

Centennial Honors "The Presidential Cattleman"

Sharon B. Schuster
GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.)
 — He was known as "The Presidential Cattleman." Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th President of the United States, was an avid breeder of Angus cattle. Based at his Gettysburg farm, "Ike" developed his Aberdeen Angus herd into a first-class show string which captured many honors under the Eisenhower Farms name.

In celebration of Eisenhower's 100th year, the Pennsylvania Angus Association sponsored the Eisenhower Centennial Angus Field Days at the farm, which is now a National Historic Site. On Saturday, August 18, Angus cattle were auctioned off under the white sale tents on the farm, which is usually closed to the public.

The Eisenhower Centennial Angus Sale featured Angus from elite herds from Florida to Colorado, and points in between, all across the U.S. According to Bill Powell, representing the association, 38 lots were sold at an average or \$4,600 per head. "One cow sold for \$20,000 half interest," he added.

The Eisenhower Farm was open for inspection on Sunday, August 19. With its white board fences, barn and outbuildings, the historic site resembles other area farms. The Martin family manages a dairy herd at the farm, and crops the surrounding acreage. Fields of milo and corn line the long driveway, with one noticeable distinction. Rangers reported the damage to corn by the deer population as disastrous.

Deer graze like cattle in the

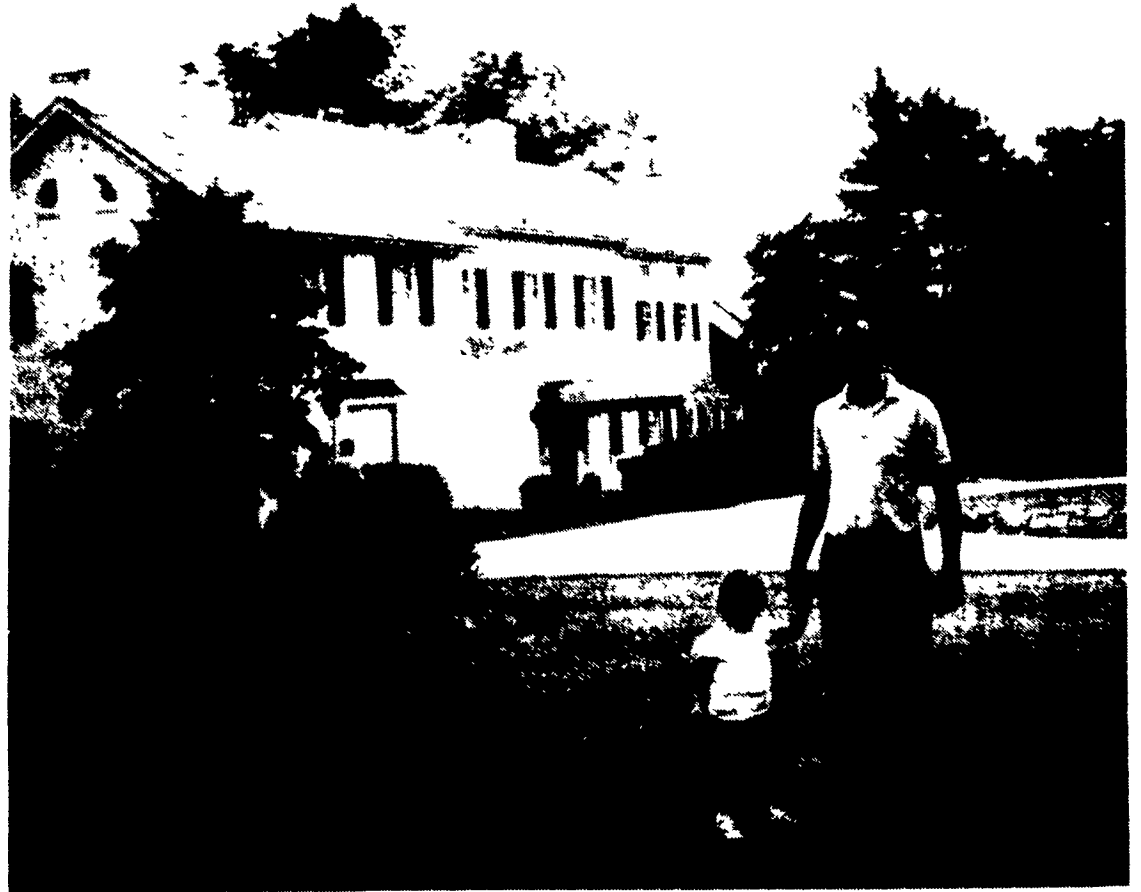


corn fields at the Eisenhower Farm. To demonstrate their destruction to the crops, one small area of corn was fenced around with high wire. The remainder of the surrounding field resembled a hail and wind damaged field - knee high and shredded. Meanwhile, the deer continue to graze. It's a problem that the park service continues to ponder, in search of a suitable solution.

And what of the Angus herd? Eisenhower's winning herd was sold in 1966. But a couple of dozen Angus still graze in the green Gettysburg pastures. According to Bill Powell, a covenant requires anyone who farms the place to run a herd of Angus cattle.

Photographs of the Eisenhower years reveal stocky, rotund, short-legged bovine, desirable at the time. Today, the sleek black animals which run within the confines of the white board fences, tower over their handlers. Eisenhower's herd once numbered 250. While there are none of that bloodline remaining on the farm, Powell reported "running across the Eisenhower name occasionally."

