

CHELLBERG FARM

900 Mineral Springs Road

North 2  
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Porter

Porter County

Indiana

HABS No. IN-296

HABS  
IND  
64-PORT,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL & DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

CHELLBERG FARM  
(Kjellberg Farm)

HABS No. IN-296

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IND  
64-PORT,  
1-

Location:

Chellberg Farm is located approximately one and a half miles northwest of Porter, Porter County, Indiana, on the west side of Mineral Springs Road in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, between Oak Hill Road to the north and U.S. 20 to the south. The farmhouse faces east towards Mineral Springs road, its west side situated near the edge of a ravine. The National Park Service (NPS) also references the property as Tract 36-111.

The farm covers property in both the USGS Dune Acres (north) and Chesterton (south) Quadrangles, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
NE: X-492777.41901, Y-4608442.98260; NW: X-492377.80956, Y-4608443.89230  
SE: X-492766.91395, Y-4607580.71684; SW: X-492381.52750, Y-4607562.79191.<sup>1</sup>

Present Owner, Occupant, and Use:

The U.S. NPS owns and maintains Chellberg Farm.<sup>2</sup> The farm is currently operated as a working farm, although no one lives on the site. The park cultivates part of the eighty-acre site using traditional farming practices, tends the maple sugar bush, maintains a variety of farm animals in the fields and in some of the farm structures, and conducts education and seasonal programs. The farm is connected to neighboring historic sites, the Bailly Homestead and Bailly Cemetery, through a series of nature trails. Several of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's most popular annual public events take place on the Chellberg-Bailly grounds, including the Duneland Harvest Festival and the Maple Sugar Festival.

Significance:

Built in 1885, the Chellberg farmhouse, with its typical T-shape gable-and-wing plan, is one of the few farmsteads which remains intact from the early Swedish immigrants who settled Baillytown, Indiana. The Chellbergs, originally spelled Kjellberg,<sup>3</sup> arrived in Boston in 1864,<sup>4</sup> traveled to Chicago, and within five years laid claim to the first half of their eighty acres. After a fire destroyed their first home and all of its contents, the family rebuilt in brick. The farmhouse is an example of the folk Victorian houses which proliferated across the Midwest after the Civil

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<sup>1</sup> The UTM global-positioning coordinates were determined by Louis Brenan, Geographic Information Specialist, of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (IDNL), November 1998.

<sup>2</sup> INDL was legislated by Public Law 89-761, 89th Congress, S.360, 5 November 1966. The farm became part of the park 17 March 1972.

<sup>3</sup> Throughout the report I refer to the family and farm using the Chellberg spelling of the family name that Charles, of the second generation, adopted. However, when referring to Anders, Johanna, and Emily, I use the Kjellberg spelling because it remained their legal name.

<sup>4</sup> Family lore places the arrival of the family in the United States in 1863, but the 1890 U.S. Population Census reports that Charles said he arrived in 1864.

War with railroad expansion, yet one which represents its now scattered community more than national building trends. The house -- distinguished by its elliptical-arch windows, simple porch, and veneer of Porter-made soft brick -- typified one of the house styles favored by the local Swedish community during the last decades of the nineteenth century. Of equal significance are several surviving early Chellberg outbuildings, including a granary, chicken-coop, and mortise-and-tenon barn. The period of successful agricultural activity for the Baillytown Swedes was relatively brief as the farmers discovered the limitations of the predominantly clay soil and as the descendants of the original farmers sought factory and railroad jobs, which were as abundant as their fields were fallow.<sup>5</sup> In many instances, even those farmers who made the soil their central form of employment sought a variety of jobs as a supplement to their farm income, seldom wanting or able to be solely dependent upon crops for their livelihood. Maintaining forty to eighty acre farms was simply a necessary means to feed one's family.<sup>6</sup> As the area ceased to be agricultural in the late 1920s and throughout the 30s, particularly because of the Depression, more and more farm-related structures became adapted for other uses or simply disappeared. The height of activity for Chellberg Farm, however, spanned Charles Levin Chellberg's adult years, from the time that he began to develop the dairy after his marriage to Minnie Peterson in 1901, to his death in 1937. The farm saw years of prosperity and hardship, but all the while Charles retained horsepower as central to his farming practices.

The encroachment of railroads, highways, heavy industry, housing subdivisions, and the National Lakeshore largely erased the small Swedish settlement of Baillytown and much of the rural character of the region by the mid-1970s. As a result, the Chellberg farm and family history have come to represent much of the Swedish and early agricultural heritage of the area that has otherwise been nearly forgotten. The Chellberg family shared not only the cultural and religious background of most of their neighbors, the families also intermarried and created a network and bond that survives as an intangible part of the region's history. A surprising number of descendants of the early families still live in the region and see the farm as a physical connection to their ethnic and rural past. The family maintained ownership of the farm until 1972, when the land and buildings were acquired by the Department of the Interior for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Historian: Amanda J. Holmes, HABS Historian, Autumn and Winter 1998-99.

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<sup>5</sup> In a 1978 interview Naomi noted that their soil was clay. However, there was a lot of sand on both sides of Oak Hill Road, and then, said Naomi, "it turns to clay very quickly." The sudden soil changes that she mentions are supported by a 1916 soil map. Naomi Studebaker (NS), interview by Marty Marciniak (MM), 6 July 1978; "Soil Map," Indiana, Porter County Sheet, Field Operations, Bureau of Soils, 1916. Please note that, unless otherwise mentioned, all of the taped interviews with Naomi Studebaker can be found in the Audio Library at the Dorothy Buell Visitor Center, IDNL.

<sup>6</sup> In the course of this research I was not formally looking for this type of farming practice but came across instances of it over and over again. Alfred Borg farmed forty acres, but was known as a carpenter and also worked in the brick yards. Claudia Herbst (sister to Hilda Johnson, Carl Chellberg's wife), remembered that her father (Olander Johnson) worked for U.S. Steel for forty years and at a slaughter house for ten at the same time as he farmed forty-eight acres. The Chellberg family was no exception. Naomi claims that her father also worked in the brickyards on occasion to supplement the family income. Minnie actively sought other sources of income, and thus began to take in boarders as well as cooked for organizations outside the home. Naomi met her husband Alden Studebaker at one such catered dinner in the early 1920s, at the Dune Acres Club House.

## PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

### A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1885. The Chesterton Tribune, a local newspaper, described the complete destruction of the Chellberg family's original farmhouse on the eve of 16 December 1884, as a fire consuming deeds, insurance papers, clothing, furniture, and provisions for the winter. The datestone in the upper western gable of the farmhouse firmly establishes that a new house was built the following year, in 1885. Apparently, constructing and furnishing a house of this type took four to five months, with a combination of contractual and volunteer labor. The Bethlehem Lutheran Church, in Chesterton, constructed their new parsonage in 1889 using the same construction method and style as the Kjellbergs' farmhouse, and thus offers a time-line for construction of a gable-and-wing plan, with brick veneer over a balloon frame.<sup>7</sup> Begun in early October, all but porches and some of the upstairs decorating in the parsonage had been completed by mid-January.

With only \$600.00 to put towards a house similar to the church's \$1500.00 parsonage, it is likely that the Kjellbergs either received some charitable assistance in building their house, or that they built some of it in stages.<sup>8</sup> The cellar, which could date as early as 1870, perhaps built during the year after the family purchased the land, was one section of the house that the Kjellbergs were able to use from their previous house. An 1872 deed mentions structures on the property as part of a closing negotiation from an agreement made three years earlier.<sup>9</sup> The contractor must have excavated the charred remains of the house from the cellar hole, replaced the upper brick cellar walls, and built the house above anew.<sup>10</sup> As a carpenter living with the Kjellbergs from 1874 until 1881, John Nelson, a fellow Swedish immigrant, may have helped to build several of the original buildings. The 1880 Population census lists Nelson as a "boarder," which also implies his residence with them in the household. One of the implications of being a boarder is that one compensates the host for food and lodging, which in Nelson's case could have been paid in cash or through some kind of labor agreement. Nelson definitely helped the family build their first house; it had been a legal condition of his becoming a tenant with the Kjellbergs that he

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<sup>7</sup> "The New Lutheran Parsonage," Chesterton Tribune, 10 January 1889. The parsonage no longer stands, but the Bethlehem Lutheran Church is still active in Chesterton. They have a church archives which may contain more specific information about the construction of the parsonage, but unfortunately the archives was being moved at the time of this research.

<sup>8</sup> "The Fire Fiend Selects the Coldest Night This Years, and Totally Destroys the Home of Andrew Shellberg [sic]," Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884.

<sup>9</sup> Warranty Deed, 4 April 1872, recorded in Deed Book K, page 320, Office of the Recorder, Porter County Courthouse Annex, Valparaiso, Indiana. Unless otherwise notes, all land records are located at this site.

<sup>10</sup> No other reports or studies about the house have proposed that the cellar is a survivor of the previous homestead. The reason for this may be because the cellar plays no role the farm interpretation and for this reason has remained outside the realm of any formal analysis. For a detailed physical description of the cellar, see the architectural description section of this report. A 1988 archeological dig team uncovered charred debris that it attributed to household dumping but that are more likely the remains of the previous house excavated from the cellar.

build a 10'-0" x 24'-0" addition onto their home, as signed in an 1874 lease agreement.<sup>11</sup>

Without photographic or definite documentary evidence, only approximations can be made about when some of the farm's earlier outbuildings may have been constructed. As a vital farm structure, the barn seems certain to be one of the earliest buildings. A source of water, likewise, would have been a necessity from the earliest stages of developing a farm, so the well would probably have been established immediately too. In February 1869 Andrew Kilberg [sic] had purchased four and one-eighth acres in the Southwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 37, Range 6 West, a long, triangular strip of land south of the Augsburg Lutheran Church, separated from the church land only by a railway track. He lived next to John Anderson, who at the time of the census housed the Reverend Nyquist, the third minister to the Baillytown congregation. Kjellberg and his family appear in the 1870 Agriculture and Population Census as located on that property, which was listed as "all improved." Kjellberg sold the property on 28 December the same year, two months after signing an Article of Agreement for the first forty acres of what later became Chellberg Farm. Less than one mile away and with very little overlap between the sale and purchase of his properties, Anders could have easily been "improving" his new acreage at the same time as he lived at the old, both clearing and preparing the land and constructing the necessary buildings to house his family and livestock.<sup>12</sup>

Further research would be required to determine if Kjellberg owned any other property or lived in the area previous to the date listed in the first deed. By the time of the 1870 Census, however, Anders had established himself enough to begin providing for his family in the Baillytown community with two milk cows, two "other cattle," and two pigs. He grew no grains, potatoes or hay, but managed to produce 100 pounds of butter and called himself a "Farmer" on the 1870 census sheet, meeting whatever criteria was necessary to be called a farmer at the time. John Oberg, who joined Kjellberg in the 1869 warranty deed for the southern forty acres, also appears in the 1870 Agricultural Census. Oberg had entered into a legal agreement for the property with Wicker in 1867, which likely gave him more time to become established on the land, although not to any significant extent. By 1870 Oberg had improved only four of his thirty-six acres and maintained only three animals, two milk cows and one swine, showing a farm in its earliest

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<sup>11</sup> U.S. Population Census for 1880, Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana, "Andrew Kilberg," family #247 and "John Nelson," family #248, both residing in dwelling house #237, page 25, Porter County Library Genealogical Room, Valparaiso, Indiana; Lease, 26 June 1874, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 555.

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Agriculture Census for 1870, Westchester Township, Porter County, "Andrew Shelbe," #36, page 7, Indiana State Historical Society, Indianapolis, Indiana; Warranty Deed, 5 February 1869, recorded in Deed Book U, page 326; Article of Agreement, 1 November 1869, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 309; Warranty Deed, 28 February 1869, recorded in Deed Book U, page 56; U.S. Population Census for 1870, Westchester Township, Porter County, "Andrew Shabr," #274, page 33, National Archives, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The land in Hardesty's 1876 map of Westchester Township is listed as owned by G. T., Gustof Trilborg, to whom Kjellberg sold the land for \$100.00 in 1869; Weston A. Goodspeed, and Charles Blanchard, Counties of Porter and Lake, Indiana, Historical and Biographical (Chicago: F. A. Battey & Publishers, 1882): 160. Brenda Williams, the author of the Cultural Landscape Report for Chellberg Farm was of invaluable help in getting copies of the Agricultural Census data to the author. Telephone discussions about who lived where and when were also helpful for solving some of the puzzles about the Chellberg past.

stages of development.<sup>13</sup> Unlike Kjellberg, Oberg had grown thirty-five bushels of wheat and twelve bushels of potatoes. By June 1880, Kjellberg not only owned Oberg's land, sixty acres were now improved and the entire farm was valued at \$4000.00. Requiring shelter were thirty poultry, two milk cows, six "other cattle," two sheep, eleven swine, and five horses. The Kjellbergs certainly managed enough animals to fill a barn, a chicken coop, and any number of other less permanent animals sheds, so we can speculate of the farm's surviving buildings that the barn, and maybe the chicken coop, were built between 1870 and 1879. The well may also have been established early in this time frame and become a central feature around which other structures would have been placed.<sup>14</sup>

The granary, on the other hand, appears to have been built after 1884. The fire which consumed the family home also destroyed "a quantity of grain stored in the upper room," revealing that the Kjellbergs did not have a separate structure to store grain. Small farmers often relied on storing food in their cabins, especially in small rooms or attics above the kitchen, because it was the most frequently heated part of the house, keeping the foodstuffs dry.<sup>15</sup> Destroyed were seventy-five bushels of wheat, thirty-five bushels of rye, and fifty bushels of oats, in addition to pork, flour, and other provisions for the winter, likely in the cellar. Based on the family's 1879 production, this would have represented nearly their entire crop, even allowing for increased productivity and having already consumed some of the grain. The 1880 Agricultural Census records that in 1879 the Kjellbergs grew 122 bushels of wheat, fifteen bushels of rye, and forty bushels of oats. The loss of everything to the fire may have made the family decide to build a separate granary rather than to risk such a total loss again.<sup>16</sup>

Notably, the newspaper did not report on the loss of any corn, which in 1879 had been 100 bushels of Indian corn. The corn, to feed the eleven pigs, was not stored in the house, placing the construction of the original corncrib before 1879, unless the family had another method of corn storage. The corncrib, much larger than the present one, collapsed sometime before 1921. In 1921 the corncrib appeared in a photograph as a jumbled pile of lumber behind two men butchering a pig.<sup>17</sup> At one of the early 1980s farm celebrations a local resident claimed that he had knocked down the crib when he was a boy, accidentally backing a truck into it. No other sources, however, have verified this information.<sup>18</sup> The corncrib consisted of two smaller corncribs connected with a broad, cedar-shingled gable roof. Each section was of a V-shape, with inward sloping sides, narrower at the bottom. The design the Chellberg's selected was

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<sup>13</sup> U.S. Agricultural Census for 1870, Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana, John Oberg, #39, pages 3-4.

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Agricultural Census for 1880, Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana, Andrew Kilberg, #10, page 19, Indiana State Historical Society, Indianapolis, Indiana.

<sup>15</sup> Nicholas P. Hardeman, Shucks, Shocks and Hominy Blocks: Corn as a Way of Life in Pioneer America (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press 1981): 114.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Agricultural Census for 1880, Andrew Kilberg #10, page 19.

<sup>17</sup> "Spring Butchering," Chellberg Farm, #H2-0016, IDNL Archive. The early corncrib also appears in a ca. 1917 photograph from the Chellberg Farm Scrapbook, page 8, in the Studebaker Family Collection.

<sup>18</sup> The note said, "Guy stopped by farm to say when he was ten years old and helping Carl unload corn at the crib -- it was his fault that the truck gears slipped and crashed into crib, knocking it down -- Carl was not happy." There was no name attached to the message. Carl would have been about nine years old. "Chellberg Information," Vertical File (VF)-Farm Manager's Office (FM), IDNL.

widespread in America, as was the shed-roof crib that Carl built to replace it ca. 1941.<sup>19</sup> According to Naomi the silo was added to the barn ca. 1917, when she was about ten years old, and completely altered the way that the family dealt with corn on the farm.<sup>20</sup> After 1917, rather than put corn into the corncrib, it was cut up and put into the silo, making the corncrib largely obsolete on the dairy farm, and it was allowed to fall into disrepair.<sup>21</sup> Most farmers still used dry corn at the same time as they made silage, but there is no evidence or memory that this was the case for the Chellbergs. Silage included the stalks, leaves, and ears of “green corn” which was a way of providing green feed to livestock during the winter months. Ensilage, wrote John M. Bailey in 1881 of his early experiments creating the perfect mixture, “practically annihilates winter.” Apparently, only when the silo was gone did the family build another structure to preserve their corn, when they built another corncrib.<sup>22</sup> Henry Studebaker, however, remembers both cattle and hogs being fed dried corn on the cob throughout the mid-to-late 1930s, but does not remember where it was stored.<sup>23</sup>

More recent farm structures include a pumphouse, corncrib, and maple sugar camp. The current Areometer windmill likely dates from ca. 1901-1907, judging from when the family turned to dairy production. The Model #602 that they erected, however, had been in production since 1888, so without specific memories or receipts, it is difficult to know when it may have been installed.<sup>24</sup> There may have been another windmill on the property prior to the one which appears in family pictures, but there is no oral, written or photographic record to prove this, although there would have certainly been a well. There had to have been some means for the family to obtain water from underground because the farm does not have a natural spring and water from the cistern was not meant for consumptive use. Windmills suitable for small farms became readily available by the early 1870s for both farm and household use.<sup>25</sup> The current wellhouse is a reconstruction built in the early 1980s, based on period photographs and a similar surviving structure in the area.<sup>26</sup> The Chellbergs replaced their deteriorated wood wellhouse ca.

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<sup>19</sup> Hardeman, Shucks, Shocks and Hominy Blocks: 115.

<sup>20</sup> Naomi Studebaker (NS), interview with unidentified park staff, 17 February 1979. Jude Rakowski, the Farm Manager, disagrees with this date for the erection of the silo, that it must have been built earlier to serve the needs of the dairy. Unfortunately there are currently no photographs or contemporary barn descriptions to suggest any date closer to the beginning of the dairy operation. The only evidence we have is Naomi’s memory. Charles could have bermed his silage until he could afford or was convinced he needed a silo, the way farmers have begun to do again today, leaving their expensive, towering blue silos empty. Jake Stencil, conversation with the author, Crosswell, Michigan, 9 June 1999. Mr. Stencil recently retired after being a dairy farmer for over fifty years.

<sup>21</sup> NS, interview with D. Blink (DB) and J. Seizer (JS), 11 August 1975.

<sup>22</sup> Hardeman, Shucks, Shocks and Hominy Blocks: 96; John M. Bailey, The Book of Ensilage; or the New Dispensation for Farmers, Farmers Edition (New York: Orange Judd Company, 1881): 26.

<sup>23</sup> Henry Studebaker (HS), correspondence with the author, Amanda Holmes (AH), 7 August 1999.

<sup>24</sup> Efforts to find more information on the windmill have met with deadends. Areometer moved their plant from Arkansas to Texas and their records that would have included transactions were not transferred, if such specific details as sales to individual farmers were ever saved. The windmill Model #602 was produced from 1888-1933. For more on the history of the windmill, see the site history section of this report.

<sup>25</sup> T. Lindsay Baker, A Field Guide to American Windmills (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1985); C. H. Wendel, Fairbanks Morse: 100 Years of Engine Technology (Stemgas Publishing Co., 1993): 11.

<sup>26</sup> The park superintendent, Dale Engquist, recalls that the measurements were taken from a well house on east Oak Hill Road, whereas Curt Hardesty and Gene Beschinski, both woodcrafters for the Maintenance Division,

1935 with one of handmade concrete block, built by Baillytown neighbor Oscar Nelson, but housing the same windmill mechanisms. Nelson also built the sugar camp in 1935, based on plans drawn by Alden Studebaker.<sup>27</sup> Carl built a tractor shed north of the stock tank ca. 1939-40, perhaps from materials salvaged from the equipment shed, to house his 1939 Model "B" Allis-Chalmers farm tractor. He then built the current corncrib attached to the north of the tractor shed sometime after the family removed the silo, placing its construction ca. 1941 of salvaged silo materials. The tractor shed still stood in 1969 and appears in a Tract-file photograph, and although there is no clear record of what happened to it after that, the park may have been the ones who removed this structure, shortly after acquiring the property in 1972.<sup>28</sup>

Many other structures have come and gone from the farmscape and are covered in more detail later in this report. Since 1981 the park has built numerous sheds and shelters as part of its working farm interpretive programs and to house the growing number of animal and farm equipment donations.

2. Architect: Unknown. The Chellberg farmhouse is a vernacular, brick farmhouse of marked similarity to other houses, both urban and rural, in the Porter and Chesterton area.

3. Original and subsequent owners, occupants, uses: Unless otherwise stated, reference is made to the Land Records of Porter County, Indiana, which fall under the supervision of the Office of the Recorder, located in the Porter County Courthouse and the Porter County Courthouse Annex, Valparaiso, Indiana. Those documents which are also known to be held in the Museum Collection of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore are marked with an asterisk (\*).<sup>29</sup> Included in this overview are the mortgage agreements, because not only are they indicative of general changes to the property, many of the agreements were made with friends and neighbors, revealing a local financial network that was common in this part of Indiana but not necessarily practiced in other parts of the county.<sup>30</sup>

The eighty-acre footprint for Chellberg Farm was established in 1869, although it was not until 1874 that Anders Kjellberg became the sole proprietor of the property. The eighty acres were carved out from lands that had once belonged to Joseph Bailly, a settler and trapper in the

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remember basing their plans on the wellhouse on the old Nelson farm across the street.

<sup>27</sup> Maple Sugar Camp Agreement, 6 December 1935, signed in the office of the Lake County Sheriff, Hammond, Indiana. The original is available in "Sugar Shack," VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>28</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>29</sup> After searching the tract files and most office files throughout the IDNL related to Chellberg Farm, the author was unable to find the Chain of Title which was supposedly completed by real estate assessors as part of the acquisition of the property by the U.S. Government. Documents remaining in the Chellberg Farm Tract file 36-111 make continual reference to the "attached Title Binder," and "Title evidence," but this evidence seems to have become separated from other documents. The park currently has two tract files for the farm, one in the inactive files in Building 103 and another in the maintenance files. The two files contain completely different materials. The present researcher has tried to uncover as much of the title and other legal issues surrounding the property as possible, but would have greatly appreciated the aid of a document already thoroughly researched by a title company to answer some of the more challenging questions about property liens and mortgages.

<sup>30</sup> Jay Ladin, "Mortgage Credit in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, 1865-1880," *Agricultural History* 41(January 1967): 37-43.

Calumet Region ca. 1822-35. John Oberg and Gustof Peter Swanson had made an agreement for the same parcel of land from Joel H. Wicker over two years before. On 28 August 1867, Wicker offered his bond for deed for the eighty acres, or at least as much of the property as he was able when the formal division of the property was made in 1869, settling the Bailly estate.<sup>31</sup> The earliest record regarding Anders Kjellberg's connection to the Chellberg Farm property is a November 1869 Article of Agreement made jointly between John Oberg and Anders Kjellberg with Joel Wicker, one of Bailly's sons-in-law. Anders made this agreement while he was living on a four and one-eighth acre plot of land directly south of the Augsburg Church, which he purchased in early February 1869 and sold in late December the same year.<sup>32</sup> No formal division of the property between Oberg and Kjellberg appeared until 1872, when Kjellberg paid Wicker separately for the northern forty acres. Several structures were already on the property as of April 1872, based on the Warranty Deed formalizing the 1869 Article of Agreement. Kjellberg received the forty acres "together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances therein belonging." By 1874 Kjellberg also held the title to the southern forty acres.

The Chellberg family added additional Westchester Township acreage to their holdings through inheritance and purchase. While the family depended upon the additional land for the farm's operation, this property was not directly adjacent to the farm and nor is it interpreted by the NPS today as part of their working farm interpretive programs. An overview of these purchases, however, is included at the end of this section.

1869\* Article of Agreement, 1 November 1869, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 309.  
J. [H.] Wicker of the City of Chicago, Illinois  
To  
John Obez [sic] and Andrew Chelburn [sic], of Porter County, Indiana.

The legal description of the land changed minimally after 1869, when the property boundaries were described as: "Located in Porter County and State of Indiana being the east half of the south east quarter section of section twenty seven township thirty seven range six west of the principal meridian, or to be determined by actual survey before giving Warranty Deed." Oberg and Kjellberg agree to pay \$12.00 per acre as well as \$40.00 as back interest on an old contract, the details of which were not included in the current legal agreement. The old contract may have been Oberg's 1867 bond for deed. They are to pay \$600.00 "in hand" and the balance of \$400.00 in two equal payments in one and two years, with interest.

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<sup>31</sup> See bond recorded 28 August 1867 in Miscellaneous Record B, page 177; A. Berle Clemenson, "Bailly Homestead Unit, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore: History of Historic Resources Determinations of Structures Composing the Bailly Homestead," Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Division, National Park Service (NPS), 1975: 13. Clemenson writes that the widow Bailly's estate was settled in 1869 and is when Wicker formally received title to the land such that he could sell it to others.

<sup>32</sup> Warranty Deed, 5 February 1869, recorded in Deed Book U, page 326; Article of Agreement, 1 November 1869, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 309; Warranty Deed, 28 February 1869, recorded in Deed Book U, page 56.

- 1872\* Warranty Deed, 4 April 1872, recorded in Deed Book K, page 320.  
Joel H. Wicker, City of Chicago  
To  
Andrew Kyllburgh [sic].

“In consideration of the sum of \$480.00 . . . the North half of the East half of the South east quarter of section Twenty seven Township thirty seven Range six west, containing forty acres more or less. Together with all and singular the *tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances* therein belonging. . . .”

- 1874 Warranty Deed and Mortgage, 11 April 1874, recorded in Mortgage Book L, page 413.  
John Oberg [sic] and Mina, his wife  
To  
Andrew Kjellberg.

Anders Kjellberg purchases, for \$1000.00, the “South half of the East half of the South East Quarter of Section Twenty Seven Township Thirty Seven Range number Six West Containing forty acres or more or less.” Agrees to pay \$200.00 per year at 6 percent interest, to be paid yearly.

- 1874 Lease, 26 June 1874, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 555.  
Andrew Kjlberg [sic]  
To  
John Nelson, of Porter County.

John Nelson leases for \$25.00, “a piece of land sufficient upon which to build a House ten by twenty four feet, said piece of land being upon the north half of the east half of the southeast quarter” of Section 27, Township 37, Range 6, and “*adjoining the Dwelling of the said Andrew Kjlberg* [sic].” It is the opinion of this researcher that this structure was built as an addition to the Kjellberg’s pre-existing house, not that it was for the construction of the chicken coop, which has the same dimensions. Many people have speculated that the building served as a tenant house before it became a chicken coop, but as with many early features and events of the farmstead, the information is not verifiable.

- 1876\* Mortgage, 24 January 1876, recorded in Mortgage Book M, Page 511.  
Anders Kjlberg [sic] and Johanna Kjlberg [sic]<sup>33</sup> take out a mortgage on his entire property from Robert Close, of Lake County, Indiana, so that he can pay off John Oberg and be responsible for one property instead of two. The payment is to be in one note for

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<sup>33</sup> At the bottom of the mortgage papers was a reminder to those involved about the role of the wife in property ownership. “The dower having been abolished, the wife should sign with the husband in the introductory part of the Deed. Her acknowledgment need only be in the form required of unmarried persons. See R. S. 1852. . . .” Up to this time Johanna’s name had not appeared on the legal documents. When she did begin to sign her name, she did so with an “X,” indicating that she did not know how to read or write.

\$800.00 due on the 26th of February in six years from the time of the agreement. The mortgage is not settled until 1894, perhaps due to expenses incurred by the destruction of the Kjellberg's house and belongings. At present there do not seem to be any other documents regarding this debt.

- 1876 Release of Mortgage, 21 February 1876, recorded in Mortgage Record Book L, page 413.  
Andrew Kjellberg and Johanna Kjellberg, his wife are released from their 11 April 1874 mortgage from John Oberg, "having received full satisfaction on the mortgage" for the forty acres.
- 1881 Release of Lease, 22 July 1881, margin note in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 555.  
John Nelson released from his 26 June 1874 lease with "Andrew Shelberg [sic], for value received from him and orders the lease canceled as fully satisfied."
- 1893 Anders Kjellberg dies intestate 16 April 1893.<sup>34</sup>

Johanna becomes the legal heir to Anders's estate. Although there is no formal documentation showing the transaction, a Letter of Agreement, cited below, shows that this was the chain that was followed.

- 1894\* Annexed Warranty Deed, 9 March 1894, recorded in Deed Book 52, page 101 and 102.  
Johanna Kjellberg and Emily C. Kjellberg  
To  
Charles Levin Chellberg.

With Johanna, Emily and Charles all declared legal heirs of the property, Charles purchases the entire eighty acres from his sister and mother "for the sum of \$3500.00"

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<sup>34</sup> Jackson, Pine, and Westchester Township Cemeteries (Valparaiso, Indiana: Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society, October 1997): 93. The author searched the Porter County Probate Records, in the Porter County Courthouse, main building, for information regarding Anders Kjellberg's property, but could not find any legal papers, Administration or otherwise. That the estate had not necessarily been unquestionably settled is apparent from a 1902 document assuring that Andrew Kjellberg was of good character and that his wife and children were rightful heirs to the property (see Miscellaneous Record Book G, page 309-10, also noted in the above chain). Johanna, as Anders's wife and because her name appeared on the deeds as co-owner, became the rightful owner of the property even though Anders died intestate. There did not seem to be any document trail which conveyed Anders's share of the property to Johanna in case of his death, thus putting into question the subsequent changes of title. This issue may have surfaced in response to Johanna Kjellberg also dying without a will, 7 February 1899. Johanna actually refused to make a will, as noted in a Letter of Agreement (see 9 March 1894). The 1880 census lists Simon Larson as an adopted son, although there is no other record of this except in oral testimonies, so he may have protested the later division of the estate between Charles and Emily. Simon, born in Baillytown 13 January 1874, died in Detroit 1 September 1906 (information from the Old Member Book, Augsburg Church Archives, Porter, Indiana). Scattered recent documents found at the park state that Charles received title to the farm in 1885, but the legal record does not support this claim. If he already had ownership of the property there would have been no reason for Johanna and Emily to convey their one-third each claims to land to Charles in 1894.

The document references that a separate agreement “personally appeased” Johanna and Emily Kjellberg.

- 1894\* Letter of Agreement, 9 March 1894.<sup>35</sup>  
Johanna Kjellberg  
To  
Charles Levin Chellberg.

The agreement states that “Charles Levin Chellberg for and in consideration of the execution of the above Warranty Deed agreed to do and perform the following. Namely, to furnish the said Johanna Kjellberg necessary house room and fuel. Ten Bushels of Wheat, Five Bushels Potatoes, one hundred pounds of meat, and one quart of milk daily when the same is produced on the farm conveyed as herein described. The food and provisions herein mentioned is the quantity to be furnished yearly except milk which is above described. Now, it is understood that if the Said Johanna Kellberg [sic] Shall not stay and live on said farm that this agreement is only binding for a pro-rata of the food and grain promised or as much of it as the proportion of time She may Stay on the farm.”

- 1894\* Mortgage Release, 4 April 1894, recorded in Mortgage Book 4, page 107.  
The mortgage issued to Anders Kjellberg from Robert Close in February of 1876 was not fully paid and discharged until this time.
- 1894\* Mortgage Indenture, 6 April 1894, recorded in Mortgage Book 2, pages 569-570.  
Charles L. Chellberg, “an unmarried person,” receives a mortgage for \$1000.00 from the Edward Ackerman, of Cook County, Illinois, through the State Bank of Valparaiso. Payable in three years at 7 percent interest per year. Chellberg borrowed the money from Ackerman to pay off liens on the land.<sup>36</sup>
- 1897\* Release of Mortgage, 5 June 1897, recorded in Mortgage Book 6, page 296.  
Charles is released from his 6 April 1894 Mortgage from Edward Ackerman, the mortgage having been fully paid and discharged.
- 1897\* Mortgage, 26 May 1897, recorded in Mortgage Book 6, page 295.  
Charles L. Chellberg, “unmarried,” receives a mortgage for \$1000.00 from Hedda Swenson [sic], due in one year from the date of agreement, with interest at 6%.”
- 1899 Johanna Kjellberg dies intestate, 7 February 1899.<sup>37</sup>

The Letter of Agreement of 19 March 1894, between Johanna and Charles, stated that

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<sup>35</sup> See INDU #7134 in the Museum Collection, IDNL. Although the deed says that both Emily and Johanna were appeased, the only document in the museum is the one signed by Johanna. If there was a separate agreement made with Emily, it may be in the possession of Emily’s heirs.

<sup>36</sup> The liens may have been related to the Kjellberg’s loss of their home and property due to the 1884 fire and the cost of rebuilding. Finding out who had the liens would require more research into the legal documents.

<sup>37</sup> Jackson, Pine, and Westchester Township Cemeteries: 93; obituary, Chesterton Tribune 11 February 1899.

“after her death all property of which she may be possessed shall be equally divided between himself and Emily C. Kjellberg.” Likewise, there was to be no will made and no “other division of her property.”

- 1899 Mortgage, 5 July 1899, recorded in Mortgage Book 9, page 279-280.  
Charles Levin Chellberg, “unmarried,” receives a mortgage from Edward Ackerman for \$1500.00, due in five years at 5 percent interest per year.
- 1899 Release of Mortgage, 5 July 1899, recorded in Mortgage Book 9, page 279.  
Charles Levin Chellberg, pays off his 26 May 1897 mortgage from Hedda Swanson.
- 1902\* 30 September 1902, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book G, page 309-10.  
Andrew J. Anderson testifies on behalf of Andrew Kjellberg, who died intestate on 16 April 1893. Declares Andrew Kjellberg’s wife, Johanna Kjellberg, and his children, Charles Levin Kjellberg and Emily C. Kjellberg, the rightful heirs to the property. “The affiant lived in the same neighborhood with said Andrew Kjellberg, for a period of thirty years prior to his death, and was well acquainted with him and with all the members of his family during that time having seen them often and visited with them frequently during all that time and also that he attended the burial of said decedent.” He also declares that “said widow and children were the only heirs at law of said Andrew Kjellberg.”
- 1905\* Mortgage, 23 May 1905, recorded in Mortgage Book P, page 599.  
Minnie Chellberg, and Charles L. Chellberg, her husband, mortgage for \$500.00 from Charles P. Nelson, and Matilda Nelson, his wife. Payable in three years at 5 percent interest per year. Minnie signs the note as principal, Charles as surety.
- 1907\* Release of Mortgage, 28 February 1907, recorded in Mortgage Book 18, page 413.  
Charles and Minnie Chellberg pay off their 23 May 1905 Mortgage to Charles P. and Matilda Nelson.
- 1911\* Release of Mortgage, 19 June 1911, recorded in Mortgage Book 25, page 250.  
Charles L. Chellberg, and Minnie Chellberg, his wife pay off their 5 July 1899 mortgage from Edward Ackerman.
- 1911\* Mortgage, 21 July 1911, recorded in Mortgage Book 25, page 253.  
Charles L. and Minnie Chellberg, receive a mortgage from Edward Ackerman for \$500.00, payable in five years at 5 percent interest per year.
- \*1916 Certificate of Naturalization, requested 28 April 1916, received 10 October 1916, Petition Volume 2, Number 126.  
Charles becomes a Naturalized citizen of the United States. The certificate describes him as 56 years old, 5’-8” tall, of fair complexion, and with blue eyes and light hair. Charles had been resident in the United States since 1864, but the certificate noted that

“previous to his naturalization [he] was a subject of Sweden.”<sup>38</sup>

1917\* Release of Mortgage, 25 July 1917, recorded in Mortgage Book 32, page 533.  
Charles L. and Minnie Chellberg, settle their 1911 mortgage from John Eckerman [sic],  
administrator of the Estate of Edward Ackerman.

1922 Tax Sale, 13 February 1922, Certificate #16041  
Sisters of Notre Dame, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
To  
Charles L. and Minnie Chellberg.

“The NE 1/4 (North of the River) in Sec. 34, Twp. 37 N, R 6 W, containing 6 acres,  
more or less.” This \$12.41 purchase gives Charles and Minnie six acres of land which  
immediately bordered the southern end of their property and significantly opened their  
access to the Little Calumet River.

1927\* Warranty Deed, 13 December 1927, recorded in Deed Book 92, page 414.  
Sisters of Notre Dame of Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
To  
Charles L. and Minnie Chellberg.

The Sisters of Notre Dame protested the 1922 tax sale of the Chellberg property and  
other land. By 1927 the issues were resolved and the Chellbergs receive a far more  
moderate portion of the Little Calumet River land. The legal description now includes:  
“485’ east of the northwest corner of the northeast quarter of said Section 34, thence east  
along said section line 610’; thence south to the Little Calumet River, thence westerly  
meandering said river, to the point of beginning, containing 1.54 acres, more or less.”

1930 Cancellation of 1922 Tax Sale, 8 March 1930, recorded in Commissioners Record W,  
page 550.

1931\* Highway Condemnation Proceedings. Right of Way for U.S. Highway 20, Project 193  
C, Formal Offer.  
The Chellberg’s are notified “that it will be necessary to have a certain amount of right  
of way over property owned jointly by you and Minnie Chellberg.” The State Highway  
Commission of the State of Indiana offer “one dollar for the necessary right of way.”  
The land under consideration nipped at the southeast corner of the farm.

1937 Charles Levin Chellberg dies intestate, 8 August 1937.<sup>39</sup> Administration, 28 August  
1939, recorded in the Porter County Probate Superior Court, Administration #965, lists  
Charles's personal belongings as valued at \$147, and his real estate for \$4,600.00.

1945 Warranty Deed, 21 April 1945, recorded in Deed Book 127, pages 582-583.

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<sup>38</sup> A copy of the certificate can be found in the Museum Collection, INDU #7135.

<sup>39</sup> Obituary, “C. Chellberg, Resident 75 years, Dies,” Chesterton Tribune, 12 August 1937.

Ruth Mildred Chellberg, unmarried  
To  
Naomi V. Studebaker and Carl Lewis Chellberg.

This land transfer comes about because Minnie turns her Peterson property over to Ruth, and Ruth, around the same time, deeds her rights to the property to her brother and sister.

1947 Warranty Deed, 24 January 1947, recorded in Deed Book 134, page 370.  
Minnie Chellberg  
To  
Naomi V. Studebaker and Carl Lewis Chellberg.

1949 Easement, 13 May 1949, recorded in Deed Book 139, page 578.  
Carl L. and Hilda Chellberg, and Alden K. and Naomi V. Studebaker  
To  
Northern Indiana Pubic Service Co.

A 40'-0" x 1200'-0" easement for electrical lines cuts across the property.

1952 Otto Mina Peterson Chellberg dies, having already divided her property among her children.

1952 Easement, 12 November 1952, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book 15, page 415.  
Carl L. Chellberg and Naomi V. Studebaker  
To  
Standard Oil Company.

The easement is transferred from the Standard Oil Company to the American Oil Company 31 December 1960.

1957 Warranty Deed, 24 May 1957, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book 21, page 189.  
Carl L. Chellberg, et al  
To  
U. S. Government

The government purchases three-quarters of an acre from the northern portion of the farm, along the south side of Oak Hill Road, to serve as the sewer disposal system for the Nike base.

ca. 1960-65 Naomi divides her one-half interest in Chellberg Farm with her sons, Alden Henry Studebaker and Arthur Studebaker, keeping one quarter interest for herself and one-eighth interest to each son. The agreement was drawn up by Mr. Mox Ruge, Naomi's attorney at the time.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 10 August 1999.

- 1969 23 January 1969, Land appraised by Henry R. Bondarenko for \$171,700.00 (78.04 acres) for acquisition by the United States Government.
- 1969 5 March 1969, Land reappraisal by Robert V. Ott for \$161,200.00 (79.60 acres).
- 1969 17 November 1969, Carl L. Chellberg, et al file suit against the United States Government, represented by David A. Willis, of Portage, Indiana.<sup>41</sup>
- 1972 Condemnation Proceeding Settlement, 22 March 1972, Civil Court #70 H 308(2).  
Carl L. Chellberg, et al  
To  
United States Government, Department of the Interior, NPS, for \$210,000.00.
- 1973 Ruth Mildred Chellberg dies, 20 April 1973.
- 1973 Carl Lewis Chellberg dies, 22 May 1973.<sup>42</sup>

The Chellbergs managed an active farm with operations extending beyond the capacity of the eighty acres represented by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore today, particularly with the addition of two tracts of land. Minnie Peterson entered her 1901 marriage to Charles L. Chellberg with hopes of property of her own, inherited from her family's estate. Apparent disputes over the land began in June of 1902, with Minnie finally receiving her share in January 1907. Her thirty-eight acres included the western portion of acreage which once made up the Peterson Homestead, on the north and south sides of Route 12 and just west of the Bailly Cemetery.<sup>43</sup> Minnie's older sister, Ida, kept the family house and her brother, Oscar, lived out his years in a log cabin on the property. Despite the formal divisions of the land, the family maintained close ties through helping each other with household and farm labor and the natural resources of the land. In 1945, Ruth deeded her share of the eighty-acre Chellberg Farm to Naomi and Carl, in turn receiving title to Minnie's forty-acre Peterson inheritance, where she built her own home. The property is now part of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.<sup>44</sup>

Earlier negotiations involving Minnie's inheritance shows how often the local farmers in the Calumet region must have been approached by outside interests for thoroughfares across their land, particularly along the Old Chicago Road. What once appealed to residents as the convenience of a pre-existing road, soon proved to be the path-of-least-resistance for burgeoning highways and railways around the south shore of Lake Michigan. In 1907 Minnie and Charles deeded a section of Minnie's land to the Chicago, Lake Shore & South Bend Railway. In 1925

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<sup>41</sup> Legal documents regarding the lawsuit were found in "Chellberg Farm History," VF-Public Program Manager (PPM), IDNL.

<sup>42</sup> Obituary, "Carl Chellberg," Chesterton Tribune, 23 May 1973.

<sup>43</sup> The Johan and Christina Peterson family may have had more land that they divided amongst their children, but the details of their land ownership were not researched as a part of this report.

<sup>44</sup> According to the land transfer books, Oscar W. Peterson, Minnie's brother, conveyed the land to Minnie Chellberg (the author did not look for the deeds surrounding this land transaction). Warranty Deed giving the land to Ruth "for and in consideration of \$10.00," 21 April 1945, Deed Book 127, page 582-83.

the railroad purchased yet more land, an extra 150' wide swath north of and parallel to the previous right-of-way. This time the Chellbergs made certain to include a clause insuring that the "Seller reserves the right for a farm crossing thru this Right of Way," showing not only that such rights might have easily been lost, but also that the acreage was still active farm land as late as 1925.

Perhaps as part of Charles's relative success in the dairy business and out of his life-long association with the Bailly family, in 1920 Charles paid \$1500.00 for twenty-eight acres from Emma Huston, "Sole heir and adopted daughter of Francis R. Howe." The land was north of Route 12 and east of Mineral Springs Road and gave Charles prime access to a large section of dune marsh, which would have provided feed for his dairy cattle. The Chellberg family still maintained ownership of the property as late as 1959, where their name appears on a Westchester Township property ownership plat map.<sup>45</sup> From the time that Charles would have first known and explored the marsh as a boy to when he purchased the land it would have undergone significant changes. Local farming and industrial interests drained the lakes and marshes of Baillytown. The need for marsh hay may have made the wetland quality of the land part of its appeal to Charles, especially since many Swedes in the area depended upon the marsh hay to supplement what they could produce on their own fields.<sup>46</sup> Henry recalled that when he was a boy the family still used the land regularly for hay, that it "it wasn't very useful for anything else because it was so low and was always wet." The land also served the farm in other ways, the blend of soils enriching the quality of the farmland. "The soil was a dark-black mucky type soil that was fairly light when it dried out," explained Henry. "We would take truckloads of that soil over to the Chellberg farm and blend it with the heavier clay soils of the farm to try to lighten it up to allow vegetables to grow better." Even if the family wanted to use the land after Charles died, the wet soil was prohibitive for tractors where the horses once plodded through steadily.<sup>47</sup>

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers:<sup>48</sup> There is no definitive record of who may have built the Chellberg farmhouse and most of the older outbuildings. Family memory and comparisons with

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<sup>45</sup> Warranty Deed, 3 August 1920, Deed Book 82, page 393; the legal boundary described the property as "the north 28 acres of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 23 in township 37 north, range 6 west," Porter County, Indiana Official Farm Plat Book and Directory (Madison, Wisconsin: County Plat and Directory Co., Inc., 1959): 37.

<sup>46</sup> Howard Johnson, interview with MM, 21 July 1980, AL-VC, IDNL. Also, see the map "Indiana Porter Quadrangle," U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, 1940, for a depiction of the marshland as of 1940. Much of the draining activity took place before the turn of the century. For a view of the extent of the marsh as of 1897, see G. H. Ashley, "Geological Map of Lake and Porter Counties," in Department of Geology and Natural Resources of Indiana, Report, XXII. Both maps are on file at the IDNL, in the Office of the Geographic Information Specialist. For details about the drainage activities in the Indiana Dunes, see Sarah Gibbord Cook and Robert S. Jackson, The Bailly Area of Porter County, Indiana (Evanston: Robert Jackson & Associates, 1978): 58-65. The report is a "geo-historical study undertaken on behalf of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore."

<sup>47</sup> Henry Studebaker, interview with Brenda Williams, Cultural Landscape Report 98127-00, 12 February 1999.

<sup>48</sup> Most of the work done on the farm did not have completion reports written for them, although some of the specifics of the work might be traceable through work orders, receipts, and progress report memos. For a complete list of the suppliers for the [1993] restoration of the Chellberg Barn, please see file in the Maintenance Building, IDNL.

other local structures, however, make some attribution possible, most of which is elaborated upon in other sections of this report. Because the house was the property of one family before being purchased by the U.S. Government, the following outlines those responsible for building work done on the farm into two categories, before and after 1972.

Up to 1972, Chellberg Family:

As members of a vibrant Swedish community where the men and women, of necessity, proved themselves at a variety of skills, any number of Anders and Johanna Kjellberg's neighbors may have helped them build their house. The workmanship of the house, however, and its utter similarity to neighboring farm houses and houses in nearby Porter and Chesterton point to a contractor making a specialty of building the red brick L and T-shaped houses between 1885 and the turn of the century. With brick abundantly available in nearby Porter after 1870 and with many of the Swedish immigrants employed seasonally at the brickyards, it was a logical choice of building material.

- Main house carpentry: 1885, Andrew. J. Lundquist. In notes taken from conversations and taped interviews, Naomi claims that Lundquist built the house. "We had a friend of the family who was a farmer," said Naomi. "He built the house." Born in 1863, A. J. Lundquist was a young man of twenty-three when he constructed the Chellberg farmhouse. He was more than just a contractor to the Chellbergs, proving to be a friend and contemporary of Charles' who shared church responsibilities and Sunday dinners at the farm.<sup>49</sup> As a member of the Augsburg Lutheran Church, he would have been a familiar and able member of the community to build parishioners' houses, many out of the very brick that the parishioners themselves made. His reputation, apparently, also merited respect on the other side of the tracks, in Chesterton. In 1889 Lundquist completed the carpentry work on the new parsonage for the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, the Swedish Augsburg Church's sister parish, established in 1879. A newspaper article reporting on the new buildings does not announce who played the greatest role in determining the parsonage's floor plan, but the similarity of construction to other brick houses in the area hints at Lundquist's role and substantiates Naomi's claims. Given his long association with the family, it is possible that Lundquist also helped build some of the outbuildings as well.<sup>50</sup>
- Masonry work: Henry Christianson and Richard Anderson did the masonry for the Bethlehem Lutheran parsonage, in Chesterton. The masonry work at Chellberg Farm could be attributed to these men because Lundquist also completed the carpentry work for the parsonage, so all may have worked together. Unfortunately the parsonage is no longer standing, which would enable a closer comparison.
- Bricks: The farmhouse's hand-pressed brick came from one of the early Porter brick yards.

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<sup>49</sup> NS, interview with Carol Davis (CD), 15 May 1980; Naomi Chellberg, School Diary, 23 October 1921, Studebaker Family Collection. Naomi writes, "This morning I went to church. Mr Lundquist went with us home for dinner."

<sup>50</sup> "The New Swedish Lutheran Parsonage," Chesterton Tribune, 10 January 1889; Lundquist's name appears in the Chesterton section of the Valparaiso City Directory in 1905, as well as in Lee and Lee's 1906 Atlas as owning property along present day Route 49 and North Boo Road, directly in the path of Interstate 94. Lundquist's date of birth comes from his tombstone in the Augsburg Lutheran Church burial ground. He died in 1941. The Bethlehem Lutheran Church records, in Chesterton, Indiana, were not searched because the records were in storage at the time of this report.

Whenever anyone attributes the origin of the farmhouse bricks they declare that they are Porter Brick, or that they came from “the brick yard in Porter.”<sup>51</sup> The most well known of the brick yards was the Chicago Hydraulic Press Brick Company, which did not begin operation until 1890 after buying several of the smaller brick yards already in operation in Porter. The new brick company introduced dry-pressed brick. The lower moisture content allowed for the clay to be pressed into a variety of molds as well as produced bricks that were denser and shrank less. Prior to the arrival of the Hydraulic Press Brick Company numerous brick yards operated in Porter (when it was known as Hageman). The earliest brickyard, Kellogg Brick Yards, began in 1872 and by 1884 there were as many as eight yards in operation.<sup>52</sup> This number does not seem exaggerated because as late as 1905 over 200 companies were producing brick in Indiana, and this after the consolidation of many brick yards. Prior to 1890 bricks were hand-pressed and are often called “soft brick,” produced from clay with a moisture content of 20 to 25 percent. Most communities across Indiana had local brickmakers, who usually provided for a market within a few miles.<sup>53</sup> The last brick yard closed in 1926, but many of the grounds occupied by the yards are now all marked by the large depressions found surrounding Porter, where workers harvested clay for brick production. Some of the brickyards in operation prior to 1890 included Kellogg, Harlan and Owen, Caldwell, Hincheliff, Chicago and Philadelphia, Purington-Kimball, and Moulding, some of which took over the operations of the others.

