

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**  
**HISTORIC SITES SURVEY STRUCTURE FORM**



**SITE INFORMATION**

\*SURVEY DATE: December 28, 2013

\*SURVEYOR: Jim Stone

\*ADDRESS: 30738 458<sup>th</sup> Ave.

\*COUNTY: Clay

\*CITY: Wakonda

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: From Vermillion, intersection of South Dakota Highway 50 bi-pass and South Dakota Highway 19, North about 9 miles to 308<sup>th</sup> Street, turn left (West) 4-1/2 miles to 458<sup>th</sup> Street, turn right (North) about 3/4<sup>th</sup> mile, on the right (East) side.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Girard Tract 2 in NW 1/4, 30 – 94 – 52 Pleasant Valley Twp.

\*QUARTER 1: NW 1/4

\*QUARTER 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\*TOWNSHIP: Pleasant Valley

\*RANGE: 52

\*SECTION: 30

ACRES: 5.47

OWNER CODE 1: P

OWNER CODE 2: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER CODE 3: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER NAME: Timothy E. & Twila J. Woehl

OWNER ADDRESS: 30738 458<sup>th</sup> Ave.

OWNER CITY: Wakonda

OWNER STATE: South Dakota

OWNER ZIP: 57073

QUAD NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE**

\*DOE: \_\_\_\_\_

\*DOE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

REASON INELIGIBLE: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MULTIPLE PROPERTY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATION STATUS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE LISTED: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

HISTORIC DISTRICT RATING: C or NC

PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL 1: N S L

SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL 2: N S L

CRITERIA 1: A B C D

CRITERIA 2: A B C D

CRITERIA 3: A B C D

CRITERIA 4: A B C D

SIGNIFICANCE NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

**STRUCTURE DETAILS**

\* = REQUIRED FIELD



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SHPO ID: \_\_\_\_\_

\*PROPERTY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT FUNCTION: <u>Dairy goats</u>	FOUNDATION: <u>Poured concrete</u>
CURRENT SUBFUNCTION: <u>Dairy goats</u>	ROOF MATERIAL: <u>Cedar shingles</u>
HISTORIC FUNCTION: <u>Livestock barn</u>	ROOF SHAPE: <u>Gable roof</u>
HISTORIC SUBFUNCTION: <u>Hay storage</u>	STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: <u>Balloon framing</u>
	STYLE: <u>Gable roof barn</u>
OCCUPIED: <u>Yes</u>	TYPE: <u>Livestock barn</u>
	<u>2x6 studs, 1x6 # 106</u>
ACCESSIBLE: <u>Yes with permission</u>	WALLS: <u>drop siding</u>

STORIES: <u>2</u>	SIGNIFICANT PERSON: <u>Even Johnson</u>
*DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: <u>1890 to 1910</u>	CULTURAL AFFILIATION: <u>Norwegian</u>

ALTERED/MOVED NOTES: Original site. Any evidence of horse stalls or milk cow stanchions in the main barn have been removed. Cupola removed and shingled over opening. Concrete poured on the outside of original foundation to repair crumbling foundation in some areas.

INTERIOR NOTES: Three rows of 6x6 posts, 6x6 beams and 2x10 floor joists for the hayloft floor.  
Also one row of 6x6 posts and a 6x6 beam at the North end of the barn supporting the North wall. The 10' lean-to is open into the barn for 16' south except for 8' x 8' on the West and appears to have been built this way. Original foundation was poured with lots of native field stone.

