



# Neubergthal Notes

*Stories Live Here*

Spring 2021

Volume 19 # 1

## INSIDE THE KLIPPENSTEIN HOUSE ON THE COMMONS YARD

To minimize surprises during actual kitchen and rehabilitation work, all the dry wall has been removed. There were a few interesting surprises. The chimney on the main floor had been rebuilt. It is different than the chimney on the second floor.

A more interesting surprise was the hole - an arch opening - in the wall between the two south rooms. John Giesbrecht, NHF board member, remembers seeing a stove in such an opening between two rooms,

Neither Edwin (1932-2020), son of John and Elizabeth Klippenstein, nor his best friend Otto Hamm (lived just across the road) remembered any sign of or talk of a central brick heater in that location. Both in the Friesen Housebarn (1890s) and in the home of Ray and Marilyn Hamm (1880s), originally a brick heater was in that location. In both of those houses, that wall was filled in with the homemade mud bricks. All that central stove brick work was gone from the home of Ray and Marilyn already in 1926 when Ray's parents moved into this place. A brick wall filled that space; there was a 2 ft x 3 ft opening, with doors. In the traditional floor plan this would have been an opening between the living room and the bedroom. The chimney is just to the right of this picture and there is a door between the two rooms just to the left of this picture.



Most of the original houses were sitting east-west, with the front door facing south. The Klippenstein house is north-south, with the front door facing west, facing the road. My mother often took me (Ray H) with her to visit Elizabeth/*Liese* Klippenstein. To my knowledge that door was never used. There never were steps for this entrance. The entrance to the house was through the *gahnk* between the house and barn. worry

In this house, the living room (*Groute Stov*) was the southwest room. The southeast room was the bedroom. (This was Eddie Schmidt's space in the house.)

# The Church of God in Christ, Mennonite - - Altona congregation

by Allen Penner

The congregation started in 1994 when several families moved to the area. They worshipped in a rented facility for the first few years.

The farm yard on the north end of the village was purchased from Ken Braun in 1997. The house was renovated for church and school at this time. Very soon this became too small as more families moved and started attending.

In 1999, an addition was put on the house to make more room for church and school. Eight years later a new church building was built to the west of the original house.

They started worshipping in it in 2007. The original house and addition has served as a school since then.

Sunflower Valley Christian School

Total school attendance this year is 22 - two classes with two teachers, for grades 1 to 9.

Church includes 39 households.

Normal church attendance is around 120.

Sunday morning services include Sunday School and worship service for all.

A Sunday evening service is held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month and there is a Wednesday evening Bible Study for 10 evenings in winter.

A Vacation Bible School for all children in the community has been offered in July for the last few years; this will continue after Covid restrictions are over.

We have been thankful that we have been able to have our Sunday morning services during Covid restrictions, even though the group size has been restricted. Those who don't come each Sunday are able to listen in to the service from home.

All of us live within about 10 miles of church ( Altona, Neubergthal, Halbstadt, Gretna area ); many of our seniors live in Altona. Occupations include hog, chicken and grain farmers; carpenters; electricians; welders; accountants; printing and book store; and tree trimming.

A few of us have lived in the village in the past. Currently none of us actually live in the village, but we are very thankful to be a part of the village, we feel like the village is "home" to us. We are very thankful that as a church we are able to feel a welcome from our neighbours here. We welcome our village neighbours and friends to join us for church services.

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From 1944 to 1969, an Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference (Rudnerweide) congregation had a building at the south end of the village. The building for the Church of God in Christ, Mennonite, is at the north end of the village. rule

The Church of God in Christ, Mennonite , also known as the Holdeman Mennonite Church, was founded by John Holdeman, a reformer and an evangelist, in Ohio in 1859. There are approximately 25,000 members in this church, with the larger clusters in Kansas and Manitoba. There are congregations in other parts of Canada and the United States and also in other countries. Most congregations have their own private schools. complain

The Church of God in Christ, Mennonite shares the basic Mennonite beliefs about God, Jesus, salvation, discipleship, adult baptism, nonresistance and more. The group is on the conservative side of the Mennonite world, with more emphasis on repentance, simplicity, voluntary service and nonconformity to the world. by Ray Hamm

## Small Engine Repair

# Terry's Test & Tune

"We work with clients big and small to make sure their small equipment is always ready to go."

Terry's Test & Tune has been in business since January, 2010. For the first few years, he worked in a smaller shop/garage in their backyard. He was busy from day one. In fall, 2013, the larger current workshop was completed and open for business. Terry served the local area as a partsman from 1986 till 2009 until he went into business on his own.



Terry was born and raised in Neubergthal and Altona community. Terry & his wife Deb live on one side of their yard and the shop is on the other side. Terry says that mostly it is good being so close to work.

For more information go to <https://www.terrystestandtune.com/>



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Contact NHF:  
[neubergthalheritagefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:neubergthalheritagefoundation@gmail.com)  
call or text 204 324 4115

# Program and Activity Projections for 2021

WATCH FOR DETAILS on Instagram, FB/ neubergthalcommons or the web site Neubergthalheritagefoundation.com.

Tai Linklater, Altona student at Canadian Mennonite University, will be the summer host this year. **Tours should be arranged in advance** to avoid overlap of groups. Call/text 204 324-4115 or send an email to [neubergthalheritagefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:neubergthalheritagefoundation@gmail.com). If the public health situation improves, tours can be more open, as in the past. fear

There may be some “Thursdays in the Village” - a series of seminars or workshops. In the past, some were outside, most were small groups.

Art exhibits should be possible. Watch for an exhibit of the photo work of PG Hamm, from 100 years ago. This was part of a larger exhibit done by Susie Fisher at the Gallery in the Park, summer 2020.

The 2021 season at the Friesen Housebarn Interpretive Centre will feature a selection from the exhibition Resurfacing: Mennonite Floor Patterns, also from the Gallery in the Park. As part of the exhibition, the kitchen floor will get a “facelift,” restoration.

If health guidelines allow, movies will be shown. These were planned for 2020 and then cancelled. Maybe this year?  
**AND WHEN THEY SHALL ASK  
RESERVE 107  
NEUBERGTHAL - CANADA'S HERITAGE**

By the time September 11 gets here, the usual Darp Day activities, seminars, music and food should be possible.



Newest Smallest Housebarn in the Village  
-10 x 24, on yard NE7  
-housebarn, playhouse, garden shed  
-built by Dalen Goosen, moved here in 2020  
-Jacob and Agatha Sawatzky live on this yard



photo of original floor pattern 2001, by Margruite Krahn