

North Dakota School for the Deaf 1890-2015

The Banner **Special Edition**



A Look Back in Time
Celebrating 125 Years!

North Dakota School for the Deaf

Celebrating 125 Years

1890-2015

This Special Edition of the **Banner** has been compiled to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the North Dakota School for the Deaf. Its pages are filled with photos and notes taken from old issues of the **Banner** dating as far back as 1891. These **Banners** are a link to the school's past. They are a legacy that gives us a historical glimpse into the early education of deaf children in North Dakota and allows us to learn about the lives of those who lived, worked and learned at the school so many years ago.

This commemorative edition of the **Banner** is dedicated to all those, living and deceased, who helped 'write the history' of the North Dakota School for the Deaf. Thank you for sharing your stories.

The school's names throughout the past 125 years:

1. The Deaf and Dumb Asylum of North Dakota
2. The Deaf and Dumb School of North Dakota
3. The School for the Deaf of North Dakota
4. The North Dakota School for the Deaf
5. The North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (current)

Compiled by Lilia Bakken, Communications Coordinator,
North Dakota School for the Deaf

Note: An entire set of **The North Dakota Banner** (from 1891 to present) is housed in the library at the North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing.

The Journey Begins



Anson Spear, 29-years-old, was a graduate of the Minnesota School for the Deaf

North Dakota was admitted into the Union in 1889. Anson Spear, a young deaf man from Minnesota, had long taken a keen interest in the deaf of Dakota Territory and felt it was his province to start a school for the deaf in the newly established state. He came to Devils Lake and met with local leaders to impress upon them the importance of establishing a school in North Dakota. He worked diligently with city fathers and local legislators to write the bill and obtain its passage.

On March 15, 1890, the bill to establish the school for the deaf passed both houses only to be vetoed by Governor John Miller. The bill seemed lost but the originators of the bill did not give up. After a hard fight, the bill again passed the senate and on the last day of the legislative session, March 18, 1890, the bill passed in the house and became a law. The bill carried an appropriation of \$5,000 for the maintenance of the school for one year.

Spear assumed his duties as the first superintendent on August 1, 1890. He was thought to be the youngest superintendent of a state school in the country.

The first school building was located in the city of Devils Lake on the corner of 3rd Avenue and 5th Street.

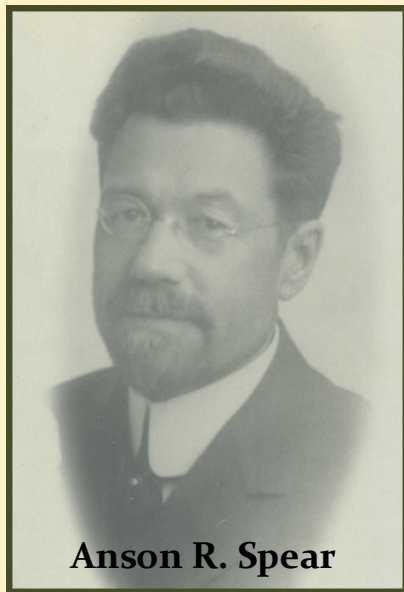


In 1890, the first year, 23 students enrolled in **NDSD**.

Historical note: The city leaders provided Spear with a vacant building (a former bank) to use until a new school could be built. The old building was provided rent free for two years. In a **Banner** article, 1906, one of the students wrote: “Our first school building from 1890 to 1893 had two bedrooms for the girls, two bedrooms for the boys, one room for the teachers, two rooms for the Superintendent and his family, one large schoolroom, the Superintendent’s office, dining room, kitchen, printing office, one bedroom for the servants and two bathrooms”.

Spear believed that the school’s location exposed pupils to ‘bad influences from the outside’ and that the building was too small for the purpose it was to serve. In addition, Spear considered it a fire hazard.

The building was eventually burned down on February 12, 1899.



Anson R. Spear

1890-1895

Historical note taken from Superintendent Spear's first report to Governor Miller, October 31, 1890: The School has been in operation about two months. I have classified the pupils and assigned them such studies as I deem them fitted to grapple. The great end to be attained in the education of the deaf, and to which all studies should be made to contribute, is a mastery of the English language. This is the problem that has occupied minds of the ablest educators of the deaf for more than half a century and which today indeed is far from solution.

December 5, 1891: In a letter to parents, Spear wrote: "Dear Parents, it gives me pleasure to be able to write that your children are well. Since the opening of school in September, not one of the children has known a day of illness. Each face glows with health and happiness".

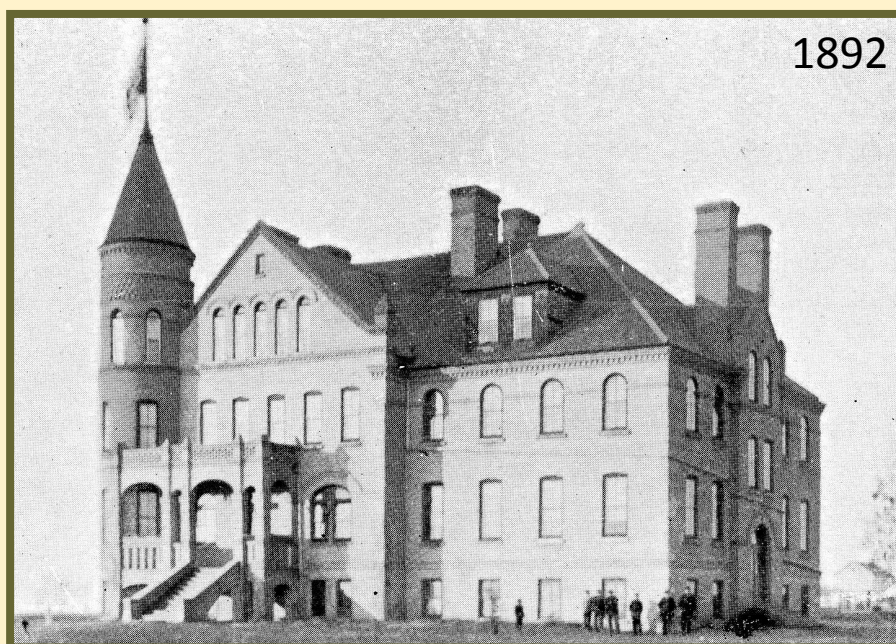
Historical **Banner** note, October, 1892: There is no playground that adjoins the school building so the little ones frequent a vacant lot and play see-saw, hide and seek and various other games, while the lovers of machinery find pleasure in playing among the old thrashing machines dumped there.

Historical note: Spear wrote an article regarding the establishment of the School for the Deaf in North Dakota. In it he wrote, "No one, especially no deaf man, can reflect upon this great sentiment towards education of the deaf without profound gratitude and respect for those noble-hearted men who labored so earnestly to bring about the establishment of a school for deaf children in this state".

Historical note: Spear was an inventor. He designed and patented:

- 1) Spear Safety Envelope – July 29, 1890
- 2) Spear Golf Ball – November 4, 1902

Historical note: The first student to enroll at the school (in 1890) was Mabel Alice Newton. She was ten years old and from Mapelton, ND. Mabel lost her hearing at six months old due to whooping cough. According to NDSD records, when she entered school at age ten the only intelligible word she was able to speak was 'papa'. In June of 1900, Mabel's family moved out of state so she did not complete her education at the North Dakota school.



Upon its establishment in 1890, the school was called the Deaf and Dumb Asylum of North Dakota. The new school building was referred to as 'Main' and in later years, after a new school was built in 1911, it was known as 'Old Main'.

Historical note: Spear's wife, Julia, who was also deaf, was named Matron of the school. She took care of the students' day-to-day needs including cooking, laundry and housekeeping. She was 28 years old. Spear and his wife were the sole teachers until April 1, 1891, when Julia's sister, Clara M. Halvorson, was hired. She was a hearing teacher of articulation and lip-reading.

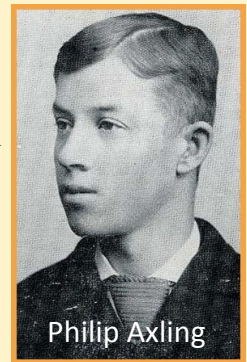
The North Dakota Banner

In 1891 Spear requested permission to procure a second teacher at the school. He needed a teacher to instruct pupils in the trade of printing. Spear had heard of Philip Axling, a young deaf man who worked as a foreman for the *Mandan Daily Pioneer* newspaper. Through letter correspondence, Spear convinced Philip to come to the school to teach printing. Philip was 28 years old. Spear obtained a small foot-powered printing press and together, Spear and Axling established the school's weekly newspaper called the **North Dakota Banner**. Volume 1, Issue 1 of the **Banner** was printed in December, 1891. A copy of the original **Banner** is retained in the archives at the ND School for the Deaf.

Historical note from the **North Dakota Banner**, May 5, 1906;

Published every other Saturday during the school term at the School for the Deaf at Devils Lake, with the following objectives in view:

1. To teach pupils the trade of printing.
2. To teach language to the pupils in connection with the printer's trade.
3. To keep parents or guardians of pupils posted to the doings of their children at school.
4. To share news with its readership including all the other state schools for the deaf in the United States.
5. To infuse in students the love of reading.



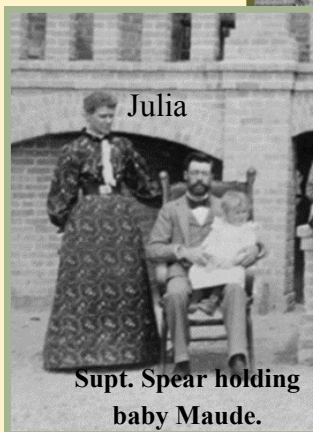
Historical note: All schools for the deaf in the United States shared news with each other by exchanging school newspapers. This created a social network that the deaf community referred to as their *Little Paper Family* or *L.P.F.* Participating in the educational news network kept everyone informed and facilitated the exchange of ideas. Over the years, the *Little Paper Family* played an important role in the vocational training and education of deaf people in America.

1893

Spear

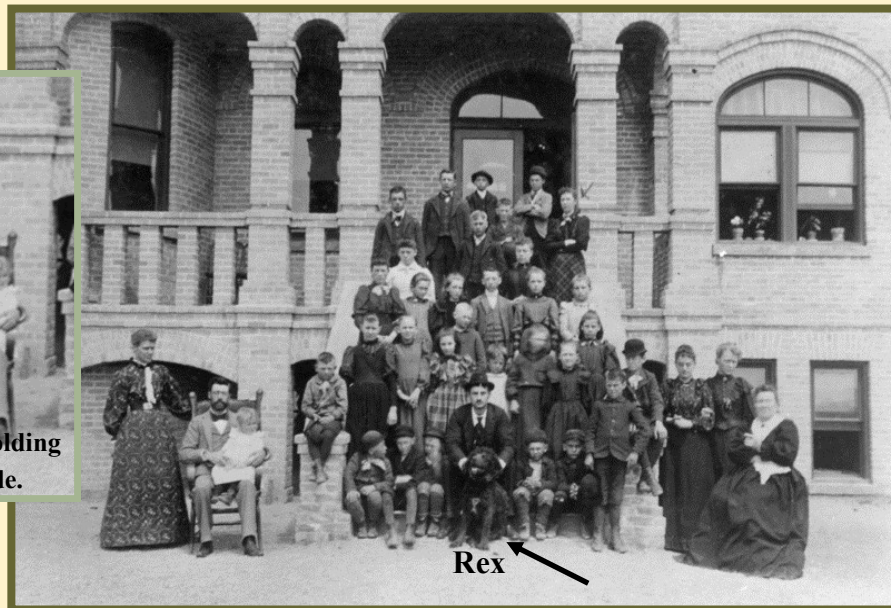


Spear pictured in front of the new school he worked so hard to establish. The school opened its doors in September, 1893.



Julia

Supt. Spear holding
baby Maude.



Rex

Historical **Banner** note -1893: Rex, the school dog, chased away gophers, tramp cats and stray dogs. The children loved Rex. One day Rex accidentally ate poison and died. The children were heart-broken.

Not long after the new school opened, more room was needed so additional wings were built onto the school—one was added in 1903 and another added in 1907.



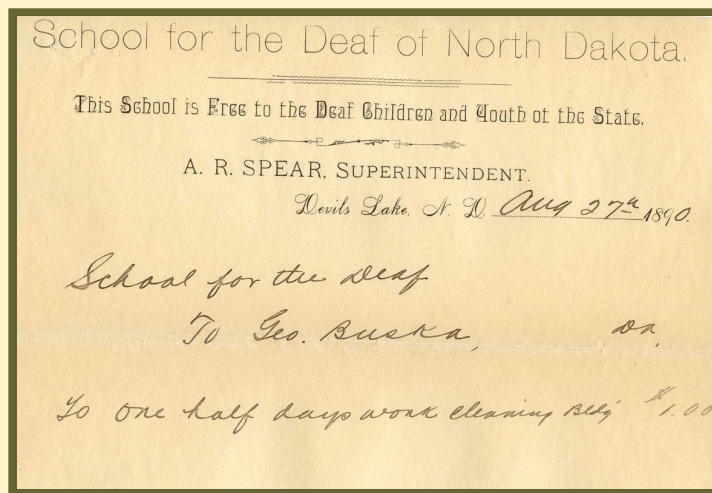
Superintendent Spear protested against the school being called the *Deaf and Dumb Asylum*. During the 1893 Legislative Assembly, Spear requested that the word ‘asylum’ be replaced with the word ‘school’ thus the legal name of the school changed from *Deaf and Dumb Asylum* to *School for the Deaf and Dumb of North Dakota*. He stated, “School for the Deaf is in every way preferable.”

Historical **Banner** note written by one of the pupils, February, 1893: Last night Mabel Newton had a glass of milk on a chair by the side of her bed. She drank up all the milk. In a short time a little mouse jumped upon the chair and climbed into the glass. The girls jumped upon the bed and laughed. Our school dog, Rex, heard the noise and ran into the girls’ room, wagging his tail.

August 27, 1890

A scanned copy of an original receipt for very first payment (\$1.00) paid to George Buska for one-half day of work – cleaning the school building.

Historical note: many of the original financial receipts from the early years of NDSD have been retained in the archives at NDSD.



Devils Lake, Dak. Nov 1st 1890

Mr Deaf & Lumber School

BOUGHT BY F. W. COCKBURN,

Kelly Avenue, between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

DEALER IN—

CASH PAID FOR

HIDES and FELTS.

ALL KINDS OF FRESH AND SALT MEATS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Devils Lake Fish
A SPECIALTY.

