

Heidemann Family Barn Quilt

The farm family chosen for the fifth barn quilt was the Heidemann family, the 2010 Century Farm Award recipient. The Heidemann farm is located at N1243 Range Line Road east of Merrill.

The farm where the quilt is hung has been in operation since 1906 when the current house and barn were built. Since then, several other buildings were built to accommodate changing technology and the need for more space. The home and buildings are currently owned by Dirk and Jessica Heidemann. Dirk's parents, Scott and Laurie Heidemann, own the remainder of the original farmland. The farm was originally a dairy farm with cows milked in the barn from 1906 to 1993. Scott and Laurie purchased the dairy herd in 1988 and expanded the herd in 1993. The barn was converted to a facility to care for heifer and cows were moved to another farm with a larger milking facility. The dairy herd was sold in 2004 and the conversion to raising beef on the farm began. Scott and Dirk continue to operate their beef farm sharing in the duties of crop work and caring for the animals.

Working with Natalie Watland, an artist from the Tomahawk area, the family designed a quilt pattern incorporating a beef cow and calf. The hanging of the quilt was done by RTL Electric of Merrill. The Heidemann farm has been the home and livelihood of six generations starting with August and Fredericke, Fred and Ella, Victor and Marjorie, Scott, Dirk and Jessica, and now Tavin and Brynlee. The Heidemann family takes great pride in their farm and are grateful to prior generations who preserved the rich history of their beautiful farm for over 100 years.