

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



**SITE INFORMATION**

\*SURVEY DATE: June 25, 2012 \*ADDRESS: 31214 454<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
\*SURVEYOR: Jim Stone \*COUNTY: Clay  
\*CITY: Vermillion

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: From Vermillion West on South Dakota Highway 50 about 9-3/4 miles, turn left (South) 454<sup>th</sup> Ave. turn left (East) into driveway.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot A in NW 1/4 , Exc. Lots 1 & 2, 21 – 93 – 53 Meckling Twp.

\*QUARTER 1: NW 1/4  
\*QUARTER 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\*TOWNSHIP: Meckling  
\*RANGE: 53  
\*SECTION: 21  
ACRES: 20.97

OWNER NAME: Darrell J. & Michele L. Linder  
OWNER ADDRESS: 31214 454<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
OWNER CITY: Meckling  
OWNER STATE: South Dakota  
OWNER ZIP: 57069  
QUAD NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER CODE 1: P  
OWNER CODE 2: F S L P  
OWNER CODE 3: F S L P

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

\* = REQUIRED FIELD

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**STRUCTURE DETAILS**

SHPO ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*PROPERTY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OTHER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT FUNCTION:	<u>Farm machinery storage</u>	FOUNDATION:	<u>Poured concrete Asphalt shingles over cedar shingles</u>
CURRENT SUBFUNCTION:	<u>Storage</u>	ROOF MATERIAL:	<u>shingles</u>
HISTORIC FUNCTION:	<u>Livestock barn</u>	ROOF SHAPE:	<u>Gambrel</u>
HISTORIC SUBFUNCTION:	<u>Hay and grain storage</u>	STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:	<u>Balloon framing</u>
		STYLE:	<u>Gambrel roof barn</u>
OCCUPIED:	<u>Yes</u>	TYPE:	<u>Livestock barn</u>
	<u>Yes with</u>		<u>2x6, 1x6 # 106 drop</u>
ACCESSIBLE:	<u>permission</u>	WALLS:	<u>siding</u>
STORIES:	<u>2</u>	SIGNIFICANT PERSON:	<u>Jake Iverson</u>
*DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:	<u>1925 to 1940</u>	CULTURAL AFFILIATION:	<u>Norwegian</u>

**ALTERED/MOVED NOTES:** Moved from Stanley Knonaizl farm SW 1/4 of Sec. 2 Norway Twp. Barn roof has been shingled over cedar shingles with asphalt shingles. All of the horse stalls and milk cow stanchions have been removed. Most of the 6x6 posts have been removed. The beams are held up by just a few temporary 4x4 posts.

**INTERIOR NOTES:** Had four rows 6x6 posts and 6x6 beams to support hayloft floor. Joists were 2x8. All of the 2x6's for studs, rafters and bracing, 2x8 floor joists, 6x6 posts and 6x6 beams were rough sawn cottonwood. Two 8'x16' granaries still in place on the East wall. 8'x12' self feeder still in place on the West wall. Rafters are 2x6 with 2x6 bracing, almost one half of a modified Shawver truss.

**OTHER NOTES:** Windows were 9"x12" four light. Stairs are still in place. Has a 2x6 with a vertical support on almost all of the studs in the hayloft. I am wondering if it was to support planks for Seating, when they had barn dances.

