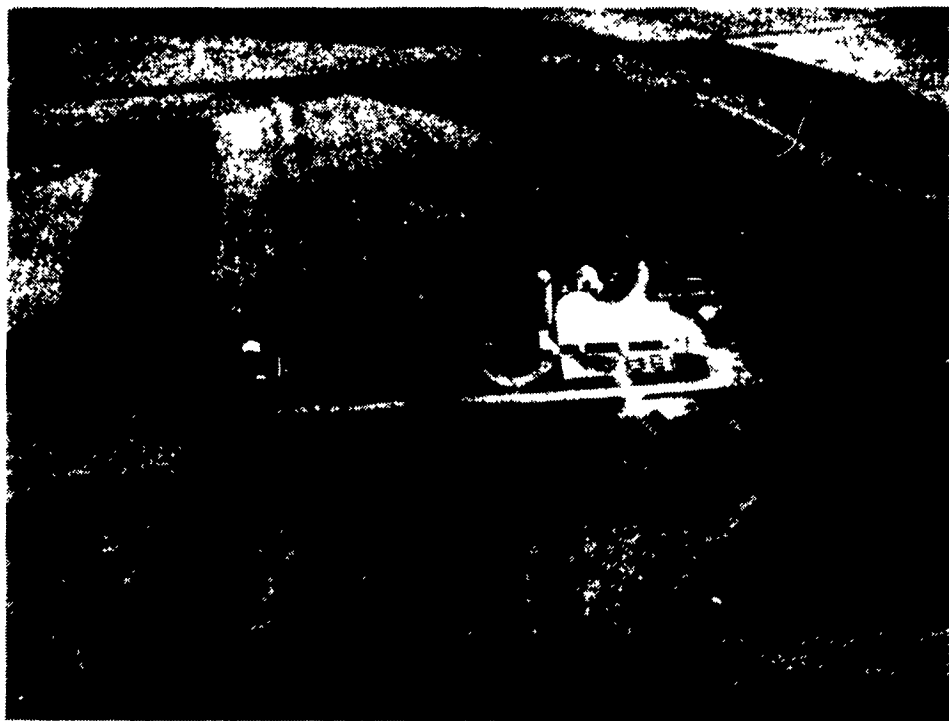
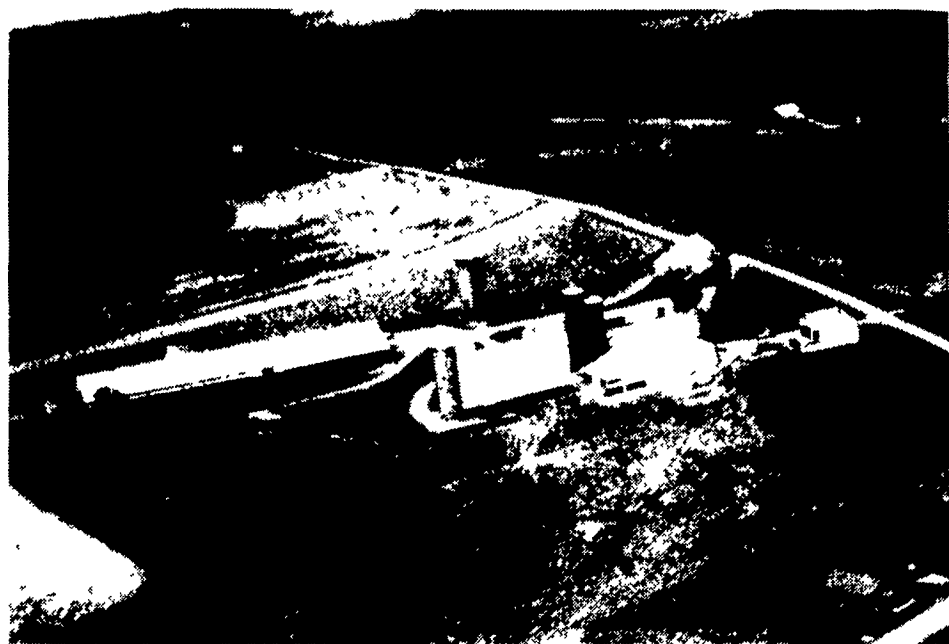


