4988 Lake Road south — Town of Sweden, NY



Fig. 1. Facing northeast. Date of photo: ____?

Sweden Farmers Museum

The house and barn are owned and maintained by the Town of Sweden.

The museum was established in 2005 to preserve the Town's agricultural history; to educate adults and children through a variety of interactive activities; and to celebrate, at the community level, the successes and importance of local farming. The museum is located in a circa 1820s farmhouse on the crest of the Niagara Escarpment at the entrance to Lakeview Cemetery. The Town is currently in the process of restoring the farmhouse and barn to its original condition. Many agricultural artifacts have already been donated to the museum and are on display.

This barn may date to the 1880s. The barn's timbers are circular sawn mortised and pegged. Beams are either pine or hemlock. It is a 3-bay English style barn. Although much different framing techniques were used in a true English Barn. In America we have the building influences of the English, Dutch and German settlers, each adding their own signature changes to barn structures. The length that a timber could be in these early barns was not limited, our virgin trees were very tall with few lower branches allowing for timbers of great lengths. This area is known as Beech Ridge, because of the large beech woods that covered the escarpment. Oak, tulip, popular, basswood, chestnut and elm are also very common species used in building.

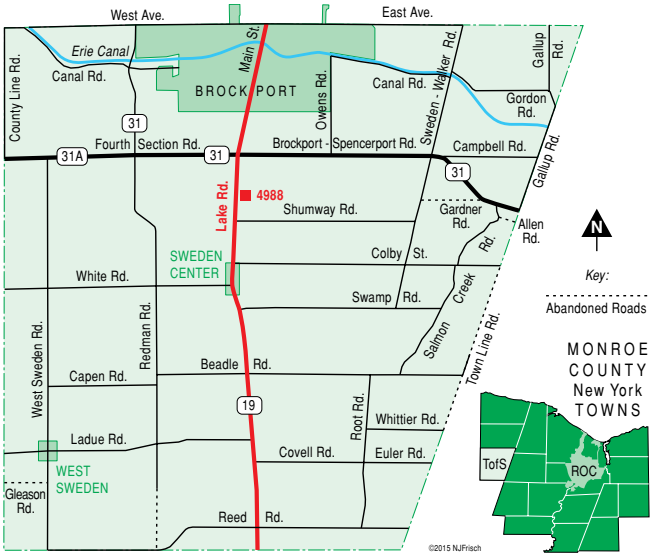


Fig. 2. Map of the Town of Sweden showing generalized location of property.

This barn was definitely built for a threshing operation and storage of hay, wheat, oats and beans. Its gambrel roof was able to increase its holding capacity. This barn has vertical siding of

Acknowledgements:

Text: Kathleen Goetz ??
Photos: figs.1 Tom Lawlor ??
Layout: Norman Frisch
Originally seen in: Town of Sweden Farmers Museum; Barn Tour of Historic Barns 2011; Sunday, September 18, 2011; 1-4 p.m.

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tongue and groove toe nailed and face nailed to withstand the pressure of its contents.

In 2007 this barn was straightened , painted and a new set of Great doors, were added.

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Provenance

Fig. 1 Courtesy: Tom Lawlor

Fig. 2: Map: ©2013 Norman Frisch

Production notes:

Fig. 1: Supplied as a digital file. Was adjusted for keystoning, exposure adjusted then cropped and sized to fit this page format by Norm Frisch.