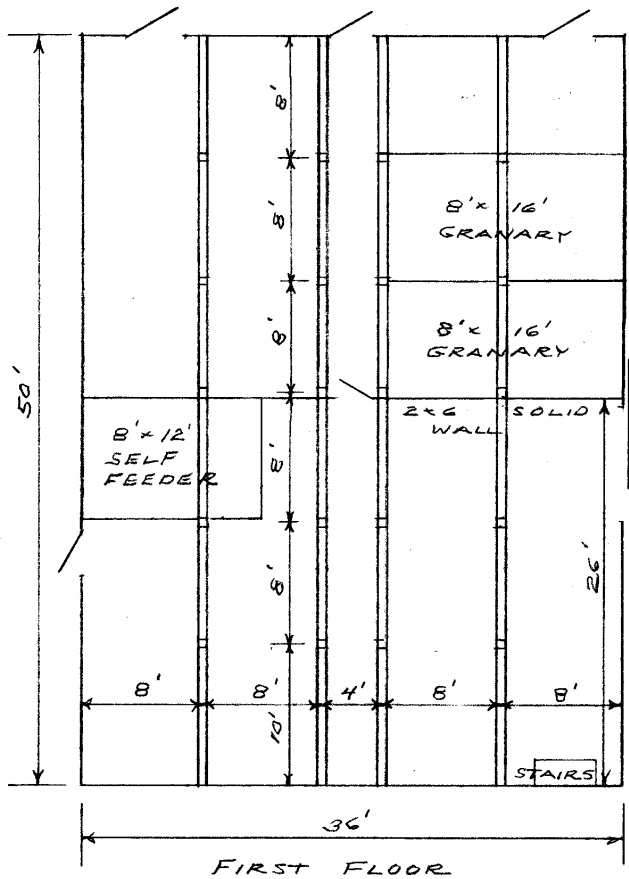
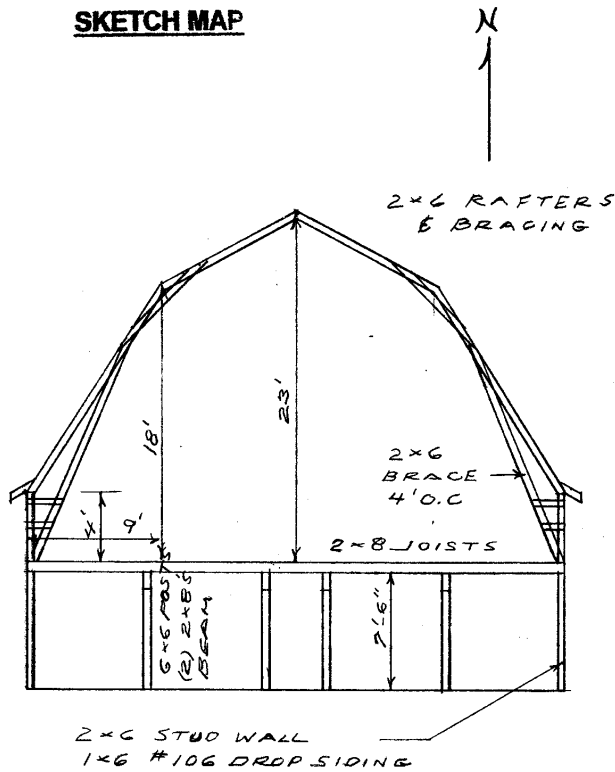
**\*PHYSICAL NOTES:** Barn was in good condition. Since it has been moved, nothing has been done. It needs the 6x6 posts put back in place to support the hayloft floor, the floor is starting to sag in several places. The barn is starting to lean some and the roof is starting to sag at the hip on the West side. Some of the siding is loose on the South wall. The hayloft door is down which allows the North wind to put a lot of pressure against the South wall from the inside. I think that the owner has lost the land and just moved away.

\* = REQUIRED FIELD

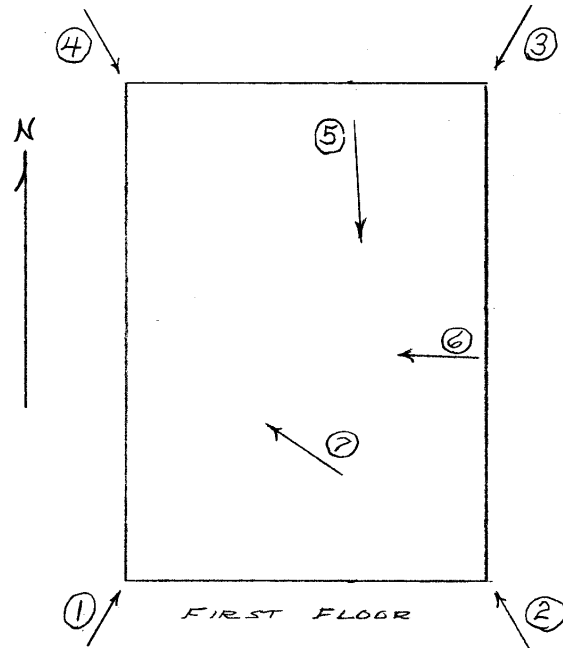
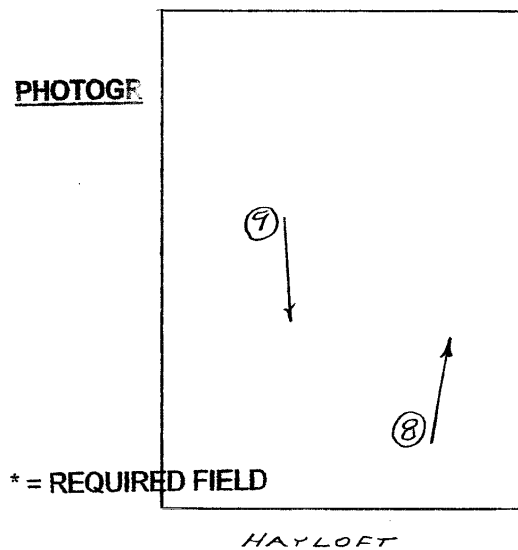
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**SKETCH MAP**