Oct	3	20	6 th 60	2 nd 10	25	55
"	"	"	10 th C	Ref	50	50
"	4	"	6 th 60	Ref	60	60
"	5	"	5 th	Ref	50	50
"	7	"	7 th 70	2 nd 20	90	90
"	8	"	4 th 40	1 st 15	55	55
"	10	"	Sup	20	20	20
"	"	"	8 th 80	Sup	35	35
"	11	"	Ch	25	20	20
"	13	"	3 rd 30	Eng	55	55
"	14	"	12 th 120	Ref	120	120
"	15	"	9 th	Wh	90	90
"	16	"	Sup	20	20	20
"	18	"	10 th C	Ref	50	50
"	19	"	2 nd 20	Ref	20	20
"	20	"	2 nd 20	1 st 15	35	35
"	21	"	7 th 70	3 rd 30	100	100
"	22	"	4 th 40	Wh	45	45
"	23	"	Sup	20	20	20
"	24	"	4 th 40	Ref	40	40
"	26	"	Com	60	60	60
"	27	"	4 th 40	Ref	40	40
"	28	"	7 th 70	Ref	70	70
"	29	"	2 nd 20	Ref	20	20
"	30	"	4 th 40	Ref	40	40
"	31	"	3 rd 30	1 st 15	80	80
"	31	"	3 rd 30	1 st 15	55	55

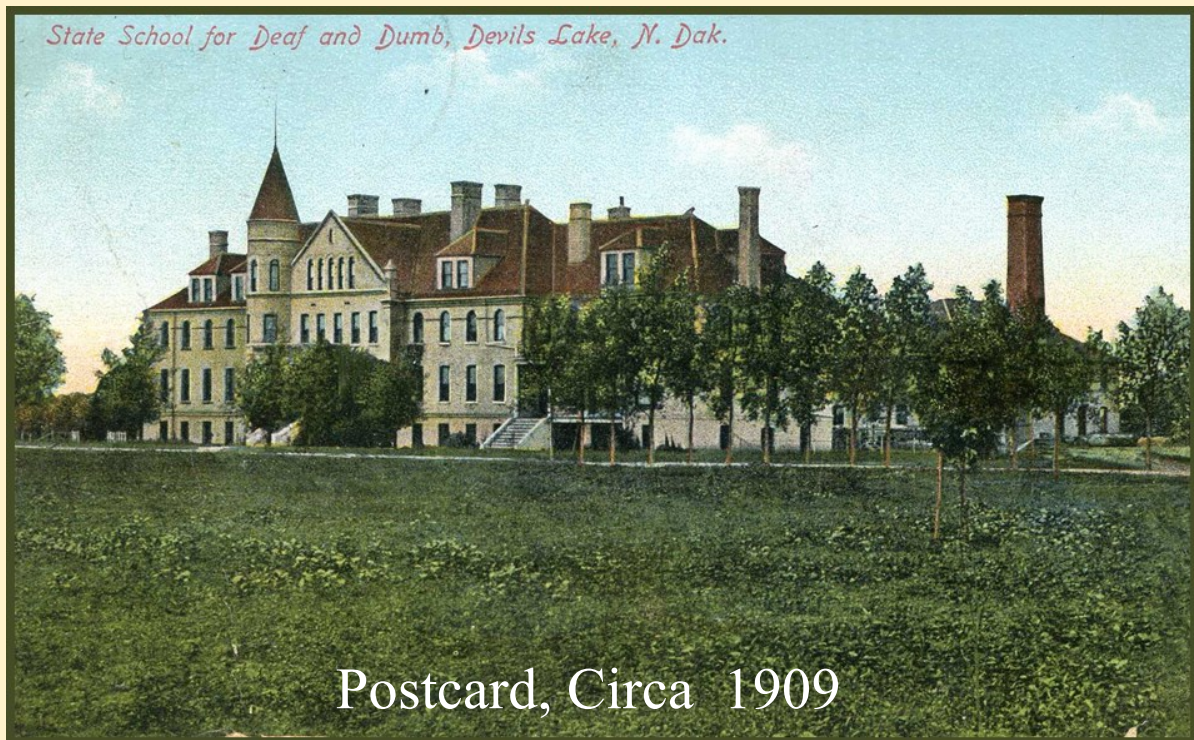
November 1st, 1890

Meat Purchase

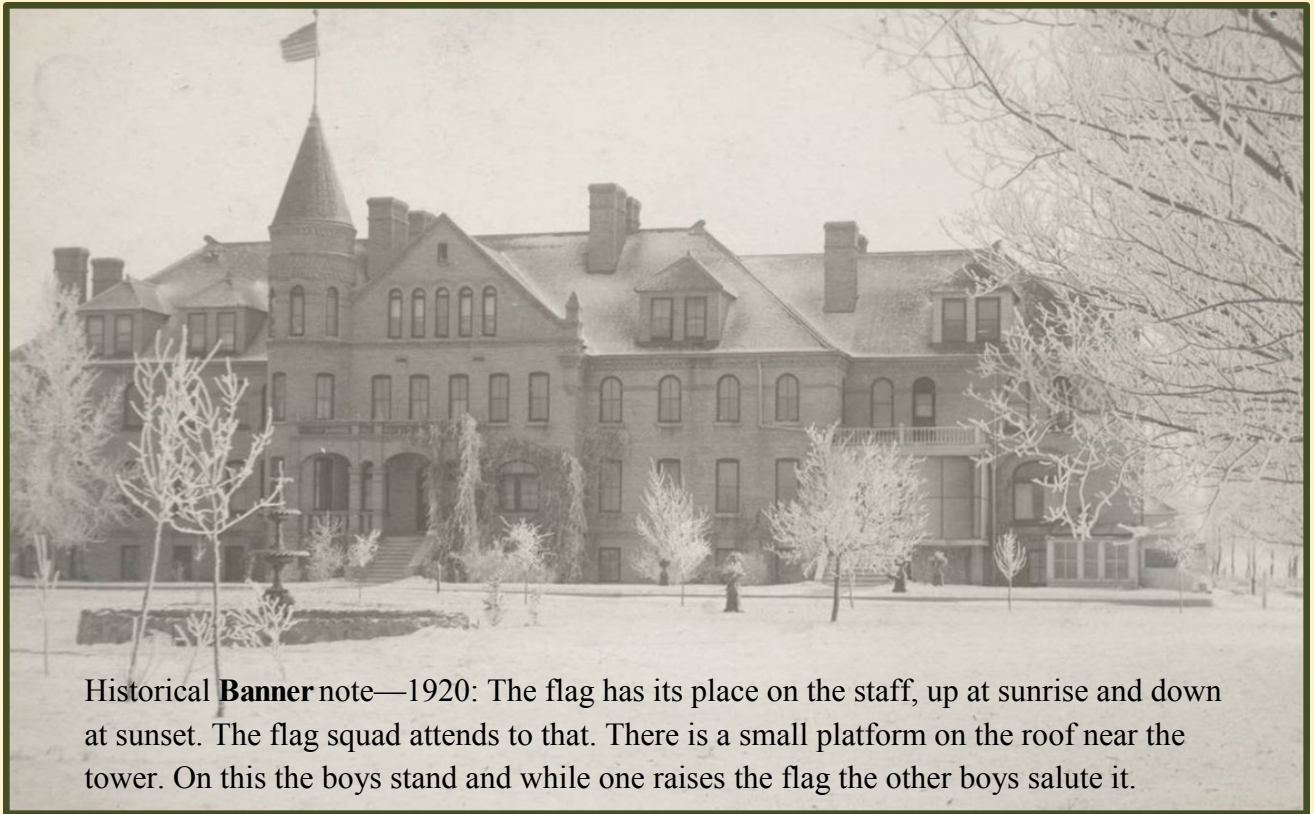
(an original receipt scanned from
NDSD archives)

Note: Devils Lake Fish a Specialty

Early Postcards



Postcard, Circa 1909



Historical **Banner** note—1920: The flag has its place on the staff, up at sunrise and down at sunset. The flag squad attends to that. There is a small platform on the roof near the tower. On this the boys stand and while one raises the flag the other boys salute it.

Historical **Banner** note, February 4, 1905—Superintendent Bangs wrote: “North Dakota has no nobler monument on her broad prairies than this building and what it stands for.”



Iron Fence



Historical note: In the spring of 1904, a metal fence was erected to border the campus of NDSD. It was dismantled in recent years because it was considered a hazard to students. Small sections of it can still be seen in the yard of the Superintendent's house on campus.



Girls' Gym Class



Banner—May 28, 1903

Historical **Banner** note, 1894: John Clarke had been in school but a few days when letter day rolled around. For his letter home John wrote the letters of the alphabet, a half dozen or so words he had learned and one sentence that he had copied. Here is the reply John's letter brought from his father: "My Dear, Dear Son, How thankful I am that a kind Providence has provided you the means to make known your thoughts. This letter of yours, being the first, I will cherish and keep always. Be good and industrious and Santa Claus will not forget you". Horace J. Clarke

Historical note: John Louis Clarke, a deaf Blackfoot Indian student attended the North Dakota School for the Deaf from November 20, 1894 to June 1897 (see historical note above). In 1898, he began attending the Montana School for the Deaf. As an adult, John became famous for his wood carvings of wild animals and Native Americans. He is considered to be one of the best portrayers of Western wildlife in the world. Many of his art pieces are displayed in museums around the United States including the *Smithsonian Museum* in Washington, D.C. Some of his artwork may be viewed at the *John C. Clarke Western Art Gallery* in East Glacier Park, Montana.

"Cutapuis"

(Blackfeet Meaning)
"The-Man-Who-Talks-Not"

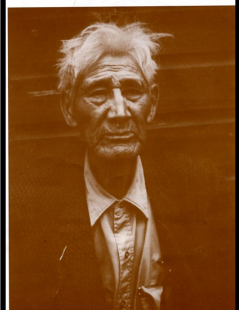
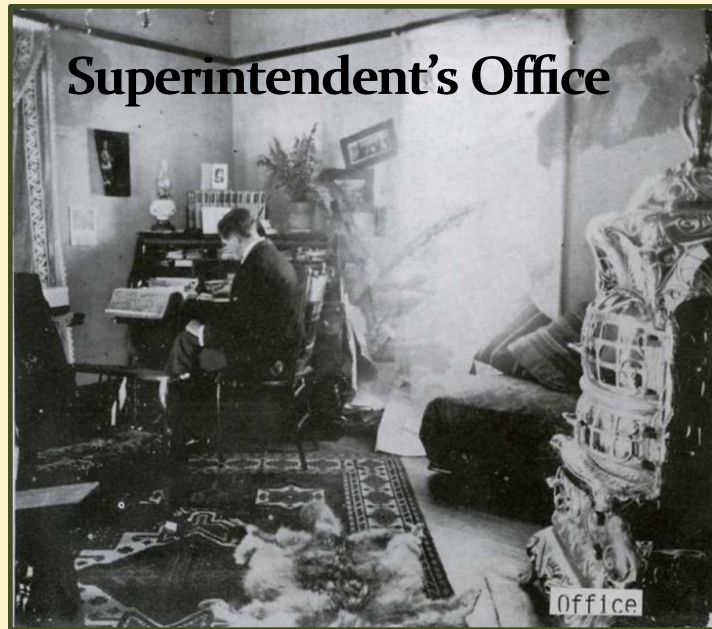


Photo by Joyce Clarke Turvey

**THE JOHN L. CLARKE
WESTERN
ART GALLERY
and
MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

Joyce Clarke Turvey, Owner, Manager
P.O. Box 141 • 900 Highway 49
East Glacier Park, Montana 59434
(406) 225-9238

Board of Trustees



Historical **Banner** note-1892: The old school is infested with mice. One night the mice held a meeting in Superintendent Spear's office. They raided his desk and nibbled on bills, papers and postage stamps. The sticky stuff on the stamps was so good that the mice stored them away. After a search, the stamps were found hidden inside a crevice. The Superintendent was overjoyed to find his stamps again.



Historical note: For the first twenty-one years, the affairs of the school were overseen by a Board of Trustees. Pictured above are members of the 1910 Board of Trustees: E.B. Page, President, from Leeds. L.A. Larson, Secretary, from Turnbridge. T.J. Dougherty, Treasurer, from Starkweather.

Transportation

The first vehicle at NDSD was owned
by Superintendent Bangs



Superintendent Bangs

Historical **Banner** note 1910: Superintendent Bangs has purchased a new auto. It is a 40-horse Velie and can go 60 miles an hour. Those who have ridden in it are perfectly willing to believe it.

Note: Students and staff often referred to his vehicle as the “Bangs-mobile”.

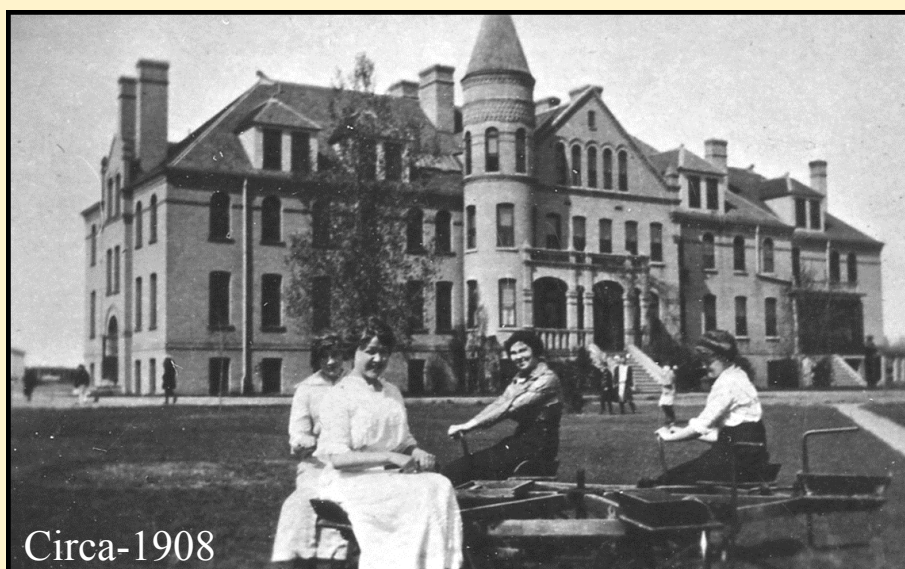
Historical **Banner** note, February, 1905: Washington’s birthday was celebrated in such a way that the children will look back on it with pleasure. The day was ideal for sleighing so in the afternoon, Mr. Bangs gave all the children a long bobsled ride. The older children rode in a large bobsled drawn by four horses and the younger children in a smaller bobsled belonging to the school. In the evening they had a masquerade party which was a great success. The children played games and danced. Refreshments consisting of ice cream, cake, nuts and candy were served.

Campus life in the early 1900's



Historical **Banner** note, May, 1906: Wendall Hayley is one of the happiest boys in school because he is the owner of a fine black pony and buggy. He goes home every Friday afternoon and comes back to school Sunday evening driving his pony and buggy.

Historical **Banner** note, November, 1905: The boys play “Fox and Goose” every night after supper. They enjoy the game very much.



Historical **Banner** note, September, 1894: On the threshold of a new school year we pause and calmly reaffirm our abiding faith in the language of signs, sign methods and sign schools for the deaf.

Classrooms—1905



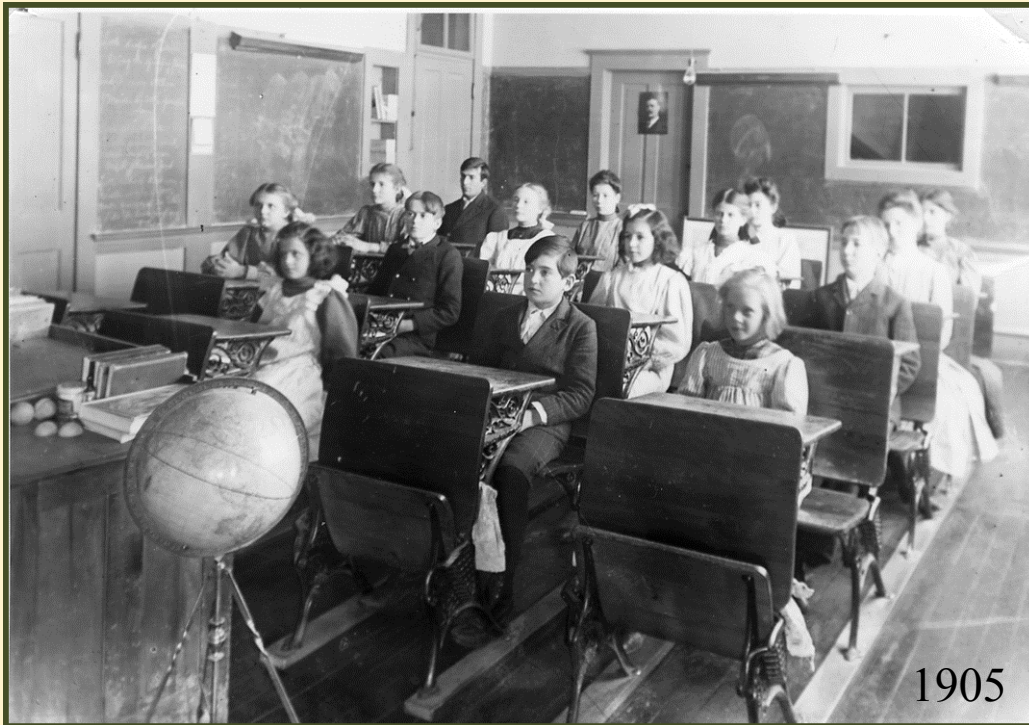
Historical **Banner** note, October, 1904: Pupils were elated about the electric printing press that was installed. No more panting, no more sweat, no more wasted energy, no more tired nerves! We just press the button and the press does the rest. The new press brings an end to the hard work required to print school newspapers with the old manually-powered printing press.



PRINTING OFFICE.

1911

Elementary Students



Historical note from the **Banner**, 1905: There is but one system of educating deaf that gives greatest good for all, namely the *Combined System*. It comprises the various methods known as sign, manual, oral and aural methods. The particular method employed with a given class depends upon the nature of the pupils. No one method is picked out and made duty for all. That would be like putting a round peg into a square hole. The *Combined System* is used in this School and it is our endeavor to discriminate and apply each method where it will do the most good.

