

# *Route 38 Barn*

*A.k.a Hoover Barn*

*Newcastle, IN*

The Route 38 barn was built circa 1845 with a remodel in 1910. Samuel Hoover (1812-1872) was the builder of the barn. Overall barn size was 40 feet by 60 feet and 16 feet tall. The barn style is typical of Pennsylvannian Germans. Originally from Pennsylvania, Samuel and his wife Elizabeth came to Indianna by wagon. The journey took approximately seven weeks. The Hoovers had three daughters: Nancy, Amanda, and Sara. It was noted that Samuel was a hard worker; he worked through the night felling trees and cutting them to the proper size for rolling to the barn site. Later at the barn site, he hand hewed them into beams for the barn's framework. Later in life at the age of 59, he became a licensed preacher.



In 1850, the barn and land was valued at \$3100. By 1860, it was valued at \$5000. The two eldest daughters were married and the youngest, Sara age 6, resided at home. Samuel died in 1872. According to an 1880 census, Sara and her husband George Gottfried now lived on and farmed the property. Widow Elizabeth Hoover lived with them. Both Sara and Elizabeth were illiterate. In 1902, George Gottfried died leaving the farm to wife Sara and his two children Martin and Margaret.



In 1903, Elizabeth died. Sara died in 1922. Her son Martin Gottfried now owned the land with his wife Ina. However, Martin did not turn to farming, instead he ran a shoe business in Newcastle. Martin passed away in 1929, with Ina remarrying in 1933 to John Woolard. The once Hoover farm, now Woolard farm, thrived once again.



John won an award for best hog house

in the township. The 1950 census listed John Woolard as unable to work. John died in 1953 and in 1954, Ina had a farm sale. All dairy cows, equipment, sows and hog equipment were sold. Ina died in 1977. From this point on the farm became a rental farm and eventually fell into a state of great disrepair.

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