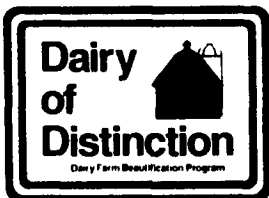
# LANCASTER



The historic Hans Herr house is virtually in the backyard at Howcrest Holsteins in Willow Street. Tourists come by and special events sometimes spill over from the John and Susan Howard farm into the parking lot of the Hans Herr house. It's one of the oldest remaining homesteads still standing and it was built by the religious leader who settled the area for his family. The current barn at Howcrest farm dates to 1866 and was built by John and Elizabeth Harnish. The milkhouse wall bears that date. It was remodeled in the 1960s and the stall and manger are in good shape. Last year, John installed better ventilation in the barn getting a dramatic increase in air-exchange. The barn has the round-edged roof and limestone walls. The house is also limestone. The road that cuts between their farm and a pasture end at the Hans Herr home, cutting down on the amount of traffic. The 70-acre farm is located near urban development on the south of Lancaster city. The Howards milk about 40 registered Holsteins and have a production average in the mid-20,000 pound area. John was recently elected to the board of directors of the National Holstein Association.



History abounds in many Pennsylvania farms and the Herr Hope Farms is also one which pays tribute to those who came before. A. Dale Herr, Kirkwood, said that the operation now is the result of combing three farms together for a total of 450 acres, 360 of which are tillable. The Herrs milk 94 registered and grade Holsteins and raise about 90 replacements in a 150 free stall barn, built in 1977, which is painted sky blue with white trim. But on the original farm there was a school house, which was separated from the farm property years ago. It still stands as a landmark. The bell from the school is still on the farm hanging from a structure in the Herr's front yard. A lot of Amish neighbors, the pastures and open areas also provide character to the farm scene. Rolling herd production at the farm is about 19,084 pounds of milk, with 723 pounds of fat and 606 pounds of protein. The house is an old limestone farm house. The four-acre yard has several large old maple trees, flower beds, two wagon wheels and a couple rocks from a field moved up to freestall and flowers planted around them. The farm is peopled by A. Dale, his wife P. Faye, and son Dale Jr. Working at the farm are nephew Roger Fryberger and herdsman Buzz Ratliff, also is assistant Christine Ambler.



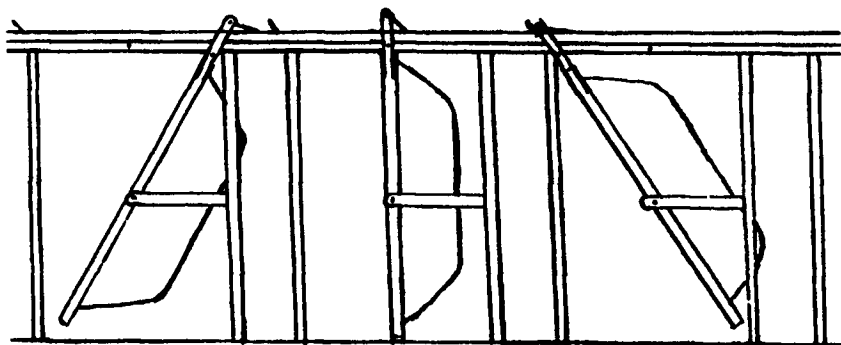
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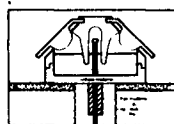
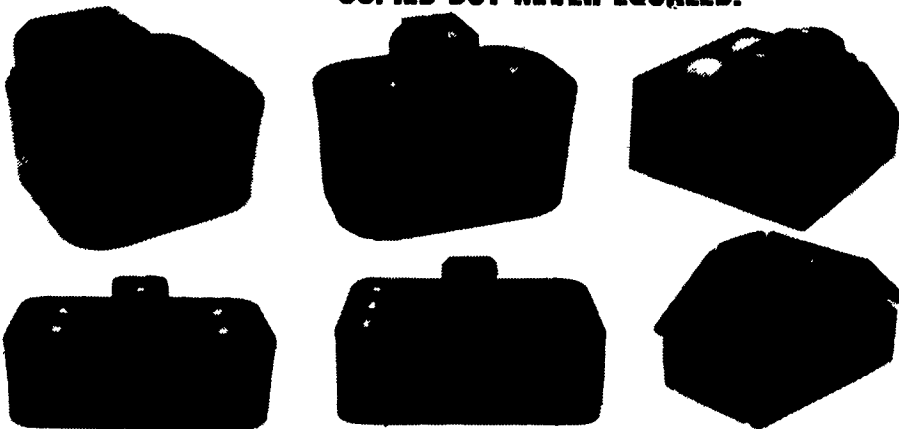
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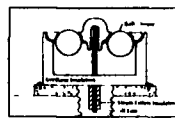
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