

Archive
Accession
Collections

The Archive of the Manfred Heritage Museum

Definitions

A place in which public records and historical documents are preserved To acquire items, especially for a permanent collection The various holdings of a museum, organized by category

Some of the Archive's Contents

Biographies

School Year Books

Photos and Slides

Church Records

Student Papers and Booklets

Valentines

Manfred Township Records

Sons of Norway Records

Records for Manfred Homemaker's Club

Graduation Bulletin

Bank Checks

Business Records

Postcards

Business Ads

Digital Data

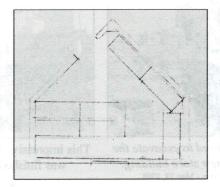
Cemetery Records

The Beginnings of the Manfred Heritage Museum's Archive

When the Manfred Heritage Museum was established in 2003, the need for an archive was recognized. Through a grant awarded by the State Historical Society of North Dakota in 2004, archival materials and artifact items were accessioned into the museum collections by Danielle Stuckle, a graduate student in public history at NDSU. Despite space limitations of only three finished rooms and no running water in the Melby-Rogness House, the museum's headquarters, Danielle set up the collections for this infant museum. The Collections data is recorded both on paper and in a digital format.

In the spring of 2007, restoration of the interior of the Melby-Rogness House was completed. Orren Anderson, who grew up near Manfred, designed the shelving arrangement for the archive, and his brother Peter Anderson assisted him with the installation. The shelves came from Mary's Hardware of Mandan when it closed in 2006.

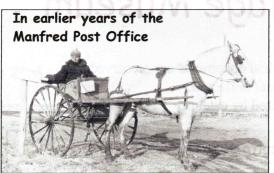




Orren Anderson standing at right, installed shelving for the archive, assisted by his brother Pete at left. The floor plan sketch, above right, shows placement of shelves in this unusual "house" shaped room. Acid-free boxes contain the archival materials, such as records and documents in boxes shown at right, and photos and slides shown in boxes at top left. The archive also serves as a temporary location for artifacts such as chairs used in the Sons of Norway hall and Manfred Township's historic ballot boxes.

The large volume of information and images from the archive enable many interesting stories of Manfred. The Manfred Heritage Museum archive is available for research and enjoyment by the public. Welcome!

Mail Postmarked Through the Manfred Post Office



Mail carrier Taale Braaten in about 1918 delivering the mail using horse power



1cent Postcard to: Mrs. Ole Nystuen from Anne Postmarked January 7, 1916 Manfred, N. Dak.



Translation of postcard from Norwegian into English: Manfred, December 30 - Thank you so much for the money gift you sent me. This evening we will take in the Valdres Stevne in Manfred. We have obtained a little snow, but not enough to use our sleigh to easily tour during this Christmas. Here it is calm and good. Anne

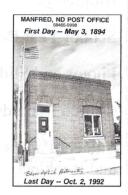
The last day of the Manfred Post Office



29 cents on this letter, postmarked on the final day

October 2, 1992 was the last day the Manfred Post Office was in operation. Postmaster Edgar A. Flick sent a letter to the postal patrons regarding the closing and also gave out commemorative postcards as shown at right.





The new C. C. Melby Department Store

Story told through the gathering of early news entries and images



C. C. Melby has started to excavate the basement for his new store building. Wells County Free Press - May 29, 1908



This impressive structure under construction was finished by November of 1908

Thanksgiving Sales

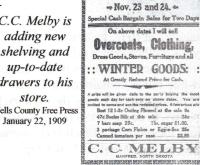


C. C. Melby extended the glad hand to all his friends Saturday evening in the form of a social at his new hall. A large number were present and C.C. sustained his reputation of a royal entertainer and all had a grand time. Free Press - November 29, 1908

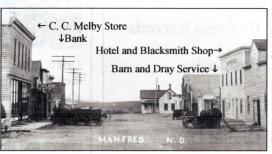


Behind the counter from left: C. C. Melby, Minnie Goedecke, and Martin K. Melby

C.C. Melby is adding new shelving and up-to-date drawers to his store. Wells County Free Press



C. C. Melby Store ad



Cement side walks have invaded the business streets of Manfred. The start has been made in front of C. C. Melby's department store. Wells County Free Press - June 4, 1909