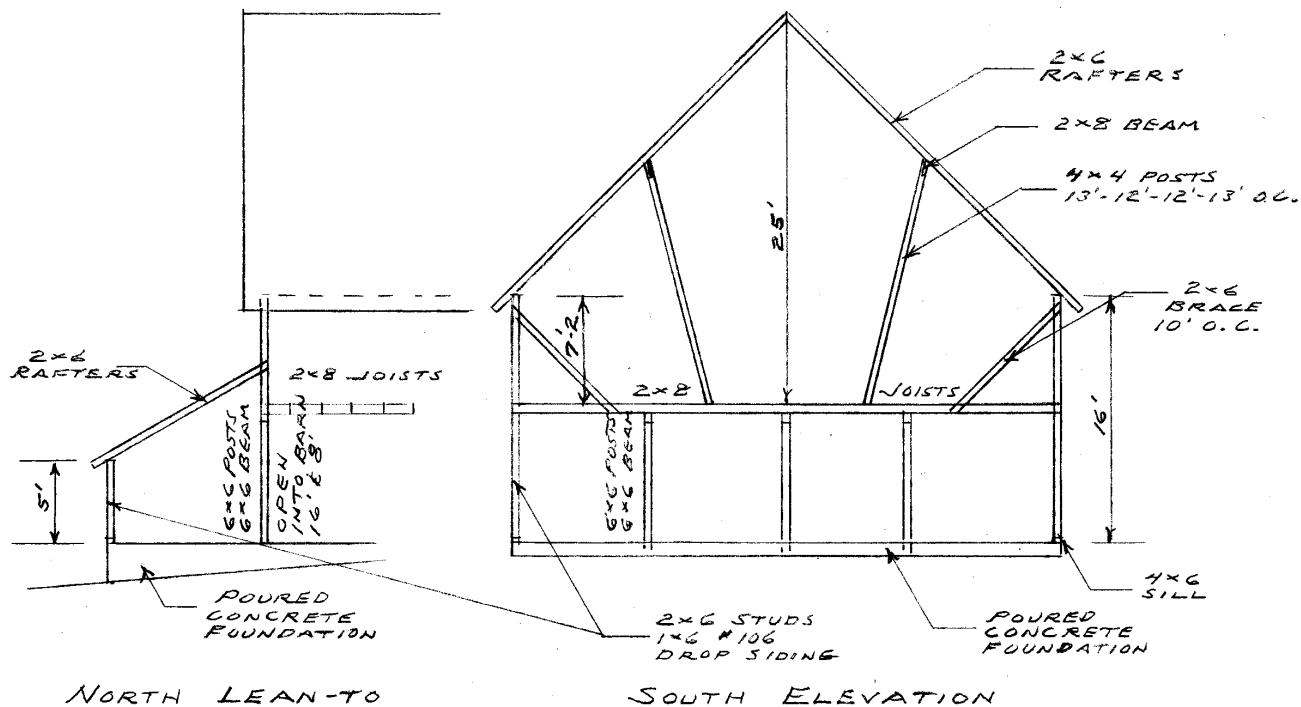
OTHER NOTES: 2X6 stud walls with 1x6 #106 drop siding on all four exterior walls and North lean-to.  
Windows are 8" x 10" four light, 9"x 12" four light and 4" x 24" four light. Rafters are 2x6's with two rows of 4x4 posts and a 2x8 beam supporting the center of the rafters. The posts are 13'- 12'-12'- 13' O. C.

*PHYSICAL NOTES: <u>Barn is in good condition. Will need to be shingles soon.</u>	*RESTRICTED: <u>Y or N</u>
*UTM EASTING: _____	
*UTM NORTHING: _____	

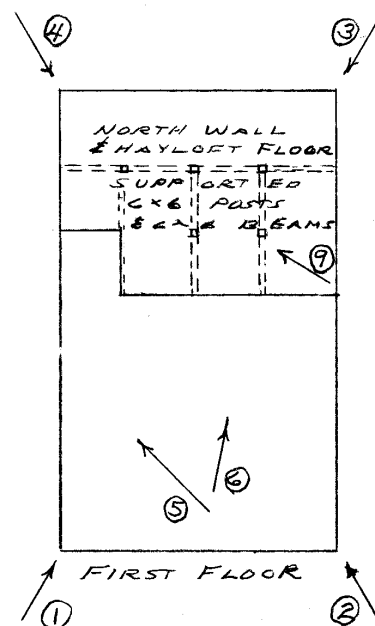
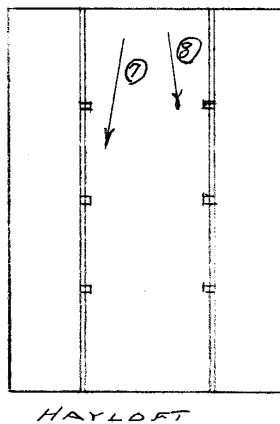


