

ALTHEA SHERMAN CHIMNEY SWIFT TOWER

BUCHANAN, IOWA

Originally, the 9 ft.x9 ft. x 28 ft. tall Althea Sherman Chimney Swift Tower was constructed in 1915 near her home in National, Iowa. Over time, the tower was moved several times. After a period of poor maintenance, a non-profit organization acquired the tower to preserve it. The tower was stored in a horizontal position within various barn-like spaces for approximately 20 years waiting for a new home. Recently, a site within the Bickett-Rate Memorial Preserve near Buchanan, Iowa was found where the tower could be re-installed in a secure environment.

Structural documents were created to identify components that needed replacement, areas that required reinforcement, and a new foundation system. The documents also included a special sequence of transportation and construction, because the tower started on a trailer.



Tower Transported on Trailer



Tower at Original Site



Tower's New Home



Tower Lifted to New Foundation