Orland Park Landmark 1860

"Stellwagen Family Farm"
17701 S. 108th Avenue

This historic family farm exhibits the agricultural heritage of Orland Park. It consists of the original farm house and a number of outbuildings, including: a milk house with windmill, the dairy barn (with attached milk house, glazed block silo and cow shed), a machine shed, a corn crib and multiple farm animal and storage buildings. It once totaled 160 acres.

The house consists of three structures that were moved together from other areas of the farm to form one building in the 1800s. It rests on a limestone foundation, and has had small updates added throughout the years. The large barn is a T-shaped frame structure that was historically used for dairy production and hay storage. The corn crib held ear corn in the two side portions on the lower level, and held small grains in the overhead storage.

The farm had been owned and operated by five generations of Stellwagens (Mathias, John, Ralph, Harwood, and James) and has been influenced by the efforts of eight continuous generations. 60 acres were purchase by the Village and the Orland Park Open Lands Corporation in 2002.

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Farm Building Restoration

The farm was restored by the late Harwood Stellwagen and his family following its purchase by the Village in 2002. In 2007, a windmill was installed to replicate the original, which was removed in the early 1900s. In 2008, the barn foundation was repaired/restored (financed by the Orland Park Open Lands Corporation). In 2010, the iconic glazed block silo was restored. A five year effort to restore all of the historic farm buildings was completed in 2013. Carpentry work was done by Dave Maue Construction, and much of the labor was done by Stellwagen family members.

Management and maintenance of the farmstead is through a cooperative effort between the Stellwagen Family Farm Foundation, the Village, and the Orland Park Open Lands Corporation.

Village of Orland Park – 2013