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**SKETCH MAP**



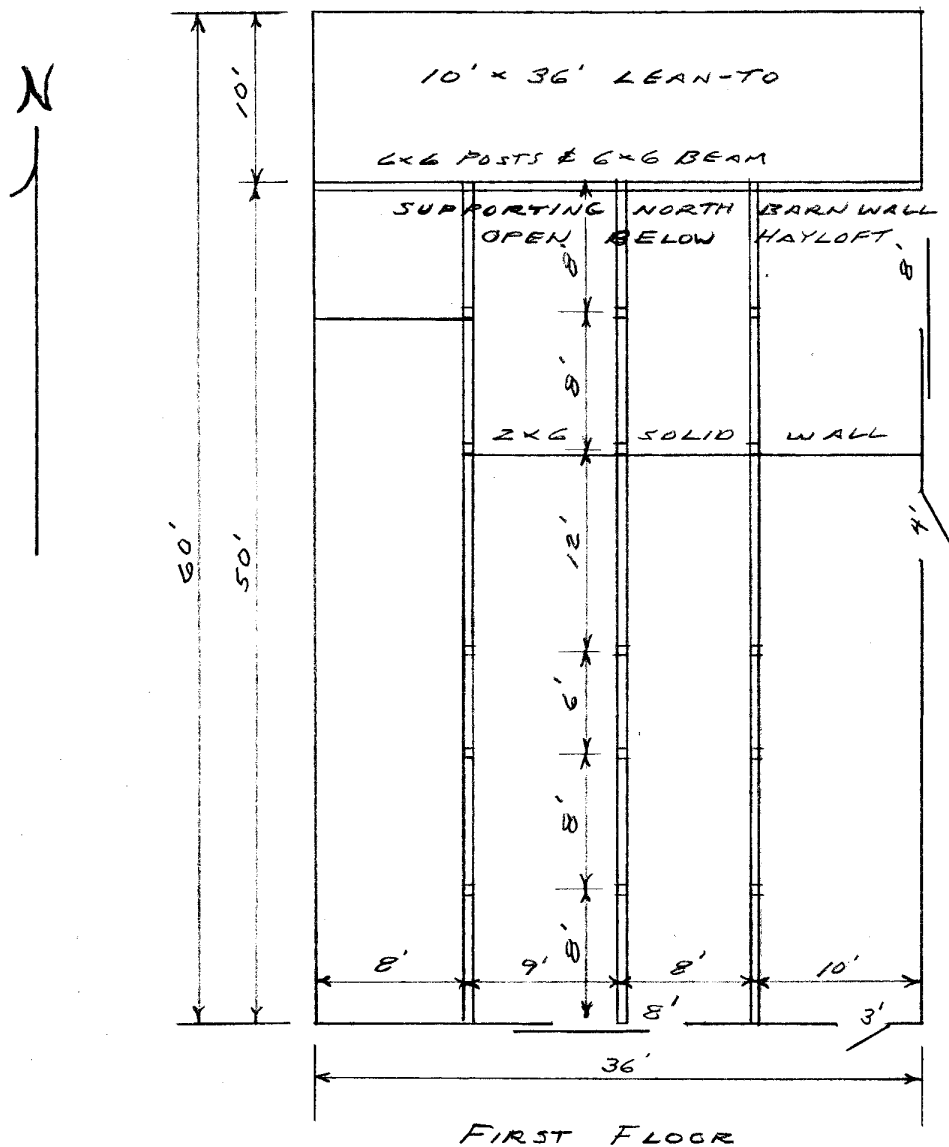
**PHOTOGR**





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**SKETCH MAP**



**PHOTOGR**



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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** December 28, 2013

