

*Please visit us at*  
Heritage Square Park  
122 West 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!*

# 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 Cyclopeda 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!

