

Our visit 1998











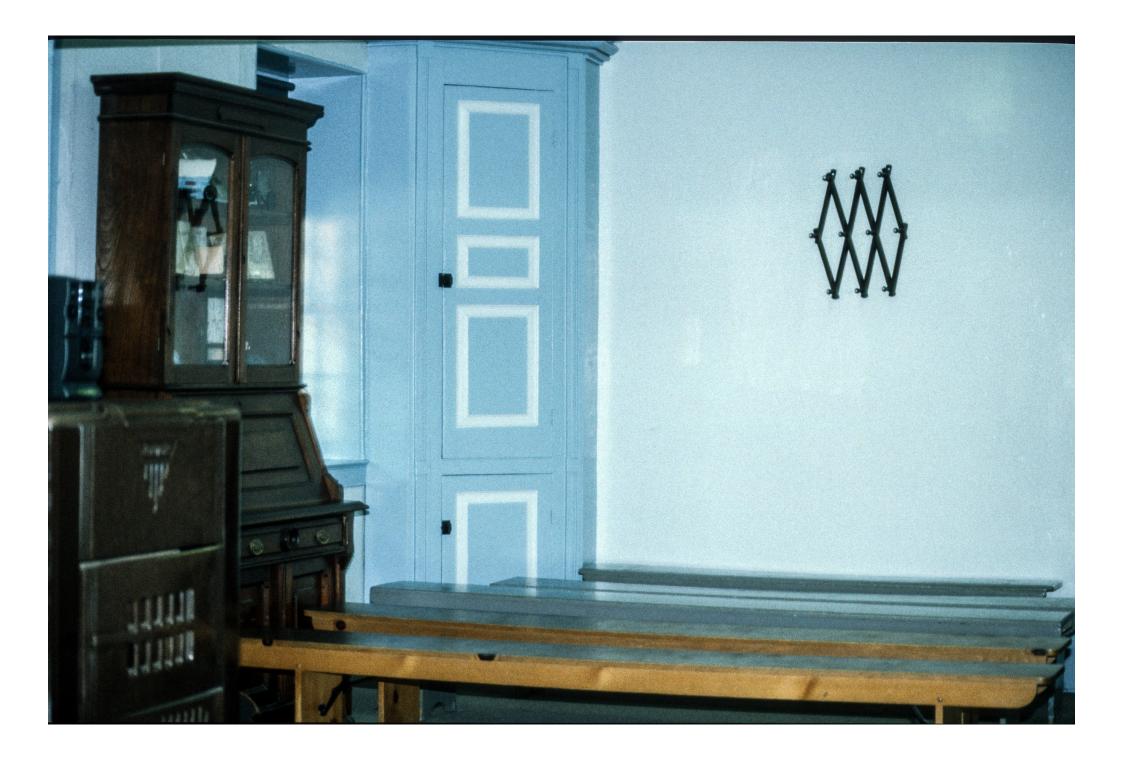


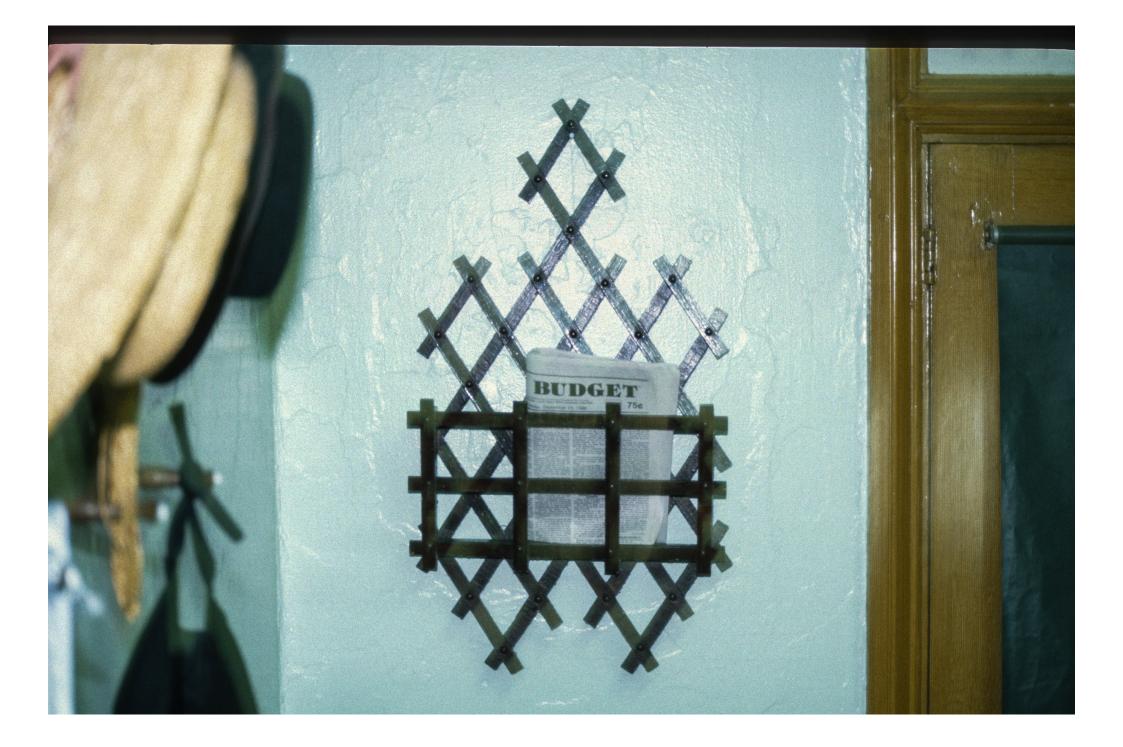










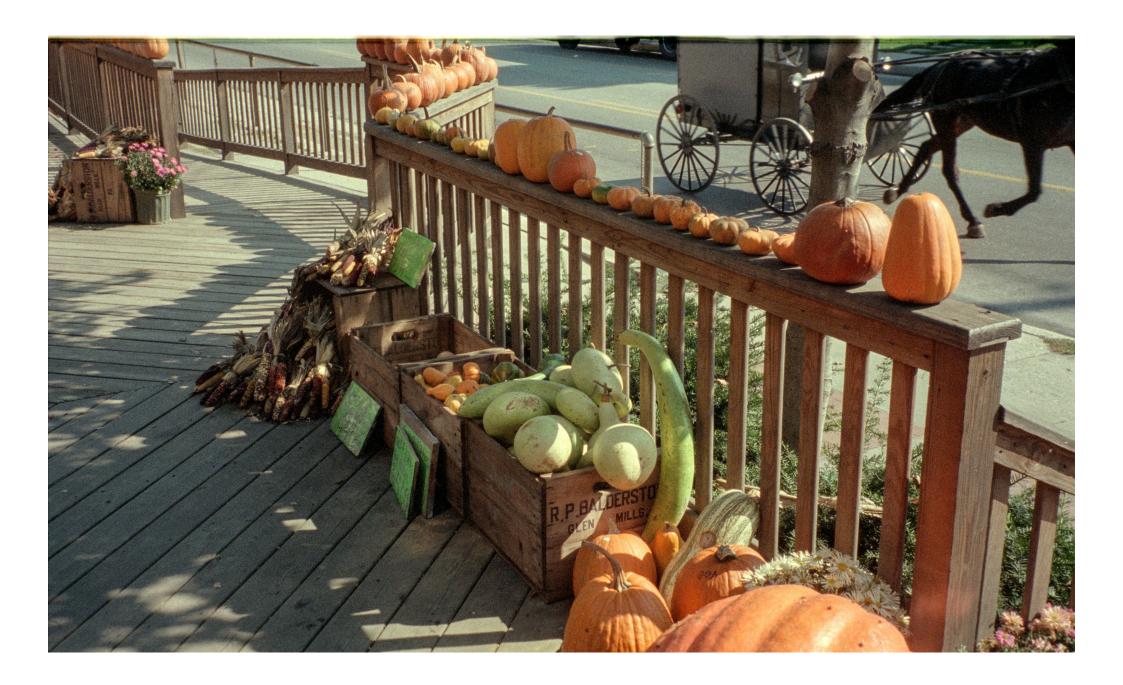








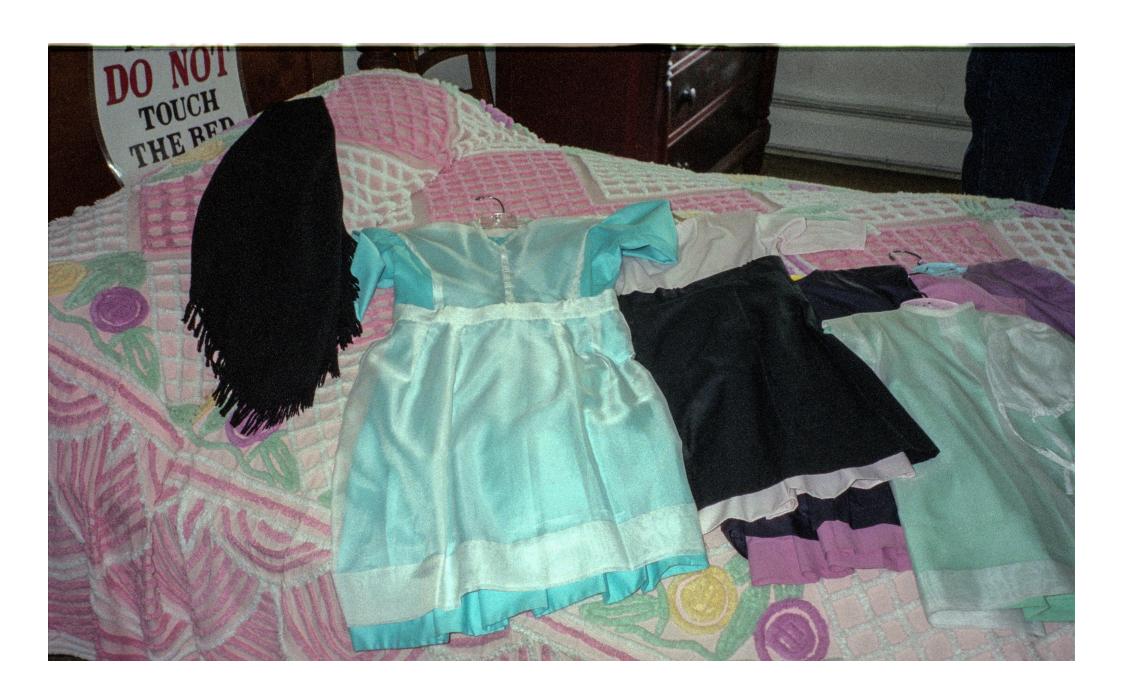








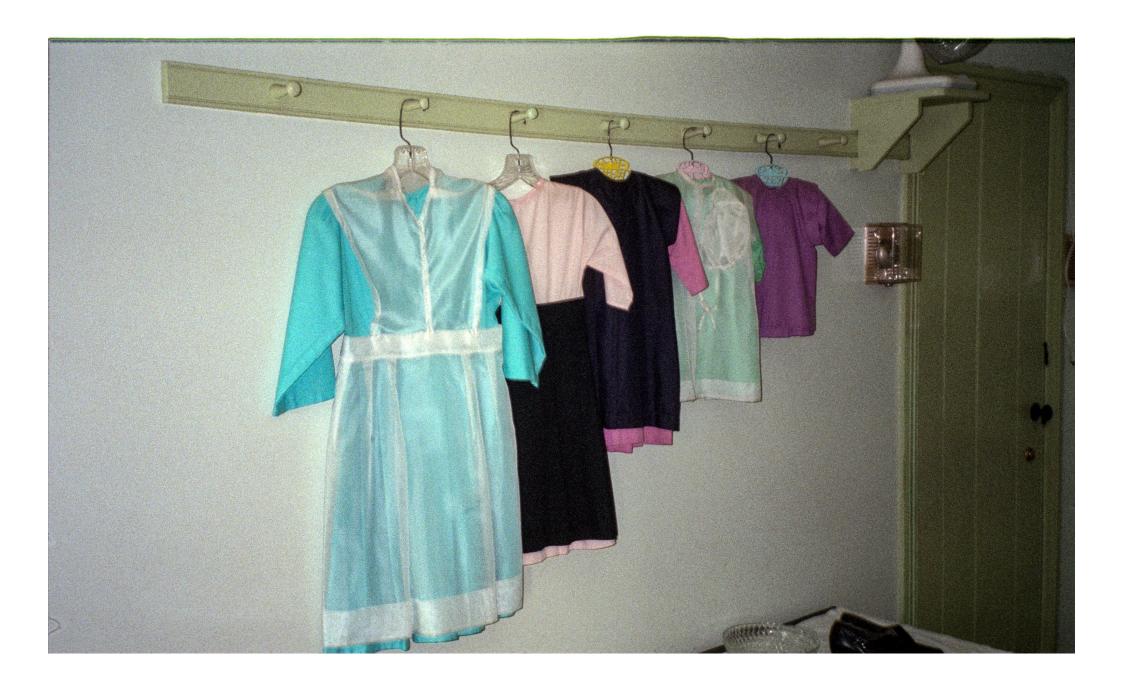


















AUTHENTIC AMISH COFFIN, CONTINUING THE TRADITIONAL SIX-SIDED STYLE USED BY OUR FORFFATHERS. THE NON-AMISH FUNERAL DIRECTOR MAKES THE COFFIN, TO SIZE, FOLLOWING