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 1  
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Looking NE, SW corner



**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** December 28, 2013

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 2  
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Looking NW, SE corner



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PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Stone  
DATE OF PHOTO: December 28, 2013

ROLL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHOTO NUMBER: 3  
CAMERA DIRECTION: Looking SW, NE corner



PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Stone  
DATE OF PHOTO: December 28, 2013

ROLL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHOTO NUMBER: 4  
CAMERA DIRECTION: Looking SE, NW corner

\* = REQUIRED FIELD



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PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Stone  
DATE OF PHOTO: December 28, 2013

ROLL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHOTO NUMBER: 5

CAMERA DIRECTION: First floor, looking NW at  
6x6 posts, 6x6 beams  
and 2x8 floor joists.



PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Stone  
DATE OF PHOTO: December 28, 2013

ROLL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHOTO NUMBER: 6

CAMERA DIRECTION: First floor, looking NE,  
6x6 posts, 6x6 beam and  
2x8 floor joists.



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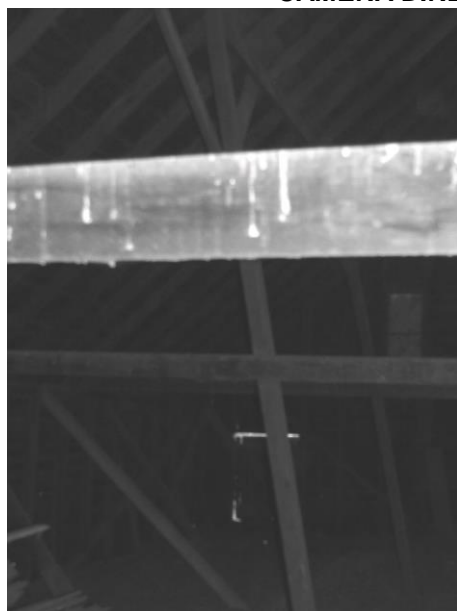


PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Stone  
DATE OF PHOTO: December 28, 2013

ROLL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHOTO NUMBER: 7

Hayloft, looking SW, 2x6  
rafters, two rows of 4x4  
posts with a 2x8 beam  
supporting center of  
rafters.

CAMERA DIRECTION: \_\_\_\_\_



PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Stone  
DATE OF PHOTO: December 28, 2013

ROLL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHOTO NUMBER: 8

Hayloft, looking SE, 4x4  
posts and double 2x6  
cross bracing added to  
hold the walls from  
spreading out.

CAMERA DIRECTION: \_\_\_\_\_



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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** December 28, 2013

