

# **The History Of The Field Research Station**

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## **The Abstract:**

The key questions that are being answered are what is the history of the towns surrounding the property, what did the farm used to look like, and what is it presently like. These questions all relate to the main topic of what is the history of the field research station. The answers to these questions were found through interviews, library research, and documents given to the researcher from the owners. This was done by Amanda Trescher. She spent time researching and talking with the owners for information to answer her questions. At this time she has received much information, about the property and it's surrounding areas.

## **Introduction**

Land, it's all around us it has been and always will be. It has seen the lives of many passing through it's borders. Every piece of land has a story. I was curious as to what has happened in and around the field research station in the past and what it's like in its present state. The purpose of the project was to gather information about the areas past so that future generations would have an understanding of what has gone on in this area. Here the methods used in the research have been explained and also the results have been wrote up.

Procedures for each project:

Landuse project

- 1 Under start
- 2 Click on esri
- 3 Click on arcview GIS 3.2a
- 4 Open "as a blank project"
- 5 Put in field research disc
- 6 In arc view go up to project

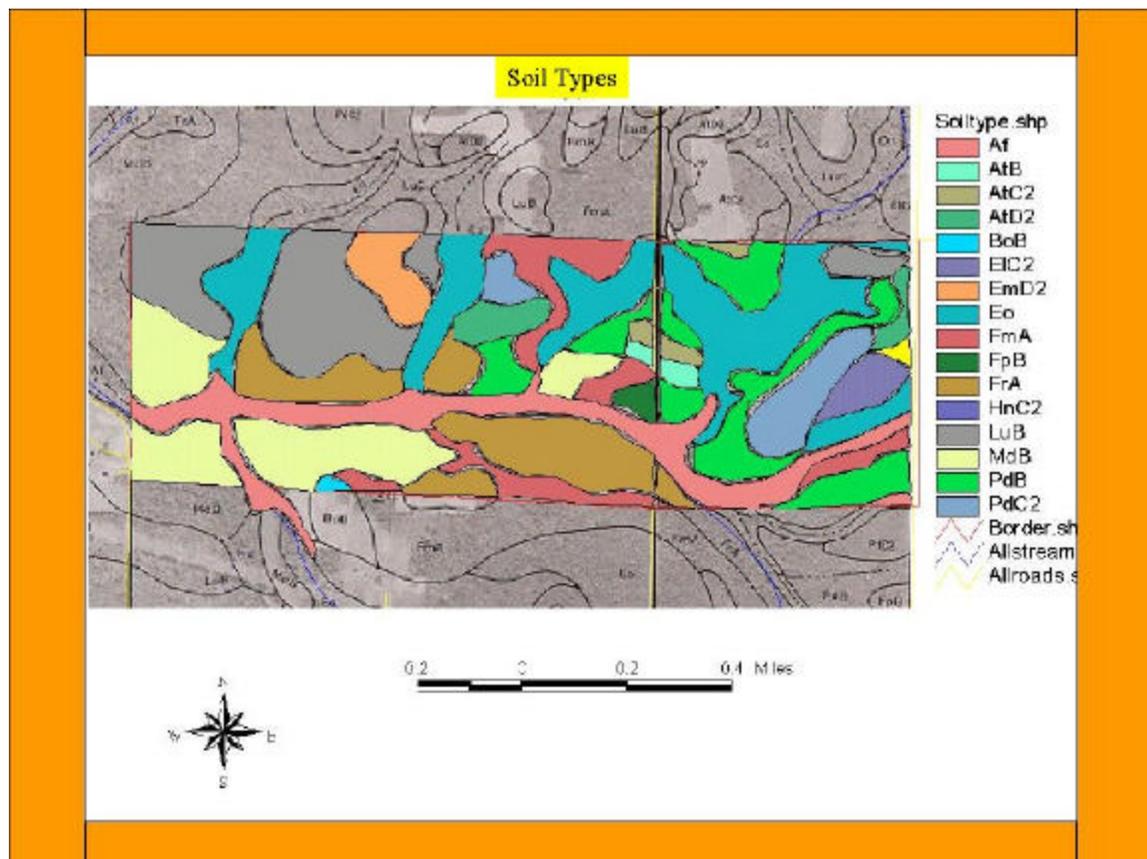
- 7 Then click on import
- 8 In import screen Click on the drives and change it to D
- 9 Click on disc
- 10 Click on part of disc that you would like transferred
- 11 Click ok
- 12 Click on view open your picture should be there.
- 13 Next go to view and click on new theme
- 14 Click polygon
- 15 Then name the theme click ok
- 16 Next Click on the polygon tool draw in the shape you want
- 17 Then click the table button on the tool bar
- 18 Next Click on edit button at the top
- 19 Then click on new field
- 20 On the screen that pops up write in your new field name
- 21 Then click on weather you would like it to be a number, string, or date
- 22 Click ok
- 23 Add as many fields as you need
- 24 Go to view one again and start drawing in your shapes
- 25 As you draw new polygon shapes, make sure to enter the data in the table
- 26 Once you are finished entering the data
- 27 You may color code the items by double clicking on the theme bar
- 28 Then when the new screen comes up go to legend type and chose what legend you would like
- 29 Then click on the values field which you would like to be color coded
- 30 Then go to color scheme and pick the colors you would like your project to be colored by.