- Early outbuildings at the farm: John Nelson lived with the Chellbergs as a boarder from June 1874 until 1881. Listed as a carpenter and boarder in the 1880 population census, and having been legally obligated to build a 10’-0” x 24’-0” addition to the Chellberg’s original house, it is possible that he also helped build some of the other farm structures. A frequent visitor to the farm and thought to have done the carpentry work on the 1885 house, A. J. Lundquist may have helped build outbuildings as well.<sup>54</sup>
- Renovation of upstairs into apartment: Possibly Alfred Borg, ca. 1897, in preparation for his marriage to and home with Emily Chellberg, Charles's sister.<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> Literature on the Porter brickyards is limited, usually relegated to newspaper articles written by local historians in the 1950s, when the area made concerted efforts to uncover some of its local history. Given the importance of the brickyards to the local economy and the built heritage of the area, there is need for comprehensive research on the Porter brickyards.

<sup>52</sup> Weston A. Goodspeed and Charles Blanchard, Counties of Porter and Lake Indiana. Historical and Bibliographical (Chicago: F. A. Battey & Co., Publishers, 1882): 162-65; “Brickyards,” typescript, no author, n.d., document #1, “Porter Brick Yards,” VF-Hageman Public Library, Porter, Indiana. This source actually unravels the twisted knot of company acquisitions more clearly than many of the newspaper articles, but like the articles, does not attribute information to any particular sources.

<sup>53</sup> George S. Austin, and John B. Patton, “History of Brick Manufacture in Indiana,” pamphlet reprinted from Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science for 1971, Vol. 81 (1972): 229-237.

<sup>54</sup> U.S. Population Census 1880, “John Nelson, Dwelling House #237, page 25; Lease, 26 June 1874, Mortgage Book L, page 413.

<sup>55</sup> Alfred Borg, among other skills, was also a carpenter. There is little to explain why the upstairs is more elaborately appointed than the lower floors. Alfred may have outfitted the upstairs for himself and Emily in preparation for their marriage, which was while Charles was an established bachelor. The 1900 Population Census lists him as a brick laborer, but his family knows him to have been a carpenter, as were other members of the Borg family. U.S. Population Census for 1900, Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana, “Alfred Borg,” #99, page 5, Genealogical Room, Porter County Public Library, Valparaiso, Indiana; Carol Cherepko,

- Kitchen addition: ca. 1901, by A. J. Lundquist.
- New roof on the house: 1906, by A. J. Lundquist and Emil Carlson.<sup>56</sup>
- Plumbing: Alden Henry Studebaker and his brother Arthur piped running water into the farmhouse and the tenant house from the sugar camp well in 1953. They installed the farmhouse bathroom in the downstairs at the same time, the only bathroom in the house.<sup>57</sup>
- Evaporator supplies: The National Lakeshore ordered new supplies for the sugar camp from G. H. Grimm Company, in Rutland, Vermont, the same company that the Chellbergs ordered their original evaporator equipment from in the 1930s. According to a 1981 newspaper account, the company no longer produced the pans and had to custom make the new ones from old patterns.<sup>58</sup>
- Concrete Blocks for 1930s maple sugar camp and well house: Oscar Nelson completed the masonry work on both structures between 1934-36, with blocks made by the Studebaker block manufacture in Dune Acres, where Alden Studebaker, Naomi's husband, had blocks made for use in the development of the lakeside community.<sup>59</sup>
- Corncrib: Carl Chellberg built or arranged to have the corncrib built from tongue-and-groove wood salvaged from the barn silo, ca. 1941.
- Lean-to shed on barn: Carl Chellberg and Henry and Arthur Studebaker, ca. 1958.

1972-present. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

Some of the people who worked for the park in the Maintenance Division began as local contract workers who accepted bids for particular projects and were later hired as permanent employees. Much of the information on who participated in these projects comes from oral sources because the park did not necessarily keep records on the individuals who completed each job, especially when someone on staff specialized in whatever projects needed attention. Work completed before 1977 would require more research because those years are outside the memory of the main informants for this project and are not included in the few farm records maintained by the park in this period. The expertise that the local contractors brought to their work at the farm, particularly those whose families have lived in the Calumet region for several generations, are important to recognize because they show that the house and outbuildings are still linked to a heritage of local carpentry.<sup>60</sup>

- Eugene (Gene) Beschinski and Curt Hardesty. Gene became the first full-time woodcrafter at

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interview with the author, Amanda Holmes (AH), 15 December 1998.

<sup>56</sup> "Baillytown" column, Chesterton Tribune, 26 October 1906.

<sup>57</sup> (HS), interview with AH, 2 December 1998; HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999. Much of the information in this report comes from the clear memory and childhood experiences of Henry Studebaker. Henry patiently addressed my endless questions, working in consultation with his brother, Arthur Studebaker, to stir faded memories. Unfortunately, because Henry's name appears most often in the text, Arthur may go unheralded.

<sup>58</sup> "Maple syrup time coming at park," Chesterton Tribune, 19 February 1981.

<sup>59</sup> Irene Nelson, interview with AH, 12 December 1998; HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

<sup>60</sup> Gene Beschinski (GB), interview with AH, 14 December 1998; Curt Hardesty (CH), interview with AH, 8 December 1998. For materials proposed for use in the house and other farm building restoration and stabilization work done in the late 1970s, see "Work Outline for Day Labor Project, Chellberg Farm Complex," in "Chellberg Farm," VF-Maintenance (Maint.), IDNL. There is no current record available that shows to what extent that the suggested products were used or when some of the projects were completed.

Indiana Dunes, first accepting contract work, then joining the maintenance staff in 1978, and retiring in 1992. He and Curt, also a park employee, completed a large number of the farm restoration carpentry projects. Nothing remained of the original well house, barn cupola, nor original front porch when the Park Service obtained the property. The Chellbergs had replaced the original porch with an enclosed one, so the carpenters derived their plans for the reconstructions based on old photographs, and in the case of the wellhouse, studying similar structures. Gene also completed most of the interior carpentry work on the house.

- Gene Mouldenhower, master electrician, installed electricity in the farmhouse prior to his retirement from the Park Service in 1988; he also did some tuckpointing.
- Joe Gentry, plumber, also helped install the heating system ca. 1988.
- Jerry Nowak, plasterer for the house ca. 1987-88 and the chicken coop in 1997.
- Bob Lundgren, replaced sections of siding on the granary in the 1970s.
- Ron Purlo, tuckpointed the house in the late 1970s [?].
- Williamsport Preservation Training Center: after the initial 1977 removal of the barn's lean-to shed and basic structural stabilization, full restoration of the barn was completed by 1992 in two phases, the first by the Williamsport Preservation Training Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and the second by National Lakeshore park staff.<sup>61</sup>

5. Original plans and construction: It is unlikely that the Kjellberg family spent many pleasant winter evenings planning the new farmhouse that would reveal their achievements in the New World. The new brick house was constructed out of necessity rather than through careful planning, although its materials and form soon became the model for neighboring farmhouses. On 16 December 1884 the Kjellbergs' original wood-frame farmhouse burned to the ground.<sup>62</sup> The current house, however, remains entwined with its predecessor. The brick farmhouse rose on the site of the original house, and incorporated the cellar as a kind of cornerstone of the previous structure.<sup>63</sup>

Charred remnants of the previous house seem to remain scattered near the site. In 1988, archeologists digging samples in preparation for laying a new sewer line discovered pockets of debris which they attributed to household dumping, but which were more likely a significant discovery to the early contents of the house. After finding little of interest in most of their shovel tests, the archeologist was pleased to find "a late 19th century artifact scatter at the north edge of the front porch." The deposit is approximately 5 meters in diameter, and extends under the porch, and "consists of a dense accumulation of ceramic shards, glass, nails, and other cultural materials." They occur in a ca. 25 cm of fill and a buried humus zone. "Most of the materials are burned," the archeologist reported, "indicating that the deposit is a secondary deposition of household refuse. Despite its minimal depth and limited extent, the deposit appears to contain considerable information on the early years of occupation of the house." The concentration of the deposit to one spot and its location suggests that someone shoveled ash and small debris from the cellar. The location is too close to the house to have been where they commonly dumped ash from their stoves, where it would not have served any practical purpose

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<sup>61</sup> For complete details for the participants and materials used in the barn restoration projects, please see the Completion Reports, located in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Maintenance Division files.

<sup>62</sup> "The Fire Fiend," Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884.

<sup>63</sup> For a detailed description of the cellar, see the interior architectural description section of this report.

and would have presented a fire hazard. Larger remnants were likely hauled away and dumped wherever the family placed their household refuse. The illustration accompanying the report shows another area identified as “late 19th century midden” on the east gable end of the main house, but nothing in the report identifies why the area is noted in the illustration or if it contained similar charred household remains. Considering the circumstances surrounding the current structure’s construction, the two spots could also point more specifically to the original house’s footprint.<sup>64</sup>

Judging from the date stones on local brick structures and the commonly agreed upon dates for the construction of others, the farmhouse which replaced the burned one was a contemporary of similar brick houses in the Porter and Chesterton area, including many built in the towns. Local brickyards had been in operation in the Porter area since shortly after the Civil War, making brick readily available. Most who were familiar with the area before the arrival of Bethlehem Steel and the National Park recall the old frame structures rather than brick ones throughout the Baillytown area, with the exception of the Chellberg, Nelson and Borg farmhouses.<sup>65</sup> It could be that many of the farmers were still trying to get a financial foothold in the area at the time and continued to make due with less substantial houses that did not require an investment in brick. The Baillytown School, however, was built of brick the same year as the Chellberg farmhouse, on property of one of Anders’ brothers, north of U.S. 12 and near what was once Mud Lake.

There are no records currently available that explain why the Chellbergs selected the gable-and-wing plan for their new home or even if they had plans to replace their house in the future. Likewise, there are no construction plans or sketches for the brick farmhouse available at this time, if they ever existed. Early photographs, the house itself, and neighboring farmhouses offer the best insights into the house’s original construction and plans. By the time the house became of public and local historical interest, there seemed to be no one still alive who had a living memory of the house’s pre-1901 appearance or function, when Charles and Minnie, of the second generation of Chellbergs, expanded the home to meet their needs and aspirations. Only their daughter, Naomi Victoria Chellberg Studebaker, was able to recall what her parents said of the house before their marriage. At present, there are no known historic photographs of the house which predate the 1901 additions.

The farmhouse’s design and floorplan were hardly unusual for farmsteads across the upper-Midwest.<sup>66</sup> The house, as constructed, was a T-shaped plan, with a two-story gable and one-story wing. The house’s facade faces east towards Mineral Springs Road, but at a distance from the road which must have offered privacy, sanctuary from road dust, and allowed optimal use of

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<sup>64</sup> Supervisory Archeologist, Midwest Archeological Center, to Chief, Midwest Archeology Center, 18 April 1988, “Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings,” VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>65</sup> Herbert Read, telephone interview with AH, 22 March 1999; Jean Buckley, telephone interview with AH, 24 March 1999.

<sup>66</sup> For information on the development of farmhouses in the Midwest, see Fred W. Peterson, “Vernacular Building and Victorian Architecture: Midwestern Farm Homes,” in Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture (Athens, Georgia: The University of Georgia Press, 1986): 433-446; Sally McMurry, Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America: Vernacular Design and Social Change (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988).

the level fields for farming and the ravine for grazing animals. The main entrance to the farm and house remains as it was in 1885, from the east. The house's most striking features, particularly from the gable end, are the symmetrically placed elliptical-arch windows and bull's-eye window under the east eaves. Until the ca. 1926-29 fireplace addition the house had another bull's-eye window on the north wall of the wing. The house was built with two porches, one documented in photographs and much like the one recreated today, the other observable only in vestiges of paint on the west wall of the wing, showing that it once filled the L left by the west side the gable-and-wing. The original front porch was removed sometime between 1926 and 1929 and replaced by an enclosed porch; the back porch was removed ca. 1901 in preparation for the kitchen addition.<sup>67</sup>

Determining the house's interior configurations and use is difficult to trace before 1900. The mid-1980s interior restoration uncovered clues to some of the previous room arrangements, but the removal of all of the paint, wallpaper, and plaster obliterated other potential material records left behind in the structure before anyone had done a methodical building analysis.<sup>68</sup> A few chance slides captured where some walls, doors and windows had been, but none of the images have been identified, so it is often difficult to tell which wall is documented.<sup>69</sup> Intact remains of paint, varnish, and wallpaper would have helped to record things as simple as whether moldings had been changed, where built-in furniture may have been located, and what color the ceilings were painted prior to when the Chellberg family installed electric hanging fixtures ca. 1919. Bearing all this in mind, it is possible to approximate what may have been the house's original arrangement. Determining use of the spaces is more challenging.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> NS, interview with Robert Fudge (RF), 23 October 1979, for the date of the kitchen addition. The information on the front porch is based on photographs: it was there in mid-1926, but gone by the winter of 1929. There are no building records to substantiate Naomi's recollections. She was not born until 1907 and recalls the kitchen addition to have always been there, so it at least approximates that date. Oral histories prove more troubling relating to the porch addition. Most recall it being built around 1930, but one photograph of Minnie Chellberg standing in front of the porch is dated 1926. See Photograph INDU #H-2-0019, Museum Collection, INDL.

<sup>68</sup> I came across numerous references that there was "a" Historic Structures Report for the farmhouse either underway or about to be begun, but came across none of them during this research. As early as June 1974, Rod Royce, Chief Ranger at the National Lakeshore, spoke to the Duneland Historical Society of behalf of the superintendent, reporting that "we have to have a historic structures report which means we have to have somebody come and study the building and then we make a determination that we are going to restore it and this is how it is going to look." He also pointed out that the process may take a long time, and that funds were still wanting. *Duneland Notes* 12: 6(June 1974): 5-6. A 1987 memo said that "the physical investigation report which is being drafted will show where previous walls, doors, and windows once existed in the structure," and to "see attached floorplan," although no such floorplan surfaced in the file or in other files during research. Acting Chief Interpreter to Superintendent," 28 October 1987, "Chellberg Structures-General, VF-Maint., IDNL. Photos which appear in the Interpretation Photo Files, at the Visitor Center, do show some of the stages of work and various conditions of the buildings, but these seem to have been done as part of a separate record, showing Interpretation's views of the farm's development rather than an intricate structures record.

<sup>69</sup> The condition of some of the floors (and the interior as a whole) as of the mid-1980s was recorded in slides by G. Garrison, and are now stored in a three-ring binder in the Historian's Office, on the open shelving. Hereafter the slides will be referred to as the "Restoration Slide Collection," (RSC).

<sup>70</sup> Contact sheets of photographs taken of the interior walls after the removal of the plaster are located in the Interpretation's black and white photograph files, folder [#25], at the Dorothy Buell Visitor Center. The

The actual construction of a similar house in the region offers insights into the room use of the Chellberg farmhouse, as well as how it may have been regarded by the community. In 1889 the local paper declared the Bethlehem Lutheran Church parsonage, of similar floorplan and dimensions as the farmhouse, as “among the best” of new buildings erected in Chesterton. The building was described as a “two story brick veneered structure 24 x 30, twenty feet high, with a 14 x 16 wing, one story high,” containing “eight rooms, four down stairs and four up stairs, divided as follows: down stairs, front room, sitting room, dining and kitchen; upstairs, study and three bed-rooms.”<sup>71</sup> As a parsonage, first-floor space had to remain flexible for frequent social gatherings, one of the obligations of a minister. The 14’-0” x 16’-0” wing would not have provided a very generous kitchen and dining room space, so other first-floor spaces likely became dining spaces when room was required. If the parsonage also had a pantry it may not have been added in the room description, perhaps seen as a storage area rather than a room. Over the years the parsonage became updated, bringing in electricity, gas, and running water shortly after they were available in Chesterton, at a very advanced pace from its counterparts in the country.<sup>72</sup>

One of the best ways to understand some of the original appearance and characteristics of the farmhouse itself, however, is to compare it with houses of the same period and design in the neighborhood, specifically the Nelson and Borg farms, both within a quarter mile of the Chellberg farmhouse.<sup>73</sup> Overall form, room, and chimney location in these houses proves to have been remarkably predictable, even though each had individual characteristics that differentiated one from another according to the needs and preferences of each family. Brick chimneys may seem solid and immovable, but in the three brick farmhouses in the neighborhood they proved quite plastic. This very mobility helps to suggest where a now absent chimney used to be located in the Chellberg farmhouse, about one third of the way in from the north wall of the one-story wing. Period photographs of the Borg and Nelson farms show that each had two interior ridge chimneys, one each in the gable and wing sections of the houses. The location of the chimneys points to where walls divided the rooms, a central chimney potentially serving stoves in rooms on either side. In all of the houses the decision to remodel the house motivated the removal of the chimneys. Where chimneys were not removed suggest that the room sizes themselves have not necessarily been changed either.

The Borg and Nelson houses each had the chimney removed from the two-story side of the houses, perhaps because they were changing the way the house was heated. As a result of the removals the floorplans were free to change because no walls were now needed to disguise or accommodate the chimney. In the Chellberg house the chimney in the two-story section of the

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collection will be referred to as the Interpretation Photography Files (IPF).

<sup>71</sup> “The New Swedish Lutheran Parsonage,” Chesterton Tribune, 10 January 1889. For the complete text of the article, please see the appendix section of this report.

<sup>72</sup> “Bethlehem Church History,” in After Fifty Years (n. p., 1929): 9-19. Photocopy found in “Swedish Culture,” VF-VCL, IDNL.

<sup>73</sup> The tract files of the two farms give a basic idea of the floorplans as of 1969, when real estate assessors sketched floorplans of the structures. Both are available in the park’s inactive tract files, Borg Farm Tract-file 36-116, Nelson Farm, Tract-file 36-110, Inactive Tract Files-Building 103, IDNL.

house was never removed and the rooms above and below continue to be approximately the same size, particularly the parlor and the room above. On the other hand, the Borg and Nelson farms retain their one-story wing chimneys, such that even after being modernized the room arrangements are remarkably similar. Each house retained three distinct rooms in their wings as of 1969, two as the kitchen and pantry and the third most likely a dining space. In the Borg farmhouse one of the kitchen wing rooms was later converted into a bathroom.<sup>74</sup> When Minnie Chellberg decided that she wanted the wing in her house to be one large room, she had to remove the chimney in addition to walls to create that space.

The previous arrangement of the Chellberg farmhouse most likely consisted of two to three rooms and a closet in the two-story gable side, and three small rooms in the wing on the first floor and three rooms on the second floor. Naomi Studebaker recalled her mother telling her that the present dining room had once been three rooms, but that her mother “couldn’t stand that” and that “the kitchen wasn’t big enough for her.”<sup>75</sup> The rooms were used as, although not definite in Naomi’s recollection, a kitchen, dining room, and “could have been a little bedroom.”<sup>76</sup> Ghostings on the lath after the plaster was removed revealed wall divisions in the middle of the east and west walls, as well as on the west side of the north window. It is likely that the smallest of the three rooms, the northwest portion of the current dining room, served as a pantry. The room could also have served as a bedroom, depending upon the immediate needs of the family, just as the new kitchen wing pantries later became a family bedroom. If this was the case and Naomi’s memory was accurate, then the other two rooms would have to have been the kitchen and the dining room, although which would have been which is a matter of guesswork. Logic suggests that the room with access to the exterior doors may have been the kitchen, but that would leave the dining room in very cramped quarters in the northeast corner of the room.

Based on the layout of other farmhouses from the period, the smallest room may have indeed been the pantry, the room to its east a small bedroom, and the room with access to the porches the kitchen. This arrangement would have allowed light into each of the rooms via a window, making each a livable, workable space. During the farmhouse’s restoration, workers found a door leading between the current dining room and bedroom, which would have facilitated an even flow of traffic and air circulation. If the arrangement of rooms was as described above, with a pantry/bedroom/kitchen, then the room which is now interpreted as a bedroom, the way the second generations of Chellberg’s used it, was most likely the dining room, which was also a

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<sup>74</sup> Borg Farm, Tract-file 36-116, Inactive Tract Files-Building 103, IDNL; Ann (Chellberg) Medley (AM), interview with AH, 5 February 1999. Ann visited the Nelson farmhouse when she was a schoolgirl, when Bill Nelson lived in a back building and Earl Reed, Jr. ,and his family lived in the farmhouse. “You came in on the north side, and then the kitchen was in the room there... and I think there was a pantry on the other side, and then there was a table right there.” In a park interview with Adele Isaacson, Adele apparently mentioned that the old Borg homestead had a large pantry. Gleaned from handwritten notes taken by someone who apparently heard the original tape or conducted the interview, “Chellberg Contacts -- Farm Interviews,” n. d., VF-FM, IDNL. The cassette tape of the interview received for this research was mislabeled and may only be available on reel-to-reel tape.

<sup>75</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979.

<sup>76</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982.

common arrangement of the period in this type of house.<sup>77</sup> The closet could have served as a china and linen pantry. The carpenters who worked in the restoration also suspect that a window once looked out over the cellar door, where the bedroom door now leads into the kitchen. The workmen, discussing their findings as they went, thought that the current bedroom must have been the kitchen because it was the only room with a chimney opening and seemed large enough to fit today's prevalent ideas that old kitchens were always spacious.<sup>78</sup> But the carpenters did not know about the traditional form and chimney arrangement of the houses in the area and some of the more radical alterations that the house had undergone. Whether or not the current bedroom functioned as either a dining room or bedroom can be debated, but the kitchen was in the one-story wing, which not only fits the local model, it would have prevented the heat smells of cooking from getting into other sections of the house when not wanted.

Predictability, fashion, and popular recommendations aside, it is also possible that the room behind the parlor also served as a bedroom, it quite simply depended upon the needs and tastes of the family. At the time of the fire, the Chellbergs had four children living at home, two of their own, one adopted son, and one young girl, a Miss Oleson, recovering from typhoid fever.<sup>79</sup> After Anders Kjellberg died in 1893, Charles formally acquired the farm in 1894 from his sister and mother, although they continued to live there. Three years later Emily married, so she and Alfred moved upstairs, perhaps altering the rooms at that time such that they functioned as a separate apartment, when the rooms no longer served any needs of the general family.<sup>80</sup> Charles, as head of the household, most likely commanded one of the downstairs rooms as his own while his mother took the small room behind the kitchen. The small room would have been warm during the winter months and convenient for care to tend her when ill, particularly the lingering effects of the burns she suffered from the fire.<sup>81</sup>

What is more difficult to interpret are the wall ghostings left on the parlor walls, that perhaps that room, too, had been divided into two smaller rooms. During plaster removal, workers discovered traces of walls on the lath just south of the chimney and mirrored directly across the room, on the north side of the east wall's south window. The markings could also be the remains of a popular decorative feature in Victorian homes, where a room or rooms were divided with a grille, some installed to hold up a portiere, or a curtain which was often draped for a dramatic or softening effect. Portieres were popular across the country in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and were as likely to appear in farmhouse parlors and dining rooms as they were in a wealthier urban home.<sup>82</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> Sally McMurry, Families and Farmhouses: 125. The author's parents own a T-plan farmhouse that was built in 1893 in northern Michigan. The arrangement of the rooms was exactly as plan and advice books dictated, and remarkably like the Kjellberg's house. In the wing was a pantry and bedroom, first used by the hired hand and later by family members in frail health. The kitchen, then, abutted to the parlor and dining rooms, each with a separate entrance.

<sup>78</sup> (GB), interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>79</sup> "The Fire Fiend," Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884.

<sup>80</sup> Carol Chellberg Shubair, and Carol Cherepko, interview with AH, 15 December 1998.

<sup>81</sup> Letter of Agreement between Charles Levin Chellberg and Johanna Kjellberg, 19 March 1894, INDU #7134, Museum Collection, IDNL.

<sup>82</sup> Gail Caskey Winkler, and Roger W. Moss, Victorian Interior Decoration: American Interiors 1830-1900 (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1986): 217-19.

The farmyard is laid out in a courtyard pattern, the house, barn, and buildings creating a framed workspace nearly unaltered from the early days of the farm. Whichever way one exited from the house he/she would have been directed along a porch to the courtyard area and barn. The overall pattern would have altered only slightly with the addition of the new kitchen wing, which halved the original exterior household work area on the west side of the house. The courtyard seems to have included, beginning at the house and working towards the barn, a smokehouse, woodhouse, outhouse (attached to the rear of the granary), granary, corncrib, chicken coop, and then barn. Equipment sheds and shelters for other animals varied in location, but usually close to the ravine both north and south of the main farm cluster.

The Kjellbergs situated their house on the site of the previous structure, amidst an established orchard and whatever structures were already standing. The new house gradually acquired its own landscaping touches, but what they were before the kitchen addition was added is difficult to know. An 1890s photograph of the John Borg farmhouse shows no pathways and a foundation sparsely planted to allow for good air-circulation around the house. A few strategically placed flowers, perhaps mums, are staked for stability. More noticeable are the fruit trees in the background, in the same proximity from the house that the orchard would have been from the Chellberg farmhouse. The Borg house could have been so new when it was photographed that not much had been planted yet, but later photographs of the Chellberg farmhouse show similar sparse plantings near the house.<sup>83</sup>

A few features of Chellberg Farm, such as the horizontal siding on the barn, may reflect a preference shared by many Swedish immigrants, but overall they seemed to represent the ideals of a farm family following current progressive farming ideas in America. Farmsteads in Sweden followed the geographical and political limits laid down by centuries of previous settlement and village patterns. In the Midwest no such restrictions applied, only the monotonous grid pattern and the need to have some sort of nearby transportation route. Some authors of prescriptive literature for farmers advocated a central location on the acreage as the appropriate spot for a farmstead, taking into account all the traffic patterns between buildings, the fields, and the woodlot. Whether or not Anders had been influenced by such ideas, he did situate his farmstead in the middle of his eighty acres, east of and alongside the ravine. It was an area less likely to be cultivated and placed the family closer to the woodlot and grazing land for the animals.<sup>84</sup> To claim whether or not the courtyard farmyard plan, as well, reflects anything of the Kjellberg's Swedish background is difficult to say, except that the Swedish immigrants tended to like many separate farm buildings for specialized functions and that the location of the well played a significant role in the location of their farm buildings. Nearly every study of farm buildings and farms that this researcher consulted called for the immediate need to survey and compare farmsteads for geographic and ethnic similarities and anomalies, particularly before the patterns in small family farms disappear altogether, particularly because so many farmsteads today, while

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<sup>83</sup> At the time of this report a Cultural Landscape Report for Chellberg Farm is being written which outlines the chronology of landscape changes on the entire farm.

<sup>84</sup> McMurry, *Farmhouses and Families*: 63.

still standing, are no longer occupied by farm families.<sup>85</sup>

6. Alterations and additions: The Chellberg farmhouse was perfectly adapted for additions. Over the years the farmhouse gradually expanded with a porch here and a porch there as the needs of the household called for more specialized spaces for household tasks and for the evolving mechanical and utilities requirements of the house. Little is known about the family or the farm operations before 1901, but it can be safely assumed that the house was still new enough and suited the general needs of the family until Anders died in 1893 and Charles took over the farm.

Of the pre-1901 period, one of the mysteries in the house is the apparent renovation of the upstairs. The baseboards, window and door trim are fancier than the woodwork on the downstairs level, both in the newer kitchen wing and in the older sections of the house. Emily Chellberg married Alfred Borg in 1897 and lived upstairs until her brother's marriage in 1901.<sup>86</sup> Alfred was the son of a long-time neighbor, John Borg, whose family lived in one of the brick houses so similar to the Chellbergs'. Charles essentially owned the house, but if he had not considered marriage by this date, it is possible that the upstairs was fixed up for Emily and Alfred as their home, perhaps by Alfred himself. Naomi Studebaker claimed that the reason for Emily and Alfred Borgs' departure from the house was that her mother preferred not to have two households under one roof. The other possibility is that the upstairs was renovated after 1901 to accommodate paying visitors from the city, one of many sources of the family's yearly income for at least two decades.<sup>87</sup>

The most dramatic structural changes in the house occurred after Charles and Minnie married in 1901 and a few years before Charles died in 1937. These years are key in understanding the entire farm because this generation of Chellbergs left the most tangible and visible evidence of their lives in the landscape and buildings. The years also represent Baillytown as a thriving agricultural community which still looked towards its Swedish past, particularly through links to the local Swedish churches. Charles and Minnie apparently had grand plans for modernization of the overall farm, and the house played an integral role in that plan. No sooner had Charles become the owner of the property in 1894, a year after his father's death, when he subscribed to the Farm Journal, a popular publication which promoted progressive farming methods. Even though the realization of his plans may have taken many years to complete, that he looked for guidance and inspiration at that time shows how difficult it can be to isolate dates for the farm's

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<sup>85</sup> Lena Palmquist, "Buildings on Swedish American Farms in Two Minnesota Communities," The Swedish American Historical Quarterly, 38 (January 1987): 16-17; Allen G. Noble, Wood Brick and Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape. Volume 2: Barns and Farm Structures (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984): 1; Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, and Allen G. Noble, "The Farm Barns of the American Midwest," in Barns of the Midwest (Athens: Ohio University Press, 1995): 9; Henry Glassie, "Eighteenth-Century Cultural Process in Delaware Valley Folk Building," in Common Places: Readings in Vernacular Architecture (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1986): 413-21.

<sup>86</sup> NS, interview with park staff, 3 February 1979.

<sup>87</sup> NS, interview with Margaret Bapst, 9 July 1986, Interview #86, Westchester Township Historical Society Archives, Chesterton, Indiana.

overall improvements, not only for the house.<sup>88</sup>

Desiring a larger kitchen and to not have to work with three small rooms, Charles and Minnie added a [12'-4" x 20'-11"] kitchen ell, which included a [6'-0"] deep pantry at the west end. Adding the kitchen meant the removal of the back porch, now detected by ghost lines still visible on the exterior wall. The cream separator room, over the cistern, was added after the kitchen addition either when the farm began its dairy operation or shortly afterwards, when they discovered they had use for such a specialized space. The dining room floor today leaves no trace of previous walls like those found on the old lath, suggesting that the floor was replaced. The floor does not even have the inevitable burns which usually accompanied cooking and heating with a wood stove. A new maple floor with 2" boards conveyed the room's status as a semi-public space, a room "for company," much like the parlor.

The reconfiguration of the rooms included closing off the door connecting the old kitchen wing to the room behind the parlor, and possibly the conversion of a window above the cellar bulkhead to a door. The new kitchen also included an open passage area where four doors and the cellar trap door in the floor converged, allowing access to the outside, the dining room, bedroom, upstairs, kitchen, and food storage. Many of the interior doors may have been moved around at this time as well, and may explain the odd assortment of designs and hardware today. These alterations are commonly believed to have happened around Minnie and Charles's marriage, but could have occurred anytime up to 1908, when the South Shore Railroad began service between South Bend and Hammond and to pick up milk from farmers along the route.<sup>89</sup> In 1906 the local paper reported that "C. L. Chellberg is putting a new roof on his home." The announcement signals that many of the alterations and additions must have been completed to receive a crowning new roof, including repair from the removal of the chimney from the wing when it was converted into one large room. Baillytown area houses seemed to have been undergoing a significant amount of improvement and development. In the same newspaper column that announced the Chellberg's new roof, N. A. Johnson was about to complete the new addition on his house. "Baillytown is growing in quality as well as quantity," the paper reported. "The new houses erected in the last year are being well painted."<sup>90</sup>

The next stage of changes for the house began around 1919. That year the Chellbergs installed a Delco Battery system and built the enclosed porch off the north side of the kitchen to house it. A 1921 photograph shows the porch in place, painted to match the frame kitchen, and with three

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<sup>88</sup> There may have been other publications that he subscribed to, but these are the ones that survive in the Museum Collection at IDNL. Efforts by the author to obtain copies to study more closely for potential links to farm improvements were stymied by the limited amount of time to view them in the park's collection and failed efforts to access The Farm Journal's archive, based in Philadelphia. The park has six scattered issues of The Farm Journal, INDU #s 1350-1355, February 1894, vol. xviii, no. 2, through May 1895, vol. xix, no.5. This is not to say that there were not more, these may have happened to be the only ones that made it intact from the farm. Charles's name appears on the mailing address. IDNL also has several U.S. Department of Agriculture Farmers' Bulletins that Charles dated 1896-1908. The existence of these documents suggest not only Charles's concern over increasing crops yields, but his willingness to consider a variety of fertilizers.

<sup>89</sup> Ronald D. Cohen, and Stephen G. McShane, Moonlight in Duneland: The Illustrated Story of the Chicago South Shore and South Bend Railroad (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1988): 1.

<sup>90</sup> "Baillytown," Chesterton Tribune, 26 October 1906.

electrical lines strung from the house, first to a pole near the chicken coop, then to the barn. Electric lights in the barn and outdoors became a new convenience that probably exceeded the need for indoor light, especially in the dark winter months and because of danger from fire in the barn. At least one fixture lit the courtyard between the house and barn. In the house the family added electrical hanging light fixtures in the dining room, kitchen, bedroom, and upstairs in the central room and two bedrooms. Henry Studebaker could not recall seeing a lighting fixture in the parlor because he was so seldom in the room as a child and no photographs prior to the 1980s restoration document whether or not one had been there either. The electrical system appears to have been primarily for light in the early years, serving as little as one outlet in the kitchen next to the generator room, which Henry remembers powering the radio. A telephone had been installed by 1921; Naomi eagerly chatted with her school friends on the telephone in 1921.<sup>91</sup> At some point the family added the summer kitchen, as the Chellbergs called it, off the south side of the kitchen, enclosing what began as a deck. The deck accessed the cistern, cream separator room, and steps to the ground, as well as led to the clothes-drying area, smokehouse, orchard, and equipment sheds southward along the ravine. The summer kitchen was never equipped with a cook stove, but a kerosene stove allowed for heating food and water without having to fire up the wood stove. The area also stored laundry tubs and a large coffee grinder hung on the north wall.<sup>92</sup> The period also marked changes to the house in response to the changing needs of a maturing family. As the girls grew older they required more privacy, so each took one of the small rooms at the west end of the kitchen as her room. "That was the pantry," said Naomi. "There was a little room south, and there was a partition in between, and we took the partition out and made my sister a bedroom." A curtain rather than a door hung at the north entrance.<sup>93</sup>

The family received a string of steady visitors, friends and relatives from the community and Chicago, and "campers" for overnight and weekend holidays from cities in the region. Some relatives, in liminal stages of their lives, stayed for months and even years on the farm. One such visitor, Minnie's brother Emil Peterson, returned from the Pacific Northwest for a period and wielded his building skills on the farm. Ca. 1926-29 Emil built the tenant house, added the sunporch to the east side of the brick wing, and installed the fireplace with new windows on each side. Unfortunately the tenant house was not built to withstand the extreme weather of northern Indiana. The house, located a few yards directly south of the farmhouse, stood on a terra cotta tile foundation that crumbled after a few cycles of frost.<sup>94</sup> "It started to show its ravages in the

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<sup>91</sup> Diary of Naomi Chellberg, 5 September 1921-23 April 1922, Studebaker Family Collection. On 1 December 1921 Naomi reports at that conclusion of her entry that "I talked to Nina [Nelson] over the telephone."

<sup>92</sup> HS and Arthur Studebaker (AS), notes from conversation with Jude Rakowski (JR), 7 May 1988, "Chellberg Farm Information," VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>93</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982. The 1988 interview with Henry and Arthur Studebaker took place after their mother's funeral, when they walked around the farm for several hours after the service. They remembered their mother saying that each room had a cot. Naomi's interview transcripts are ambiguous about where she slept when she was no longer a child, mostly because no one bothered to ask her, when a tape was running, where various members of the family slept.

<sup>94</sup> Naomi's interviews place the porch and fireplace additions as late as 1940, but much photographic evidence prove this was earlier. She formally left home after she married in 1926, so the exact dates of some of the alterations were no longer part of her daily life. A photograph of the front porch had the date 1926 written on it, but it seems to have been taken when Minnie was older than the picture says. Likewise, the new fireplace chimney appears in the distance of a 1929 photograph.

30s,” said Henry, “and in the 40s it was getting pretty rough.” There is no clear explanation about why the tenant house was built, except as a source of income for the family. It initially may have been a response to the opening of the Dunes Highway and visitors coming to the Dunes in automobiles instead of by train. All along the highway tourist cabins began to cater to more autonomous travelers, including “Nelson’s Cabins,” operated by family friends a little west of the Bailly Cemetery. Relatives did not necessarily harbor fond memories of Emil’s personality, but his impact on the farm and house was a lasting one, particularly in the fireplace.<sup>95</sup>

Less progressive changes began to take place on the farm in the 1930s due to hardships of the Depression and as Charles and Minnie Chellberg grew older and could no longer do the strenuous work that they had once done to maintain the property. Sometime in the early 30s the maintenance-intensive Delco battery system ceased working. This cast the household and barn back to dependence on kerosene light. The family did not revive the system until the early 40s, and a few years later gave up on its unpredictability and brought in outside electricity. During this period a fire, caused by mice chewing on matches, nearly destroyed the summer kitchen. The family cleaned it up a bit, and continued to use the space despite its dilapidated condition.<sup>96</sup> One of the only new structures to appear on the farm, the maple sugar camp, came out of the interest and generosity of Naomi’s husband Alden Studebaker. The introduction of the Maple Sugar Camp seemed to be as much a childhood fantasy for Alden Studebaker as it was an economic venture. It also later served as the sweetener to heal a family rift when he could no longer bear to be without the maple sugar.<sup>97</sup> The concrete block water house, slightly later in the same period, was constructed to replace the old wood waterhouse, that Naomi said “simply melted.” To add to the sense of dilapidation, a late 1930s storm took down the equipment shed located a few hundred feet south of the house. The silo, built ca. 1917 and no longer needed for a thriving dairy, may have also come down at this time, or at least by the early 40s. Without the silo, yet plenty of pigs to feed, the farm needed another place to store the corn, thus lumber salvaged from the silo became the new corn crib.

When Charles died in 1937, the old ways of horse-farming died with him, particularly because Carl was not fond of horses and desired the speed and power of a tractor. Henry recalled that the dairy was still active when he was a young boy, but there is no solid date for either its decrease in size or cease of operation. Upon his death, Charles’s administration papers show he owned two cows, which may or may not have been an accurate assessment of his dairy property, particularly if Carl or his mother considered some of the remaining cattle from the diminished dairy theirs.<sup>98</sup> Ruth, who had taken the most active interest in farm operations, moved on with a career of her own in Chicago. Ruth appears, however, to have continued to live at the farm on

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<sup>95</sup> NS, correspondence with AH, 4 April 1999. For information on the development of the Dunes Highway, see “Development of U.S. 12 - ‘The Dunes Highway,’” n.d., no author listed, VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>96</sup> NS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

<sup>97</sup> NS, interviews with AH, 2 and 7 December 1998.

<sup>98</sup> Inventory of the Personal Estate of Charles Levin Chellberg, Porter County Superior Court, Offices of Superior and Circuit Court Clerk, #965, Porter County Court House, Valparaiso, Indiana. For the contents of the inventory, see the appendix at the end of this report. Henry Studebaker remembers that there were more animals on the property than listed in the inventory; HS, correspondence with AH, 18 March 1999.

and off until the late 30s or early 40s, which corresponds with the dates that she obtained Minnie's acreage and built her own house there. For Carl the farm served as a convenient place to patch together a living experimenting with a few animals and crops, but he spent most of his time out working other jobs. He tinkered with repairs and added new little buildings here and there on the property to house animals associated with new business interests, such as a brooder house, a corn crib, a tractor shed, sheep sheds, various pig shelters, and a concrete floor added to the east end of the barn. Some of these structures were built with the help of his nephews, who still spent a lot of time on the farm. A new tractor, purchased in 1939, became as much a means of transportation as for help on the farm. Carl did not get a car until after the war, so the tractor functioned as a car, providing local transportation in and around Westchester Township. A year or two after acquiring it, the tractor got its own shelter attached to the south side of the corn crib. A ca. 1940s photograph suggests that the shelter was also made of salvaged lumber, perhaps from the old equipment shed that collapsed a few years before. Rather than keep most of the land under cultivation himself, he eventually made a tenant arrangement with a neighbor, an unrelated Mr. Peterson, who lived near the northeast corner of Mineral Springs and Oak Hill Road and was still farming the land when the park bought the property.<sup>99</sup>

In 1938, the year after Charles died, Carl married Hilda Johnson, a young woman from nearby Liberty Township, Indiana. Like his Aunt Emily before him, he moved into the upstairs apartment and began his family. A new addition to the apartment may have included a sink on the west wall of the center room, which drained straight out a pipe in the south wall, and extended out about 6". A sink may have predated Carl's and Hilda's move upstairs, but no one has any memory of when a sink was first installed. The off-center placement of the stainless steel sink in front of some woodwork detail that the park removed suggests that there may have been another sink in place. Regardless of when the sink was installed, there was never running water upstairs; it was carried up in buckets.<sup>100</sup>

In the 1940s and 50s several other family members and their belongings converged on the farm. The family had not necessarily parted with hard-earned goods before, but now several households used every possible building and attic to store their belongings. Henry, his brother, his mother, and his aunt and grandfather Studebaker all, in turn, lived at the farm, which explains the unusual assortment of things still on the property when the park acquired it over twenty years later. In terms of changes to the farm and farmhouse, however, Henry and his brother had the greatest impact in this period. Henry and his brother rented the tenant house from their grandmother, Minnie, in the early 1950s for \$15.00 a month, until she passed away in 1952. They continued to use the house as their primary residence until mid-1955.<sup>101</sup>

After Minnie's death Carl and Hilda decided to move downstairs. The roof had been left unrepaired for so long that the old bedroom walls had to be completely resurfaced. Because the Henry and Arthur did not know how to plaster at that time, they used sheet rock instead. Part of

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<sup>99</sup> Carl Chellberg with tractor, ca. 1940, INDU #8137, Museum Collection, IDNL; Appraisal Report for Chellberg Farm, completed by Robert V. Ott, 5 March 1969, "Chellberg Farm, IDNL Tract File 36-111," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>100</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>101</sup> For details of who occupied the tenant house and when, please see the Site History section of this report.

the interior changes included indoor plumbing -- extending the bedroom closet into the room and installing a bathtub, sink and toilet salvaged from a house in Dune Acres which was being remodeled. Henry and his brother laid a 1" pipe from the sugar camp to bring running water to the house after upgrading the pump system there. They located the hot water heater to the left of the chimney, venting it into the chimney. Carl was so enthusiastic about the changes that he knocked down the outhouse behind the granary with his tractor. Henry said that he and his brother considered doing more extensive remodeling for Hilda and Carl, but that besides the changes to the bedroom they did not attempt anymore improvements, probably because of the expense involved and questions over who was going to pay for it.<sup>102</sup>

Little more appeared to happen to the house and farm buildings after that time except that more of the buildings slumped from age and disrepair. By the late 50s Henry and his brother had married and moved away. Carl's daughters married in the early 60s and also left the farm. When a real estate assessor arrived in early 1969 to evaluate the property, he reported that the "dwelling is in a poor condition. The roof is covered with aluminum metal roofing. There is a fireplace and floors are soft wood, heat is warm gas fired space heaters. There is a modern bathroom and kitchen. The first floor has a bedroom, living room, kitchen, utility room and bathroom. The second floor has three bedrooms."<sup>103</sup> By the time that the property was appraised to determine how much the government should pay the Chellbergs for acreage and the buildings, what had been amenities in the early century were now considered woefully "old-fashioned," inconvenient, and worn. Indeed, the farm that the real estate appraiser, Robert V. Ott, encountered did not even merit the tempered accolade "old but quaint farm type outbuildings" that another appraiser had used to describe sections of the Nelson Farm. Carl lost his wife to cancer in 1970 and continued to live at the farm alone. Although Henry Studebaker recalled that for decades the farm had been a kind of extended family storage shed, the scene captured in the appraiser's 1969 photographs reveal an aged farm, made bleaker by the leafless January trees and a thin coat of snow highlighting every tire, pile of brick, and wavering roof-line.

The real estate appraiser, Robert V. Ott, found as much fault with the situation of the house on the eighty acres as he did with the overall condition of the property. The 500' dirt lane entrance road to the homestead, thought the appraiser, completely wasted the property's potential access to both Mineral Springs Road and Oak Hill Road. "But one must remember that this access was by choice," he said, "and could have been located much better if the owner had so desired." Carl told the appraiser that he had farmed thirty-five acres of the land, a paltry amount which the appraiser felt hardly indicated "the true market value of the property." When determining the value of the property Ott refused to consider the potential value of the buildings on the property, so what the National Park Service paid for, essentially, was only the land. Since the property was zoned "Residential," and had unrestricted access to good roads, the appraiser proposed that the buildings "be torn down to develop the area to better housing" to maximize the property's "highest and most profitable use."

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<sup>102</sup> HS, interviews with AH, 2 and 7 December 1998; AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999; HS correspondence with JR, 5 June 1996, "Misc. Curatorial, 1996-97," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>103</sup> Land appraised twice, first on 23 January 1969 by Henry R. Bondarenko, and second by Robert V. Ott on 5 March 1969; both in Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

Ironically, by the end of the 1960s the Chellbergs and the Studebakers, were considering the same ideas for residential development when the park took the land. Whether or not that included removing the farm structures is unclear. The Studebakers had invested the most energy in maintaining the house and property. Carl had always looked for economical and “ingenious” ways to solve structural problems. Carl had always been the good-natured cousin, uncle, and nephew to all of his relations, remembered Henry, but a love of maintenance was not one of his strengths. “As long as it wasn’t raining,” said Henry, “Carl didn’t think he needed a new roof.” Because Naomi and Carl were equal owners in the property and Naomi had married a talented businessman and raised two mechanically inclined sons, the work often fell to the Studebakers, if it was to be done at all.

The family resisted the sale of their land to the NPS, protesting unequal payment to corporations and other individuals for land exactly like the property they owned, even going to court over the appraised value of the land. Naomi scrutinized the land take-overs throughout the community and noted dryly that Bethlehem Steel had received many times more per acre for their land than residents were receiving. This was likely because of the zoning legislation that allowed for industrial use and development of those lands, but Naomi did not appreciate the apparent generous treatment of big industry over residents, who were being forced from their homes. Henry Studebaker was living in Hawaii at the time and recalled many fervent phone calls from his mother expressing her outrage. Ruth became an activist against park development in an effort to stave off the potential loss of her home and property to the federal government, even traveling to Washington D.C. to fight the enabling legislation.<sup>104</sup>

Other local agricultural properties had also fallen into disrepair, whether due to the impending take-over of the park or to the diminishing role of farming to the region’s economy. Charles D. Kimmel, who appraised the old Borg Homestead in January of 1969, the same month as the Chellberg Farm appraisal, declared that the house was “in fair condition considering the surrounding residential properties.” Red Clover, who worked for Brookside Laboratories advising farmers in Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties since the early 1950s, watched the farms wither and disappear. Whereas there had once been hundreds of small dairy farms in Porter County, including his own, today there are only three in operation. The remaining dairy farms are large conglomerates, and reflect an utter change of life.<sup>105</sup>

Immediately after the NPS obtained the property in 1972 little happened at the farm and it is difficult to tell what was expected to happen to it or where the farm fit in the park’s overall

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<sup>104</sup> Tract File 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL; NS, interview with MM, 6 July 1978. “They paid Bethlehem Steel \$14,500.00 per acre. They paid the Crumpacker family, which was a good lawyer family for the whole Porter County, Lake County, \$10,000.00 an acre,” said Naomi. “And my brother and I got \$2,000.00 per acre. Anything fair about that?” “Baillytown Club enjoys meeting,” Chesterton Tribune, 1966, Found in Baillytown Neighbors Club Scrapbook, Vol. 2, Westchester Township Library, Chesterton, Indiana. The newspaper reported that “Miss Ruth Chellberg told about her work protesting the national park bill, and was praised for her efforts”; HS, correspondence with AH, 3 April 1999.