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 9

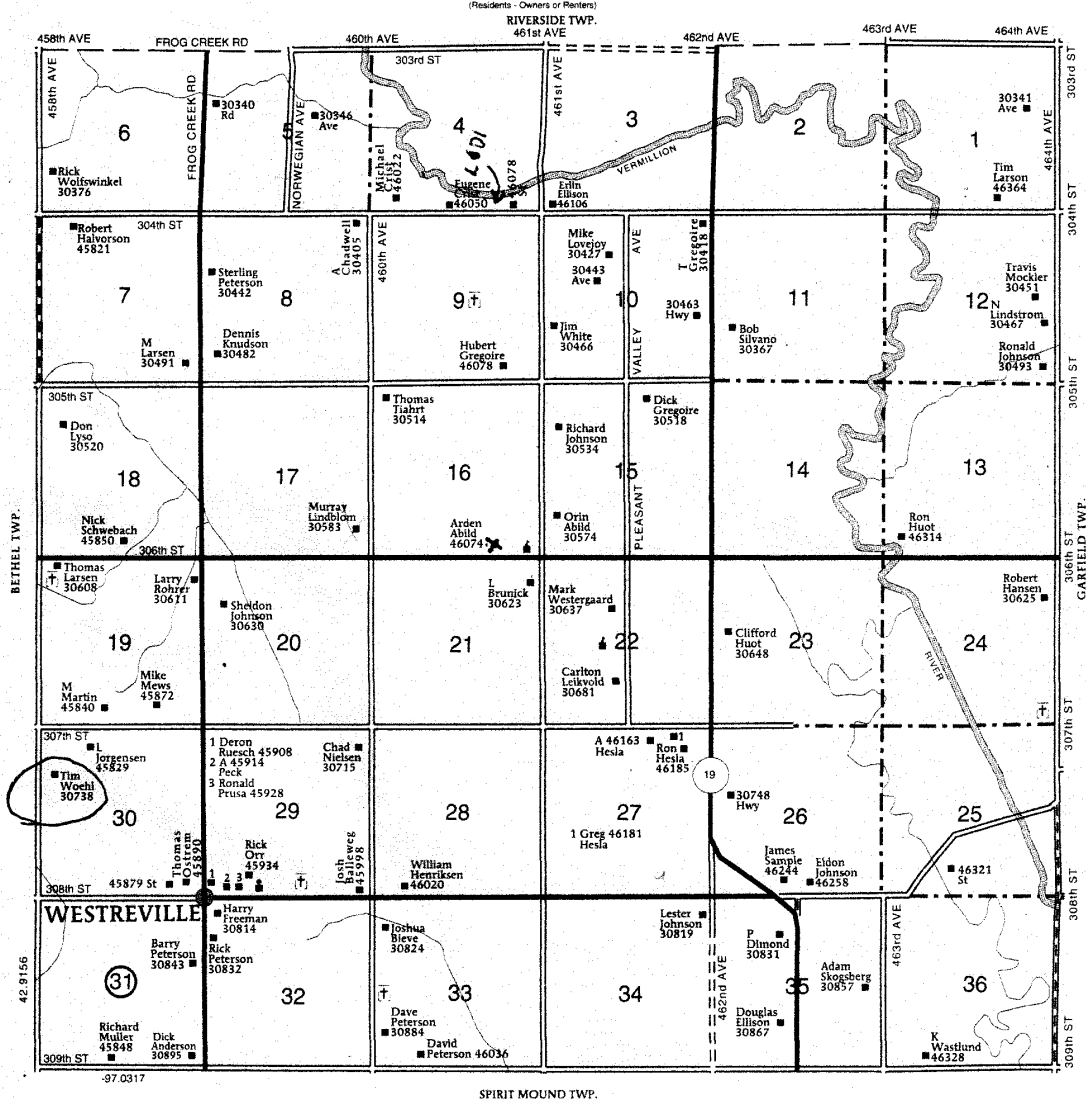
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** First floor, looking NW from the barn into the lean-to, right row of posts and beam hold up the North wall of the barn, the left row of posts support 6x6 beams running North to South in the barn



# SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY STRUCTURE FORM



T-94-N PLEASANT VALLEY DIRECTORY R-52-W



## HISTORY

\* = REQUIRED FIELD



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This farm located in the NW ¼ of Section 30, Pleasant Valley Township, Clay County was homesteaded by Even Johnson.

The 1894 and 1901 Clay County Atlas lists Even Johnson as the owner.

The 1912 Clay County Atlas lists Eren Johnson as the owner.

The 1924 Clay County Atlas lists Joel Johnson as the owner.

The 1937 Clay County Atlas lists J. G. Johnson as the owner.

The 1948 and 1956 Clay County Atlas lists Joe Johnson as the owner.

