



## The Museums at Lisle Station Park

### Transcript: Tour Tidbit – The Barn

Hi everyone! My name is Concetta and I'm the Museum Manager and curator at The Museums at Lisle Station Park. I'm carving some little details into this Tour Tidbit. So pull up a wooden chair, and some pictures of this mini-sode's focus, the Barn.

A good place to find us is on our Clio walking tour, by going to [www.theclio.com](http://www.theclio.com) [SPELL] and typing in Lisle Illinois in the top search bar [SPELL]. You'll see all of our Clio walking tour entries pop up when you scroll down, so make sure you pick the Barn. If you're already on a virtual field trip with us, you're a step ahead and already have the link. Hit the pause button and pull it up, I'll wait for you.

The Barn shows working examples of some of the most important jobs in a 19<sup>th</sup> century town, smithing and wood working. These skills were invented thousands of years ago and are still practiced today.

Just like agriculture in the 1800s and early 1900s, you couldn't just go to Walmart or Home Depot to get tools, or toys, or anything else. You either had to find someone in your town that was making and selling the exact things you needed, or you had to make it yourself. To learn how to be a skilled craftworker, you have to practice as an apprentice for years, and lots of apprentices even lived with their teachers' family. Craftworking was done ONLY by hand until the Industrial Revolution, in the late 1800s, when people invented factories that could make similar objects on a larger scale. You can still find lots of craftworkers who do amazing and incredible custom work by hand all over Lisle and beyond.

Our Barn has two craftworking shops, one for blacksmiths and one for wood turners. These two types of craftworkers often worked together in shops set up like this to make objects, like the Wood Shop gate our volunteer craftworkers made, and plenty of other objects you can see at the museum.



A smith heats up and shapes metal, so a “black-smith” works with dark colored iron. Wood turners use machines called “lathes” to spin wood while they hold carving tools, and carve all kinds of items, like table legs, bowls, and other items you see here.

This working shop is set up like an animal barn would have been and is made up of a wood structure from a barn built in the 1850s in Wisconsin. The owners wanted to get rid of it in the early 2000s, so Lisle Heritage Society volunteers and Lisle Park District staff worked together to take it apart and rebuild it here. It was designed by volunteer Bob, who is a master blacksmith. His dad had his own blacksmith shop near here, and some of the tools and shelves you see in the Barn were his.

Take a look at our online resources for pictures and more! And field trippers – don’t forget to check your instructions page to see everything we gave you!

You can find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @LisleMuseum, or on our website by going to [www.lisleparkdistrict.org](http://www.lisleparkdistrict.org) and clicking on Facilities at the top. Or you can Google us, that usually works too. Thanks for listening, from Lisle, Illinois...and everywhere else, where history is being made every minute!

Our theme song was created by Big Cats.