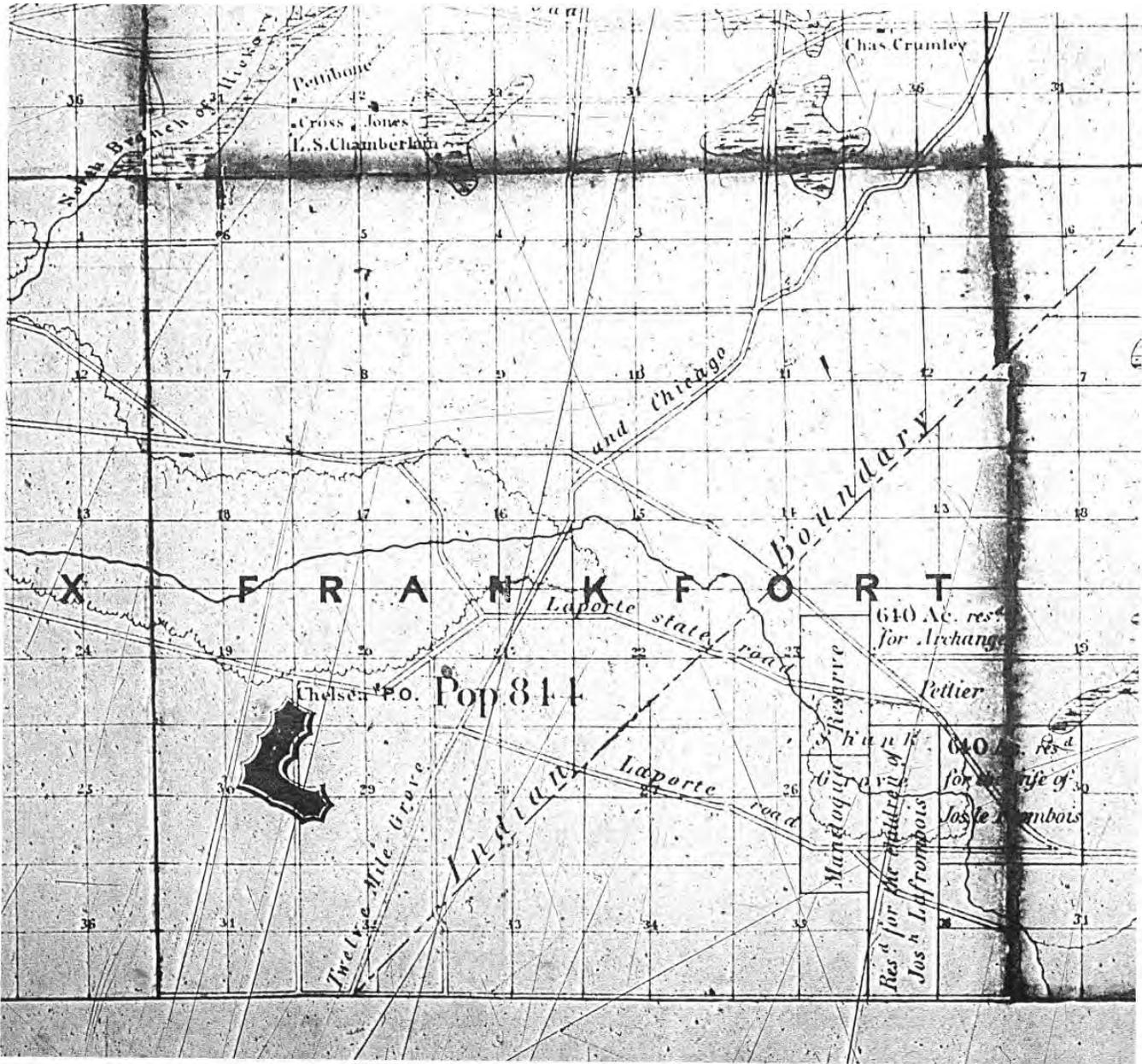


1939 aerial photograph of Mokena and surrounding areas of Frankfort Township.