<sup>105</sup> Tharp Property (Borg Farm), Tract file 36-116, Inactive Tract Files-Building 103, IDNL; Red Clover, telephone interview with AH, 4 February 1998.

interpretive plans. By February 1974, however, there were concerns about the poor condition of the Chellberg structures and the pressing need for their stabilization. Leaky roofs continued to deteriorate the house interior, so inspectors from the regional level proposed a new roof. The greatest concern was the perception of abandonment and vandalism, even arson. "Although the only real solution to the fire problem is complete restoration and full-time surveillance," observed John Hunter, Regional Museum Curator, "the problem can be alleviated by exterior restoration to make the buildings look less like run-down, abandoned houses (inviting arson), thus removing some of the present temptation to set fires or do other damage."<sup>106</sup> Despite these observations, little clean-up, stabilization, or restoration work took place until after 1976. In mid-November 1976 Ray Kunkle, the Midwest Region Restoration Specialist, made a field trip to Indiana Dunes to inspect the Chellberg Farm structures to prioritize stabilization projects. Apparently not much work had been completed at the site. In concluding a letter, Kunkle suggested that the tools and old equipment scattered around the farm should be gathered and stored elsewhere. "This will improve the overall look of the site," he wrote, "as it is in fairly junky condition at this time." With this suggestion the farm began to make its visual transformation from a cluttered, old, overgrown farmstead to a cleaned up NPS property offering recreation, education, and a specific slice of history.<sup>107</sup>

As a result of his visit, Kunkle prioritized the various farm structures for restoration work, although it is not clear if the list reflected the perceived historical importance of the structures, the amount of work needed to preserve them, or a combination of both. Topping the list were the main farmhouse, barn, chicken house and granary, followed by the corn crib, sugar camp, well house, and tenant house. The limited financial resources guided much of the early work completed on the buildings. Although the metal roofs of the house and barn were determined non-historic, Kunkle suggested that they remain in place "as they are in good condition and the money could be used in other areas on the work that we will be doing." As a result of this inspection two of the "nonhistoric rooms" on the house, which were really enclosed porch additions, were removed. The front porch, on the other hand, was carefully dismantled and stored, apparently awaiting future decisions as to whether or not it should be restored. Anticipating its eventual reconstruction, the park planned to save the brick knee wall, roof, and all wood materials. The lean-to shed on the barn caused structural problems to the main part of the barn and was slated for immediate removal. The lumber from the barn's sheep shed, said Curt Hardesty, was also saved for use in various park projects.<sup>108</sup>

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<sup>106</sup> John Hunter, Regional Museum Curator to Jim Schaack, Regional Interpretive Specialist, 20 February 1974, "Misc. Curatorial," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>107</sup> Ray Kunkle, Restoration Specialist, to Associate Regional Director, Planning and Resource Preservation, 30 November 1976, "Specifications for Tuckpointing and Brick Work - Historical Structure #10," n.d., "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>108</sup> The work outline for the day labor project specified that the work on the removal of the front porch and barn lean-to shed were to record any damage the building additions had caused by filing drawings, photos, and written reports. A few photographs exist at the park, but the author did not come across any written reports or drawings. If any other materials exist, they may be on file at the Midwest Regional Office. The Denver Service Center had landscape plans, but not building details. The Denver Service Center may have some IDNL materials from this period that has not yet been catalogued. CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998.

One of the most pressing concerns on all of the structures was stabilizing the foundations. Photographs from 1977 show the corncrib, granary, chicken house, and barn being jacked up and their foundations rebuilt.<sup>109</sup> Once on firmer foundations, most had boards and window frames replaced. The barn leaned a full 11" west at the roof-line and required immediate straightening. Gene and Curt then modeled a new cupola based on historic photographs. Though not considered urgent, the park also took early steps to replace the well house with one reflecting an earlier period of the farm's history, also based on early photographs. By the early 1980s the park had determined that the severely failing tenant house was a later addition to the property, and had it removed. Overall, the alterations and specifications to the structures were expected to be completed "according to current accepted historic preservation practices." Some of the projects outlined may not have been completed as proposed, but without completion reports it is difficult to tell how the finished project differed from the proposed.<sup>110</sup> Nearly every structure was proposed to receive a new coat of something, whether paint, wood preservative, water repellent, epoxy, or concrete. After restoration work all of the wood structures, including the shingle roofs, received an application of wood preservative, Cuprinol #20, and the brick and mortar received a coat of "Hydrozo Clear Coating."

Shaky foundations and exterior deterioration were not the only problems that the park faced if they wanted to preserve the buildings. In August of 1977 the park contracted for the extermination of a myriad of pests which had begun to overrun the structures. Gene recalled rodents running up his legs as he worked on some of the buildings. A contractor fumigated for powder post beetle and also exterminated termites and rodents in August of 1977. The only buildings which did not require pest eviction were the maple sugar camp and the concrete well house.<sup>111</sup> Exactly what chemicals and methods the company used to kill the creatures is not in the contract, but by the time that work was being done on the house again a decade later, various rodents and insects, with the addition of fleas, had again taken over the premises. By the time that the park got around to restoring the house the interior was infested with bees, squirrels, woodchucks and mice. "We got squirrels in through the fascia board," said Gene Beschinski. "They chewed a hole through the fascia board on the upstairs, and got in the attic and on down. And mice, they were just all over." They were nesting in the walls.

The house received an indeterminate amount of attention throughout the first fifteen years the park owned it, mostly cosmetic (and for security) so that it did not detract from the actively growing roster of interpretive programs and other public activities. Any efforts that the park may have wanted to take a more exacting look at the farm and its development were shattered by the rejection of the farm's National Register Nomination application in the mid-1970s. But in a sense the rejection freed the interpreters to develop programs without as much concern for the historic integrity of the site and whatever restrictions that the NPS might put on designated sites.

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<sup>109</sup> Photographs from 1977, labeled "Restoration of Structures at Chellberg Farm," 1977, accompany a 21 February 1989 memo regarding the history of the Chellberg barn, in "Chellberg Barn, Folder 1," VF-Maint. IDNL.

<sup>110</sup> "Work Outline for Day Labor Project, Chellberg Farm Complex," in "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>111</sup> The job was completed by Franklin Pest Control, of Michigan City, Indiana, for \$5349.95. Contract #CX 6300-7-0011, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

The phrase “the farm does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places,” premised many of the subsequent plans for changes and additions to the Chellberg Farm buildings and landscape. Prior to the rejection, park staff had been prepared to look more closely into the history of the Chellberg family and their Swedish heritage, but with the damper of rejection more in-depth research just never seemed to occur. Environmental and energy themes seemed a logical extension of the rest of the Indiana Dune National Lakeshore mission and a greater understanding of the evolution of the farmstead never formally took place. Unfortunately, the application was so poorly thought out in its preparation that it seemed to beg for rejection. Aside from a hurried study of the area done by Berle Clemenson, it seemed that no research had been done about the region and certainly not the farm.<sup>112</sup> The only source cited in the application was the Clemenson study, showing no other efforts to discover the role of the farm in the region’s history. The application contains only three pages of text which had apparently been completed by two different people who had not consulted one another or read each other’s drafts, contradicting each other from one page to the next.<sup>113</sup>

After discovering early photographs of the house in the possession of Naomi Studebaker the park began to formulate new ideas about how to restore the farm structures. For example, the park decided against rebuilding the enclosed porch and instead built the open one often featured in photographs of Chellberg family gatherings. Cleanup and some restoration activities had also begun inside, such as removing all of the lighting fixtures and moving the bathroom in the first-floor bedroom wall back to its pre-bathroom position. Several undated plans and memos show that the park attended to basic mechanical systems needs, installing heat and security systems, most of which are based in the cellar. Many of these jobs, particularly the removal of objects, predated Gene Beschinski’s involvement with the house. When he began his work no one mentioned that many changes had already taken place “We replaced everything that was here,” said Gene. “As we took it off, we put it back. The only thing we did remove was that upstairs sink, because we were sure that didn’t fit.” Gene was unaware that there had been any lighting fixtures, molding around the perimeter of some of the rooms, a built-in cabinet in the upstairs pantry, or that there had ever been a full bathroom installed, because someone had made unrecorded changes and additions before that date.<sup>114</sup>

Restoration work on the interior began in earnest, however, in the mid-1980s. The park completely stripped the old plaster, replaced rotted lath and plaster, added insulation, and finished the walls and ceilings with a new coat of plaster. The woodwork was also stripped, repaired, and painted. Some rooms received new coats of paint and others paper. Overall, from hardware to floors, if something was at all salvageable the park used the original materials, took items from the Borg farmhouse, and duplicated what was beyond repair. Inside and outside the house most signs of current utilities have been hidden as much as possible, and where adding

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<sup>112</sup> A. Berle Clemenson, Bailly Homestead Unit, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, 1975. Clemenson also completed a 1979 study, which he had six weeks to research and write, and upon which the park has based many of its decisions.

<sup>113</sup> David Arborgast, Historical Architect, “National Register of Historic Places Inventory,” Nomination Form for Chellberg Farm, “Chellberg National Register Nomination,” VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>114</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

electric wall switches was unavoidable they opted to use unmistakably new materials rather than have visitors think something may have been a previous part of the structure. Fire and security measures, however, are readily apparent. Water was piped up from the Bailly Visitor Center rather than establishing a separate well closer to the farmstead.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Chellberg farmhouse typifies the folk Victorian houses which became widely disseminated across much the country in the latter half of the nineteenth century. This proliferation was made possible with the adoption of balloon frame construction and with the rapid expansion of railroad transportation.<sup>115</sup> The original farmhouse was built on a gable-and-wing plan, often also known as a T-shaped plan, with a two-story gable abutted by a one-story wing. The form was perfectly adapted to porch additions, usually placed in the L formed by the wing. Gable-and-wing houses also lent themselves to expansion as domestic needs and fashions changed. The Chellberg farmhouse likely had two porches on the original structure, prior to the ca. 1901 kitchen addition. The rear kitchen addition allowed the new mistress of the household greater conveniences, and also soon sprouted its own porch additions. Whereas this form of house was often adorned with elaborate lattice-work highlighting the porches and roof gables, the Chellberg farmhouse and similar Swedish-owned brick houses in the area showed restrained ornamentation, which may have been an economic preference, as well as one which suited the Swedish immigrants' tastes. When constructed, the house reflected the popular ideas of what a rural home should be for a landowner/farmer, providing a parlor, ample bedrooms, and kitchen facilities. Subsequent changes and additions showed a continued awareness of popular housing trends, culminating in the addition of a craftsman fireplace in the dining room and a glass-enclosed front porch, which has since been removed.<sup>116</sup> In its construction, the Kjellbergs made use of local labor and building materials, such as one of the numerous Porter brick manufacturers which took advantage of the region's clay-rich soils. The farmhouse's red brick exterior is one of its defining characteristics, a feature it shares with several houses built in the Chesterton and Porter area during the same period. Situated with a cluster of other farm buildings, the house is only one element of a complex and once vibrant farm landscape. As the most important point of food storage and preparation and of daily household activities, the house served as the practical and symbolic center of the farm.

2. Condition of fabric: The condition of the Chellberg farmhouse is good. One of the greatest challenges to the maintenance and preservation of the house is ventilating the building, particularly during periods of heavy use when the doors are continually opened and closed and strain attempts to moderate humidity and temperature levels. Currently, park interpretive staff

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<sup>115</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Knopf, 1988): 309. The form is also known as "upright-and-wing," denoting the attached house sections; also see, Pierce F. Lewis, "Common Houses, Cultural Spoor," Landscape 19: 2(January 1975): 14.

<sup>116</sup> For the significance of families adding fireplaces to houses that previously did not have them, see Clifford Edward Clark, Jr., The American Family Home, 1800-1960 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1986): 83, 144.

and volunteers share the cleaning chores, an arrangement which does not necessarily guarantee the best treatment of the facilities when too few people take on the work.<sup>117</sup> Under negotiation, as well, is the interpretation of the site which will affect its future treatment. In 1988 the park finished an extensive two-year interior restoration project on the house, replacing the plaster and stripping and repainting all the floors, window sashes, and interior woodwork, and completely removing and replacing any rotted materials. Today the house is a blend of old and new, and is intended to represent general history and agricultural life in northwest Indiana between the years 1895-1905. Traces of previous wear and damage to the house are still visible in the historic fabric. Most evident today is water damage to the soft brick, visible on the south wall where an upstairs sink used to drain, and on the west wall and in the cellar, when gutters and drainpipe failures went unchecked and water coursed down the walls and into the foundation. The ventilation for the mechanical systems in the basement currently send steam onto the west brick wall of the dining room, stressing the brick and mortar. Since it has been a decade since the house underwent its restoration it now needs more general maintenance attention, which the park is beginning to prioritize.

B. Description of Exterior:<sup>118</sup>

1. Overall dimensions: The T-shape plan of the original Chellberg farmhouse measures [18'-6" x 29'-10"] in its two-story gable section and [22'-4" x 14'-11"] in its one-story kitchen wing, not including the front porch. The new wing essentially created a [12'-4" x 20'-11"] kitchen addition, extending westward from the center of the original gable and wing in another T formation, bringing the overall length of the house to [50'-9"]. The house has regular fenestration. From the first-floor level to the peak of the gable roof, the building height is [20'-0"].

2. Foundations: The farmhouse foundations are made of brick, with a double watercourse of brick at the first-floor level. The watercourse only shows on the two-story gable section of the house, where the ground slopes downward to the south, exposing the foundation and giving the house a more imposing height.<sup>119</sup> Two vents on the south wall provide air-circulation for the crawl-space under the house. The crawl space is only incidentally cross-vented on the north side into the cellar's south wall, where an approximately [18"] square section has been removed to facilitate pipes and other mechanical fittings. The cellar wall reveals a couple of other vents as

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<sup>117</sup> Memos regarding moisture problems and cleaning schedules not being effective are constant in the park files. Prior to the December 1998 Santa Lucia celebration only two volunteers were at the farm to help with preparations along with one park staff member. The volunteers were disappointed to find that the farmhouse had not been cleaned, it seemed, since the fall harvest festival. They took it upon themselves to clean the house when neither of them had the time to do so in addition to their other seasonal activities.

<sup>118</sup> Double-check any measurements offered here with HABS drawings. These are based on a 1950s drawing by Henry Studebaker, 1969 real estate assessors' notes, and various sketches by park employees.

<sup>119</sup> A puzzling photograph from a 1977 stabilization project on the farm buildings shows a three-brick water course on an unidentified section of the house, unless the photographs were from another brick house in the area. None of the photographs are identified, although most of them are definitely from the farm. See "Chellberg Barn, Folder 1," VF-Maint., IDNL.

well, which have been filled with concrete. Before the kitchen addition a cellar door and steps entered the foundation wall on the west side of the one-story wing from the outside, whereas now that part of the foundation is hidden by the rest of the house. The cellar entrance remains in the same place. Gene Beschinski said that he would not be surprised to find that the main house did not have concrete footings under the brick foundation, judging from the foundations of other farm structures. It is likely that the brick section of the house does have concrete footings, however, because Gene discovered the original underground concrete pad for the front porch's brick footings. This discovery allowed the park staff to recreate the modest, open porch in its exact previous location.<sup>120</sup>

Unfortunately the later kitchen addition did not have adequate or lasting footings. A. J. Lundquist built the later kitchen addition on a brick foundation, which had failed and threatened the stability of the entire wing long before the park acquired the farm. As with many of the structures on the farm, Gene Beschinski had to jack up the kitchen wing to rebuild the foundation and stabilize the structure. The contract agreement stipulated that it would be "necessary to remove soil from around foundations, as brick is broken and deteriorated below ground level." Gene laid concrete footings then rebuilt the brick foundation, solid on the north wall and part-way along the south wall, with brick piers in the middle of the west wall and at the southwest corner. The contractor was expected to furnish the new brick used below ground level while "all visually exposed brick" was furnished by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The visible brick restoration work was done with old Porter brick, salvaged from the Borg farmhouse, a local house of the same period. It is difficult to tell from the contract agreement how extensive the repairs were to the rest of the house's foundation. Two Polaroid photographs from 1977, prior to the restoration work, show the west wall of the one-story wing also sustained serious damage that must have been repaired at the same time.<sup>121</sup>

3. Walls: The walls of the main house are brick laid in stretcher bond from the foundation to the gable point, except for one row of header brick two rows below the watercourse. Given the utter simplicity of the house, the watercourse almost serves as a decorative element, as do the double-rowlock elliptical-arch lintels over the windows. The only other decorative touch to the brick work was a small datestone in the upper west gable, announcing "1885." With the addition of the fireplace ca. 1929, Minnie Chellberg's brother, Emil Peterson, added a projecting band of soldier brick across the external fireplace chimney, level with the soldier-brick sill of the new windows. At the foundation level the walls are two courses thick while the brick veneer (over a balloon frame) seems to be only one course thick, at least according to one of the 1977 Polaroid photographs. Gene Beschinski recalls that the house may have been two layers thick of stretcher bond, with "maybe-a finger's thickness between the bricks," something that only future work in the walls can answer.<sup>122</sup> The charred ends the brick received during firing add visual texture to the walls, a characteristic the house shares with the other brick farmhouses in the neighborhood. More expensive brick houses built in Chesterton and Porter in this period reveal even coloring

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<sup>120</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>121</sup> "Specifications for Tuckpointing and Brick Work - Historical Structure #10," n.d., "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL. Photographs of the 1977 restoration of Chellberg Farm structures, "Chellberg Barn, Folder 1," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>122</sup> GB, correspondence with AH, 11 March 1999.

and harder brick, suggesting that the burnt ends were not a decorative option favored by the wealthier in the community, including those with close associations with the brickyards.<sup>123</sup> The farmhouse bricks were locally made at one of the many brick yards operating in Porter in 1885, making brick for the farmhouse a logical, economical, and readily available choice of building material.

The bricks are laid with a soft white mortar. Over the years many different hands have repaired the mortar all over the house. A 1908 photograph of Ruth and Naomi Chellberg posed with their toys at the north side of the house shows that the window, later superseded by the fireplace, had already had its mortar repaired. Today the entire foundation seems to appear lighter from tuckpointing work done at the base of the house. A similar trail of light mortar highlights nearly every window above the brick header, likely exaggerating whatever structural damage might have needed repaired. On the west wall of the fireplace wing a residue of a pinkish paint covers most of the wall, except where brick has been replaced. The same paint appears on the original outside wall in the kitchen Plexiglas display, which presents for the public wall treatment and condition previous to the house restoration. The paint may have been a part of a selective exterior wall decorative scheme of the house prior to the ca. 1901 kitchen addition.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has had to replace and repair scattered sections of brick and mortar all over the farmhouse. The west side of the house seemed to have had the most significant amounts of damage. The same sections continue to erode at a more rapid rate than many other sections of the house. In 1977 a lot of brick was repaired along the lower walls, at the same time that contractors stabilized the foundations. Berle Clemenson, in his 1979 "Historical Resource Study," suggested that the park turn to the unoccupied Borg farmhouse for materials to repair the Chellberg farmhouse. The Borg farmhouse, less than a mile away, provided most of the replacement bricks for the restoration. Now that the Borg farm may be preserved as part of a larger historic district, the park faces the difficulty of finding more of the locally produced soft brick to make current and future repairs.<sup>124</sup>

Gene Beschinski completed some of the exterior brickwork on the house along with several other unidentified people. Curt Hardesty particularly remembered the work of Ron Purlo, from Michigan City. "There was a young fella, he worked here for a short time," said Curt, "He re-tuckpointed. You can see where some of it doesn't particularly match? Well, that he didn't do, he did a pretty good job of matching it."<sup>125</sup> In repairing the brickwork the contractor was to cut

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<sup>123</sup> The Beam house (1883), constructed for William Beam at 116 Wagner Road, in Porter, and the Brown Mansion (1885), constructed for George Brown at 700 Porter Avenue, in Chesterton.

<sup>124</sup> The dates are a bit conflicting here. Berle Clemenson's document did not become public until February 1979, although many repairs had already taken place on the house and other farm structures. It is not clear where the park may have gotten the soft Porter brick prior to this date or if Clemenson simply suggested a practice in his report that was already underway. See, Clemenson, "Historic Resource Study": 15-18. Curt Hardesty and Gene Beschinski verify that the brick did come from that location.

<sup>125</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998. It is not clear if Ron Purlo was a IDNL employee or a contractor for this job only. The agency which won the bid for the first tuckpointing contract was the Batteast Construction Company, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, at a cost of \$16,500.00. Ron Purlo may have been an employee for this company. For a copy of the contract, see Contract SB520 8(a) 78-8311, issued 14 September 1978, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

out the old mortar one-inch, and more when the mortar was deteriorated beyond that point, but without the use of power tools. Only those joints that contained cracks in the mortar were to be replaced. The mortar mixture in the tuckpointed sections of the house are six parts sand, one-half part gray Portland Cement, one-half part white Portland cement and one part lime.<sup>126</sup> Upon completion of repairs, the bricks and mortar all over the farm were to be coated with "Hydrozo clear special light," a moisture-repellent treatment which was to be reapplied on a regular basis. Before he left the park after retirement a few years ago Gene recalled that he "had gotten a sealer to put on the brick, and to keep the moisture from penetrating it," but that he never had a chance to put it on and is not even sure if the NPS still approves of the protective coating any longer.<sup>127</sup>

The kitchen addition, which extended off the back of the main house to the west, was sided with wood instead of brick. Narrow clapboard siding covered the south, west, and north walls. When the park took over the farm several sections of the kitchen addition were covered in tar paper and what wood remained exposed was painted white. General neglect of the structure made extensive repairs necessary to the exterior walls before they could be repainted, such as removing loose paint, nails, wood that was entirely rotted, and repairing manageable holes and cracks with water putty and epoxy. Approximately 200 of the 700 square feet of siding had to be replaced, for a total of 900 linear feet of 1/2" x 6" beveled cedar siding.<sup>128</sup> The park chose to repaint the siding a cream color, based on paint analysis done in 1978, which was only to be used until a complete paint analysis had been made to determine the historic colors. Naomi clearly recollected that the kitchen, throughout her youth, "was always gray. . . it was a light gray."<sup>129</sup>

4. Structural system, framing: The house is of balloon-frame construction with flat-sawn studs and joists, covered with brick veneer. A rather blurry Polaroid photograph taken during restoration work on the northwest corner of the fireplace room shows that the sill rests on one half the depth of the brick foundation wall, or about 4". The timbers look quite substantial compared to the modest depth of the brick foundation and wall. Most brick veneer houses lay

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<sup>126</sup> The job called for masonry cement which complied with whatever Federal Specifications were standard at the time of the contract, which seems to have been in the early 1980s. Other materials specifications were for lime: ASTM C 207 Type S or Federal Specifications SS-L-351B; sand: ASTM C 144 or Federal Specifications SS-A-281B (1), Paragraph 3.1. "Specifications for Tuckpointing and Brick Work - Historical Structure #10," n.d., "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>127</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998; specifics for house preservation and restoration treatments, see "Work Outline for Day Labor Project, Chellberg Farm Complex," "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>128</sup> Ray Kunkel, Restoration Specialist to Midwest Region Planning and Resource Preservation, Associate Regional Director, 23 March 1978, "S.S. R.R. Car #33," VF-Maint., IDNL; Construction Contract #CX6300-0-0035, 1980, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL. As of spring 1999, the most recent painting of the kitchen exterior siding, doors and windows took place in August 1995.

<sup>129</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979. The park painted the exterior according the Munsell Color System: kitchen wing siding--cream Munsell #5Y 8.5/1; window sash--almond, Munsell #7.5 YR 9/2; window trim--mahogany, Munsell #2/5 YR 2/2. The 1978 letter accompanying this information recommended that "they be used only until a complete paint analysis has been accomplished to determine the historic colors." Apparently the colors that the Regional Director, M. D. Beal recommended, although keyed to the Munsell Color System, had been used on structures previously in the park. See, memo from Regional Director, Midwest Region, to Superintendent, IDNL, 10 May 1978, "Paint Studies and Samples," VF-HO, IDNL.

the brick up against sheathing to offer stability to the veneer wall, making the wall layers, from the outside in, brick, sheathing, studs, lath, and plaster. In the Chellberg farmhouse the layering of the outside walls follows a different pattern, with solid wood sheathing nailed against the interior of the studs rather than on the exterior. A photograph taken before the ca. 1987 interior restoration of the farmhouse shows a hole where the lath, plaster, and sheathing had crumbled and rotted away, exposing nothing but air space between the studs and the brick. The brick may be tied to the studs in some way, but this would have to be detected in the event of doing extensive repairs to the brick walls.<sup>130</sup> Gene remarked, "I've never seen it done that way before," except when he went to gather materials at the Borg farm.<sup>131</sup>

One of the only structural changes that the park made was in the attic space over the fireplace room. The ceiling joists had begun to sag, so the park carpentry staff created a new beam [header] to help support the structural system. They brought in six 24'-0" long new standard 2" x 4"s, joined them together to create one beam, and tied it to the joist. (Gene called the new support a purlin.) Once the ceiling was back in place they added two support posts on each side of the attic for added support to the rafters. The attic is now frothy with pink insulation across the floor. According to Gene, the house contains many different types of nails which reflect all the periods of its evolution.

5. Porches, stoops: The Chellberg farmhouse has seen more changes in its porches and porch-like additions than any other parts of the house, with the porches becoming a barometer of the changing aspirations and fortunes of the family. The farmhouse likely originally had two porches, although only one has been documented in early photographs. In its middle phase the house sprouted three porches, one for an electric generator room, one for summer cooking and laundry needs, and a third, replacing an earlier structure, enclosing the front porch as a sun room, like many other houses in the community.<sup>132</sup>

a. Front porch: The Chellbergs replaced their open front porch with an enclosed sunporch ca. 1930. The National Lakeshore ordered the sunporch systematically dismantled in 1977 because it was badly deteriorated. They intended to put the sunporch back, but after finding early twentieth-century photographs of the original porch, the park decided to recreate the earlier

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<sup>130</sup> Photograph of south wall, second floor, east room, in Chellberg Farm Slides Three-ring Binder, OS-HO, IDNL. For illustrations of the usual methods of brick veneer on a frame building, see, Charles E. White, Jr., The Bungalow Book (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1923): 44; Cyril M. Harris, Dictionary of Architecture and Construction (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1975): 68.

<sup>131</sup> Unfortunately no one photographed or otherwise systematically documented any part of the house restoration to show the work that was being done or to record the otherwise hidden aspects of the framing system. The only exceptions are scattered photographs in the IPF at the Visitor Center, particularly file #25. The files contain much valuable information on the early days of the park at Chellberg Farm. Unfortunately, no one has labeled or dated the collection, although some are identified according to photographer. A few images from the collection have been developed and appear in scattered office files throughout the park.

<sup>132</sup> A memo from 1977 says that "at a future date, architect's drawings, made from notes and photographs taken at the time of removal, will be prepared and the porch will be replaced using as much original material as possible." There were also other references to drawings and photographs being made at each stage of the work in-progress, but the author came across none of this information in her research at the park. See, John Kawamoto to Joseph D. Cloud, 1 March 1977, "H30-Chellberg Farm," VF-Superintendent's Office (SO), IDNL.

porch.<sup>133</sup> The 1930s porch was built on a concrete slab foundation. It extended east from the house about two feet farther than the previous porch and was covered with a shed roof attached to the east gable of the fireplace wing. In a photograph from 1960 the porch shares the metal roof of the wing. A low brick wall was topped by a ribbon of three-over-two lights, four on the north wall, eight on the east wall, and one on the south wall, with the door providing a ninth panel. Some of the windows were casements and had screens built-in to prevent insects from entering. Across the front, four evenly spaced pillar-like projections divided the windows into three sections of three. Brick formed the base of the straight pillars and wood the upper section up to the top of the windows. At the eaves the rafter tails were exposed, creating a craftsman-like appearance to the whole porch addition. Henry remembered this house feature more for its occasional winter use than for summer leisure. "I can remember a big table right here," said Henry, while sitting where the porch once stood. There was once "a quarter of a moose on it, and they'd come out and hack a hunk off of it."<sup>134</sup>

Gene Beschinski and Curt Hardesty based their ca. 1986 recreation of the front porch on Chellberg family photographs. They reconstructed the brick piers up from the original concrete footings, adding a box sill across the brick piers as the base of the structure. Today the porch has five posts made of flat-cut trim, three free-standing and one at each point where the porch meets the house. The posts stand on a square wood base from which two parallel rectangular pieces of wood run from the base to the roof, connected only at three points by approximately 1' pieces of wood pointed at each end, at the bottom, center, and near the top of each post. A similar combination of elements creates a decorative band as a frieze across the top of the porch, only the fascia board becomes the upper part of the design. Each post is then topped with cornice-line brackets made simply of one diagonal piece of wood. The rafters and ceiling joists are covered by a beaded ceiling. The ceiling had not been visible in any of the period photographs available to Curt and Gene, but their recreation was appropriate to the period. The only striking difference between the current porch and the original is the paint treatment. The cased post bases, brackets and other small wood details were painted a darker color than the posts to set off their decorative qualities. Likewise, a bench ran the full length of the porch from the east wall door to the north end of the porch. About its current maintenance, Curt expressed concern at how liberally the park spreads wood chips in the heavily trodded area of the porch without occasionally cleaning them out. "I would like to get that kind-of cleaned out," he said, "so the air keeps these joists in good shape." The park also had to add a handicap ramp to the north end of the porch to aid wheelchair access. The original front porch brought up vivid memories for Naomi of summer and mosquitoes. "We would sit on the porch in the summertime," said Naomi. "Daddy would make a smudge, he called it. We had an old kettle, bigger than a dishpan, and he'd make a little bonfire in there and then he'd throw some wet green grass on there, and the mosquitoes took

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<sup>133</sup> The park has many photographs of the original porch in its museum collection and in the Historian's office. A good example is INDU #7126. For information on the plans to replace the sunporch, see "Work Outline for Day Labor Project, Chellberg Farm Complex," item #6, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>134</sup> The clearest photograph available of the 1930s front porch (1960) is in the IDNL Museum Collection, INDU #8158. Residents of the Borg farm also built a sunporch similar to the one at Chellberg farm, see Tract file 36-116, Inactive Tract Files-Building 103, IDNL; HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

off.” An alternative to the smudge was the smoke from a strong cigar, permeating the air.<sup>135</sup>

b. Back porch, south side of house: What had most likely been a deck leading from the kitchen to the cream separator and cistern room soon became an enclosed “summer kitchen” with a shed roof extending off the south side of the kitchen gable roof. Judging from the exterior clapboard siding on the porch, it was constructed with the rest of the kitchen addition on brick piers. As the family discovered potential uses for the space, from laundry to cooking, they enclosed the platform with studs, exposed on the inside and covered with boards and tar paper on the outside. Five steps led from the floor level to the ground, giving ready access to the clothes line, wash tubs, wood shed, and smokehouse, which were all concentrated in that section of the yard near the house. A 1929 Chellberg family photograph taken from the west side of the ravine offers a distant view of the porch. The photograph reveals an addition painted a light color with at least three dark-trimmed windows, looking much like the porch on the north side of the kitchen (see description below).<sup>136</sup> At the time that the Chellbergs left the property, the porch had two small windows, one at the west end of the south wall, and one next to the door on the west wall. Each contained two-over-two lights. The door also had glazing in its upper section, but available photographs do not offer enough information to describe it. When the real estate assessors photographed the house in 1969, tar paper covered the window which now faces south from the [4’-10” x 6’-1”] room over the cistern. Tar paper attached with long strips of wood also covered all of the crawl spaces under the house and porch, probably to keep out rodents and drafts which crept under the un-insulated floor.

By the time that Gene Beschinski rebuilt the back porch, all of the tar paper and the additions, except for the cream separator room, the deck platform and steps, had been removed. In rebuilding the piers Gene reused the original brick. “The only thing I did was build the deck and railings,” said Gene, “and that’s duplicating pretty much what it was.” The wood deck is supported by two brick piers, reached by stairs made of a wood carriage, treads, and risers. A very simple railing protects the south edge of the deck, as does a similarly constructed handrail on the steps. Gene made every effort to replace what remained of the structure but had not been informed that a more extensive porch had been removed.<sup>137</sup>

b. Back porch, northwest side of house: The back of the house, on the northwest side, has had two different porch additions, the first removed when the Chellberg’s added their kitchen ca. 1901, and the second removed a few years after the park obtained the property. No porch now stands in that location. When Gene and Curt were doing restoration work on the house exterior in the late 1970s they puzzled over the pinkish ghosting of paint left of the west wall of the one-story brink wing. They began to work at the park around 1977, after the removal of the second

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<sup>135</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

<sup>136</sup> This photograph is in the collection of Henry Studebaker, family scrapbook, photograph labeled “Hauling Wood,” page 22.

<sup>137</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998. There are very few photographs of the southwest section of the house showing the back porch/summer kitchen. Only two that I found give a close-up view of the summer kitchen still intact, exterior only. See January 1969 photograph labeled “Rear View of Dwelling,” in “Chellberg Farm Tract File 36-111,” VF, and in “Chellberg Farm,” VF-Maint, IDNL, and a May 1976 photograph, “Chellberg Farm,” folder #23, IPF-VC, INDL.

porch, so while they saw signs that something used to be there, they did not know that there had been two different structures or that the park had removed the more recent one. What interested them most was that the diagonal of the roof-line ghosting matched a similar ghosting that they discovered when they put up the front porch. The same paint appears inside the house, visible on what had been an exterior wall before the kitchen addition. They speculated that there must have been a porch similar to the one on the front of the house. Because of their success at finding the original piers on the front porch, Curt and Gene both suspect that there may be evidence underground behind the house that there was a porch like the other one there. A rear porch would have created more space for outside household activities before the kitchen addition, such as laundry and food preservation that the family may not have wanted visitors to view directly from the main road or as they drove up the driveway.

In late 1919 the Chellberg family built a [9'-6" x 14'-0"] porch with open stud walls and a concrete floor to house a Delco battery system. The northwest corner was cut at a forty-five degree angle for the door, with the roof line continuing out the full ninety degrees, bowed downward to create a slightly sheltered entrance. One set of three interconnected square windows, and another set of four interconnected windows covered the walls on each side of the door. Each window contained two-over-two lights. The roofing is not visible in any of the currently available photographs, but it likely was either metal or tar paper. The siding, likewise, is not clearly visible, but seems to have been a smooth wood surface. Photographs show that by 1922 the Chellbergs had painted the porch a dark color with contrasting light trim, and that the entire porch had been painted white by 1967. The family used the space as a mud room, to dry seed corn, and as a general storage area. Long after the generator had been removed the space became one of Carl Chellberg's tool storage areas.<sup>138</sup> Now two concrete steps lead into the kitchen from the north side. The steps were likely contemporary with the kitchen addition.

6. Chimneys: The Chellberg farmhouse currently has three chimneys, two interior ridge chimneys and one exterior ridge. Only one was original to the house and retains any of its 1880s period design characteristics, including corbelling. The chimneys are all laid in stretcher courses of red brick. Since the park has had the care of the property they have relined and stabilized the chimneys, but have not significantly altered them. Gene said that they did not want to have to tear them down and redo them, so they worked with what remained.<sup>139</sup> The park also added the barest trace of concrete chimney caps and chimney cups with domed hoods to the two currently serving stoves. The two-story gable chimney once served four heating-stoves, one in each of its four rooms. Early photographs of the kitchen wing reveal that the entire chimney was replaced sometime before 1969, leaving a plain rectangular chimney, which the park shortened slightly. A distant 1922 silhouette shot of the farmhouse complex shows that the kitchen addition chimney once matched that on the main house. They were built with a broad brick base with a tall chimney shaft topped by outward steps of corbelling and a peaked chimney hood. Although there is currently no photographic evidence, a similar interior ridge chimney almost certainly served the one-story 1885 wing, especially when one compares the farmhouse to photographs of

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<sup>138</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979; HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1999; AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999.

<sup>139</sup> Between 1969 and 1976 the kitchen chimney was shortened, which could have been the result of subsequent damage or intentional alteration.

its Borg and Nelson cousins in the neighborhood which had chimneys placed in the same locations, some since removed. The delicate condition of the remaining original chimney encouraged the park to remove the corbelling and replace it with a style which mimics the fireplace chimney, unfortunately altering a significant period detail which had survived at least until 1976.<sup>140</sup>

Around 1929 the family added a fireplace to the north wall of the old one-story wing. At its widest point the exterior chimney runs parallel to the lower edge of the flanking windows and a simple decorative band of soldier brick. From there the chimney tapers upward to a single and double projecting row of brick at the top, with a newly added flue lining exposed at the top. The fireplace chimney has always drawn poorly, with at least a day required to get the room and chimney heated up enough to keep from filling the room with smoke. The fireplace smoked so much that Henry remembered “folks talking about the poor job Uncle Emil had done in constructing it,” and that “there was some talk about making the chimney taller as a possible solution. When it got warmed up it seemed to do better.”<sup>141</sup> It is not much more effective today. The fireplace was built in a popular decorative style and did not necessarily fulfill heating functions the way that the family needed, so they refrained from using the room for much more than an icebox in cold weather.<sup>142</sup> The only time that the family used the room in the winter was for special occasions, and then instead of using the fireplace, said Naomi, they “used a little stove where the fireplace was.”<sup>143</sup>

## 7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The farmhouse has five doorways, two entrances to the front of the house on the east side, and two into the kitchen addition, one from the north and one from the south. A fifth door accesses the cream separator room, now used for storage. Currently, on all of the exterior doors, the door frames, recessed panels, and screen doors are painted a dark brown while the rest of the doors are painted cream.<sup>144</sup> The two front doors are reached from the front porch, one leading into the parlor on the short north wall and the other into the fireplace room, which now serves as an orientation space for Park Ranger interpretive programs. The

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<sup>140</sup> Corbelled chimneys like that originally in the Chellberg farmhouse appeared when middle and lower income families no longer depended upon fireplaces for heat and had turned to stoves which could heat the center of a room. Chimneys like the ones on the Chellberg farmhouse were much more elaborate than those in most houses before 1880. This style of chimney appeared between 1880 and 1920, see John E. Rickert, “House Facades of the Northeastern United States: A Tool of Geographic Analysis,” Annals of the Association of American Geographers 57:2(June 1967): 218-26. Photograph of the John Borg farm (ca. 1895) from the collection of Beth Chellberg Shubair; for photograph of the C. P. Nelson farm (ca. 1906), see The Combined Atlas of Porter County (Evansville, Indiana: Unigraphic Press, 1979) for a copy of the Standard Atlas of Porter County, Indiana (Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1906): 83. Both the Borg and Nelson farms later removed the chimneys from their two-story gable section, leaving the ones on the kitchen wings.

<sup>141</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 10 August 1999.

<sup>142</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979.

<sup>143</sup> NS, interview with DB and JS, 11 August 1975.

<sup>144</sup> Preliminary paint studies were completed on the doors and windows and coded to the Munsell Color System, (door and window trim, 2/5 YR 2/2; window sash, 7.5 YR 9/2). Another study is currently underway to determine the historic exterior colors.

doors have wood thresholds and sills, and double rowlock elliptical-arch lintels, although the porch obscures much of the lintel. The doors are configured with three horizontal panels topped by one light, and a narrower panel above, essentially a half-glass door. A strip of wood trim projects along the base of the glass. The brick outlines of the doors are arched; the wood door frames, casing, and doors, however, are squared. When Gene and Curt had just finished the front porch someone from the NPS Denver office came and said that all the door openings would have to be widened for wheelchair access. "I said that would pretty well ruin the historical structure," said Gene, "because none of the doors would work, they'd have all had to have been changed." Gene was able to prove the present doors were wide enough to admit wheelchairs. Had they not been able to meet door restrictions the park would have had to widen all of the first floor entrances and interior doors used by the public or provide an alternative interpretive experience to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.<sup>145</sup>

Two four-panel doors service the kitchen area from the exterior, with the upper, longer panels glazed. The cream separator room has a colonial panel door, although all the panels are solid. The doorways have wood surrounds, thresholds, and sills. Because the kitchen was in such rough condition the park had to replace the south door, including hardware. The door may have been damaged in a fire in the summer kitchen in the late 1930s, and still remaining functional, was never replaced by the family. Two other doors, several door jambs, and two thresholds were also replaced, but the work order does not specify if these were interior, exterior, or screen doors. The four main exterior doors share the same type of screen door, some of which were replaced ca. 1988-89 (at least the front screens, and maybe all).<sup>146</sup> A horizontal decorative band of spindlework divides the door, with a vertical strip of wood, in the position of a muntin, adding strength to the lower portion. The front doors, however, have an added quarter wheel on the upper side of the spindlework. The north kitchen door still uses its original skeleton key and is the door most commonly used by the farm staff.<sup>147</sup>

When the kitchen addition was added it covered the original rear entrances to the house. A corner of an elliptical arch appears over the door between the kitchen and fireplace room, showing that it had once been an exterior door. The door itself is also the same as those entering the parlor and fireplace room from the front of the house. The present-day interior entrance for the stairwell also seems to have been a back entrance and would have acted like a private entrance for the upstairs. Based on what he observed when he was restoring the house interior in the mid-1980s, Gene speculates that the kitchen doorway leading into the downstairs bedroom would not have been an exterior door, but a window. Currently the cellar door is flush with the kitchen floor, but most likely would have had a bulkhead entrance before the addition. The discoveries that the restoration crew came upon happened by chance; they did not go looking for signs of old entrance steps at any of the current interior kitchen doors and do not recall seeing anything when they took up the floors because they were not looking for anything particular. Confirming the previous entrance configurations would require more sub-surface exploration of the house, as well as comparing it to other structures in the area that may or may not maintain

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<sup>145</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>146</sup> Historian to Bailly District Interpreter, 5 April 1989, "Memos Concerning Furnishing," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>147</sup> Construction Contract #CX6300-0-0035, 1980, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

their earlier floorplans.

b. Windows: Double-hung, four-over-four-light sash windows predominate in the 1885 brick section of the house. Other window configurations were the result of additions and remodeling, with the exception of the narrow first-floor window on the west wall, south of the new kitchen. In the brick section of the house all of the windows have wood sills, wood surrounds, and double rowlock elliptical-arch lintels, except for the two 1930s windows which flank the fireplace chimney. In the kitchen addition the windows are predominately two-over-two light double-hung sash windows, and are entirely of wood construction. Two smaller windows also light sections of the kitchen area. There are no screen or storm sashes on any of the windows in the house.<sup>148</sup>

The first floor has seventeen windows, five segmental arch four-over-four-light double-hung windows, one narrow two-over-two-light double-hung window, four two-over-two double-hung windows, two rectangular craftsmen-style windows, and two small, square windows, one of a single pane and another double. The windows on the south wall of the brick house are configured according to their interior room arrangements. Of the three windows on each floor of the south wall, the western two are huddled together for optimal light for the rear rooms. Minnie Chellberg's brother Emil Peterson, installed the two windows next to the fireplace. Each contains four side-by-side vertical lights with a soldier-brick sill and replaced a single window, which had been centered on the north wall, where the chimney is now.<sup>149</sup>

The second floor has nine windows. All of them are four-over-four-light double-hung sash windows of the same dimensions and construction as the ones on the first floor and are located directly above the first-floor windows.

The attic of the two-story wing contains one window just under the east wall gable. A wood-framed roundel window under the gable eaves provides light for a low attic space. The window is glazed in quarter sections. An identical window used to be on the north wall of the wing, but was removed with the chimney installation. The round window opening is still in place, though covered by the fireplace chimney. Several of the L-shaped brick houses in the area have the same window detail, making it an identifiable feature when comparing the structures.<sup>150</sup>

When the park obtained the property a few panes of glass were broken, but the main challenge was getting the sills and sashes back in order. Gene tried to use as much of the original materials as possible and filled in many holes with an epoxy resin. A work order stipulated that the contractor, "Repair or replace all mullions, side rails, bottom and top rails on existing windows using as much of the original materials as possible. Each window will be in working condition - weights, locks, window movement (up and down)." Many of the sills have an almost hollow

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<sup>148</sup> For information on the windows which used to be in the various porches, please see the porches section. There may also have been another exterior window where the door now connects the bedroom and kitchen, particularly if the cellar had been a bulkhead door entrance for shedding rainwater.

<sup>149</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

<sup>150</sup> Thank-you to the HABS Summer 1999 drawing team for getting this detail for me while climbing in a very dark and tight space.

sound when one knocks a finger against them. In 1980 in the kitchen alone, the park replaced three window sills and two window frames.<sup>151</sup> Across the structure the window sash has been painted cream and the frames dark brown. All available photographs between the dates 1907 and 1930 show that the window frames and sash were painted a light color, the same configuration as in the 1906 photograph of the Nelson farm across the street. A ca. 1895 photograph of the Borg farmhouse reveal a dark sash and light frame. The only exception to the light color scheme on the Chellberg farmhouse appears in a 1929 photograph from the west side of the ravine, where the summer kitchen windows and trim contrasted darkly with that of the walls.<sup>152</sup>

#### 8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The roof the main house, wing, and rear kitchen ell are all gabled with a moderate pitch and covered with red cedar shingles, much like the original roof covering. One unusual feature of the house, but one that it shares with a few of its neighbors, is that the one-story wing roof intersects into the north wall of the two-story gable-front portion of the house below the eaves without their rooflines intersecting.<sup>153</sup> This feature shows the house's connection to older upright-and-wing houses which evolved by combining the "New England classic cottage" with a double-pile gable-front house.<sup>154</sup> Cedar-shingled shed roofs cover the cream separator room and front porch, although the front porch has a slight hip-like drop to it on its northern edge, bringing it just below the wing's cornice molding at about a twenty-five degree angle. The cream separator room's roof begins its shallow pitch about two-thirds of the way down the kitchen roof's south slope, showing that it was a later addition.

The roof was covered with several layers of material when the farm became park property, the final being metal sheeting on the main part of the house and what appears to have been a combination of asphalt shingle, tar paper, and metal sheeting on the kitchen addition. The park replaced the roofs on the main house and kitchen addition at different times, most likely because the kitchen was in such a deplorable condition that they had not decided yet if they should repair it, rebuild it, or remove it altogether. An undated work description for the kitchen specified that the contractor was to remove the existing metal sheeting, place an underlayment of Nicolet No. 411 asbestos construction felt, and top it with 18" long Red Cedar Shingles in horizontal courses, 4" exposed to weather. Specifications for the flashing were given particular attention most likely because of the serious problems the structure had in its valleys and gutters.<sup>155</sup>

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<sup>151</sup> "Carpenter Work - Exterior on Historical Structures #10," and "Construction Contract #CX6300-0-0035," 1980, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>152</sup> Photograph of the John Borg farm (ca. 1895) from the collection of Beth Chellberg Shubair; for photograph of the C. P. Nelson farm (ca. 1906), see Combined Atlas of Porter Co., (1906): 83; 1929 view of Chellberg Farm from the photo scrapbook, page 22, in the Studebaker Family Collection. The park has several good early photographs of the farm in the museum collection which show the trim as a light color, see photo of the family posing in their chairs ca. 1910, INDU #7126.

<sup>153</sup> The Borg house roof alignment was constructed the same way, but not the Nelson farmhouse.

<sup>154</sup> John A. Jackle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer, Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic to the Mississippi Valley (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1989): 224.

<sup>155</sup> The work order specified Centigrade #1 Red Cedar Shingles, labeled Cedar Shingles and Handsplit Shake Bureau. The job description documents for re-roofing the farm kitchen were not dated, but the project took place while Howard Culp was the Facility Manager for the park. See, "Roofing Specifications, IFB 6300-0-0009,

b. Cornice, eaves: The exposed, wide, gable eaves are surprisingly simple, but their present and historic light-color paint makes them stand out against the red brick walls. A plain board frieze meets an equally plain soffit, divided by a [quarter-round] cornice mold, and topped by a fascia of raked cornice molding. The fascia on the front-gable section of the house differs from the wing, with the first slightly simpler than the second. Metal gutters and downspouts used to serve a cistern, but are now drained away from the house. Many sections of the gutter system were broken for a long time, particularly on the northern side of the house, so rainwater coursed down the house and seeped into the basement. Holes in the fascia gave free entry to squirrels in the house, particularly before the park renovated the house.

### C. Description of Interior:

#### 1. Floor plans:

a. Basement: There is a small one-room cellar under the south half of the dining room. All the walls and floor are brick, American bond laid in five courses and the floor laid in stack bond. The walls, curiously, are made of two different colors of brick, some of which can be attributed to repairs made to the walls over the years by the Park Service. Most of the lower sections of the walls, however, are of a much lighter brick than the house. The brick of the house's exterior appears all along the upper section of the cellar walls, ranging from 1' to 2' deep, suggesting that they were added to already existing cellar walls when the new house was built in 1885. After the original house burned the family had their new home constructed on the same site as the old. Anders Kjellberg's insurance money covered only \$600 on what was at least a \$1000-1400 house to build, so it would have been economical to salvage whatever possible of the previous structure.<sup>156</sup>

The exposed cross-cut floor joists overhead show evidence throughout of a lath and plaster ceiling, although not as thick as the plaster in the rooms above. Gene Beschinski called it, "just a scratch coat." The brick in many sections of the walls is soft and crumbles like sand to the touch, such as in the middle of the north wall. A white residue appears on some sections of the bricks and may be evidence of whitewash. Whitewashed walls would have aided visibility and lent an air of cleanliness in a space of limited light. Without testing the walls to prove otherwise, however, it is more likely that the residue is efflorescence, salt deposits which have leached from the mortar. All of the built-in ventilation slats have been sealed with concrete, likely contributing to the pervasive dampness in the space. The reason park personnel sealed them is curious because on the south wall an opening for current utilities exposes crawl space beneath the first-floor bedroom, although the two events may have happened at different stages in the

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Goodfellow Lodge and Chellberg Farm Kitchen," in "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>156</sup> "Fire Fiend," Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884. The newspaper reported that the "insurance was but \$600, while the loss is fully \$2000," which would have included the loss of grain, belongings, and the structure itself. A similar brick building to the new house was built for the Chesterton Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and "cost the congregation \$1,100 cash and \$400 worth work donations." "The New Swedish Lutheran Parsonage," Chesterton Tribune, 10 January 1889.

building's restoration and maintenance. It is difficult to tell what work is recent and what is not, particularly in the brickwork. "Some of this work was done to stabilize this wall," said Gene of repairs made on the east wall before he replaced the front porch, "because it was in bad shape." The basement was flooded when Gene started to do work on the house, and water seeped from the outside corners, especially the northwest corner. "There weren't any gutters up there," he said. "Everything that came off the roof was coming in here."<sup>157</sup> Not much attention is given to the cellar aside from its service as the "janitorial center" for the house, even though it may well be the oldest section of the house and was also central to the life of the farm for food preservation. Currently a hot air furnace, duct work, an electrical box, a dehumidifier, and a water reservoir take up the basement. A brick-walled stairway exits through the west wall up into the kitchen, through a trapdoor in the floor. The stairway once lead outside, most likely through a bulkhead door.

