

Roets Family Barn Quilt

The farm family chosen for the sixth barn quilt was the Roets family. The Roets farm is located at N840 Chestnut Avenue east of Merrill.

The Roets farm was originally the Jaeger homestead. The barn where the quilt is hung was built around 1920 from sawed lumber and rocks probably found on the property. Steven F. Roets bought the land to farm in 1976 and in 1980 the buildings were purchased by Steve and Cheryl Roets, putting the farm back together. The Roets' have been updating and remodeling the barn since they purchased the property. Today the barn is still used as a traditional 40 stall pipeline dairy. The barn is wider than most at 40 feet and 100 feet long. It has some of the original stone foundation still in place today. The north side of the barn features an earth ramp that leads to the second floor of the barn. The top of the barn is timber frame with a gable roof. The wood shingles remain under a steel roof on the north and under a composite shingle and a green metal roof on the south. The barn ends were done in grey steel in 2015. In 2016 the south east corner of the foundation was replaced with cement block. When this was done, three old horse shoes were found buried in the rocks believed to be purposely buried there to keep the barn safe. The horse shoes were put back into the footings of the new wall.

The barn quilt was designed with family input by Steven M. Roets in a quilted style and is a rendition of the Roets Family Crest. Red and yellow are the original colors. Roet can be translated to little wheel. The quilt was painted by family members during the summer and then hung by D and T Contractors of Gleason in late fall of 2017. The Roets' are proud that this barn quilt helps preserve the barn and family history.