

Preserving our Culture, Arts & Heritage

Cady/Boyer Barn History
500 N. Ridge Road
Canton, MI 48188

Aruna Cady, son of one of Canton's first Township supervisors, David Cady, built the barn in the late 1800's. However, it is apparent that a large portion of the material in the barn came from



another barn build in the early 1800's. Close inspection of the timber posts shows that they were cut prior to the Civil War in saw mills operated by water wheels where the blade traveled up and down, leaving parallel tracks in the wood. Timber cut after the war was sawn on mills powered by steam engines that used circular blades and left curved tracks. The barn still retains much of the original old-growth virgin timber.

Originally built before the Civil War, this barn was enlarged and remodeled in 1908 by Aruna Cady, son of one of Canton's first pioneering families. This barn has been moved from its original location at McClumpha and Joy Roads to its present site at 500 N. Ridge Road in 2006 thanks to a generous donation from Bob Boyer, a local businessman and community supporter. Amish craftsmen were hired to dismantle the barn and rebuild it on this site utilizing old craftsmanship and skill.

The barn was eventually sold to the Plymouth-Canton School District, and was used as the Rotary School Farm from 1970-1981. The farm atmosphere taught children about farm animals and the typical life of the ancestors who probably made a livelihood out of farming.

