
MANFRED HISTORY AND PRESERVATION

P.O. Box 321 Harvey, North Dakota 58341

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Greetings from Manfred!

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This town was platted on Section 28, township 149 North, range 71 West, on land first patented from United States by Jesse E. Fincher and Christ O. Roble.

In pioneer days the site of Manfred was called the Jim River crossing of the Mouse River Trail.

On May 3, 1894, the post office of Manfred was established with T. K. Rogne, postmaster. Later postmasters were I. L. Berge, S. N. Wilborg, Axel LeGrand, George Gilbertson, Gertrude LeGrand and Ole Ranum.

Rogne and Burkum established the first store there in 1894.

Other early Manfred business firms were:

Benson & Wilborg
Rognlie & Sorenson
I. L. Berg
John Nelson

G. R. Nordtorp, as agent for the Smith & Rogers Lumber Company, founded the first business house in Manfred in 1893.

He later erected his home, the stone house which is a familiar landmark.

The Royal Elevator with Erick Gartland, Buyer, was the first and only elevator for many years.

O. Tansem was the village blacksmith.

Manfred State Bank, with S. H. Ongstad and R. C. Adams, early cashiers.

Miss Sadie E. Hutchinson taught the first term of school in Manfred in 1897.

The Manfred town site has LeGrand's addition.

Manfred is named after the gloomy, solitary hero of Lord Byron's tragedy of that name.

Manfred and vicinity is largely Scandinavian and their leading lodge is Sons of Norway.

Source: Wells County History

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