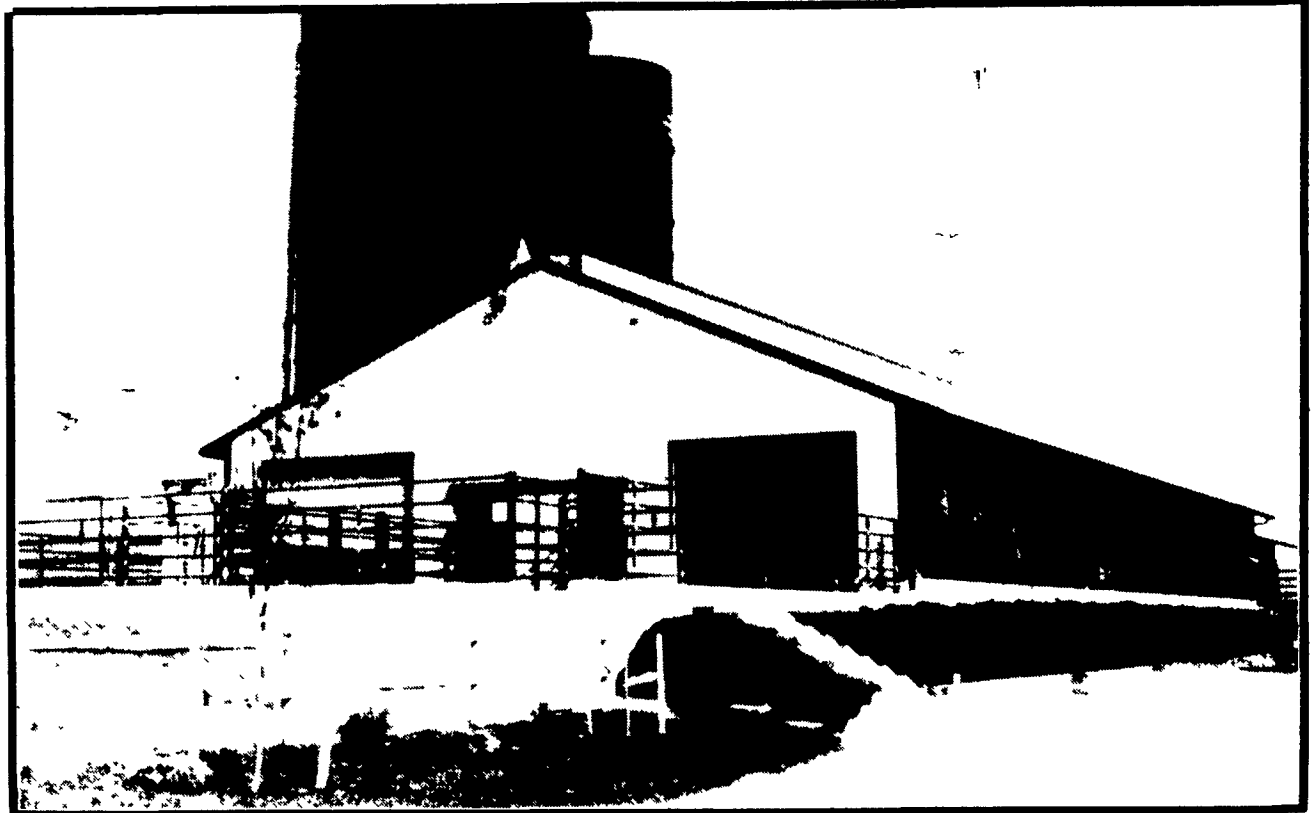
Demonstrations and exhibits rounded out this unique event. And visitors to the farm enjoyed Certified Angus Beef sandwiches.



The Eisenhower Farm is not usually open to the public, but during the Angus Field Day and Sale, visitors could view the grounds and the former President's Gettysburg home.

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\hól-,märk\n.1: genuineness
 2: a distinguishing characteristic



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OLEY FAIR
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SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22

Thursday, September 20

Judging of Exhibits - 8 A M
 Farm Youth Vo Ag Judging Contest - 10 A M
THE FABULOUS GREASEBAND
 Fifties & Sixties Music -
 Starting @ 7:00 P M 2 Shows
Children's Pedal Tractor Pulling Contest 5 P.M.
LASER LIGHT SHOWS

Friday, September 21

Judging of Sheep, Swine & Beef - 8:00 A M
 Lamb Trimming & Blocking Contest - 8:00 A M
 Tractor Pulling Contest - 12:00 P M
 Adult Pedal Tractor Pulling Contest - 4:30 P M
 Presentation of Commercial Exhibit Awards - 6:45 P M

BILL ANDERSON

Country Western from Nashville
 Starting @ 7:00 P.M. - 2 Shows
Oley Valley High School Band - 1:00 P.M.

LASER LIGHT SHOWS

Saturday, September 22

Antique Auto Show 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P M
 Bale Throwing Contest - 11 A.M.
 Garden Tractor Pulling Contest - 12 Noon
 Corn Shelling Contest - 1:30 P M
 Pie Eating Contest - 3:30 P M
 Awarding Of Trophies - 6:00 P.M.
 Auction of Fair Exhibits - 9:30 P M.

Happy Dutchmen Strolling Band - 1-4 P.M.

THE RINGGOLD BAND 6:30 P M to 9:30 P.M

LASER LIGHT SHOWS

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ANTIQUA ENGINE, TRACTOR AND FARM TOY SHOW

Entertainment sponsored in part by: National Bank Of
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