The Chellberg family called the room both a cellar and a root cellar, using it for general food storage and refrigeration. The entire north side of the floor features a raised edge of brick, about 1" high, which possibly held boards in place for orchard and garden produce. As a boy, Henry only went into the cellar occasionally and recalled its atmosphere as "dark and damp." Stored were "potatoes in burlap, (gunny sacks) bags, apples and pears in bushel baskets placed along the north and east walls. Rutabaga, sweet potatoes, squash and cabbage heads in piles or burlap bags also commingled with these." The functional area of the cellar extended up the stairway, with the "south portion of the stairway steps used to place food for upcoming consumption." Shelves for canned goods, in Mason jars, lined the south wall.<sup>158</sup> Canned goods ranked high among Naomi's litany of foods remembered, including sausage balls packed in lard, applesauce, and fruit preserves. "The one section was just full of fruit jars, two quart fruit jars, a lot of them." For its effectiveness, Naomi said that her mother "just praised that cellar to the high heavens. She could keep anything down there."<sup>159</sup> By the time that Ann Medley, Carl's daughter, was old enough to note and remember the details of the cellar in the 1940s and early 1950s it was first her grandmother's domain and then superseded by modern amenities. Big pickle crocks were "some thing grandma had, because we had the refrigerator by then." Ann remembered the atmosphere as "nice and cool down there."<sup>160</sup>

b. First floor: The first floor of the house consists of three basic units set at right angles to one another, forming two successive T-shaped plans, the first T as the original footprint of the house, the second T created with the addition of the new kitchen wing. Like other houses of this type, the rooms are totally contained within each section of the house. In its current configuration, the north wing serves as an orientation room for National Lakeshore interpretive programs. Sometime after 1901, what had been three smaller rooms became one large dining room. A fireplace, built ca. 1926-29, covers the north wall and is framed by two built-in glass-front bookcases. The south part of the house, or gable-front section, is divided into two rooms. The parlor, the easternmost of the two rooms, accesses the front porch, dining room, and bedroom, and features a reproduction Round Oak Stove extending from the middle of the west wall.

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<sup>157</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1999.

<sup>158</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 1999.

<sup>159</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980; NS, interview with DB and JS, 11 August 1975.

<sup>160</sup> AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999.

Ghostings of wall dividers midway on the east and west walls suggest that the room had once been two smaller rooms, although it is possible that the division was more of a partial decorative partition rather than solid walls.

The bedroom, the larger of the two first-floor rooms, has functioned as a bedroom since the early twentieth century, although its location in the house points to it having once been a dining room. There used to be a closet under the stairs, tucked into the room's southwest corner. In the 1950s Henry and Arthur Studebaker extended the walls into the room (to the west edge of the west window) and converted the space into a full bathroom. The park brought back the earlier wall alignment, but the space still serves as a half bath for staff and volunteers. A door on the west wall leads to the stairwell and a north wall door steps down into the kitchen on the cellar's trapdoor. A doorway used to lead from the bedroom into the old kitchen wing, but was covered when the family added the rear kitchen and a new door to access it. The chimney, which serves the entire two-story gable, extends into the room on the east wall but currently does not have a heating stove attached. The enclosed stairway leading upstairs runs along the west wall of the bedroom, above the bathroom. [The kitchen has one small area in the L-section of the older house which serves as a through-area for foot traffic into and through the house.] A pantry covers the west side of the kitchen and shares a wall with the kitchen chimney and a black iron cookstove. The pantry once was two smaller pantries. Henry and Arthur recalled their mother telling them that she and her sister used the spaces as their bedrooms, sleeping on cots. When Naomi married and moved away, the Chellbergs removed the wall partition and converted the space into Ruth's bedroom, which explains why it has two doors for such a small room. "That was the pantry," recalled Naomi. "There was a little room South, and there was a partition in between, and we took the partition out and made my sister a bedroom."<sup>161</sup> The cream separator room now seems detached from the rest of the house, reached only by the open deck and used for storage. The house has no formal entrance area. Each of the four entrances from the outside leads directly into a room, one each into the parlor and dining room off the front porch, and two into the kitchen, from the north and south.

c. Second floor: The upstairs is only as large as the gable section of the house, in the space above the parlor and bedroom. The rooms have gone through many uses, sometimes serving as an entire apartment for newly married family members, and at others lodgings for paying weekend visitors, who Naomi called "campers." At different times in her numerous interviews, Naomi reported that the upstairs contained bedrooms, a kitchen, and a pantry, and at others she said that the space contained three bedrooms, both of which seem to be true. During her childhood, however, the rooms were not for the immediate family's use. "We didn't go upstairs," she said, in summer or winter, because "that was for the guests."<sup>162</sup> The stairs end at a small landing, then enter a central room with southern exposure, which once would have overlooked the orchard. The other three spaces, two bedrooms and a pantry, open off this room. The front bedroom mirrors the size of the parlor below. An unusual slanted wall divides the small bedroom, facing north, and pantry, facing west, allowing each a door in a very small space.

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<sup>161</sup> HS and AS, notes from a conversation with JR, 7 May 1988, "Chellberg Farmhouse," VF-FM, IDNL; NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982.

<sup>162</sup> NS, interview with Margaret Bapst, 9 July 1986, Westchester Township Historical Society Archives, Interview #86, page 13; JR, notes from conversation with NS, n.d. "Chellberg Farm," VF-FM, IDNL.

A closet at the east end of the small bedroom was the only other closet in the house besides the one under the stairs and leads to an attic crawl space over the dining room. The last known to use these rooms were Ann and Carmen Chellberg, Carl's daughters, before they married and moved away from home in the early 1960s. Each of the larger rooms used to have stoves which fed into the central chimney, but the park has plastered over the stove-pipe holes. All of the rooms now serve as park storage space, full of desks, clothing racks, and floor-to-ceiling shelving holding costumes and other supplies for interpretive programs.

d. Attics: Both the gable and wing sections of the house have attic spaces, although only the space over the dining room is at all accessible, through a gothic-pointed door in the small bedroom closet. The attic is unfinished, with a low ceiling and exposed rafters and floor joists. The family used the space for storage and is where the park found many family items after it acquired the farm. As a space with no future interpretive potential, it became a logical spot to add structural supports, layers of exposed insulation, and channel electrical conduits. The other attic is reachable through a small trapdoor in the central room's ceiling.

## 2. Stairways:

There are two stairways in the house, both originating in the kitchen, one leading upstairs and the other through a trapdoor into the cellar. Neither stairway has a handrail. The main stairs are reachable through two doors, one from the first-floor bedroom and the other from the kitchen. The closed-string stair rises straight up from a small landing to an equally small landing above. [Rubber] treads serve a purely utilitarian function to prevent wear and slipping on the painted wood surface. Both sides of the walls are lined with wood wainscoting above the wall string, painted cream as a light contrast to the pale blue above, the same colors as in the kitchen. For some reason, the inner wall has 3" wainscoting and the outer wall 4", which Gene reports is exactly as it was when he began restoration on the house. Because the family used the space so seldom, especially in light tourist seasons, the stairwell doubled as a storage area, even in the mid-1930s. "They used the stairway as a warehouse for the maple syrup," recalled Henry. "There were maple syrup jugs all the way up that stair."<sup>163</sup> During hours of visitation both access doors are kept closed because the upstairs is not open for public viewing or interpretive programs. The enclosed cellar stair is steep, the treads and risers made of [concrete/brick?] set against brick walls laid in American five-course bond.

## 3. Flooring: \_

The flooring throughout most of the house is 3" pine, painted a golden-brown. The dining room and parlor are the only exceptions, with 2" maple floor laid on a pine subfloor. All of the boards in the old section of the first floor run north-south and the kitchen and upstairs floorboards are laid east-west. It is difficult to know what flooring may still be in the house that was part of its 1885 construction, particularly because of the ca. 1901 renovations and subsequent restoration. The dining room floor shows no signs of having once been three separate rooms, especially a kitchen, where grease, wear, and sparks would have marked the floor. When it became a dining room, or during the subsequent renovations to the room, the flooring seems to have been

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<sup>163</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998; HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

upgraded to meet its new intended use. Whereas the other rooms in the house reflected their hard wear, changing uses, and the challenges of keeping them clean by eventually receiving one or multiple layers of linoleum, the parlor and dining room remained unfettered wood.<sup>164</sup> During house restorations in the 1980s the park did not remove any of the floors, so evidence of previous room arrangements and use may still be hidden below. Naomi recalled large floral rugs in the rooms which left a border of wood around the edges and that only the exposed wood was varnished, leaving the rest unfinished.<sup>165</sup> These most likely would have been Brussels carpets, desired at the end of the nineteenth century for their flowing, organic patterns. Woven on special looms which clipped the tops of the fibers so that their colors deepened, they resembled velvet and were treasured household items. With care and keeping sunlight and daily traffic off the rugs they could easily have lasted decades.<sup>166</sup> Among Charles's possessions when he died in 1937 was a parlor rug, valued at \$2.00, as much as many pieces of his farm equipment.<sup>167</sup>

When the park began restoration on the house they removed the linoleum, stripped off paint and glue residue, filled in any irregularities in the salvageable boards, and replaced boards where necessary. For example, the entire kitchen floor had to be replaced due to excessive wear and rot, as did one section near the porch door in the parlor.<sup>168</sup> The layers and variety of linoleum on the floors attests to the hard use some of the rooms received. By the time that the park made an attempt to document some of the various floor coverings may have already been removed during efforts to clean up the entire site.<sup>169</sup> Naomi remembered "a brown-figured linoleum" on the kitchen floor, which was doubtlessly long replaced after she had gone. Ann Medley, who lived in the house from 1939-62, also said that "as long as I can remember [the kitchen's] been linoleum." None of the park documents, however, reflect that there had ever been linoleum on

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<sup>164</sup> In her 8 July 1982 interview with Marty Marciniak (MM), Ann Medley remembered there being pink and gray linoleum in the dining room floor, which was either removed by the family after she left home or the park took it out the house before the park historian made the floor and wall map. This map will hereafter be referred to as the "Fragments Map."

<sup>165</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982.

<sup>166</sup> Elsie Nickel, a Westchester County Resident, recalled "In our living room we had what they called a Brussels carpet. I can still it, it was a dark brown and had sort of large pinkish roses on it and was quite elegant, I thought. That was just in the parlor, of course. We said parlor, we didn't say living room." Margaret Larson, and Elsie Nickel, "The Homemakers in the Chesterton Area During the 1900s, or the Part That Women Played in Those Times," *Duneland Notes* (September 1980): 10. To see an illustration of a contemporary Brussels carpet used in a Porter County residence, see the parlor of Amos A. Burwell and his wife, pictured in the 1906 Porter County Atlas, on the same page as Charles and Minnie's wedding photograph. *Combined Atlas of Porter County* (1906): 81.

<sup>167</sup> Inventory of the Personal Estate of Charles Levin Chellberg. Carl Chellberg was the one who made the survey. In inventories men often underestimated the value of household items, especially textiles.

<sup>168</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>169</sup> The condition of some of the floors (and the interior as a whole) can be seen in the RSC.

the kitchen floor, except over the cellar trapdoor.<sup>170</sup> The park has chosen to present the dining room and parlor floors as lightly varnished natural wood. Throughout the rest of the house, including the stairs, the floors have been painted a golden-brown color which does not appear to have been linked to any particular color found in the house. The color selected seems to draw from a gold paint visible on some of the doors in the a few of the pre-restoration photographs. To protect the floors and guide visitors, plastic pedestrian mats line the floor along the routes most traveled by visitors.

#### 4. Wall and ceiling finish:

When newly constructed, the finish on the walls and ceiling was of plaster bound with horsehair attached to wood lath. Much of this finish still clung to the walls when the park obtained the property, although some just barely. In the kitchen large sections of the plaster and subsequent additions of wall board draped or had fallen from the ceiling and upstairs holes in the walls looked like open sores.<sup>171</sup> Exterminators treated the house in the late 1970s and by 1986 mice and bees again nested in the walls. Upstairs, Gene recalled “a big nest of honeybees. There was honey all over the place.”<sup>172</sup> The house had stood vacant for nearly fifteen years before extensive interior restoration began, which cannot have helped what appears in the only “before” photographs of the interior available today, taken ca. 1986.<sup>173</sup> Regardless of what dilapidation continued to occur after that date, local and park memory agree the house was in serious need of repair. When questioned if the vacant condition of the house could have been partially responsible for its later condition, Robert Fudge, a park employee in 1979, said, “Think again,” that the number of years that it stood vacant as park property could not compare to its years of neglect by the last generation of Chellbergs to live there.<sup>174</sup> Rather than try to salvage any of the original plaster the park ripped out everything except the “exhibit wall” in the kitchen, which retains plaster, paint, wainscoting, and a glimpse at the 1885 exterior wall before the kitchen addition. On the outside walls 6” to 12” wide sheathing had been applied to the studs, with lath then applied vertically along the studs, and then more lath horizontally. Partition walls omitted the first two steps, adding only horizontal lath and applying plaster. One wall in the east bedroom on the second floor had sheet rock from previous repairs, as did a large portion of the south wall of the first-floor bedroom.<sup>175</sup>

In recreating the look and feel of lath and plaster walls the park made several modifications to insure the longevity of their work. After replacing the sheathing, the park drilled holes and blew

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<sup>170</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982; AM, interview with MM, 8 July 1982. The park historian, Dori Partsch, tried to make sense of a number of samples that had been taken from the farmhouse before she arrived at the Dunes. Many samples were fragments too small to really work with and many others did not have their original locations identified. She mapped the discoveries as best she could to meet a deadline for her furnishings plan. All of these samples are in the museum collection. The ca. 1988 Fragments Map is included in the appendix of this report.

<sup>171</sup> RSC.

<sup>172</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>173</sup> RSC.

<sup>174</sup> RF, interview with AH, 9 March 1999.

<sup>175</sup> Chellberg interiors wallpaper, paint, and flooring, Fragments Map, “Chellberg Farmhouse,” VF-HO, IDNL; HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

in insulation, then added a 6 mil. plastic vapor barrier on the sheathing to help repel moisture, and replaced the lath in its original locations on top of that. A layer of metal lath then covered the wood lath, said Curt Hardesty, “so there wouldn’t be any danger over it separating.” Mesh in the corners was also intended to help reinforce an easily stressed area. The ceilings are treated in a similar manner.<sup>176</sup>

Just as all the lath was numbered and returned to its original location, all of the woodwork was cataloged before being taken to be stripped chemically at a local paint shop. A lot of the woodwork had to be repaired, especially from weathering around the windows, but nicks and gashes filled smoothly with an epoxy mix that could then be sanded and painted while still preserving the original wood. Most of the woodwork on the first floor of the house is spartanly simple, yet with a few subtle distinctions from room to room. The baseboards in the parlor and bedroom are of wide boards with a [1”] ovolo curve at the top and a larger quarter round strip at the base. The baseboard in the dining room shows an extra flourish. A [2”] wood strip with a series of curves crowns the baseboard, layering scotia, cavetto, and ovolo curves in ascending order towards the wall. Wainscoting with a quarter round at the floor covers the lower portion of the kitchen walls and ascends the stairwell walls (see stairway section for details). The wainscoting is of 3” wide vertical tongue-and-groove boards, all of which had to be replaced with new materials because the wood had rotted beyond repair. Around the sink the wainscoting extends up the walls to shelf height, acting as a splashboard for sink activities. The chair rail, likewise, needed to be entirely replaced with new. While the new wainscoting was made off-site in Valparaiso, the carpenters reproduced the chair rail in the park’s wood shop. The wainscot also lines the pantry.<sup>177</sup>

The wall and trim treatment throughout the downstairs reflects the park’s interpretive decision not to try to make an exact representation of what was known to have been in the farmhouse. “We are planning to use items, colors, and types representative of the time period,” wrote the Assistant Superintendent, “not exact (emphasis his) historic items the Chellberg’s used.”<sup>178</sup> Thus a paint color here and a wallcovering there may be similar to something found in the farmhouse, but just as likely not. One area where they sought accuracy was in paint colors, where even small chips of surviving paint could be tested for their historic values and hues.<sup>179</sup> Yet the stairwell walls called for peach, and they painted it light blue to match the kitchen. The bedroom showed no signs of ever having been papered, yet they papered it. The lack of paper,

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<sup>176</sup> The ceilings likewise received a layer of insulation, but not, according to Curt and Gene, the floors. Curt Hardesty recalls that the insulation was the roll-out pink Owens-Corning type whereas Gene remembers blowing in gray insulation. The memo called for “unfaced insulation.” For details of the work as proposed, see IDNL Superintendent to Regional Director, Midwest Region, 30 November 1987, “Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings,” VF-Maint., IDNL. The proposal does not mention the addition of mesh or metal lath.

<sup>177</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998; GB, correspondence with AH, 14 March 1999.

<sup>178</sup> Glen D. Alexander, Assistant Superintendent, to Chief Interpreter, 26 October 1988, “Chellberg -- Memos Concerning Furnishing,” VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>179</sup> Paint samples were sent out 27 June 1988 requesting “Munsell” numbers, “Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings,” VF-Maint., IDNL. The interior historic paint colors based on samples sent from the park were determined to be: stairwell plaster--peach, Munsell #2.5 YR 6/6; bedroom trim--cream, Munsell #2.5 Y 8.5/2; kitchen plaster--light blue, Munsell # 10 BG 8/1; kitchen trim--cream, Munsell #2.5 Y 8.5/4; living room trim--cream, Munsell # 2.5 Y 8.5/2

however, appears to have been due to Henry and Arthur Studebaker 1950s renovations, when they replaced crumbling plaster with sheetrock. The dining room produced several layers of wallpaper and no paint, but since the room was to be used as an orientation space, they painted it cream with white trim. The early furnishings plan also proposed to wallpaper the kitchen even though it had never been papered either. A letter from the Midwest Regional Office discouraged the plan as not appropriate to the period, and now the wainscoting is painted cream and the walls above a pale blue.<sup>180</sup> Overall, the house projects a pastel, subdued quality which belies the chaotic layers that the park had to deal with when they arrived. Over the years some of the walls had been coated with papers of small, delicate roses which replaced dark vines and florals, which in turn replaced deep reds.<sup>181</sup>

One of the most intriguing evidence of previous wall treatment appears in one of the slides taken prior to the house restoration. Someone had begun to rip the layers of wallpaper from the south wall of the dining room and uncovered the door that once connected to the bedroom. Not only had the door been sealed over, so had simple fresco work which once likely surrounded all the doors in the room. The picture did not intend to record anything but the room's general chaos and only incidentally captured this detail. The walls appear tan and set off a wide band of black and brown trim around the edge of the door. It is not clear if the work was done with paint or wallpaper. A 3" band of black around the door opening, followed by 8" of brown and then 1 1/2" of black again surrounded the entire door.<sup>182</sup> Although the picture does not hint at whether or not the Chellberg's included this detail, houses of the period often included a wainscot of paper or paint, defining the room with a two-part wall scheme. There does not seem to be any remnants of trim near the ceiling to suggest that the family may have opted for a tripart decorative scheme.<sup>183</sup> Ornamental painting and papering was common in houses of this period in tertiary colors similar to the ones the Chellbergs selected, although the colors in their home would have been called buff and chocolate for the tan and brown. A showcase of similar, albeit more elaborate, decorative work was being completed in the Queen Anne style Brown Mansion, in Chesterton, the same year that Anders and Johanna were rebuilding their home. The painter of the Brown Mansion was Swan Nilson, who the 1880 Population Census reveals was one of the Kjellbergs' immediate neighbors. In 1883 Nilson advertised his skills in the Chesterton Tribune, announcing his services as a "House and Sign Painter," prepared to do both "plain and fancy" work. His areas of expertise, listed in the advertisement, included "Ornamental Painting, Paper Hanging, Kalsomining, Fresco Work," and "Graining in imitation of Wood or Stone." The Kjellbergs would have been aware of the options for decorative wall treatments suitable to all

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<sup>180</sup> Associate Regional Director, Planning and Resource Preservation, Midwest Region to Superintendent, Indiana Dunes, 14 December 1988, Re: Historic Paint Colors for the Chellberg Farmhouse, "Paint Studies and Samples," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>181</sup> RSC; Fragments Map. The wallpaper was paid for from a \$3000 grant from Questers of Michigan City, See, Chief of Maintenance to Chief Interpretation, 6 July 1988, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>182</sup> RSC. These measurements are estimates, based on knowing the width of the current door trim, which also appears in the photograph.

<sup>183</sup> Roger W. Moss, and Gail Caskey Winkler, Victorian Decoration: American Interiors, 1830-1900 (New York: Henry Holt, 1986): 116-23, 132, and Color Plates 13 and 14.

economic brackets.<sup>184</sup>

The upstairs, past and present, had been treated as a completely separate space from what happened in the floors below, not only in its varied uses, but particularly in its trim and wall treatment. The baseboards throughout the floor are more complex than any of the rooms on the first floor, comprised of a flat baseboard with intricate, for the house, base molding above. [Two-inch] wide squared blocks in the corners, pointed at the top, take on the lines of the molding, beginning at the bottom with [a flat slope], followed by two lines of beading, and a cavetto mold against the wall. The central room had an added chair rail, referencing its days as a dining room and kitchen. The rail is wide with shallow molding, angled at the edges but with four rows of beading offset by a deep groove on each side. On the west wall, between the stairwell and pantry doors, the chair rail used to come in from the door trim about 1' on each side, then extend up the wall about 2' before meeting again in a horizontal section. The park carpentry staff decided that the molding had been a later addition to surround a sink. However, the molding matched the rest of the trim in the room, and, judging from the way the sink was installed against the trim, predated the sink that they removed. The molding may have been placed there to signify a work area, such as for baking outside the pantry, a special piece of furniture, or even a previous sink. The park also plastered over the stove-pipe holes in the front bedroom and central room.

The upstairs walls and ceilings have been painted a uniform cream and the trim white for a slight contrast. In the past the walls and ceilings had been painted everything from deep greens, yellows, blues, and grays to paler tones of the same colors. The most notable color combination was the bright golden yellow between the baseboard and the chair rail in the middle room, topped by dark green, although these colors may not have actually been on the walls at the same time, appearing together only because the surface layer had disintegrated. The pantry was the only room that showed evidence of being wallpapered.<sup>185</sup> In the original plan for the restoration of the farmhouse the upstairs walls were not supposed to be completed. Discovering some extra money in the budget, the crew decided to send out the woodwork to be stripped and to plaster the walls while they had the expertise of a good plasterer on hand, Jerry Nowak.<sup>186</sup>

Throughout the interior there is no ceiling trim, although the park has added a decorative paper frieze in the parlor. When the park acquired the house photographs show that the dining room and the parlor had half-hollow trim at the ceiling. A 1965 family photograph of the dining room shows the family actively using the trim as a picture rail on the south wall, supporting an early

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<sup>184</sup> Information on the Brown Mansion comes from the Historical Marker attached to the building, located at 700 Porter Avenue, Chesterton, Indiana; U.S. Population Census for 1880, Dwelling #233, Family #243 page 25, Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana; Advertisement, Chesterton Tribune 31 May 1883. Swan Nilson's name appears in the census between John Borg and Charles Peterson. The census lists him as a farmer, but so are many of the other Swedish residents who were known to have other skills, like Anders, who was reported by Naomi to have been a tailor as well as a farmer, a claim supported by the rescue of a sewing machine from the 1884 fire and the survival of Anders's handmade scissors. It is possible that there was more than one Swan Nilson in the area.

<sup>185</sup> RSC; Fragments Map.

<sup>186</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998.

twentieth century framed print of a young girl hugging a large dog. The ceiling in the kitchen used to curve at the edges like sloped shoulders. The park gave the outer section of the ceiling a flat surface, meeting the rest of the ceiling at a [twenty-two] degree angle, divided by a crisp, straight line.

#### 5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The interior doors throughout the house follow two basic designs. Nearly all of them, upstairs and down, are colonial four-panel doors, except for two half-glass doors leading from the kitchen into the bedroom and the dining room. These doors resemble the exterior doors leading into the house from the front porch and may well be original exterior doors to the house, particularly the dining room door. Like its mates on the east side of the house, the door is configured with three horizontal panels topped by one large light, and a narrower panel above. The bedroom door also has a large single light, but only one central horizontal panel in the center over two short, vertical panels. These same doors have deep jamb casings passing through the thickness of brick exterior walls. Before the ca. 1901 house renovation, the bedroom door may well have been a window. All of the doors have wood thresholds, except between the dining room and parlor. After being stripped of their paint, Curt said that they have had a hard time with the heat shrinking everything, particularly the doors. He and Gene had to dowel the doors to keep them from pulling apart.<sup>187</sup>

The doors on the north side of the downstairs pantry, upstairs small bedroom, and upstairs closet are all missing, as they were when Gene worked on the restoration. Henry recalled that a curtain divided Ruth's converted bedroom from the rest of the kitchen, which would have allowed for privacy at the same time as allowing in heat from the cookstove. "It didn't have a door on it, as I recall," said Henry. "It had a bar across the top with a curtain."<sup>188</sup> The door leading between the kitchen and dining room has a wheelchair ramp to ease the sharp drop between the old house and the kitchen addition.

In the kitchen, the south exterior door and all of its hardware had to be replaced, although it is not clear if that is because the door was in irreparable condition or missing altogether. As an exterior door, the park had to consider security issues in replacing it, but found one entirely compatible with the others. Throughout the time spent researching this report in Indiana the doorknob was missing, allowing a constant blast of November and December air into the kitchen. Behind the kitchen wainscoting and trapdoor framing system, one can see the elliptical brick arch of the original opening in what had once been an exterior wall. From inside the cellar, however, the brickwork is flat. During the house restoration the park replaced the trapdoor framing system, but kept the wood doorframe at the cellar entrance.<sup>189</sup> The flat lintel shows wear across the center from generations of hands touching it as people entered the cellar, steadying themselves before taking the final step down. There does not appear to have ever been a door attached to the frame. The old cellar trapdoor served as the perfect place for boyhood

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<sup>187</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998.

<sup>188</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

<sup>189</sup> The RSC shows the door both open and closed, showing the original door and frame of the trapdoor.

games in the 1930s, out of the way of kitchen activities, yet in clear view of adults.<sup>190</sup>

On the first floor, 3" board molding, with an added 3/4" ovolo curve towards the opening, frames the doors and windows. In the parlor the board extends 4", giving it noticeable extra depth. Aprons under the windows share the same flat board and curve as the rest of the trim, although the curve is smaller and less pronounced. The four kitchen doors near the cellar omit the ovolo feature. In contrast to the simplicity of the first floor frames, the upstairs door and window surrounds, like the baseboards, are of a far more complex design than their first-floor counterparts. The door and window frames share the same wide molding, with the four rows of beading down the center offset by deep grooves and flat planes on either side. On the doors the molding is met by decorative plinth blocks at the base and corner blocks with rosettes above.

b. Windows: Like the doorframes, the molding on the windows differs between the two floors but corresponds to the door surrounds on each floor. In the older brick portion of the house, unembellished wood fills in the spandrel left between the squared interior window frames and the elliptical arch of the house's window exteriors. Most of the double-hung windows still have their original weights, but the cords are new. The interior wood sills took about as much work as the exterior sills to repair, in addition to replacing many mulls and latches. Many of the windows were covered with layer after layer of paint, yet in some places they had weathered and begun to rot so badly that barely any traces of paint remained, especially on the lower halves. In order to do a thorough job, Gene removed the entire window sashes, stripped them, and put them back together again in their woodshop before replacing them to their original locations.<sup>191</sup>

One window which functioned differently in the past than it does today is the kitchen window near the north entrance. The window has a sill about 5" deep that Naomi recalled and actively used as the telephone shelf. In Henry's childhood the same shelf housed the family radio, close to the Delco battery system. Either way, the window served as a kind of family entertainment center, of friends and radio voices, all news from the outside. The same space today offers no sounds and does not even open, offering no reason to linger. When the dining room had been closed off during most of the year the corner became a logical place to concentrate household activities, rather than as the uncluttered thoroughfare it has become today.<sup>192</sup>

Over the years, when the Chellbergs lived at the farm and the various porches began to emerge, one thing that the family sacrificed was interior light. Although each enclosed porch had its own windows, the light which finally reached the inside of the house was diminished from what it would have been without the porches. In addition, in some of the rooms furniture covered windows, such as a Hoosier cabinet over the southwest window in the kitchen. The way that a visitor experiences the light in the house today is much different than at any period in the house's history since at least 1919, not only because the windows are freed to admit direct light, but because of the consistently lighter colored walls offering reflected light.

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<sup>190</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

<sup>191</sup> GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>192</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982; diary of Naomi Studebaker, 1 December 1921; HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

6. Decorative features and trim:

The most distinctive decorative features of the house are an interconnected later addition to the structure: the craftsman fireplace, oak bookshelves, and windows found in the dining room, dominating nearly the entire north wall. The fireplace is laid with multi-tones of brown rough-finished brick, and the outer hearth of square brown tile. On either side double-door oak bookcases are built of the same height and depth as the fireplace. The mantel shelf stretches across both cases and the fireplace, creating one long flat surface. When built, the bookcases were meant to reflect the style of the front porch, including the three-over-two lights set in each of the bookcase doors. A thin, beaded edge on the bars, muntins, stiles, and rails outlines each light. Above each bookcase a casement window with four vertical lights visually extend the bookcases below. The design reflected the Craftsman/Bungalow style which had been popular since early in the century, presenting “a set of aesthetic and social ideals to which upwardly mobile individuals might aspire.” The Chellberg’s new fireplace did little to actually heat the home, adding all the more to its symbolic value as an image of coziness and comfort rather than something that functioned as a source of warmth. Many families added fireplaces onto their homes when the country began to mourn the loss of the “hearth,” calling to “simpler” times, when many homes had long-since adopted modern amenities. Ironically, the Chellbergs still had their woodstove in the kitchen, a type of “hearth” where the family gathered for warmth, particularly in the winter. But the kitchen was a private space and the dining room a public one, which perhaps demanded a more public show of housing trends, even if they did little to aid daily life.<sup>193</sup>

By the time that Gene began work on the house interior the entire fireplace threatened to collapse, not from any design or construction flaw, but because of an infestation. “I think that it was inundated with woodchucks under there and they sort of undermined it, undermined the support system,” said Gene. “The hearth started to sink. So we had to take that all out and redo it.” For many years the brick on the northwest corner of the wing had simply fallen away, leaving an opening to the crawlspace and wood support system beneath the house.

One feature that the park chose not to reconstruct, although it is not clear why, was a built-in “step-back” style cupboard on the north wall of the upstairs pantry. On the bottom, two drawers occupied the left side and a vertical open area the right, which may or may not have had a door or a curtain at one time. Above were four shelves which may also have once been enclosed with doors or curtains. The baseboard woodwork continued behind the cupboard, so the cupboard was added after the rest of the upstairs woodwork. The styling in the lower section of the cupboard dates it to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, possibly as part of Emily’s and Alfred’s years there. There may have also been a built-in cupboard in the slight recess on the south wall, but no photographs were taken of that part of the pantry to offer any clue as to the use of the rest of the space.<sup>194</sup>

There are several features of the house which could hardly be called decorative, yet served

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<sup>193</sup> Clifford Edward Clark, The American Family Home: 171-193. Minnie’s brother developed his building skills in the Pacific Northwest, so he likely picked up on the Bungalow style while there.

<sup>194</sup> Photographs reproduced from the RSC.

particular functions for the residents. In some ways, these features are more revealing of the daily needs and use of the house than more formal features, although none of them, for various reasons, have been retained. Like its contemporaries, the house contained scant closet space, a need met by impromptu hooks or nails in the walls or by adding shelves where needed. The kitchen porches probably had numerous hooks for coats and aprons and places to remove boots and shoes. The section of wall now covered with Plexiglas in the kitchen also protects a strip of wood, painted blue in contrast to the green wall and wainscoting. The board once had five evenly-spaced hooks, creating an open-air closet for the most frequently used items. At the top of the steps leading upstairs a similar board with hooks awaited the coats and wraps of those living above.<sup>195</sup> When Ruth transformed the first-floor pantry into her bedroom, she added boards and nails on the east wall for her clothing.<sup>196</sup> Without the use of the pantry for foods needed readily on hand, the family added a make-shift built-in shelving unit. Since only the right pantry entrance was used, the family created a casing about 1' deep projecting into the kitchen with six shelves. The green paint evident on the edges of the boards suggest open rather than enclosed shelves, as does Henry's recollection of a cabinet being concentrated in that area, making a cupboard door difficult to open.<sup>197</sup>

The park recreated one feature and added another, both for plumbing needs. In the modern bathroom, installed in the closet off the downstairs bedroom, the sink has been set in a wood tongue-and-groove cabinet with a [2"] splashboard in an attempt to make modern amenities more compatible with the rest of the interpretation of the house. In the kitchen Gene built another tongue-and-groove cabinet, working as best he could from what remained to recreate what had been there. By the time he arrived the white enameled iron sink had already been removed, leaving the impression that the sink had been a dry-sink. Uncertain what else to put in the cabinet, the park has interpreted a dry sink. A cast iron sink, readily available through catalogues if not the local stores, would probably have been a more likely choice for durability, but there is not evidence to support the use of one over another during the period interpreted in the house.<sup>198</sup>

#### 7. Hardware:

The variety of door knobs, [back-plates], mortise locks, escutcheons, and hinge butts throughout the house creates a hardware jigsaw puzzle. On all of the above, some are of ornamental cast metal while others are plain. Of the door knobs alone, the selection includes Rockingham-glazed redware (bedroom to stairwell), white porcelain (first floor pantry), black porcelain, ornamental metal (dining room door to exterior, which are reproductions), and bull's-eye metal. On the first floor two doors retain rim locks that predate many of the other locks in the house, on the bedroom-stairwell door and on the parlor-dining room door. The rest of the lock sets use mortise locks. Several locks and door knobs were missing when work began on the interior of the house,

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<sup>195</sup> RSC.

<sup>196</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

<sup>197</sup> RSC; HS and AS, notes from conversation with JR, 7 May 1988, "Chellberg Farm Information," VF-FM, IDNL.; AM, interview with MM, 8 July 1982.

<sup>198</sup> "Cast Sinks -- item 24R7600," Sears, Roebuck and Co. Catalogue, No. 111 (Chicago: Sears Roebuck and Co, 1902, reprint 1969 by Crown Publishers): 654.

but there is no record of which ones may have been replaced. Where possible the park salvaged replacement hardware from the Borg farm. Many of the window latches, ornamental cast iron with white porcelain knobs, had weathered so badly that they were not repairable. Most of the upstairs windows now have reproduction latches similar to the originals. Between what remained on the various windows in the house and salvaged material from the Borg farm, the downstairs windows in the original portion of the house are all equipped with old hardware.<sup>199</sup>

#### 8. Mechanical equipment:

The current amenities of the Chellberg farmhouse hint little at the complex evolution of basic utilities at the site. In a sense, because the family was always trying to make do with what they had, the story is more complicated than if they had had the money to upgrade their utilities as soon as fashion and technology dictated. "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without," a motto made mantra during the Depression, applied to many activities on the Chellberg farm, but was especially apparent in their efforts to get and maintain water, heat, electricity, and light. When the park appraised the property in 1969 the appraiser reported mildly, "There are no utilities on the subject property other than electric and telephone. The property has its own electric pump and septic tank system."<sup>200</sup>

a. Heating, air conditioning, ventilation: Until the arrival of the park, the farmhouse was heated by a series of independent units in each room which over the years burned everything from wood and coal, to kerosene and propane gas. "Heating the house was always a problem," said Henry, whose memories date from the early 1930s and could explain why in Naomi's growing up years that the family primarily lived in the downstairs bedroom and kitchen areas. When built, the house facilitated a minimum of five stoves, a cookstove in the kitchen in addition to individual stoves in the parlor, "bedroom," and two largest rooms upstairs. It is doubtful, however, that all of these stoves, if indeed every stovepipe opening had a stove in place, were ever used all at once. Simultaneous use of the stoves would not only have been a challenge to maintain, but an impractical consumption of hard-sought fuel. During her years at the farm Naomi said that "no stoves were ever carried upstairs, except a little kerosene heater," but there must have been some there when Emily and Alfred made the space their separate home.<sup>201</sup> New heating technology had long since freed families from maintaining a central hearth and other fireplaces for heat; when building their home in 1885 the Kjellbergs entirely omitted a fireplace.

We have no way of knowing exactly what stoves the family maintained before the ca. 1901 remodeling or if some of the older stoves were moved to new locations within the house. The family continued, however, to cook and gather around a big black iron cookstove in the kitchen throughout Minnie Chellberg's lifetime. Naomi remembers her father, Charles, sitting on the stove door to warm himself, a story told in memory of the massiveness and strength of the stove. Henry recalled that he, Arthur, and Carl also took advantage of the warm perch. Even though there were other stoves in the house, this stove and its perpetual meal preparation served as the

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<sup>199</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998. The new latches came from a historical hardware company.

<sup>200</sup> Real estate appraisal by Ott, 5 March 1969, Chellberg Farm Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>201</sup> NS, interview with Margaret Bapst, 9 July 1986, Interview #86, page 13, Westchester Township Historical Society, Chesterton, Indiana.

major source of winter heat. Unfortunately the stove heated just as powerfully in the summer, prompting the family to add a small stove in the south porch. "My mother used a gasoline stove in that little summer kitchen," recalled Naomi. "You know, to cook fast with in the summer-time. I can remember as plain as day, but I never touched it." Henry also remembered this stove in the summer kitchen and how it operated, but not what his grandmother actually prepared on it. Henry and his brother doubt Naomi's recollection that the stove burned gasoline, which was readily available (white gasoline) for camping stoves but shunned as too dangerous for household use. "It was a two-burner stove," Henry recalled, and burned kerosene. "I haven't seen any of these lately, but they had these round burners in them that had a wick. You could regulate the amount of heat by a little metering valve that could meter how much kerosene went into each of the burners. The glass kerosene tank was filled by hand and attached at the end of the stove." The fire which later damaged the summer kitchen was not caused by the stove, as some have thought, but by mice chewing on some matches left uncovered.<sup>202</sup>

When the family removed the wall partitions in the old one-story wing to create the current dining room they did not forget to consider a source of heat, but the lack of a *reliable* source of heat may have made the room less appealing for general use than it might originally have been intended. In the winter the family would fire up the stove and begin to circulate the air hours in advance of celebrations, with the heat from neighboring rooms as important to the effort as the little coal-oil heater. "We never had a stove in the dining room," said Naomi, except for a "coal-oil heater, oh, maybe 18" across and stood about that high. It had an oil container down below."<sup>203</sup> To warm the room the family "just opened all the doors and lit that little one over in the north end," depending upon air-circulation in addition to the small stove to reach a comfortable temperature.<sup>204</sup> Coal-oil heaters, and many other small heating devices, were readily available through the 1902 Sears & Roebuck catalog. These little stoves, declared the catalog, "are a great convenience for heating rooms where there is no chimney." When the family decided to remove the chimney they must have done so knowing that there were other heating options available.<sup>205</sup> The later ca. 1929 fireplace addition did not remedy the heating problems and the room remained as infrequently used as before, except as a handy freezer in the winter.

In Naomi's recollection the parlor and bedroom were heated with Round Oak Stoves, tall black-iron stoves with heavy chrome also affectionately called, by Ann Medley, "pot-belly" stoves. The stoves still provided the major source of heat in Henry's childhood. Mostly, said Naomi, "we heated with wood, cut from the area around."<sup>206</sup> But it seems that when it was available, such as when Carl or his nephews hauled it home from their various jobs in Gary during the late 1940s and early 1950s, the family burned coal. Ann remembered a big pile of coal east of the water house and Henry said that he and his brother dumped their own big pile of coal right outside the door of the hard to heat tenant house, so they wouldn't have to go too far for it when

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<sup>202</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980; HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998; HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>203</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

<sup>204</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982.

<sup>205</sup> "Oil Heating Stoves," Sears, Roebuck & Co. Catalogue: 828.

<sup>206</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

the weather was cold. They heated the tenant house with a stove purchased new in 1943 for the use of Henry's grandfather, Hugh D. Studebaker, Sr., and aunt, Mildred E. Studebaker. "We didn't burn wood in it," said Henry. "We worked at an oil refinery, so we burned petroleum coke! We would haul it out here... we'd borrow my uncle's truck and go get a load of it because we could get it for a dollar a ton by hauling it ourselves."<sup>207</sup> Carl also fed the coal to his pigs as a dietary supplement.<sup>208</sup>

Around 1955 Carl installed a propane tank outside between the house and tenant house and replaced the wood and coal stoves with propane heaters. There had been two older stoves upstairs, including a square one in the front bedroom for Carl and Hilda when they still slept there.<sup>209</sup> To heat the room for his daughters, Carl cut a hole in the floor and added an iron grate above the propane stove in the parlor, so the heat would warm the larger room for them. In 1995 an elderly visitor to the farm site, George Stout, of Porter, told the volunteers on duty that he delivered propane gas to the Chellbergs after they installed a gas stove. Their previous stove, he said, was a Kalamazoo wood stove.<sup>210</sup> The parlor became a television room and was kept warmer for general family use as a living room and to keep the girls comfortable upstairs.<sup>211</sup> The room appeared to see more use as a TV room than it did in its days as a parlor. This combination of propane and wood/coal-burning stoves was essentially the heating system that was in place when the park took over the property.

Oddly enough, in family memory no one mentioned the temperature of the house in the summer time, when the majority of the day would have been spent outside. Early family photographs show the family gathered on the front porch, sitting on the long bench or on the front step. None of the photographs that were taken in warm weather show any windows open, which may mean that the family had less tolerance for summer insects than they did for still air, although several of the doors appear to have had screens. The marshlands that had not been drained for farmland and other uses must have been a prolific breeding ground for mosquitoes and black flies. Later Henry remembered sitting on the newer enclosed front porch and that there were screens and windows that opened. Ann also recalled the front porch, but that they did not sit there very often. It seems that if someone wanted cool air inside they had to seek the cellar or the water-cooled well house.

The ca. 1986 pre-restoration photographs show intrusive radiator units in some of the rooms, which were installed by park employees sometime before Gene Beschinski began restoration work on the farmhouse. "I argued that they didn't fit with the farmhouse," said Gene. While later removed from the downstairs as inappropriate for the chosen period of interpretation, similar units are still installed on the second floor. Curt Hardesty said that a hot water boiler was put in around 1985 by the park which sent warm air through tubes and floor registers rather than

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<sup>207</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998; HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>208</sup> AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999.

<sup>209</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 27 January 1999.

<sup>210</sup> Memo from Jude Rakowski to unnamed person, 1995, "Chellberg Information," VF-FM, IDNL. It is not clear from the memo if the stoves Mr. Stout referenced were kitchen stoves or general heating stoves from other rooms in the house.

<sup>211</sup> AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999.

into the radiator units. Gene adapted the existing radiator system so that he and his men would have heat during the restoration work, that was expected to take several years. At the conclusion of the restoration, Gene redesigned the system yet again because the park had invested quite a bit of money in it and were reluctant to begin again. "I bought duct work, and insulated the inside of the duct work with foam insulation, and had [Joe Gentry] run three five-foot sections of baseboard heating coils," said Gene. "Those were set under each of the registers [and] the hot water in the boiler was pumped through those. It was all heat rising from those boxes that heated this building. I had a cold air return, so the warm air come up through there and the cold air'd go down through here, and then run back and heated again." They cut the holes which now appear all over the first floor for the rectangular floor registers.

The heating system was added to preserve the house perhaps more than to add comfort for anyone working in the building. Work, protection of the house, and comfort, however, was a more tenuous balance in the height of the summer season. A 1993 memo reported that "currently there is one dehumidifier in the basement which does control that space," but that the first and second floors were "subject to the ambient conditions." Overall the system could not handle periods of heavy visitation, particularly when the humidity was high and the moisture then became "trapped in the building during periods of inactivity." A new heating system, proposed in 1993, was meant to answer these challenges, with "mechanical cooling followed by reheating or tempering the air to the desired set point."<sup>212</sup> Finally, in 1995 the park installed a new air handler, heating coil and duct system. Gene had not seen the new forced air system before, but described it as "a coil system where hot water runs through it, and a fan blows the air up over the coils, and forces it out into the rest of the house." The furnace, housed in the cellar, emits a constant whooshing sound when operating.<sup>213</sup> Prior to installing the new system the park struggled to get volunteers and staff to self-monitor their use of the house, and "to cooperate in controlling the situation with opening windows and airing out the space, or just keeping the house closed on damp days."<sup>214</sup>

As part of its interpretive programs, but not essential to the heating of the farmhouse, the park has added two period stoves. A reproduction Round Oak Stove is in parlor on the west wall and a reconditioned black iron with chrome trim Henry L. Kingaise & Co. Glenwood Stove serves for period cooking demonstrations in the kitchen. Even though there was always a heating unit in the bedroom, the park does not have one there now, but have apparently left their future options open by keeping the stove-pipe hole covered with a stove plate. Upstairs the holes have been plastered over. The fireplace has also been kept operable and was used most recently for the Santa Lucia Christmas festival. Unfortunately, the fireplace continues to suffer from the same problem that has hindered its frequent use from the days that since it was first built, smoking heavily until it has been lit for several hours.

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<sup>212</sup> Peter Amodei to Dale Engquist, et al, 11 August 1993, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL

<sup>213</sup> "Buildings and Utilities Inventories: Historic Structures," August 1995, VF-Maint., IDNL; GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

<sup>214</sup> Historian to Chief of Interpretation, 10 August 1993, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

b. Lighting: The most important source of household light in the early years of the farmhouse was natural light. The house had generous exposure to sunlight on all sides except the west, where the windows lit the bedroom closet downstairs and the upper stairwell and pantry on the second floor. After the addition of the new kitchen wing half-glass doors helped to distribute light throughout the house interior, offering borrowed light between the kitchen, dining room and first floor bedroom. Visible in early photographs, Minnie draped many of the windows in the house with white lace curtains, which also would have captured and projected a sense of light into the rooms. Elsie Nickel, a Baillytown resident, remembered the lace curtains that were kept so clean and starched in her childhood home “that they practically stood by themselves when they had been taken out of the stretcher.”<sup>215</sup> As the family began to add porch additions the structures diminished the light coming into the building, even though all of the additions had windows.

As a girl, Naomi recalled, the family lit the house with “coal-oil lanterns,” as well as what she called “an Aladdin lamp” that would normally be featured on mantels.”<sup>216</sup> In her various interviews she does not mention the use of candles or other small lighting devices. The duty of cleaning the lamps was likely done by Naomi, who usually helped with household work while her sister preferred barn chores. Lamp cleaning, with the greasy black coating left by the early types of smoky oils, seems to have been the least desirable chore imaginable that fell to young women of the house. Carol Cherepko, remembered her mother, Adele Borg Issacson, daughter of Emily Chellberg Borg, calling lamp cleaning “a detestable chore” and one that Emily probably gladly passed onto her daughters after being the only daughter in the Kjellberg household.<sup>217</sup> In December 1919, however, the Chellberg family christened electric lights powered by their new Delco generator, installed in its own porch addition on the north side of the house to provide lighting for the house, farmyard, and barn. For a time, the Chellbergs had the luxury of electric lights not known to most country residents. Most farmers depended on kerosene lamps until after WWII, including the Chellberg’s nearest neighbors, the Nelsons and Charles’s sister Emily. After the system failed around 1930, the family went back to using kerosene lighting. Alden Studebaker, Henry’s father, bought new batteries for the system and lit the house again, apparently motivated by his desire to get lights in the maple sugar camp. “I know that it got started up again in the mid-thirties,” said Henry, “because I remember my father taking the generator down to a shop in Valparaiso to have it refurbished so that it would operate.” In 1946 Carl brought in utility power, ending the house’s unpredictable lighting situation.

When the park acquired the farm property, all that remained of several of the original lighting fixtures were the brass ceiling plates, chains, and bulb fittings, but no globes. Henry remembered that the lights hung on a cord, that the light bulb hung on the end of it and that they had been there as long as he could remember. “They were hanging fixtures from the ceilings,” said Henry. “They were generally right in the middle with pull-chains on them.” The park only incidentally documented a few of the light-fixtures still in the house in the mid-1980s, when layers of paint covered most of the hardware and the electrical cords were covered in electrical

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<sup>215</sup> Larson and Nickel, “The Homemakers in the Chesterton Area”: 10.

<sup>216</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

<sup>217</sup> Beth Chellberg Shubair, and Carol Cherepko, interview with AH, 15 December 1998.

and other tape as repairs to their aged frailty. Oddly, nearly all of the lights were of a type most generally associated with hall lights and bathrooms. Normally a room would require more illumination to be effective, but for some reason the family opted for single lights. All of the lights of this type would have had shades fitted over the light bulb, with the shades open at the bottom.<sup>218</sup> A January 1965 photograph captures the brass dining room light fixture, the most elaborate of all the known fixtures in the house. Four chains suspended a brass disc-like bowl, from which were attached four [units] covered with four globe-shaped shades. By the time of the photograph, two of the four globes were missing. Freed of the restraints of lighting design, which had to be open at the top to vent heat from an open flame, the dining room light suspended the globes upside-down.<sup>219</sup>

The park has installed electric ceiling lights throughout the house, but on the first floor they are in areas where the public is not allowed access, in the pantry, stairwell, and bathroom. These fixtures, institutional-type lighting where the globe fits directly to the fixture at the ceiling level, make no attempt to mimic historic lighting because the park opted to interpret the house prior to when the generator was installed and did not want chance encounters with fixtures to be misunderstood. Upstairs the ceiling light fixtures more closely resemble historic lighting but do not look like the fixtures that were removed. The cellar has also been lighted, but to help anyone working on the utilities rather than for interpretation. None of the outbuildings have been provided with lights, although the carpenters left the old knob-and-tube wiring which once conducted electricity from the Delco Battery system to light chores in the barn. There also seems to be an intermittent use of a heat lamp in the pig shelters when young piglets are susceptible to the cold. Installing the lamp required modifying the shelters to provide the necessary electricity.<sup>220</sup>

c. Electricity: When the Chellberg's installed an electric generator in their farmhouse in 1919, electricity was still a new phenomena in northern Indiana towns and a rarity on farms. Chesterton did not get electricity until 1911, when the Northern Indiana Public Service Company built electric lines into the town and electric replaced kerosene street lighting.<sup>221</sup> The Chellbergs installed their Delco battery system generator to power lights in the house, farmyard, and barn, not the growing number of electric appliances available to the general public. The 32 volt system was unable to handle power-hungry electric appliances, all of which drew too many amps for a system dependent upon battery power. Henry remembered only one outlet near the small window ledge just inside the kitchen wall from the generator room. A radio perched there as a center of family entertainment. "Other than that," said Henry, "there were ceiling fixtures and the power was strictly for lighting."