Early Classrooms



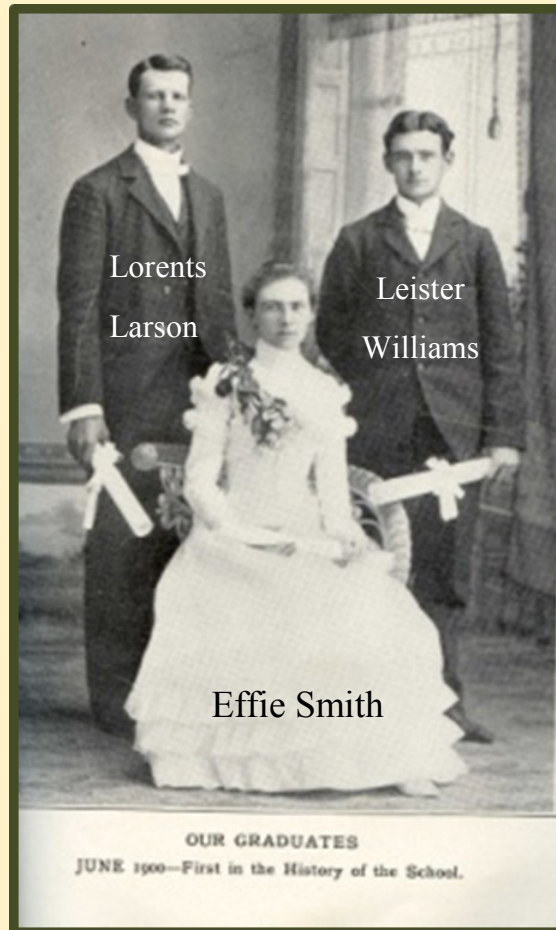
Historical **Banner** note, December, 1905: Valerie Tribes is very fond of writing letters. Whenever she is not doing anything she always gets a pencil and paper and begins on a letter.



Historical **Banner** note, 1892: The smallest pupils are adept in reading and speaking by means of fingers. They write their exercises on the blackboard with a precision that could not be equaled by pupils of similar experience in our common schools. The intent look of the children as they watch all the movements of the teacher's fingers shows the whole mind concentrated upon the subject.

First Graduating class, June-1900

Historical **Banner** note, October, 1894: Lorents Larson, while operating the printing press, had two of his fingers badly smashed.

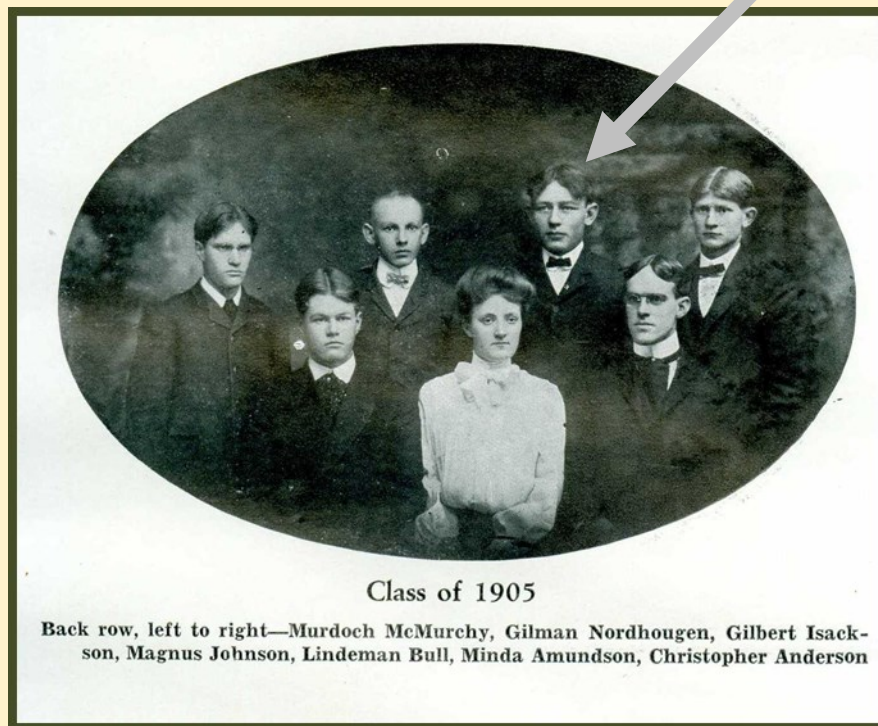


Historical **Banner** note, December, 1894: Leister Williams lost one of his skates last Saturday on his return from the pond. He said it dropped from his strap somewhere in town. Too bad he could not hear it drop.

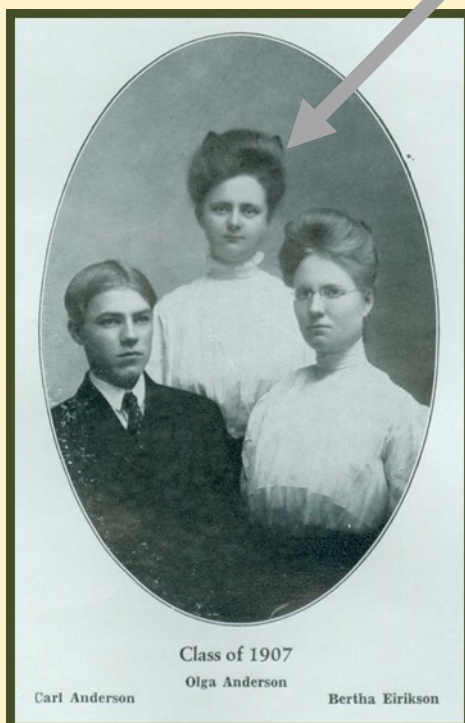
Historical **Banner** note regarding Lorents Larson, November, 1892: Mr. Taylor (printing teacher and **Banner** editor) has been laid up for four weeks. He continues to recover from typhomalarial fever. Our pupil, Lorents Larson, has been the head man in the printing office during Mr. Taylor's absence.

Historical **Banner** note written by pupil, Mabel Newton, February, 1894: Effie Smith, Annie Gorseth and I sewed some aprons for the little girls.

Historical note from **Banner**, April 1921: After graduating from NDSD, Effie married Louis Ringuette. Louis worked at NDSD for more than 20 years as the school's engineer. In 1920, the Ringuettes moved to Grant's Pass, Oregon, where they bought and operate a grocery store and soda fountain.

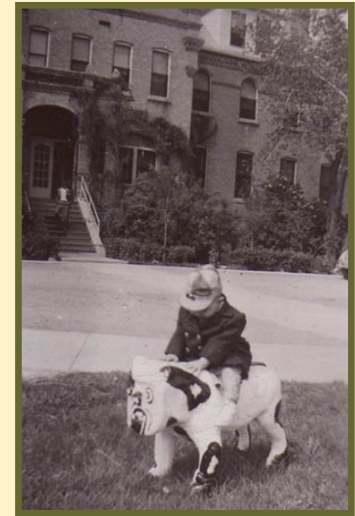


Gilbert Isackson, class of '05, was the first male graduate of NDSD to graduate from Gallaudet College.



Olga Anderson, class of '07, was the first female graduate of NDSD to graduate from Gallaudet College. After graduating in 1912, Olga returned to NDSD to work as a teacher. She taught for 47 years and is the longest tenure teacher at NDSD. She retired in 1960. Olga died on January 2, 1970.

1914—Boys' Basketball Begins

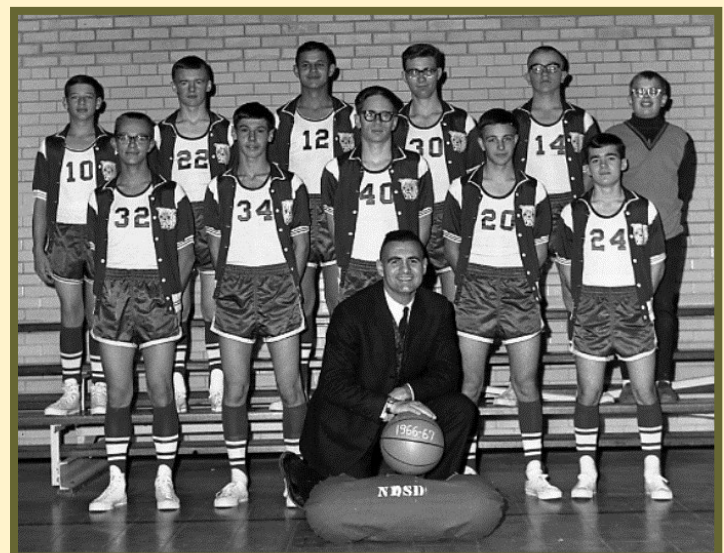


Bulldog near Old Main

Historical **Banner** note –Spring, 1914: NDSD played its first basketball game. It was against Devils Lake Central. The team's first out-of-town game was on January 15, 1915, against Churchs Ferry. The team's uniforms at that time were black and tan. In 1920, NDSD received new uniforms-white shirts with green lettering. The team name officially became the Bulldogs during the 1932-33 school year.

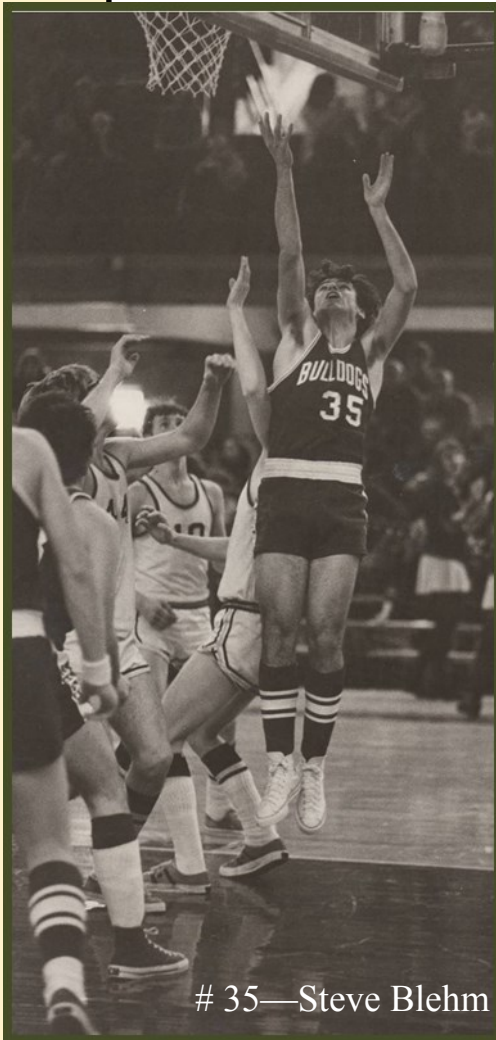
Historical note: In 1996, the gymnasium at NDSD was named *Brenner Gym* in honor of long time coach Henry Brenner. Henry coached various sports including basketball and football and was the Social Studies teacher (1956-1992).

Bulldogs
With Coach
Henry Brenner
1966-67



NDSD Basketball Star —Deaf Cager of the Year

Historical note: In 1972 Steve Blehm was named *Deaf Cager of the Year* by the **Deaf American**. In 1973 he was named *Athlete of the Year* by the *American Athletic Association of the Deaf* and

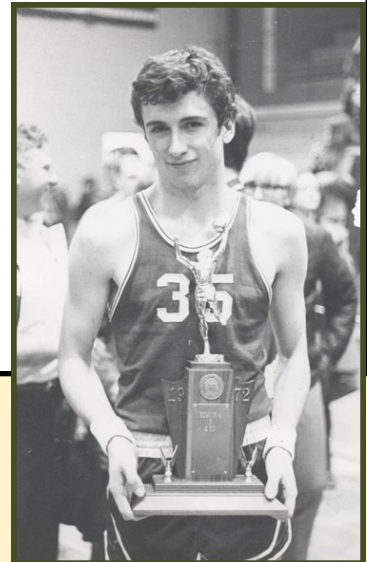


35—Steve Blehm

by the *National Fraternal Society of the Deaf*. Steve also won the Silver Cup

awarded by **Sports Illustrated** magazine.

He became the first player in the history of NDSD to have his jersey number retired.



**Retired Jersey #35
is displayed in
Heritage Hall at the
ND School for the Deaf**

Historical note: Steve Blehm continues to hold the North Dakota record for scoring the most points (by a single player) in one high school basketball game. He scored 85 points.

Historical note from *Prairie Public Television* – January, 2005: Steve was a phenomenal player. He scored 3,859 total points during his high school career. It is a state record that may never be broken.

Girls' Basketball

1955 GIRLS' BASKETBALL



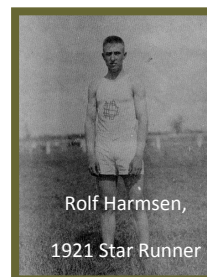
Front Row—Left to right—Bertha Ziegler, Shirley Doe, Carol Martin, Ann Durward, Karen Holte, Jean McLeod.

Back Row—Left to right—Leona Erdman, Marlene Jacobson, Joanne Deckert, Sharon Roth, Rita Letzring, Coach Miss Vivino.

Historical **Banner** note, 1927:
The NDSD girls' basketball team was formed.

Historical note: Girls' basketball was revived in the late 40's. Karen Whetter excelled on the basketball court in the 50's. She was the first female to be inducted into the *NDSD Athletic Hall of Fame* in 1982.

Historical **Banner** note, 1922:
At the North Dakota State Track Meet, Rolf Harmsen received a trophy for *Best All Around Athlete*. Mike Mueller broke the state record for the half-mile at the same track meet.



Rolf Harmsen,
1921 Star Runner



1986

Track

Historical **Banner** note, May, 1905: The sewing classes have made track pants for the boys who will take part in a meet today.

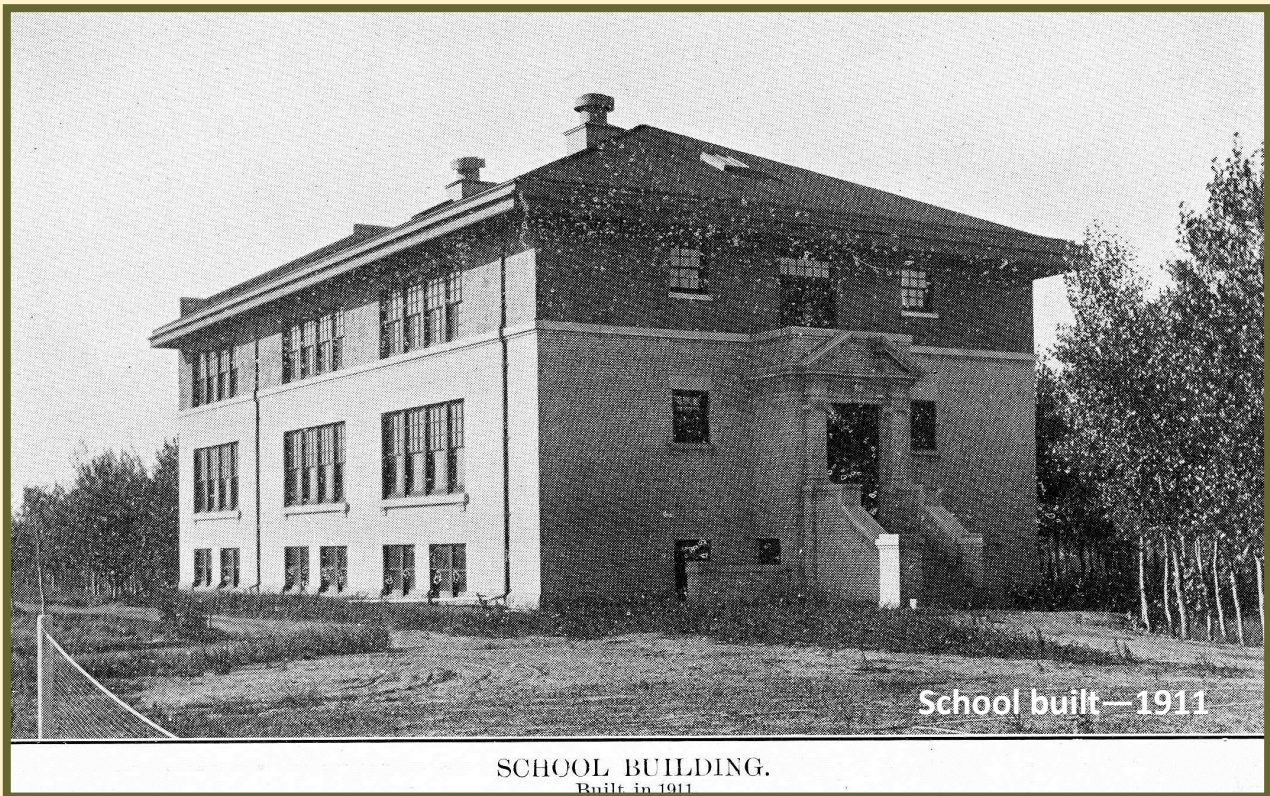


North Dakota School for the Deaf Track Team - 1921
Henry S. Morris, Coach, William Boettcher, Rudolph Ekstrom, Paul Jaeger, W.C. McClure, Supt.
Claude Mitchell, Rolf Harmsen, George Wetzstien, Mike Mueller

Historical note: In 1994 the track field on campus was named after long time coach L. Dwight Rafferty. Rafferty spent almost his entire life at NDSD—first as a student and then later as a printing teacher and coach. He was the editor of the **Banner** for 29 years. After 42 years of work at NDSD, he retired in 1986.