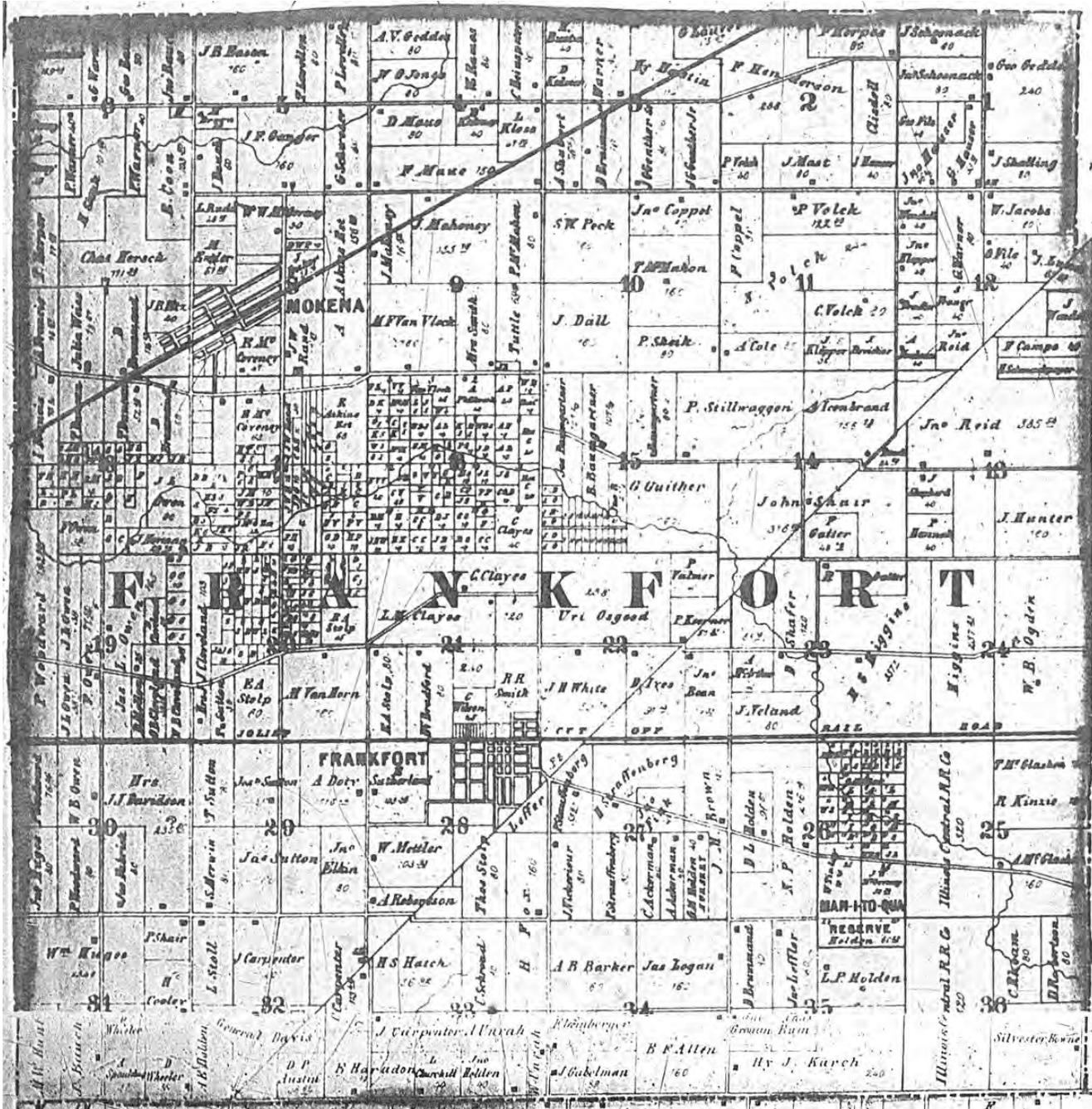
APPENDIX A

HISTORIC PLAT MAPS

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



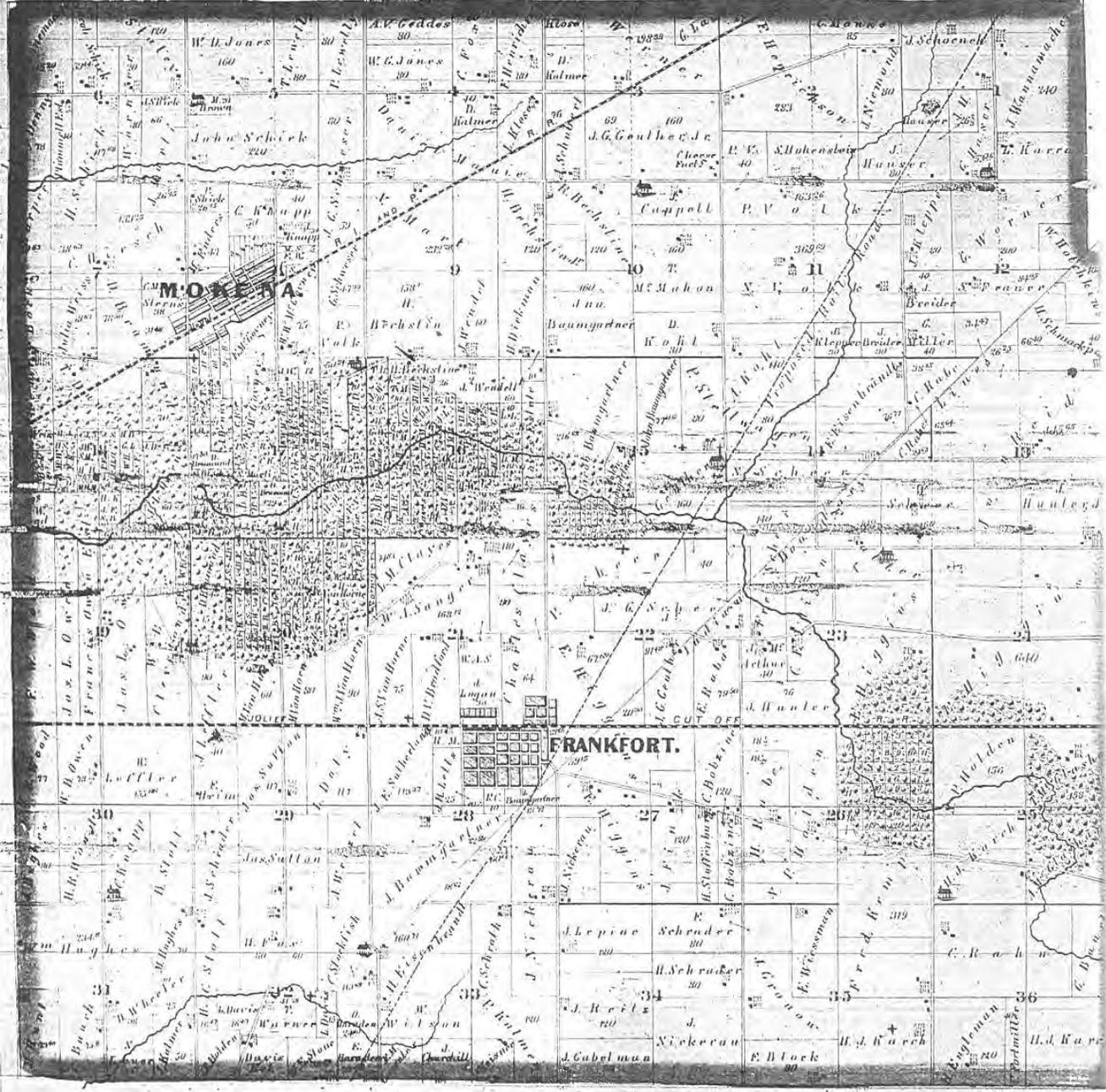
Frankfort Township 1851



Frankfort Township 1862

MAP OF FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

TOWN 35 NORTH RANGE 12 EAST



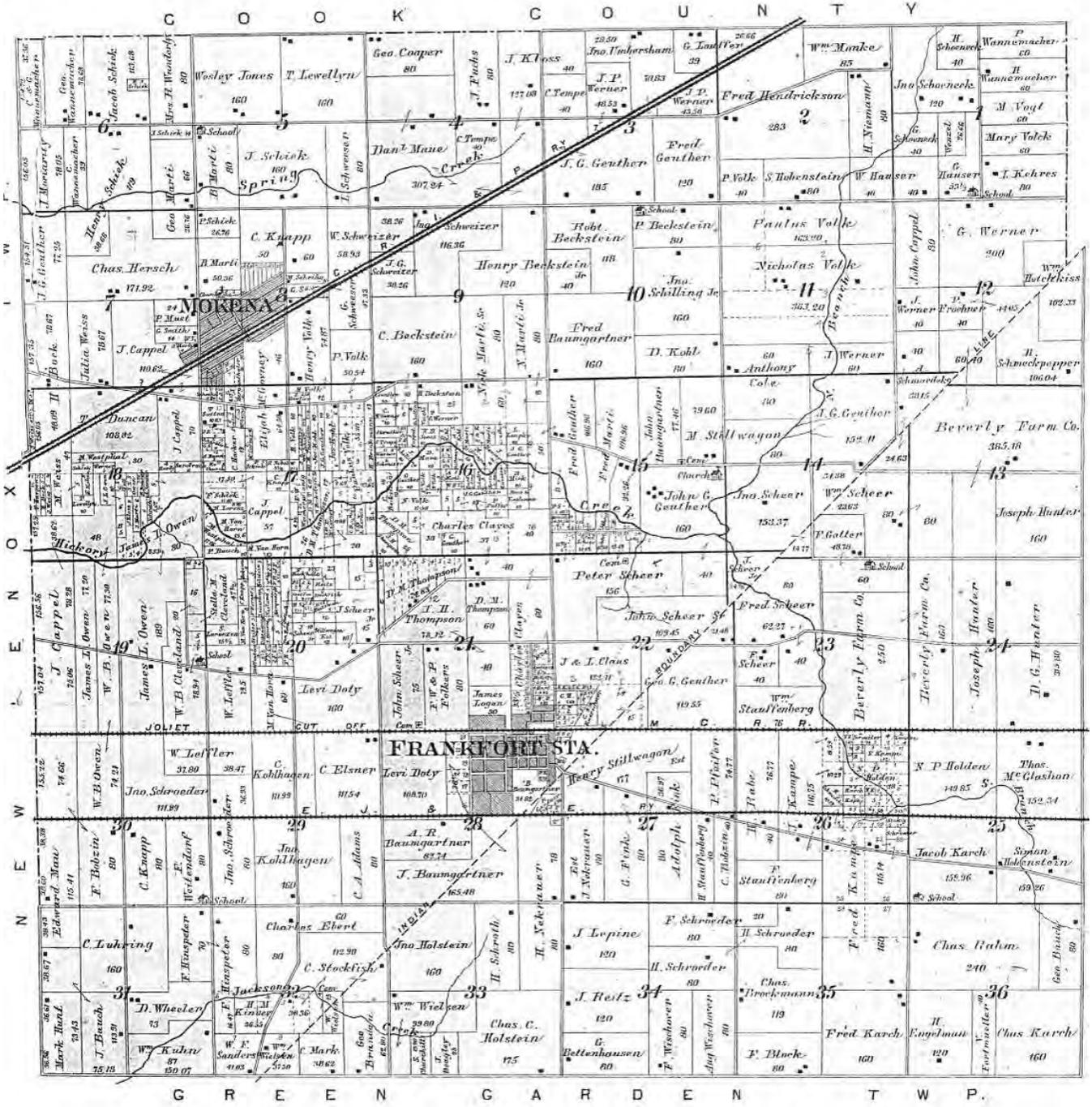
Frankfort Township 1873

FRANKFORT

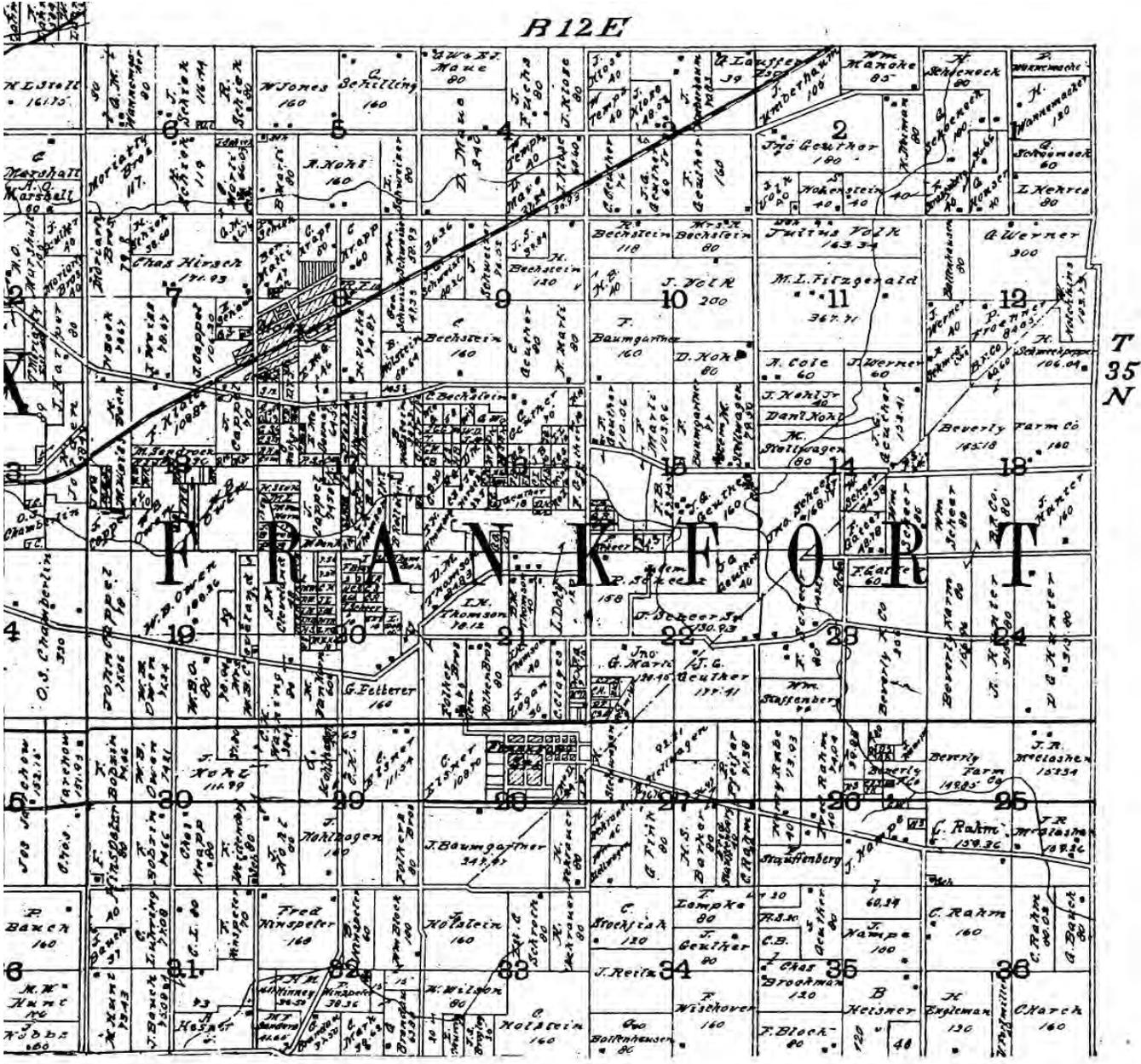
Scale 2 Inches to the Mile.

Township 35 North. Range XII East.

of the 3rd Principal Meridian.



