

Into the 20th Century

Farming in the early 20th Century was not very different from the late 19th Century. Barns were still needed for livestock and hay storage, but with increasing technology most have now been replaced by large machine sheds. A few have been restored for historic value but some are still in use for livestock or for storage, although many sit empty or are gone.



2013

Jasper County

11590 North 87th Avenue West, Mingo

Re-use and recycling were in vogue when an older barn on this farm, probably built in the 1880s, was damaged by a tornado.

James Ashton immigrated from Norway in 1856 and purchased this 160-acre farm for \$1,000. The next owners were his daughter Mary and her husband Hans Hanson in 1870, who left it to their son George in 1889 when they moved to Collins.

Around the turn of the century the owner was probably George Hanson when this pegged barn was restored and rebuilt. The roof shape may have changed, walls were straightened, the interior altered, and an addition built that increased the size by one-third.

The hay track, as well as a stall on the ground level, which was the home

for George's Percheron stud, are original. In the 1940s, two large work horses, Ned and Ted, were housed in the stalls along the west side, in addition to one milk cow.

A menagerie of livestock has lived in the barn: horses and cows, 4-H calves, ewes and their lambs, and feeder pigs.

The concrete block corncrib dates from the 1930s, and the silo from 1942. After a storm damaged the silo, it was shortened and a conical roof added. The original house was converted to a shed and re-sided with steel siding. Three bedrooms still remain on the upper floor.

Hollis Hans Hanson, son of George and Edna Rippey Hanson, continued the Hanson legacy, followed by their daughter Nola and her

husband, Jim Pollock, who moved here in 1999. Jim died in 2012.

Nola lives in the newer brick home, and she and her sister, Margaret Edna Van Ginkel, who lives near Cumming, now own this Heritage farm.



Shortened silo