### Vegetation Data

#	ORIGIN	PRIMARY_TY	SECONDARY_TY	ACRES	MAND_YEAR	MAND_PRACT	MAND_YEAR	MAND_PRACT	REC_PRACTI
1	1968	pine poles		7	2017	selective thin	2007	selective thin	TSI-prune
2	1917	oak saw timber	oak poles	11	0	thin oak	0		
3	1981	maple saplings	oak saw timber	37	0	harvest overmature	2006		improvement cut
4	1981	maple saplings	oak saw timber	7	0	harvest overmature	2006		
5	0	lowland alder		12	0		0		
6	1953	oak poles	oak saw timber	11	0	harvest overmature	2005	thin oak poles	
7	1950	w.pine saw timber	w. pine poles	8	0	thin- remove mature	2005	selective thin	
8	0	grass		2	0		0		
9	1981	maple saplings		6	0		0		TSI- thin sapling
10	0	lowland alder		5	0		0		
11	1924	oak saw timber	oak pole timber	23	2020	harvest mature trees	2010	selective thin	
12	1971	red maple poles	red maple sapling	17	0		0		
13	1981	maple saplings	w. pine saplings	29	0		0		TSI- cut cull trees
14	1978	pine poles		6	2017	selective thin	2002	selective thin	TSI- prune
15	1925	oak saw timber	oak poles	9	0	harvest overmature	2006		
16	1981	maple saplings	oak saw timber	29	0	harvest overmature	2006		TSI- thin sapling
17	1981	red maple sapling		35	0		0		TSI- thin sapling
18	0	lowland alder		4	0		0		
19	1923	oak saw timber	red maple sapling	30	0	harvest overmature	2006		TSI- thin sapling
20	1981	red maple poles	red maple sapling	5	0		0		TSI- cut cull trees
21	1925	oak saw timber	oak poles	8	0	thin oak	2006		

## Soil project

- 1 Clicked on start then programs
- 2 Then clicked on esri, arcview GIS 3.2a
- 3 Then I clicked on “open as blank project
- 4 Then I went to a scanner and scanned the soil map out of the book
- 5 In arcview go to project and then click on import
- 6 Next click on the drive button and click on the drive that you scanned the image into
- 7 Next find the image in the drive
- 8 Then click ok.
- 9 Now continue with steps 12 through 30 in the landuse project.
- 10 Now that you are almost done
- 11 Go into Microsoft word and type up the soil types saving each as a separate document in a text only file.
- 12 Now go into your table in arc view and type in the soil addresses
- 13 Now when you use the lightning button that is in the toolbar you should be able to bring up the Descriptions of the soil.



Soil Descriptions for soil map on previous page.

Af- Alluvial land, wet (0 to 2 percent slopes). This nearly level, poorly drained land type consists of alluvium on flood plains. The alluvium is sandy loam to silt loam in the surface layer and stratified sandy and loamy deposits below. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 2 to 100 acres in size. Vegetation is bluegrass, marsh grasses, willow, river birch, soft maple, and other moisture tolerant plants.

Included with this land type in mapping are small areas of Alluvial land, sandy.

Available water capacity is moderate to high in this land type. Permeability and natural fertility are too variable to rate. Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is none to slight. This land type is subject to frequent flooding and the water table is at or near the surface most of the year. Many areas are dissected by sloughs, oxbows, and old stream channels. Some of these areas remain inundated for several days following major floods. During this time additional stream sediment is deposited, or the channels of the streams shift to a new course.

