



Beautiful Park?
My home from birth!

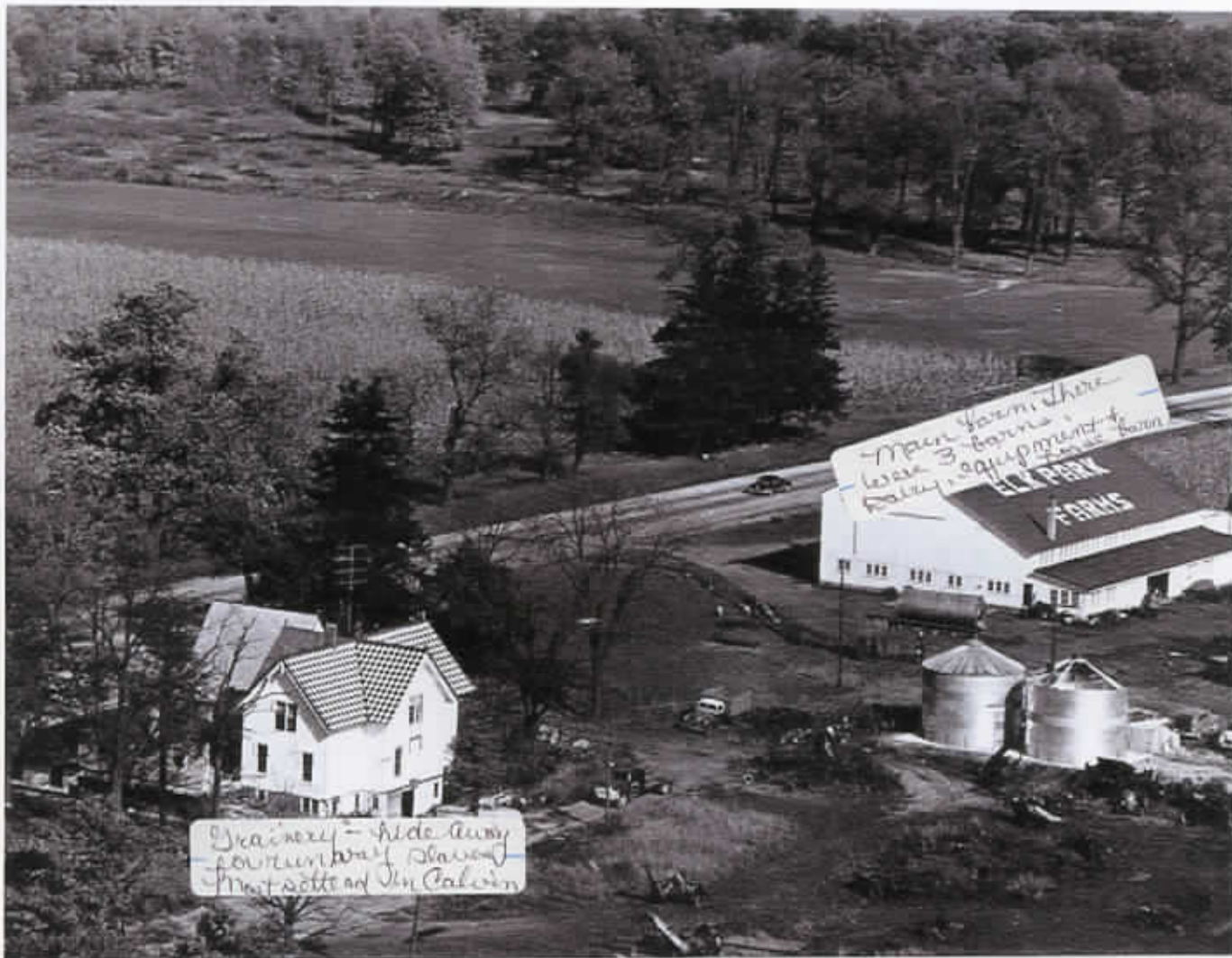
Smokestack House



Elk Park - And kept
30-35 in the road
would come to a rest for

water. My job was
to ride horseback
checking their feet

Elk Park



The Carriage House and Elk Park Farm

My Dad, was 34
When he took over
the farm. And lost

it a working farm
until 1953 when
he sold it.

He is at the Elk
Park gate. The house
was still perfect



Elwood Bonine 1940's



There was a third side of house.
 - It was on the east - Garage & truck
 porch on the east - Garage in back.



- My mother's garden
 - Always beautiful -

JUNE - 1922

"Four baby elk have arrived since the first of June to augment the elk herd on the famous Bonine farm near Vandavia. James E. Bonine, father of Isaac Bonine, settled in Penn township, Cass county in 1841, whither he went penniless, his father having

in Dowagiac

lost his fortune in Wayne county, Ind. as a result of the failure of the Richmond bank. Penn township was an almost unbroken forest when Mr. Bonine arrived there. He lived a life of great activity and became the owner of 1,600 acres of land, a portion of which was prairie. He became the leading banker of Cass county. His death occurred at Niles in 1898. Upon his land James E. Bonine established in 1902 what is known as Bonine park, consisting of a tract of 60 acres, which he stocked with buffalos and elk. This tract is still maintained by the heirs of Mr. Bonine, and although there are no buffalos in evidence there, a large number of elk inhabit the park."

James E. Bonine
 - was my 2nd Great
 Grandfather

The Porter house in
 Cass. Was my Grandfather
 B.F. Jordan Bonine's

home until he died
 - in 1934





**The Bonine House as it looks today.
Please help us restore this home to its former glory.
Join URSCC and become a Friend of the Bonine House!**