

Davison Barn

Losantville, Indiana

Barn Facts:

- Built circa 1860
- 40x50 in size
- Attached second barn was a hog barn
- Yankee style barn with a gable end door
- Active farm from 1848 - 2013



James Davison (1827-1906) moved from Virginia to Losantville, IN in 1848 with his new bride, Martha. They brought the first cook stove ever used in Perry Township with them. James acquired 460 acres of land. Together, they saw the transformation from forest to farm. By 1870, they were a family with 6 children, and had a thriving farm valued at \$15,300. Farming the land parcel with James was his son Orloff. Another son, Sam, was a saloon owner whose establishment made the newspapers for illegal gambling. James died in 1906. The homestead was left to his wife, and land was divided amongst the sons. Portrait (left) is from The Star Press Feb 10,1906

Orloff continued to farm the barn parcel until 1921. In 1919, a lawsuit was filed against the heirs of James to secure payments on a promissory note. The Davison's lost the suit. Through the years, Orloff held several farm sales of equipment and livestock to keep financially afloat. In 1924, the farm was sold to the Schreiner family. They were the niece and nephew to John Auch, a salesman who held the mortgage to the property. Through the years other families owned and worked the farm:

- Schreiner and Schmidt 1924-1944
- George McKinsey 1944-1971-original farm house destroyed in a fire
- Ralph McKinsey 1971-1990-Ralph was a long life farmer, volunteer firefighter and a school bus driver.
- James and Olene Chandler 1993-2013-James was a Korean War Veteran. In 2013 he divided the farm parcel and homesite.
- Unknown young couple 2019-barn dismantled in 2021

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