Frankfort Township 1893

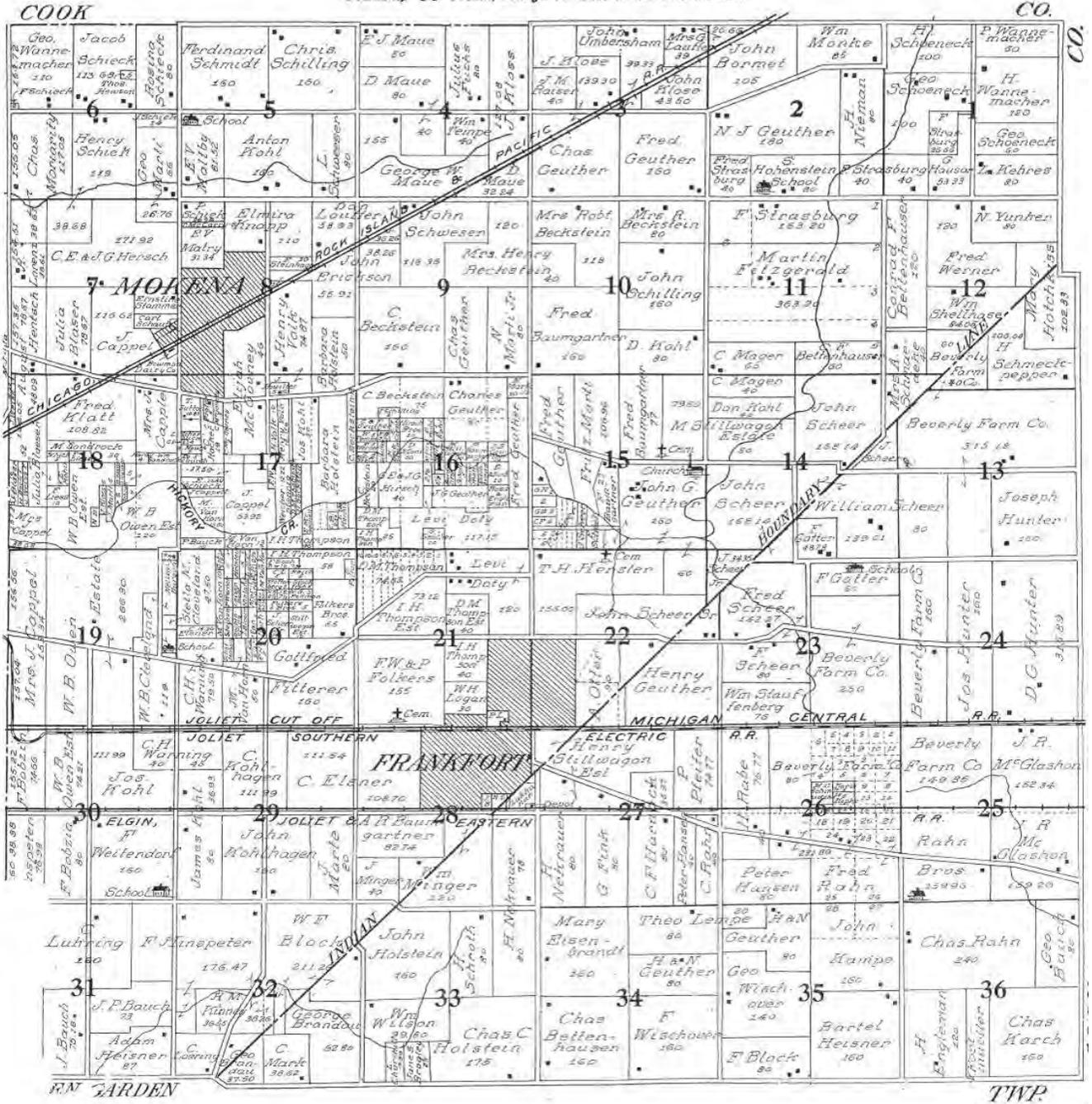


Frankfort Township 1902

MAP OF FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

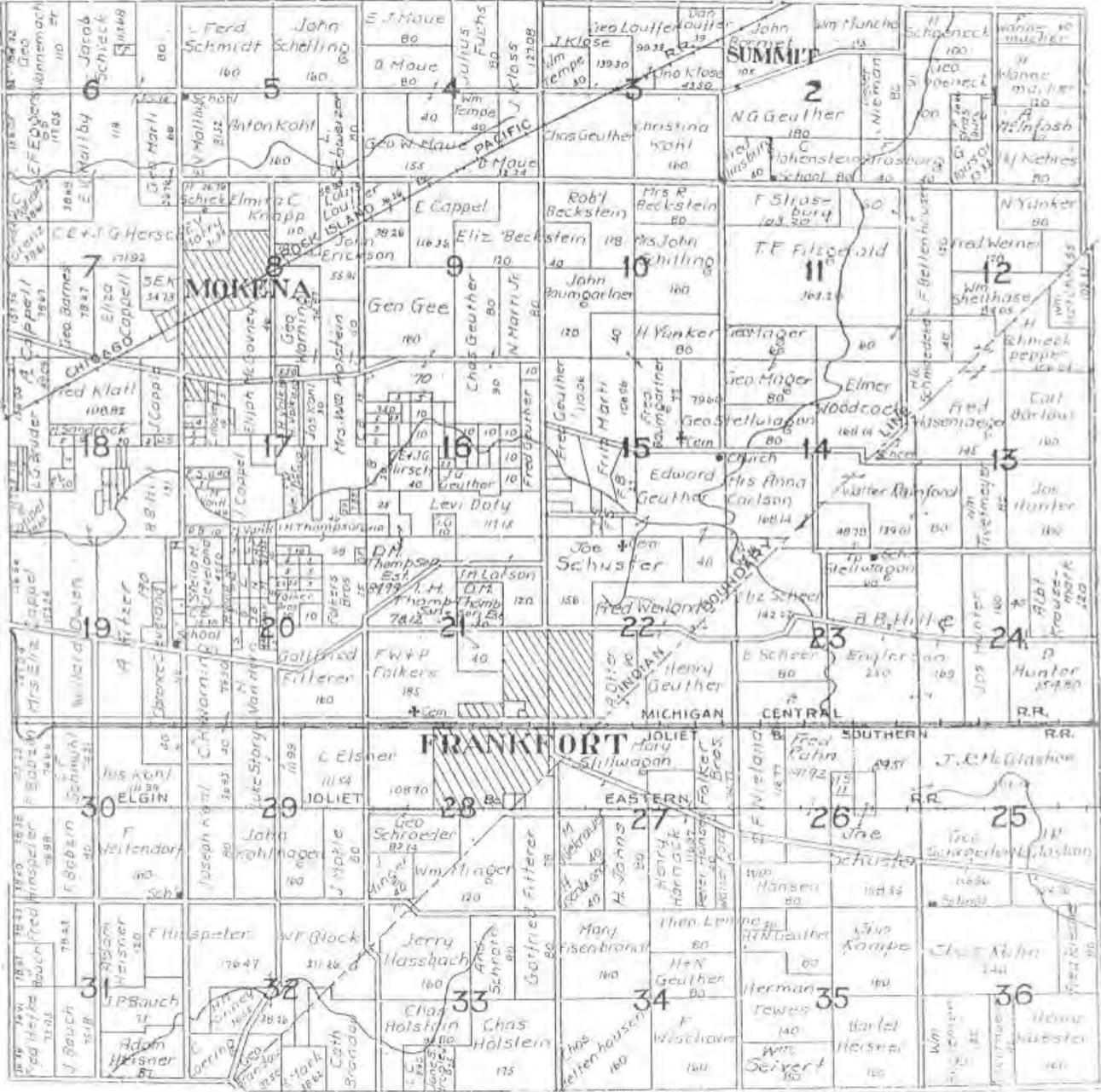
Scale 2 inches to 1 mile

Township 35 North, Range 12 East of the 3rd P. M.



Frankfort Township 1909

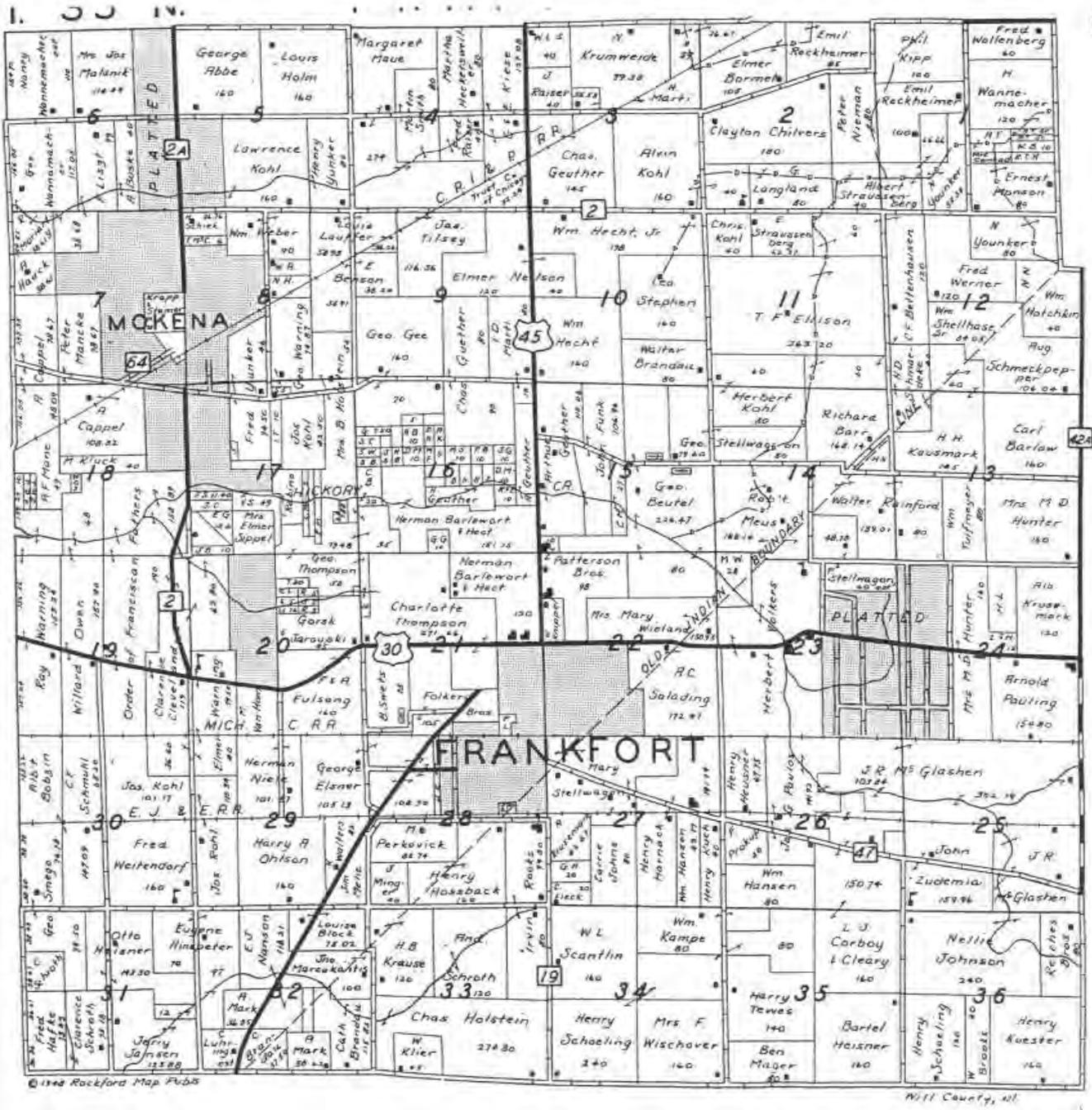
T35N. FRANKFORT R.12E.