The Delco was a "kerosene fueled internal combustion engine generator" that charged a series of

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<sup>218</sup> Roger W. Moss, Lighting for Historic Buildings: A Guide to Selecting Reproductions (Washington, D.C., The Preservation Press, 1988): 145.

<sup>219</sup> Moss, Lighting for Historic Buildings: 127.

<sup>220</sup> Public Programs Manager to Chief of Interpretation, 20 March 1995, in "Pigs," VF-PPM, IDNL.

<sup>221</sup> Arthur Rader, "Some Recollections of Chesterton," Duneland Notes, 18: 3 (March 1970): 8. In his account, "Some Early History of Chesterton and Porter," William A. Briggs reported that Porter added electric lights in 1910, Duneland Notes, 21: 4(April 1973): 4.

batteries. Delco, a division of the General Motors Company, offered its generator systems through mail-order catalogs and became increasingly popular to a generation of farmers who had just seen a rising demand for their farm products during the war years. The year 1919 saw an increase in farm profits and may have been what encouraged Charles to install the system at the end of a good season, equipping his farm to take advantage of the high times that farmers optimistically thought would last. The rough times that followed may be one reason why Charles did not add the expense of other modern farm machinery, like a tractor, to his farm. Between 1920 and 1921 farm commodity prices fell 53 percent, a prohibitive amount to anyone thinking about making more farm improvements.<sup>222</sup> Further failures in farm commodity prices between 1929 and 1932, and the Depression years in general, made the family return to kerosene lighting when the Delco system was in desperate need of repairs.

The Delco system was a significant and complex enough machine that it required its own addition to the farmhouse. The family added a frame porch to the north side of the kitchen addition, creating a new entrance to the house that also seemed to serve as a mud room. The generator sat elevated on a concrete base, attached to the porch concrete floor. The generator had a fuel tank integrated with the generator, which came off the back of the generator to an insulator, and connected to one of the sixteen two-volt batteries stacked in two rows on the south wall of the addition. The batteries were wired in series with the housing and out-building wiring tied into it too. An exhaust pipe came off the north side of the generator to vent operating gases. It ran along the exterior of the dining room wall and stuck out about 6". In addition to the initial costs of purchasing and installing the system the Chellbergs also had to pay for the kerosene to run the generator as well as constant care.<sup>223</sup>

As a young boy Henry proved drawn to the battery and his clear memory of the battery system showed his aptitude for what became his life career as an engineer. Apparently Ruth was also drawn to the system and seemed to be the one who kept it operable. "The Delco battery system had to be operated for a number of hours at a time to keep the batteries charged," said Henry. "The time length of the run depended on the state of the charge at the beginning and, of course, the system loads imposed during the charging cycle. The top end battery cell nearest the doorway to the kitchen had a built-in charge indicator consisting of three colored balls in adjacent tubes about three inches high. They were red, white and green balls. If the batteries were fully charged, all the balls were at the top of the tubes. As the charge went down the balls would begin to drop in the tubes, the green one first. When the red ball started dropping it was time to charge the batteries." The batteries consisted of glass cases with the elements down inside of them with sulfuric acid. Charging the batteries was apparently a noisy ordeal, the generator heard as far as Mineral Springs Road.<sup>224</sup> Electricity traveled to the light fixtures along the old knob and tube type wiring. Traces of the earlier wiring still appear in the barn and, from a later installation date, on the north wall of the sugar camp.

Eventually even Alden Studebaker's rejuvenation of the system in the mid-1930s strained the

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<sup>222</sup> Robert K. Mills, ed. Implement & Tractor: Reflections on 100 Years of Farm Equipment (Overland Park, Kansas: Intertec Publishing, 1986): 199.

<sup>223</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

<sup>224</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998; HS correspondence with AH, March 1999.

patience of the family. The Delco was finally old enough that it “just wasn’t that good anymore.” Around 1943-44, Carl, in his efforts to keep the system running, rigged his 1939 Allis-Chalmers tractor to the battery to charge it. During the war farmers had access to plenty of gasoline, easing the expense of charging the batteries. The top of the generator was about 3’ tall and had a flywheel on the end of it. When the engine no longer turned the generator, Carl cut a hole through the west side of the porch addition and backed up his tractor. “He had a pulley-powered take-off on the back of it,” explained Henry, and “he ran a belt through the hole in the wall and turn the generator to charge the battery.” This system served the electric needs of the family until 1946, when the family invested several hundred dollars to bring in a NIPSCO line.<sup>225</sup> Once the family had an unlimited supply of power available they gradually brought in modern appliances and added running water fueled by an electric pump. Available photographs do not reveal any electrical outlets that the family added, although they must have had a few in the most commonly used portions of the house.

When the park acquired the property they removed most signs that the farm had once had electricity, such as utility poles and exposed wires, but added an extensive series of electric outlets in every room in preparation for possible program use. At least one of the light switches in the house prior to restoration maintained its early switch-plate. The dining room light, instead of having pull chains like the rest of the lights, was operated by two mother of pearl push-buttons. The stairwell apparently had a similar switch at the base of the stairs. The park debated whether to use period electrical fittings where fittings were necessary or to use modern fittings. “We have decided that since the house did not have electricity until long after the turn of the century,” wrote the park historian, that “it would potentially confuse visitors to add a period electrical switch to the stairway. Whatever elements of a modern nature that must occur in the house should be modern and should be explained to visitors. . . . Therefore we believe that a modern plastic switch and plate like the others in the house would be most appropriate.”<sup>226</sup>

d. Plumbing: The house had no indoor plumbing until 1953. Soon after Minnie Chellberg’s death in 1952, Henry and Arthur Studebaker added a bathroom in the first floor bedroom closet for their aunt and uncle. They extended the wall east into the room to facilitate the footed bathtub which, along with the sink and stool, came from a house in Dune Acres that was being renovated. The new indoor plumbing also introduced hot and cold running water for the kitchen and bathroom for which Henry installed a propane-fired hot water heater and related plumbing on the east side of the room, so it could vent into the chimney. To get water to the house, however, required running a water-line up from the sugar camp. When building the camp in the mid-1930s, Alden Studebaker had put in a 64’ well and a pump, but no windmill. Henry remembered using the sugar camp’s well as the water source for their extensive Victory Garden in the 1940s, hand pumping and hauling the water. The garden was located just east of the sugar camp, in the field south of the house and north of the Contact Station parking lot. Several years after the farm brought in outside power in 1946, Henry and his brother, Arthur, electrified the sugar camp pump system. “In 1953 we strung a third wire so that we could turn to a 220 volt system,” said Henry, “because we used 220 to run the pump that we put in the well to pump the

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<sup>225</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998; HS, correspondence with AH, March 1999.

<sup>226</sup> Assistant Superintendent to Acting Chief of Interpretation, 4 May 1989, “Chellberg -- Memos Concerning Furnishing,” VF-HO, IDNL.

water up to the farmhouse.” Prior to this modification the electricity to the camp drew from the Delco generator and had only powered the lights. When they electrified the water pump, they took out the previous pump and “put a jet pump down in the well, and an electric pump sat down in the pit, down under the floor.” They dug a trench by hand, approximately 250’ long and 42’ deep, laid a 1” galvanized pipe the entire length from near the north side of the small extension on the sugar camp. When they installed the system they had to work around one of Carl’s current endeavors, the brooder house near the camp, but once east of the structure turned the pipe ninety degrees and “made a straight-shot trench right up to the corner of the farmhouse.” They drilled holes in the farmhouse floor where necessary to install the waterlines.<sup>227</sup>

When adding the bathroom Henry and Arthur connected the plumbing system to a tile drainage sewer line that someone had already installed south of the house for the tenant house. The field drained over the hill and into the ravine. Despite where the field ran being “very evident,” and the ravine “a big cesspool down there,” the new system and indoor facilities were “better than the outhouse.” Ann Medley, then a young woman of fourteen, remembers how wonderful it was to have indoor plumbing, but virtually blocked all memory of having to use the outhouse or to have to concoct bathing space. The brothers planned a modern septic system that they wanted to install at the farm, but Naomi questioned the significant expense and who was to pay for it, so the plumbing system remained as it was. The new indoor bathroom replaced two outhouses, one attached to the west side of the granary and another created out of the west half of the smokehouse, which stood south of the kitchen addition. Carl removed the larger outhouse soon after getting the new bathroom, and no one is quite sure when the smokehouse outhouse came down.<sup>228</sup>

The Chellberg family had not been without the conveniences of a steady supply of water. A series of gutters and downspouts connected to a cistern, located south of the new kitchen, close to the brick stairwell wall. A trapdoor, in what Naomi called the cream separator room, opens to the cistern and would have provided easy access to the water for doing laundry either in the summer kitchen or outside. No one knows if the cistern or any other cistern system was part of the 1885 house, but it was incorporated into the ca. 1901 addition with its own shelter and with a cistern hand pump to bring the soft rainwater water to the kitchen sink. Minnie used the water for laundry; Henry remembers the water as a murky brown not at all tempting nor intended for drinking. In Henry’s childhood years Minnie still did her laundry in a galvanized laundry tub with a washboard.<sup>229</sup>

Water for cooking, drinking, and general farm use came from the well northwest of the farmhouse. It is likely that the well predates the brick farmhouse but that Charles Chellberg altered the wellhouse and windmill for the water-intense needs of a dairy farm. On a 1975 questionnaire, Naomi reported that the wellhouse well was about 95’ deep and apparently never threatened to go dry.<sup>230</sup> Until the 1953 plumbing installation, all household water was carried from the well into the house where they kept drinking water on hand and kept the stove reservoir

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<sup>227</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998; HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>228</sup> AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999; HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

<sup>229</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 18 March 1999.

<sup>230</sup> NS, questionnaire, 9 August 1975, included with INDU #298, Museum Collection, IDNL.

full for a steady supply of hot water. Refuse water in the sink simply drained on the ground, in the crawl space under the kitchen. It appears, however, that water was seldom allowed simply to drip away down the drain. "Our grandmother put all the dish water in a slop bucket by the sink," said Henry, "which was then taken to the hogs everyday."<sup>231</sup>

In renovating the house, the park removed the bathtub and moved the bedroom wall back to its previous location, but opted to keep indoor toilet facilities for the staff and volunteers. Rather than the supply of water coming from the sugar camp, the park accommodated all water needs for the house from the Bailly Contact Station. The windmill near the house had stopped working at some point prior to 1969, but by the early 1980s the park made it operable again for general farm use. In the kitchen the park wanted to pretend to have an operable cistern, so they connected the pump to a water reservoir in the cellar filled when an automatic float automatically signaled when the reservoir needed more water. When building the dry sink the park had every intention of volunteers and staff dumping water into it, but soon discovered that it would not drain, forcing everyone to dump water outside.<sup>232</sup> The sink which was in the house when the park took over drained had connected into the tenant house's drain field, but everything about it, except the wood frame for the sink, had been removed, so it is not clear how or where it drained. The upstairs sink, installed for the convenience of Carl and Hilda when it was their home, drained through a pipe dropped behind the sink, underneath the floor, and simply straight out the house's south wall.

Unfortunately, once the Chellberg family no longer depended upon water from the cistern any longer, the entire gutter system fell into disrepair, causing extensive water damage to the house. To combat the problems, the park repaired the gutter system, and altered the drainage, since the cistern was not meant to function authentically. The work required digging close to the foundation of the house to "dewater the area" and installing underground drains connected to the downspouts. The ravine played its historic role as a drain field, with the drains emptying into the ravine west of the house. The updated toilet facilities, on the other hand, required installing around 70' of sewer line to connect to the existing line.<sup>233</sup>

e. Other systems: Out of concern for the security and safety of the building and its contents the park has installed a security and fire system. The system includes motion detectors, a fire alarm, an alarm keyboard and control panel, smoke detectors, portable fire extinguishers, and alarm bells. All of the components are meant to be fully visible, yet not obtrusive to the period interpretation of the house.

#### 9. Original Furnishings:

The Chellberg farmhouse does not retain any of its original furnishings, although some items

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<sup>231</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>232</sup> Dori Partsch to Bailly District Interpretation, 5 April 1989, "Chellberg -- Memos Concerning Furnishing," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>233</sup> Memorandum from Acting Supervisor Glen Alexander to Chief Midwest Archaeological Center, 2 February 1988. Chellberg Farm Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL. The memo is accompanied by a sketch of the proposed lines.

known to have been in the family are stored off-site as part of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore museum collection. Chellberg descendants and family friends also retain early furnishings and photographs. It will take some careful deciphering of the museum collection, however, to determine which objects now owned by the park were a part of the Chellberg family's many years on the farm or those that were stored on the farm by numerous members of the extended family. Although the family had long welcomed visitors into their home and to stay in the tenant house, beginning in the 1940s many relatives depended upon the farm for their temporary residence and brought with them numerous belongings, many of which remained even after the family members departed. By the time the park obtained the property many of the buildings and attics were filled with cast-off furniture, boxes of family photographs and papers, and other belongings.<sup>234</sup>

Determining what is "original" to the farmhouse is a tricky proposition. Because the family arrived in the area as Swedish immigrants and the park seeks to make more connections with that Swedish past, it would be desirable to discover items connected to Anders and Johanna, the first generation of Kjellbergs. The 1884 fire, however, likely destroyed nearly all that the family had brought with them from Sweden as well as whatever they had acquired after their arrival in the United States. Saved from the flames were "a bed-lounge, sewing machine, and a few bed-clothes out of a small room near the kitchen." Unfortunately, neither Johanna nor Anders left a will and documentary evidence suggests that their estates were also not probated. None of the items rescued from the fire are known to still exist today. We also do not know how extensively the family was able to furnish their home after the fire, whether they received used furniture from friends and neighbors or if they invested in new furnishings. Suites of mass-produced parlor, bedroom, and dining room furniture would have been readily available through local stores or catalogues, and, depending upon the quality, at varying prices. Likewise, abundant prescriptive literature suggested what families should aspire to in their homes, but without more first-hand evidence, we do not know how the Kjellbergs' would have adapted popular trends with any lingering old-world sensibilities. As an aspiring Mid-western immigrant farming family the Kjellbergs would have furnished their home to suit the fashion of the times, but also dictated by financial and practical limitations, as well as personal taste. One object with known associations to Anders is a walking stick, pictured with Naomi in a 1981 newspaper article. Anders's handmade tailor scissors may also still be within the family.<sup>235</sup>

Memory, Charles's probate inventory, and the material record offer the most concrete evidence of household furnishings for the years Charles and Minnie lived together on the farm, from 1901-1937.<sup>236</sup> Furnishings listed in the inventory include a library table, oval table, parlor rug, walnut dresser, writing desk and kitchen range. The family was known to have more furnishings

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<sup>234</sup> In addition to what was left at the farm after Carl Chellberg departed, various family members have donated photographs and other family documents to the museum collection. Due to the scheduling constraints of the staff and the rules for seeing the collection, which is generally not open to the public, this researcher did not have more than a few hours to access the entire collection.

<sup>235</sup> "Fire Fiend," Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884; "Recalls old Chellberg Farm Days," Vidette-Messenger, 21 March 1981; HS, correspondence with AH, 17 March 1999.

<sup>236</sup> Inventory of the Personal Estate of Charles Levin Chellberg. For a complete listing of the inventory and values, see the Appendix at the end of this report.

in the house, but it was apparently not considered Charles's property, and thus not have been included on this list. Other furniture in the house belonged to Minnie, such as a baking cabinet, bed, and dining room table and chairs. In 1982 Marty Marciniak, a seasonal employee of the park for many years, conducted a brief interview with Naomi about how the farmhouse was furnished during her childhood. Several of the items that she mentioned, in addition to those in the inventory, are still in the possession of the family. An interview the same year with Ann Medley confirmed that a few of the pieces were still in the house during Ann's childhood in the 1940s and 50s, as well as which descendants later owned some of furniture. The major furnishings that Naomi remembered were in the downstairs rooms. At the time that the park began thinking about restoring the farmhouse there were no plans to interpret the upstairs, so no one recorded anything Naomi may have known or said about the second floor's early appearance, use, or contents, aside from taking in paying weekend guests. Questions about the first-floor furnishings were cursory and none of the recorded interviews done by park employees took place on-site. Because of this, few pieces of the furniture can be attributed to a specific year or event. The types of items that Naomi described, however, are all represented in the 1902 Sears and Roebuck catalog, many produced in the catalog company's "factory in Northern Indiana," and would have been available through multiple sources across the country.<sup>237</sup> Local stores in Porter and Chesterton provided an abundance of purchasing options. For example, Naomi remembered that her parents purchased the parlor and dining room rugs from Flynn and Lundburg, in Chesterton, who, in addition to selling rugs and furniture, was an undertaker.<sup>238</sup> Over the years the Chellberg family likely gathered an eclectic variety of furnishings, acquiring rather than parting with furniture as the years, and the furniture, wore on.

The dining room remained the most distinct in both Naomi's and Ann's memories, which is ironic because it was also one of the least-used rooms. Henry's recollections of the household furnishings were more vague, he confesses, because as a boy he was not attentive to such things. As a wedding present, said Naomi, Minnie and Charles received a dining room table and six chairs, which featured caned seats, carved back panels, full-braced arms, and turned spindles. In addition to the rug, dining room table and matching chairs, which dominated the center of the room, there were several other notable pieces of furniture. A library table "with a drawer and shelves underneath for books" stood along the south wall, and two china cabinets occupied the east and west walls. A curved-glass, wood-veneered china cabinet stood between the windows on the west wall. Between the windows on the east wall Naomi described a "glass door bookshelf and pull-down secretary," which contemporary catalogues called "combination bookcases and writing desks." Ann inherited the former cabinet and her sister, Carmen, inherited the latter one. The dining room table and chairs are still at the Studebaker Family

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<sup>237</sup> The author has not seen any of the furniture described in the interviews, with the exception of the parlor suite now in the museum collection and a 1924 photograph of one of the dining room chairs. Photograph in Chellberg Farm Scrapbook, page 6, in the possession of the Studebaker family.

<sup>238</sup> Naomi's husband, Alden Studebaker, had a cousin in Bluffton, Indiana, who also operated a furniture store and funeral parlor, "all in the same building." Such a business combination was not unusual in small towns where the undertakers were already dealing with large wood caskets, so shipping and selling furniture was a logical extension of business. The author's mother, raised in Crosswell, Michigan, in the 1920s and 30s, recalls that the local undertaker there likewise dealt in both new and used furniture, the used furniture apparently coming from the estates of the some of the deceased.

home in Dune Acres. At the time of the 1982 interview Naomi could not recall if she had the library table “still downstairs here.” Naomi died in 1988, yet Henry and Arthur Studebaker are still discovering family items in her house in Dune Acres, where she accumulated traces of her life parting with little. Twelve years after her death the house remains a formidable challenge for her sons to sort. The table may still be there.<sup>239</sup>

Determining what furnishings were in the parlor is more difficult. Unfortunately, during his interview with Naomi, Marciniak skipped discussion of the parlor furniture in his eagerness to move onto the next room, so we cannot verify the exact furniture used there. The room contained at least a parlor rug, several rockers, a Round Oak Stove, and an upright piano, of “dark-colored wood, almost black.” A scrap of paper from the early 1980s, handwritten based on information from a Mrs. Gerald Kohler visiting the farm, noted that “Stella Samuelson’s daughter (Valpo) has piano from Chellberg House.” Mrs. Kohler, Dorothy Field before she married, was one of Naomi’s childhood and lifelong friends.<sup>240</sup> Ann Medley recalled a Victorian suite in the parlor, upholstered in black horsehair. This furniture is now part of the museum collection and the park invested \$2000 for part of its restoration. It is unlikely, however, that this furniture was part of the original furnishings. In response to a letter of inquiry about the furniture from the farm manager, Henry wrote that the “chair and sofa were part of the furnishings of Mrs. Minnie Chellberg’s sister, Ida C. Peterson’s residence.” The furniture was used locally by the Peterson family and is probably of the type that Minnie would have chosen for her parlor, but it did not come to the farm until 1947, when Ida passed away. Shortly before the park acquired the farm in 1972 Naomi took the furniture to Dune Acres, then gave them to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in the 1980s.<sup>241</sup>

In both the parlor and the dining rooms family photographs adorned the walls. The park has a collection of family photographs, but determining which ones were actually on the walls will require close discussion with family members. Many of the more significant photographs are, understandably, still in the family. Both Ann and Naomi mentioned photographs in their possession, including childhood photographic portraits of Naomi, Ruth, and Carl in oval frames, all of which hung in the dining room. In the parlor, Naomi remembered Charles and Minnie’s 1901 wedding picture on the west wall, adjoining the bedroom, and “a nice colored picture of the farmhouse,” although she did not say on which wall it hung nor who had it as of 1982. The picture was likely a colorized photographic architectural portrait, a popular expression of pride in property made possible both by improvements in photography and hard working itinerant photographers.<sup>242</sup> Many farmers today likewise have more contemporary enlarged photographs of their farms on their walls next to older farm photographs, presenting a kind of gallery of growth. The photographs were usually taken by enterprising aerial photographers.

The downstairs bedroom contained a variety of furniture, depending upon the ages and number

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<sup>239</sup> NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982.

<sup>240</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 4 April 1999; “Chellberg Information,” VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>241</sup> HS to JR, 5 June 1996, “Misc. Curatorial, 1996-97,” VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>242</sup> Beth Chellberg Shubair has a colorized photograph of the John Borg farmhouse, but at the time of our interview she had not unpacked it yet from a recent move. The photograph is likely similar to the one that the Chellbergs displayed on their walls.

of children at home. Constantly present was a source of heat, although the type of stove likely changed over the years. At least through Carl's younger years, Naomi slept with her mother in a double bed and Charles slept in a three-quarter sized bed next to the window. Carl's crib occupied part of the west wall and later went to "the same lady as has the piano." Both larger beds, recalled Naomi, were "iron, you know, curly-cued iron" with "brass knobs on the top." Minnie apparently also had another bed with a wood headboard, footboard and siderails which Ruth refinished in the 1950s and is now stored at Dune Acres. As children, Henry and Arthur spent many nights with their grandparents, but cannot recall if they slept on a bed or a couch. Judging from how active they were in the rest of their activities on the farm, they doubt that they both could have slept together on the limited space of a couch. Regardless, the room proved versatile, elastic enough to house family whenever they needed accommodations. The most impressive piece of furniture in Naomi's recollections was Charles's maple dresser. The dresser stood "tall" and had two small drawers on each side at the top, flanking a mirror. One can sense Naomi as a little girl fascinated by the dresser and holding the knobs in her hands. The knobs reminded her of acorns, "only BIG, so that you could get your hand and pull them open." Naomi did not know what had become of the dresser.

Over the years, the kitchen, like the bedroom, gradually evolved to suit the current functions of the household perhaps more than decorative concerns or what the original design intended. As Henry recalls from his childhood, the room seemed filled with free-standing kitchen furniture, nothing built-in. There is no recorded detailed information from Naomi about the location, use, or descriptions of various pieces of furniture, only whether or not there was "a" cabinet, "a" stove, or "a" table.<sup>243</sup> Henry remembers the kitchen of his 1930s childhood filled with furniture, all with definite purposes in this most-used room of the house. There may indeed have been more furniture in the room when Henry was a boy versus when Naomi grew up in the house, but during both periods the space would have been commanded by Minnie's needs. Both Henry and Ann remember the space as Minnie's domain. With so many windows on the north and south walls and the large iron cookstove and two pantry doors occupying the west wall, Minnie had little choice but to place her kitchen baking cabinet on the south wall between the door and the sink. The cabinet was convenient to the summer kitchen and cream separator room as well as to the cistern pump and cookstove. It had a porcelain work surface and cupboards above, including one with a built-in flour sifter. The cabinet served as the primary space for all baking activity in the kitchen. Next to the baking cabinet the family also squeezed in a woodbox, convenient to the stove. Between the sink and the other south-wall window stood an enclosed cupboard for dishes. Henry recalled a third piece of furniture, more like a dresser, which stood on the north wall so near the stove that you had "to almost wiggle between it to get into where Ruth had her bedroom." A drop-leaf table, large enough to seat up to eight people and now owned by Henry's son, was in front of the window on the north wall. A significant feature of the cookstove, and not represented by the example used by the park today, was a water reservoir on the south side that would have kept a vital supply of hot water handy for cooking and cleaning.

Early twentieth-century exterior photographs show two prominent outdoor pieces of furniture. On the front porch a long bench stretched from the north wall to the dining room entrance. A surprising number of family photographs feature this bench, implying its importance as a family

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<sup>243</sup> For example, see Marciniak's 1982 interview with Naomi Studebaker.

gathering place for relaxing, cooling off in summer, and for completing light summer chores like preparing garden vegetables for canning. The bench had a narrow seat with a flat apron. At either end flat boards served as both leg supports and arm rests, the upper edges fashioned into curved arm-rests. A similar board offered support in the middle of the bench. A single unembellished board extended the entire length as a back rest. A 1921 photograph shows a self-contained swing outside of the Delco battery room, inside the yard fence near the windmill. Wood braces supported two wood-slatted seats and backs as well as a foot platform. Outdoor photographs beginning around 1908 also show wood bow-backed chairs as being part of the household furnishings. These simple chairs must have been a part of the estate for many years because ca. 1960 one was incidentally recorded in a photograph, seemingly abandoned in the yard. The earlier photographs also hint at lace curtains in the windows, a staple feature of many Victorian homes.

When Charles married Minnie in 1901, says Naomi, Minnie wanted control of her own household and insisted that Emily and her husband, Alfred Borg, find a home of their own. The Borgs left the farm and built a house near the northwest corner of Mineral Springs and Oak Hill Road. Emily probably took things with her that had been her mother's. In fact, her mother's legal wish was that "after her death all property of which she may be possessed shall be equally divided between [Charles] and Emily C. Kjellberg." Any other distribution of her belongings would have probably taken place at the next generation, particularly because Johanna stipulated that "no will shall be made to make any other division of her property." Carol Cherepko, Emily's granddaughter, owns a trunk said to have been Johanna's and brought from Sweden. The 1884 newspaper account of the fire did not report that a trunk had survived, but other items may have been rescued. Carol's mother, Adele Borg Isaacson, was one of five children, so Emily's other descendants likely also have furniture, photographs and documents connected to the Chellberg family which could enlighten current understanding of the farm. Prized among Carol's possessions are several quilts and other pieces of Emily's handiwork, some of which may have been made at the farm before she married.<sup>244</sup>

Because the Chellberg farm site is actively used by the public and park staff, there have been numerous debates about whether or not family items should be on display or if interpretive programs should use period antiques or reproductions. The 1989 Furnishings Plan made a conscious effort not to interpret specifics about the family because the overall interpretive plan for the farm was to represent a "typical Indiana farmstead." "The NPS cannot give the public what it wants," reported a 1994 memo. "Our interpretive themes for Bailly and Chellberg are not furnished house tours. . . . Because we chose to do a typical NW Indiana farmhouse, the common, unusual, and expected features were aimed at." The park also struggles with how to convince volunteers and staff to handle the collection carefully and that they are not to add their own fanciful touches at will. One example is a bell on a post which stands near the front porch, donated by a volunteer. Although there have been numerous requests for several years to have the bell removed and returned to its owner, it was still there at the time of this research late in 1998. A letter written from a volunteer reveals the conflicts of interest and intent between the

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<sup>244</sup> Letter of Agreement between Charles Levin Chellberg and Johanna Kjellberg, 19 March 1894, Miscellaneous Chellberg Family Documents, Museum Collection, IDNL; Carol Cherepko, interview with AH, 15 December 1998.

volunteers and staff in their work at the farm. When a volunteer donated a match safe, it came with a note. "Please accept this for the farmhouse," said the note. "Some-time a small thing can help a lot. If we can have this in the farmhouse the volunteers will (hopefully) feel that their feelings are being taken in to consideration, and will understand that to pass the understanding of another life is more than a game of house." Today the overall interpretation of the farm is under negotiation. For a complete look at the choices made in furnishing the Chellberg farmhouse, please see the "Chellberg Farm Furnishings Plan," compiled by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore historian.<sup>245</sup>

#### D. Site:

1. Historic landscape design: The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is having a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) completed on Chellberg Farm at the same time as this HABS report. For a detailed analysis of the farm landscape and recommendations for its future treatment, please see that report, available through the Lakeshore. The CLR traces the changes in the landscape over time, and includes details of fences, and field and garden crops as well as circulation patterns and the types of trees and flowers that appeared throughout the farm.<sup>246</sup> Because of the thoroughness of the CLR, this report will offer only a cursory sketch of the historic landscape, as it relates to the farmhouse and farm buildings. Particularly because it was an active and evolving farmstead that responded to the changing styles and a fluctuating agricultural economy, the landscape is integral to understanding the buildings, and visa-versa. Each structure was built, and some removed, in response to changing crops, farmland use, and the introduction of new animals, which in turn affected the treatment of the landscape.

Over the years work spaces and pathways evolved which reflected the divergent yet interconnected spheres of the home, farmyard, extended family, and even the larger community. The farmhouse was a central feature of the farm and its place was differentiated from the rest of the farm by a yard fence. The earliest known photographs of the farm date from ca. 1908, so it is hard to date when many of these features associated with the yard first appeared, if they were part of the early farm development or came with Minnie and Charles Chellberg creating a new home for themselves after 1901. On a practical level, the fence kept livestock away from the house, but the fence also framed a more formal area of flower beds, grass, shade trees, a swing, and a kitchen garden. The well house was also included within this sphere, necessary for regular access for household water. Concrete paved walkways in the small area between the house and the well house attest to high percentage of foot traffic this area must have seen, not only to and from the well, but also as the main access point for the barn, outhouse, and granary. To the east, the yard extended outward for a view of the entrance lane and the surrounding fields, allowing constant surveillance of the fields at the same time as one may have relaxed or completed light chores on the front porch. Gates signaled the points of entry to the yard and eventually included at least four, one in each compass direction. Just outside of the fence boundary one had close access to the orchard,

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<sup>245</sup> Jack Arnold (note compiled by Dori Partsch) to Chellberg and Bailly Staff and Volunteers, 19 January 1994, "Chellberg Farm Notes," VF-PPM, IDNL; Volunteer to JR, 15 July 1992, "Chellberg Furnishings - Curatorial," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>246</sup> Many of the same research materials have been made available to both the author of this HABS report and Brenda Williams, the author of the Cultural Landscape Report. The report is being prepared through Quinn Evans/Architects, of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

vegetable garden, and many of the outbuildings. The yard fence so defined the east side of the farmhouse yard that many features of the farm outside of the fence were determined by the enclosed area. The vegetable garden and orchard boundaries, in particular, seemed to follow the clean straight lines of the fence. Even the main entrance lane bowed to the yard, jutting northward around the northeast corner of the yard, a path it continues to follow today without the visual clue of the fence. Most of the outbuildings, on the other hand, seemed to follow the natural logic of the wooded ravine, convenient for both domestic use and to the rest of the farm.

Larger circulation patterns involved both animal and human movement throughout the farm. The main routes included the entrance lane off Mineral Springs Road, a lane through the pasture from the barn to Oak Hill Road, and the pathways which followed and crossed the ravine, particularly to the field west of the ravine. Many of these pathways were set off by fences, directing animals and people along the preferred access routes. The pathway into the ravine, in particular, had a gate near the granary to control when and where the animals entered. A smaller lane extended southward from east of the house between the fields on the lower forty acres and would have aided the movement of farm equipment to and from the fields.<sup>247</sup>

Many of the pathways served not only the practical function of serving the farm fields, several also connected the Chellbergs to their neighbors. At the northern terminus of the lane to Oak Hill Road stood the farm of Alfred and Emily Borg, Charles Chellberg's brother-in-law and sister. Rather than walk the indirect route along Mineral Springs Road and then up the main entrance lane, the extended family traversed across the "north lane," as the family called it, for informal chats or shared chores. This also would have been the preferred route for walks to family and friends who lived closer to the center of Baillytown. The north lane was just tracks in the earth, created out of use. After school Henry and Arthur rode a schoolbus from Porter to the north end of the lane on Oak Hill Road; they then walked to the farmhouse along the lane.<sup>248</sup> The other "Lane," the partially tree-lined farm entrance which led to and from Mineral Springs Road, provided direct access to the Nelson Farm across the road. The Nelsons were not only old friends, Charles depended upon them financially off and on for several years. Mineral Springs Road linked the Chellbergs to Chesterton and Porter, the Augsburg Swedish Lutheran Church was only a mile south.<sup>249</sup>

The Chellberg, Borg, and Nelson farms each had direct visual access to one another across the Chellberg's northeastern field. This access was broken when the park removed the Alfred Borg farmhouse and then when they built the storage facility on the north side of the lane. That the view continued to be important to the present day was evident from the livid complaints of a resident in the Nelson farmhouse in 1989. The man complained via telephone "that the shed ruined his view of the Chellberg Farm. That it is intrusive and detracts from the historic scene." The respondent explained the park's rationale behind its location, and that the park would "consider some plantings of trees between the building and the paved road." The park employee did not address the issue that it was not that the

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<sup>247</sup> The only period overall visual representation of these pathways is from an aerial photograph taken in 1938. The photograph, (1938/37-6-28) is available at the USGS Lake Michigan Ecological Research Station, located on the grounds of the IDNL.

<sup>248</sup> HS, correspondence with JR, 5 July 1998, "Recent Memos," VF-HO, IDNL.

<sup>249</sup> For details of the mortgage arrangements between the two families, see the Chain of Title included with this report.

resident wanted the storage building screened, but that he wanted to *see* the farm, and no amount of plantings would suddenly open the view again. The shed not only occupies a large portion of field that had long been under cultivation, it also blocked the historic viewshed that a local resident fully appreciated but the park, at the time, did not.<sup>250</sup>

From a 1938 aerial photograph it also appears as though an informal path linked the Chellberg Farm and Bailly homestead. Naomi claimed that her father often did work for Francis Howe, a descendant of the Bailly family who continued to live at the Homestead. A letter from Miss Howe to Charles reveals that she saw it as his responsibility, not hers, to maintain the fences between their properties. "Will you talk over that business of that fence between your land and my fraction with Alfred Johnson," wrote Miss Howe in 1899. "I have always left the business of fencing to him and see no reason for changing. Please accept this as a notice to adjust the matter of the work of fencing." Because the farm animals grazed throughout the ravine it would have been especially important to maintain fences between the Bailly and Chellberg property. The ravine also served as one of the access routes to Minnie Chellberg's acreage, which the family actively farmed and used as grazing land. There was a gate at the northwest corner fenceline at Oak Hill Road, which the family probably used for the animals rather than having to herd them along the lane directly north of the barn and then along Oak Hill Road. The aerial photograph shows that the ravine areas of other farms were also left wooded, likely fulfilling a similar role for woodlots and general animal grazing.<sup>251</sup>

The NPS has made many changes to Chellberg farm as they try to balance presenting a working farm for interpretive programs with their desire to present a natural landscape in much of what had once been open and active farmland. Nature trails now wind through advancing stages of field succession, the tall grasses, sumac and saplings spilling into what had once been Chellberg pasture to the west of the ravine. Fences that divided the lands of the Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm bend, rot, and rust away as do many of the old land boundaries which once divided private land and different field uses. The park has built many structures and fences in areas where the Chellbergs maintained open fields, particularly in an area sweeping from north of the barn eastward to the northern edge of the farm's entrance lane. To the south they have built a parking lot and a contact station to orient visitors to both the Chellberg and Bailly sites. Ironically, the park has flipped the way that the Chellberg Family viewed and used their landscape, making the private public and the public private. The entrance lane, which once provided the finest view of the farm, now functions as a service entrance, such that the people no longer gets their first impression of the farm walking up the tree-covered lane towards the farm's courtyard display of buildings. Visitors to the park today approach the farm from the south along the ravine, gaining immediate access to sights that the family purposefully sheltered away from public eyes, such as the smaller service buildings, most of which are gone today. The Chellberg Farm buildings and landscape evolved for efficient family use and daily chores as well as a larger connection to community tastes and values. The family worked hard and that work was often evident throughout the farm landscape, but they did maintain a public face. The park has made their layout fit their own interpretive programming and convenience needs, sometimes ignoring the logic that drove the farm's development in the first place.

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<sup>250</sup> John Hirsh to Glen Alexander, record of telephone call, 23 May 1989, "Chellberg Buildings and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>251</sup> Francis Howe to Mr. L. Shelberg [sic], Baillytown 20 April 1899, INDU #7131-Museum Collection, IDNL; HS correspondence with AH, 17 August 1999.

The development of the landscape and interpretation of the site under the park is full of ironies. The farm proclaims Indiana farmers' ingenuity and self-sufficiency. Farmers, yes, were largely self-sufficient in that they grew and preserved much of their own food, but even these acts showed a circle of dependence outside the boundaries of the farm. The network of the farm community around Chellberg Farm has barely begun to be documented to show the importance of these links, the physical evidence of which has severely faded. In an interview conducted with Naomi, the interviewer kept asking for reassurance: "So, you guys were pretty self-sufficient, weren't you?" Yes, Naomi had to agree, in many respects they were, but they needed the shared labor, the grist mill in McCool, the dairy in South Chicago, the creamery in Chesterton, the summer "campers" who paid for the pleasure of a visit, the extra money earned by cooking at large local functions. There is a modern idea of self-sufficiency which may be exaggerated if Chellberg Farm remains as an agricultural island, one farm in the midst of an ironic combination of a nature preserve, an industrial landscape, and modern transportation corridor. When the original farmhouse burned, the \$600.00 insurance on it was hardly enough to begin to rebuild, yet within a year they had rebuilt. They may have had savings or had to mortgage their property, but it is more likely that they relied as well upon neighbors, relatives, and fellow parishioners.

## 2. Outbuildings:

Chellberg Farm remained active for over 100 years before the NPS assumed control of the property. Each of the three generations which raised their families on the farm added and subtracted structures from the farm, altering the built landscape depending upon current farming and equipment needs. Because of the organic nature of the farm's development and its fluctuating fortunes, numerous outbuildings came and went from the property. Several faded from the site due to disrepair or becoming obsolete, but the family often recycled salvageable parts into new structures. New buildings continue to appear on the farm grounds today as the park builds structures to suit its interpretive programs and its own vision of the farmscape.

Determining the exact dates of construction and removal of many of the buildings is nearly impossible. Without much available documentary or physical evidence, family memory becomes the most consistent source for attributing the construction and removal of buildings. Both Naomi (Chellberg) Studebaker and her son, Henry Studebaker, refer to many of the buildings as being "there as long as I can remember," or at least since their early childhoods. Because of the number of structures that came and went on the property in Naomi and Henry Studebaker's memories, it is inevitable that others appeared and disappeared during the early years of the site, for which there is no living memory. Within the Chellberg family itself there are divergent ideas about when many of the buildings were first built. When a real estate assessor visited Carl Chellberg on the farm in 1969, Carl told him that "the outbuildings were built in the year 1900," placing them closer to the context of the dairy farm and his life experience, even though several predated the turn of the century. Carl was probably not overly concerned with their actual age, knowing simply that their appearance predated his birth.<sup>252</sup> Scattered photographic evidence does not begin until 1908, but those photographs that exist do help verify the form, condition, and location of some of the buildings. Because this was an ever-changing working farm, the vernacular buildings never appeared simply out of whimsy, although some proved more temporary than others. A new building usually signaled the arrival of new animals needing shelter, changing ideas in the care and feeding of animals, or some other element in the daily life and needs of

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<sup>252</sup> Appraisal by Bondarenko, Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

the farm family.<sup>253</sup>

The scope of this section of this study is to determine, as much as possible, the evolution, location, and use of buildings on the site. The buildings are organized into four sections, 1) buildings constructed by the Chellbergs which still exist, 2) buildings built by the Chellbergs but disappeared prior to NPS ownership, 3) buildings built by the Chellberg's which were removed by the NPS, and briefly, 4) NPS addition of buildings to the eighty-acre farm site. To understand thoroughly Chellberg Farm's Swedish and agricultural context one would have to conduct comparative studies of the neighboring and regional farms' layout and structures, not just of facades, but also building methods and choice of materials as well as recollections of their use. Unfortunately, few structures, let alone farm buildings, remain in the immediate vicinity for comparative analysis, particularly in Baillytown. Over time farmstead photographs and documents from other Swedish families in the area may appear which will help place the Chellberg farm buildings into a more definite local and regional context.<sup>254</sup>

#### 1. Existing Chellberg Family-related:

One of the reasons that the park decided to preserve Chellberg Farm was because of the high concentration of older farm structures which survived there. The many lean years on the farm had prevented them from entirely replacing many of the buildings; if a building's original use ceased, the family adapted it to new purposes. Chellberg structures which still remain on the site include the barn, chicken coop, corncrib, granary, maple sugar camp, and the windmill (please note, the well-house is a recreation of an earlier structure). In the first recorded interview that anyone from the park conducted with Naomi, in 1975, she said that her grandparents "built the barn, then they built the house that later was destroyed, and then they built a wagon shed, and corn crib and the chicken house." If this is true, the barn and chicken house are the lone survivors of the pre-1885 period of the farm's history.<sup>255</sup>

Barn: While the basic heavy timber structural system of the Chellberg barn has remained largely intact over its nearly 130 year history, many other elements of its form have proved fluid, so much so that it is difficult to determine the various ways the barn must have been used and the ways that it changed to accommodate those uses. The park has added its own complex layers of changes to the barn in order to suit their interpretive programs as well as in their efforts simply to keep the building standing. In this

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<sup>253</sup> Westchester Township tax information would have been a useful source for the appearance and disappearance of some of the buildings and their affect on the value of the farm. Unfortunately, these records are said to have disappeared, either through fire or by being stored in some forgotten place. The records of the Porter County Fair are still a promising source for future research on who participated in the fairs over time, as well as the kinds of animals and produce exhibited. At the time of this research, family health concerns of those who know the records best prohibited gathering any detailed information.

<sup>254</sup> Other potential sources that could help gain a sense of where Chellberg Farm fit in the overall pattern of farmsteads and structures in the region, include, John Drury, This is Porter County (Milwaukee: Inland Photo Co., 1956); the Porter County Historical Society, an untapped and uncatalogued local resource; local newspapers for buildings that they advocated at different periods; in the park itself, the Tract files for photographs of what early buildings still remained in the 1960s and 1970s; photo and family records kept by the Augsburg Lutheran and Bethlehem Lutheran churches; survey the Chesterton Public Library Genealogical files; see if Bethlehem Steel, the railroad companies, or public utilities kept any land acquisition records; and countless local residents who have keep old family albums.

<sup>255</sup> NS, interview with DB and JS, 11 August 1975.

section of the report, I will concentrate upon the possible origin of the barn, as well as to discuss some of the Chellberg memories associated with it. For anyone wanting a detailed description of the barn prior to its extensive structural restabilization, please see the 1990 "Analysis of the Chellberg Barn," a report compiled by Blake D. Hayes and Mary L. Seelhorst. The report offers no substantiated contextual information because it was based solely upon information provided by the park, without additional research. The report, however, provides the only thorough description of the barn's condition and layout as of 1990. As Hayes and Seelhorst suggest, any thorough analysis of the barn must take place within the context of the region's agricultural development, history, and traditions, as well as in light of any similar barns in the region that may survive. Such a large undertaking is also outside of the scope of this HABS report. For details of stabilization work completed by the Williamsport Preservation Training Center and by Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore park staff between 1991-93, see the project record and completion reports for each part of the two-stage restoration effort. Some stabilization work was also done on the barn in 1977, but the details of the work completed are sketchy, such that it is difficult to determine if some of the conditions that the crews altered in 1991-92 were part of the Chellberg legacy or an early NPS alteration. The only park documentation of the ca. 1977 work appears to be a general work order and a couple of Polaroid photographs.<sup>256</sup>

The Chellberg barn is a three-bay, gable-roof structure, measuring 50'-8" x 24'-3" and approximately 15' to the eaves and 25' to the peak. The barn has a cedar shingle roof, a vented cupola, and horizontal "drop" wood siding. Its basic structure is a heavy timber frame held together by mortise and tenon joints. The barn is made mostly of 8" x 8" hand-hewn oak, and consists of four bents, one on each end and two defining the center bay. Wood analysis done in 1991, however, shows various elements of the framing system to be oak, elm, ash, maple, and basswood, perhaps hinting at various stages of Chellberg's barn alterations and repairs. The barn stands on a recently re-established foundation of reinforced concrete, with field stone facings added to simulate the possible locations of rubble piers conjectured to have supported the original structure.<sup>257</sup>

The north and south elevations nearly mimic each other in their window and door configurations. Three small two-over-two windows appear on each side, regularly spaced such that each bay receives light. Two doors likewise enter from each side of the barn, into the east and center bays. All but the center door in the south are approximately 4' wide Dutch doors, consisting of two separate sections, one above

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<sup>256</sup> Blake D. Hayes, and Mary L. Seelhorst, "Analysis of the Chellberg Barn, Completed for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore," 29 January 1990; Thomas Vitanza, comp., "Chellberg Barn, No. 1, HS-13, IDLCS 07448, Structural Stabilization, Project Record and Completion Report," 2 Vols., Williamsport Preservation Training Center, Harpers Ferry Center, NPS, Williamsport Maryland, November 1991; Dwight Lange, comp., "Chellberg Barn Structural Stabilization," Phase II, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, NPS, Porter Indiana, February 1993. The 1991 report contains extensive project and period photographs, project correspondence, plans, weekly reports, and a list of vendors and suppliers. The second report (1993) contains far less documentation, in part because the project was done in-house and did not generate as much documentation. These reports are available through the Denver Service Center as well as at the Maintenance Division of the IDNL.

<sup>257</sup> Barn measurements are taken from "Chellberg Barn, Existing Condition Drawings," prepared by Williamsport Preservation Center, Harper's Ferry Center, March 1991; Fred M. Lamb to Tom Vitanza, correspondence re: Chellberg Barn, 1 March 1991, contained in "Chellberg Barn Project Record and Completion Report." Unfortunately it is difficult to tell from the illustration, which apparently accompanied the samples, exactly which parts of the barn the samples came from.

the other, that can be opened independently or together. The south door slides open on a metal track, exposing a double-width [7'] opening to the barn. Prior to Carl widening the door, the doors and windows on the north and south mirrored each other across the structure. The south side also has an opening into the west bay mow, straddled above the central door and western-most window. The west elevation has four windows and one door. The two lower windows are of the same shape and height as the majority of the windows. The [single-glazed?] upper windows are tucked in the gable, under the eaves. A door, no wider than the space between two studs, once led into the passage which connected the barn and silo, but now opens upon the silo pit and ravine. The east wall, however, displays none of the uniformity of the other walls. Two double two-over-two windows appear randomly placed, one almost half-way up the wall and the other proportionately lower to the ground. Under the eaves, then, are two three-light windows which follow the roofline rather than the horizontal siding. In the upper gable a shuttered door, the height of a man, opens below the hay-track overhang. In all instances the window placement seems to dictate the interior lighting needs of the structure rather than a balance of overall design.

The east bay of the barn now shelters farm animals, including horses, a cow, and goats. Four animal stalls face the outside wall, with a low wall built in the east-central framing bent, separating the animals from pedestrians and the central bay. The floor in the east bay is lower than that in the rest of the barn and the mow above higher, allowing clearance for the work horses, a feature that may be part of the early barn. The concrete floor is the same one that was put down ca. 1938, whereas the rest of the barn flooring is now variable-width boards, laid east-west.<sup>258</sup> The selection and number of park animals has fluctuated somewhat over the years, depending upon what has been donated or purposefully acquired as appropriate for a "northwest Indiana" farm. Occasionally pens are set up in other sections of the structure to house other animals for a variety of reasons. The west bay, at the time of this study, contained wood feed bins along the south wall of the west bay and half of the west wall, six large barrels, horse harnesses hanging from posts, corn stalks trying to hide recent metal structural supports, and an animal pen in the north half of the bay. In the fall of 1998 the pen temporarily housed geese while the park debated not only where a new goose pen should be built, but if the farm should even have geese in residence. The central bay, except for an enclosed shelter on the south wall and several bales of hay, remains largely open. An outdoor hiking trail leads directly to the barn and many people simply pass through on their way along the Bailly/Chellberg trail system rather than following the path along the ravine. Mows above the east and west bays store loose and baled hay for animal bedding and feed.

