Wagon Yard Demolished

Familiar Horse and Buggy Days Landmark Passes as Wagon Yard Moved from Hugo

The Hugo Daily News June 29, 1939 - transcribed by Ron Henson

One of Hugo's most ancient landmarks which for years has been a pale and unsightly ghost of an almost forgotten era in American business is being torn down today.

The big sheet iron barn on north Broadway which in Hugo's heyday was the latest thing in Wagon yards came under the axe of the razing squad this morning and will in a few days vanish with the horse and buggy days into past history.

For several years the barn has been an eyesore for residents of that section of town, but due to the fact that it is part of an estate that has never been settled, there has been no authority for tearing it down.

A half block long, the barn has been used at intervals for storage of hay and grain and for a mule barn. Most of the timbers supporting the metal roof and sides have rotted out and the barn has threatened on numerous occasions to blow over. On windy nights loose pieces of sheet iron have banged out annoying tunes, flapping and banging and screaking [sic].

But in a few days, the bar [sic] will be no more. Workmen today ripped off a good portion of the roof and are expected to complete their task in a few days.

The Wagon Yard was operated by W.H. Barrett. Since his death, the estate has been in litigation and the passing of the usefulness of Wagon Yards reduced it to a financial liability. No one here seems to know the exact date it was erected, but Miss Mae Barrett, niece of the former owners, says it has been there since before statehood.