

WI Barn Adaptive Reuse Projects

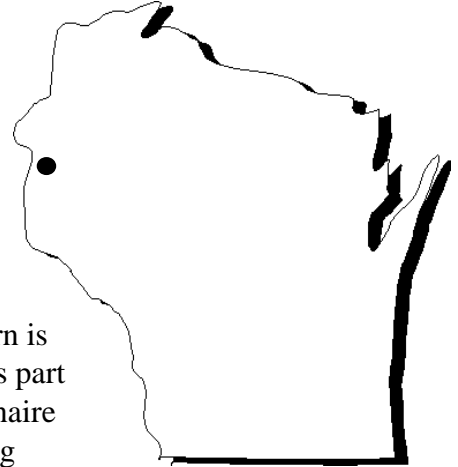
University of Wisconsin- Extension

Present Use: Regional Performing Arts Center - St. Croix Center for the Arts
Type of Barn: Dairy Barn originally built between 1905 and 1910 (Estimate)

Owner's/ Contact Person's Name: St. Croix Center for the Arts
Address: Taylors Falls, MN
(715) 294-ARTS or (612) 433-4333

Date of Conversion: Currently Underway
Approximate Project Cost(s): \$732,000 (to be completed in three phases and funded in part by foundation grants, individual contributions and generated revenue)

Brief Outline of Project: John and Martha Schillberg, who retired from dairy farming in 1992, donated the 38' by 120' barn and 6.5 acres of surrounding land for the arts center. The barn is located along the St. Croix River in southern Polk County and was part of a large-scale hobby farm owned by Oliver C. Wyman, a millionaire Minneapolis business man. Currently the barn foundation is being strengthened to support a 194-seat theater. Eventually, the haymow will become an art gallery. The basement will be divided into two workshops and a classroom/ meeting space designed to accommodate up to 100. An attached addition will have a lobby, restrooms, box office, dressing rooms and concession area. A large outdoor deck area is also planned to hold large gatherings. Inside, the entire barn was pressure-washed to remove grime and the barn smell. The old floorboards were removed then reinstalled over a concrete floor necessary to sustain the loads.



Success of Project: John Schillberg noted that "it was an obsolete building and if we could find any way that it could have a reason for being...you know if you can recycle a building into some other use (that is preferable to letting it rot away). When this project came along it looked like a great way to have the barn used for a purpose. It's a beautiful structure inside."

Contractors Used: Not known.

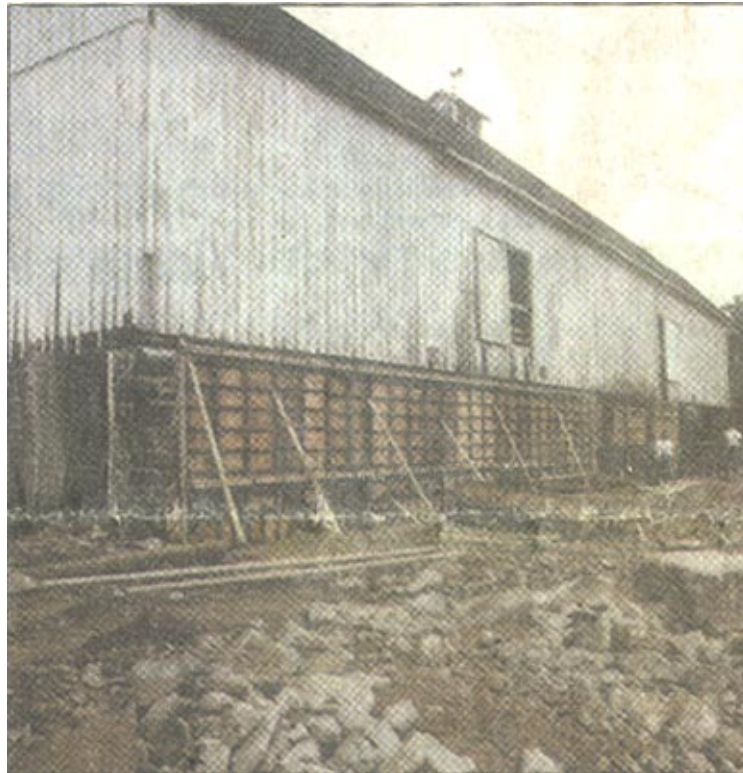
Project Photographs on Back

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Work on the barn foundation in progress



Barn interior

Seating Area



Stage

