

I'M A MOO-STERY!

Background Information for Dairy Objects



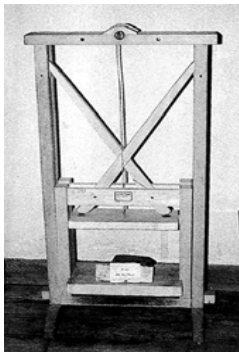
Object One: This object is a milk tester. It was used to test the fat content of milk and cream. It was produced by Dr. S.M. Babcock in 1890. These small hand-cranked devices were commonly found on dairy farms. Farmers used milk testers to compare the butter fat content of milk from each cow.



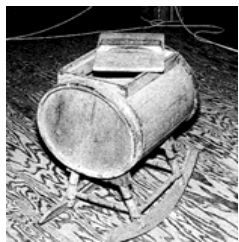
Object Two: This object is a cream separator. Invented in 1890 by C.G.P. Delavai this machine was used to separate cream from the milk. The machine eliminated doing this task by hand and transporting whole milk to the creamery.



Object Three: This object is a butter paddle. After the cream was churned, the butter was placed in a large bowl. This tool was used to separate the butter from the buttermilk to form it into a solid shape.



Object Four: This object is a self-acting cheese press. One step in the cheese making process is to press the cheese curds and drain the excess liquid. This press uses the weight of the cheese to reduce the amount of moisture. This type of cheese press was commonly used in smaller dairies.



Object Five: This object is a foot operated butter churn. Hands-free, this type of churn allowed the operator to do something else! Butter churns separated the butter milk and butter. The primary purpose of having dairy cows was to provide a family with milk and butter. Farm production of butter started in 1791.



Object Six: This object is an 8 gallon milk can used for storing, cooling and transporting milk. In the 1940s and 50s the addition of bulk tanks on the farm and tanker trucks replaced milk cans. Milk cans came in 5, 8, and 10 gallon sizes. Sturges & Burn Manufacturing Company of Chicago, Illinois was a milk can manufacturer.



Object Seven: This object is a delivery truck. The earliest milk haulers used flat-bed delivery trucks to transport milk cans of various sizes along with other items such as eggs and ice.



Object Eight: This object is a milk bottle. Milk was delivered to houses by a milk man in glass bottles. They were thought to keep milk at its coolest temperatures.