

Review of
Manfred History and Preservation, Inc.

2000 through 2003

2000

*March and April of 2000 Manfred Township Board meetings: Manfred history and preservation projects first introduced to the board by Wanda Melchert.

*Preservation Day May 19: Talks by Dale Bentley of Preservation ND, Rolene Schliesman architectural historian for NDSHS, and Wanda Melchert; followed by a potluck dinner, and PND Board meeting. Documented by two Minot television stations and the Herald Press.



Preservationists from around the state and nation take a close look at historic sites in Manfred. May 19, 2000



Founder's Day, July 26, 2000

From Right to Left: Reinar Widiger, Donald Anderson, Ruth Anderson Widiger, Jeanne Melby, Kenneth Melby, Pam Nelson Norstedt, Lorraine Rau, Laverne Johnson, Shirley Opdahl, Leslie Johnson, Olga Johnson, Betty Melby, Gene Melby, Verna Anderson Bowers, Jeanne McBain Flick, Herbert Ongstad, Edgar Allen Flick, Wanda Melchert, Eileen Haugen, Rose Anderson, Richard Melchert, Hadley Haugen.
(Not pictured - Peg Bell, Perry Anderson, Jacob Anderson)

*Founder's Day July 26, 2000. Articles of Incorporation signed by Rose Anderson, Verna Bowers, Wanda Melchert, Pam Norstedt, and Herbert Ongstad. Founder's document was signed by everyone.

*First MHP, Inc. meeting held Sept. 23, 2000 and a second on October 29 at which time officers were named: Wanda Melchert, Pres; Verna Bowers, Vice Pres; Pam Norstedt, Sec.-Treas; Pete Anderson, Rose Anderson, and Herbert Ongstad, Directors. Added later as Directors were Perry Anderson and Esther Boese. Ruth Widiger became Treasurer in Sept. 2001.

*Manfred's website www.manfrednd.org originated in July by Susan Sommerfeld. Jarrod Schroeder took over January 2001 with Audrey Solheim assisting. First issue of the Manfred Newsletter published December 2000 with Wanda Melchert editor assisted by Audrey Solheim.

2001

*April 18: MHP, Inc. obtained its first property, the O.K. Melby/Sam Rogness home. Roofing and repair by contractor Greg Seidel, and painting by Verna Bowers and Wanda and Richard Melchert.

*June 21: Vang Lutheran Church placed on National Register of Historic Places authored by Wanda Melchert. A large group accepted the award at a ceremony in the Heritage Center on November 17, 2001. (See December 2001 Manfred Newsletter.)

*July 25-26: Manfred Days, a celebration of Manfred and its history, included a banquet, tours, church services, picnic, parade, and program. About 400 people from around the country gathered for this event. (See September 2001 Manfred Newsletter.)

*October 26: The John and Malena Johnson Sears Catalog Home was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places by their granddaughter Laverne Johnson.



Melby-Rogness home exterior restored in time for Manfred Days, July 14 and 15, 2001



Vang Lutheran Church is the first property from Manfred Township to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The award certificate now hangs in the church sanctuary.



Sunday, July 15, 2001 catered picnic dinner under the big top tent as part of Manfred Days' festivities

2002

*Melby-Rogness House restoration work – Interior gutted. A good portion of house jacked and much of cement block basement walls built under guidance of volunteer contractor Paul Gunderson.

*May 10: Vang Lutheran Church awarded a “Grass Roots Preservation matching Grant” of \$1,504 through the Prairie Churches of North Dakota Project. Contractors were Mark Faul, backhoe; Brian Elverud, mason; Robin Rost, gutters and downspouts; and John Dethloff, landscaping.

*May 17: MHP, Inc. named North Dakota’s “Preservation Success Story for 2002” by Preservation North Dakota. (See June 2002 Manfred Newsletter.)

*November 15-16: Manfred’s first Brochure debuted at the 14th Annual Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History.

*Dec 26: Manfred featured statewide in an article by Cleo Cantlon, correspondent with the Minot Daily News. (See March 2003 Newsletter.)

Some of the restoration activities...



Lunch break at the home of Wesley and Esther Boese during the March 3rd workday on gutting. From left: Pete Anderson, Bill Ongstad, Dan Fiesel, Kerry Ebel, Paul Gunderson, Jerome Gunderson, Wesley Boese, Esther Boese.



Mark Faul with his backhoe at the Melby-Rogness House



Some of the wall builders: Herbert Ongstad, Wesley Boese, Tom Alvshere, Paul Gunderson, Lowell Anderson



Lunch with the Andersons: Rose, Paul, Pete, Jacob, Perry and Wanda



Paul Gunderson, volunteer contractor



Perry Anderson restored water damaged portion of dining room wall

2003



Fritz Wohl, electrical



Lefty Erickson, taping



Preparing photos to install in the bank/post office

*Melby-Rogness House restoration work completed for three rooms on first floor: Fritz Wohl, electrical wiring; Wesley Boese, Pete Anderson, Wanda Melchert, insulation; Greg Seidel, sheetrock; Lefty Erickson, taping; Paul Gunderson, texturing; Wesley Boese and Wanda Melchert, wood floors; Wanda Melchert and Rita Seidel and crew, painting; Herbert Ongstad, wood molding and base boards. Curtain material given by Muriel Boyum, sewn by Kathy Alvshere and installed by the Manfred Homemaker’s Club. Pole jacks installed in basement. Part of south garage painted by Verna Bowers and Reiner Widiger.

*The Beiseker Bank/Manfred Post Office renovated to serve as a historic photo gallery. Painted by Pam and Lloyd Norstedt, Wanda Melchert, Crystal Roller, Ashley Weigelt, Rita Seidel and crew. Preparing the photos were Dianne Aull, Muriel Boyum, Lyle Schulz, Audrey Solheim, Maridel Sprenger, Louise Wachter.

*July 25: The Manfred Heritage Museum dedicated with three buildings: Melby-Rogness House, Bank/Post Office, and Vang Church. Laverne Johnson composed and sang a song especially for the dedication. About 230 people attended.



Ribbon cutting for the new Manfred Heritage Museum



Laverne Johnson performing



Outdoor held outdoors on a lovely day