This land type is used mainly for woodland, permanent pasture, and wildlife habitat. It has severe limitations for nonfarm uses. Capability unit Vw-14; woodland suitability group 4w2; wildlife group 7; recreation group 7.

AtB- Arland sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes. This gently sloping soil is on ridgetops. Most areas have elongated shapes and range from 2 to 40 acres in size. This soil has a profile similar to the one described as representative for the series, but the surface layer is slightly thicker.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of a soil that has a surface layer of loam and areas of a soil that is underlain by hard sandstone,0

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. Low available water capacity limits crop yields during most years. Management practices are needed to supply organic matter, conserve moisture, and reduce runoff.

Most areas of this soil are used for crops. This soil is moderately well suited to all crops commonly grown in the county. It has moderate or severe limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit IIIs-4; woodland suitability group 2o1; wildlife group 1; recreation group 2.

AtC2- Arland sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded. This sloping soil is on low ridges. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 2 to 60 acres in size. This soil has the profile described as representative for the series.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas where the surface layer is either thinner or thicker than the one in the profile described as representative for the series. Also included are small areas of a soil that has a surface layer of loam and areas of a soil that is underlain by hard sandstone.

Runoff is medium, and the erosion hazard is moderate. Low available water capacity limits crop yields during most seasons. Management practices are needed to control erosion, supply organic matter, conserve moisture, and reduce runoff.

Most areas of this soil are used for crops. This soil is moderately well suited to all crops commonly grown in the county. It has moderate or severe limitations for many nonfarm uses. Capability unit IIIe-7; woodland suitability group 2o1; wildlife group 1; recreation group 2.

AtD2- Arland sandy loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded. This moderately steep soil is on the sides of low ridges. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 2 to 60 acres in size. This soil has a profile similar to the one described as representative for the series, but the surface layer and subsoil are slightly thinner than the ones in the representative profile.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Chetek and Elkmound soils and small areas where the surface is thinner or thicker than the one in the profile described as representative for the series. Also included are a few small areas of a soil that has a surface layer of loam and a few areas of a soil that is underlain by hard sandstone.

Runoff is rapid, and the erosion hazard is severe. Low available water capacity limits crop yields during most seasons. Management practices are needed to control erosion, supply organic matter, conserve moisture, and reduce runoff.

Most areas of this soil are used for crops. Unless carefully managed, this soil is not well suited to cultivated crops commonly grown in the county. It has severe limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit IVe- 7; woodland suitability group 2r1; wildlife group 1; recreation group 2.

BoB- Boone-Plainbo complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes. The gently sloping soils in this complex are on the side sloped and ridgetops of sandstone uplands. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 2 to 40 acres in size.

This complex is about 40 to 50 percent Boone sand and 30 to 40 percent Plainbo loamy sand. The rest is mainly small areas of Plainfield loamy sand. The Boone and Plainbo soils have profiles similar to those described as representative for the respective series. Both soils are deeper to sandstone than the representative soil, however, and Boone sand has a thicker and lighter colored surface layer in areas that are or were cultivated.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. These soils are subject to soil blowing. Management practices are needed to maintain plant cover, conserve moisture, and control erosion and soil blowing.

About two-thirds of this complex is wooded. The rest is used for crops or pasture or is left idle. Many areas are planted to pine trees. These soils are unsuited to cultivated crops. Unless the soils irrigated, they support only vegetation that does not require large amounts of water, such as grass, scrub oak, or pine trees. These soils have moderate or severe limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit VIIIs- 9; woodland suitability group 3s1; wildlife group 3; redrecreation group 4.

EIC2- Eleva sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded. This sloping soil is on narrow ridgetops and hillsides on sandstone uplands. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 5 to 40 acres in size. This soil has the profile described as representative for the series.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Elkmound and Plainbo soils. Also included are small areas of severely eroded Eleva soils.

Runoff is medium, and the erosion hazard is moderate. This soil is subject to soil blowing. Low available water capacity limits crop yields during most seasons. Management practices are needed to control erosion and soil blowing, reduce runoff, conserve moisture, and supply regular additions of organic matter.

Most areas of this soil are used for crops and pasture. Some areas are in woods. If properly managed, this soil is moderately well suited to all crops commonly grown in the county. It has moderate or severe limitations for many nonfarm uses. Capability unit IIIe- 7; woodland suitability group 3o1; wildlife group 1; recreation group 2.