DEATH. HE TAKES THE BODY AT ONCE, EMBALMS, AND RETURNS IT IMMEDIATELY TO THE DECEASED'S HOME REGARDLESS OF THE HOUR. THE BODY LAYS ON A COOLING BOARD, AND IS DRESSED ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE DAY PRECEDING THE FUNERAL, USUALLY BY THE CHILDREN, WHO CONSIDER IT "THE LAST THING THEY CAN DO FOR THE PARENT."

MOTHER WOULD BE DRESSED IN A SIMPLE WHITE DRESS AND IN THE WHITE CAPE AND APRON IN WHICH SHE WAS MARRIED. FATHER IS DRESSED

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MOTHER WOULD BE DRESSED IN A SIMPLE WHITE DRESS AND IN THE WHITE CAPE AND APRON IN WHICH SHE WAS MARRIED. FATHER IS DRESSED IN A WHITE SUIT.

THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR ALSO FURNISHES THE HORSE-DRAWN HEARSE,
PHOTOGRAPH ABOVE, WHICH IS DRIVEN BY AN AMISHMAN, FOLLOWED BY
THE FUNERAL PROCESSION OF SOMETIMES 75 BUGGIES. MOST HAVE 200 OR
MORE RELATIVES AND GUESTS. INTERMENT IS IN PRIVATE AMISH CEMETERIES.
A WOODEN ROUGHBOX IS USED. DIGGING BY FRIENDS AND FILLING BY THE
FOUR PALLBEARERS IS DONE IMMEDIATELY AT THE GRAVE IN THE PRESENCE
OF THE FAMILY.

COFFINS WERE FORMERLY WALNUT, NOW ARE PRACTICALLY ALL POPLAR, STAINED WALNUT, AS THIS ONE. NOTE THE COFFIN STANDS. THEY HAVE BEEN USED BY 4 GENERATIONS OF UNDERTAKERS WHO HAVE SERVED THE LOCAL AMISH.