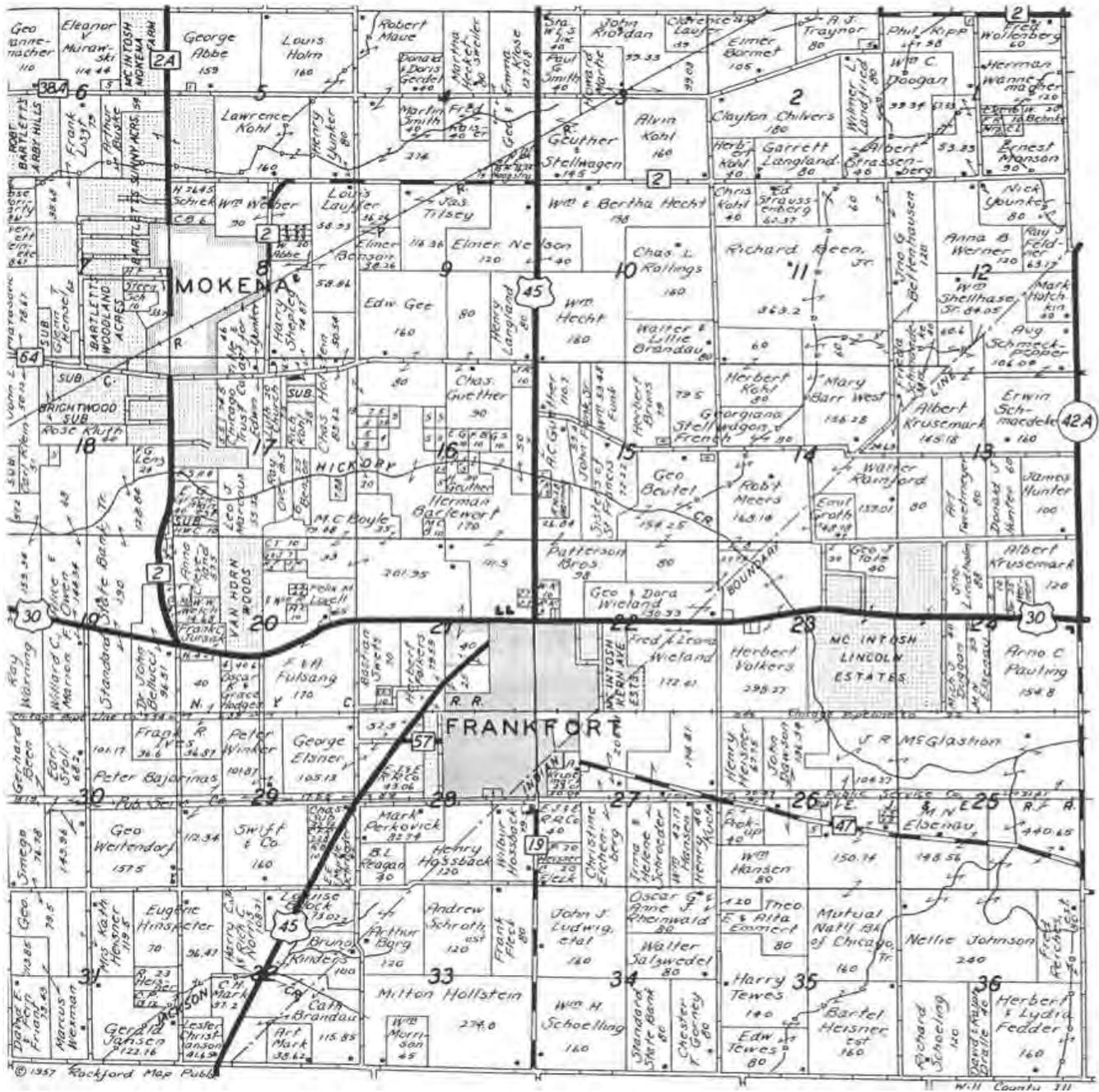
Frankfort Township circa 1928



Frankfort Township circa 1942



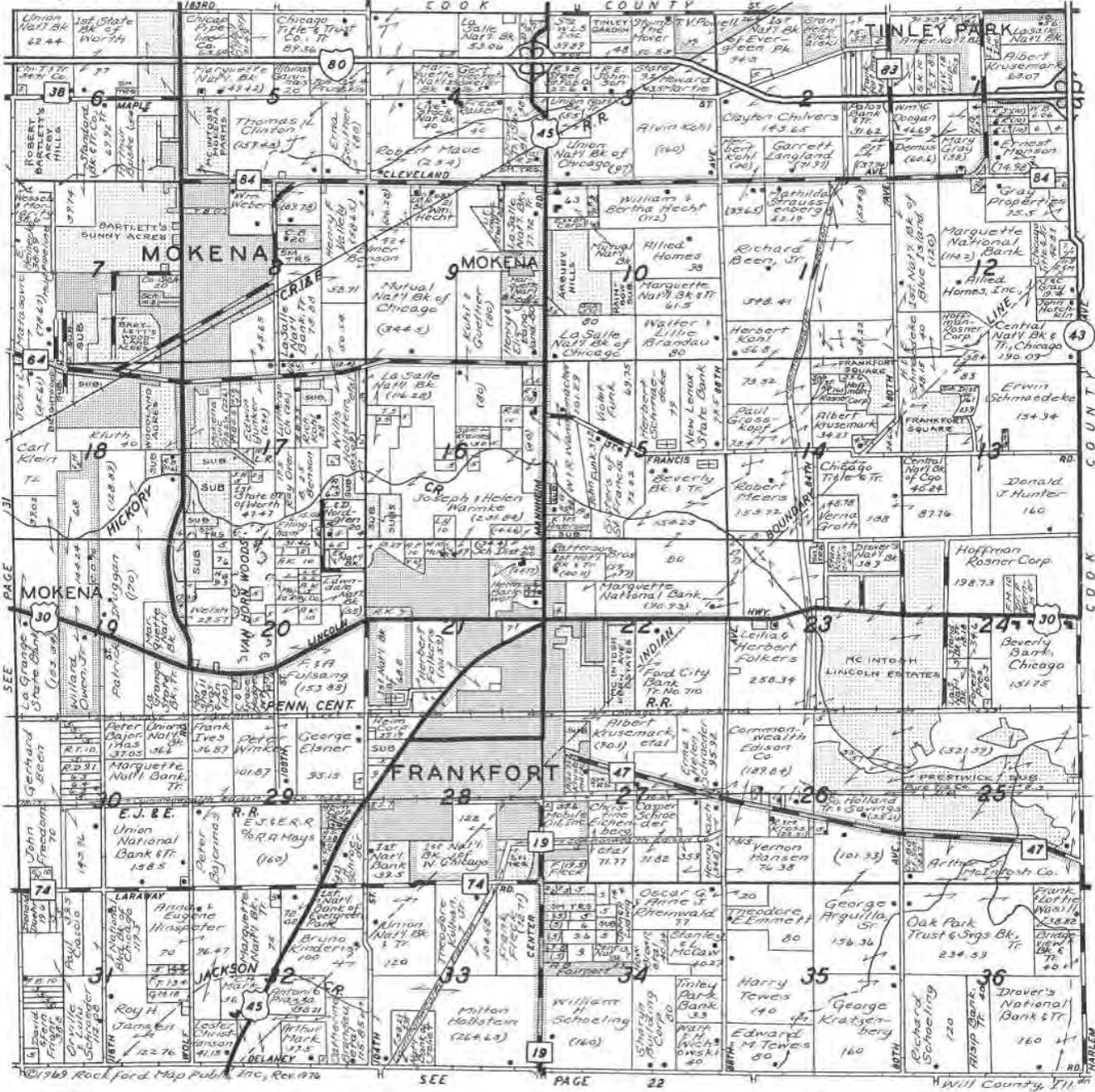
Frankfort Township 1948



Frankfort Township 1957

FRANKFORT

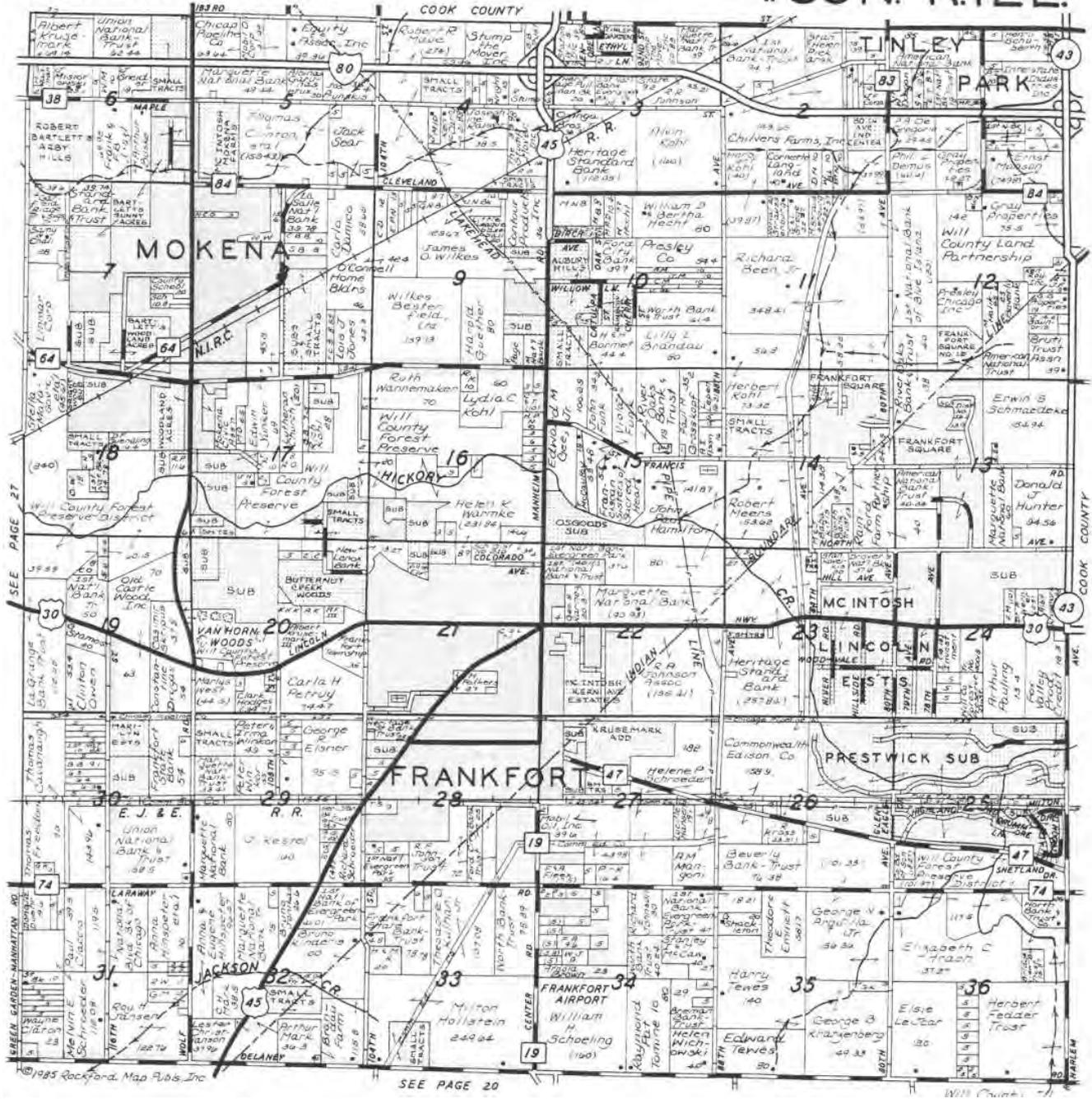
T.35N.-R.12E.