Historical note: In 2007, high school track super star Drexel Lawson (Class of '76) was inducted into the *North Dakota Track & Field Hall of Fame*. Drexel is considered to be one of the best high school trackmen ever to compete in the state of North Dakota.

School Building—1911



Historical **Banner** note, December 1920: The object of this School is to educate and equip for useful citizenship such children within the borders of the State, as well as those who are unable, by reason of defective hearing and speech, to be educated in the public schools. This is a school in the strictest sense of the word, not only in name and character of work, but is recognized by law as part of the free public school system of the State. The deaf, it has been well said, are not paupers but children of a sovereign tax-paying people asking for a free education--a right granted under our constitution to every child.

Historical note: Through the combined efforts of the North Dakota School for the Deaf and the North Dakota Association of the Deaf, the school building (pictured above) was named the *A. R. Spear School Building* in honor of Anson R. Spear, first superintendent at NDSD. Spear was the only superintendent in the history of the school who was deaf. The dedication took place on Graduation Day, May, 1992.

Students—1917



Historical **Banner** note, 1917: Our School employs specially trained teachers and officers for the children. The children receive not only head and heart training but hand training. The girls are taught sewing, ironing and housework; the boys receive instruction in cabinet work, carpentering, printing and gardening. This School has fitted many a young man and woman for the active duties of life.



Miss Jernigan, Teacher

Historical **Banner** note written by a pupil, June, 1921: When we went for a walk Jennie Reid chased a pig but she could not catch it. She had never chased a pig before in her life. We laughed and had lots of fun.

Pond in Spring



Historical **Banner** note, April, 1905: After the spring thaw, there are many large ponds near the school. One of these was large enough for row boats.

Historical **Banner** note, November, 1892: Bennett Olson, pupil, age 24 years, has been appointed night watchman and with lantern in hand, he makes his rounds every half hour.

Historical **Banner** note, February, 1893: Some of our boys have made a number of large bobsleds from old boards. An inquiry as to how they made them without the use of tools brought to light the fact that they labored patiently for weeks using only a jackknife.

Pond in Winter

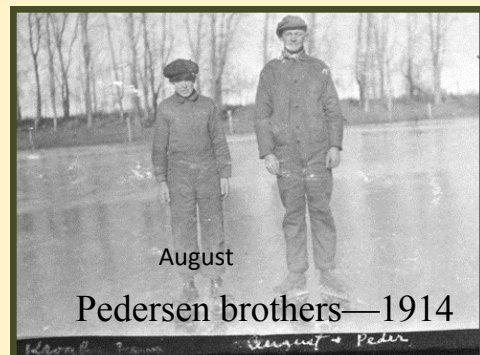


1914

Historical **Banner** note, December 24, 1904: The new skating rink just southeast of the main building is a very popular resort these days. A good many of the pupils of all ages can skate quite gracefully. The rink is patronized by both sexes almost every afternoon. Such sport is encouraged because it is known that the exercise reacts on the mental as well as the physical powers of the children. They are thus better equipped for the strenuous duties of school life.

Historical **Banner** note—1894: The boys can no longer enjoy the exhilarating sport of ice skating. During the thaw they disobeyed Superintendent Spear's order not to skate in the water on the ice. As a consequence their skates were all taken away. A good lesson for the boys.

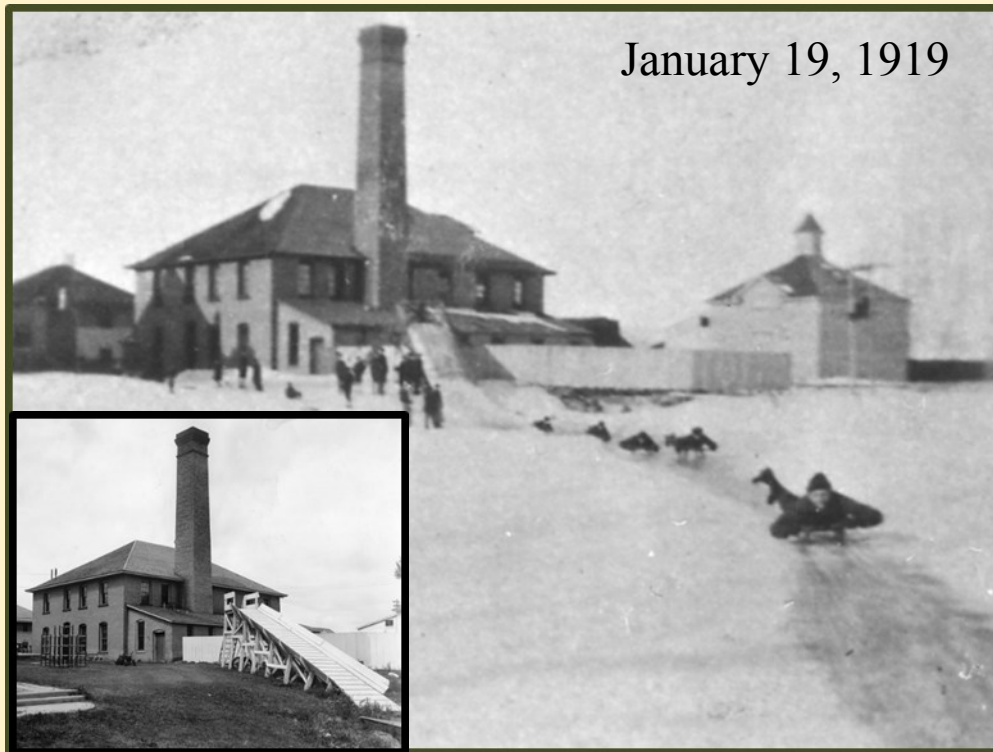
Historical **Banner** note, 1920:
August Pederson had the misfortune to sprain his left hand while skating on the pond. At first it was thought to be broken but he is coming out all right.



August

Pedersen brothers—1914

Toboggan Slide onto the Pond

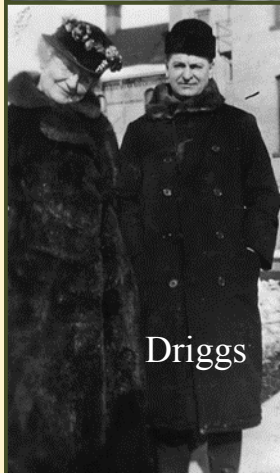


Historical note: In 1954, Art teacher, Gladys Burns, and Carpentry shop teacher, William Hartl created a beautiful Nativity Scene that graced the campus for many Christmas seasons.

Historical note from **Banner**, December, 1915: The older boys used scrap lumber to build a toboggan slide. The framework was ten feet high and seventeen feet long with a slant of about fifty feet.

The slide was a popular winter activity for many years.

Driggs Bridge



Driggs

Historical note: During the fall of 1934 the bridge was built over the pond. Burton Driggs was the superintendent at that time (1921-1937). The pond area was named Driggs' Pond in memory of Superintendent Driggs.



1953



Historical **Banner** note written about Superintendent Bangs upon his departure from NDSD —December 23, 1911: When Superintendent Bangs came to the North Dakota School, it had but one building, the school, and that was only partially completed. There was a very limited and uncertain income and an attendance of about thirty pupils. Lamps furnished light, stoves furnished heat and water was hauled from town in barrels. There were no trees to be seen around the school. It was as primitive a condition of life existing as was possible in an institution. Step by step the School has gone ahead. It increased from thirty to over eighty pupils. The uncompleted school building was completed and several other buildings were erected during Bangs' administration. Stoves gave way to steam heat, lamps gave way to electricity and the old barrels for hauling water were replaced with water piped in from the city. During Bangs' administration he, at all times, tried to bear in mind the best welfare of the deaf children and labored untiringly for all which would benefit the pupils and which would equip them to better fight the battle of life. Superintendent Bangs was beloved by the pupils he served.

Fishing for Bullheads



Historical note from **Banner**, December, 1945: The school received a permit to stock the school pond with bullheads and wild fowl (ducks, geese and swans). The bullheads were caught by students and were cleaned and cooked for supper.



Historical note: Food supplies at NDSD were supplemented with wild game meat given to the school by staff and friends of the school.

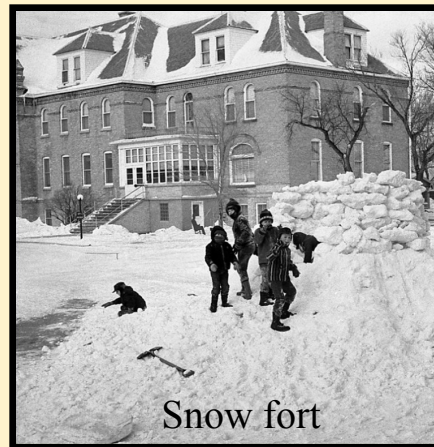
Leisure Time Activities



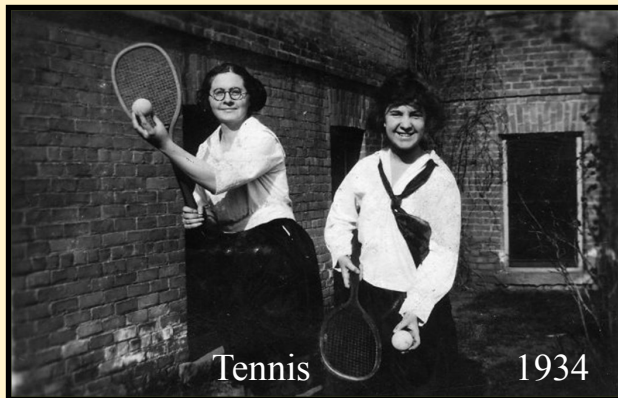
Roller Skates

Historical **Banner** note - January, 1921:
Students were thrilled when the school
purchased a “moving picture machine”.
The first movie that was shown was called
When the Circus Was in Town.

Historical **Banner** note, December, 1894: The
boys are building a snow fort and when done,
some will put in to defend it while others will
endeavor to capture it. This is good sport.



Snow fort



Tennis

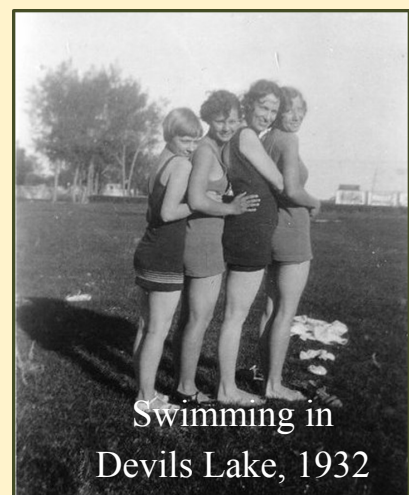
1934

Historical **Banner** note, 1894: A kite
flying craze has seized some of our boys.



1934

Wagon



Swimming in
Devils Lake, 1932

NDSD Spring *Lawn Fete*

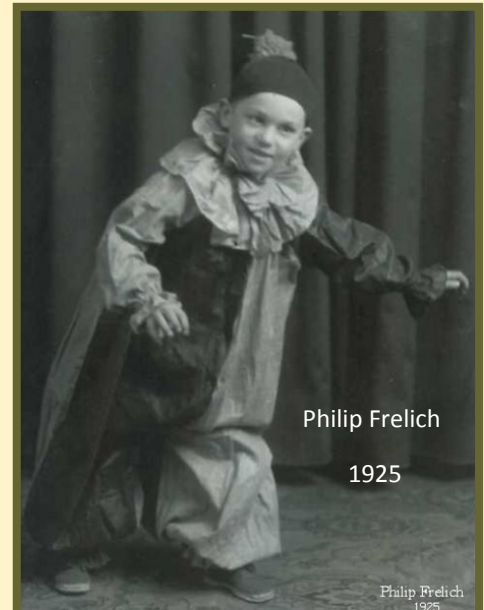


Historical note: Superintendent Read introduced the *Lawn Fete* in 1915. Pupils who participated in physical education and tumbling classes presented impressive drills and formations during the spring *Lawn Fete*. These elaborate lawn exhibitions were performed to overflowing crowds.

Historical **Banner** note, June, 1918: The third annual *Lawn Fete* had boys and girls stand in formation and sign the *Star Spangled Banner*. In the next formation the pupils formed the letters *ND*. This is an annual event that the children look forward to with pleasure and anticipation.

Historical **Banner** note, 1926: An acrobatic team was formed. The team gave its first performance at the *Grand Theatre* in Devils Lake on February 15, 1926.

NDSD Tumblers



Spring Revue



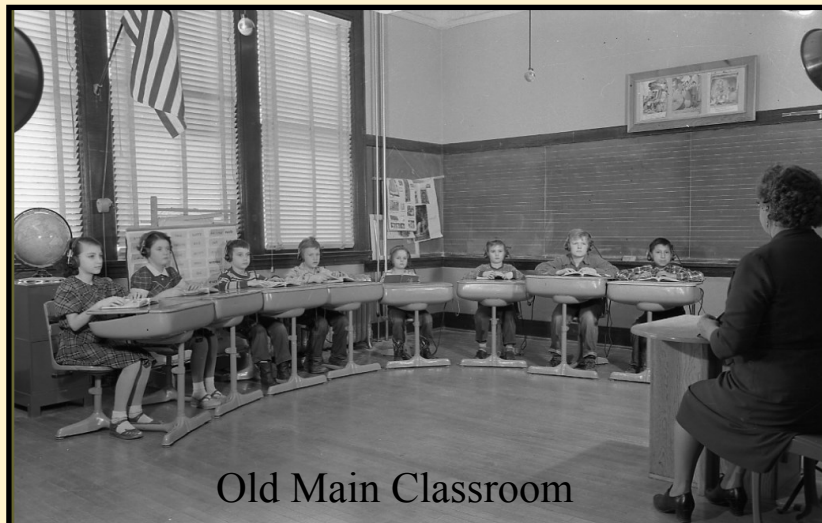
Historical **Banner** note taken from a Devils Lake newspaper, 1920: The annual *Lawn Fete* of the Devils Lake School for the Deaf, held on the campus yesterday afternoon, was one of the most artistic affairs of its kind ever held in this city. The students went through various drills with all the rhythm and precision of college students. Never once, during the marching, did any of them lose step with the music that was provided by the Boys' Scout band. All the signals in the drills were made by finger spelling and the quickness of those participating was marvelous.



1918, Pupils Perform School Play—*Masque*



Historical note: NDSD students performed nine years (1935-1943) of *Revues*. These exhibitions were presented by the physical education classes and student tumblers. In 1937 more than seven thousand people attended the three performances. The *Spring Revue*, like the earlier *Lawn Fete* pageants, featured magnificent scenery and beautiful costumes, all made by pupils and staff at the school. In 1937, the *Revue*, entitled *The Woman in the Shoe*, was filmed for the *International Congress on Education of the Deaf*.



Red Barn



Barn built - 1907

Silo
erected
in 1912

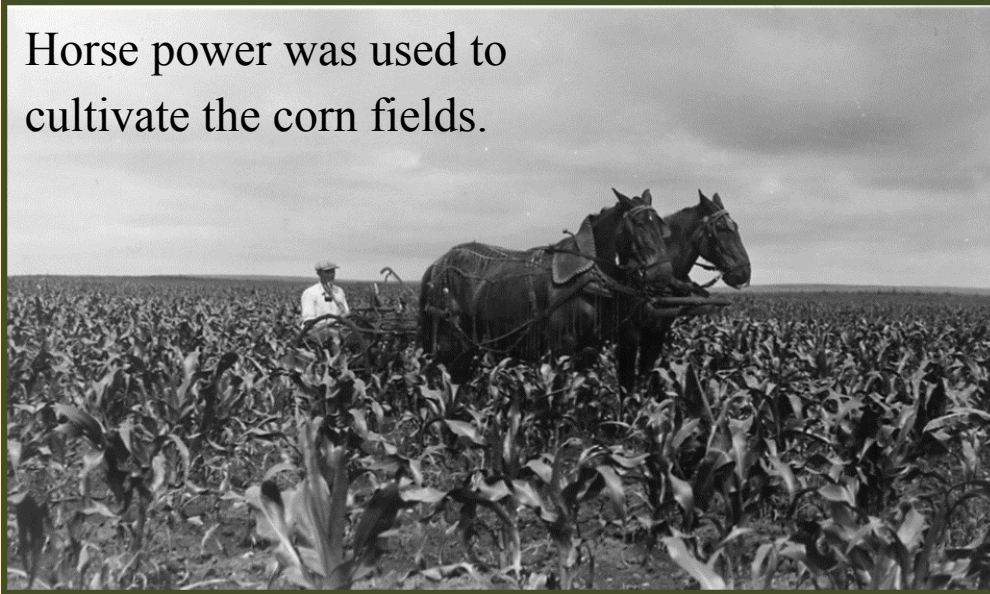
Historical **Banner** note, October, 1904: Our barn has received several consignments of hay for winter use. It was grown by Indians.



