



The newest addition to the Frey farm was which houses dry cows on the left and heifers the completion of this open-sided free-stall on the right.

## Frey

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milk into his touring car and began delivering milk door to door. Frey's retail business grew over the years as well as his six children's interest in the operation.

The Frey family hand milked until 1940 and in 1946 expanded from 45 to 80 cows. The expansion was accompanied by a tree stall barn and a six-stall side-opening milking parlor.

In 1948, Armor Frey sold his retail business to his sons Glenn, Emerson and Charles. And almost 20 years later, Charles and Emerson formed the convenience store chain — Turkey Hill Mint Marts.

Armor Frey passed away in 1969 but the farm continued to change and grow.

In addition to dairy processing, the farm now includes a soup manufacturing plant which operates under the D & B label.

In the past when only family help was used, the Frey farm now employs 15 people or "excellent help," according to Jay Frey. But the large commercial dairy farm is still solely owned by Freys. Jay explained that all his brothers and

sisters are corporation members and his mother Mary was a past member.

Jay explained the farm should not see any further physical expansion. However, the youngest son of Armor and Mary Frey admitted that he will be concentrating on increasing the herd's 18,000 pounds of milk herd average.

The large herd is fed a total mixed ration of ground ear corn, haylage, ryeilage (when available), corn silage and brewers grain along with a concentrate. Frey feeds in four production groups with cutoffs of: 70 pounds of milk daily; 55 pounds of milk; 45 pounds of milk; and the dry cows.

The original milking parlor was replaced with a double-18 that includes automatic take-offs. And the large volume of manure created by the herd is moved by a gravity-flow system, stored in an underground pit beneath the barn.

For now, the only testimony of the farm's age is in the few yellowed deeds and the original front door to the farmhouse. And the Freys have proven in their quest for growth, that a farm's value cannot only be measured by what remains in the past but what lies ahead in the future.

Jay Frey described his family's constant drive as "an inability to turn down an opportunity for progress."

And it seems that the Freys seized opportunity everytime it knocked on the 160-year-old door.

## Nestleroth

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mous logs," Hazel said "We wonder how they put them in place."

Some lovely, solid wainscoting on an outside kitchen wall was saved and moved to an inside wall when the kitchen was changed.

A current project involves remodeling the stone portion of the house which is basically one large room with an enormous fireplace featuring a bake oven at the rear. The fireplace has been rebricked and the next step is refinishing the hinged wooden doors.

The basement of the house features an arch cellar which was used as a refrigerator by earlier generations of Nestleroths.

A stone on the barn bears the date 1901, and the name Sam and Agnes Bomberger, Mark's great grandfather and great grandmother. This family moved off the farm for a period because of back problems and for 32 years the farm was rented while the Bombergers lived on a small ten-acre property near Elm.

Mark's grandmother Callie Nestleroth was born in what is now

the living room and lived in the home for nine years before the family moved. As an only child, she inherited the farm and Mark's father Carl returned to farm the land as soon as he was old enough.

Several small outbuildings have been taken down, but Hazel noted that they have tried to remodel old buildings and continue to use them in their current operation. Hogs, for instance, now occupy the bottom portion of the barn.

An antique rocking chair and spinning wheel add a special flavor as they are grouped by the log wall. The chair belonged to Mark's mother as a child and Mark's grandmother remembers playing with the spinning wheel in the attic as a child. Other antique pieces have been handed down; some simply left in the attic to be uncovered by Mark and Hazel.

The Nestleroth's have three children. Stacy, 11, Beth, 8; and Carolyn, 6.

The Nestleroth's are proud of their heritage and plan to take care of the land for succeeding generations.



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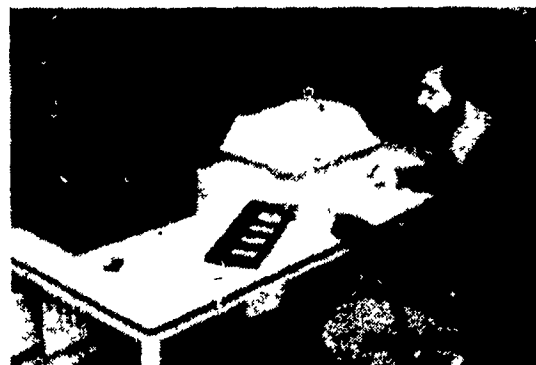
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