Frankfort Township 1976

FRANKFORT

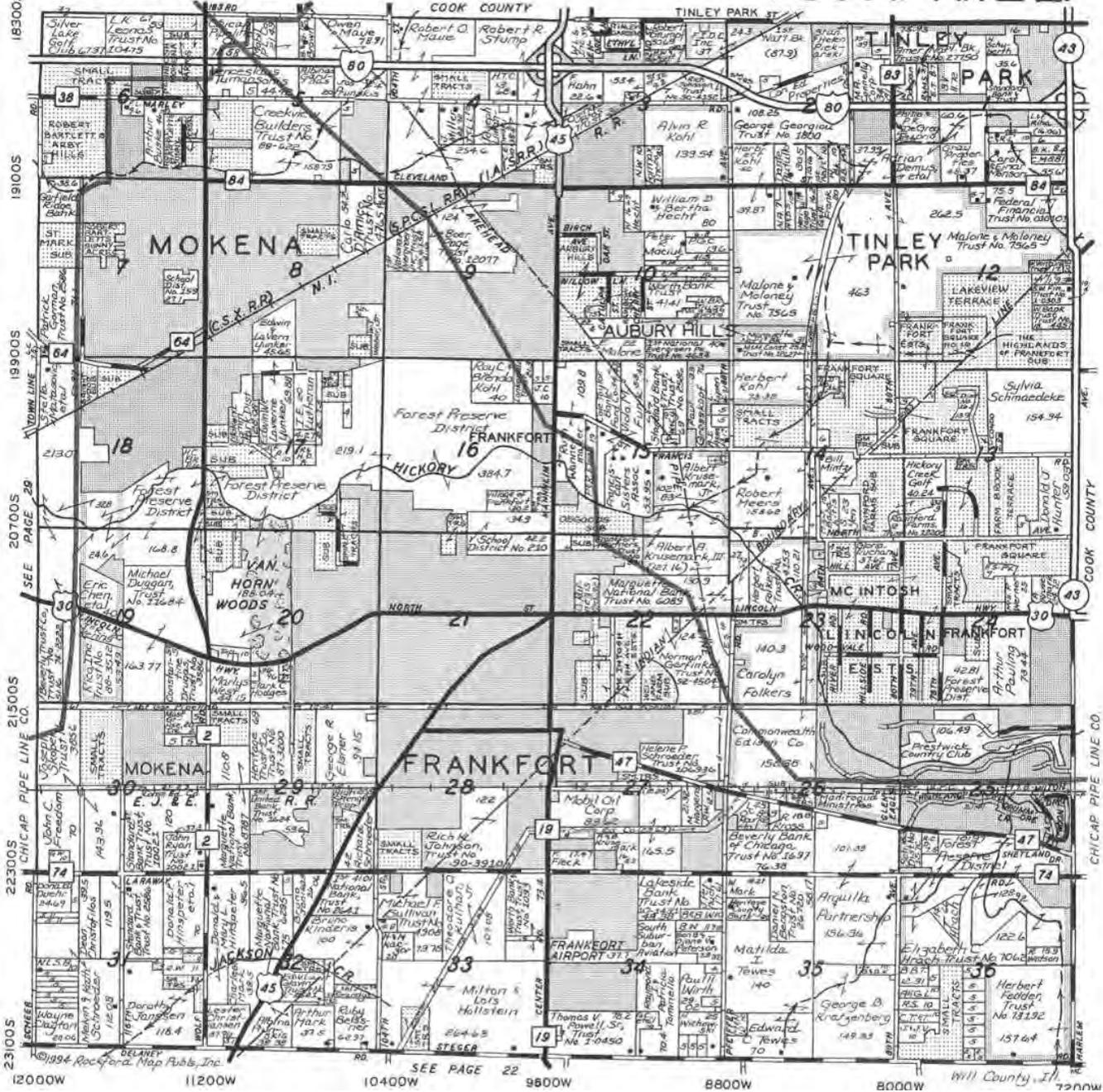
T.35N.-R.12E.



Frankfort Township 1985

FRANKFORT

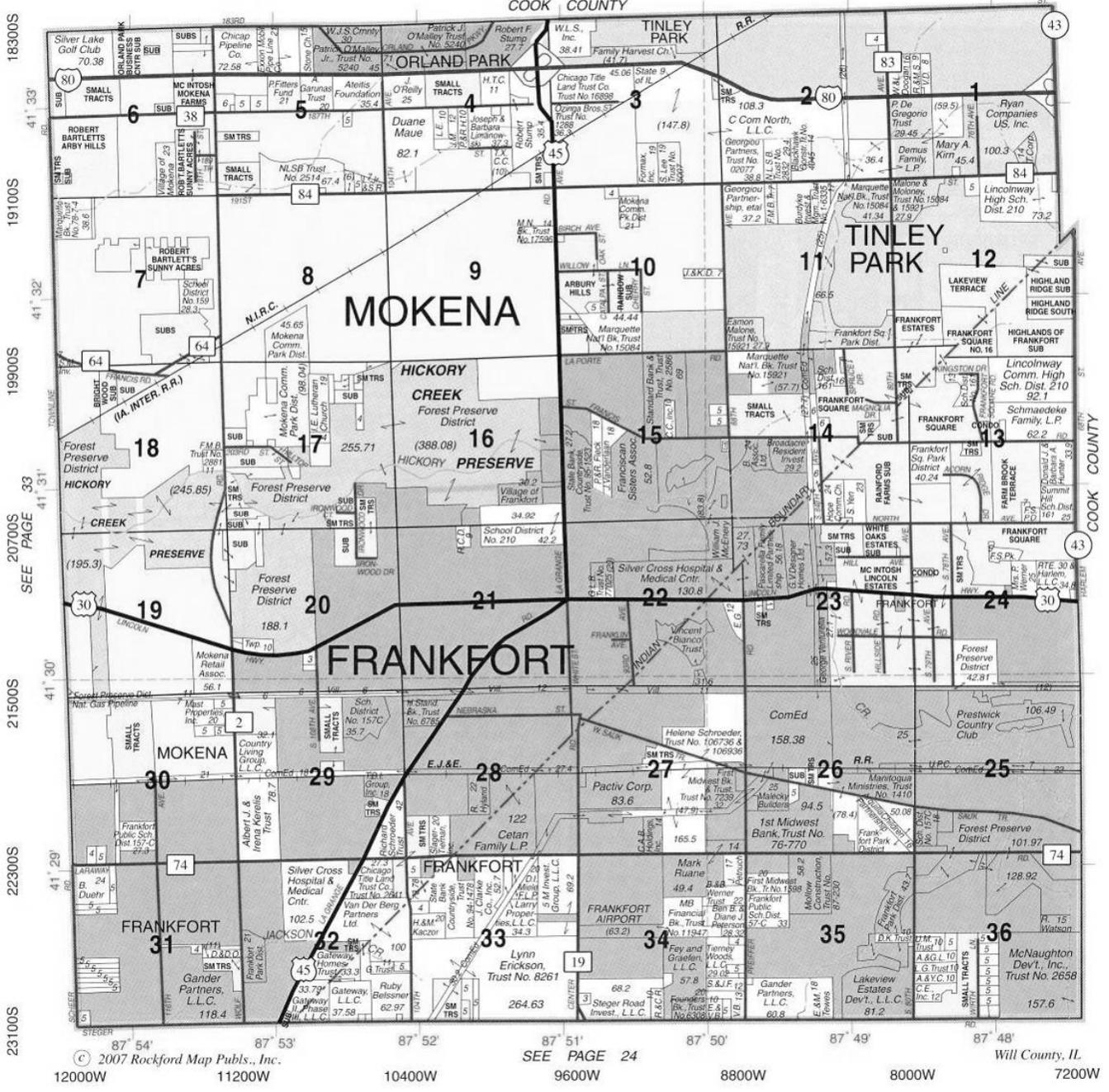
T.35N.-R.12E.



Frankfort Township 1994

FRANKFORT

T.35N.-R.12E.