When trying to analyze the Chellberg barn according to barn-types and period trends, little about it, except its three-bay form, is predictable, most likely because of its many alterations over the years. In form, it most closely resembles the "English," or "threshing" barn, a three-bay barn introduced to North America by English and continental Europeans and which spread westward from New England into the Midwest and Plains states. A threshing barn, in addition to being used as its name implies, most commonly stored hay and grain, but this use was not exclusive to the form. The barns had a central floor area with two spaces of roughly equal size on either side. In the Midwest, the growing immigrant population showed a preference for the three-bay barn because wood was plentiful, it was one of the easier forms to build, and because it proved versatile for small-scale mixed agriculture. The English

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<sup>258</sup> During the 1991 barn restoration workers found a date carved into the concrete which they thought could be either 1938 or 1958. The 1938 date coincides with Henry's recollections of a debate in his family over who would finance the project. See, HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

barn, as was the Chellberg barn, were built of predictable dimensions, in multiple proportions of around 16' x 8' (the space that would accommodate a team of horses), and with the overall length nearly double the width. Many English barns had double doors centered on long side, never on the gable ends. Opening both sets of doors, then, created a draft to winnow the grain. A center aisle was covered with wood, sometimes the only section of flooring in the barn.<sup>259</sup>

The foundations of single-level barns were often built of masonry construction. Some builders found that, in the interest of limiting expense and effort, that they did not require a solid masonry foundation and could get away with a series of mortared stone piers, and even as little as one, flat-topped boulder at each corner and wherever else vertical timbers joined the sills. During foundation work in 1991, the barn restoration crew found evidence of this kind of foundation under the Chellberg barn. "The four corners of barn were still on large boulders," recalled Gene Beschinski, who partook in the 1991 foundation work. The crew photo documented the boulder at the northeast corner of the barn, which was likely the remains of an earlier foundation system supporting the barn's sill plate.<sup>260</sup>

Immigrants in the late nineteenth century and those updating their facilities, however, often built gambrel roof barns, some even modifying their old barns to suit the new style, which offered a more generous hay storage capacity. Many farmers updated their gable-roof barns by adding a gambrel roof, a basement below, and various extensions connected to the core structure, but it is not known how much this may have happened in the Baillytown area. Generally, a gable-roof barn is a sign of an earlier barn in the region, which for northern Porter County would be from the early settlement days of the 1850s through the 1880s. This type of barn also tends to survive in areas, like around Baillytown, where agriculture did not prove very prosperous.<sup>261</sup> There were at least two other three-bay barns in the general vicinity of Chellberg Farm. The Nelson farm and the John Borg farm both had three-bay gable-roof barns. The Nelson's barn blew down in a windstorm during the late 1960s and the Borgs' barn disintegrated sometime after the NPS acquired the property in 1969. Both barns were sided with vertical board-and-batten siding and, like the Chellberg's barn, were oriented east-west, so that the south side was exposed to the sun for maximum light. At least for the Chellberg barn, its position near the tree-covered ravine also sheltered it from west winds. Henry Studebaker remembered hand-tossing hay into the Nelson's mow, which made him appreciate the hay carrier in his grandparent's barn and note the lack of one in the Nelson's. "During the early 1940s we helped Bill [Nelson] harvest hay from the field south of the Nelson home and the small field across US 20," Henry said. "The barn at the Nelson farm . . . did not have an overhead hay fork like the Chellberg barn. Consequently, all the hay was hand forked into the hay mow through a door on the upper south side of the barn." A 1969 photograph of the Borg farm barn reveals large windows high and in the middle of both gable ends, showing that it also may have lacked the labor-saving device. In all three instances the barn stood north of the farmhouse.<sup>262</sup>

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<sup>259</sup> Charles Calkins, and Martin Perkins, "The Three-bay Threshing Barn," Barns of the Midwest (Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 1995): 46

<sup>260</sup> GB, correspondence with AH, 2 August 1999; Charles Calkins, and Martin Perkins, "The Three-bay Threshing Barn": 46; Noble, Wood, Brick and Stone: 16-17; "Chellberg Barn Project Record," Vol. 1, Photo 15 from "Selected Photographs."

<sup>261</sup> Allen G. Noble, and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, "The Farm Barns of the American Midwest," Barns of the Midwest: 12; Lowell J. Soike, "Affordable Barns for the Midwest: Beginnings," Barns of the Midwest: 83.

<sup>262</sup> HS, correspondence with JR, 12 May 1998, "Recent Memos" VF-HO, IDNL; Tract file 36-116, B. J. Tharp Property (Borg Farm), Inactive Tract Files-Building 103, IDNL. The site plan which accompanied the Borg Farm tract file shows that someone had added to the building at one point, although all that remained was the

The Kjellbergs' decision to cover their barn with horizontal siding may indeed have been a preference shaped by Anders's Swedish background. The decision to use horizontal over vertical siding was an aesthetic choice made by the farmer, not one integral to the function of the barn. Lena Palmquist, a scholar of Swedish-American life, has studied farm communities in Minnesota and found overwhelmingly that the Swedish farmers built their barns of heavy timber frame construction with horizontal siding. The Chellberg's close proximity to lumber mills as well as plenty of their own timber made their resulting barn possible. Russ Harter, an insurance agent from the 1950s through the 1970s, recalled that horizontal siding on barns was common in the area, but that most are now gone. John Drury's 1956 book, This is Porter County, offers aerial views of individual farmsteads that shows the layout of farmsteads as well as the barn types. Most of the photographs of gable-roof barns are too dark to determine the direction of the siding, but several in Westchester Township are distinctly horizontal and, perhaps coincidentally, owned by Swedish families. The Furness family, who lived several miles east-northeast of the Chellberg's, built an ever-growing farm building complex. A turn-of-the-century photograph shows an earlier vertical-sided three-bay barn tucked behind a series of large additions. Edward Furness, although not Swedish, chose to build gable-roof structures with horizontal siding for his farm expansion, showing that in the general area the siding style may have been a preferred one. Hardesty's 1876 Atlas of Porter County illustrates many early three-bay gable-roof barns, when they still represented the height of progressive and prosperous farming across the Midwest and considered worthy of showing off in a public document. The farmstead of Richard Hill, of Jackson Township, boasted an early horizontal-sided three-bay English barn amidst a cluster of smaller farm buildings.<sup>263</sup>

The Chellberg barn may retain a touch of "Swedishness" by reflecting preferences shared by many Swedish immigrants, but overall it seemed to represent the ideals of a farm family following current progressive farming ideas. Farmsteads in Sweden followed the geographical and political limits laid down by centuries of previous settlement and village patterns. In the Midwest no such restrictions applied, only the monotonous grid pattern and the need to have some sort of nearby transportation route. Some authors of prescriptive literature for farmers advocated a central location on the acreage as the appropriate spot for a farmstead, taking into account all the traffic patterns between buildings, the fields, and the woodlot. Whether or not Anders had been influenced by such ideas, he did situate his farmstead in the middle of his eighty acres, east of and alongside the ravine. It was an area less likely to be cultivated and placed the family closer to the woodlot and grazing land for the animals. The gable-roof,

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"foundation apron." One of the Borg daughters married a man whose surname was Samuelson, a descendant of another local Swedish Family. Johanna Borg, John Borg's wife, was also a Samuelson. The later Samuelson's may have added onto the barn for their own dairy expansion. Naomi mentions that the family raised dairy cattle at the same time as her parents.

<sup>263</sup> Russ Harter, telephone interview with AH, 3 March 1999; Drury, This is Porter County, see Ellen Gustafson, page 341, Virgil Hokanson, page 343, and Martha Rhody, page 349; A. G. Hardesty, Illustrated Historical Atlas of Porter County, Indiana (Valparaiso, Indiana: A. G. Hardesty): 90, published as part of The Combined Atlas of Porter County, Indiana; photograph of E. Furness barn, Westchester Public Library Archives #006, Chesterton, Indiana; Palmquist, "Buildings on Swedish American Farms: 25. The article pictures a barn markedly similar to the Chellberg barn, although it was built with two levels and had its threshing door intact. Palmquist also pictures a horizontal-sided barn in her entry, "Swedes," in America's Architectural Roots: Ethnic Groups That Built America, edited by Dell Upton (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1986): 154-59. The photo appears on page 158. Palmquist claims that horizontal siding became more "popular when horizontal boards could be purchased from local saw mills," but not when such boards were available. The siding pictured is exactly like that on the Chellberg barn.

three-bay threshing barn, while favored by Anders and fellow Swedish immigrants, also shows that they were paying attention to the ways of agriculture in the new world perhaps more than ethnic preferences.<sup>264</sup>

Anders built his barn sometime between 1870 and 1879, while the form was in the height of its popularity. Family sources claim that wood for the barn came from the land itself. Particularly in wooded areas of the country, farmers took advantage of the available resources on their own land, so Anders probably did as well. The construction date was probably earlier in the decade, soon after Anders bought forty acres of the farmstead from Joel Wicker. By 1880 Anders owned all eighty acres. The animals listed in the 1880 Agriculture Census that may have taken up residence in the barn were the two milk cows, six “other cattle,” two sheep, and five horses, unless there was another structure on the farm to house some of these. There were certainly enough chickens and pigs for each group to require their own outbuildings. It is also possible that if the barn originally had double threshing doors, as did most such barns, that Charles Chellberg later removed them when he altered the barn for new uses. Charles made enough other changes to the barn that this alteration would not have been outside the realm of possibility.

The most significant changes to the barn seem to have been made by Charles when he converted the farm to a dairy farm between 1901 and 1908. Naomi Studebaker’s girlhood recollections form the basis for most of what is known about the barn during its dairy period. Henry and Arthur Studebaker’s memories offer supportive information, verifying the continuity of barn appearance and use during Charles Chellberg’s final years as well as subsequent barn alterations prior to the farm becoming NPS property. When developing the dairy there was doubtless plenty of prescriptive literature available offering Charles and his neighbors guidance in his efforts. Even the Chesterton Tribune, in 1906, offered suggestions for creating a “barn for the small dairy farm,” housing ten to twelve cows “together with the horses.” The accompanying illustration showed a gable-roof, vertical-sided barn, measuring 44’-0” x 34’-0”, topped with a vented cupola. Added features were four square windows on each long side, gable-end doors, and a 6’-0” deep basement to store manure and shelter hogs. That the paper would feature such a plan suggests the amount of interest among farmers in the region to make new use of their small pockets of acreage. Two years earlier, Thomas Blackwell, of the Chesterton Creamery, published a notice that enough local farmers were expressing an interest in dairying that he might consider opening the creamery again after having suffered many losses trying to operate it in the past. Whether or not this was the same creamery, in 1921-22 Charles made regular trips to Chesterton to sell his cream.<sup>265</sup>

A dairy barn required, in addition to appropriate animal stalls, good light and ventilation. Charles likely added most of the windows to the existing barn, which would have been integral to a dairy barn and not a hay or grain barn. The windows are made to fit between the vertical studs; this and simply the fact that earlier barns usually did not have such windows, suggest that they were not part of the original structure. If horses or other animals had always been kept on the east end, however, that could account for the different configuration and height of the windows there. According to the barn analysis made by Hayes and Seelhorst, the entire roof structure was constructed at a later date than the rest of the barn. The “eave

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<sup>264</sup> McMurry, Farmhouses and Families: 63.

<sup>265</sup> “The Dairy,” Chesterton Tribune, 15 November 1906, this may have been a regular column in the newspaper; Thomas Blackwell, “Important to Farmers,” Chesterton Tribune, 28 October 1904; Diary of Naomi Chellberg, 5 September 1921-23 April 1922.

plates, purlin plates, rafters, and roof deck,” they write, were of the materials used after the end of the nineteenth century, particularly detectable in the sawing techniques, whereas the rest of the barn’s major structural elements predate those techniques. The supports for the hay fork and the hay door are integral to the new roof system, so they would date from the same period of alterations as the new roof. Dairy barns needed good ventilation to release the body heat of so many large animals, so Charles probably also added the vented cupola. Adding a gable-end hay door and hay carrier would have freed Charles to reduce the size of the threshing door, if there had been one, since mechanical threshers would have come through the area by this time and because they no longer needed the space to throw the hay up by hand. As Hayes and Seelhorst suggest, the entire barn could have been resided at this time, further disguising alterations to the structure. The hay carrier allowed farmers to load their hay into mows to the exact location that they preferred simply by means of a pulley system, rather than many men having to pitch hay by hand into the mows, with the likelihood of much of it falling directly back onto them. The hay carrier was attached to a wood track fixed to the roof rafter.<sup>266</sup>

By 1917 Charles also added a silo to the barn (detailed information below), and within three years had also installed electric lighting in the mow and lower-level of the barn, to aid milking and other chores that otherwise depended on lamplight in the dark seasons of the year. The desire to have electric light in the barn was perhaps more urgent than for the house, although the Delco battery system was built attached to the house and wired across the yard to the barn. When completing barn restoration work in the early 1990s maintenance workers left the early white insulators in place, not convinced that they should be removed, even though the selected period of interpretation was prior to when the farm was electrified. At least sometime prior to 1920 the barn was painted gray and white, gray for the siding and white for the trim. “My sister and I painted it,” said Naomi. Paint analysis would reveal if it was the same gray as the house’s kitchen wing. A 1915 photograph of several children seated near the barn distinctly shows white trim around the window and door frames. Unfortunately the black and white photograph hints little at the existence of paint or possible color on the rest of the barn, although one would wonder why they would paint the trim and nothing else.<sup>267</sup>

Charles made full use of the barn’s natural tripartite divisions, with each fulfilling a different function. The east bay was the “horse barn,” and the west bay was the “cow barn.” Naomi, in her interviews and in her diary from 1921-22, referred to each section as practically separate structures. Indeed, many Swedish immigrants built their first barns as single structures, but the building materials, often one end of stone and the other of horizontal hewn timbers, distinguished the cattle from the horse areas. Though connected, they were essentially two different structures. “There [were] four places for horses,” remembered Naomi of the horse barn on the east end, one for each of the family’s horses. Although there are numerous family photographs of the children riding the horses, they were under Charles’s control and the children were not allowed to ride them without their father’s permission. “After dinner,” wrote Naomi in January 1922, “Ruth, papa and I went out and cleaned the cow barn and the horse barn. When we were all done as ask [sic] papa if we could take the horses and go out riding. He said we could.” In her later interviews Naomi substantiated her childhood experiences. “Daddy took care of the

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<sup>266</sup> Noble, Wood, Brick, and Stone: 44-46; Hayes and Seelhorst, “Chellberg Barn Study”: 16.

<sup>267</sup> Chellberg Family photo album, “Young Cousins-1915,” page 9, Studebaker Family Collection; NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979. Sections of the interview are inaudible, including details of the paint colors and other aspects of the barn. One would need to listen to the original reel-to-reel tapes to clarify the information.

horses,” recalled Naomi, although later Ruth assumed many of the responsibilities surrounding the animals. Her father even had a special call for the horses that Naomi felt emphasized the importance of the animals to Charles, not just as a significant financial investment on which the farm depended, but that he had a distinct relationship with them. Charles was also noted for his ability to sew and mend harnesses. Unfortunately, there is no recorded written or verbal information about how the Chellberg’s cared for their horses. The horse barn floor was dirt until at least 1938, when Carl had a concrete floor put in. Henry remembered the mow in the horse barn as at least three feet higher than across the other sections of the barn, allowing head-room for the large animals. The horses came out the south door when they were being readied for work, and exited the north door when entering their farmyard area. Barn exterior photographs from the 1920s show a post-and-rail fence just visible from behind the barn, enclosing either a farmyard or pasture. The fence seems to extend from north of the barn a few feet to the east, although it is not clear how far down the east wall it may have come, but it must have allowed enough room for hay wagons to pull up next the barn for loading hay.<sup>268</sup>

The cow barn was partially enclosed with chest-height walls that separated the central bay from the west bay. Two rows of stalls and cow collars, oriented east-west, provided room for a half-dozen cows on each side. Three passages entered into the cow barn, one down the middle and one each against the north and south walls. The cows always entered and exited the barn from the north door, traversed through the center bay, then along their assigned aisles into their stalls, something that they did without prodding because “each cow knew where she was going.” The passage down the middle accessed the silo and provided space for feeding. “They were mostly fed hay,” said Naomi. “There were cows on both sides of a long chute, and the chute was filled with hay, so they could pull it to themselves.” In the evening the cows received a big scoop of silage, and “then maybe a pint of ground grain on top.” Someone in the family brought grain specially from the granary for each feeding; it was not kept in the barn. The family milked the cows right in their stalls, where they were kept tied. Manure mucked from the stalls, remembered Henry, was put in a pile on the west side of the north exit, ever ready for use on the fields. The north yard also often had a stack of stalks left over from threshing the wheat, saved as bedding for the cattle. They wanted the stack near the barn, said Henry, “so they always did the threshing out in this area.”<sup>269</sup>

The central bay served its traditional function as a passage area for both people and cows. The area also received hay from the mows above via a hay chute to feed the cows and horses at either end of the barn. There may have also been two pens somewhere in the middle bay. Naomi references pens “where we kept the master sometimes,” when breeding the cows. The mow overhead in the two bays was lower than in the east end of the barn because cattle did not require as much headroom as horses, which allowed more space for hay storage above.

The floor of the entire barn during Henry’s childhood was dirt. Unfortunately, Naomi never mentioned

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<sup>268</sup> NS, interviews with CD, 15 May 1980, DB and JS, 11 August 1975, and RF, 23 October 1979; HS conversation with JR, March 1988.

<sup>269</sup> HS interview with AH, 7 December 1998; NS interview with RF, 23 October 1979. In Naomi’s interview with Robert Fudge she drew pictures of the way the barn used to be laid out, including the location and design of the hay chute. The verbal descriptions are difficult to follow. On the one hand she says that the chute empties into the middle of the center bay, but then that the animals could pull hay towards themselves from the chute. Perhaps there were two chutes?

the barn flooring so we do not know if it had also been dirt during her girlhood. When the Williamsport Preservation Training Center crew removed a layer of plywood flooring, added by Carl, they discovered remnants of a floor framing system and that the area below that was covered with about 8" inches of sand. It is not clear from the photographs or their text, however, if the supports they referenced had been put in place to attach Carl's later floor addition. He likely would have used old timbers, salvaged from another building, making any determination of their date more challenging. The 8" of sand covered log sleepers. If this had been the basis of the dairy barn floor, the sand probably aided drainage from the cattle above and could have been cleaned out easily and replaced, like the family did in the chicken coop.

Adding a significant number of animals to the farm during the dairy period would have required more space to store food. The mow above extended the entire length of the barn, which it probably did not do when and if the central bay had once been used for threshing. One entered the mow via a ladder up the middle of the horse barn's east wall. A solid wood floor covered the entire open area above. A square door over the south side of the west bay opened towards the farmhouse. A ca. 1920s photograph shows that the small door was in active use, with a pile of hay deposited directly below it. The hay got into the mow through the upper door at the east end of the barn, loaded up and through the barn on a hay fork maneuvered with a horse-powered pulley system. A wagon loaded with hay pulled up at the east side of the barn and the fork was lowered on a thick rope, "maybe a little thicker than this finger." A second rope, about the thickness of a clothesline rope, was used to manipulate the hayfork, which was operated as well with "a couple of levers that locked the fork," and "prongs that went out from the side of the fork" when loading hay. As far as Naomi remembered no one stood in the hayloft. Instead, everyone "stood on the hayload and loaded it." The entire system was powered by horses led to and from the south side of the barn. "The rope went down into the bottom of the barn," said Naomi, and "went out the side toward the house, and there was a team of horses standing." There must have been another system of pulleys guiding the ropes from below, but it is not clear how they functioned or where they were positioned. When someone guided the horses away from the barn, they pulled the fork upwards and through the barn loft. To reach the far west end of the mow the horses nearly reached the farmhouse yard fence. "Now there were times," said Naomi, "when the back end was full, then you'd stop maybe in the middle of the yard."<sup>270</sup>

A later addition to the dairy farm was the silo, meant to store the sweetly fermented corn mixture known as ensilage. Naomi remembers the silo being built around 1917, when she was ten years old. The silo resembled a huge barrel, with vertical tongue-and-groove staves held together with eight iron bands, tightened with iron turnbuckles. The silo stood at the west end of the barn. Its proximity to the barn was more than just a matter of convenience, after all, the family hauled grain daily from the granary. The tall structure depended upon the barn for stability, and was literally attached to the barn to prevent leaning. At its base the silo would have remained exposed to the open ground, helping to maintain the ideal 70 percent moisture content needed for ensilage. Wood silos required lapped siding, like tongue-and-groove wood, to keep vital moisture from seeping out. Because of this high level of moisture interspersed with drying when empty, wood stave silos were not expected to last more than five to ten years.<sup>271</sup> The silo was topped with a conical roof, although the photographs disguise whether it was

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<sup>270</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 May 1979.

<sup>271</sup> William Radford, David Loveless, and Joan Loveless, Practical Plans for Barns, Carriage Houses, Stables, & Other Country Buildings (Stockbridge, Massachusetts: Berkshire Traveller Press, 1978): 38; partial reprint of 1908 volume entitled, Radford's Combined House and Barn Plan Book.

made of wood or metal. The passageway between the barn and the tower had stairs that one could climb to the top. There were also several doors into the silo operated by a handle that “you’d pull and push it up and then push in the door,” said Naomi. “There was quite a number of those doors.” The doors appear to have been located in the covered area between the barn and silo and accessed by the stairs, where Charles could reach the silage no matter what level it had reached in the storage facility. Henry remembered seeing a “weathered red” paint still clinging to the structure.<sup>272</sup>

The silo, said Naomi, “changed their method with the corn,” although it is not clear exactly what she meant by that. To produce dry corn they went into the fields and put it into shocks, waited for it to dry and then put it in the corncrib. Ensilage, on the other hand, was made up of green corn, cut ten to twelve days before ripening on the stalk and provided a way to give green feed to livestock during the winter months. “[Ensilage] practically annihilates winter,” wrote John M. Bailly, who helped to popularize the practice in the 1880s. The family gathered the corn, cut it up and put it into the silo. Most farmers maintained both methods of corn storage, but the lack of a corncrib after 1921 suggests that perhaps the Chellberg’s turned more whole-heartedly to silage.<sup>273</sup>

Loading the silo was no easy task. At least eighteen men were involved. First, in the field they gathered the stalks row by row, then cut and bundled them with a corn cutter. The bundles would be stacked on hay racks and brought to the barn, where they were placed on a belt that went into another cutter and blew it into the silo. Although Naomi does not mention this part of the process, the corn had to be physically stomped down in the silo, to compress as much air as possible out of it. It was a miserable job that men had to do in the hottest season of the year.<sup>274</sup> In 1921, the first day of the two-day job was a big enough event at the farm that Naomi did not go to school because the “silo fillers” were there. “I had to help my mother with the cooking,” wrote Naomi. “We had eighteen men for dinner.” When she returned from school the next day the silo fillers were still there, so she watched them work. “After awhile I went up in the silo,” she wrote. “My sister went with me. We had a lot of fun in there.” The local farmers depended upon one another for this strenuous task. A week later Naomi noted that “father had gone to fill [a] silo at one of the neighbors.”<sup>275</sup>

Once the Chellbergs moved away from dairy production, which waned throughout the late 1920s and early 1930s, the silo was no longer necessary in the daily life of the farm. Henry, whose memory of life on the farm dates back to 1933, never experienced taking silage from the silo to feed the cows, and does not recall a significant number of cows being milked. Unlike other structures that could be used to house family belongings, farm animals, or machinery, the vertical structure represented space that could not only be used in other ways. The material it was made of, on the other hand, provided sound wood for the corncrib, which still stands in the farmyard. The corncrib was built ca. 1941, so the silo was removed shortly before that time. After removing the silo, Carl turned the concrete base into a central feature of

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<sup>272</sup> Hardeman, Shucks, Shocks and Hominy Blocks: 97; HS and AS, notes from conversation with JR, 7 May 1988. “Chellberg Farm Information,” VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>273</sup> John M. Bailly, The Book of Ensilage; or the New Dispensation for Farmers, Farmers’ Edition (New York: Orange Judd Company, 1881): 26.

<sup>274</sup> Hardeman, Shucks, Shocks and Hominy Blocks: 96; Noble, Wood, Brick, and Stone: 76; NS, interviews with DB and JS, 11 August 1975; unknown interviewers 17 February 1979; and NS interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

<sup>275</sup> Naomi Chellberg, Diary, 22-23 September and 1 October 1921.

his hog raising activities, the old concrete walls perfect for containing young pigs. The rest of the salvageable material from the silo was probably recycled in other ways. There were other types of silos in the Baillytown area, particularly on those farms that turned to dairying. As late as 1969 the Borg farm barn concrete silo still stood. A NPS tract file photograph shows that it was a type commonly built during and after WWI, and which proved more durable than its wood-stave counterparts. Many concrete silos remained standing long after they ceased use on dairy farms simply because they were not as salvageable for parts as the wood ones.<sup>276</sup>

Just because the dairy days on the farm ceased did not mean that the family stopped needing the barn. The family kept a few milk cows and several horses lived out their lives on the farm after Carl got his tractor in 1939. Carl added metal stanchions in the barn's central bay, moored in concrete. This transition appears to have taken place at the same time that he put concrete in the horse barn, such that nearly half of the barn floor was then covered with concrete. During the 1991 foundation work on the barn, workers found the footings for the metal stanchions, set so the cattle faced [east/west?]. When asked about the stanchions, Naomi said that she was not familiar with them, that they had not been part of her farm experience. It is not clear what Carl did with the west end of the barn after moving the cattle to the middle, whether he began to house sheep or other animals there right away or if he used it for storage. Ca. 1958, however, Henry and his brother, Arthur, helped Carl build a shed addition onto the south side of the barn to house sheep. They extended the rafters, adding about 18' to the barn. The addition was of frame construction covered with oak, and then sealed with corrugated iron on the roof and what appears to have been tar paper of the south wall. The south side of the roof followed its previous pitch, but continued to about 6' from the ground. Other changes at this time included the plywood floor in the barn's west end, placing a sliding door on the south side of the middle bay, and replacing the gabled cupola with a small galvanized metal ventilator, although the cupola may have already been gone by this time. Photographs of the barn interior taken shortly after the park obtained the property show that the partitions in the west end and all but the east end of the mow system had been removed. In its later years, as well, the barn needed re-roofing several times. "I spent a lot of time up on that barn putting new roofs on," said Henry, "because we had to keep the hay dry."<sup>277</sup>

When the park assumed ownership of the farm it encountered 100 years and three generations of an evolving farm history, including all the changes that Carl had made to it between 1937 and 1972. The barn was in immediate need of stabilization, but the park did not want to make any rash decisions for fear of removing historic fabric and because other parkwide issues were more pressing. It was not until 1977 that they removed the shed addition, particularly because it was causing overall structural damage with its additional weight. Because it was still reasonably sound, they park decided to keep the metal roof that was on it. A powder-post beetle infestation posed another problem for the park maintenance staff that had also longed plagued the Chellberg family. The work order for the barn and other buildings outlined the foundation work as:

Unstable foundations will be removed. The structures will be jacked up off the old foundation and temporary shoring will be installed. After stone and concrete block have been removed,

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<sup>276</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 10 August 1999; Tract File 36-116, Inactive Tract Files-Building 103, IDNL; HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999; Noble, Wood, Brick, and Stone: 77.

<sup>277</sup> Curt Hardesty remembered that the wood for the sheep shed addition was of solid oak. Maintenance salvaged the materials and have used them for other park projects.

holes will be dug at each location 1' in diameter and 2' deep, and then filled with standard mix concrete within 4" of top. The stone and concrete block will be reset on concrete footer. Any additional stone or block required will be procured from excess stone that has been removed from the Bailly cemetery.

Gene Beschinski oversaw some of this work, but remembered more vividly his efforts to straighten the barn from its 11" lean to the west. Although the work order stipulated treatment of the foundations, apparently the barn's was still "stable" enough to get by, because little work was done to stabilize the foundation. Gene remembered that the foundation they discovered in 1977 was "a hodgepodge of concrete blocks, sections of concrete, and some small stones with mortar joints." He and Curt Hardesty soon after re-roofed the barn and added the cupola, based on period photographs of the Chellberg barn. Because of the expense involved, the park decided not to remove several layers of other roofing that was already there. This decision concerned both men because they knew that the life of a good cedar shingle roof depends upon it being able to breathe from below as much as from above. By 1981 the barn housed animals for interpretive programs, even though the building did not have a floor or windows. Two stalls were added to the east end, where park staff knew animals, other than sheep, had once lived.<sup>278</sup>

The most significant changes to the barn after the early 1980s came with a full-scale two-stage stabilization and restoration project, completed between 1991 and 1992. Stage one, completed by the Williamsport Preservation Training Center, included: "Underpinning the historic structure with a new foundation system including the removal of the existing foundation. . . structural repairs to other parts of the wood frame structure, construction of a lightning protection system, and installation of an underground foundation drainage system." Gene recalled the work of stage one as "remov[ing] the existing foundation and replac[ing] it with a 12" thick and 24" [deep?] footing and a 12" thick foundation wall. And a new oak sill." The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore decided to complete stage two themselves, which included structural bracing to the barn's main beams, construction of a new west bay floor, west bay hayloft, and east bay stalls, as well as repairs to the east gable wall main beams and siding and replacement of the east bay hayloft. The loft was created knowing that there had been a loft there in the past, but it was not intended to mimic anything historic, thus allowing the stronger steel-frame vertical supports in the design that could not help but be visible to visitors. Soon after its creation, the west bay loft bowed from being overloaded with 20,000 pounds (500 bales) of hay.<sup>279</sup>

Chicken House: The 1880 Agricultural Census reported that Anders Kjellberg owned thirty chickens in addition to other livestock. Such a number of birds would have required some kind of housing to protect them from the elements and predators, but we cannot be certain that the coop that survives today is the first or only one that they built. In 1874 John Nelson leased "a piece of land sufficient upon which to build a House ten by twenty four feet, said piece of land being upon the north half of the southeast

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<sup>278</sup> Regional Director to IDNL Superintendent, "Work Outline for Day Labor Project," #7 and # 13, 16 March 1977, "Chellberg Farm - Structures," VF-Maint., IDNL; GB interview with AH, 14 December 1998; GB, correspondence with AH, 2 August 1999; CH interview with AH, 8 December 1998; RF interview with AH, 15 March 1999. A ca. 1980 photograph from the IPF collection, folder #4, shows a goat standing in the south east end door.

<sup>279</sup> GB, correspondence with AH, 2 August 1999; Peter Amodei to Barry Welton, 1 July 1992, Memo re: Chellberg Barn - Placement of steel frame, and Peter Amodei to Barry Welton, 9 August 1993, Memo re: Chellberg Barn Hayloft, both in "Chellberg Farm Structures," VF-HO, IDNL.

quarter” of Section 27, Township 37, Range 6, and “adjoining the Dwelling of the said Andrew Kjlberg.” Depending upon if one interprets the word “adjoining” as “attached” or “near,” John Nelson, a fellow Swedish immigrant who boarded with the Kjellberg family from 1874-81, may have built what later became the chicken house, but it is more likely that the lease references an addition onto the Kjellberg’s farmhouse. Many have speculated that the lath and plaster wall finish in the chicken coop meant that it must have been a residence, but family members claim that Minnie maintained the plaster as one way to keep the chickens warm. There are no extant documents that say when the structure was first plastered and recorded information from the family that it was once a residence. Fresh whitewash in the spring, then, helped keep the coop free of dirt and disease.<sup>280</sup> Had it not been perceived as beneficial to the welfare of the chickens the family would not have bothered to maintain the plaster over the years. The chicken coop was a solidly built structure, but that too could have reflected the value of chickens to farm families of the period. “Mother had it made well,” said Naomi, and housed in it as many as twenty-five to fifty chickens. Naomi’s statement, unfortunately, makes it ambiguous as to whether or not Minnie had the chicken house built or modified it. It is unlikely Minnie oversaw its original construction.<sup>281</sup>

The chicken house stands southwest of the barn. According to period photographs, the building appears to have always had a solid brick foundation, as high as [2’] on the west side. The building is covered with vertical board-and-batten siding and a cedar-shingled gable roof, which, like the most of the farm buildings except the barn, is oriented north-south along the ravine edge. For light and ventilation the coop has six four-over-four windows, one at each gable end and four along the east wall, as well as two roof vents. The interior currently has a concrete floor, covered with sand. The Chellberg’s, however, maintained a low dirt floor which they layered with sand, cleaning out and replacing the sand as necessary.<sup>282</sup> Sand was not only a good filter for moisture and readily available, it provided the chickens with necessary grit in their diet. Today a roost, which looks a bit like miniature bleachers, lines the north wall and a large wood feedbin stands on the east wall. The park has added a tall fence on the east side of the building, creating a yard to limit the chickens’ terrain. Unfortunately, no early photographs known to date show a fence there and those that do exist show the coop only as a blurry background feature. The park has also added a small door at the foundation level to give the chickens free access between the inside of the coop and the fenced yard.

Henry Studebaker remembered Rhode Island Reds, White Leghorns, and Guinea Hens being kept in the chicken coop. The chickens roamed at will, but fences were put up to discourage them from going around the house and into the flower gardens. When Minnie came out to feed them, the chickens would

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<sup>280</sup> Lease, 26 June 1874, recorded in Miscellaneous Record Book B, page 555; U.S Agriculture Census for 1880, Andrew Kilberg #10, page 19. Margaret Larson wrote that it “was woman’s task to take of the fowl and poultry. Even as far as whitewashing the chicken coop in the spring.” Questions from park rangers about the coop amused Miss Larson. “One of the rangers,” she said, asked why they painted the chicken coop white. Amused that they would not know such things, she interjected, “remember they are city boys and college people.” Larson and Nickle, “The Homemakers in the Chesterton Area”: 6.

<sup>281</sup> In various interviews Naomi remembered anywhere from twenty-five to fifty chickens, so it is unclear if the number actually varied over the years or if her memory varied.

<sup>282</sup> Information from the family implies that the floor was always dirt. A 1976 park memo introduces a conflict, however, that for at least part of its history with the Chellbergs it was brick. The memo read that “the chicken house’s deteriorated brick floor and foundation will be replaced.” Kenneth R. Krabbenhoft, Acting Associate Regional Director, to Joseph D. Cloud (SHPO), 26 March 1976, in “H30 Chellberg Farm,” VF-SO, IDNL.

all fly from all over the farm to eat. Inside the coop, the chickens perched up on racks with an elevated-board platform beneath to catch their droppings. A frequent chore for Naomi was to scrape away the droppings with a hoe. Minnie was well-remembered for her care of her chickens, including bringing them warm water to drink each morning. If she did not, said Naomi, “they wouldn’t lay eggs for her.” The chickens drank water out of a low dish and their food was placed in equally low wood troughs. Baby chickens, rather than being left “out there with them big varmits,” found a temporary home in the summer kitchen, on the south side of the house. The chickens roosted above a platform, but it is not clear where the birds nested or how the roosts were arranged inside the coop.<sup>283</sup> The low dirt floor, said Henry, made it easy for the rats to bore their way into the chicken house. “We used to go out there at night and have target practice on the rats after the chickens had got up on the roost,” he said. By the time Ann, Carl’s elder daughter, was a young girl Minnie no longer tended the birds; the chore had fallen to the next generation, who added geese and ducks to their selection of fowl.<sup>284</sup>

When the park obtained the chicken house the windows were broken, and the plaster and foundation had crumbled. A chicken plucker contraption remained in the yard, said Robert Fudge, but there is no record of it being used by the family. The 1969 property appraisal described the building as having “vertical wood siding, dirt floor, wood shingle roof,” and as in overall poor condition. A ca. 1976 park photograph shows the interior of the chicken coop filled with bricks, concrete blocks, scattered boards and exposed lath clinging to the walls. “We jacked it up and put a whole new brick foundation under it,” said Gene Beschinski. “New roof, and new siding in most places. That was inundated with rodents. They were all over the place. We had them crawling all over us when we were working on it.” Most of the boards on the east side were replaced, along with many on the south side. Recent work required more siding repairs and new windows. It is not clear if early restoration efforts included replacing or repairing the plaster. A 1981 outline for “Proposed Action” on the farm noted that “plaster which has fallen from the interior walls will be replaced in kind.” In 1995 only about half of the extant plaster still clung to the walls. It was another two years before Jerry Nowak, the same man who did the plaster work in the farmhouse, completed the chicken house too. By 1997 the plaster was “pretty well non-existent,” but chickens lived in the structure anyway. “You could take the edge of a shovel and [the plaster] would strip off immediately,” said Curt. “There had been a problem with moisture coming up from the floor and deteriorating the plaster.” Jerry combated this problem by putting a metal bead on the bottom of the plaster to prevent moisture from wicking up. He also applied the plaster the same way that he had done it in the house, with metal lath over the cleaned off original lath, to prevent future separation.<sup>285</sup>

Recent work at the farm was dictated by more than just maintenance concerns. Park staff had to respond to threats of possible hantavirus and histoplasmosis, airborne diseases affiliated with rodent and chicken droppings. The chicken house has proved the most challenging of all of the farm buildings to keep clean and rodent proof, with the mice literally creating passages and pathways in the floor and walls. Repelling mice is made more challenging because the park currently stored feed in the coop itself, in a

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<sup>283</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979; NS interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

<sup>284</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998, and 7 December 1998; AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999.

<sup>285</sup> RF interview with AH, 9 March 1999; Chicken house photographs: May 1976, #H-02-0058, Museum Collection, IDNL; Folder #23 “Chellberg Farm Structures,” IPF-VC, IDNL; “Description of Proposed Action,” April 1981, “Chellberg Farm Structures,” VF-FM, IDNL; CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998; GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998.

wood bin, whereas the Chellbergs, at least in Henry and Arthur's youths, kept their feed in the granary. Maintenance had replaced the dirt floor with a brick one, and kept that covered with a "loose litter cover." The difficulty in keeping the uneven brick surface clean forced the replacement of the cover with a 4" concrete slab, which explains why the floor is so much higher than Henry recalls as a child. Replastering the building was also part of the park's efforts to improve the conditions for the chickens and fight rodents. The fenced-in yard has built up the soil on the east side of the building, as much from the frequent laying of woodchips as from chicken droppings concentrated in such a limited space.<sup>286</sup>

Corncrib: Across the life of the farm, corn has proved to be a constant necessity as livestock fodder. Chellberg Farm's storage structures for corn went from a drive-through double corncrib, to a silo attached to the barn, to a single-unit corncrib. Henry Studebaker recalls that the most recent corncrib was built ca. 1941, planned and built by Carl Chellberg.<sup>287</sup> Like its predecessor, the second corncrib was oriented in a north-south direction. While they may have done this to accommodate the pathway and fence-line along the top of the ravine, corncribs were commonly built this way to take advantage of prevailing winds and sunlight. The crib stands on four large barrel-shaped concrete piers, one at each of the corners, with small intermediary piers supporting the east and west walls. The concrete-filled barrels were meant to repulse corn-hungry rodents and other pests.<sup>288</sup> Large squared timber beams support the structure and are topped by a wood floor. The flooring, like the horizontal wood siding, is laid open-spaced for air circulation. The pine tongue-and-groove boards once covered the silo vertically, only Carl split them length-wise to be a more appropriate size [3"] for a corncrib, using them both as flooring and siding. At some point the family added wire mesh to the inside of the crib, increasing protection of the crib's contents without sacrificing airflow. The shed roof has a flat pitch, yet ably directs water westward towards the ravine, a natural point of drainage. The crib has only one door, which opens on the north side with a large field stone serving as a step, although it is not clear if the Chellberg's or the park added this feature. A ca. 1940s photograph shows Carl unloading bushel baskets of corn from a large galvanized tub, about to hoist the corn into one of two high east-wall openings. Both the door and grain-loading openings are made of the same materials as the crib walls, continuing the line of wood slats. The building once shared its south wall with a tractor shed, built prior to the corncrib to house the 1939 Allis-Chalmers tractor. Thus the corncrib is the only surviving building on the property which represents the transition of the farm from horse power to tractor power. When it was built Carl already used the tractor instead of horses for harvests.<sup>289</sup>

Of all the outbuildings which were standing on the farm when the park assumed ownership, the corncrib has received the least amount of maintenance attention. "You know," said Curt Hardesty, a park employee, "we haven't done a whole lot to that." The corrugated metal roof over a previous layer of

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<sup>286</sup> Chief of Interpretation to Chief of Maintenance and Chief of Resource Management, 20 January 1995; "IDNL Division of Interpretation, Draft Standard Operating Procedure for Histoplasmosis and Hantavirus Control at Chellberg Farm," 5 July 1995, both in "Chellberg Farm -- Health Safety Issues," VF-HO, IDNL; HS correspondence with AH, 17 August 1999.

<sup>287</sup> In response to the presentation of Chellberg Farm's HABS drawings, Henry noted that "Uncle Carl would be pleased to learn that his corncrib plans have been preserved for posterity in the Library of Congress." HS correspondence with AH, 17 August 1999.

<sup>288</sup> Henry and Arthur Studebaker pointed out that "the piers are barrel shaped because wooden nail kegs were used as forms, parts of which are still present on some of the piers. There are four piers on each side of the corncrib."

<sup>289</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999; photograph of Carl in front of the corncrib, INDU #8137, Museum Collection, IDNL; Noble, Wood Brick and Stone: 107.

rolled roofing is the same one that was on it when the park acquired the property. Gene Beschinski said that the support beams on the corn crib are going bad and that he was supposed to jack up the crib and replace them, but he was unable to get to it before he retired. Photographs from 1977 show that the building was jacked up for something, but there was no caption or other accompanying text explaining why. The park maintenance removed a light pole from the building in 1986 which had been added sometime after Carl had his picture taken while loading corn in the 1940s. A lot of soil has built up on the east side and under the building since it was constructed, particularly judging from the uneven level of soil around the concrete piers. For several years the park kept a goose pen on the east side of the corncrib, with the crib itself making up the fourth wall. Bird droppings, loose bedding materials, mulch from pedestrian paths near the fence, and food residue undoubtedly contributed to the soil buildup. The buildup on one side is contrasted by erosion problems on the west side. For awhile the park shored up the ground with railroad ties, but these have since been removed.<sup>290</sup>

Granary: The role of the granary was to provide protection for the varied threshed grains produced on the farm, for use as animal feed, flour, and seed stock. The two-story, wood-frame granary stands west of the farmhouse, near the edge of the ravine. Of the surviving early farm structures, the granary may show the closest ties to the Chellberg's ethnic heritage, at least to the region of the world from which they emigrated. Germans, Scandinavians, and eastern Europeans are generally more likely to have granaries than other immigrant groups, but there have not been any conclusive studies conducted to establish ethnic affinity to the varied forms and types of this structure. Generally granaries held only those supplies that the farmer would need for his own use. The numerous train lines passing through the Calumet Region would have encouraged local farmers to send their excess grain to market rather than incur the labor and expense of storing it themselves.<sup>291</sup>

Anders and Johanna Kjellberg had not been compelled, however, to build a granary on their homestead even after the farm had been settled for over a decade. When fire destroyed the family's home in 1884, destroyed as well was "a quantity of grain stored in the upper room." They had not neglected to build a protective building for their grain, rather, many farmers preferred to store their grain inside where it was drier and less likely to be raided by mice and men. The Chellbergs experienced the greatest risk that farmers faced when securing their grain inside the house, fire. The Chesterton Tribune did not report on the cause of the fire, except that by the time that the family discovered it, the ceiling and roof were ablaze. One of three causes likely started a blaze in that location: a chimney fire, sparks igniting the wood shingle roof, or the grain above spontaneously combusting. Destroyed were seventy-five bushels of wheat, thirty-five bushels of rye, fifty bushels of oats, in addition to other winter provisions. Based on the family's 1879 production, this would have represented nearly their entire crop, even allowing for increased productivity and having already consumed some of the grain. Such a loss undoubtedly prompted the family to build a separate structure to store their grain, placing its construction ca. 1885-90. Its construction could have even been a little later, as part of Charles plans to expand the farm after his father's death in 1893.<sup>292</sup>

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<sup>290</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998; GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1998; Glen Alexander to Dale Engquist, 26 November 1985, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL; Jude Rokowski to unnamed park staff, Re: Recent Memo from the Historical Architect, ca. 1998, VF-Office of the Historical Architect, INDL.

<sup>291</sup> Noble, Wood, Brick and Stone: 103-5.

<sup>292</sup> "Fire Fiend," Chesterton Tribune; U.S. Agriculture Census for 1880.

Eleven masonry piers, including one at the center, elevate the structure to discourage rodents and other pests. The east side, however, was even less elevated in the past than it is now and probably eased rodent entry. Vertical board-and batten siding covers all the exterior walls, which also prevented pests from entering as well as insulated the grain from the elements. A cedar-shingled gable roof orients the building on a north-south axis. Substantial floor support beams run east-west, but have begun to bow. One is cracked and another has broken; efforts to brace the beams have been to attach new boards alongside the old. Woodchucks gnaw regularly, further weakening the supports. Over the years the building has stored a significant amount of weight and for several years served as a storage building for materials accumulated for interpretive programs, and now seems to serve as a large tool shed. It is difficult to know now if recent or previous use caused the damage to the floor supports. The builder put in windows only large enough to permit minimal light. Each window has two-over-two lights, one in the north gable wall and two on the south. The two upper windows were “rebuilt and glazed to return structure closer to historic setting” in the early 1980s.<sup>293</sup> The door, cross boards attached to vertical boards, faces east towards the farmyard. The granary retains many of its grain bins on the first and second floors. Horizontal boards enclose bin areas on four sides about 4’ high, with removable boards along the access sides to ease in retrieving grain when the supplies were low.

“A threshing machine would make the round of a neighborhood,” said Naomi, “go from one farm to the other.” Machine threshing in the United States became increasingly common in the 1870s. We do not know when the Chellberg’s began to use machine threshing, but it was a definite part of Naomi’s childhood memory and continued into Henry’s childhood. The last thresher came to the farm around 1938 or 1939. No farm could afford its own thresher, so each farmer contracted the use of a machine. “Everybody was part of the threshing crew,” said Henry. “It was a very labor-intensive operation to make sure you got the wheat bundles up to the threshing machine and kept it going and kept it busy and got through the whole harvest as fast as you could.”<sup>294</sup> The Chellberg’s threshing ring probably included anywhere from ten to twenty families and would have been a core social as well as labor group.<sup>295</sup> The grain was either out in the field or stacked in “big high stacks.” The stacks, said Naomi, “would have to sit for three weeks to go through some kind of fermentation or something.”

Naomi’s descriptions of where the grain awaited threshing reveals that the family may have practiced two different threshing methods. The more traditional and conservative method was to haul the grain to one central location to await threshing, while the other, placing it in shocks in the field, supposedly saved labor and scarce storage space. Wherever the work took place, men pitched the grain into the threshing machine, which came out the other end directly into cloth grain bags.<sup>296</sup> Getting the grain into the granary, and especially up the stairs, required hard physical labor. “Carried it up on their backs,” said Naomi. “That stairway was ungodly! Oh I don’t know how they didn’t break their necks.” The family owned a limited number of grain sacks, so once they were loaded at the thresher they were hauled to the granary, emptied, and then filled again. “Nobody had enough bags,” she recalled, a common problem on

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<sup>293</sup> “Description of Proposed Action,” April 1981, “Chellberg Farm Structures,” VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>294</sup> HS, interview with BW, 12 February 1999.

<sup>295</sup> J. Sanford Rikoon, Threshing in the Midwest, 1820-1940: A Study of Traditional Culture and Technological Change (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1988): 58-62. Judging from the names on the plat maps up to 1921 and beyond, those who shared the ring could well have been mostly Swedish.

<sup>296</sup> The standard cloth grain bag holds two and one half bushels and weighs about 150 pounds when fully filled with wheat. Oats are lighter. Personal Communication, Henry and Arthur Studebaker, 1999.

early farms. Naomi did not say which grains were stored where, but the oats, wheat and barley were kept separate. They kept oats to feed the horses and the wheat for seed and, perhaps, for sale. The Chellbergs only ground a wagon box full at a time, taking it to one of the local mills, like in McCool, southwest of Chesterton. Oats that the family ate came from the store, and Henry recalls that Minnie purchased flour for most of her baking rather than having it ground. When Ann was a small girl the grain was still loaded by hand, although she remembers her father dumping it through the first-floor window. A 1967 photograph shows that Carl had cut a door opening into the far left side of the granary's east wall, although no one remembers this feature or why he may have done so. This same photograph shows a hint of red paint under the building's eaves.<sup>297</sup> Carl harvested his last wheat after the family sold the farm to the NPS. Naomi kept some of the grain, occasionally grinding it in her coffee mill to bake bread.<sup>298</sup>

When the park inventoried the property in 1969, the appraiser called the granary a tool shed, implying that the building was no longer used to store grain. Russ Harter, who insured the farm buildings during the last two decades of the Chellberg's occupancy, reported that of all the older farm buildings, aside from the house, the granary was in the best shape. Gene Beschinski rebuilt the masonry piers as part of restoration work on the farm in 1977, using a double course of brick. "The roof was redone at the time when I was doing the piers," he said. "And the other structural work, like splicing the boards, I think that was done by park personnel before I got here." Throughout the structure's siding you can see where the boards go up about 5'-6", then there is a joint, and another board continues up. Several sections of the building had rotted and those doing the repairs sought to keep as much of the original wood as possible. In places where Gene knows that boards had been replaced, like on the south wall, he is certain that they used old material, "probably salvaged from some other building." Curt Hardesty said that they used rough-sawn fir wherever they did the restoration work, and that many of the bats were replaced with new ones made by Bob Lundgren. In restoring the west wall the carpenters reversed the boards, probably because the upper portions were in better condition. They unknowingly reversed the wall markings of the old privy which once shared the granary wall. The two upper windows were replaced in 1981. Upon completion of the restoration, and a few times after, the building's exterior was coated with Cuprinol #20, a clear wood preservative. Heavy tree foliage shelters the building and has promoted moss and mildew growth on the cedar shingle roof, doubtlessly shortening its life. When the tenant house was removed in 1986 some of the overflow of storage moved into the granary. The park installed the banister to the second floor around this time because visitors had free access to the building. The building has been open off and on to the public, but the current policy is to leave the door open so people can look inside.<sup>299</sup>

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<sup>297</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979, AL-VC; Rikoon, Threshing in the Midwest: 47; AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999.