**PHOTOGRAPH**



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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 1  
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Looking SE, NW corner



**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 2  
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Looking SW, NE corner

\* = REQUIRED FIELD

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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 3  
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Looking NW, SE corner



**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

**ROLL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHOTO NUMBER:** 4  
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Looking NE, SW corner

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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

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

**First floor, looking South, granaries on East wall, (3) 2x8's beam & 6x6 post**

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



**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

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

**First floor, looking West, solid stud wall dividing barn**

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

\* = REQUIRED FIELD

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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

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

**First floor, looking West,  
built-in self-feeder, feeds  
from two sides of wall.**

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



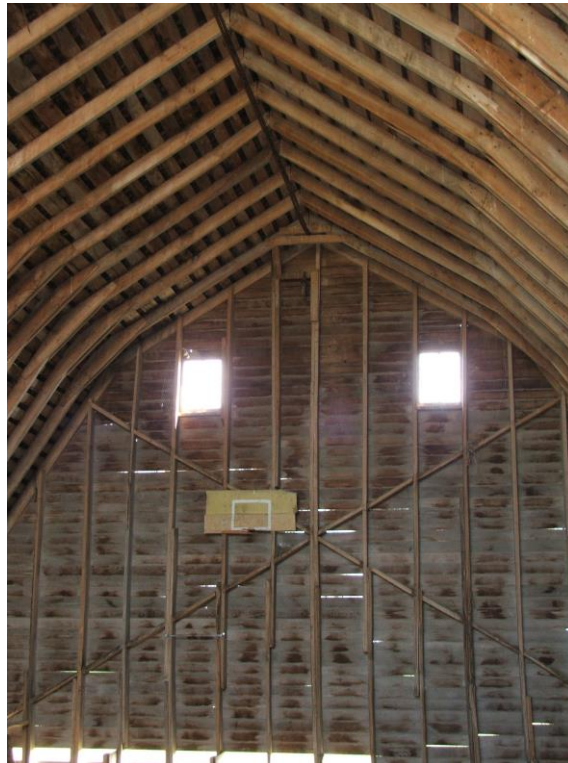
**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

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

**Hayloft, looking North,  
rafter bracing and  
supports on the wall  
studs**

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

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**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Jim Stone  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** June 25, 2012