EmD2- Elkmound loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded. This moderately steep soil is on sides of sandstone ridges. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 6 to 60 acres in size. This soil has the profile described as representative for the series.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Northfield and Plainbo soils. Also included are areas of Elkmound soils that have a surface layer of sandy loam and other small areas of Elkmound soils that are severely eroded.

Runoff is rapid, and the erosion hazard is severe. Low available water capacity and severe erosion hazard make this soil generally unsuited to cultivated crops. Management practices are needed to maintain plant cover and reduce erosion.

Most areas of this soil are in permanent pasture or woods. Some areas are used mainly for hay. This soil is generally unsuited to cultivated crops, but is better limitations for many nonfarm uses. Capability unit VIe- 3; woodland suitability group 3d2; wildlife group 4; recreation group 3.

Eo- Elm lake loamy sand (0 to 10 percent slopes). This nearly level soil is along drainageways and in depressions on sandstone uplands. Most areas are long and narrow and range from 10 to 200 acres in size.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Fairchild, Markey, and Newson soils. Also included are areas of Elm Lake soils that have a surface layer of sand or light sandy loam.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. This soil received runoff from adjoining areas and is commonly ponded during wet seasons and after heavy rains. Surface drainage removes excess water rapidly. Deep ditches are used for internal drainage. In overdrained areas low available water capacity limits crop yields during most seasons. Crops grown in this soil are subject to frost damage. Management practices are needed to remove excess water, maintain organic matter content, and control acidity levels.

Most areas of this soil remain in woods. Some small areas are cleared and used for pasture and crops. This soil is not well suited to cultivated crops, but is well suited to wetland wildlife habitat. This soil has

moderate or severe limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit IV'w-5; woodland suitability group 4w1; wildlife group 7; recreation group 6.

FmA- Fairchild and Merrillan soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes. These somewhat poorly drained, nearly level soils are on uplands where sandstone and shale bedrock are relatively shallow. Most areas are large and irregularly shaped and range from 20 to 140 acres in size.

In places this undifferentiated group consists of both Fairchild and Merrillan soils, and in other places it consists of one soil or the other. The Fairchild soil in this unit has the profile described as representative for its series.

Included with these soils in mapping are small areas of Elm Lake, Humbird, and Ludington soils.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. Lime is needed in areas where the soils have not been previously limed. Management practices are needed to remove excess water.

Most areas of these soils remain in woods. Some areas are cleared and used for pasture or crops. If they are properly limed and excess water is removed, these soils are suited to crops. They have moderate or severe limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit IIIw-6; woodland suitability group 3s2; wildlife group 6; recreation group 5.

FpB- Fallcreek loam, moderately well drained variant, 2 to 6 percent slopes. This gently sloping soil is on glacial till plains. Most areas are irregularly shaped and range from 6 to 45 acres in size. This soil has a profile similar to the one described as representative for the series, but the surface layer is sandy loam.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Fallcreek soils and areas of Fallcreek moderately well drained variant that have a surface layer of sandy loam. Also included are stony areas that are indicated by stone spot symbols on the soil map.

Runoff is medium to rapid, and the erosion hazard is moderate. Management practices are needed to control erosion and reduce runoff.

Most areas of this soil are used for crops, but some areas remain in woods. If erosion is controlled, this soil is moderately well suited to farming. It has moderate limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit IIIe- 1; woodland suitability group 2o2; wildlife group 1; recreation group 1.

FrA- Friendship loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes. This nearly level and gently sloping soil is on stream terraces and outwash plains. Most areas are irregularly shaped and range from 2 to 35 acres in size.

Included with this soil in mapping are a few small areas of Menahga and Morrocco soils. Also included are areas of friendship soils that have thin loamy bands below a depth of 40 inches.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. This soil is subject to soil blowing. Low available water capacity limits crop yields during most seasons. Management practices are needed to supply regular additions of organic matter, conserve moisture, and control soil blowing.

Less than half of the acreage of this soil is used for crops. The rest is in grasses or hardwood trees. A few areas have been planted to pine trees. This soil is used for most crops, such as alfalfa, benefit from the seasonal high water table. This soil is suited to irrigation and, if irrigated, it can be more intensively cropped. It has slight to severe limitations for nonfarm uses. Capability unit IV's -3; woodland suitability group 3s1; wildlife group 3; recreation group 4.