<sup>298</sup> Mary Henrichs, "Maple syrup job was a big one," March 1981, no citation, filed in "Maple Sugar," VF-VCL, IDNL. The article incidentally mentioned more of the history of the farm. The author obviously spoke to Naomi, and provided a more thorough report of the farm and the event than any of the dozen or so other articles in the file. Photograph showing the extra door in the granary, background in "Hilda's Tulips," in the Studebaker Family Collection.

<sup>299</sup> Russ Harter, telephone interview with AH, 3 March 1999; Chief Interpreter to Assistant Superintendent, 5 March 1981, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL; GB, interview with AH, 14 December 1989; CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998; "Storage Building Plan [for] Chellberg Farm," 30 January 1989, in "Storage Building," VF-PPM, IDNL.

Maple sugar camp:<sup>300</sup> The sugar camp stands southwest of the farmhouse, directly at the edge of the ravine. The gable-roof structure parallels the ravine, convenient to both the maple trees for sap and the large quantities of wood needed to fire-up the evaporator. The building stands on a concrete foundation, its walls made of handmade concrete blocks. Two four-over-four windows provide light on the east, north, and west walls. Doors into the building include a large double door dominating the south wall and a single door into the small concrete extension on the east wall. The roof, covered in standing-seam metal, extends south into an overhang one-third again the size of the concrete portion of the structure. A brick chimney, a galvanized metal chimney, and a cupola ventilator all extend from the roof. The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore uses the site for one of its most popular interpretive programs, a spring maple sugar demonstration and festival, Maple Sugar Time. Maple sugaring equipment fills the interior space today, modified only slightly from the years that the Chellberg's operated the camp.

Chellberg Farm's maple sugar camp grew out of Alden Studebaker's, Naomi's husband, boyhood passion for maple sugaring. In Bluffton, Indiana, a Studebaker cousin tapped 400 sugar maples and Alden helped gather sap and make syrup. During the Depression housing construction slowed at Dune Acres, where Alden oversaw the building of the young town. Alden sought other ways to occupy his time and eyed the mature maple trees in the Chellberg ravine. Rather than plunge into full-scale maple syrup production, the family tapped the trees for one or two years before investing in equipment and a specialized building. The family built their first maple sugar camp as a make-shift affair, a sparse wood frame loosely covered on three sides with either tin or a heavy roofing felt. A photograph from the period shows three members of the family standing beside the structure, huddled deep in their winter coats. The winter woods spread behind them as sparse as the building. Three lidded garbage cans awaited sap, hauled via horse-power from the ravine on a hand-made sled. In the photograph the cooking apparatus is not clearly visible, but the size of the evaporator pan was small enough to doubtlessly make the cooking-down time interminable.<sup>301</sup>

The experiment must have worked. In 1934, Alden and Naomi formally proposed to build and supply a permanent maple sugar camp. A legal document, dated 6 December 1934, laid out the specifications and the responsibilities of all involved:

Dune Acres, 6 December 1934

Dear Folks,

“We are asking permission to construct a building on a location designated by you, for the purpose of making maple syrup. The plans for the building are herewith submitted.

We agree to furnish all material and labor for the building and all other equipment necessary for the making of maple syrup.

You agree to tap the trees, gather the sap and assist in the making of the wood and boiling of the sap, for which you are to receive one half the syrup.

In the even there are years we cannot take part in the making of the syrup, we grant you the use of the equipment and all the syrup you produce.

In the event there are years you cannot assist according to this agreement, if possible we

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<sup>300</sup> “Maple sugar camp” was the common as well as legal family name for the structure, as noted on their contact agreement.

<sup>301</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998; NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980, AL-VC, IDNL.

will operate the Camp and if the labor does not exceed one half the value of the syrup crop we will refund you the difference.

Should the time come that you would want the building for your own use we would be glad to relinquish any claims on the building and equipment at a price determined by three responsible appraisers.”<sup>302</sup>

The plans for the original structure, which accompanied the contract, show that they intended to build solid concrete-block walls to the base of the windows, but the rest of the building was to be covered with standing-seam roofing material, like the overhanging section over the outside workspace. They also planned three four-over-four windows on each of the east and west sides, but built two on those sides instead. Other than those alterations, the building was constructed essentially the same as conceived, a 20'-0" x 12'-0" structure, plus the overhang, probably based on a design familiar to Alden from his childhood and certainly not unlike other sugar camps. By March 1935 the camp was complete and ready to produce syrup.<sup>303</sup>

The sugar camp was built of concrete blocks that Alden Studebaker's construction crews made at Dune Acres. Workmen hauled the blocks to the site and Oscar Nelson, one of the Dune Acres masons and a Swedish resident of Bailytown, laid out the major portion of the building. The concrete blocks were hand-cast the way all the blocks were made in Dune Acres for about fifteen years. One man could make about 100 a day, hand-tamping them. The blocks then had to be set aside to cure three to four weeks before they were ready for building. In 1937 Alden mechanized his concrete block production, purchasing a machine that could make 1000 blocks a day. The investment served him well during the war years which soon followed, when demands for building materials surged. Alden built the brick chimney built on the north wall by accident. When he bought the evaporator from the G. H. Grimm Company of Rutland, Vermont, he did not know that it came with its own galvanized-metal chimney. The builders cut a hole in the roof to accommodate the metal chimney that came with the evaporator, which explains why there are two chimneys. The gabled cupola, the third feature projecting from the roof, allowed steam rolling off the boiling sap to escape from the building. On the north gable wall are traces of the knob and tube wiring the family installed to bring electricity from the Delco generator to the camp, although only to power the lights.<sup>304</sup>

Walking around inside the sugar camp in December 1998, Henry pointed out the various features that his parents built and sweat over that remain in the structure today. "These shelves, my father built these shelves over here," said Henry, standing near the west wall. "They are the same original shelves, they stored buckets and bottles." Only a few of the support boards have been replaced, their newer wood glowing in contrast to the mellow tone of the older shelves. Near the north wall his father made a makeshift stove for Naomi to sterilize syrup bottles in a large dishpan. The stove was made of a barrel with fire-brick inside and vented into the otherwise unused brick chimney. Its original handmade door is still attached. The glass bottles for the syrup had to be pre-heated so that the hot liquid would not crack them; sterilization prevented spoilage and mold growth. When the place was in full production they opened the blue double doors on the south wall to accommodate the crowds and to ease access to the wood stored under the overhang. "We used to have a buzz-saw set up and we had huge piles of wood up

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<sup>302</sup> Original document found filed under "Sugar Shack," VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>303</sup> Chesterton Tribune, 7 March 1935.

<sup>304</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

here. We made wood all summer to do sap and syrup in the spring. It was a massive operation.” At the first Maple Sugar Festival held at Chellberg Farm in the early 1980s Naomi made a surprise visit. “They’ve got the cutest little pieces of wood -- about 15” by 3”, laughed Naomi at the near perfect wood that the rangers had gathered to fuel the cooker. Henry and the family struggled for months just to get enough scrap wood to see them through the intense weeks of sugaring.<sup>305</sup>

Within a year or two after finishing the building, the family added a 65’ well with a deep-well hand pump. “It was the kind you could put a mill and a rod on and pump it with a windmill,” said Henry, who also remembered the approximately 4’ long handle they used to pump it. The well served more than just the maple sugar camp. Its location far south of the windmill made it convenient to get water for gardens that they planted nearby, particularly the WWII-era Victory Garden the boys were in charge of the small field immediately east of the sugar camp. The concrete-block extension was added to facilitate the well and now serves as the off-season entrance to the building. Both Henry and Naomi recall there being a platform outside the camp to support the sap tank in an elevated position, in the same place where the park has built a platform today on the east side of the building. The park also added a walkway inside to guide and limit visitor access in the building, so they can observe the sugaring process without endangering themselves.

According to Naomi’s interviews, the family tapped an average of 200 trees and made fifty gallons of syrup in a good year. Their official label on the gallon, half-gallon, quart and pint glass containers said “Guaranteed Pure Westchester Maple Syrup.” There seemed to be no known local precedent for making maple syrup in Westchester Township. The Nelson Farm across the street, however, bears an iron sign on its north facade that says “Sugar Bush Farm,” but no one knows of any syrup production occurring there, only that there used to be many maples on the land. Henry recalled occasionally tapping the Nelson’s trees, but generally they got the sap they needed from their own ravine. A newspaper article in 1899, on the other hand, bemoaned the passing of the “good old days when the maple sugar industry was a very important one for our farmers,” so there may have been more active sugaring in the area than is known or credited today.<sup>306</sup> Over the years the Chellbergs sold their syrup from \$2.00 to \$10.00, each year getting a little more expensive. Whatever portion that the Chellbergs received, said Henry, usually went to pay the taxes on the farm. Jars of syrup lined the stairs to the second floor in the farmhouse but seldom remained there long because it was in great demand by neighbors and Chicago relatives.

Although Henry was just a boy he worked along with everyone else gathering sap and making syrup. Even after they got a tractor the family gathered sap with horses pulling a skid because only a horse could negotiate the awkward and slippery contours of the ravine. A family of Petersons (no relation) who ran a greenhouse on U.S. 20 had several boys who also used to come help, although most people who came to the camp just came to watch. Howard Johnson, a resident of Chesterton, helped out when he was in high school by doing welding on the equipment when it needed it. The Chellbergs stopped

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<sup>305</sup> Mary Henrichs, “Maple-syrup job was big one,” n.p., n.d., “Maple Sugar,” VF-VCL, IDNL.

<sup>306</sup> “Sugar Bush Site Rich in History,” *Chicago Tribune*, 29 August 1965; “100 years ago,” *Chesterton Tribune*, 8 April 1999. The clipping quoted the 1899 newspaper. The 1850 Agriculture Census showed that Westchester Township had no maple sugar production, whereas Jackson Township showed 6400 pounds and Liberty Township 775 pounds.

making syrup in 1948 and the building became storage space.<sup>307</sup> The camp may not have produced any syrup for a several years between the late 1930s and the beginning of the war. “For several years we didn’t set foot on the farm,” said Henry, referring to a conflict which arose between his father and Carl. Eventually the Studebakers became involved in the process again. “[D]uring the war my father didn’t have too much to do anymore and he wanted to make maple syrup,” he explained, “so he had my mother go out and make a truce, so he started making maple syrup during the war.”<sup>308</sup>

The sugar camp facility served more than just the production of maple syrup, a highly seasonal spring activity. Henry recalls that his father introduced sorghum to the Chellberg farm in the mid-1930s, both the crop and finishing process, which extended the use of the camp beyond a few weeks in spring. The Chellbergs grew sorghum in at least two locations, on Minnie’s acreage north of Oak Hill Road, and in the field just southeast of the maple sugar camp. Alden Studebaker bought a press and made sorghum processing integral to the maple sugar camp. The belt driven sorghum press, says Henry, was mounted on a stand just north of the brick chimney on the north side of the sugar camp. Alden had a specially made and sized evaporator pan made to fit on the maple sugar heater. The Studebakers also grew sorghum and operated the mill during the late 1930s and early 1940s on their Dune Acres property, growing sorghum in a field southeast of the present Dune Acres tennis court/playground area and processing it in an open cooker west of his concrete block plant. The Dune Acres activities, however, were separate from the farm operation and may have been the result of the temporary division in the family.<sup>309</sup>

When the park acquired the Chellberg property the original cooker and other maple syrup supplies still lined the walls of the sugar camp and many of the Studebakers’ personal papers and belongings filled the alcove storage area. Once the park began to make serious plans to use the sugar camp for public programs, restoration work on the building began in earnest. In 1980 park maintenance staff repaired the metal roof, tuckpointed sections of the blocks and brick, replaced the flue with a new one made of galvanized metal, rebuilt the double doors, and repaired the cupola. Inside the building they installed a Dutch door<sup>310</sup> and passageway, replaced and rebuilt the firebrick in the oven, covered the old well pit with corrugated metal and 4” of concrete, and repaired the outside of the oven by attaching a covering of black sheet metal on the flue end of the oven, as well as removed and replaced the oven’s east corners. Interpretation also requested that Maintenance construct the small platform outside for a sap storage tank. Curt replaced the two overhang-support posts because the original ones had rotted. The park also ordered new supplies for the sugar camp from the same Vermont company the Chellbergs ordered from originally in the 1930s. According to a 1981 newspaper account, the G. H. Grimm Company no longer produced the evaporator pans and had to custom make the new ones from old patterns.<sup>311</sup>

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<sup>307</sup> Howard Johnson, interview with AH, 26 February 1999; Jim Bull, “Sugarbush: The Chellberg Story,” Singing Sands Almanac, 5:2(March-April 1982): 1.

<sup>308</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998.

<sup>309</sup> HS, correspondence with JR, 12 May 1998, “Recent Memos,” VF-HO, IDNL; HS interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

<sup>310</sup> Photos taken of the interior in the late 1970s show that that was no door leading from the well addition into the main part of the sugar camp, so the installation of a Dutch door, which is all the work order reported, actually meant creating an opening between the two spaces. See “Chellberg Structures,” Folder #6, IPF, IDNL.

<sup>311</sup> “Maple syrup time coming at park,” Chesterton Tribune, 19 February 1981; Ray Kunkel, Restoration Specialist to Midwest Region Planning and Resource Preservation, Associate Regional Director, 23 March 1978, “S.S. R.R. Car #33” VF-Maint.; Assistant Superintendent to Park Planner, 19 November 1980, “Chellberg

Well house: The well house at Chellberg Farm is a reproduction of a previous structure which was removed ca. 1935, but is included in this section because it is part of the core buildings one encounters when visiting the farm and still includes some of its original framing system and workings. As late as 1981 the park had not decided whether they should repair the old concrete block pump house, build a new one based on old photographs, or try to purchase the one across the Mineral Springs Road on the old Nelson Farm. They knew that they wanted to restore the old windmill as a source of water for the garden and livestock.<sup>312</sup> Soon after, however, Curt Hardesty and Gene Beschinski turned to old photographs and the Nelson Farm's well house to recreate, as best they could, a replica of the earlier Chellberg structure.<sup>313</sup>

From the Nelson mill Curt discovered that he would need to fashion the new one with full-cut lumber and to roof it with white cedar. To make the structure immediately compatible with the age of its surroundings, and to reflect a different period's board-size standards, Curt sought old lumber. Ironically, the park turned to age-old methods of local barter to get the materials they needed, trading lumber the park had on hand for cedar in the Greigers' barn, a farming family in the Porter-Chesterton area. The well house is an open-stud building from the bottom to the top plate, and the studding and roof rafters are all oak. "The floor, we made that out of cedar," said Curt, "and a cedar roof, of course. The lap siding is pine." The door is on the south side, where it once would have been easily accessible to the household. The park "recently" put in a new oak floor, which covers 81 square feet. The workings of the mill had worn out from the heavy ninety-weight oil the Chellbergs used to lubricate it. The entire metal windmill frame is still the original, but Curt replaced the motor, the blades, and break with newer ones from Areomotor, the company that provided the Chellbergs with their initial mill. This includes everything at the top of the windmill structure, from the wood square support up. The Chellbergs had a Model #602 windmill, a popular and affordable model available from 1888-1933. The model #702 appeared in 1933 to replace the #602, and in the 1980s the company introduced the #802. In their efforts to get their windmill working again, the park required salvaged parts from the #702 and new parts from the #802. Ideally the park would have liked parts from the #602, but the early windmills are sought be collectors, making parts scarce and expensive.<sup>314</sup> Differences between the two well house structures are that the

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Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings" VF-Maint.; Construction Contract #CX6300-0-0035, cost of Sugar Camp repairs \$11,001.00, filed in "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>312</sup> Chief Interpreter to Assistant Superintendent, 5 March 1981, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>313</sup> The park superintendent, Dale Engquist, recalls that the measurements were taken from a well house on east Oak Hill Road, whereas Curt Hardesty and Gene Beschinski, both woodcrafters for the Maintenance Division, remember basing their plans on the wellhouse on the old Nelson farm across the street. They may have looked at several mills in the process of selecting their design and determining construction techniques, but the Nelson well house is the one that Gene and Curt mentioned in interviews with the author. A 1981 source noted that there were "several similar examples located near teh park." "Description of Proposed Action," April 1981, "Chellberg Farm Structures," VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>314</sup> James Dockal, of Areomotor, telephone conversation with AH, 18 August 1999. Mr. Dockal seems to be the institutional memory for Areomotor and remembered some of the particulars of the company's work with IDNL. I thank Gene Beschinski for helping me gather information about the location of the Areomotor and who to talk to there. Attempts to track down more specific information about the Areometer windmill ran into several deadends. Areometer moved from Arkansas to Texas and did not transfer their records and the park has not been able to find their records of the transactions, which may have helped narrow down more specifically when the Chellbergs may have gotten their mill.

previous house had a slightly steeper hip-roof, the entrance step was concrete (at least in the 1920s) and not wood, and that the window on the north wall was slightly smaller. The present window is rectangular, oriented horizontally, with two lights, one over the other. Curt was discouraged to see the heavy mold growth developing on the east side, caused in part by the ivy allowed to climb up the sides of the building in the growing season, holding in moisture.<sup>315</sup>

“As long as I remember,” said Naomi, “that windmill has been there.” Indeed, a ca. 1908 photograph of the Chellberg Family posed in front of their home, with Naomi as an infant in a high chair, reveals the windmill in the background. The Areometer windmill in the photograph likely dates from the first decade of the twentieth century, when the family began to turn to dairy production. There may have been another windmill on the property previous to that date, but there is no oral, written, or photographic record to verify this, although a well would have been crucial to the household and farm activities from the earliest settlement of the farm. The Chellberg family depended upon the windmill and well house for nearly every aspect of the daily operations of their farm. Its integral role also as part of the household, however, is defined by the boundary of the farmhouse fence. The fence skirted the west and north walls of the well house, fully enclosing it in the domestic space. This proximity was especially important because the household cooking and drinking water had to be hauled by the bucket into the house, whereas the soft rainwater gathered in the cistern through a system of house gutters could be pumped with a cistern pump at the sink.

A water tank stood in the water house and was connected via an underground pipe to an oval stock tank, much larger than the one the park uses now, located outside the farmhouse yard. When the windmill would pump the water into the well-house tank, it would overflow into the pipe and gravity-run into the stock tank, providing water for the animals. The stock tank was literally a part of the farm fenceline extending between the granary and chicken coop, and was situated about 20' from the granary. The stock could drink from both sides of the tank: from the east the horses could get a drink before they were put to work in the fields, and cattle and other livestock could drink from the west as they went back and forth to the pastures. In the winter the family kept the stock's water from freezing by floating a little cast-iron furnace on the water's surface, at first fueled with wood and later with coal.<sup>316</sup>

The windmill and well house were central to the farm's dairy production. To keep the milk from spoiling they always cooled it when they brought it from the cows. “We strained it through fine muslin,” said Naomi. “Then we cooled it, and we stirred it even. Until it was cold we never left it. Morning and night.” They placed buckets of milk into the well house water tank, the flow of fresh cold water conducting away the milk's heat. There was not always enough wind to keep the tanks full, so they would have to pump the water up by hand. “I can see Daddy standing there and pumping that pump. Oh Moses me,” said Naomi, emphasizing the extra work involved. It was not until 1953 that the family had running water pumped directly into the house, when Henry and his brother dug a pipe from the sugar camp well into the kitchen and new bathroom.<sup>317</sup>

## 2. Non-existing Chellberg Family-related:

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<sup>315</sup> CH, interview with AH, 8 December 1998.

<sup>316</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998.

<sup>317</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980.

Structures which were no longer on the property when the NPS acquired the farm included a brooder house, corn crib, hog pens, outhouse, pole barn, silo, sheep shed (small), and smokehouse.

Brooder house: One of Carl's attempts to earn extra money was to try to raise more chickens, resulting in the construction of a brooder house. Within a few years after the equipment shed blew down in the late 1930s, Carl salvaged some of the materials and purchased a few others to build a wood-frame, shed-roofed structure, about 12' square. The brooder house went up in the vicinity of the old pole building, directly east of the sugar camp, and also of the lane leading to and from the farmhouse. The location, in addition to being near the old shed, would have made the sugar camp's well convenient for fresh water. Kerosene heaters provided the heat required to raise the young chickens. The undertaking, said Henry, "didn't last long, and then the building turned into a storeroom." The building, as Ann Medley remembered it, was covered with tar paper as insulation and to keep the building dry. Despite the failure of the venture, Ann recalled that the family continued to keep their own supply of chickens, ducks, and geese, as they had before. The building was still standing in 1953 when Henry and Arthur laid pipes around it to bring running water to the farmhouse; it blew down in a windstorm in 1955.<sup>318</sup>

Corncrib: Chellberg Farm's earlier corncrib appears in several family photographs as an incidental backdrop, first around ca. 1917, its east wall clearly depending upon wooden poles for support, and then in 1921 as a haphazard pile of lumber behind two men butchering a pig.<sup>319</sup> The 1884 newspaper article which reported the devastating house fire, including the loss of a large store of grain in the attic, did not report losing any corn. In 1879 the Chellbergs produced 100 bushels of Indian corn. The corn, to feed at least eleven pigs, was not stored in the farmhouse, placing the construction of the original corncrib before 1879, unless the family had another method of corn storage. Corn takes a long time to dry and requires lots of ventilation. The high moisture content would have discouraged farmers from wanting it stored too close to their grain because it may have transferred moisture and increased the risk of fire. According to Naomi, the silo was added to the barn ca. 1917, when she was about ten years old, altering the way that the family preserved their corn. After 1917, rather than put the corn into the corncrib, most of it was cut up and put into the silo. The corncrib had provided an enticing place for Naomi and her sister to play. "We had an old corncrib for a long time that we played house in in the summer," said Naomi. In the fall they "had to move in with the corn cobs" that had been hand-husked and shoveled into the crib. The corn stored in the corncribs had to be hand-harvested and shelled and would have provided a similar sensory experience regardless of what period the work was done. "I can still hear those ears banging against the backboard on the wagon, and Uncle Carl telling the horses to move up as the wagon went down the rows," said Henry, recalling the sounds of the harvest when he was young.<sup>320</sup>

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<sup>318</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998; AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999; HS and AS, communication with Brenda Williams, 22 February 1999.

<sup>319</sup> At one of the early 1980s farm celebrations a local resident claimed that he had knocked down the crib when he was a boy, accidentally backing a truck into it. No other sources, however, have verified this information. The note said, "Guy stopped by farm to say when he was ten years old and helping Carl unload corn at the crib - it was his fault that the truck gears slipped and crashed into crib, knocking it down - Carl was not happy." There was no name attached to the message. Carl would have been about nine years old. "Chellberg Information," VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>320</sup> "The Fire Fiend," Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884; U.S. Agricultural Census for 1880; NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979. The photograph appears on page 8 of a Chellberg photo album, from the Studebaker Family Collection.

The corncrib, as it appeared in the ca. 1917 photograph, consisted of two smaller corncribs connected by a central, covered drive-through passage. In the photograph, the young Carl Chellberg and “Capt. Green” stood in front of the crib, the distinct passage opening visible behind Green’s left hip. Each section of the frame corncrib had inward-sloping sides, narrower at the bottom, both linked by a broad, cedar-shingled gable roof with a generous eave. The V-shape design the Chellberg’s selected was widespread in America, as was the shed-roof crib that they built to replace it ca. 1941. The photographs, unfortunately, do not show enough detail to determine if the earlier structure was made with vertical or horizontal slats on the walls or on what kind of piers it may have stood.<sup>321</sup> In addition to keeping the corn drier and offering generous storage, this form of corncrib offered easy-access storage for machinery. Some characteristics that most corncribs shared were a high proportion of open areas on the walls to encourage good air circulation, and placement on elevated piers, for both air-circulation and to discourage rats and mice. The drive-through crib form was most commonly encountered in the Midwest and was chosen by the Chellberg’s as an effective way to store corn rather than any unlikely connections it may have had with their Swedish origins.<sup>322</sup>

Regardless of the changing methods of corn storage, preserving seed corn required separate and special attention. After the family added the porch addition for the Delco battery they hung the seed corn there to cure, but before that it probably hung in the kitchen, where the cookstove helped it to dry. What was most important was that it be well sheltered, said Naomi, “or it wouldn’t cure right.” Generally farmers would watch their fields for corn doing particularly well, such as several large ears per stalk, then select the largest ears with the most rows of grain and limited taper. Naomi remembered her parents removing the small kernels from either end of the cob, leaving the “big, fat kernels” to dry. Intriguingly Naomi also remembered that her parents put the end kernels, which most farmers would have discarded, “in a certain little place.”<sup>323</sup>

Hog Pens: Pigs provided the Chellberg family with one of their main sources of meat. In the 1870 Census for Agriculture, which represented the productions of 1869, Andrew Kjellberg had two pigs on his four and one-eighth acre holding south of the Augsburg Lutheran Church. Ten years later, firmly settled on the eighty-acre farmstead, the Kjellbergs had “on hand” eleven pigs.<sup>324</sup> These pigs likely had their own protective shelters as well as a fenced area. Some farmers housed their pigs in pens built into the barn, but there is no record where the first generation of Kjellbergs kept their pigs or where they allowed their pigs outdoor exercise.<sup>325</sup> Animal fences were required by law in most parts of the country, including Porter County, Indiana, so the pigs would not have been allowed to roam loose throughout the neighborhood. An 1884 article published in the Chesterton Tribune posted a reminder to their readers that “hogs are not permitted to run at large in several of the townships,” implying that some residents were in violation and causing damage to their neighbors’ property.<sup>326</sup>

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<sup>321</sup> The ca. 1915 photograph of the Montreal Bank employees suggests the slats on the south end wall may have been diagonal, about 30 degrees off vertical. Personal Communication, Henry and Arthur Studebaker, 1999.

<sup>322</sup> Noble, Wood Brick and Stone: 105-7.

<sup>323</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979; Hardeman, Shucks, Shocks and Hominy Blocks: 70-71.

<sup>324</sup> U.S. Agriculture Census for 1870, page 7, #36; U.S. Agriculture Census for 1880, page 19, #10; Warranty Deed, 5 February 1869, Deed Book U, page 326, .

<sup>325</sup> Radford, Practical Plans for Barns: 38.

<sup>326</sup> “Letters from the People,” Chesterton Tribune, 14 May 1884.

Naomi and Henry Studebakers' memories provide two different scenarios for where and how the pigs were kept on Chellberg farm during each of their childhoods. Naomi recalled the area west of the barn fenced off "so that they could run their little legs off." The pig shelters, likewise, seem to have been west of the barn on a small level piece of ground, although she also describes them as "about 100' from the barn door." It is unclear from Naomi's descriptions how far north of the barn the pig yard may have extended, but the ravine was clearly a part of their roaming territory. "The whole ravine was a hog pen," said Naomi. There are no oral or written descriptions available of what the shelters looked like at this period nor how permanent the structures were meant to be. There are likewise no photographs available of the pig shelters, which meant they were fully out of view of the courtyard area of the farm, which is well-represented in photographs. In cold weather the family stacked hay up around the edges of the small houses to help keep out the cold. The pigs were fed ground grain, "like porridge," in troughs. Naomi never mentions whether or not the pigs were fed household scraps in addition to their other feed.<sup>327</sup> The family had their pigs slaughtered on the farm with the aid of a local butcher. Most Swedish families, says Virgil Hokanson, whose family<sup>328</sup> ran a butcher shop in Porter, had the animals brought to the shop for butchering, but the Chellberg family had their pig slaughtered on site. The event was significant enough to warrant a special lunch on the farm, a "koffee klautch," as Virgil remembered it. Virgil was born in 1913, which would place his early memories of Chellberg Farm in the late teens and early 1920s. In March 1922, Naomi recorded in her diary that "Papa went to town to buy a pig and when he came home with the pig he butchered it. Several days later Minnie took a Saturday afternoon and "canned her meatballs." The purchase and immediate butchering of the pig raises the question if this was an isolated occurrence that Naomi happened to mention in her diary or if the Chellberg's scaled back how many pigs they had to feed when they could purchase them elsewhere.<sup>329</sup>

Henry remembered the pig shelters of his childhood as impermanent wood structures that were usually kept on the south side of the barn, in small pens either side of the barn entrance. When the pens needed to be moved Carl simply hooked the tractor onto them and moved them to a new location. "Then you'd put some steel posts in the ground," said Henry, "and stretch some barbed wire along the bottom so the hogs wouldn't root under the fence." Another wire strung above helped to secure the fence. Henry's recollection of the tractor in association with the pig pens places this particular treatment of them to around the early 1940s. Carl made use of the concrete silo base to raise the piglets, a practice which could not have begun until the late 1930s, when the Chellbergs removed the silo. The approximately half dozen pigs that Carl kept, usually Poland Chinas and Berkshires, were also not given as free a reign of the ravine as in Naomi's childhood, although it is not clear why. Carl fed his pigs garbage that he hauled up from the Spa, a resort on Mineral Springs Road, south of the farm.

Outhouse (1): The Chellberg family located their privy in a graciously inconspicuous spot, behind the

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<sup>327</sup> During Naomi Studebaker's 1979 interview with Robert Fudge she drew maps of the farmyard and buildings. If anyone can recover these maps they would provide invaluable information as to the layout of the farm based on sketches rather than the non-descript words she used while drawing the sketches.

<sup>328</sup> Virgil Hokanson's father, Peter, was Minnie's first cousin.

<sup>329</sup> Virgil Hokanson, interview by Janice Custer, 15 October 1993, Transcript #37, Westchester Public Library Oral History Project, Chesterton, Indiana; Diary of Naomi Chellberg, 8 and 12 March 1922, Studebaker Family Collection. The need to buy the pig may be connected to an entry on March 4th in which Naomi wrote that "Ruth and Papa went after some hay in the morning," suggesting that they had run out of their own and may have been short on a few other feed supplies as well.

granary, where anyone heading that direction may have been thought to be gathering wood or grain, or about to take a walk in the ravine. The privy seems to have been unusually large, not like the free-standing outhouses that one would see in isolation behind farmhouses. This privy shared the west granary wall and extended fully one-half the length of the granary.<sup>330</sup> A moderate-pitched shed roof attached about two-thirds up the granary wall, whereas the south facade stood flush with the south wall. The door seems to have been close to the granary side of the structure and opened inward, hinged on the right. This configuration freed up the interior space for anywhere from three to five holes, the number of which differs according to various family members. Two to three were situated on the west wall and one to two on the north wall, with at least one sized small for children.<sup>331</sup> Board-and-batten construction helped to blend the building with the granary as well as declared the structure's intended longevity. One climbed two concrete steps to enter the building; sections of the steps remain today in the vicinity of the outhouse. Except for the conversion of half of the smokehouse into an outhouse in the late 1920s, there is no evidence that the Chellberg's ever had their privy located anywhere else. Positioned at the edge of the ravine, the privy drained naturally into the depression, the soil acting as a filter. Privies that were substantially built and intended to remain in one location often had the lower part of the back wall hinged to aid cleaning out the hole, if this proved necessary. The Chellberg privy was elevated enough that it may have had a low rear access door, although none of the available photographs are close enough to show this feature. As boys, much to their grandmother's horror, Henry and his brother climbed through the larger holes to get under the outhouse and explore the enclosed terrain, so we know the space was accessible. They came out the back on the north side, so apparently one could have gotten underneath it quite easily if it required cleaning.<sup>332</sup>

As soon as Henry and Arthur Studebaker installed the indoor plumbing in 1953, Carl celebrated by demolishing the privy, an uncharacteristic move for someone prone to converting available spaces into storage sheds. In addition to the fragments of steps, at least one other visible trace of the privy survives. Boards on the west granary wall show uneven wear, rough where continuously exposed to the elements and lighter where once sheltered by the privy. When park maintenance completed restoration work on the granary in the 1970s they apparently did not know that there had been a privy in that location and reversed many of the boards when they put them back on the building. While looking at the building Henry remarked, "Whoever rebuilt it turned the boards upside down because you can see where the lean-to roof came into the granary. So if you wanted to redo it, you'd know exactly what height the roof was onto the side of the granary."<sup>333</sup>

Pole barn/wagon shed: The pole barn may well have been one of the earliest buildings constructed at the farm, after the barn and along with the first corncrib and the chicken house. "They built a barn then they built the house that was later destroyed," said Naomi, "and then they built a *wagon shed* [emphasis hers]

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<sup>330</sup> Henry and Arthur Studebaker point out that "the west wall of the granary is eighteen boards wide [and] the privy covered eight boards." Personal Communication, Henry and Arthur Studebaker, 1999.

<sup>331</sup> Henry and Arthur Studebaker recall that the privy had "two small holes on the west wall built on a lower structure which butted into the west end of the higher structure which had three holes on the north wall." Personal Communication, Henry and Arthur Studebaker, 1999.

<sup>332</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998; HS, correspondence with the author, 17 August 1999.

<sup>333</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998. During the course of my research I came across a drawing establishing new drainage fields. The drawing shows the site of another privy a few yards from south of the granary. If true, the site could have served the first generation of Chellberg residents. See, Chellberg Farm Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

and a corn crib and the chicken house.” Not only did the Chellbergs need a place to house their animals and feed, their equipment also needed to be sheltered from the elements. The four-bay shed housed farm implements, buggies, cutters, and bobsleds, all associated with the horse era of the farm’s activities, and, until the construction of the sugar camp, was the southernmost farm building, about fifty yards from the farmhouse. The three-walled, frame building had a shed roof, and was oriented north-eastward, following the ravine more than true directions. The east remained open, which would have prevented the prevailing winds from driving in the rain and snow and allowed easy access to the fields beyond. “We don’t recall what the three closed sides were sheeted with,” wrote Henry, it “could have been boards or siding material of some kind. I have vague recollections of black roofing felt on the sides, but that was later in its existence.”<sup>334</sup> The wagon shed’s west side made up a section of fence along the top of the ravine, with the fence ending at the shed, then beginning its route south again once past the shed. At least during Henry’s childhood, equipment was brought down on the east side of the farmhouse to reach the south fields and storage area; it was not taken to and from the fields along the ravine path. The shed’s sudden demise came about the same time as Charles death, all the more dramatically signaling the end of Chellberg Farm’s earlier farming methods. The shed blew down in an April snowstorm sometime between 1937 and 1940.<sup>335</sup>

Outhouse (2): See “Smokehouse.”

Sheep shed (small): A longer-lasting interest for Carl than trying to earn extra money raising chickens was raising sheep, although no one is quite sure how many years he kept them, perhaps as many as fourteen years. He raised sheep some of the years he worked for the Elgin, Jolliet & Eastern Railroad, in Gary, remembers his daughter Ann.<sup>336</sup> He made sure that they would be bred “so that they wouldn’t be in the dead of winter delivering,” with him having to make the long commute in precarious weather to oversee the lambing. In addition to adding an extension onto the barn, which the park later removed, Carl built at least one free-standing shelter overlooking the ravine. An early 1950s photograph shows Carmen clutching a lamb, standing near part of a dilapidated shelter. The shed-roofed shelter appears to have been about 8’ square and compiled of scraps of lumber, tar paper, and corrugated metal. Jude Rakowski, the Farm Manager, found chunks of concrete in the area where the shelter is thought to have stood near the granary, so the shelter may have had make-shift flooring as well. Carl, Jude was told, salvaged slabs of concrete from an old concrete road in the area that was being removed and made use of them in various places on the farm. Generally the sheep wandered and grazed at will throughout the yard and wherever fences did not restrict them.

Silo: See “Barn.”

Smokehouse: Throughout most of the time the Chellbergs lived on the farm, pork was their main source

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<sup>334</sup> HS, correspondence with JR, 5 June 1996, “Misc. Curatorial, 1996-97,” VF-HO, IDNL.; NS, interview with DB and JS, 11 August 1975.

<sup>335</sup> HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1989; NS, interview with DB and JS, 11 August 1975. In various correspondence and interviews Henry places the collapse of the building anywhere between 1937 and the early 1940s. To obtain the exact date it fell one could research heavy snowfall reports for 5 April for those years. Henry estimates that the building was approximately 32’ x 16’ (HS correspondence with AH, 17 August 1999).

<sup>336</sup> Prior to working for the Elgin, Jolliet & Eastern Railroad Carl was employed as a car inspector for the New York Central Railroad.

of meat. Each year they butchered as many as six hogs, in the fall and in February or March. The timing was instrumental not only because the cooler temperatures prevented spoilage, but reducing herds conserved grain for feeding those that remained. Preserving pork took several forms under Minnie's tenure in the kitchen, with the two most important methods being canning meatballs with lard in glass quart jars and smoking the meat. Naomi expressly recalled that they never smoked beef, preferring to cure the few steers they butchered in brine in the cellar. There are no records of when the smokehouse was built or more particular descriptions of its construction, so it impossible to say whether or not Charles and Minnie continued to use an earlier structure or built a new one. Only one photograph offers a partial view of the building. Taken from the upper window opening between the barn and silo, the ca. 1921 photograph shows the smokehouse as tucked behind the south side of the kitchen addition, its west side in line with the east side of the granary. The building, Henry recalls, was approximately 8'-10' long and maybe 5'-6' wide, had no windows and a narrow, short door, facing the house. Like most smokehouses, it was a frame structure. The smokehouse at the nearby Bailly Homestead, said Margaret Larson, was of brick construction, which would have prevented loss of the building and its contents to fire. Brick smokehouses, however, would have been more common on wealthier homesteads or for those who operated meat markets. The Chellberg smokehouse "was in the back yard," said Naomi, "far enough away from the house so if it caught fire it wouldn't burn the house down." The building, however, needed to be convenient to the house. When the Larsons smoked meats it took at least ten days, with frequent visits to maintain a slow smoldering fire. Naomi did not say what kinds of wood her family used to season their meats, but the Larsons used hickory, evergreen, and cedar.<sup>337</sup>

Henry remembered the family still smoking meats in the early 1930s, including bacon and ham. At some point, however, the smokehouse was divided into two sections, with the west end becoming an outhouse and the east end the smokehouse, for awhile serving the two active functions at once. The smokehouse portion to the east later became storage space. The converted outhouse was used most frequently by the tenant house occupants and was still in use into the early 1950s. The building had been a frame structure which by the 1930s was covered in tar paper and had disappeared by the time the park acquired the property. A tract file photograph incidentally recorded a jumbled pile of brick south of the farmhouse that may have been the building's foundation.<sup>338</sup>

### 3. Non-existing Chellberg Family-related, removed by NPS:

When the NPS obtained Chellberg Farm it contained several structures which, after deliberation, the park determined were both beyond repair and/or not of the period that they wanted to interpret. These buildings included the concrete block well house, sheep shed lean-to on the barn, tenant house, tractor shed, and woodshed. "The balance of the outbuildings," wrote the real estate assessor in 1969, "are in extremely poor condition."<sup>339</sup>

Concrete-block well house: Years of use and weather exposure gradually took their toll on the farm's

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<sup>337</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979; Noble, Wood Brick and Stone: 88; Larson and Nickel, "The Homemakers in the Chesterton Area": 5.

<sup>338</sup> NS, interview with CD, 15 May 1980; NS interview with DB and JS, 11 August 1975; HS, notes taken by JR, March 1988; HS, interview with AH, 7 December 1998; Chellberg Farm, Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>339</sup> Appraisal by Bondarenko, Tract file 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

original wood well-house. As the family's major source of household and farmyard water, however, they did not want to leave the well and its mechanical workings unprotected. Rather than build a new wood structure, the Chellbergs took advantage of other readily available materials and skilled labor. Sometime shortly after building the maple sugar camp ca. 1935, Oscar Nelson, a local Swedish resident, did the masonry work on a new concrete block well house. The handmade blocks came from Alden Studebaker's block works in Dune Acres where he supervised construction. The old well house followed exactly the sloping contours of the windmill frame, with a hip roof pointing up the middle of the frame. The new well house, in complete contrast, extended on all sides beyond the frame, offering at least double the interior space of the previous structure. The building had a concrete floor, measured approximately 12' x 12', had wood rafters and wood sheeting, and was wired for electricity.<sup>340</sup> A very low-sloped metal gable roof with about a 1' eave covered the building. Like on its predecessor, the well house entrance remained on the south side, facing the farmhouse. Photographs show windows on at least the north and east sides. Carl later added a roof extension between the well house and granary, creating an open-walled shelter for general storage. In addition to serving general water needs for the farm, the building kept cool enough to occasionally store food. For several years Hilda Chellberg, Carl's wife, kept her Maytag wringer washer out there, handy to the water supply. "Every time you touched that or something," Ann recalled, "you could get shocked out there." She finally had her washer moved out to the south back porch, rather than risk constant electrical shock. The park removed the concrete structure ca. 1981 in preparation for building a reproduction of the old one.<sup>341</sup>

Sheep-shed lean-to on barn: See "Barn."

Tenant house: The tenant house stood south of the farmhouse, just outside of the yard fence which enclosed the domestic core of the farm. Like the farmhouse, the tenant house was oriented towards Mineral Springs Road. Emil Peterson, Minnie's youngest brother, built the tenant house ca. 1926-29, around the same period that the Chellbergs added the sunporch and fireplace to the farmhouse. There is no clear explanation about why the tenant house was built, except as a source of income for the family and perhaps as a way to keep Emil industriously occupied. "It was just to keep him busy," claimed Naomi. "He was a rascal." Despite claims against his personality, the family looked after him, even bringing him back from Oregon when his marriage and fortunes were failing him there. The house may have been built in response to the opening of the Dunes Highway in the 1920s and visitors coming to the Dunes in automobiles instead of by train. All along the highway tourist cabins began to cater more to automobiles, including "Nelson's Cabins," operated by family friends west of the Bailly Cemetery. The cabin even had its own driveway. After coming up the main entrance to the farm, a small drive verged south and around the east side of the farmhouse's fenced-in yard. If the Chellbergs did continue to accommodate paying city guests, the space offered clear boundaries for privacy not offered by the old facilities in the house.<sup>342</sup>

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<sup>340</sup> These details are from the 5 March 1969 property appraisal conducted by Robert V. Ott, Chellberg Farm Tract File 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL.

<sup>341</sup> AM, interview with AH, 5 February 1999; Chief interpreter to Assistant Superintendent, 5 March 1981, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint, IDNL.

<sup>342</sup> NS, interview with RF, 23 October 1979; NS, interview with MM, 27 December 1982; HS, correspondence with AH, 4 April 1999. For information on the development of the Dunes Highway, see "Development of U.S. 12 - 'The Dunes Highway,'" n.d., no author., VF-HO, IDNL.

According to Naomi, Emil was a “marvelous bricklayer.” Unfortunately his building skills were better suited to the Pacific Northwest rather than the extreme weather of northern Indiana. The tenant house was an approximately 24’ x 24’ square hip-roof structure, built of solid brick on a terra-cotta tile foundation, and with a small back porch extension. The chimney came out the middle of the roof. After a few cycles of frost the foundation began to crumble, and was “getting pretty rough” as early as the 1940s. The solid brick construction made it nearly impossible to heat because not only was there no insulation, the cold simply seeped into and settled in the walls, despite the addition of plaster on the walls and ceilings throughout. The concrete floor did not help ward off cold. The building contained three rooms, a bathroom, a kitchen-dining room, and a living-bed room. The house was built with kitchen and bathroom plumbing to drain water into a vitreous tile line, which drained into the ravine south of the woodshed, but water had to be carried in from the outside. In 1953 Henry and Arthur brought in a cold water line through the tenant house’s cistern on the south side, at the same time as they supplied the farmhouse with running water. Even then the amenities were limited. “We had a single faucet under the kitchen sink,” said Henry, “from which we filled buckets to get water for washing, bathing, and flushing the toilet.” The bathroom had a pedestal lavatory and galvanized iron bathtub, which were likely salvaged from other locations for use in the tenant house. Over time different stoves provided the heat. Henry remembered a new heating stove and a new “solid fuel fired kitchen range” being installed in the tenant house in 1943 for use by his Grandfather Studebaker and Aunt Mildred. In Henry’s and Arthur’s tenure in the house they heated with a Round Oak Stove, burning petroleum coke. Rather than use the cooking stove in the hot summer months, Henry and his brother sat electric hot-plates on it. “We’d always blow the fuses,” said Henry, because the old Delco generator could not handle the voltage demands that they placed on it. The young men never realized their plans to replace the deteriorating foundation, but they did put on a new asphalt shingle roof in the early 1950s.<sup>343</sup>

Emil Peterson may well have been one of the house’s first residents, but he was soon followed by a dozen or more relatives from the Peterson, Chellberg, Studebaker, and Johnson families. When Hilda’s sister, Hannabell, married Roger Cole in 1941, they lived in the house for a year or so.<sup>344</sup> Who else may have lived there in the earlier years, whether family or guests, is not clear, but after 1943 and until the fall of 1956 the house remained in almost continual use by members of the Studebaker family. The small house offered residents at the farm private space, yet within the farmhouse fold. Henry and Arthur Studebaker detailed their memory of who lived in the tenant house and when, a complex coming and going of family:

After our grandmother Studebaker’s death in Whiting, Indiana in early 1943, our grandfather, Hugh D. Studebaker, Sr. and our aunt, Mildred E. Studebaker moved into the tenant house. In early 1944, our grandfather Studebaker remarried and moved to Bluffton, Indiana. Our aunt Mildred remained in the tenant house until 1947 when she moved in with our great aunt Ida Peterson on US 12. Family belongings remained in the tenant house. In late 1950 our parents moved to a ranch in Texas. I was recalled to active duty in the navy in early 1951 and Arthur was drafted into the army about the same time. In mid-1951 our parents rented the family home in Dune Acres and moved our personal belongings to the tenant house. I paid my grandmother Chellberg \$15.00 per month for use of the tenant house until she died in 1952. I returned from

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<sup>343</sup> HS, interview with AH, 2 December 1998; HS, correspondence with AH, 4 April 1999; HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>344</sup> Claudia Herbst, interview with AH, 18 December 1998.

active service in mid-1952 and used the tenant house as my residence. Arthur was released from the army in late 1952 and we both used the tenant house as our residence until mid-1955.

Tenants vacated the Dune Acres home in mid-1955 and Arthur and I moved back into the family home. Our parents also moved back into the Dune Acres home in mid-1955. Our father, Alden K. Studebaker, died in late 1955. Some family possessions remained in the tenant house. In mid-1956 I married Cynthia and we lived in the family home in Dune Acres until the fall of 1956. In the meantime Arthur and our mother lived in the tenant house. After Cynthia and I moved out of the family home in Dune Acres in the fall of 1956 Arthur and our mother moved back into the Dune Acres home. That was the last time anyone from the Studebaker family lived in the tenant house.<sup>345</sup>

The last people to live in the tenant house may have been Carmen (Chellberg) and her husband, Frank Collins, who married in the early 1960s. When the park obtained the farm they found the tenant house full of boxes and belongings left behind by the various residents. The last tenant house resident was Flicka, a white pony, who moved in the fall of 1980 while work was being done on the barn. Not certain what else to do with the property the park also turned it into a storage facility, eventually deciding that it was not integral to the historical character of the farm and tore it down in the summer of 1986.<sup>346</sup>

Tractor shed: Two years after his father's death, Carl bought a 1939 Model "B" Allis-Chalmers farm tractor to do the farm work previously done by four horses. By the mid-1930s tractors had become affordable for nearly every size of farm and changeable implements made it possible to farm every crop by machine.<sup>347</sup> Bill Nelson, across the street, owned the same model of Allis-Chalmers tractor, so, if necessary, they would have been able to share machinery. Carl received a certain number of implements and accessories designed for his tractor, but there were many others that he adapted from their use with horses to his tractor. Henry and Arthur, who still own the tractor as well as their father's 1935 Fordson tractor, recall the following machinery used on the farm during their youths:

Implements and/or accessories designed specifically for attachment to his 1939 Model "B" Allis-Chalmers farm tractor:

1. 18" single bottom wheeled plow for pulling with tractor drawbar
2. 2 row cultivator, hand lift, bolted to tractor chassis
3. 6' double disc harrow for pulling with tractor drawbar
4. 6" pulley power take-off

Horse-drawn implements adapted for tractor use:

1. 6' mower
2. manure spreader
3. 12' spiked tooth harrow
4. 8' spring tooth harrow

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<sup>345</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999.

<sup>346</sup> Henry offered an overview of the occupation of the tenant house, which may also help to clarify the possible owners of many items left at the farm when the park obtained it.

<sup>347</sup> Randy Leffingwell, Vintage Farm Tractors (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Lowe & B. Hould Publishers, 1993): 30.

5. 10' Hay rake
6. Bob Sled
7. Hay wagon, rack type

Other implements adapted to the tractor:

1. 12' Buck fork, attached to front of tractor for gathering cut and dried hay (the remnants of this implement are on the west side of the sugar camp)
2. Front end loader, hydraulic lift (great for loading manure in spreader)
3. 2 wheeled trailer
4. Homemade buzz saw attachment (blade about 26" in diameter and powered from the pulley power takeoff on the rear of the tractor)<sup>348</sup>

Such an investment required shelter, although most of this equipment would have been stored elsewhere, like under the impromptu shelter between the well house and granary. Carl built an elongated shed-roof structure, of about the same dimensions of the current corncrib, mid-way between the granary and chicken coop. The shed was open on the south end towards the granary and likely had a dirt floor. Henry Studebaker recalls that the building appeared around 1939-40 and was built prior to the corncrib, which was attached a year or two later to the north. A ca. 1940s photograph reveals salvaged materials, the wide boards spottily blackened with tar or tar paper, so the tractor shed, like the brooder house, may have been made from what remained of the collapsed equipment shed which fell ca. 1938 in a storm. The tractor shed appeared in the 1969 real estate inventory photographs with a bit of a sway and leaning slightly to the west. The building was gone by the time the park made a 1976 photo survey, when the park began to make a more determined effort to make the farm look less abandoned.<sup>349</sup>

Woodshed: The woodshed stood directly west of the farmhouse, its west wall incorporated into the animal pathway and fenceline near the east edge of the ravine. Henry is certain that the building was constructed in the early 1900s because his mother never mentioned seeing it built. Its location seemed to be oriented to serve the ca. 1901 kitchen addition and the smokehouse rather than the older section of the house. Its location also made it convenient to the wood supply gleaned from the ravine.