Historical **Banner** note, 1894: The hens are proud of their new chicken coop and we hope they will lay lots of eggs for us.

NDSD Farming Operation

Horse power was used to cultivate the corn fields.



Historical note: By 1906, the grounds surrounding the School for the Deaf encompassed **140** acres. Eight acres were used for pasture land for the cattle, thirty-one acres for cropland, and eight acres for garden purposes. Horse power helped NDSD's farming operation function up to the 1940's.

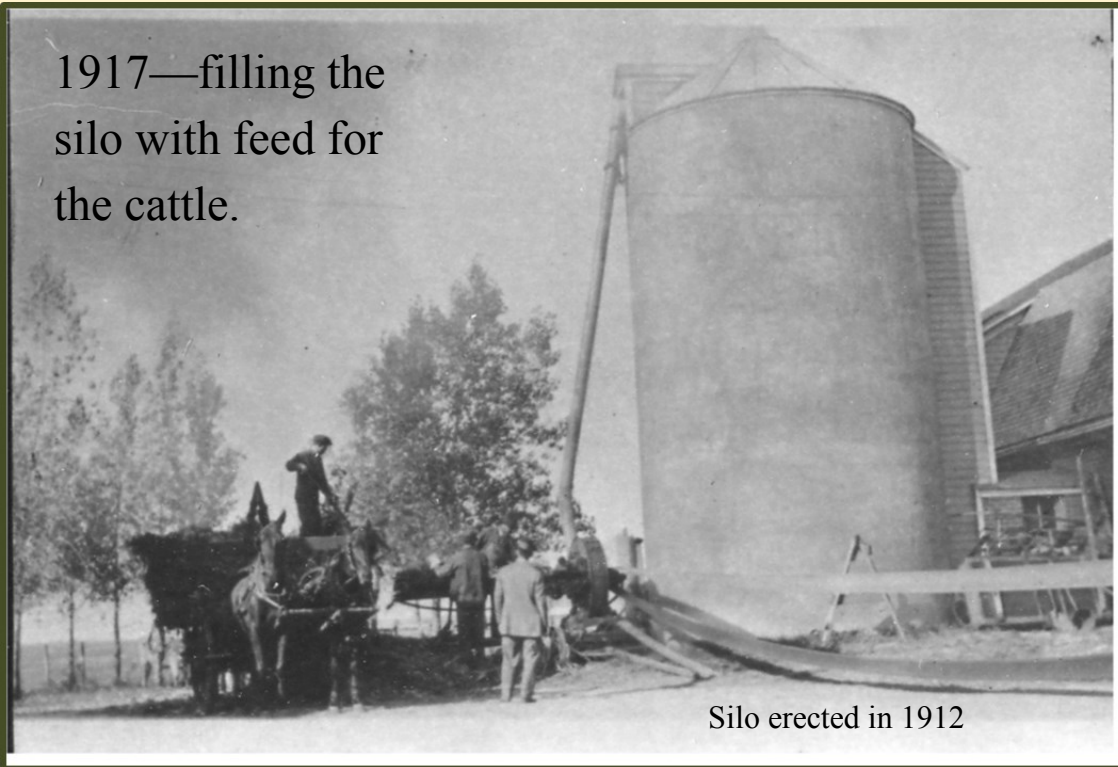


NDSD cattle herd

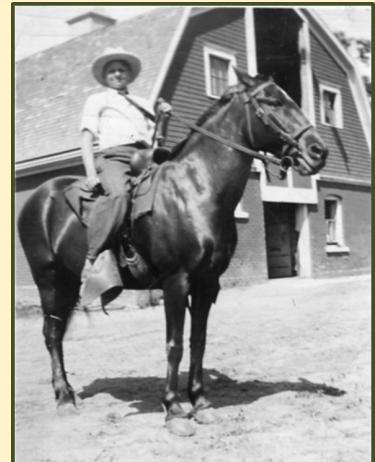
The following historical **Banner** note was written by pupil, Annie Magnus, March, 1894: Mr. Spear bought our cows from a farmer some time ago. They are large, pretty cows. We keep them because they give us good, sweet milk. One of the older pupils, Bennett, takes care of the cows. He feeds them hay and oats three times every day and lets them drink water from a tub near the pump. He milks them every morning and night. They are gentle cows.

Silo

1917—filling the silo with feed for the cattle.



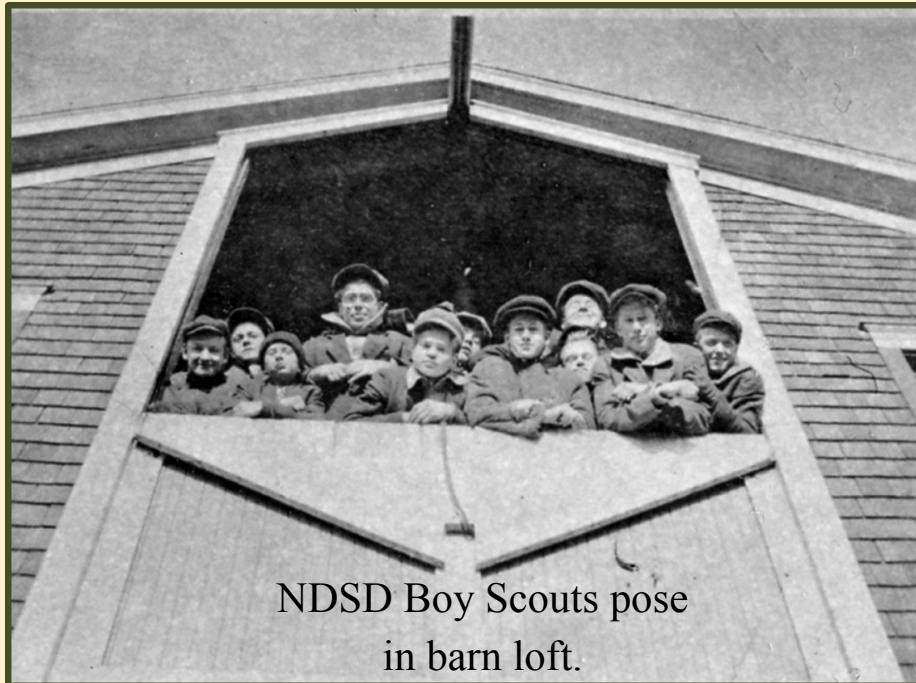
Silo erected in 1912



Historical **Banner** note, October, 1904: We have finished gathering in our potatoes. The boys took part in our 'potato digging' day. There were 1087 bushels.

Historical note: The school supplied its own food including beef, pork, milk and garden produce. In 1953, by action of the state legislature, the farming operation was discontinued.

Scouts



NDSD Boy Scouts pose
in barn loft.

Historical note: The first NDSD Boy Scout Troop was organized in the spring of 1928. The first Girl Scout troop was established in 1930.



Historical **Banner** note, October, 1915: The children's table is reaping the benefit of fresh home grown vegetables. Mr. O'Reilly has charge of the farm and garden and it is his aim to raise as much garden stuff as the land will produce. This year he has raised approximately 1500 head of celery, 1000 head of cabbage, 250 head of cauliflower, 100 bushels of rutabagas, 100 bushels of mangels, 20 bushels of onions, 25 bushels of beets, 20 bushels of carrots, 10 bushels of tomatoes, 5 bushels of beans, 5 bushels of salsify, and 8 bushels of peas. The corn and potatoes are in separate fields.

Hospital



Historical note: the new school hospital housed seventeen beds and a completely equipped disinfecting room and an operating room. In later years, the hospital became known as the infirmary. It was built in 1909 and razed in 2010.

Historical **Banner** note written by Superintendent Spear, 1892:

A terrible fever broke out and nearly all the pupils were sick. The Superintendent and all of the officers and teachers were also stricken. The sickness resulted in the death of three students. The three were buried in Devils Lake cemetery as that was the wish of their parents. I cannot refrain from expressing my deep gratitude to our teacher, Miss Halvorson, for her untiring care of the sick. Frequently she sat up all night tending to sick pupils and then took her place in the school room the next day.

Infirmary



Historical note, **Banner**, October 9, 1918: The Board of Health ordered all schools, churches and theatres in Devils Lake be closed due to an outbreak of *Spanish Influenza*. The flu spread through the United States in epidemic proportions. Seventy-five pupils were treated at the school. Six nurses were brought in to help care for sick students.

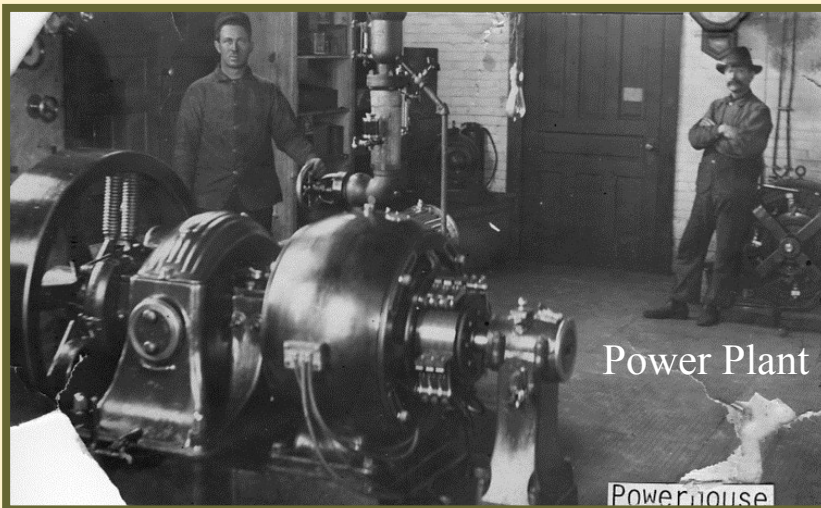


Laundry



Historical **Banner** note, 1894: During the past year, wood burning stoves were used to heat all of the rooms. The need for a heating plant and water supply must be perfectly evident.

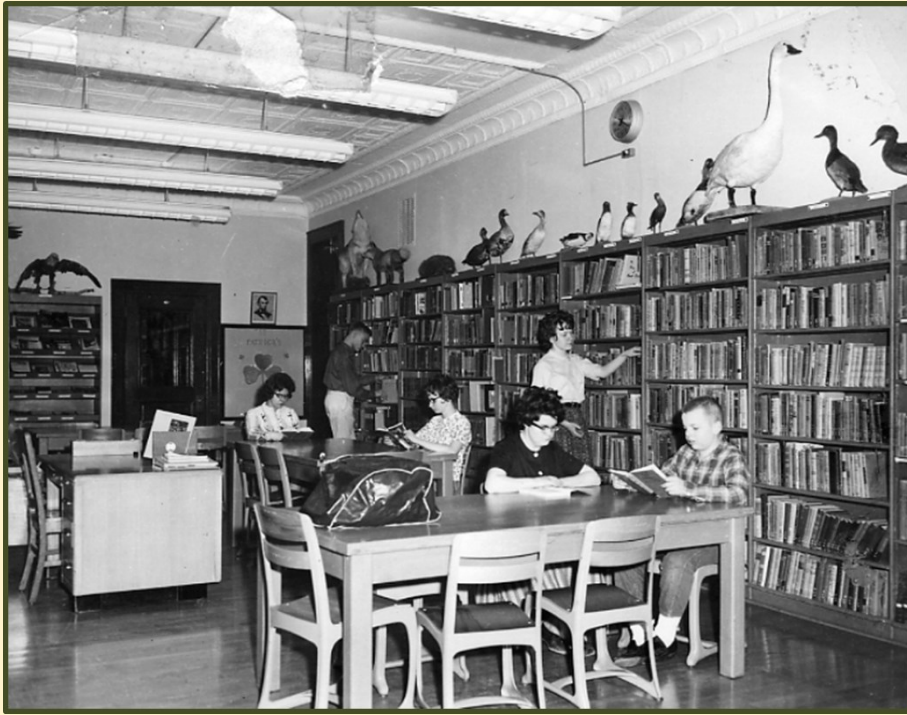
Historical **Banner** note, October, 1917: It has been a desire of the school authorities for a good many years to secure good drinking water. Three deep wells were dug on school grounds but in none was the water satisfactory for drinking purposes. There is a well in the near neighborhood with satisfactory drinking water. It is owned by our engineer, Mr. Ringuette. The School has obtained its daily supply of this precious fluid from his well. The water is carried over in milk cans by the School farmer once or twice a day, rain or shine.



Historical note: During the 1899-90 school year, a low-pressure steam plant was installed to heat the building along with a boiler to run the laundry machinery. The plant eliminated the need for 25 wood burning stoves. Electric lights replaced oil lamps.

Historical **Banner** note, September, 1919: Pupils and staff gave a sigh of relief over the news that drinking water would no longer have to be hauled in milk cans. Water pipes were laid in August and now, with a turn of the lever in the Power Plant, water is supplied to the School's storage tank.

Old NDSD Library



Historical **Banner** note, 1894: Nicholas Flugukvan was told by his teacher to go into the barn with slate and chalk and write what he saw there. He came back with his slate full of words. His teacher patted him on the head but upon reading it, she asked, “Nicholas, where did you get those words? They are foreign”. Nicholas said the new hired man, who came from Norway not long ago, helped him name the things in the barn.

Patriotic Program

Circa-1950's



Auditory Listening and Articulation



Historical **Banner** note written by a newspaper reporter who visited the school in 1892: To most visitors who come to the school, the attractive and novel feature of the exercises is the instruction in vocal articulation. Though many children are born deaf, all are born with the capacity for speech, but cannot learn to speak simply because, as they cannot hear sounds, they cannot imitate them. Patient effort and wise persistence are required to develop spoken words. The elementary cry of pain or the natural laughter of a child who does not even hear the sounds he makes cannot be formed unless the effort is actually witnessed. The teacher, with distinctness and precision, speaks the sound of the consonant or vowel and the pupil watches the movement of lips, tongue, jaws and indeed the whole face and tries to imitate these movements and to make sounds that are consequent there upon. Out of these elementary sounds, which in the pupil are at first hardly more like speech than the babble of an infant, is slowly evolved the power to converse fluently.

New Hearing Aids



Historical **Banner** note, January, 1892: An old gentleman, Mr. George Tuxbury, from Michigan, was in Devils Lake this week with a phonograph. He was asked to try the hearing of some of our pupils. Two of the small boys tried to make out what this soulless phonograph was saying, but failed miserably. The day after the phonograph test, a sort of makeshift ear-trumpet was made, and some of the pupils were tested again in regard to their hearing. It was discovered that they could hear and

distinguish spoken words with much more ease with the ear-trumpet than they did with the phonograph. We came to the conclusion that the phonograph is of no value whatever in assisting the partially deaf to grasp the spoken word. A speaking tube would do the work much better and be more convenient.



Circa—1950's



Ear Trumpet

Methods of Communication



Historical note: In 1928, two deaf students were mainstreamed into Devils Lake Public Schools for the first time.

