

Please visit us at

Heritage Square Park

122 West 2nd Street

Odebolt, Iowa 51458



Open Memorial Day thru October

Wednesdays 10 - 4:00

Saturdays 2-4:00

Sundays 2-4:00

Call for other arrangements



Rural Legacy Project

City of Odebolt



odebolt.net

iowaruralschoolsmuseum.net

iowahistoricschools.com

712-830-8328



Iowa Rural Schools Museum

Willow Tree School . . .

was relocated to Odebolt, Iowa, in 2011 and restored to the Victorian look it had when it opened in 1883. It now houses a rich museum with 1000's of artifacts and stories to celebrate the history and contribution of schools that were part of the Iowa Rural School System.

**Iowa Preservation Award
for 2014**

*Much more than
a classroom!*



Come see us!



traveliowa.com

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WELCOME TO IOWA'S LOST TREASURE

View rare artifacts, many original to Willow Tree. Look for a restored 1880's wood stove and kerosene heater, zinc-lined dry sink, 1875 atlas, globes, pump organ, awards, ink crock, Anker blocks, Teacher Cyclopedias and much more



MORE THAN A CLASSROOM

The museum brings alive the untold story of how Iowa carefully designed an historic, orderly and rapid rural development after the Civil War. Learn about the critical role the Rural Schools System played in the success of Iowa's corn-belt economy and democratic values.



LEARN ABOUT . . .

- what a school day was like and sit in a double desk of the 1880's
- children's chores and their toys
- how scholarship, citizenship and work were shaped and rewarded
- why groups of immigrants settled around Iowa rural schools
- rural teacher certification exams and 8th grade graduation exams
- the role of life skills and music
- why Iowa's state-wide system of rural schools worked
- why school access matters

ALSO CHECK OUT . . .

- the school's Victorian restoration
- a welcome video, listening stations and signage to entertain and educate
- books by a local historian about the progressive Iowa Rural Schools System and Iowa's rural settlement
- a library of over 1000 books and computer access that is available for those researching Iowa history
- a seating for guests to relax, study artifacts or reminisce with others
- other attractions in Odebolt's Heritage Square Park

THOUSANDS OF ARTIFACTS

See collections of primers, desks, shoes, lunch pails, and writing tools from the 1880's - 1950's and much more!