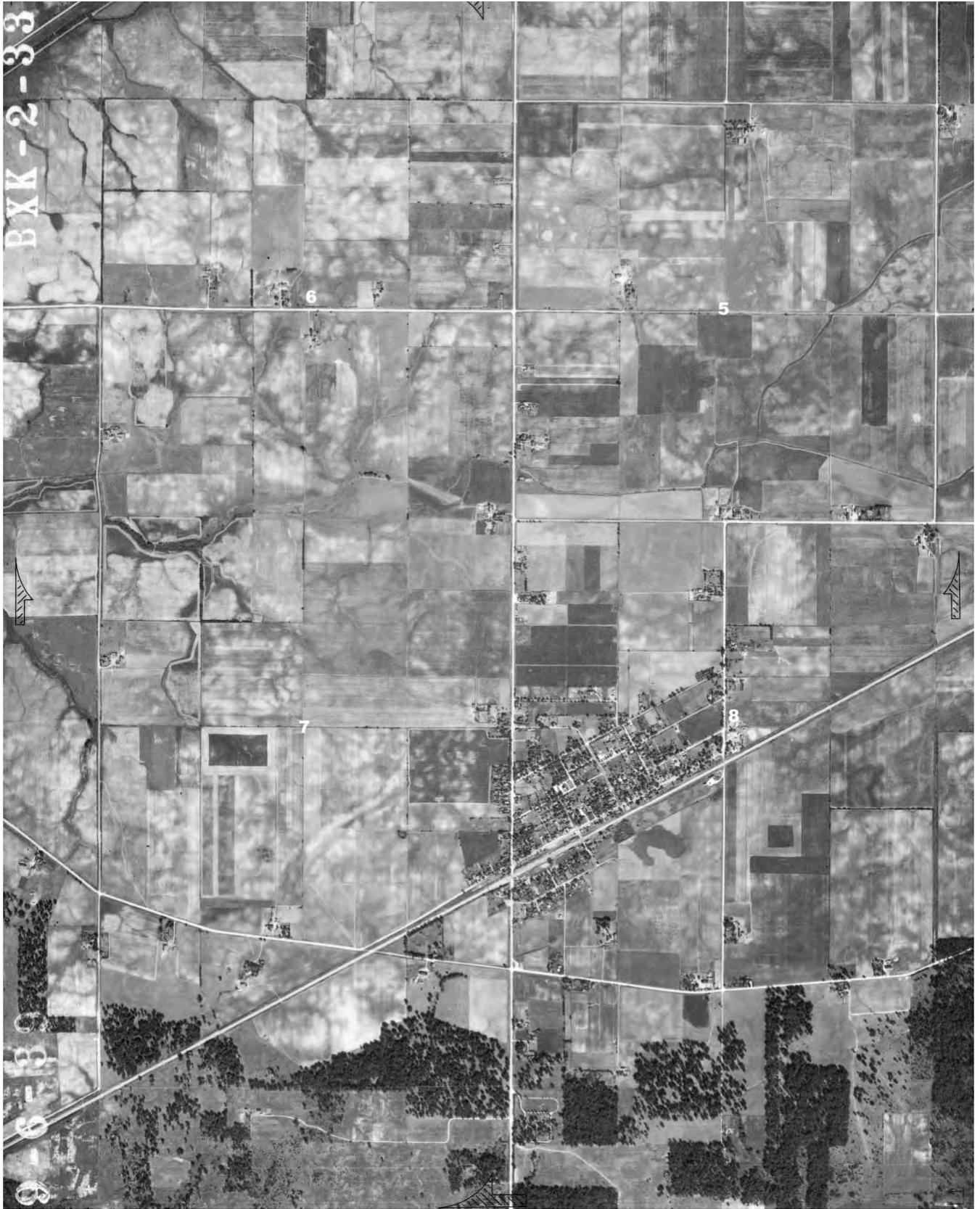


Frankfort Township 2007

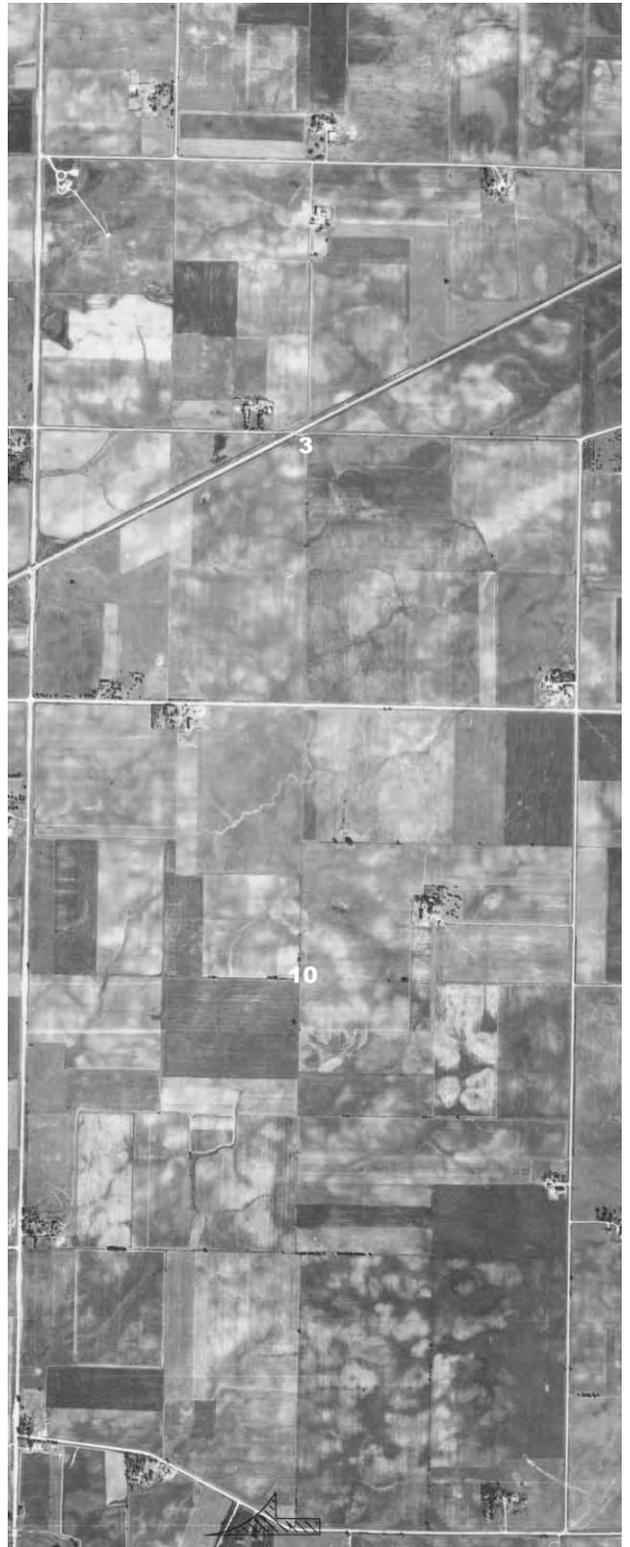
APPENDIX B

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

This appendix contains historic aerial photography of the survey area. This series of photographs is dated 1939 and was obtained online at the Illinois Natural Resources Geospatial Data Clearinghouse (<http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/nsdihome>). Section numbers added to original images. Scale approximately three inches to one mile.



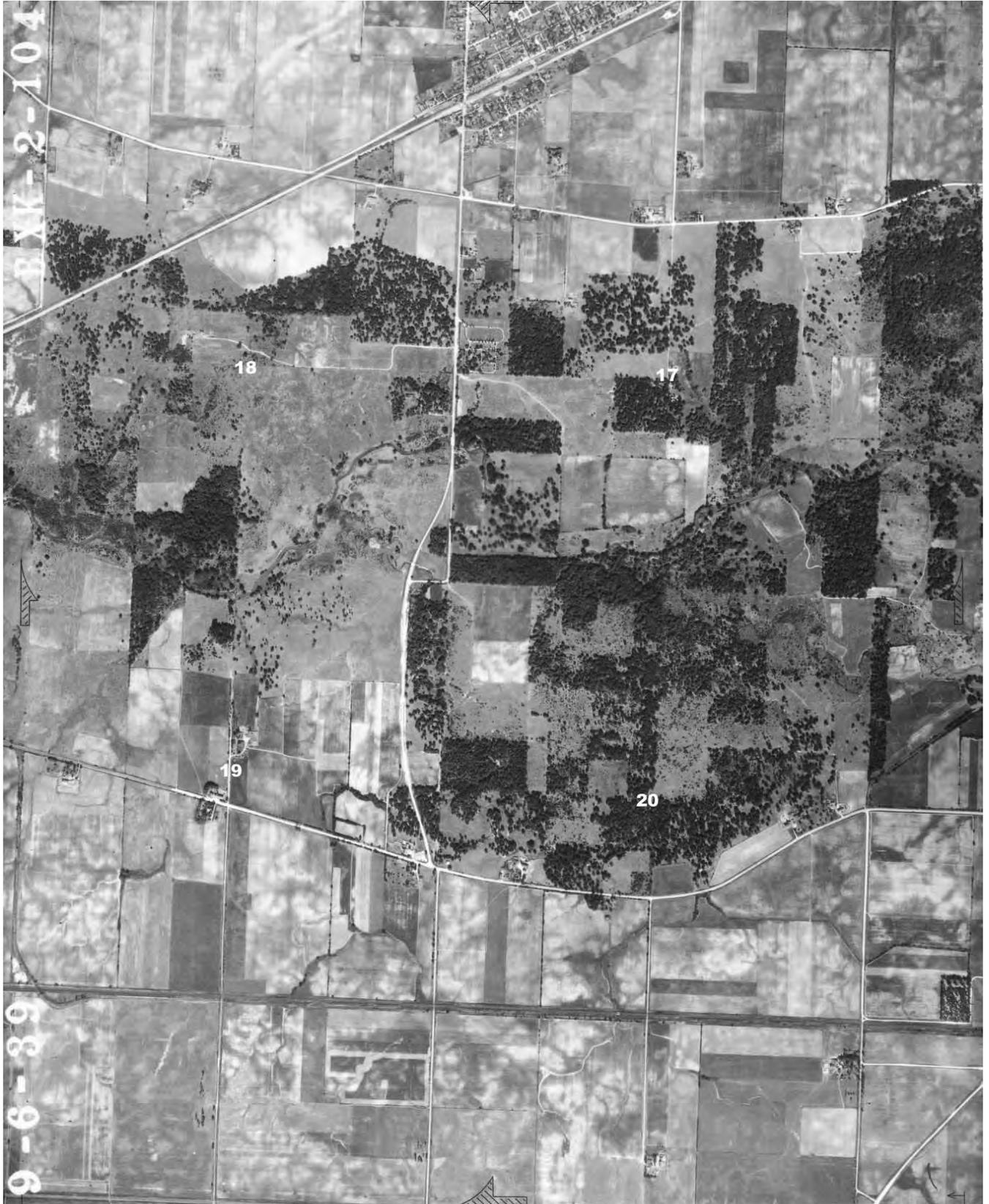
Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8.



Sections 3, 4, 9, and 10.



Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12.



Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20.



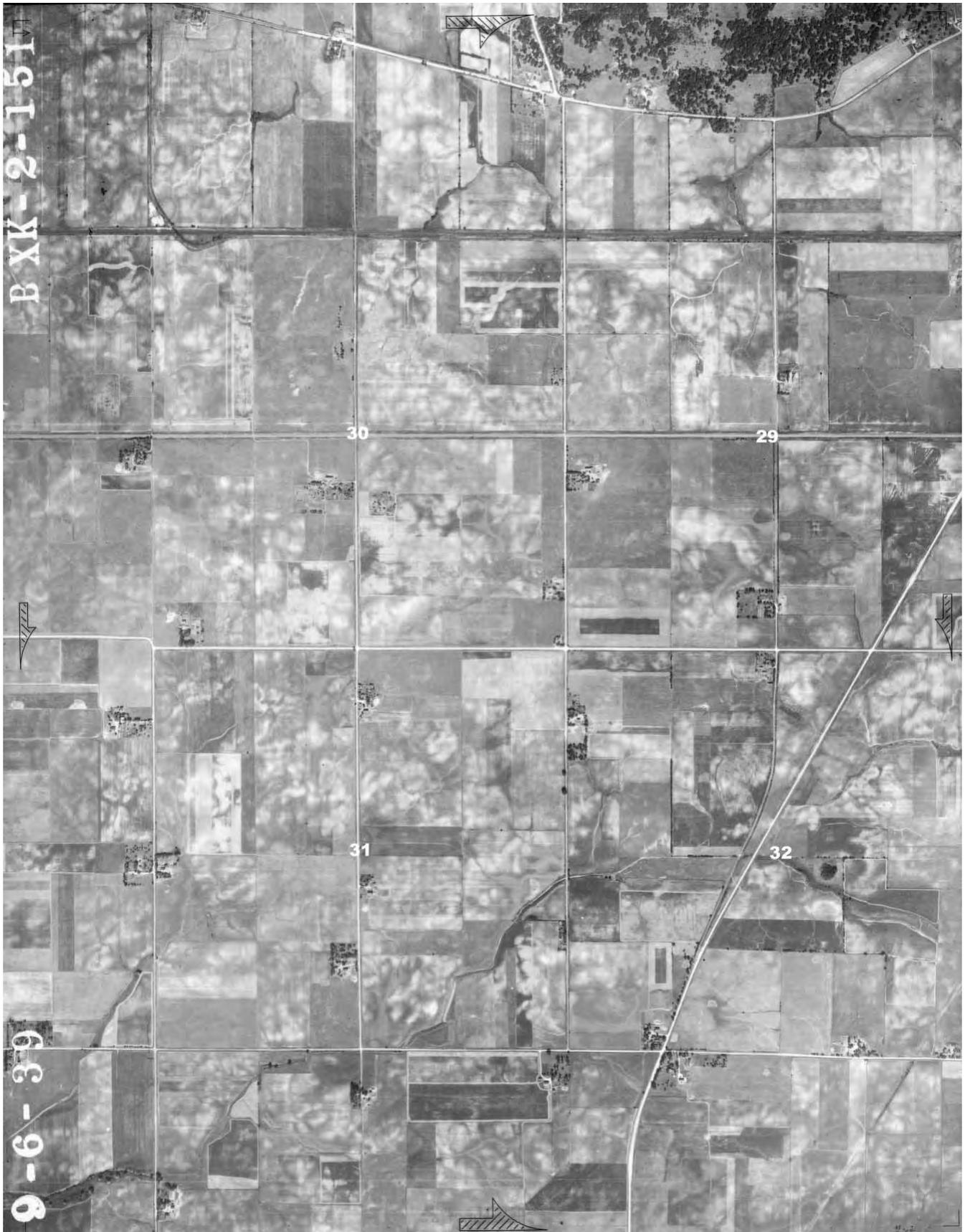
Sections 16 and 21.



Sections 15 and 22; west part of sections 14 and 23.



Sections 13 and 24; east part of sections 14 and 23.



Sections 29, 30, 31, and 32.



Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34.



Sections 25, 26, 35, and 36.

APPENDIX C

SURVEY MAPS

The following maps were generated as part of this study using ArcGIS software. The background aerial photography and baseline maps were downloaded from the Illinois Natural Resources Geospatial Data Clearinghouse internet site <<http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/nsdihome/>>. The aerial photography that forms the background for Map 2 through Map 4 is dated March–May 2005. The aerial photography of Map 5 is dated 6 September 1939.

