

Restoration – Hotel Johnson, Manfred Hotel



Hotel Johnson

Nennie Johnson built the Hotel Johnson in 1906, the same year the church was built. It had a barber's chair in it, as Nennie was a barber.

The hotel was noted for its excellent meals and was a well-known place to eat for passengers traveling on the Soo Line Railroad.



Manfred Hotel

In 1908 the Knut Gilbertsons bought the Hotel Johnson and renamed it the Manfred Hotel. In 1922 Christ Anhorn owned the hotel, and in 1924 he established a lunch counter in connection with his pool hall. In 1930 Christ Anhorn sold the property to Josephine Biever Breyer. Following the death of the first Mrs. Breyer, the property was transferred to Anton Breyer. Anton and his second wife Josephine (Janish) Breyer ran the hotel, and after Anton passed away, Josephine continued to live in the hotel and raise her young children.



Sons of Norway Hall

In 1953 Josephine Breyer sold the hotel to the local Sons of Norway lodge, as their building was destroyed by fire. The lodge owned the property until 1988 when Harry Detling purchased the property.



Restoration begun

The property was then purchased by the Melby Heritage Society in 2003 and will be made a part of the Manfred Heritage Museum complex as time and fund permit. The building has a new roof, has internal supports added and has been painted. A boardwalk in front similar to the original board walk has also been added.