HnC2- Hixton loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded. This sloping soil is on the sides and tops of hills and ridges on sandstone uplands. Most areas are irregularly shaped and range from 6 to 65 acres in size. This soil has the profile described as representative for the series.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Eleva and Northfield soils. Also included are small areas of severely eroded Hixton soils.

Runoff is medium, and the erosion hazard is moderate. Management practices are needed to maintain organic matter content, conserve moisture, reduce runoff, and control erosion.

Most areas of this soil are used for crops. This soil is moderately well suited to all crops commonly grown in the county. It has moderate limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit IIIe- 2; woodland suitability group 2o1; wildlife group 1; recreation group 1.

LuB- Ludington and Humbird soils, 2 to 6 percent slopes. These gently sloping soils are on knolls and on the crests and sides of sandstone and shale ridges. Most areas are irregularly shaped and range from 20 to 120 acres in size.

In places this mapping unit consists of Ludington loamy sand and Humbird sandy loam, and in other places it consists of one soil or the other. These soils have the profiles described as representative for their respective series. Included in mapping are small areas of Fairchild and Merrillan soils.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. In the Ludington soil permeability is rapid in the upper part and moderately slow in the lower part of the subsoil and in the substratum. In the Humbird soils permeability is moderate in the upper part and moderately slow in the lower part. If they have not been previously limed, these soils need lime. Management practices are needed to reduce runoff, control erosion, conserve moisture, and maintain organic matter content and fertility.

Most areas of these soils are in woods, but a few small areas are used for crops. These soils are moderately well suited to crops commonly grown in the county. Fertility and organic matter content must be maintained for optimum growth. These soils have eight limitations for urban uses. Capability unit IIIe-3; woodland suitability group 3s1; wildlife group 1; recreation group 2.

MdB- Menahga sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes. This gently sloping soil is on stream benches and outwash plains. Most areas are irregularly shaped and range from 25 to 300 acres in size. This soil has the profile described as representative for the series.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of friendship, Plainfield, and Vilas soils. Small areas of Menahga soils that have been severely eroded by soil blowing are indicated by blowout spot symbols on the soil map.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. This soil is subject to soil blowing. Management practices are needed to maintain plant cover and prevent erosion and soil blowing.

Most areas of this soil remain in native stands of scrub oak and jack pine or have been replanted into evergreens. Some areas are used for homesites. In cultivated areas this soil needs protection from erosion, some form of irrigation, and increased fertility to provide suitable crops, If not irrigated this soil is unsuited to crops and pasture. It is better suited to vegetation that does not demand much water, such as red pine or jack pine. This soil has slight or moderate limitations for most nonfarm uses. Capability unit VII's-9; woodland suitability group 3s1; wildlife group 3; recreation group 4.

PdB- Planibo loamy sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes. This gently sloping soil is on ridgetops on sandstone uplands and on sandstone hills near sandy stream terraces and outwash plains. Most areas are irregularly shaped and range from 10 to 80 acres in size. The profile of this soil is similar to the one described as representative for the series, but the surface layer is slightly darker and thicker. Included in mapping are small areas of plainfield soils.

Runoff is slow, and the erosion hazard is slight. This soil is subject to soil blowing. Low available water capacity limits crop yields during most seasons. It is better to plant early in spring before the soil has a chance to dry out than to plant later when the soil is drier. Management practices are needed to supply regular additions of organic matter, conserve moisture, reduce runoff, and control erosion and blowing soil.

About two-thirds of the acreage of this soil is used for crops. This soil is not well suited to most crops commonly grown in the county. Because of low available water capacity, deep-rooted crops such as alfalfa-brome grass grow better than other crops. Supplemental irrigation is necessary for dependable crop production. This soil is well suited to pine trees. It has Slight limitations for many nonfarm uses. Capability unit IV's-3; Woodland suitability group 3s1; wildlife group 3; recreation group 4.

PdC2- Plainbo loamy sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded. This sloping soil is on ridges on sandstone uplands and on sandstone hills near stream terraces and outwash plains. Most areas are long and narrow or irregularly shaped. They range from 4 to 60 acres in size. This soil has the profile described as representative for the series.

Included with this soil in mapping are small areas of Elkmound and Plainfield soils. Also included are some areas of slightly steeper Plainbo soils.