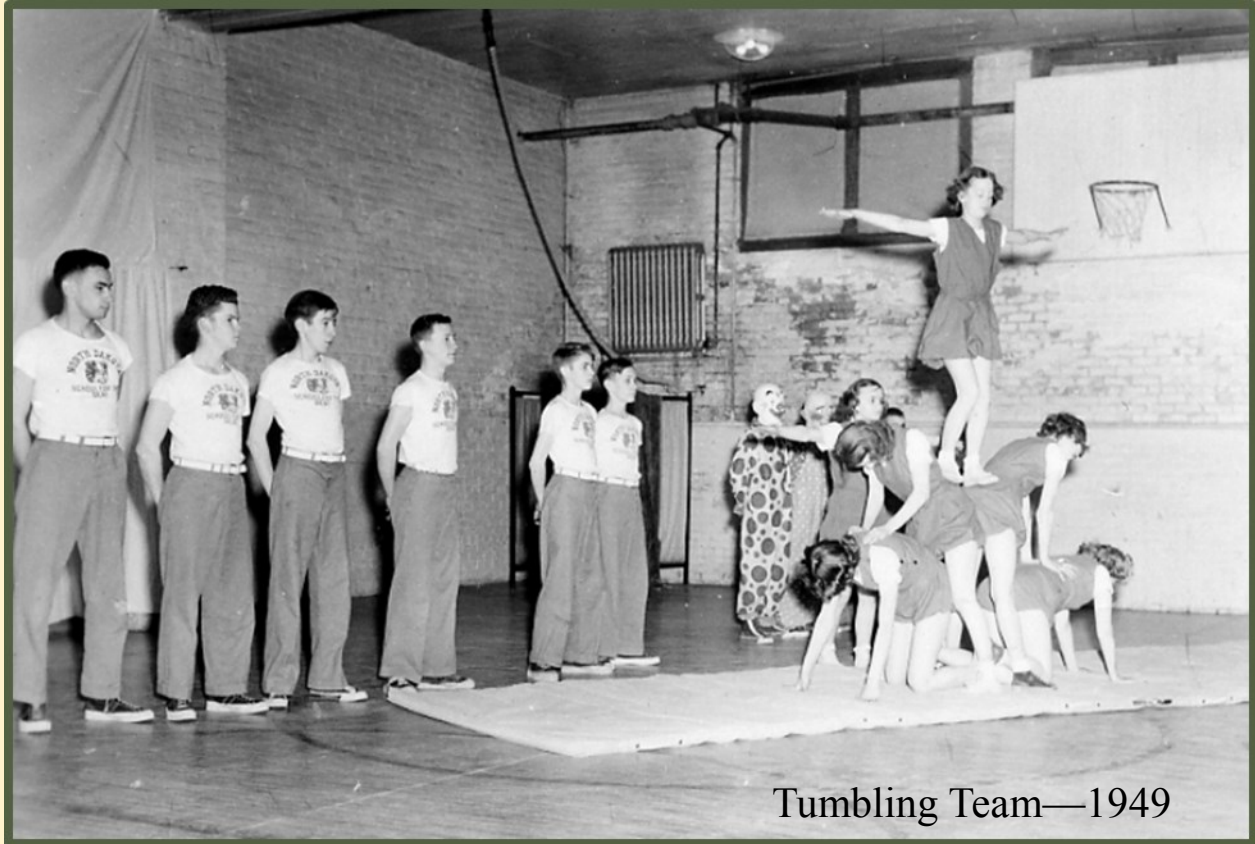
Historical note, 1922:
The method of instruction was changed in September to *Oral, Aural and Manual*.

Historical **Banner** note, 1947: The pupils are taught by the *Combined Method*. The hard of hearing pupils are taught by the *Aural Method* - multiple hearing aids are used. The *Oral Method* is used with those children who are able to make satisfactory progress by lip-reading and speech. The *Manual Method* is used with children who are unable to make satisfactory progress by the other methods. Instruction by writing is stressed in all classes. The school endeavors to adapt the method to fit the child.



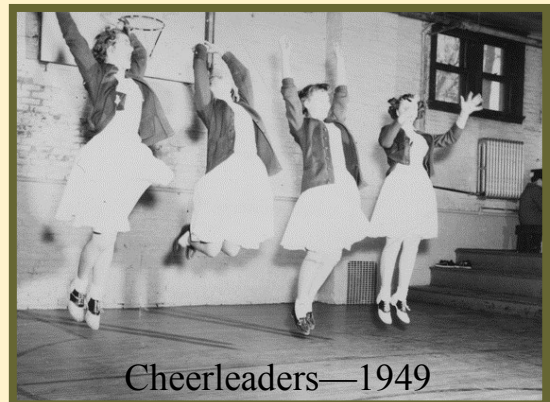
Historical note, 1960:
The *Rochester Method* of finger spelling instruction was introduced in the intermediate and advanced departments to replace the *Combined and Simultaneous Methods*. Use of the *Oral Method* was continued in the primary department.

Gym



Tumbling Team—1949

Historical note: The old gym (pictured above and below) was in the basement of the school building. A new gym was completed in 1953 and students no longer had to use the basement gym. The old gym (still on campus) has been closed off.



Cheerleaders—1949

Historical note: The first cheerleading squad performed in 1949.

Kitchen and Dining Room



Dining Room—Main

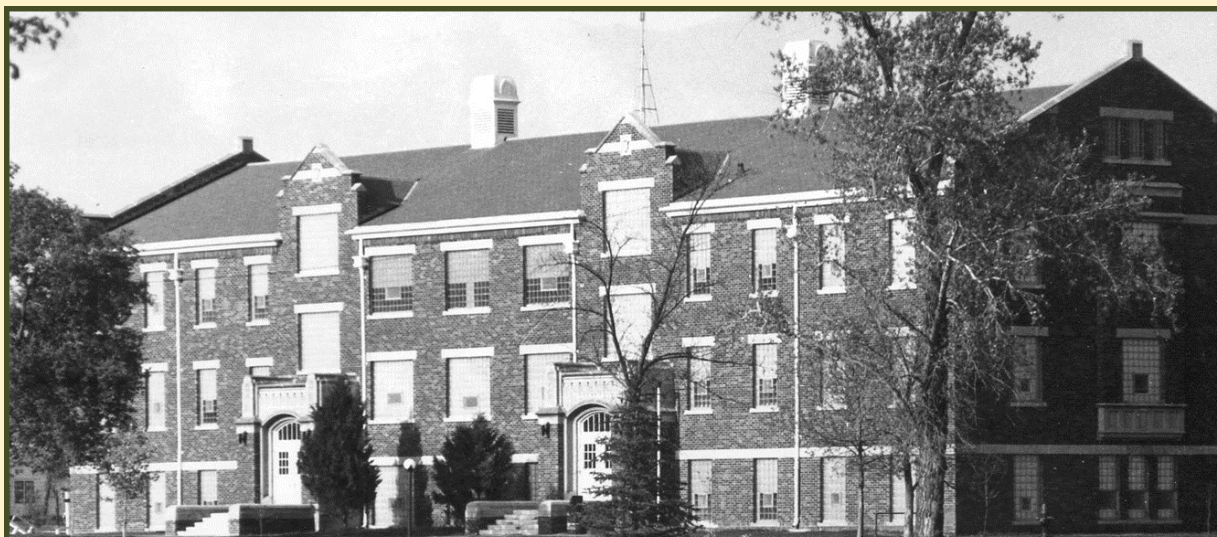


Historical **Banner** note:

In the summer of 1907, a wing was added to the north side of Main. It housed a new kitchen and dining room.

Historical **Banner** note, 1892: The boys' bedrooms are directly over the kitchen. There is a register in the floor to allow the heat from the kitchen to pass up. Recently one of the little boys thought he would play a joke on the cook. He caught a mouse and dropped it through the register. It narrowly missed a dish of oatmeal the cook held in her hand. In fright, the cook climbed onto a table. It amused the little joker who watched from above.

Boys' Dormitory



Built: 1923

Razed: 1988

Historical **Banner** note: Boys were overjoyed to move into their new dorm in November, 1923.

Historical note: Construction of a new dorm began in the summer of 1981. By fall of 1982, students were able to move in. The new dormitory was named *Blackhurst Dorm* in honor of long-time NDSD deaf houseparent Kenneth Blackhurst. The dedication took place in May, 1984.



Boys' dorm

Girls' Dormitory



Historical **Banner** note, February, 1905: A fine new table has been made by the carpenter boys for the girls' parlor. It goes without saying that the girls are delighted with their new table.

Historical **Banner** note, November 1892: The *Wade Literary Society* was organized among the older boys and girls.

Historical **Banner** note, November 1909: The girls of the advanced classes organized a *Christian Endeavor Society*.



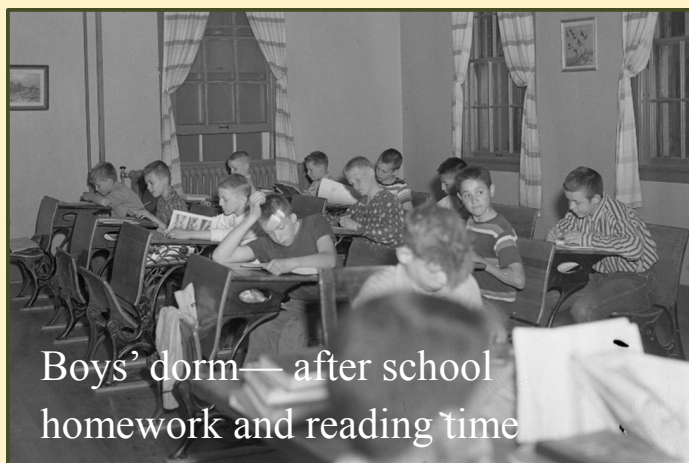
Playroom in Main



Circa—1953

Historical **Banner** note, February, 1905: The house that the carpenter boys built for the little girls is still used. The little girls play house in the play room in the basement. It is nice and warm down there and they look very happy together.

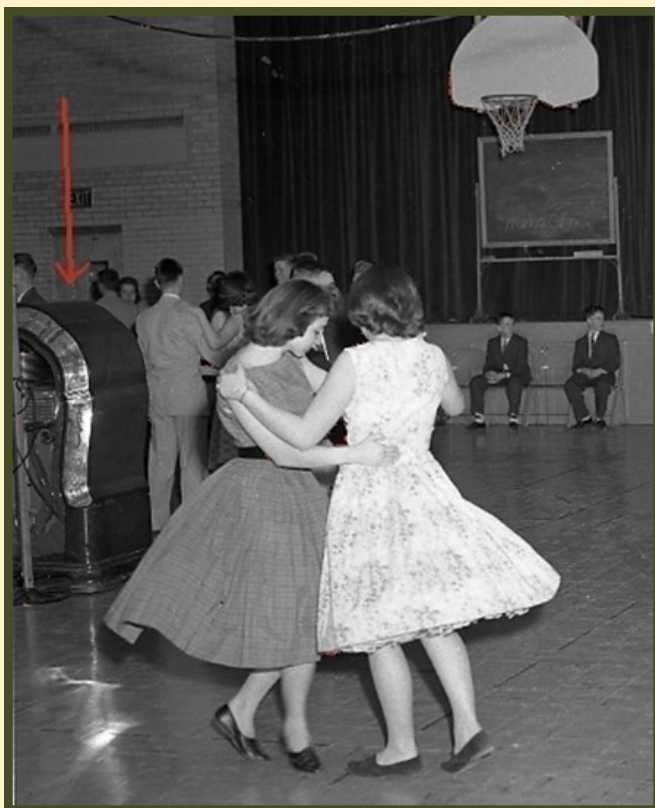
Historical **Banner** note: During the 1946-47 school year, Superintendent Smith organized the *Toy Library*. It permitted students to check out various toys and games to play with for one week.



Boys' dorm— after school
homework and reading time

Historical **Banner** note, Winter, 1894: Did you see the *Aurora Borealis* last Thursday night? It was very beautiful. A teacher made comment that, “It seemed as if the heavens were opened for airing”. If that was really heaven then some of our little boys and girls think that they will want to go there.

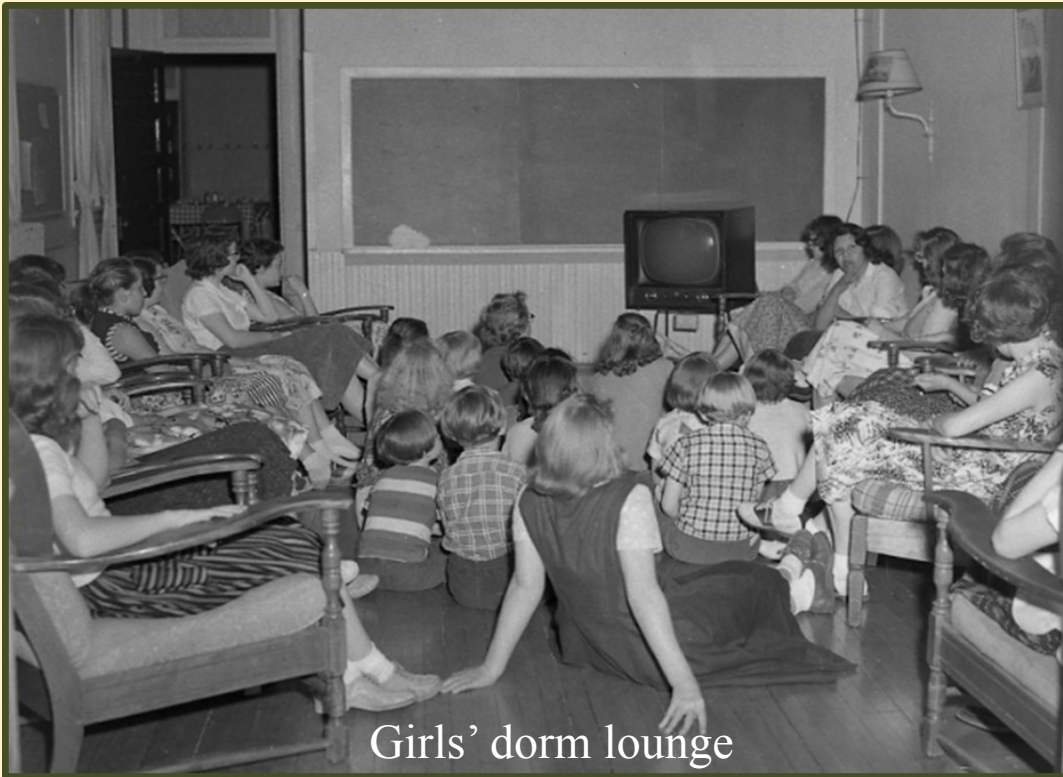
Dorm gets new phonograph (juke box)



Historical **Banner** note –
January, 1949: A dormitory
Christmas present (from
voluntary contributors) is
opening wide the golden
gates of understanding to
the recorded musical world.

The deaf children with
residual hearing can hear
the music through
amplification and vibration.

Television, Captions and TTY



Girls' dorm lounge

Historical **Banner** note: Television first arrived on campus at Christmas time, 1955. Through donations made by friends of the school, four televisions were purchased.

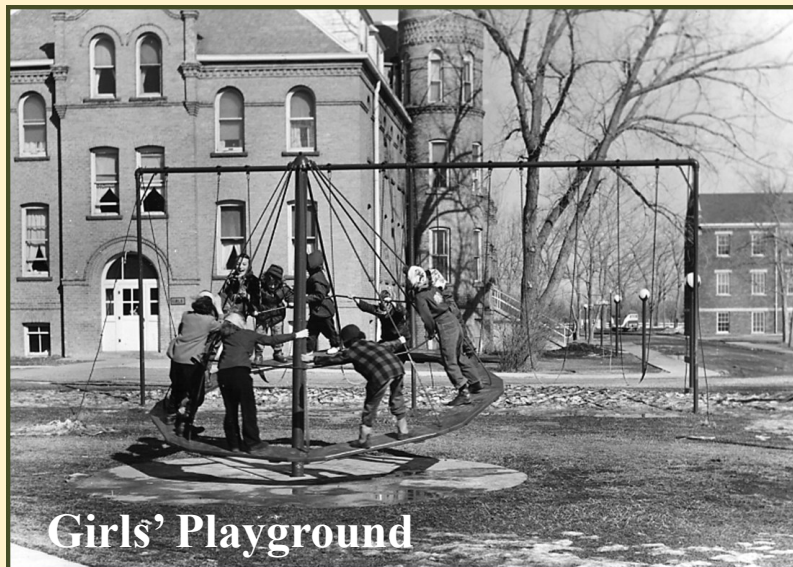
Caption Machine—1981



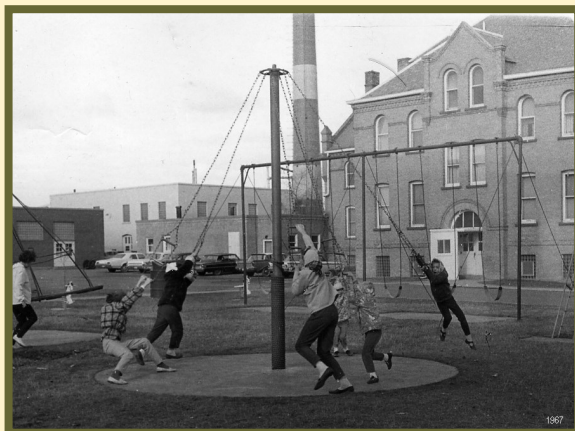
Note: Floor-model teletype-writers (TTY/telephones) arrived on campus about 1986.



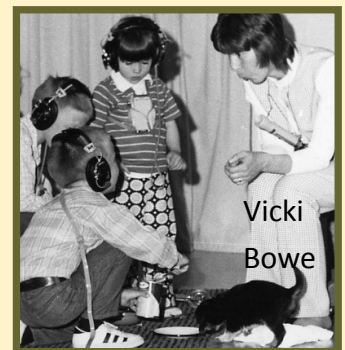
Playgrounds



Historical **Banner** note, April 1906: The boys in carpenter class have placed swings in the girls' yard.



