

# THE ART OF ARTIFACTS

## Definitions from Webster's Dictionary

**ART** *Definitions 1a and 1b*

- (a) skill in performance acquired by experience, study, or observation
- (b) human ingenuity in adapting natural things to mankind's use

**ARTIFACT** *Definition 1 (the "skill of art" + factum/factotum - meaning "to do")*

A usually simple object showing human workmanship or modification

Reflecting on the definitions of the words “**art**” and “**artifact**” helps us realize that artifacts are indeed works of art fashioned by earlier generations - their daily lives filled with making, creating, and doing! Manfred's marvelous story is told with the help of the settlers' artifacts including: **1** buildings the settlers constructed, **2** historic items inside some of the buildings, and **3** the start of an outdoor historic farm equipment exhibit.

## Artifacts and Archival Materials:

### **1 Buildings built by the settlers**

Manfred has the great honor to serve as the setting for a variety of historic buildings built by the settlers including both private dwellings and public buildings such as a church, school, and commercial buildings.

### **2 Historic items displayed indoors**

Currently, three buildings of the Manfred Heritage Museum contain exhibits: [1] the Melby-Rogness House, decorated as a home, features an overview of Manfred's History and of Home and Family Life and also is the location of the Archives, [2] the south garage on the Melby-House property features a Farm Exhibit, [3] and Vang Lutheran Church features Church Life. Join in the following photo tour of some of the “**artifacts**” on exhibit in Manfred:

#### [1] Melby Rogness House



## Historic items indoors (cont.)

### [1] (cont.) The Archives in the upstairs of the Melby-Rogness House



The archive room contains historic records, documents, and many photos and slides, also is serving as temporary storage for artifacts such as Manfred Township's historic ballot boxes.



### [2] Farm Exhibit in the Melby-Rogness Garage

The indoor farm exhibit contains various smaller items used on the farm, and also panels on topics such as the threshing rig, cook car, and the coming of engine power.



### [3] Exhibits in Vang Church



Exhibit in the Vang Church pastor's study

## 3 Historic items displayed outdoors

Farm equipment used by the early settlers is on display across the street from the Melby-Rogness House. This exhibit is in the process of development with plans for it to follow the farming season beginning from preparing the soil in the spring through to harvesting in the fall.

