

Milk room where cows were milked and milk was stored until it was shipped out.

In the 1850's, dairy farmers milked cows by hand. When it was time for milking, the cows would be brought in from the field and held in their place for milking by means of being tied up or by use of a stanchion. Farmers then milked the cow's milk into a bucket. Although early versions of automatic milking machines began to appear as early as 1860, it was not until the late 1800's and the early 1900's that the designs were improved to the point of being practical and not harmful to the cow.



Milk was stored in cans and kept in milk coolers until it was brought to market.



Milk coolers as displayed in the Brunn Barn made use of cold ground water. It was pumped from the ground and continuously circulated around the containers.

Milk containers were of a specific volume but they were also weighed for the sale of the milk. A scale on display in the Brunn Barn is shown below.

