

GIFFORD FARM

700 Camp Gifford Road

Bellevue, NE 68005

Program Administrator: Nancy Williams

402-597-4920

<http://www.esu3.org/gifford/farm.html>

Initial Site Visit: January 15-16, 2007

Approximate square footage: 15,300



CERTIFIED CLASSROOM



Program Overview:

Gifford Farm Education Center provides educational programs to area youth and the community, serving over 25,000 visitors annually. A working farm, this multifaceted education area has more than 400 acres of farmstead, pastures, crop land, woodlands and a small pond. Located along the Missouri River bottom just outside of Bellevue, NE, it is surrounded by 1,200 acres of woodlands known as Gifford Point, which has over 5 miles of river front.

Ages served: Toddlers, Preschoolers, School Age

Number of children visiting annually: 15,000

Serve children with Special Needs: Yes

Serve low income children: Yes

Number of staff: 30

From their application:

Gifford Farm Education Center, under ESU 3, has offered outdoor education experiences to students in the greater Omaha and Council Bluffs area for over 30 years. Gifford Farm Education Center is committed to hands-on outdoor education programs that are curriculum based and meet many of the Nebraska State Education Standards for students, and offer a safe and fun experience to children and families. Our commitment to the Nature Explore Classroom project encompasses a continuum of our desire to see enhancement in the world of nature education for all ages.We feel we can be one of the greatest dynamic groups, including a dedicated and knowledgeable staff of environmental educators, to champion all of our collective aspiration to greatly impact the lives of children through Nature Education.



Gifford Farm

INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY NEBRASKA AEYC
WWW.NebraskaAEYC.org

SUMMER, 2007



Entrance Area



Green Bean Teepee



Butterfly Garden



Apple Tree Path



Gourd Tunnel



Gathering Area



Bench



Digging Area

GIFFORD FARM

Gifford Farm

GIFFORD FARM GRAND OPENING

AUGUST 31, 2007



Ribbon cutting



Gourd Tunnel



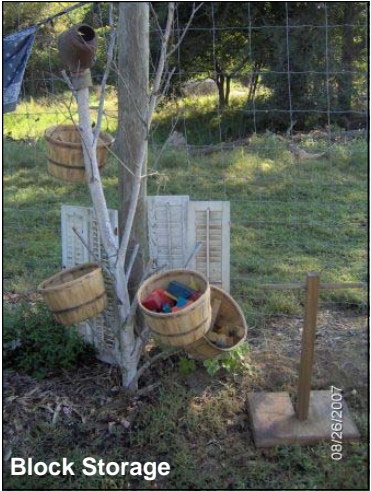
Green Bean Teepee



Building Area



Path Through Plantings



Block Storage



Nature Art Area



Messy Materials Area



Music Area



Tree Fort Entrance



Digging Area



Digging Area

Gifford Farm

ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED BY INDIVIDUAL SITES



Summer, 2009

“Snapper” a 580 pound chain saw carving of a turtle has just arrived at the farm! Snapper was carved by wood carvers Bill Watson (above) and Dan Horton of Council Bluffs. Snapper was carved from a 100 year old sycamore tree that had to be removed for safety reasons following the June '08 windstorm. Artists, Bill and Dan generously donated their time and talents to create a turtle that children could enjoy, play on, and learn from as they visit the Nature Explore® Certified Outdoor Nature Classroom at Gifford Farm.

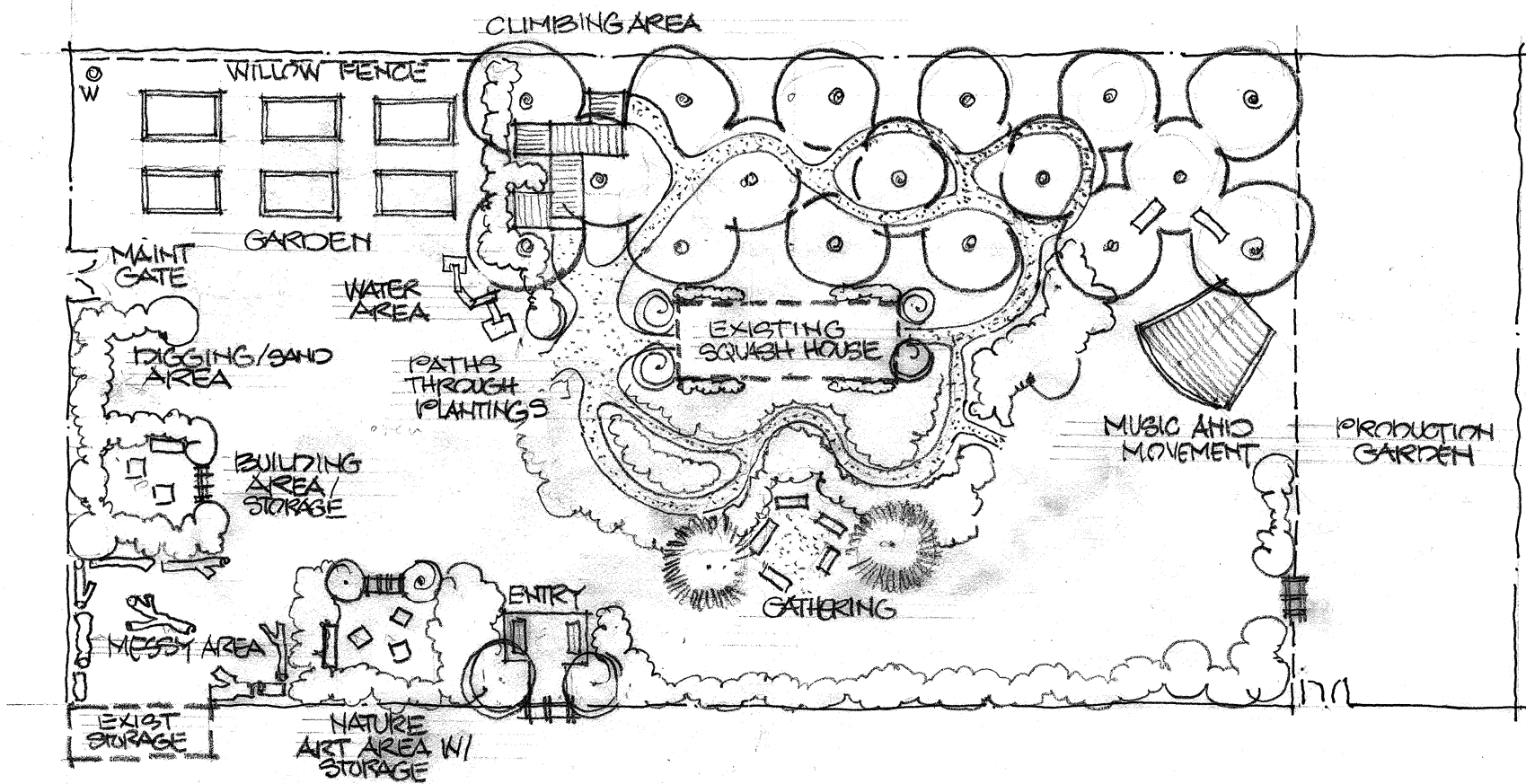
Stop by to take your own ride on Snapper at the Fall Festival or call for reservations to bring your group to visit the Outdoor Nature Classroom.

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PROGRAM DIAGRAM for:

GIFFORD FARM

1" = 20'

1.10.07

GIFFORD FARM