

Vintage Pickins offers fresh antiques, home decor

By Jack McLaughlin
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Don't let the name fool you – Vintage Pickins is one of Edgerton's newest antique and home décor stores to Rock County and Dane County residents, but there's nothing old about the store's atmosphere or merchandise collection.

The store's owners, John and Barb Eddy, have been in the antique business since the 1970s and their experience shows. It's not only evident in the wide range of unique home and garden décor and collectible items available for purchase, including but not limited to, vintage industrial, finished furniture and project furni-

ture, farm antiques (dating back to the 19th century), and even garden pieces; but also in the way new merchandise is constantly being acquired.

"We're getting new things in pretty much every day," said John Eddy. "So what we have constantly changes," he added, noting that a fresh influx of goods keeps the store's offering always fresh and interesting.

The vintage veteran Eddy is able to accomplish this by persistently combing local antique sources, from garage and estate sales, to scouring the internet, and even purchasing items from Edgerton-area residents who swing past the store.

And although highway

construction initially hampered the visibility of Vintage Pickins, the Rock County business is now difficult to miss. A large reason for this is the fact that this unique business is quite literally located inside a piece of Edgerton history itself.

Originally a tobacco shed on the storied Hemenway farm, the building's iconic barn construction is not only entertaining by itself and immediately eye-pleasing, it works to transport shoppers into a nostalgic bygone era, one where you can imagine the antiques filling the store's shelves are from.

"I saw the listing for this place and was familiar with the area," John

Eddy recalled of the pair's first experience with the locale. "We came up the next day and just fell in love with it."

This slice of local lore isn't the only unique feature of Vintage Pickins either, though. The Eddy's are not just skilled in acquiring goods for resale, they have the ability to create and refurbish them as well. Although the pair spends much of their time now working to find neat stuff and cool junkie for the store, keeping inventory new and exciting, John Eddy – when he can find the time – often hand-crafts and refurbishes pieces of antique furniture. He also works to make custom decorative pieces, such as a wall sconce made from a repurposed tractor grill.

Although truly impressive in its craftsmanship and originality, this wall



Vintage Pickins is, fittingly, located in a quaint, refurbished old tobacco barn at 399 Hemenway Lane. (Photo submitted by Jack McLaughlin)

sconce (sorry, it sold) is among countless other pieces that are both totally unique and wholly irreplaceable.

Count on Vintage Pickins, located at 399 Hemenway Lane, at the intersection of U.S. Highway 59 and Hemenway

Lane, as a dynamic reseller of important vintage goods, listening to popular demand and addressing it with a style all their own. And if you're going to be shopping for antiques anyway, why not do it in one of Edgerton's very own.



Some of the fine offerings you will find at Vintage Pickins. (Photo submitted by Jack McLaughlin)

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