Runoff is medium, and the erosion hazard is moderate. This soil is subject to soil blowing. Management practices are needed to conserve moisture, maintain plant cover, and control erosion and soil blowing.

Most areas of this soil have been used for crops in the past, but many areas now have been planted to pine trees. This soil is generally unsuited to cultivated crops. Most areas that are used for crops are in hay. This soil is also used for woodland and wildlife habitat. It has slight to severe limitations for many nonfarm uses. Capability unit VI's-3; woodland suitability group 3s1; wildlife group 3; recreation group 4.

## Abstract

I looked over the abstract

I took out all points of interest or importance

I then entered these points on the web to try and find out more about them.

I then took the information and created a time line

I then entered the timeline into Microsoft power point

I went to the area research center

I found books that contained the history of the Eau Claire area

I copied any relevant information

I took the information and used it to write my backgrounder

The findings in my project come from interviews and library research. I've discovered many things about the field research station. The farm is a mile by a half-mile, or 3 quarter sections. Originally when the present owner, Bill Henke, bought the property it contained 120 acres of tillable soil. Now in 2002, it only contains about 40 acres of tillable soil. The property also had a corn crib(that at one time was also used for pigs), a barn which was previously added on to, Pump shed, garage, old machine shed, two other sheds and chicken coops. Since the Henke's have owned the farm they have torn down the chicken coops, the corn crib/hog shed. They have also converted one of the sheds into a garage, and they have put up a nice pole shed out back. Henke's put dormers in the barn, re-roofed it and pulled the walls back together because they were bowed out very badly. Bowed out means that the walls were leaning outward away from each other, if you do not fix this the building is prone to collapse. This is a natural occurrence in old buildings. The original house was very small. It had four rooms, one large kitchen, and a basement under the 2nd story half of the house. Also, the house had

no plumbing or furnace. Henke's moved the "little house" over and put a new foundation under it. Where the "little house" once stood today sits the "big house." The "big house" was taken from the Ramsier farm, about ten miles north of the property. The house was moved to that location in November of 1962.

Obviously the Henke's were not the first owners. Over the years many people have owned the farm. Today the farm consists of two parts of land. One part is the northwest quarter of section nineteen township twenty-seven north of range six west. For writing purposes we will refer to that first part as part A. The other part is the north half of section twenty-four township twenty-seven north of range seven west. For writing purposes we will refer to the second part as part B. Originally though the two parts of land each belonged to separate farms. Over the years the two parts have been combined. Ezra Cornell bought part A from the United States in 1866. Mr. Cornell was the founder of Cornell University. In 1866 Ezra took a trip to Wisconsin to locate profitable lands, when he died part A was handed over to the University and they in return sold the property but retained all mineral rights, and still do. A mineral right is the right to any profitable minerals found within the property, such as gold, copper, silver. Cornell sold the farm to a Mr. Summers who when he decided to move to Nebraska sold the farm to a Mr. John Sprosty in 1911. Part B was bought first by a man named John Elstner in 1858 they owned the property until 1885, when they sold it to Mr. John Sprosty. Now in 1911 Mr. Sprosty owned both parts, which he sold to the Walter brewing company in 1920. It was then taken by Eau Claire Citizen and Loan Co. Except for a parcel dedicated for highway purposes. Then it was sold to Della and Harry Ginther. The farm went through quite a few owners until Bill Henke bought it in November of 1961.

The Henke farm also known as the Beaver Creek Field Research Station has many uses. One, it is helpful for studying different natural things in the environment. In my class many people are studying the animals there, some studying the ponds. Also, the land itself has a variety of plants such as white and red pine, oak, maple, and alder are the primary canopy types on the property. The property has a few areas of prairie, two ponds, and a creek running through the land. Much of the property is in conservation programs such as CRP and NHEL. Another item of the property that has been looked at are the types of soils that are there. There are sixteen types of soils on the property. The differences between the soils are not too drastic; they are mostly different types of sand.

The map on the previous page shows the type of conservation programs that the different parts of the land are in. It tells what the main vegetation is in each section and the details of it's up keep.

The history of the property is very interesting. I resolved as much of the original question of its history as I could in the time frame. There is room for improvement as there is in any major project. Much information about the field research station was derived from this project. The soil types and vegetation maps have shown the organic matter that is on the property. Also, I have shown a brief history of the areas surrounding the property. The methods used to receive this information have also been included. The farm has had many owners and an interesting span of years behind it.