



## The History and Journey

All the salvaged wood on our walls came from eastern Iowa. My father John Glesener saved wood from his own farm buildings as they succumbed to wear and obsolescence. He also collected interesting specimens from the farms he worked. A man from the depression, he never threw away something that could eventually be useful. He also respected the history and felt each board had a story. It interested him how they survived their original purpose and still had life in them.

The widest and longest boards were the oldest. Several of them came with square nails. All the lumber was used in more than one farm building. Most started life as a barn. They served as siding, roof sheeting, haymow flooring, grain storage walls, and livestock stalls. When their original home barn was torn down, they were salvaged and reassigned to the next family farm project. Whether another barn, cattle loafing shed or fencing, the boards survived their second and sometime third life before gracing our walls. Their journey had taken over 100 years for the youngest of our boards. The large striking ones, near 150.



Everything starts life young and vibrant, full of purpose and potential. Use and time happen from there. Like the fashionable boards making up our walls, having accumulated age, all of us gain experience and maturity.

I feel salvaging and repurposing the barn wood is like taking care of patients. We accumulate character, scars, dents, and scratches in life. Although permanent they don't make us obsolete. We manage and wear them with dignity. Striving to do the best with what we have and going forward with usefulness and purpose. The story continues. Check out our future posts on The Why, The Wood, The Prep, The Assembly and Something Wonderful.

We also have future projects underway using salvaged wood from local sources.

Be Well,

Dr. Mark