A ca. 1934 photograph, taken during the early maple sugaring days, shows a gable-roof structure sided with vertical boards of uneven width, oriented north-south. None of the early photographs gives a clear view of the foundation or roof materials. That the building is not elevated on piers off the ground and does not have bats covering the cracks between boards suggests that the building was never intended for any sort of animal or grain storage, so they did not worry about defraying mice or rats. In the early 1920s Ruth snapped a photo of Charles coming from the outhouse/ravine vicinity--and also captured a corner of the woodshed. A door on the north end of the east wall opened to the north on metal hinges. More interestingly, the photo captures a grinding wheel standing north of the woodshed, east of the ravine fence, handy for sharpening an ax for the ever-present chore of chopping wood. A 1967 photograph shows two door openings, by this time both devoid of doors. Their different heights imply

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<sup>348</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 7 August 1999; HS, correspondence with AH, 17 August 1999.

<sup>349</sup> HS, correspondence with AH, 14 June 1999; Chellberg Farm Tract File 36-111, VF-Maint., IDNL; photograph of Carl Chellberg and the Allis Chalmers tractor, INDU #8137, Museum Collection, IDNL. There are no available records which determine definitely if the shed was removed by the park or by Carl Chellberg.

that the southern, taller one was added at a later date. None of the three available woodshed photographs show any windows in the structure. By 1967 the building leaned heavily towards the ravine and the wood-shingle roof suggests that it, too, had seen little recent care. The building, said Naomi, “just melted.” An early site plan for the Contact Station visitor facilities depicts a “shed” in the location of the woodshed, so it still existed in some form when the park obtained the property. No one from the park staff, however, seems to remember it and by the time that there were planning photographs taken in 1976, it was gone.<sup>350</sup>

#### 4. NPS Constructed Existing Structures:

Once the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore began their interpretive programs in earnest in the late 1970s, they soon found that they needed buildings to accommodate visitors, to keep animals, and to store feed and farm machinery. One of the first buildings added to the eighty-acre farm was the Bailly/Chellberg Contact Station, a modern structure offering year-round rest room facilities and seasonal interpretive displays. The contact station area provides an entrance road, parking, two picnic shelters, and the network of hiking trails for those visiting Chellberg Farm and the Bailly Homestead. To accommodate those using the trail system the park has added signage throughout the property, as well as bridges and steps in sections of the ravine. On the farm a series of wayside markers interpret the site for visitors.

The NPS has built six buildings near the Chellberg Farm complex, in close proximity to the animals and the program areas. These buildings include a reconstructed waterhouse, two pig shelters, a five-bay pole building, a storage facility, a one-bay animal shelter, and a brick sorghum fireplace. Several of these structures were built to augment interpretive programs while others were argued necessary for the growing number of donations that the park began to receive, including animals, equipment, and household goods. Historic as well as new structures have been intermingled, most blending together such that it is difficult to tell which buildings were part of the Chellberg family’s farm life versus NPS development. This confusion is compounded by the addition of fences where no fences had been before, particularly around the barn, while areas known to have been fenced remain open. One reason buildings proliferated since the early 1980s is that as the Chellberg buildings were either removed or restored, objects temporarily housed in them needed new homes. For anyone looking at the farm’s collection of objects today, particularly knowing that the Chellberg and Studebaker families left many belongings at the farm, it can be difficult to decipher those items left by past residents and those that the park has accumulated since beginning interpretive programs. For unknowing observers of the farm structures, similar confusion is likely. Besides the visitor contact station and the well house, most of the NPS-built structures are concentrated north and east of the barn.

Barn model (1979)/Sorghum cooker (1982): Two of the earliest structures built near the farm complex were the barn model and sorghum press. Each sits in an open area to accommodate groups of visitors. The barn model, in particular, serves as a jumping off point for discussions about the farm, and was particularly useful before and during the barn restoration. Art Willing, a local resident, built the model

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<sup>350</sup> Photograph, “Boozo and Hilda’s Tulips,” May 1967, Studebaker Family Collection; Chellberg Farm, photograph of early maple sugar activity, H2-0040, and between the woodshed and outhouse, H2-0018, both in the Museum Collection, IDNL; site plan for “Entrance Facilities, Bailly Homestead,” date obscured by bad photocopy, “Chellberg Maps and Plans,” VF-FM, IDNL.

in September 1979, showing the skeletal three-bay framing system and construction methods of the Chellberg barn, features that can be difficult to point out in the dark barn interior. When it was first built it stood isolated at the north side of the barn, but has since been surrounded by other structures. The sorghum cooker stands west of the temporary parking area and north of the old farm entrance lane. Tom Nicholson built the brick-insulated sorghum oven and chimney in September 1982, in time for the fall Harvest Festival. A gable-roof pavilion, built by the park, protects it from direct sun and rain. The cooker serves the sorghum press which stands slightly to the northeast, more noticeable for the circular animal trail around it than the press itself. (For details of production of sorghum at Chellberg Farm during the Chellberg's tenure, please see "Maple Sugar Camp" in section one of this report.)

Pole barn (1986): The gradual accumulation of farm equipment, some used exclusively for interpretive programs and others for display purposes, forced the park to find more storage space. Gene Beschinski, with the help of other park employees, built the pole barn in September 1986 based on old pole shed designs. The building was modeled partially on a structure described by Henry Studebaker that had been located south of the farmhouse, near the sugar camp. The sturdy building, however, actually bears little resemblance to the tar-papered and dilapidated shed that Henry remembered in its last days during his childhood, before it collapsed under the weight of an April snow. The five-bay pole barn has a shed roof, board-and-batten siding, and is open to east. Because of the concentration of activities near the barn, the park elected to build the shed north of the barn rather than near the location of the original. By 1993 the continually growing number of items, mostly donations, some objects found on the farm, and others obtained from the Ozarks National Park, began to dwarf the space, gradually tumbling outward to other parts of the farmyard. This congestion raised questions of what is appropriate to the period the park was supposedly interpreting, as well as how many tools and machines the average farmer may have been able to afford or have kept on hand. If a museum space, the structure does not provide a protective environment, so many in-house debates have ensued over the safety of objects and whether or not items should be covered with tarps to keep out rain and snow. There continue to be conflicts of use of the building as an equipment exhibit rather than as a shelter to farm machinery actually in use for programs. There have also been periodic pushes from some staff for more such shelters in several possible locations, at the historic site near the sugar camp, north of the barn, and the east of the storage building near Mineral Springs Road.<sup>351</sup>

Pig shelters (small 1987/large 1989): As interpretive programs grew one of the goals was to include hogs, one of the animals that the Chellbergs kept across the generations as an important food source. Plans for pig sheds roamed to many different locations, a favorite making use of the old silo foundation and level area west of the barn, an idea that combined both Naomi's and Henry's recollections of hog-raising. Building a shed, however, inevitably involves more than just the structure; the animals need a significant amount of space to run and wallow. From what Naomi reported in various interviews, the pig raising activities during her girlhood were tucked behind the west side of the barn with much of the running area confined to the ravine, land where the family could not have grown crops. The park has concentrated their hog-raising directly north of the barn, where sturdy fencing confines a long, narrow, level area. The addition of pigs and the decision in 1988 to try to keep the animals on-site year round gradually resulted in the construction of a second shelter.

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<sup>351</sup> Memo from Dori Partsch to unnamed NPS staff, 9 September 1993, "Chellberg Farm Notes," VF-PPM, IDNL; "Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Chellberg Farm Management Plan," (1990): 24.

The first shelter, built by Art Willing in Spring 1987, was placed as close to the barn as possible to ease chores. It is a gable-roof wood structure, the gable end partially open to the west so that visitors can see inside. Horizontal siding covers the three sides of the exterior, with the north and south walls sloped inward from the ground to the cedar-shingled roof. The floor has been built slightly elevated to keep out moisture. In the fall of 1989 a second shelter was built north of the first. It was designed to accommodate the giant hog Adrienne, who had been spared butchering due to public protest, but later died because she grew too large to support her own weight. "It was built large enough for an outstretched Adrienne and the smaller hogs in there in the summer," reported the November 1989 issue of "Farm Notes." Paul Brammell, a volunteer and retired carpenter, used old rough-sawn oak for the shed-roof structure. The sides swing up for ventilation and the front is removable. No sooner was the new hog shelter added than there came appeals to extend the pen, in part because of the space that the new pen occupied of the exercise area. The park has also added a means to provide heat lamps in the shelters for raising piglets when the temperature threatens to be too cold.<sup>352</sup>

Storage building (1989): The storage building is a gable-roof, wood-frame building, located north of the old farm entrance lane, near Mineral Springs Road. Each year, as more interpretive programs and special events took place on the farm, more and more space was needed to keep the accompanying detritus, sometimes with supplies being hauled to the Contact Station and the Goodfellow gatehouse. Particularly with the removal of the tenant house and the farmhouse restoration, places to store harnesses and equipment used to interpret and maintain the farm became lean. General storage needs, declared a 1989 proposal, included food and bedding for the animals, horse accessories, miscellaneous small farm supplies, festival materials, and farm equipment. The need for a general storage facility had been in discussion since at least 1985, with hopes of securing Fiscal Year 1987 dollars for its construction. The structure is entirely enclosed and in its early planning stages included an attached pole barn, which was never built.<sup>353</sup>

The site near the old farm entrance lane was selected out of three proposed sites because it was convenient for staff members doing chores. The location, besides already called a "service area," was also deemed practical because the handicap parking lot had already been established there. Even after proposing three different sites, with the service area one the closest, the author of the proposal pined for a site even closer to the barn, stopping short of equating the work of the staff to the work of farmers, who the staff member claimed would have seen lugging equipment as impractical.<sup>354</sup> A 1985 memo showed that the site later selected had been the preferred location all along. The resident of the Nelson Farm at the time was livid with the park's decision to build the storage facility in what had once been open

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<sup>352</sup> Farm Notes vol. IX (November 1989): 2; Memo Re: Chellberg Farm Hog Area, Possible Plan, n.d. "Hogs," VF-FM, IDNL; and Memo Re: Hog pen enlargement and drainage problem, 9 November 1990, "Hog Pen," VF-FM, IDNL.

<sup>353</sup> Glen Alexander to Dale Engquist, 26 November 1985, "Chellberg Farmhouse and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL. That the building was not completed continues to cause tension. "That building represents half of what was requested years ago," wrote the Farm Manager. "[T]he adjacent pole barn that was promised never came. Chellberg Farm has a storage problem." Jude Rokowski to unnamed park staff, Re: Recent Memo from the Historical Architect, ca. 1998, VF-Office of the Historical Architect, IDNL.

<sup>354</sup> "Storage Building Plan, Chellberg Farm," (author's signature unintelligible), 30 January 1989, "Storage Building," VF-PPM, IDNL; John Hirsh to Glen Alexander, record of telephone call, 23 May 1989, "Chellberg Buildings and Surrounding Buildings," VF-Maint., IDNL

pasture. The park said that they would consider plantings to screen the building from view, but this would not have given the man back his previously uninterrupted view of the farmsite, particularly the brick house which mirrored his residence. Not all of the park staff felt that the selected site was appropriate either, fearing that “the yearning for convenience is eroding the historic feeling of the farm.” One staff member imagined himself, as pictured in the period Chellberg family photographs, taking “a seat on the front porch of the Chellberg House” for a look around, and not necessarily liking what the park had rendered.<sup>355</sup>

Small animal shelter (1994): Jim Hedge, of the park Maintenance staff, built the [10' x 10'] shed-roof, board-and-batten single-bay structure as a temporary shelter to house animals under a variety of circumstances. On the one hand, it was built “as a stand-in for a tree in a pasture,” but its uses and duration have gradually made it a more permanent structure. The shed is enclosed on three sides and open to the south, so that visitors to the farm can view whatever animals may be there, and is located about [100'] east of the barn. It was built on skids to aid in moving it wherever and whenever necessary, but has so far remained on the same site. The park modeled their shed on one pictured in Peoples Farm and Stock Cyclopedia, published in 1884. Because space for the farm animals is limited to the east end of the barn, there are times of the year when the shed is used as an overflow area. Particularly sensitive times are when the cow is calving, extra animals are on hand for festivals, and when animals need to be separated due to sickness or injury. As with a few of the other park structures, its location has proved controversial because it stands in an area that the Chellbergs farmed, but has thus far remained in its present site because there are debates about whether or not it intrudes upon the “farmyard scene” and courtyard area.<sup>356</sup>

### PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Throughout the footnotes the author uses abbreviations to reference the individuals interviewed and the locations of materials at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The following is an alphabetical breakdown of the abbreviations.

#### Abbreviations:

AH Amanda Holmes  
AM Ann Medley  
AS Arthur Studebaker  
CD Carol Davis  
CH Curt Hardesty  
DB D. Blink  
FM Farm Manager's Office  
GB Gene Beschinski  
HS Henry Studebaker

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<sup>355</sup> Project Compliance Worksheet, Project D22(INDU)-Additional Pasture/Chellberg Farm (only proposed completion date added), “Project Compliance Worksheet,” VF-HO, IDNL. The reviewer’s comments were in direct response to a proposal to add more pasture and fencing to the farm scene, but he referred to the recent construction of the shed. Project proposals are often accompanied by close-up topo maps or sketches, which fail to connect the projects to larger scale planning.

<sup>356</sup> Miscellaneous NPS memos, dated 1994-97, “Cows,” VF-PPM, IDNL.

HO Historian's Office  
IDNL Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore  
IN Indiana  
IPF Interpretation Photo Files  
JR Jude Rakowski  
JS J. Seiser  
Maint Maintenance  
MM Marty Marciniak  
NS Naomi Studebaker  
OS Open Shelves  
PPM Public Program Manager  
RF Robert Fudge  
SO Superintendent's Office  
VF Vertical Files  
VCL Visitor Center Library

A. Architectural Drawings:

Chellberg Barn, Existing Condition Drawings. Prepared by Williamsport Preservation Training Center, Harpers Ferry Center, March 1991. Ten sheets.

Chellberg Barn, Williamsport Preservation Training Center, Day Labor Construction Drawings, Harper's Ferry Center, June 1991. Thirteen sheets.

B. Photographs and Other Views:

Early views:

Emily (Chellberg) and Alfred Borg residence. From the collection of Carol Cherepko.

John Borg residence. From the collection of Beth Chellberg Shubair.

Charles P. Nelson residence. *Standard Atlas of Porter County, Indiana*. Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1906.

Scrapbook and miscellaneous photographs of Chellberg Farm, ca. 1908-1965. From the Studebaker Family Collection.

National Park Service photographs:

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has copies and originals of many photographs from the Chellberg family's years on the farm, ca. 1908-1967. Most are located either in the Historian's Office or in the Museum Collection, although some still await accessioning into the Museum Collection.

Chellberg Farm, building stabilization. 1977. "Chellberg Barn." Vertical File, Maintenance Division. IDNL.

Chellberg Farmhouse, Restoration Slide Collection. 1986. Open Shelves, Historian's Office. IDNL.

Chellberg Farmhouse restoration. 1988. From the collection of Dori Parsch.

Chellberg Structures. Ca. 1974-85. Interpretation photography files. Folder #s 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 15, 23, and 25. Dorothy Buell Visitor Center. IDNL.

United States Geological Survey aerial photographs of Porter, Indiana and vicinity, 1938-1984. Lake Michigan Ecological Research Station, Biological Resources Division, U.S. Department of the Interior, located on the grounds of the IDNL.

Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana. Aerial photograph of T 37 N, R 6 W. Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, 1990. Office of the Landscape Architect. IDNL.

C. Interviews and Correspondence:

Interviews with the Author:

Bennett, George. Telephone interview, 30 November 1998, Dune Acres, Indiana. Long-term Dune Acres resident.

Beschinski, Eugene (Gene). Taped interview, 14 December 1998, Porter, Indiana. Preservation for Maintenance Carpenter for the NPS. The first carpenter hired by the IDNL, who oversaw most of the restoration of the Chellberg farmhouse and barn. Transcript completed by the author.

\_\_\_\_\_. Correspondence, March-August 1999.

Buckley, Jean. Telephone conversation, 24 March 1999, Chesterton, Indiana. Acting archivist for the Augsburg Lutheran Church.

\_\_\_\_\_. Correspondence, March-April 1999.

Cherepko, Carol. Taped interview, 15 December 1998, Chesterton, Indiana. A descendant of the Borg and Chellberg families. Interview conducted with Beth Chelberg Shubair. Transcript completed by author.

Clemenson, A. Berle. Telephone interview, 30 November 1998, Porter, Indiana. Conducted research on Chellberg Farm for IDNL in the 1970s.

Clover, Cloyce (Red). Telephone interview, 4 February 1999, Valparaiso, Indiana. Mr. Clover worked for Brookside Laboratories for forty years, consulting with farmers in LaPorte, Porter, and Lake counties.

Dockal, James. Telephone interview, 18 August 1999, Texas. Mr. Dockal serves as the institutional memory for the Areomotor Windmill Company.

Fudge, Robert. Taped telephone interview, 9 and 15 March 1999, Washington, DC. Helped to establish some of the early interpretive programs for Chellberg Farm.

Hardesty, Curt. Taped interview, 8 December 1998, Porter, Indiana. Preservation for Maintenance Carpenter for the NPS. Transcript completed by the author.

Harter, Russell. Telephone interview, 3 March 1999, Chesterton, Indiana. Mr. Harter served as the insurance agent for the Chellbergs for the last twenty years they owned the farm.

Herbst, Claudia. Telephone interview, 18 December 1998, Chesterton, Indiana. Mrs. Herbst is Hilda Johnson's sister, who married Carl Chellberg.

Johnson, Howard. Taped telephone interview, 26 February 1999, Chesterton, Indiana. Local Swedish resident who visited the farm in the 1930s. Transcript completed by the author.

Medley, Ann. Taped telephone interview, 4 February 1999, Kentland, Indiana. Daughter of Carl and Hilda Chellberg, granddaughter of Charles and Minnie Chellberg. Transcript completed by the author.

Nelson, Irene. Taped interview, 12 December 1998, Porter, Indiana. Local Swedish resident. Her husband constructed some of the 1930s outbuildings on the farm. Transcript completed by author.

Read, Herbert. Telephone interview, 22 March 1999, Chesterton, Indiana. Herbert Read was active in the Save the Dunes Council and a friend of Bill Nelson, of the Nelson Farm on Mineral Springs Road.

Shubair, Beth Chellberg. Taped interview, 15 December 1998, Chesterton, Indiana. A descendant of the both the Chellberg and Borg families. Interview conducted with Carol Cherepko. Transcript completed by author.

Stuebaker, Henry. Taped interviews, 2 December 1998, and 7 December 1998, Porter, Indiana. Son of Naomi (Chellberg) Stuebaker, of Chellberg Farm. Transcript completed by author.

\_\_\_\_\_. Correspondence, March-August 1999.

Previously recorded interviews and notes of conversations:

Ahrendt, William. Taped interview, 20 March 1979, Burstrom Chapel, Porter, Indiana. The duplicate tape used for the transcript was also supposed to include an interview with Adelle Issacson, a granddaughter of Anders and Johanna Kjellberg who grew up on the neighboring farm to the north, but the interview was not there. Transcript completed by the author.

Arvidson, Marilyn. Radio interview, 6 December 1995, about the Santa Lucia customs as presented at Chellberg Farm. Transcript completed by the author.

Chellberg, Walter and Helen. Taped interview "Regarding Swedish Immigration," 26 March 1979. Cassette #32. Interviewer does not identify herself on the tape. Most of the tape contains Walter's memories; the few comments made by Helen are inaudible. Transcript completed by the author.

Froberg, Eugene. Interview and notes from interviews by Jeff Cummings, IDNL Park Technician, 23 October 1979, and 14 November 1979. "Bailly-Chellberg," Vertical File, Farm Manager's Office. IDNL Tape not reviewed for this report.

Medley, Ann. Interview by Marciniak, "Chellberg Farmhouse Furnishings," 8 July 1982, Kentland, Indiana. Reel #27. IDNL Museum Collection. Transcript completed by author.

Miscellaneous notes of conversations with visitors to Chellberg Farm. "Chellberg Interviews," Vertical Files, Visitor Center Library. IDNL.

Stuebaker, Arthur and Henry. Notes taken by Jude Rakowski after their mother's, Naomi's, funeral and a visit to the farm, 7 May 1988. "Chellberg Farm," Vertical File, Historian's Office, IDNL.

Stuebaker, Naomi Chellberg. Interview by Margaret Bapst, October 1986. Tape and transcript at the Westchester Historical Society, Chesterton, Indiana, Vertical File #86.

\_\_\_\_\_. Miscellaneous information from interviews conducted by NPS Interpreters, n.d. Typescript in "Chellberg Information," Vertical File, Park Historian's Office, IDNL.

All of the following interviews with Naomi are in the various repositories at the IDNL. Reel numbers reference the reel-to-reel tapes in the museum storage area, Building 103, and the Cassette # to the collection in the Dorothy Buell Visitor Center Audio Room.

Stuebaker, Naomi Chellberg. Taped interview by D. Blink and J. Seiser, 11 August 1975. Reel #3. Transcript of about one-half hour of the interview completed by the author, the rest of the duplicate tape was inaudible. The tape contains some of the earliest and most complete recollections of farm life from Naomi. She apparently also made sketches of the the farm landscape and buildings, which were not found in the park files reviewed for this report. Transcript completed by the author.

\_\_\_\_\_. Taped interview by Marty Marciniak, 6 July 1978. Dune Acres, Indiana. Reel #6. Notes, not a transcript, compiled by Jay Liggett and Ellee Topkan. See "Chellberg Information," Vertical File, Historian's Office, IDNL. Transcript completed by the author.

\_\_\_\_\_. Taped interview by Marty Marciniak, "Picture IDs," 3 February 1979. Reel #10. Transcript of sections applicable to Chellberg Farm and Baillytown area transcribed by author.

- \_\_\_\_\_. Taped interview by Marty Marciniak, "Picture IDs," 10 February 1979. Reel #11, Cassette #011. Interview primarily about the Studebaker family, author chose not to transcribe its contents.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Taped interview entitled "Clothes and Picture IDs," 17 February 1979. Reel #12, Cassette #012. Interviewers not identified. Transcript of clothes and farm sections of the interview completed by author.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Interview by Mike Dale and Ken Gregory, 14 August 1979. No tape available of this interview. Notes, apparently generated from notes taken during the interview, can be found in "Bailly/Chellberg Information," Vertical File, Visitor Center Library, IDNL.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Taped interview by Robert Fudge, "History of Chellberg Farm," 23 October 1979. Reel #14. Notes, but not a transcription, available in "Chellberg Information," Vertical File, Historian's Office. This interview provided some of the best information about the early years on the farm, unfortunately, about 20 minutes of the duplicate tape were completely inaudible. Transcript completed by the author.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Taped interview, "History of Chellberg Farm." 26 November 1979. Reel #15. The tape contains no formal information about the three people, two men and a woman, who conducted the interview. The reel attributes the interview to Robert Fudge, so he may have been one of the participants. Carol Young is identified incidentally. Transcript completed by author.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Interview by Carol Davis. 15 May 1980. Cassette #34. Interview is one of the most thorough interviews conducted by park staff with Naomi Studebaker. Transcript completed by author.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Interview by Marciniak and Warren Snyder regarding Chellberg farmhouse furnishings, 27 December 1982. Reel #26, Cassette #37. Transcript by Betty Strand, of the Harpers Ferry Center, West Virginia. "Swedish Heritage," Vertical File, Historian's Office. IDNL.

D. General Bibliography:

1. Newspaper articles:

"Baillytown." Chesterton Tribune, 26 October 1906.

Blackwell, Thomas. "Important to Farmers." Chesterton Tribune, 28 October 1904.

"C. Chellberg, Resident 75 years, Dies." Obituary. Chesterton Tribune, 12 August 1937.

"Carl Chellberg." Obituary. Chesterton Tribune, 23 May 1973.

"The Dairy." Chesterton Tribune, 15 November 1906.

"The Fire Fiend Selects the Coldest Night This Years, and Totally Destroys the Home of Andrew

- Shellberg [sic].” Chesterton Tribune, 17 December 1884.
- Henrichs, Mary. “Maple syrup job was a big one.” March 1981. No citation, filed in “Maple Sugar,” VF-VCL, IDNL.
- “Last of Chellberg family, Naomi Studebaker, dies.” Post-Tribune, 3 May 1988.
- “Letters from the People.” Chesterton Tribune, 14 May 1884.
- “Maple syrup time coming at park.” Chesterton Tribune, 19 February 1981.
- “Mrs. Borg Dies at Age of 79.” Obituary, n.p., 20 June 1946. INDU #1401-1414, Museum Collection, IDNL.
- “Naomi (Chellberg) Studebaker service set.” Obituary, n.p., May 1988. In “Naomi Chellberg Studebaker,” Vertical File, Farm Manager’s Office, IDNL.
- “Naomi Studebaker.” Obituary, n.p. (May 1988). In “Naomi Chellberg Studebaker,” VF-FM, IDNL.
- “Naomi Studebaker service pending.” Chesterton Tribune, 2 May 1988.
- “The New Swedish Lutheran Parsonage.” Chesterton Tribune, 10 January 1889.
- “100 years ago.” Chesterton Tribune, 8 April 1999. Reference to local maple syrup production already being a fond memory in 1899.
- “Recalls old Chellberg Farm Days.” Vidette-Messenger, 21 March 1981.
- “Sugar Bush Site Rich in History.” Chicago Tribune, 29 August 1965.
- Swan Nilson, advertisement. Chesterton Tribune, 31 May 1883.

## 2. Atlases/Maps:

- Ashley, G. H. “Geological Map of Lake and Porter Counties.” In Department of Geology and Natural Resources of Indiana, Report, XXII, 1897. Copy in the Office of the Geographic Information Specialist, IDNL.
- Combined Atlases of Porter County, Indiana. Reproduction of Atlases from 1876, 1895, 1906 and 1921. Evansville, IN: Unigraphic, Inc., 1979.
- Illustrated Historical Atlas of Porter County, Indiana. Valparaiso, Indiana: A. G. Hardesty, 1876.
- “Indiana Porter Quadrangle.” U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, 1940.

Lee & Lee's Atlas of Porter County, Indiana. Chicago: Lee & Lee, 1895.

Porter County, Indiana Official Farm Plat Book and Directory. Madison, Wisconsin: County Plat and Directory Co., Inc., 1959.

Sanborn Insurance Map of Porter and Chesterton, Indiana. Chicago: Sanborn Map Company, 1912.

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Standard Atlas of Porter County, Indiana. Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1921.

### 3. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Supported Studies:

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Bull, Jim. "Sugarbush: The Chellberg Story." Singing Sands Almanac 5:2(March-April 1982): 1.

Clemensen, A. Berle. "Bailly Homestead Unit, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore: History, Maps, Evaluation of Historic Resources, Determinations of Structures Composing the Bailly Homestead." National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Denver, Colorado: Historic Preservation Division, Denver Service Center, 1975.

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Cook, Sarah Gibbard, and Robert S. Jackson. "The Bailly Area of Porter County, Indiana: The Final Report of a geo-historical study undertaken on behalf of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore." Evanston: Robert Jackson & Associates, 1978.

Dunevitz, Vicki L., Dale K. Otto, and Ronald D. Hiebert. "An Ecological Study of the Chellberg Forest Sugar Bush, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore: A Report to Management." ca. 1980.

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"Kjellberg Farm." National Register of Historic Places. Application form prepared by David Arbogast, April 1975. Application turned down.

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Marciniak, Marty D. "A Historical Study of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore." Prepared for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, August 1978.

Partsch, Dorinda. "Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Chellberg Farmhouse Furnishings Plan." 1989.

Snyder, Warren. "Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Chellberg Farm Management Plan." 1990.

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Vitanza, Thomas. "Chellberg Barn Structural Stabilization Project Record and Completion Report." 2 Vols. Williamsport Preservation Training Center. Williamsport, Maryland, Harpers Ferry Center, November 1991.

Williams, Brenda. "Cultural Landscape Report, Chellberg Farm, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore." Quinn Evans/Architects Project #98127.00, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1999.

The following IDNL offices have been investigated for information pertaining to the interpretation, restoration, and maintenance of all of the structures at Chellberg Farm during the NPS tenure, 1972-present:

Farm Manager  
Historical Architect  
Interpretation  
Museum Collection  
Maintenance  
Park Historian  
Park Tract Files (Warehouse and Superintendent's Office)  
Resource Management  
Supertintendent  
Visitor Center Library  
Visitor Services Manager

#### 4. Primary and unpublished sources:

##### Official Records:

Assessment Records and Transfer Books, Westchester Township. Porter County Assessor Office, Porter County Courthouse Annex. Valparaiso, Indiana.

Land Records (deeds, mortgages, and miscellaneous land records). Porter County Recorder Office, Porter County Courthouse Annex. Valparaiso, Indiana.

Wills and Estate Papers. Porter County Superior and Circuit Court Clerk. Porter County Courthouse, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Transfer Books and Appraisment Lists, Town of Porter, Porter Indiana. Porter County Courthouse Annex, Valparaiso, Indiana.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. Seventh Federal Census of Agriculture, 1850 -- Indiana. Microfilm copy on file at Indiana State Archives. Indianapolis, Indiana.

\_\_\_\_\_. Seventh Federal Census of Population, 1850 -- Indiana. Microfilm copy on file at Indiana State Archives. Indianapolis, Indiana.

\_\_\_\_\_. Eighth Federal Census of Agriculture, 1860 -- Indiana. Microfilm copy on file at Indiana State Archives. Indianapolis, Indiana.

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- F. Other sources to investigate:

Many researchers have been trying to obtain the Westchester Township assessment records but have been unable to locate them. Various rumors about their whereabouts exist, usually passed on by someone working in or answering the telephone at the Township Assessor's Office, including that all

pre-1930 records burned in a fire; that they are stored out of town somewhere in a highway department garage; and that they township regularly throws away all the old records. Keep alert to clues.

The Porter County Records Office contains some intriguing indexes called the “Miscellaneous Indexes,” used to record unusual transfers, such as Letters of Agreement or loans for farm supplies. The indexes reference researchers to two different sets of books, one for agreements dealing with land (alphabetical reference), and the other for moveable property (numerical reference). Unfortunately, the people working in the office, even those there for more than a decade, seldom have anyone request the older documents and have never heard of the numbered Miscellaneous Records. If anyone can find these they may contain valuable information about the development of Porter County businesses and farm improvements. The indexes themselves are a valuable resource because they list combinations of animals and farm equipment being purchased, but not to the level of exact numbers or breeds.

The Westchester Township Historical Society currently is conducting an extensive oral history project which deal with the nuances of life in the Porter, Chesterton, and Baillytown areas. Anyone conducting research on various aspects of Westchester Township life should consult these records for parallels to their own projects. Most of the information is about each individual’s life, so sometimes descriptions and details are not pursued for someone seeking material culture details. Anyone interested in these records should contact either a librarian at the Thomas Memorial Library or at the Westchester Township Historical museum, both in Chesterton .

G. Supplemental Material (APPENDICES):

Included in the Appendices:

- Genealogies for Anders, August, and Charles Kjellberg and three generations of their descendants
- Miscellaneous research information found about the family
- Household Inventories -- Family
- Household Inventories -- NPS Tenure
- Description of 1889 Swedish Lutheran Parsonage

Included in Fieldnotes, available at -----:

LIST ITEMS FROM MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS INCLUDED WITH FINAL DRAFT

a. Family Genealogies:

Four Chellberg brothers are thought to have immigrated to the United States, three to the Baillytown area. Each brother’s spouse and offspring are listed together.<sup>357</sup> Just because some one is listed as

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<sup>357</sup> Not all of the information in this genealogy is verifiable because the author is working from limited public documents along with what is commonly known in some of the families of the Chellberg descendants. Some of the information comes from a notebook kept by Naomi Victoria Studebaker, now in the possession of her sons. Naomi’s handwriting was difficult for Henry to decipher in a transcription for me, so some of the names may

having no spouse or offspring does not mean that they did not have children, but that there might not be any information on that line of the family.

A family genealogy says that the brothers' parents came from Älvsborg Län, Sweden, Johannes Anderson (1801-), from Liared, and Maria Andersdotter (1794-) from Gullered.

Augsburg Lutheran Church Archive documents say that Anders and Johanna were both born in Bonafors, Eliborglan, Sweden.

1. Joseph Kjellberg/Johansson, 11 May 1828
2. Anders Ludvig Kjellberg/Johansson, 22 March 1830
3. August Kjellberg/Johansson, ?
4. Johanna, 3 January 1833- 23 April 1833
5. Carl Kjellberg/Johansson, 20 May 1835<sup>358</sup>

1. Joseph Johansson/Kjellberg (Annakiss)

three girls and two boys (no names listed)

2. Anders Ludvig Johansson/Kjellberg, 1830-93 (Johanna Josephsdotter, 1829-99)

Carl (Charles) Levin Chellberg, 1859-1937 (Otto Mina Peterson, 1869-1952)<sup>359</sup>

Frank Leonard Chellberg, 1902-3 (died in infancy)

Ruth Mildred Chellberg, 1904-73 (not married)

Naomi Victoria Chellberg, 1907-88 (Alden Koch Studebaker)

Alden Charles Henry, 1927- (Cynthia Ann Elster, 1932-)

Arthur Lewis Studebaker, 1929- (Janet Ellis Newman, 1934-)

Carl Lewis Chellberg, 1913-73 (Hilda Angeline Johnson, 1918-70)

Ann Louis Chellberg, 1939- (Brent Medley)

Carmen Lorraine Chellberg 1944- (Frank Collins)

Caroline Chellberg (died in infancy)

Emily Charlotte Chellberg, 1866-1946 (Alfred Borg, 1866-1939)

Violet Johanna Emelia Borg, 1898-1918 (Elmer Theodor Johnson, 1894-1963)

Doris Charlott Johnson, 1920- (Charles Landworth)

Lorraine Elenore Johnson, 1923- (Clair Winton Chellberg)

Marilyn Corrine Johnson, 1929- (Robert Harold Granback, 1926-)

Vioreen Johan Ludvig Borg, 1900-1965 (Marian Zahn, 1902-53)

Maryann Borg (William Beckman)

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not be entirely correct. More extensive information comes from a genealogy compiled by a relative of Beth Chellberg Shubair, although in some instances the information is in conflict. I include all of this information in the hopes that the more information there is to work from, the more likely a full account of the family can be known in the future.

<sup>358</sup> Carl may have had a twin brother that died at birth.

<sup>359</sup> Otto Mina was know as Minnie. She was born in the Baillytown/Porter area to Johan Peterson and Christina Hokanson, who settled north of the old Chicago Road, across from the Bailly Cemetery.

Ruth Evilina Adel Borg, 1904-  
    Carol Isaacson (Robert Cherepko)  
Laverne Johan Alfred Borg, 1907- (Ivy Johnson)  
    John Borg  
    James Borg  
    Linda Borg  
Elin Ottilia Pricilia Borg, 1909-

3. August Johansson/Kjellberg (Sofia)

Fabian  
Fritz  
Emilie

4. Johanna (died in infancy)

5. Carl Johansson/Kjellberg, 1835-1910 (Louisa, 1837-1900)<sup>360</sup>

Johan Levin Kjellberg, 1864-94 (Maria Charlson, 1864-1932)  
    Carl John Martin Chellberg, 1890-1957 (Agnes Emelia Peterson 1893-1958)  
    Clair Winton Chellberg, 1919- (Lorraine Elenore Johnson, 1923-)  
    Walter Frederik Bernhard Chellberg, 1894-1986 (1. Edna C. Nelson, 1895-1918)  
    Elenore Chellberg (Roy Nicholson)  
    Walter Marvin Chellberg (Maxine Marcella, 1924-79)  
    Paul Chellberg (Marian Hockelberg)  
    (2. Helen, 1897-1986)  
Albert Kjellberg, ~1870  
    Grant Chellberg  
    Allis Chellberg  
Anna C. Chellberg, 1872-96  
Otto William Kjellberg, 1875-1935 (Selma E. Johnson, 1881-1959)  
    Hilmer Chellberg, 1901-1985 (Mildred Holm, 1909)  
    Lowell Chellberg - adopted, 1943- (Lorraine Larson)  
    Arthur L. Chellberg, ~1904-74 (Dorothy Elizabeth Borg, 1910-71)  
    Karen Marie Chellberg, 1937 (Robert Petrey)  
    Beth Ann Elizabeth Chellberg, 1942 (Shubair)  
    Vernon A. Chellberg, ~1905-62 (not married)  
    Rudolph O. Chellberg, ~1907-59 (not married)  
Elizabeth Kjellberg, ~1879  
Charles Edward Kjellberg, 1881

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<sup>360</sup> According to Naomi's notes Carl and Louisa lost three girls in Sweden before coming to the United States. The names that Henry and his brother were able to decipher may have included middle names, but were listed as Lotta, John, Martin, Walter, Mina, Albert, William, Tina, Edward, Anna, and Mary, some of which coordinate with the other genealogy.

b. Miscellaneous research information found about the Kjellberg/Chellberg family:

Note that all three brothers belonged to different Swedish Churches in the Porter/Chesterton area, allegiances that did not necessarily coincide with convenience from their homes.

August Kjellberg:

- 1874. August and his wife, Sophia, purchase forty acres from Gustof and Annie C. Carlson on 2 April 1874, the west 1/2 of the east 1/2 of southwest Sec 28 T 37 R 6. (Deed Book 29, page 271)
- 1878. August sells his forty acres near Mud Lake to his brother, Charles, on 14 August 1878. (Deed Book 33, page 165)
- 1884. August relocates somewhere in the area to another forty acre site. It is not clear where he moved, but he appears in 1880 Agriculture Census. August and his family are still in the area, however, June 1884. "The case, August Kjellberg vs L. S. & M. S. Ry. Company for killing a cow was called up in the Porter County Circuit Court last Thursday morning." Settlement made out of court. (Chesterton Tribune, 18 June 1884)
- 1886: August is still in the Porter/Chesterton area and remains active in one of the local churches. "Services were conducted by Mr. August Chellberg, one of the deacons. That his service as appreciated is shown by the fact that on September 10, 1886, a surprise party was held in his honor by his fellow-members." ("Bethlehem Church History," in After Fifty Years (n. p., 1929): 12. Photocopy found in "Swedish Culture," VF-VCL, IDNL.)

Charles Chellberg (brother of Anders Kjellberg):

- 1869. Charles and his wife are listed in the Population Census of 1900 as having arrived in the United States in 1869, not, as family lore has said, in 1863.
- 1878. Charles purchases forty acres near Mud Lake from his brother, August, on 14 August 1878. (Deed Book 33, page 165)
- 1900. "Mrs. Louisa Chellberg, wife of Chas. Chellberg, died at her home in Baillytown on Wednesday March 14, at 10:45 p.m., aged 62 years, 6 months and 20 days. Deceased was born in Sweden and came to this country about 35 years ago, where she has since resided. The cause of her death was bronchial phthisis. The funeral will be held Sunday at 12 o'clock noon from the Swedish Mission church, and the internment will be in the Chesterton cemetery." (Chesterton Tribune, 17 March 1900)
- 1910. "Carl Chellberg, one of Westchester's pioneer Swedish Settlers, died at his home in Baillytown, Oct. 7, of heart disease, aged 75 years. The old gentleman had been feeble all summer. For the past ten years he had made his home with his son, William, on the family homestead. The funeral was held Oct. 10, from the Swedish M. E. church, Chesterton, and was conducted by Revs. Reece and Nystrom." (Chesterton Tribune, 13 October 1910.)

Anders Kjellberg:

● 1899. "Mrs. Johanna Chellberg, widow of the late Andrew Chellberg, died at her home in the Baillytown settlement, on Thursday Feb. 7, aged 69 years. Mrs. Chellberg is one of the old pioneers of Westchester Township, having resided here constantly for the past forty years, and was well known throughout the township. She was taken ill with the grip some weeks ago, and that prevalent [sic] disease was the cause of her death. The funeral was held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Baillytown church, Rev. Theorell officiating." (Chesterton Tribune, 11 February 1899)

● "Grandfather Anders Kjellberg, Grandmother Johanna Kjellberg came to America in 1863. Grandfather was a Tailor and a Lay Pastor. He and Grandma took care of many Immigrants until they found work and a place to live." (9 August 1975 Lakeshore sheet of questions for Naomi, Acc. #298)

Charles Levin Chellberg (son of Anders Kjellberg):

● 1937. Charles' obituary reports that he was born near Gothenburg, Sweden, on 25 December 1859, and that he and his family came to America in 1864. "In 1870 the family settled on the farm near Baillytown where he has lived since," the paper reported. "For a period of thirty-three years, during several terms, he served as recorder or general secretary of the Augsburg congregation, was a deacon, and at his death was an honorary member of the brotherhood. He took an active interest in politics and for many years was inspector of elections in the sixth Westchester precinct, being a Republican." ("C. Chellberg, Resident 75 Years, Dies," Chesterton Tribune, 12 August 1937)

Emily Kjellberg (daughter of Anders and Johanna Kjellberg):

● "The Singing Society of the Swedish Lutheran Church has been re-organized and now meets for practice every Wednesday and Sunday evening at the church or parsonage, under the leadership of Alfred Borg [Emily's husband]." (Chesterton Tribune 12 June 1897)

c. Household Inventories:

1. Inventory and appraisal of goods, etc. for the estate of John Borg (20 September 1896), neighbor and contemporary of Anders and Johanna Chellberg, father-in-law of Emily Borg Chellberg, who married Albert Borg.<sup>361</sup> Anders died intestate, so the contents of John Borg's house perhaps reflects that of Chellberg's, especially since the house was of the same period, form, and materials. The main difference is that the Chellbergs suffered the loss of their earlier household goods to fire.

1. Bureau, .75
2. Wash Stand, .50
3. Bedding, 6.00
4. 10 Common Chairs, old, .50
5. Table, .25
6. Cook Stove, old, 1.00
7. Lounge, 1.00

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<sup>361</sup> Inventory of the Personal Estate of John Borg, Porter County Circuit Court, Offices of Superior and Circuit Court Clerk, #1075, Porter County Court House, Valparaiso, Indiana.

8. Rocker, small, .50
  9. Stand lamp and Bracket Lamp, .75
  10. Dresser, very old, glass broken, 2.50
  11. Bedstead and Spring, old, 2.50
  12. Wash Stand, 1.00
  13. Looking Glass, heavy plate, 1.00
  14. Looking Glass, thin glass, .50
  15. 1 Doz cane bottomed chairs, 3.00
  16. Rocking Chair, old, .50
  17. Bedstead and Springs, repainted, 2.00
  18. Bureau, 2.00
  19. 47 yd. rag carpet at .10, 4.70
  20. 35 yd. rag carpet at .20, 7.00
  21. Dishes miscellaneous, 4.00
  22. Extension table, much worn, 2.00
  23. Stack hay Timothy and clover, 34.00
  24. Section of Stack hay Timothy, 9.00
- Total: 86.95

2. Inventory of the Personal Estate of Charles Levin Chellberg.<sup>362</sup> Charles died in 1937, the inventory was taken by his son, Carl Lewis Chellberg, in 1939.

1. Library table, 1.00
  2. Oval table, 1.00
  3. Parlor rug, 2.00
  4. Walnut dresser, 2.00
  5. Writing desk.
  6. Kitchen range, 3.00
  7. Mowing machine, 2.00
  8. Hay rake, 2.00
  9. Riding plow, 2.00
  10. Walking plow, 2.00
  11. Grain binder, 5.00
  12. Corn planter, 8.00
  13. Corn sled, 5.00
  14. One mare, 30.00
  15. One Durham cow, 40.00
  16. One Guernsey cow, 40.00
- Total \$147.00

The appraised amount was taken by Minnie Chellberg and applied to her \$500 statutory allowance, with the remaining \$353 paid by the children. Naomi and her husband and Ruth each had claims against the estate, but the documentation does not clarify what these claims were for.

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<sup>362</sup> Inventory of the Personal Estate of Charles Levin Chellberg, Porter County Superior Court, Offices of Superior and Circuit Court Clerk, #965, Porter County Court House, Valparaiso, Indiana.

3. National Park Service Inventories of Chellberg Farm.<sup>363</sup>

30 June 1972 (no location of items given):

1 Metal bathtub  
2 Irons, non-electric  
1 Coffee grinder  
1 Electric toaster  
2 Stove top ovens  
10 Assorted cooking skillets  
3 Electric irons  
1 Plant sprayer  
1 Electric coffee pot  
1 Box assorted magazines, ca 1949, Post, Look, Colliers  
1 Potato ricer  
1 Small coal shovel  
1 Brace (Auger)  
1 Box assorted kitchen utensils  
18 Spoons, 1 batter knife  
7 assorted cans  
1-15 Volume set of Library of Universal History by I.S. Clare Union Book Company, 1908  
1 Small wood carving  
1 Jewelry box, red burlap  
1 Wooden Kraft cheese box  
1 Glass wine bottle, 1/2 gallon  
2 Glass quart bottles with Chellberg label  
1 Box assorted glassware  
1 Cigarette rolling machine  
1 Short disc section  
1 Plow tip  
1 Box wallpaper  
1 Large family photo album  
1 Old suitcase  
32 Old books, including yearbook agriculture, 1910, 1928, 1930  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Geology 13th Annual 1905  
14 Old newspapers, ca 1895  
Several dozen personal letters dating from 1894  
Small box, foreign language books

Chellberg Living Room, 30 June 1972:

1 Set silver candlestick holders, 1 broken  
6 Candlestick holders  
1 Glass dish

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<sup>363</sup> Original typescript of farm inventory found in "Chellberg Farm," VF-FM, IDNL.

1 Glass dish  
1 Glass dish, leaf  
1 Square glass dish cover  
3 Round glass dish covers  
3 Clear glass desert dishes  
3 Green glass desert dishes  
1 Small green desert dish  
1 Clear glass desert dish  
1 Clear glass cover  
1 Green pouring pitcher, small  
1 Green sugar bowl  
2 China covers  
1 Pink sugar bowl  
1 Glass do-dad

Inventory Chellberg Maple Sugar Building, 13 September 1973

1. Long white metal (pump stem), 2 big, 9 little planters, spray pump, rusty metal sifter, white-pink powder, silver soon, insect dust, rootone plant hormone, Aluminum strainer rim, planter plate, cream cheese box, Christmas cards.
2. Black wool cape, rubber apron, hand sewn patches for quilt, curtains - pink, felt commemorating WWI, curtains white/blue, 10 yards muslin, brown material, leather calf binding, patchwork.
3. Aluminum cap, strainer, Sunday School papers 1933, white kettle, 2 metal basins, straw stuffed teddy bear, horse racing toy, metal cup, butcher knife, Navy training course 1947, 2 stove top grills - flower design, lace, 2 pictures, metal strainer/stirrer, root mason jar, pie tin, leather leggings.
4. Notched ammunitions box, stove top handle, large ladle, play blocks - wood.
5. School papers, Fundamentals of Mathematics 1949, postcards.
6. Geological survey maps, postcards, paper South Park Acres, Mathematics 1892.
7. Electrical heater, Thorndike Junior Dictionary 1935.
8. Toy train tracks, ammunition belts, roller skate.
9. Stove heater, single tree for harnessing horse to wagon.

Chellberg Inventory 14 September 1973:

3 wooden boxes, small washboard, candle maker, metal vent scooper, little metal oven, 2 forks, 2 spoons, puzzle, metal tube cup, 2 ball mason jars, 1 gallon jog, 1 leather legging, melon colored material, box of blocks.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The documentation project was sponsored jointly by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (INDU) and by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), both divisions within the National Park Service. The principals involved were Dale B. Engquist, Superintendent, INDU, E. Blaine Cliver, Chief, HABS/HAER, Paul D. Dolinsky, Chief, HABS, and Catherine C. Lavoie, HABS Historian. The project was initiated by Judith E. Collins, Historical Architect, INDU. The project historian was Amanda J. Holmes of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the project photographer was James W. Scott of Washington, D.C. The written historical report and large format photographs were completed in Winter/Spring 1999.

The architectural drawing component followed the history and photograph sections. The drawings were completed during the Summer 1999 by HABS under the direction of Robert Arzola, HABS Architect, and Judith E. Collins, Historical Architect, INDU, with Paul D. Dolinsky, Chief, HABS, and E. Blain Cliver, Chief, HABS/HAER. In the field, Kevin J. Lam (Texas Tech University) served as the Architectural Supervisor. Architectural technicians were Christy L. Everett (University of Florida), Jutta Fichtner (ICOMOS/Germany), and Kelly M. Larson (Kansas State University).

d. Contemporary Building Description:

Newspaper description of the New Swedish Lutheran Parsonage, 1889. The brick Kjellberg farmhouse may have been a model for the Swedish Lutheran Church, in Chesterton.

Among the new buildings erected in Chesterton, recently erected the Swedish parsonage ranks among the best. This building stands just west of the Swedish Lutheran Church. Work on it was begun on the first of last October, and during the last week of December was ready for occupancy. The building is a two story brick veneered structure 24 x 30, twenty feet high, with a 14 x 16 wing, one story high. The building cost the congregation \$1,100 cash, and \$400 worth work donated. It has eight rooms, four down stairs and four up stairs, divided as follows: down stairs, front room, sitting room, dining and kitchen; upstairs, study and three bed-rooms. The house is elegantly papered and tastily furnished. The carpenter work was done by A. J. Lundquist, the mason work by Henry Christianson and Richard Anderson, and the painting and papering by F. G. Sandberg. The up stairs is not fully finished, but it is expected everything will be completed within a month. The structure will be free from debt, which is one of the best features. ("The New Swedish Lutheran Parsonage," Chesterton Tribune 10 January 1889)

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