This appendix contains:

- Key list of sites with ID number
- Map 1 – Will County Key Map
- Map 2 – Overview of Survey
- Map 3 – Historic Significance
- Map 4 – Notable Properties
- Map 5 – 1939 Aerial Photography

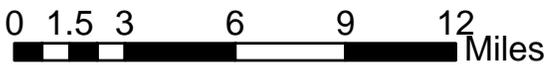
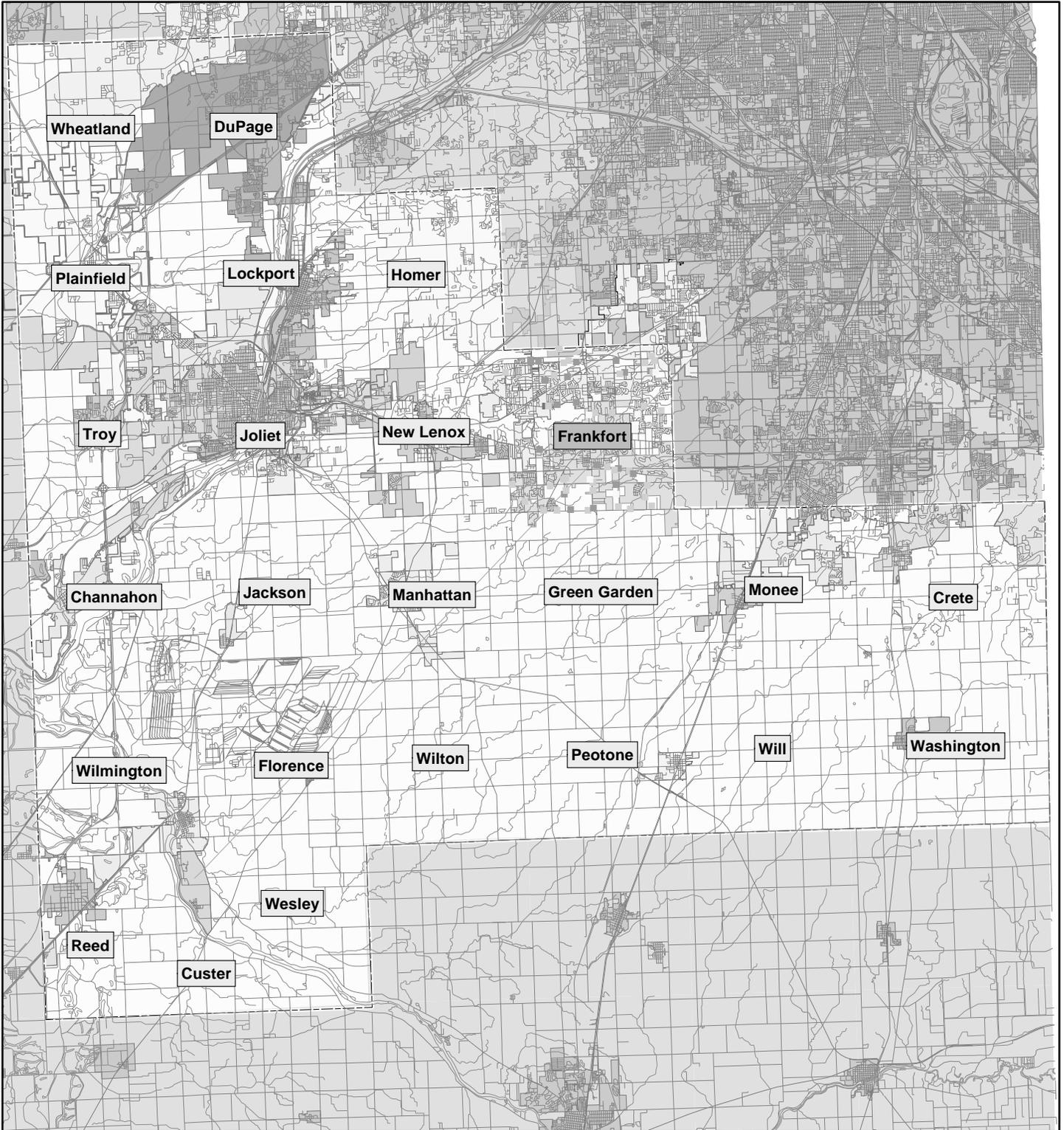
Key to Properties by Map ID Number

ID	PIN Number	Address	Name	Significance of site
1	09-01-100-029	18650 76th Avenue		Contributing
2	09-01-300-010	18823 80th Avenue		Contributing
3	09-01-000-000	76th Avenue	bridge	Contributing
4	09-01-300-022	7716 191st (Cleveland) Street		Non-contributing
5	09-12-100-003	7601 191st (Cleveland) Street	Werner farm	Contributing
6	09-12-200-011	7551 191st (Cleveland) Street	Yunker farm	Local landmark potential
7	09-02-300-004	191st (Cleveland) Street	Hohenstein–Langland farm	Non-contributing
8	09-11-100-002	8625 191st (Cleveland) Street		Contributing
10	09-04-300-015	10300 187th (Maple) Street	Maue farm	Contributing
11	09-04-100-012	10124 187th (Maple) Street	Maue–Smith farm	Contributing
12	09-04-200-024	9861 187th (Maple) Street	Fuchs–Hecketsweiler farm	Local landmark potential
13	09-05-300-010	11000 187th (Maple) Street		Non-contributing
14	09-05-400-016	10600 191st (Cleveland) Street	Schweser farm	Contributing
15	09-17-108-008	10840 LaPorte Road	McGovney–Yunker farm	National Register potential
17	09-17-200-008	10742 LaPorte Road		Contributing
18	09-17-201-019	10508 LaPorte Road		Non-contributing
19	09-15-300-015	9433 St. Francis Road	Baumgartner–Marti farm	Contributing
20	09-15-200-016	8860 St. Francis Road		Contributing
21	09-14-400-007	20252 S. Indian Court	Scheer–Woodcock farm	Local landmark potential
22	09-13-151-004	20055 80th Avenue		Contributing
23	09-13-200-003	7464 St. Francis Road	Schmaedeke farm	Contributing
24	09-14-400-012	8300 North Avenue	Frederick Gatter house	Local landmark potential
25	09-23-200-010	8309 North Avenue	Frederick Gatter barn	Local landmark potential
26	09-30-300-006	11904 Laraway Road		Contributing
27	09-31-400-012	22365 116th Avenue	Wheeler–Bauch tenant farm	Contributing
28	09-32-300-006	23050 LaGrange Road (U.S. 45)	Holden–Sanders farm	Contributing
29	09-32-100-003	10825 Laraway Road	Fox–Hinspeter farm	Contributing
30	09-29-400-005	22152 Elsner Road (104th Avenue)		Contributing
31	09-28-300-018	22155 Elsner Road (104th Avenue)	Berlin L. Reagan farm	Contributing
33	09-02-300-004	88th Avenue	Hendrickson–Geuther farm	Non-contributing
52	09-04-101-001	183rd Street	Edward Maue farm	Contributing
53	09-04-400-027	9861 187th (Maple) Street		Non-contributing
68	09-06-305-012	18911 Townline Road		Contributing

ID	PIN Number	Address	Name	Significance of site
73	09-08-109-063	19224 Schoolhouse Road	Knapp–Weber farm	Contributing
75	09-09-100-016	10201 191st (Cleveland) Street	Schweser–Cappel farm	Non-contributing
94	09-16-200-025	9932 LaPorte Road		Non-contributing
99	09-20-300-014	11008 Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Leffler–Warning farm	Non-contributing
102	09-22-400-011	9029 Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Geuther tenant farm	Local landmark potential
103	09-22-200-007	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)		Local landmark potential
105	09-23-100-011	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Frederick Scheer barn	Contributing
106	09-23-300-031	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Frederick Scheer house	Contributing
112	09-26-300-007	8431 Sauk Trail	Dr. Newton Holden farm	Contributing
115	09-27-400-040	8907 Sauk Trail	Stauffenberg–Hansen farm	Contributing
116	09-27-400-020	8825 Sauk Trail		Contributing
117	09-27-200-008	8808 Sauk Trail		Non-contributing
118	09-27-200-010	9117 Sauk Trail		Contributing
120	09-27-105-027	150 Sauk Trail		Contributing
121	09-27-300-032	795 Center Road		Contributing
124	09-28-400-027	650 Center Road	Nekrauer—Fitterer farm	Local landmark potential
136	09-32-400-005	10602 Steger Road	Conrad Mark farm	Contributing
137	09-32-200-002	22554 Elsner Road (104th Avenue)	William Block farm	Non-contributing
138	09-33-100-010	22451 Elsner Road (104th Avenue)		Contributing
142	09-33-400-001	170 Steger Road		Contributing
144	09-33-300-016	10212 Steger Road		Non-contributing
145	09-34-300-010	23027 Center Road	Bettenhausen–Schoelling farm	Non-contributing
146	09-34-400-019	22924 Pfeiffer Road (88th Avenue)		Contributing
147	09-34-200-013	22550 Pfeiffer Road (88th Avenue)	Schrader–Geuther farm	Local landmark potential
148	09-34-200-016	8907 Laraway Road		Contributing
149	09-34-100-060	1081 Center Road		Contributing
150	09-35-300-009	8536 Steger Road	Fred Block farm	Contributing
152	09-35-400-005	22758 80th Avenue	Karch–Heisner farm	Contributing
155	09-36-100-009	22451 80th Avenue	Charles Rahn farm	Contributing
156	09-36-300-043	7840 Steger Road	Engleman farm	Contributing
158	09-23-300-031	Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30)	Baumgartner & Co. Cheese Factory	Local landmark potential
166	09-06-200-025	18552 Wolf Road		Non-contributing
167	09-06-200-030	11216 187th Street		Non-contributing
168	09-08-400-001	19501 Schoolhouse Road	Schweser–Benson farm	Local landmark potential

FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

Map 1 - Will County Key Map

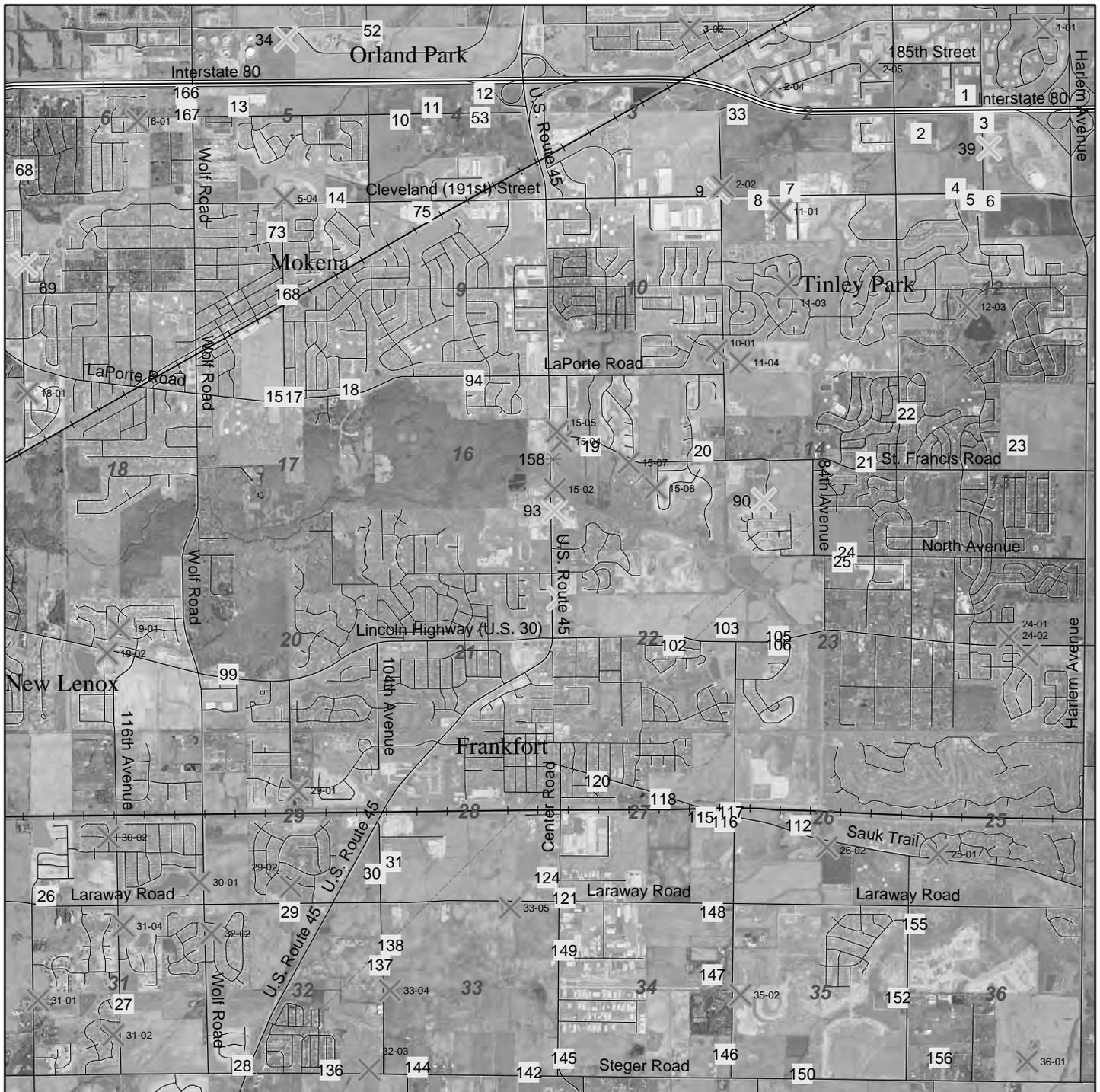


FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

Map 2 - Overview of Survey

Farmstead Sites

- * Relocated building
- ✕ Site demolished since 1988 survey (1988 survey I.D. number)
- ✕ Site demolished in 2006-2007 (I.D. number)
- Existing Sites (I.D. number)

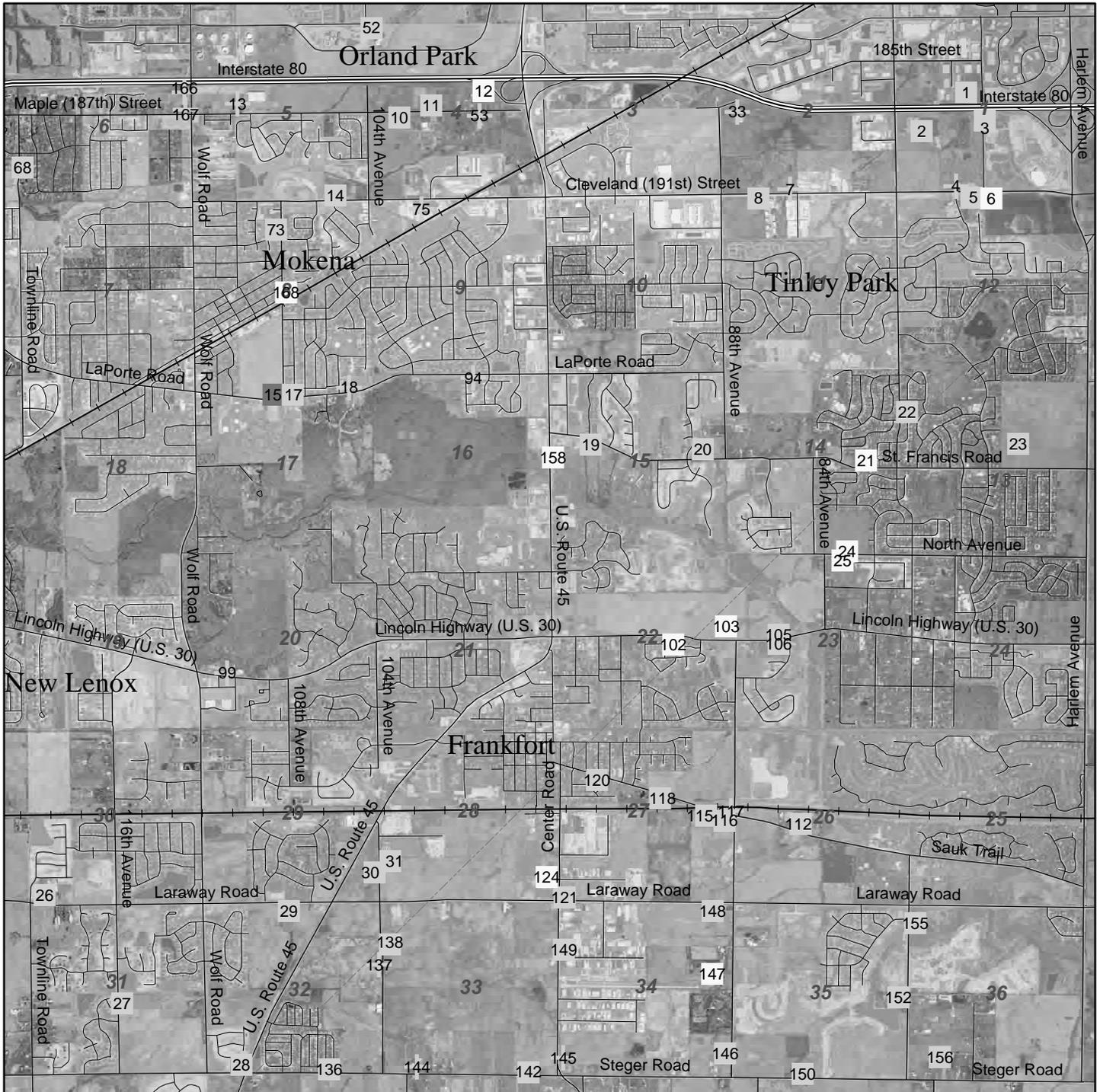
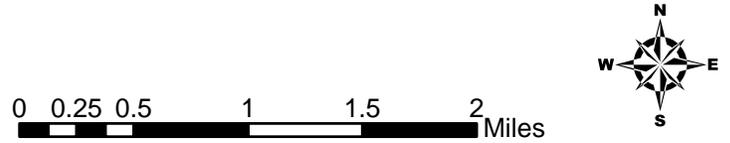


FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

Map 3 - Historic Significance

Significance of site

- National Register potential
- Local landmark potential
- Contributing
- Non-contributing

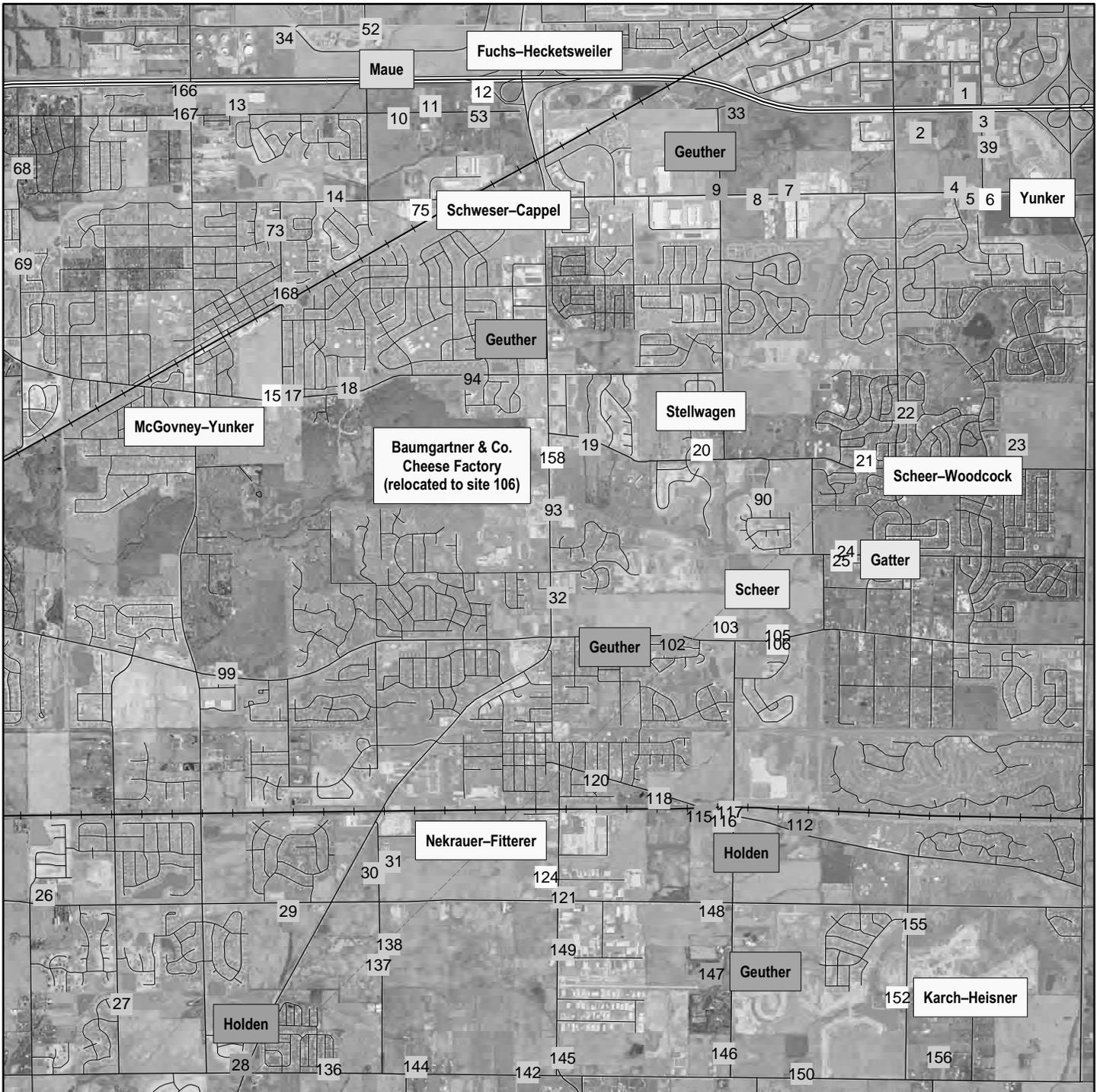


FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

Map 4 - Notable Properties



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles



FRANKFORT TOWNSHIP

Map 5 - 1939 Aerial Photography

Farmstead Sites

- * Relocated building
- Existing Sites (I.D. number)

