

# Flour Milling and The North Dakota State Mill and Elevator

In the 1800s, flour mills were located across North Dakota. In 1919, the Nonpartisan League controlled the North Dakota legislature. During this time, the legislature approved the creation of a state-owned flour mill and elevator. This pathfinder will lead researchers to several resources available at the North Dakota State Archives highlighting the purpose, successes of, and opposition to the North Dakota Mill and Elevator.

## Archival Collections

### 10489 William L. Guy Papers

Consists of correspondence, political files, material on his unsuccessful 1974 U.S. Senate campaign, scrapbooks relating to Guy's terms as North Dakota Governor, desk calendars, photographs, photo albums documenting the 1972 Midwestern Governors' Conference in Bismarck, and publications.

### 10553 Frank E. Vyzralek Collection

The collection includes the research files, personal papers, photographs and audiovisual materials of lifelong researcher and former North Dakota State Archivist Frank Edward Vyzralek. The research files include original work and information compiled about agriculture, arts and entertainment, business and industry, city and town life, education, ethnicity, Indians of North America, history, military, people, places, politics and government, religion and transportation. These broad areas of research are organized further by topic. Notable areas of research include North Dakota photographers, baseball, beer and bottling, mills and elevators, crime, the North Dakota Teachers Insurance and Retirement Fund, North Dakota "Centennial Moments," biographies, place names, Bismarck (N.D.), railroads and steamboats.

### 10691 Roy Johnson and Louis Pfaller Collection

Newspaper clippings, articles, photographs, maps, pamphlets, and correspondence documenting the research of two historians, Johnson and Pfaller, on Major James McLaughlin, forts, battles, railroads, steamboats, exploration, pioneers, Native Americans, weather, murders, schools, missionaries, etc.

## Useful Search Guidance

### Subjects

- Flour Milling
- Grain Milling
- Grain Elevators
- Dakota Maid Flour
- North Dakota Mill and Elevator
- The Nonpartisan League

### People

- Ragnvold A. Nestos, 1877-1942

### Locations

- Grand Forks, North Dakota

## Journal Articles

*State Mill and Elevator*

*North Dakota Blue Book 2007-2009*

*The American Yeoman vs. Progress and the Nonpartisan League*

Philip A. Korth – *North Dakota History* Vol. 37 Issue 2

*Henry R. Martinson—Fargo*

Robert Carlson – *North Dakota History* Vol. 43 Issue 2

**10752 Corliss (Dodge) Mushik Papers**

Consists of correspondence, budget materials, legislative bills, minutes, newspaper clippings, publications, reports, and subject files of a member of the North Dakota State Legislature from Mandan. Notable subjects include social welfare, abortion and reproductive rights, women's rights, healthcare, human services, Democratic-NPL, women in politics, North Dakota Centennial celebrations, North Dakota Heritage Center, North Dakota Bicentennial Commission, Garrison Diversion, and Morton County.

**10956 Bruce E. Hagen Papers**

Consists of office correspondence, political materials, publications, and recordings. Organized into subgroups: Office files, case file correspondence and background information, political party materials, associations, recordings, and publications.

**20707 Ragnvold A. Nestos Papers**

Governor Ragnvold Anderson Nestos was a native of Norway. Nestos was elected governor in a recall election that removed Governor Lynn Frazier and the other two members of the Industrial Commission from office. It was a time of bitter political discontent and bickering between the NPL (Nonpartisan League, which supported state-owned industry) and the IVA (Independent Voters Association, which opposed state ownership of Industries). Nestos worked hard to make the new state-owned businesses (State Mill and Elevator and the Bank of North Dakota) a success.

**30347 Mill and Elevator Association, North Dakota. General Manager Files**

Series consists of correspondence, memoranda, reports, and printed material concerning administration, production, sales, marketing, and the milling industry. Inventory available.

**30348 Mill and Elevator Association, North Dakota. Assistant General Manager Files**

Series consists of correspondence, memoranda, and printed material relating to administration, personnel, labor, supplies, and marketing. Inventory available.

## Books

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*Milling and Baking Test; Tests of Flour Sold in North Dakota*

1908 - E.F. Ladd

Call Number: 338.47 N814 82

*State Mill and Elevator, Grand Forks, North Dakota*

1900 – North Dakota Mill & Elevator Association

Dakota Maid cookbook supplement

Call Number: 641.5 N814s

*The North Dakota State Mill and Elevator Association: History, Organization, Administration, and Operation*

1955 – E. Bruce Hagen

Call Number: 664.72 H143n 1955

*North Dakota Mill and Elevator: The Home of Dakota Maid Flour and Feed*

1956 – North Dakota Mill & Elevator Association

Call Number: 664.72 N814 1956

*North Dakota Mill: From the Heart of Spring and Durum Wheat Country*

1975 – North Dakota Mill & Elevator Association

Call Number: 664.72 N814n

*Flour Milling in America*

1963 – Herman Steen

Call Number: 664.72 St32

*The Facts About the State Owned Mill and Elevator at Grand Forks, What it is Costing the Taxpayer, the Farmer, the Consumer of Flour and Mill Feed*

1926—prepared by the Independent Flour Mills at the request of the Independent Voters Association

Call Number: 336.19 F119

*The Good and the Bad: Facts about North Dakota State Owned and Operated Flour Mill and Elevator; Also of Kindred Matters, as Revealed by State Wide Surveys, June, 1939*

1940—Dan W.B. Kurtz, Jr. of Minot N.D

Call Number: 338.18 K967

## Online Resources

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### [A New Exhibit on the Way](#)

Shane Molander – State Historical Society of North Dakota Blog

### [SHSND Photobook](#)

State Historical Society of North Dakota's Online Search Portal for all digitized photographs

### [Digital Horizons](#)

Online consortium of historic photographs from the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota

### [WorldCat](#)

State Historical Society of North Dakota's publication search portal

## External Resources

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### [North Dakota Mill](#)

Current website for the North Dakota Mill in Grand Forks

### [Dakota Datebook Archive: North Dakota Mill and Elevator](#)

Article on the Prairie Public Newsroom website

## State Archives

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For more information related to the collections and resources available at the North Dakota State Archives, please email [archives@nd.gov](mailto:archives@nd.gov) or call (701) 328-2668.



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