

Gowen Barn

Gowen, Michigan

The Past: The Gowen Barn was a bank barn built circa 1885. Bank barns are built on a hill with large doors on the hill side in order for wagons to off-load on the main level. The lower level was for dairy cows. To date, there have been no known facts as to who originally owned the barn. Time and the elements had taken its toll on the Gowen Barn. The stone foundation wall on the embankment side had collapsed causing the main floor to sag.



Springtime in Michigan

The Present and Future: With the failure of the stone foundation, the entire barn's lower structure was leaning by 15-20 degrees and ready to collapse. Entering the barn was deemed too dangerous. Because of this danger, the entire barn had to be pushed over for disassembly. Once the barn was safely on the ground, salvaging of the beautiful grey patina boards could commence. This barn's legacy will live on in future reclaimed wood projects.

Barn Facts:

- Barn measured 26ft. X 38ft.
- Barn was originally used as a small dairy.
- Traditional Gambrel style roof
- Most of barn frame was made from pine.



Bulging barn walls



Crumbled foundation



Inside the barn

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