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

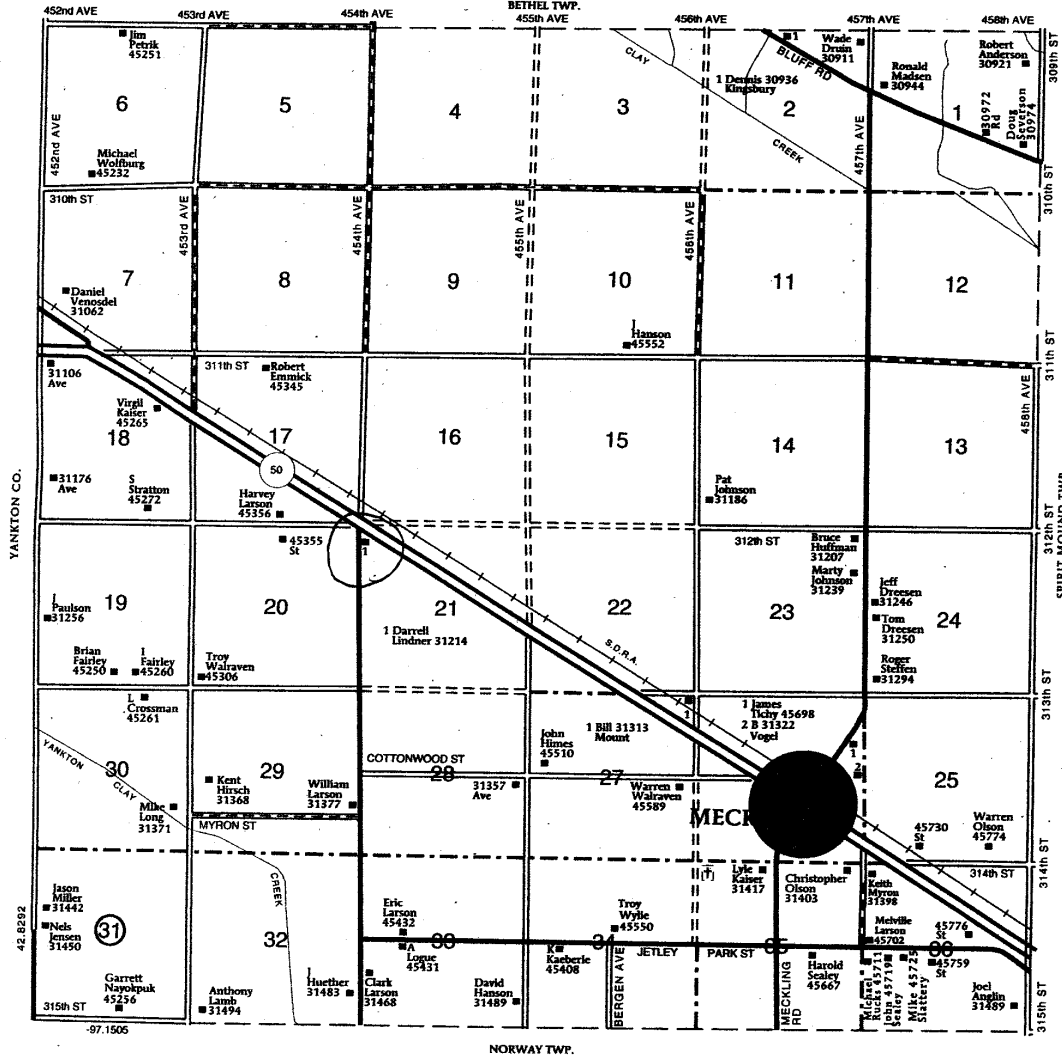
**CAMERA DIRECTION:** Hayloft, looking South,  
rafters & South gable  
wall.



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**T-93-N MECKLING DIRECTORY R-53-W**  
(Residents - Owners or Renters)



## **HISTORY**

This farm located in the NW ¼ of Section 21, Meckling Township, Clay County was homesteaded by Nicholas Kiefer.

The 1894 and 1901 Clay County Atlas lists L. B. Geddes as the owner.

The 1912 Clay County Atlas lists C. D. O'Brien as the owner.

The 1924 Clay County Atlas lists A. F. Smith as the owner.

The 1937 Clay County Atlas lists P. Olson as the owner.

The 1948 and 1956 Clay County Atlas lists Evert Bogue Trustee as the owner.

**Barn was originally built on the NE ¼ of Section 10, Norway Twp. by Jake Iverson.**

Jake Iverson had a saw mill and cut cottonwood lumber. He and his brother Arthur would have cut the timber and sawn the lumber for this barn. They built the barn on the original home place. The 1968 Clay County Atlas lists Henry and Stanley Kronaizl as the owners. Eventually it became Stanley's farm. He sold the barn after he retired and moved into Vermillion. The new owner had the barn moved to the NW ¼ of Section 21, Norway Twp.

This farm located in the NE ¼ of Section 10 in Norway Twp. was homesteaded by L. A. & J. G. Iverson.

The 1894 Clay County Atlas lists L. A. & J. G. Iverson as the owners.

