

Charles Sheldon Farm

Burtchville • Established March 8, 1911

In 1911, Charles and Ella Sheldon purchased an 80-acre farm in Burtchville, where they raised cattle and horses. Charles built a wholesale slaughterhouse and a farmhouse on the property. Following Charles's passing, his wife and children kept the farm and slaughterhouse running until son Harold and his wife, Edna, were ready to purchase the farm in 1938.

The couple continued to operate the slaughterhouse, butchering for local farmers and providing meat for the community. The slaughterhouse even supplied the Port Huron Coney Island with Koegel's hot dogs and butchered for Grand Valley Meat Company. Harold went on to become the first fire chief at the Burtchville Township Fire Department and helped Lakeport obtain a fire department. He even traveled to Lansing to retrieve the first fire truck.

Harold and Edna's son, Robert, and his wife, Patricia, began managing the farm in 1954 and purchased it in 1971. When the barn burned down in 1968, the family replaced it in the 1970s with a Quonset barn from Canada. The slaughterhouse fell into disrepair and was torn down. The couple grew oats, wheat, and corn and eventually leased the land to grow soybeans and corn. The land is currently rented out, but the Sheldons are proud to have kept the ownership of the farm property in family hands for more than a century.



Views of the Charles Sheldon Farm.

This Centennial Farm designation is sponsored by

**DTE Energy
Foundation**



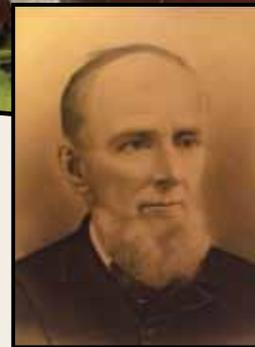
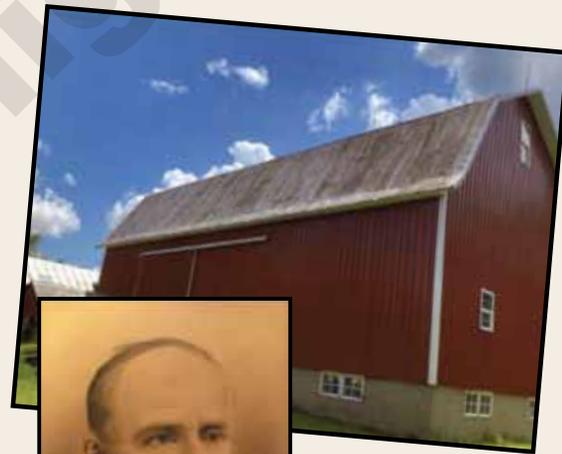
Henry Herbert Farm

Martin • Established April 9, 1859

Henry Herbert established his farm in 1859 in Martin, Michigan. Herbert was born in England in 1832 and immigrated to the United States with his family when he was only eight years old. The family lived in New York before settling near Plainwell, Michigan. After Herbert purchased the farm in April 1859, he immediately began constructing a temporary dwelling for himself and his soon-to-be wife, Ann. After their marriage in 1860, the couple began clearing the land and constructing farm buildings and a permanent residence by using the lumber removed from elsewhere on their property. They moved into the house in 1865, and the farm soon became a dairy operation.

In 1911, the couple's son, Oren, purchased the farm and continued to operate it as a dairy farm. He weighed cattle that were on their way to market on a scale in the corn barn to earn supplemental income. The farm passed on to his son, Henry "Edd" Edward, in 1940, who continued the dairy business. Utilizing skills he learned while serving in WWI, Edd made additional income by training horses for buggy and draft use.

Present farm owners Frank, who is the great-grandson of founder Henry, and his wife, Kathleen, purchased the farm in 1992 and lease it to a local dairy farmer. The Herbert family still gardens, raises chickens and pigs, and hunts and forages on parts of the 94-acre farm, cherishing the property their ancestor purchased more than 150 years ago.



The barn on the Henry Herbert Farm, and the founder of the farm, Henry Herbert.

This Centennial Farm designation is sponsored by

Consumers Energy

FOUNDATION