Audiology and Speech

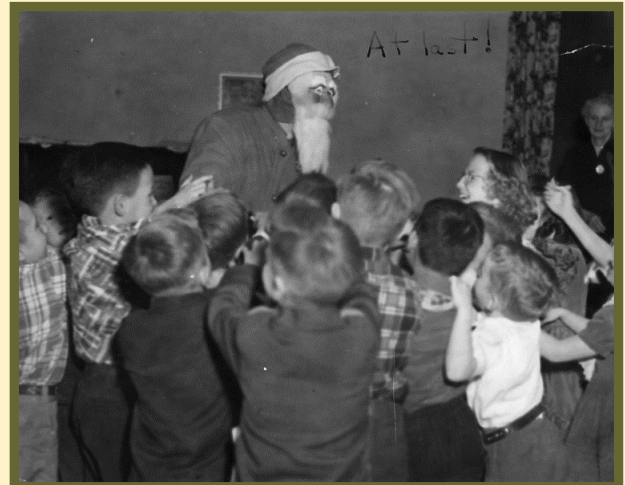
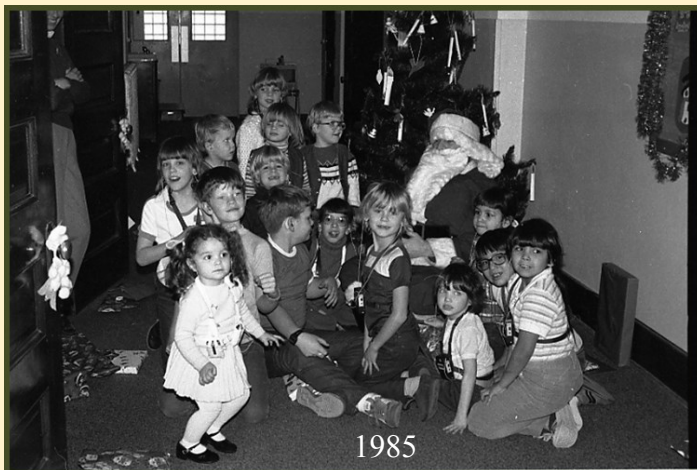


Historical note taken from the Report to the Governor, October, 1892: We are teaching one class orally and several pupils are given instructions in articulation daily. Speech teaching is slow and difficult work. Speech is not the end to be attained in educating the deaf. It is of far less value to them than a ready command of the English language. Yet, in every school for the deaf there is a certain percent of pupils who should be taught by the oral method.

Christmas Past



Historical **Banner** note, 1894: The Christmas party was a very enjoyable affair. Much of its success was due to our teacher, Miss Halvorson. The pupils dialogues were done in sign language. The Christmas tree was prettily decorated with colored candles. Hanging from its branches were dolls with chubby hands outstretched. Under the tree was a pile of packages and books. Nearby was a bushel-basket filled with apples, candies and nuts. Promptly at 7:30 P.M. Santa rapped on the window. What followed can only be imagined.



Trades/Vocational Building



Built in 1928

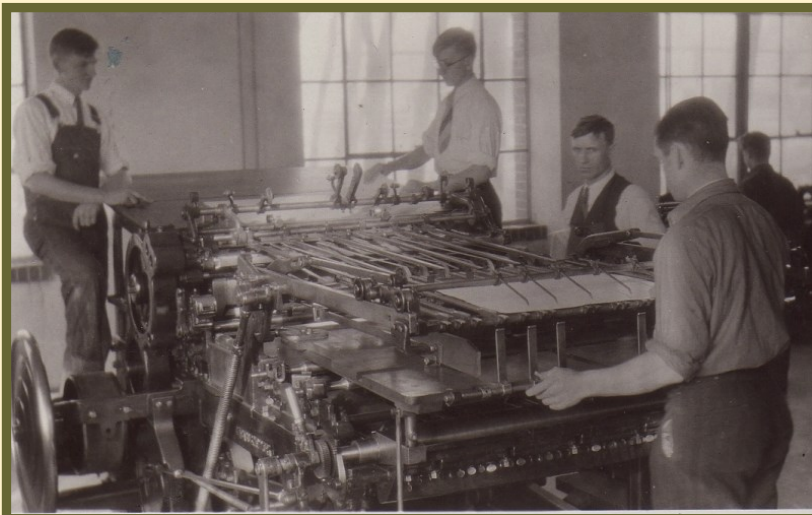
Photo from 1946

Historical **Banner** note, November, 1902: In addition to knowledge gained in school, every pupil, as he or she becomes old enough, is taught a trade. The deaf are shut out from many pursuits open to those who can hear, and the knowledge of a trade, therefore, becomes of importance to them. There are very few who, if they remain in school throughout the course, do not acquire sufficient knowledge of a trade to be able to make a livelihood after leaving school. At present, the only trades established for boys are printing and carpentry. We hope, at no distant date, to add other trades. The girls are taught dressmaking, fancy work, plain sewing and light housework.

Printing



Historical note, February, 1905: The following excerpt is from the *Leeds Newspaper*: The **North Dakota Banner** is a bright little paper published by the School for the Deaf at Devils Lake. It is printed on fine book paper and presents a very neat and attractive appearance. The mechanical work is all done by pupils of the school and is certainly a creditable piece of work.



Historical **Banner** note, Fall, 1942: The **Banner** was printed without covers due to the shortage of paper supplies during World War II. It wasn't until the October, 1944 issue that covers were reinstated.

Cooking Class



Historical **Banner** note, 1893:

Breakfast Menu:

Corn Mush

Fried Pork

Fried Potatoes

Bread, Butter, Syrup,

Milk and Coffee

Historical **Banner** note, March, 1905: Some of the little girls pass their leisure time in sewing on a Crazy Quilt.

Historical **Banner** note, November, 1894: Instead of the customary Thanksgiving entertainment, a candy-pull was given. The children greatly enjoyed making the taffy. Popcorn was also furnished.

Laundry Care



Historical **Banner** note, March, 1918: The girls no longer have a monopoly on the knitting needles. Several of the boys have jumped into the ranks and are doing their share. Purling neatly are Frank Kovar who has started on a muffler and Nick Braunagel who has started on a sweater.

Carpentry



Historical **Banner** note: The boys in the carpenter shop have finished up some more new wardrobes and they have been placed in the dorm. They are very neatly made and are a credit to the boys of this shop.



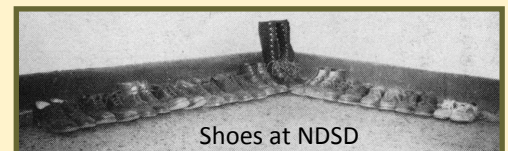
William Hartl
Shop Teacher, 1943-1980



Circa-1950's

Shoe Repair

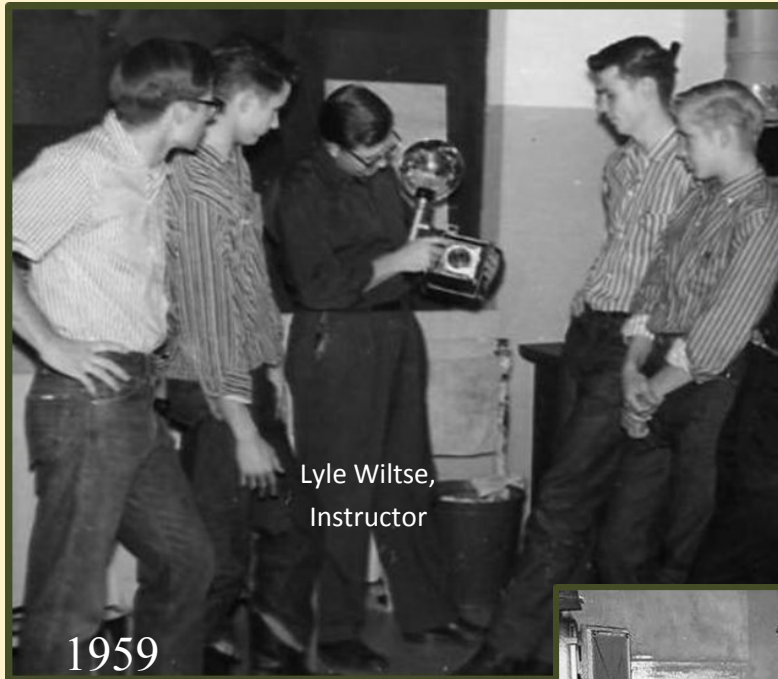
Historical note: Shoe repair classes were discontinued in 1959-1960.



Shoes at NDSD

Historical **Banner** note, April 1905: James Collins has been kept busy mending shoes for the pupils. His work place is in the boiler house near the carpenter shop. He says he will soon have a complete shoemaker's outfit and that when he finishes school, he will probably set up shop and do cobbling.

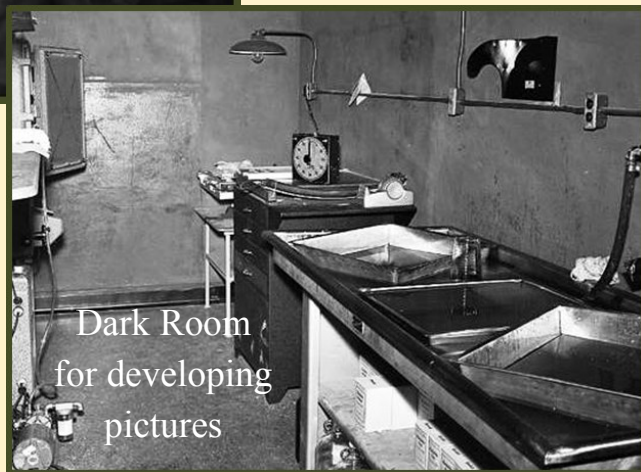
Photography



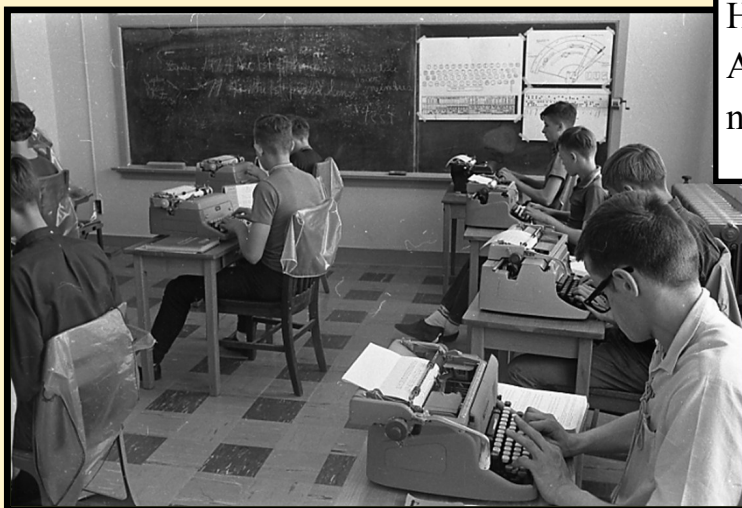
Lyle Wiltse,
Instructor

Historical **Banner** note, February, 1906: Lindeman Bull, one of our boys at Gallaudet College is said to be a promising young photographer. He has sent several fine photos of Washington city scenes to friends here. He also reproduces photos and makes specialty postcards.

Historical **Banner** note written by senior pupil, Nick Braunagle, April, 1921: Efficiency, ambition and determination are what an apprentice should have.



Typing



Historical **Banner** note, April, 1905: Annie Sperre has left school. She is now a dressmaker in Bottineau, ND.

Historical **Banner** note, March, 1893: During the cold winter months the boys have been playing dominos every night.

Sewing and Needlework



1903



Needlework class

Historical **Banner** note, December, 1893: Busy hands are sewing and embroidering; the girls are preparing for Christmas.

Historical **Banner** note, January, 1895: Why do the big girls learn fancy sewing and needlework? There are some very plain doilies at a certain store in town which sell at 35 cents apiece. The girls can sell their handwork and can make money while in school and much more during the summer.

Historical **Banner** note – Fall, 1941: The ‘broomstick skirt’ craze hit NDSD. Many of the older girls made skirts in sewing class. After being washed, the skirts were tied around broomsticks to dry and give it a crinkled effect.



Sewing -1931

Barber Class



Historical **Banner** note, 1892: Superintendent Spear turned the schoolroom into a barbershop last week and made monkey heads of the little boys.

Beauty and Culture Class



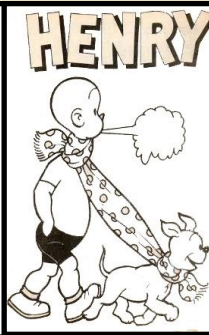
Historical **Banner** note, September, 1905: Reverend Christmas, the divine healer, now in Grand Forks, has little Clara Alfson under treatment and has assured her father that she will be restored to hearing. Her father has faith that it will be so but he was wise enough to meet with Superintendent Bangs and ask that a place be kept for Clara at the school just in case she is not healed. Yes, we expect her back soon.

Art Class



Historical **Banner** note, October, 1894: Henry Lombnes has a taste for drawing original pictures on the blackboard. His teacher encourages his efforts.

Historical **Banner** note, 1945: Carl Anderson, Class of 1907, became famous for his sketches of the comic strip character, *HENRY*.



Historical **Banner** note, June, 1905: Carl Anderson is an aspirant for honors as a cartoonist. He is always sketching persons and things. He has improved much of late. The political cartoon printed in this June **Banner** issue was drawn by our pupil, Carl.

Weaving



Historical **Banner** note, October, 1894: Last week, while crossing the road, Mrs. Taylor found a horseshoe and upon entering Mr. Taylor's classroom, she spelled with her fingers, "Good luck to you all", then she presented the horseshoe to the class. Pupil, Lorents, will cover it with gilt paper and hang it up in the school room for good luck.

Historical **Banner** note, January, 1894: Pupil, Nicholas Flugukvan, with pardonable pride, displayed to one of the teachers, a pair of wooden skates he had made with his own hands.

Chapel and Confirmation Class

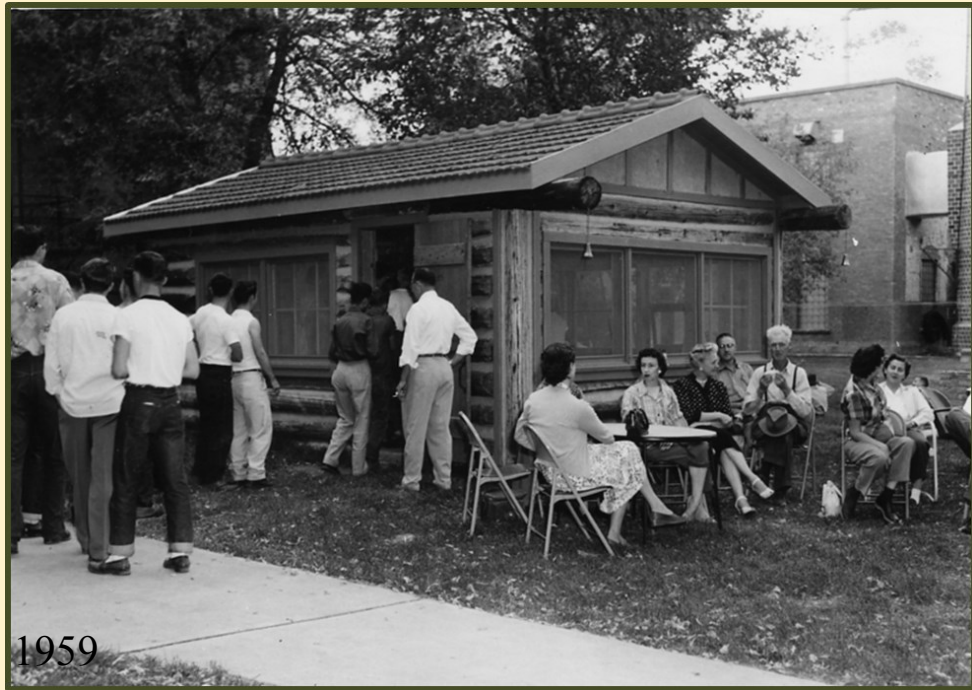


Historical **Banner** note: In the mid 1940's, Fern Rolfe, former NDSD student, became the first deaf evangelist.



Historical **Banner** note, January, 1920: The School is non-sectarian, but moral and religious instruction is given and the pupils may attend churches designated by their parents.

Picnics



Historical **Banner** note: The cabin was constructed by staff in 1955. It was used mainly for the purpose of outdoor picnics.



NDSD Baseball Team



Historical note: In 1904, NDSD had its first baseball game. Gilman Nordhougen was elected captain of the team. Organized baseball at NDSD lasted from 1904 to 1914.