The following is from  
**Wakonda, S. D. Centennial Book**  
**1885 - 1985**

**Evan and Mary Ann Johnson Family**  
by Roy Johnson

Evan Johnson came to America with his brother John from his native Norway in early 1860's. they stayed about a year in Wisconsin and then came out to what later was to be called Pleasant Valley Township in Clay County. At this time it was Dakota Territory. They lived on the land that they later homesteaded. Evan lived in a dugout. According to family history handed down by word of mouth, a group of Indians came by one day and Evan, being a brave but prudent man, ran into his dugout and shut the door. There he waited with his bible in one hand and his muzzle loader in the other, determined to make a "good Indian" out of the first one that came through the door, by one method or the other. Happily, they rode away after riding around the dugout and giving a few war whoops and Evan didn't have to either convert them or shoot them.

In 1872, Evan walked back to Wisconsin and came back with a yolk of oxen, a plow, a cow, some seed to plant and a bride, Mary Ann. Evan and Mary Ann raised four daughters and two sons. The two younger children died, one in infancy and the other a four-year girl. The daughters were Tillie, Emma, and Alma. All of the daughters married and had families. Alma, the only one of the children still living, is in Oregon. The sons were Gilbert and Joel.

Evan and Mary Ann built a house and out buildings and proved up their claim and entered into community life with their neighbors. They were charter members of the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church and they worked to get a school so their children could be educated and learn to talk the American language. Gradually, Evan and Mary Ann learned to understand the language from their children even though they never learned to speak it themselves.



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In the early years many “newcomers” came and stayed with Evan and Mary Ann until they could find a place of their own. At least three of them froze to death in blizzards and Evan made coffins and saw to it their burials. Coffin handles were hard to make so Evan bought a set of handles, but as tradition has it, he could see no reason to bury the handles so he would take them off and use them again. Fact is, they are still in pretty good shape, considering that the last time they were used was over a hundred years ago.

Evan and Mary Ann continued to live on the place they homesteaded until the time of their deaths. Both are buried from the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church that they helped to establish so their children could be baptized and confirmed. They tried to raise their family to be a credit to their adopted country and to the community. They seem to have been moderately successful.

Gilbert Johnson and Joel Johnson lived in the Pleasant Valley township most of their lives. Both lived on the old homestead. Gilbert built a place on the “North 80” and Joel lived on the “South 80”, which was the original homestead. Gilbert married Millie Nelson from Nebraska. Gilbert and Millie raised two daughters, Winnie and Margaret and one son, Roy. Winnie married Harry Jensen. They live in Sioux Falls. They have one daughter and one son.

Margaret Married Howard Smith. They had one son that died in infancy. In 1943, Howard and Margaret bought Gilbert’s “80” and lived there for many years. Howard was a good farmer. Due to this redeeming quality, he always seemed to be able to get his work arranged so that on opening day of duck season, he could be in the duck blind. To those who knew and loved him, they would probably guess what his expression might be upon his first successful shot “Jeekers Ned, I got him!” Margaret taught school the area for a number of years. Howard died in 1982.

Roy married Millicent Wheeler. Roy and Millicent had two sons and one daughter. The older son and family live near Hurley. Joel married Hilma Lund from Nebraska. They had two daughters.

When Joel retired, Marvin Girard bought the “South 80.” Marvin later bought the “North 80.” So now, Evan’s homestead is all together again. I’m sure this is the way Evan would think it should be.

Evan and Mary Ann’s decendants are many. They live in many different states. Evan left a legacy to both his sons and most all of his grandsons. As the Indian said when Evan ran into the dugout. “Let him go – him already scalped.” ( bald, no hair)

### **Editors note**

Evan Johnson may have changed his first name. All of the Clay County Atlas list, Even Johnson, as the land owner. It may be that Even is pronounced as Evan. The 1912 Clay County Atlas lists, Eren Johnson, as the owner, which must be a spelling error, because Even Johnson homesteaded this NW 1/4 in Section 30, Pleasant Valley Township, Clay County and is listed as the owner in 1894 and 1901 Clay County Atlas. In 1924 his son, Joel Johnson, was listed as the owner.