The 1901 Clay County Atlas lists L. A. Iverson as the owner.

The 1912 Clay County Atlas lists L. A. & J. G. Iverson as the owners.

The 1912, 1937, 1948 and 1956 Clay County Atlas lists J. G. Iverson as the owner.

**The Following Information was furnished by  
Stanley Kronaizl, past owner of this farm.**

Jake Iverson owned and lived on this farm. It is located in NE ¼ of Section 10, Norway Township. His brother Art Iverson had a sawmill closer to the Missouri River. They sawed all of the cottonwood lumber at this saw mill. They built the barn. Date it was built is unknown.

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Joseph Kronailz owned the farm just across the road in Section 11, Norway Township. His son Henry Kronailz owns it and lives there now. Stanley Kronailz another son bought Jake Iverson's farm with this barn after WWII. He lived there and farmed until he retired and moved into Vermillion.

Debra Norris bought this barn from Stanley Kronailz and had it moved to the NE ¼ of Section 21 in Meckling Township. She had moved several houses and other buildings to this site with plans of building an assisted living retirement center. Debra died before it was completed. I do not know the plans of the new owner who lives in Yankton.

**The Following Information Furnished by**

Memoirs of Aslak Iverson Courtesy of the Austin Whittemore house and the Clay County Historical Society.

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**\* MEMOIRS OF ASLAK IVERSON**

Aslak Iverson, the son of Iver and Dorte Aslakson Lakve, was born in Ulvig Norway, July 14, 1827. He was the oldest of five children.

Aslak was married to Guro Sampson (daughter Hasheim) the spring of 1854 and came to America the same year and settled at Cambridge, Wisconsin. Later they moved to the neighborhood of Stoughton in Dane County Wisconsin where they lived for a short time.

This marriage was blessed with one son, Iver A. Iverson, Jr., born March 20, 1855. Mrs. Iverson passed away in 1855 when their son, Iver A. Iverson, Jr., was but three days old. Aslak's sister cared for the child until Aslak married Brita Mikkelson in 1857. This marriage was blessed with two sons, Lewis A. Iverson, born September 13, 1858 in Dane County Wisconsin, and Jacob G. Iverson, born May 6, 1861 in Clay County South Dakota.

When rumors were circulated that Dakota Territory was to be opened for settlement to the white people, his longing for a home of his own overtook him. He, with several others, started out for the Plains of Dakota, going by way of Dubuque, Waterloo, and Fort Dodge to Sioux City. This point was reached after a period of thirty-seven days. With no roads or bridges, and with rivers and swamps to cross, they were compelled to hitch six oxen to a wagon and a man to each wheel to cross, forty rods of swamp. They would then have to unhitch and go back for another wagon, making six trips in all.

Reaching Sioux City, they crossed the Missouri River into Nebraska. After great hardships, they came to North Bend and St. James on the Nebraska side. Here they found the colony of their acquaintance who had

\* History written by Alice Iverson in 1960.

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completion in their eastern home. The one room log cabin was the usual dwelling but dug outs were frequent during this first winter. Later these dug outs were used to store their pork barrels, or flour sacks or whatever eatables they possessed.

The Sivert Myron cabin built near where the Don Beaty stock farm is located and where the first Lincoln Post Office was housed, was the first cabin built between the Vermillion and Jim river.

At first no food supplies could be secured nearer than Sioux City or meal from the mill in Nebraska. Each family, as a general thing, made two trips a year for food, usually one or two teams would go. The slowness of the oxen made the trip a long one, therefore, they had to camp by night and travel by day. To overcome this hardship, Mr. Iverson, Hans Gunderson, and Christ Jordahl, together with others, built a grist mill near the Amund Hanson farm. This mill was also a haven to many families during the flood of 1881.

It was a busy time for these pioneers, a time of hard work, privations and homesickness. Improvements had to be made, the prairie sod broken and crops planted, but bravely they struggled on. In the fall of 1861 many lost their homes and belongings by prairie fire. Woman and children, left alone while their husbands and fathers were away or at work, were terrorized by Indians. They were plagued by grasshoppers that destroyed their crops for many years.