Historical **Banner** note, October, 1917: We firmly believe that the training of the hand should go hand in hand with that of the head and heart.



School Buses



Football



Bulldogs—1939

Historical note: The first football game was played in 1922 against Devils Lake's second team. The game ended in a 13–13 tie.

Historical note: The Bulldogs football team finished the 1957-58 season undefeated, a milestone no other NDSD team had accomplished since football was started at NDSD. In 1960, the Bulldogs ended their season with no losses and in 1961, under the expert leadership of Coach Henry Brenner, the team was again undefeated.



Homecoming

1958

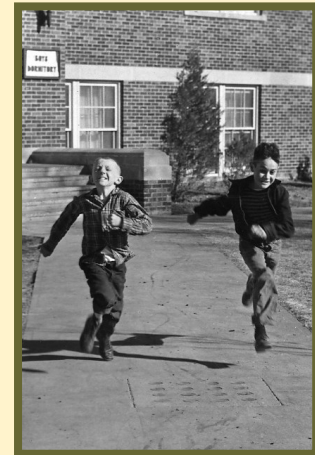
First Student Driving Course - 1948

Historical note, 1948:
Louis Burns taught
the first driver's
education class.



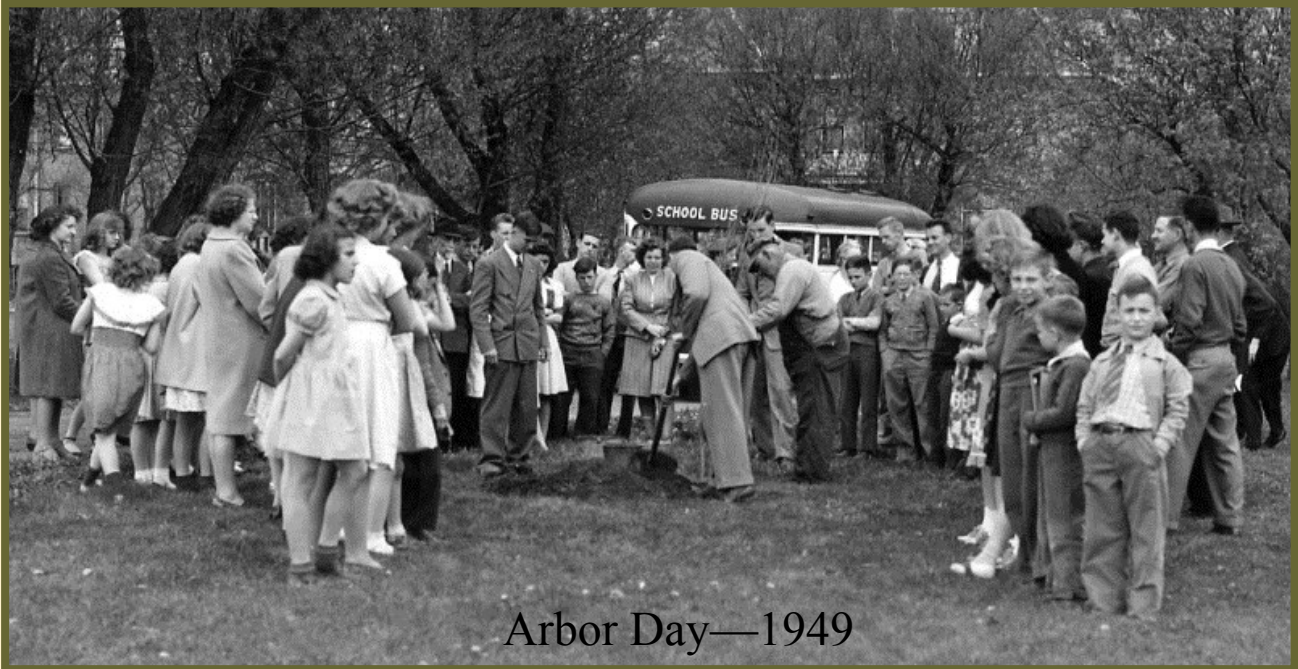
A 1948 Chevrolet Fleetmaster sedan with dual controls was loaned to the school by the Lake Chevrolet Motor Company.

Historical **Banner** note, 1934: Deafness is no handicap to driving a motor vehicle.



Biking—a favorite after school activity.

Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting

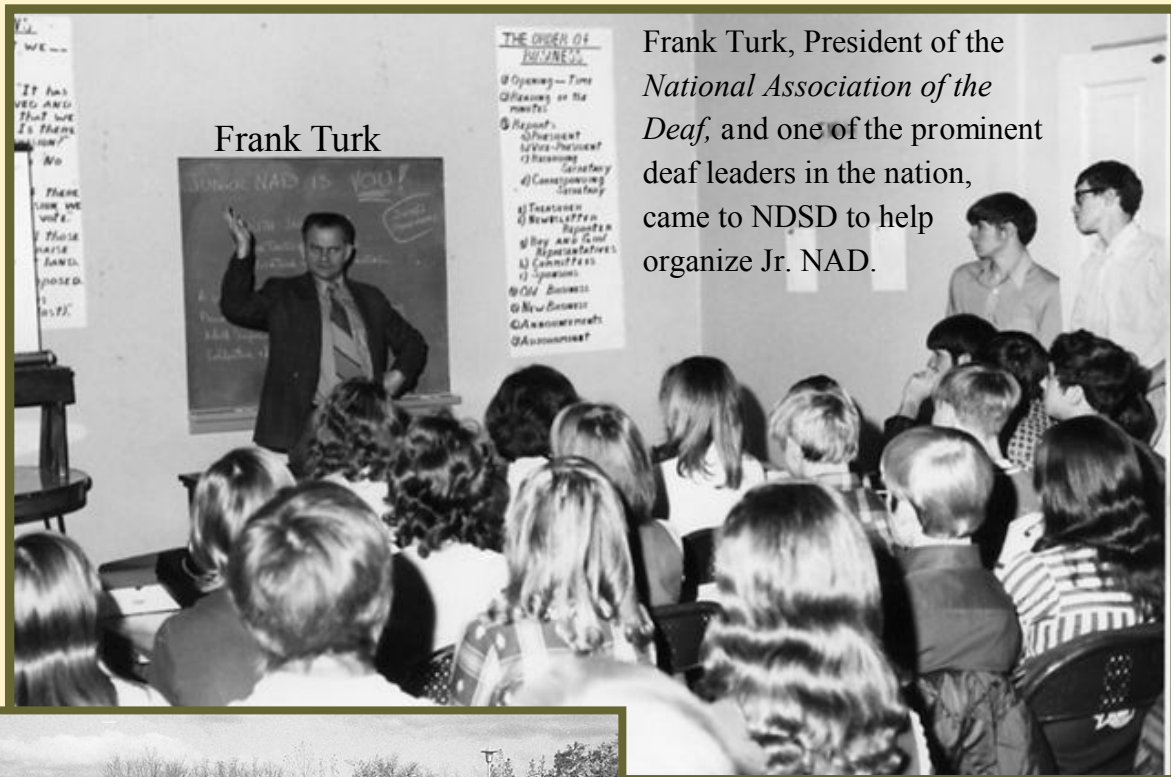


Historical **Banner** note, April, 1914: “We, the senior class of 1915, are planting a tree on this Arbor Day. We hope it will live long and grow into a big and useful one. May it comfort those who rest beneath its shade”. Many of the trees on campus were planted annually on Arbor Day by students and staff.

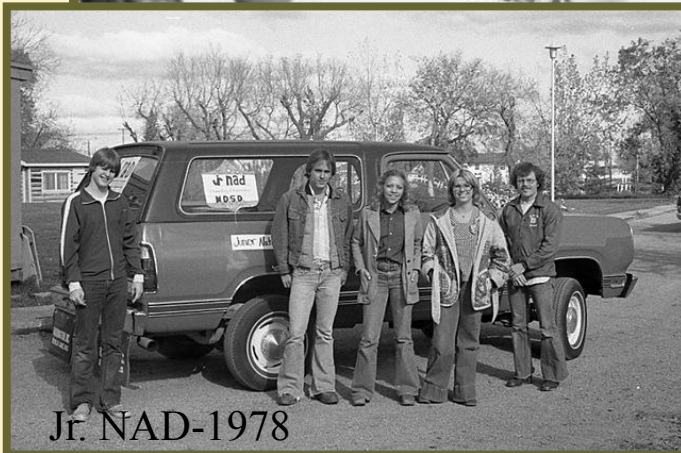


Historical **Banner** note, June 6, 1919: NDSD held its annual *Lawn Fete* and Maypole Dance. A fete tent with ice cream cones for the children made the place their favorite rendezvous.

Jr. National Association of the Deaf



Frank Turk, President of the *National Association of the Deaf*, and one of the prominent deaf leaders in the nation, came to NDSD to help organize Jr. NAD.



In 1971, the *Jr. National Association of the Deaf (Jr. NAD)* organization was formed to provide opportunities to students to develop leadership skills.



Winter at NDSD



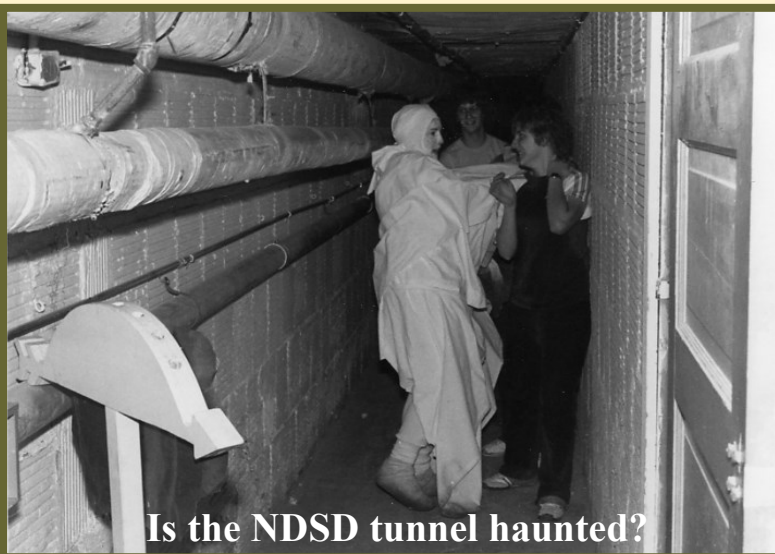
Historical **Banner** note, January, 1906: Last week this section of the country was visited by a heavy snow storm. In many places the snow was several feet deep. The track of the *Farmer's Railway* was completely buried in long stretches to the north of the school. A great snow plow was used to clear the way and as the powerful engine backed against the drifts sending the snow high up into the air and depositing it on the sides of the track, the pupils looked on in awe. It was a most beautiful sight to see.

Halloween



Historical **Banner** note, 1892:

On Halloween night a tub full of water was placed on a low box and a dozen nice apples were set a sail. Tempting as the fruit is to the little ones, they were not allowed an apple unless they fished it out with their teeth. There was lively fun going on.



Historical **Banner** note, October, 1893: Ghosts stalked about the school on Halloween night. The windows in the basement clattered and the servants cried 'thief'! A strange face was seen to peep in the girls' room. The furniture in the rooms of Mr. and Mrs. Spear was turned topsy-turvy. All heaved a sigh of relief when November dawned. The ghosts cannot return until next Halloween.



Thanksgiving Menu—1920

Celery Assorted Pickles

Turkey with Dressing

Mashed Potatoes Creamed Corn

Giblet Gravy Cranberry Sauce

Hot Rolls Fruit Salad

Mince Pie Apples

Homecoming

Homecoming Royalty



Tony Award Winner

Phyllis Frelich



Historical **Banner** note, 1980: Phyllis Frelich, Class of '62, won the *Tony Award* for her performance on Broadway in the play *Children of a Lesser God*. She is the first deaf person to ever win the award. Phyllis commented, "The first thing I thought was, 'Oh, no, did he get it right? But then I saw every eye on me and all those people applauding and I thought that I had to hold myself together. I didn't want to collapse on the

stage. I was so happy! I felt like Cinderella."

Reporter, Bill Gale of the *Providence Sunday Journal* wrote: Perhaps because of her deafness, Miss Frelich's speech in sign language is extremely rapid, faster than most people talk, and her face is a sea of animated movement. A conversation with her is like a delightful roller coaster ride, and her concurrent warmth and strength of personality come across clearly.

Miss Frelich is one of nine children, all of whom are deaf, as are her parents (all members of her family are graduates of the North Dakota School for the Deaf). Phyllis said, "We are very secure, independent people. The family is the first thing for my parents. We are close. Our parents taught us kids pride and never let us accept pity. People would say, 'Oh, you are all deaf! How awful!' We were never allowed to pay attention to that".

Historical note, 1981: Phyllis Frelich was inducted into the *North Dakota Rough Rider Hall of Fame*. This award is North Dakota's way of honoring those Dakotans who have achieved fame and success. Her portrait and short bio are displayed in the *Hall of Fame* at the State Capitol in Bismarck, ND.

Phyllis passed away on April 10, 2014.

Class of 1942



NDSD Class of 1942 finger spell 'goodbye'

Banner, 1942: The following post is the end portion of the graduation address made by graduating senior, Evelyn Weisenhaus, Valedictorian, Class of 1942: "I have the duty of bidding you all a fond adieu. It has been said that the last word is the best but today I do not enjoy saying it for it carries a sadness of farewell. However it would be sad if it were not a beginning of life for us. We, who have been students at this school, have grown to love one another and love those who during these past years have worried over our progress and rejoiced over our success. We appreciate the advantages which the State of North Dakota has given to us. We appreciate the hours of time and thought which our superintendents have given us; we appreciate the efforts of our teachers who during the past years so faithfully have taught our young minds and ideas to take root. We hope we may repay you by becoming men and women of whom you may be proud. We appreciate the considerations of the officers who did so much to make us feel at home and for their never-ending kindness and helpfulness. Our joy will be remembering all our happy days with you. Farewell."

Old Main—Demolished, 1975
Old Main **Memorial**—Established, 1983



Removal of the
1892 cornerstone
and old time capsule
from Old Main

The beginning of the end for Old Main.



Historical **Banner** note, written by Spear, September, 1892: The school's cornerstone was laid on September 7, 1892, but without, we regret to say, any appropriate celebration of its placement. Inside the 1892 cornerstone, to commemorate the school's establishment, were laid the following: a copy of the original announcement to parents of our State regarding the establishment of the school for deaf children; a copy of the first biennial report to the Governor; a copy of each newspaper of this city; a map of the State; two copies of the rules and regulations of the school; two circulars of information; and the first and last issues of the **Banner**, Volume I, 1891-1892.



A new foundation for the Old Main
Memorial and the cornerstone from 1892.



Old Main Memorial - erected 1983. A time
capsule was enclosed and is to be opened in 2083.



Historical note: During the 2010-2011 school year, the high school department at NDSD was closed. With support services provided by NDSD, students attend Devils Lake High School. The pre-school, kindergarten, elementary and middle school departments at NDSD continue to operate.

The North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Since 1890 the North Dakota School for the Deaf (NDSD) has been providing educational and residential programming for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Why do students come from every part of the state to enroll at this specialized school in Devils Lake? Because students with hearing loss learn best from teachers who have been specially trained to use communication methods and curriculums designed specifically for students who cannot hear. NDSD also provides language learning environments in which students are able to visually access information. Like many other rural schools, NDSD enrollment numbers have decreased however, the school continues to function as a strong and viable educational program option for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The North Dakota School for the Deaf also serves as a Resource Center on Hearing Loss and Deafness. During the 2009 legislative session, NDSD proposed a bill requesting permission to reach beyond the education of children and asked legislators to consider passing a new law that would allow NDSD to provide services to adults as well children. Legislators passed the bill and since 2009, Outreach Programs at NDSD have evolved and expanded, touching the lives of thousands of individuals across the state. In order to better serve the widespread needs of those with hearing loss, NDSD established Outreach offices in several North Dakota cities including Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot, Rolla and Devils Lake. Outreach personnel will assist North Dakota residents who wish to learn more about the personal impact of hearing loss and will provide information on devices and resources available to help them cope with the loss of hearing. In January, 2012, the school's name was changed to **North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NDSD/RCDHH)**. The addition to the name reflects the expanded mission and numerous outreach services provided by the NDSD Resource Center. For information regarding the various Educational or Outreach Programs available from NDSD/RCDHH, contact the Superintendent at 701-665-4400 or visit the agency website at www.nd.gov/ndsd.

North Dakota School for the Deaf Motto



**Looking back with pride,
Looking forward with confidence.**



Historical note: The school's motto was adopted in 1990
in recognition of NDSD's Centennial.
The theme during the Centennial celebration was
"One hundred years of progress and pride".