Aslak's home was always open to the poor and needy. People from far off came to the Pioneer Farm for their winter supply of wood. On one instance, several teams came from a distance and were compelled to stay for several days because of a severe blizzard. They were housed and fed

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in his home during this time. They however, had to return with empty sleds because of badly drifted trails.

The Indians were frequent visitors in his home. They would come in to warm themselves on cold days. They would stack their guns, which they always carried, outside by the door on entering. One evening as Aslak and family, together with a fellow visitor, were visiting by the fireside, the dogs became very noisy outside and as they had seen Indians lurking in the woods, they became suspicious that they were pilferers and horse thieves. Aslak wouldn't let the visitor go out and fire the gun. In a short time everything was quiet and peaceful. Not long thereafter, they learned of the terrible massacre of the Wiseman children across the river.

Aslak Iverson was very active in all church activities as well as affairs of the county and state. He was one of the leaders in his community. He held several political and church offices. He served one term as State Representative. The absence of authentic data covering the first few years of settlers is meager in this immediate territory. However, if there is one characteristic more outstanding than any other in the lives of these early pioneers who blazed the trail of Christian civilization over these prairies, it is their deep piety and desire to preserve the spiritual heritage brought with them from their home land. The home was a very important institution among these early pioneers, but scarcely less important was that of a church home. Their faith in God as a Protector and Provider was firm and comforting. Though far from their homeland, they were still God's children. They had faith in the church, so after completing their home, their thoughts turned to establishing a church. Previous to this, they held their devotion in the

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various homes. They would read and discuss the Bible and sing hymns from the hymn book which they had brought with them from Norway. In 1864, a meeting was held to organize a congregation. At this meeting, Aslak was chosen as one of the trustees. It was not until 1871 that a start was made to build a church by taking up subscriptions toward the building. In 1861, he was elected building superintendent. Owing to crop failures and hard times, it took twenty years to complete this edifice. This seems a long time viewed in the light of present day conditions, but few of the present generation can fully appreciate or measure the struggles and hardships of the early pioneers. This building was threatened by prairie fire but was saved by Aslak Iverson who pulled away the burning steps from the building.

The winter of 1880 and 1881 was severe upon these pioneers. A great blizzard came upon them in October. The snow fell to a great depth and was blown by a violent wind until the open sheds and buildings were filled. Stock was driven away or covered by the drifts. This snow did not go off until late April, when in a single day it was converted into a great sea of water. Without warning the water came upon them, carrying great sheets of ice, crushing and moving buildings as it swept along, driving the occupants into attics and upon roof tops. Their homes and earthly possessions were lost, most of them left with only the bare land. With faith and courage they started anew to rebuild their homes, and through the years became prosperous and wealthy.

Aslak Iverson continued to live on the homestead until his death, December 3, 1889. He was laid to rest by the side of his parents, Iver and Dorte Aslakson Lakve, in the Meckling Lutheran Cemetery. He was 62 years old at the time of his death. The homestead was taken over by

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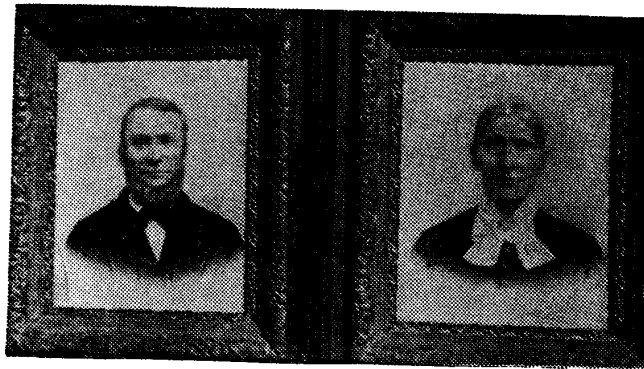


Lewis A. Iverson and Jacob G. Iverson and now is the home of Clarence and Ernest Iverson and Arthur Iverson.

His second wife, Brita, died March 16, 1906 at the age of 84. She was survived by her two sons, Lewis A. Iverson and Mikkel Mikkelsen, and step son Iver A. Iverson, Jr. Jacob preceded his mother in death.

Blessed be the memory of these pioneers who blazed the trail and underwent the hardships to make a life for their children and their children's children who are descendants of Aslak Iverson.

+++++



Aslak Iverson

Brita Mikkelsen