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# MANFRED HISTORY AND PRESERVATION

P.O. Box 321 Harvey, North Dakota 58341

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## Greetings from Manfred!

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## Gulbran P and Anna Melaas

Husband's Full Name: Gulbran P [aka Gilbert Melaas]

Husband's Place of Birth: Elbow Lake, Grant, Minnesota, USA

Husband's Father's Name: Peder Melaas

Husband's Mother's Name: Martha Iversdattr Heir

Husband's Siblings' Names: Ivar, Ellena [Berndt Peterson], Martin, plus two sisters and a brother

Wife's Full Name: Anna Evline Bakke

Wife's Place of Birth: Aastad, Otter Tail, Minnesota, USA

Wife's Father's Name: Ole Pederson Bakke

Wife's Mother's Name: Anne Amundsdattr Amundson

Wife's Siblings' Names: George, Peter, Thorvald

Child's Name: Melvin A. Melaas (born and died in 1906)

## Gulbran P and Anna Melaas

Gulbran homesteaded land in Fram Township, Wells County in 1898, and in 1902 he married Anna Bakke from Minnesota. They continued to farm until 1933 when his health began to fail. He retired from farming, but they continued to live on the farm. In 1934 they rented their land to Nils and Hazel (Olson) Solberg, and the Solberg's purchased the land in 1954. The property has been in the Solberg family since that time.

The Nils Solberg family gave Anna's wedding gown to the MHP, Inc. museum, where it is displayed. Janice Solberg Baum-Johnson said that she and her siblings always affectionately called them uncle and auntie, but they weren't related. Gulbrand and Anna had only one child, Melvin who died as an infant. The Melaas' are all buried at the Bethania Lutheran Church Cemetery near Wellsburg. Gulbrand died in 1953, and Anna died in 1964. Anna was living in Otter Tail County, Minnesota, the place of her birth, at the time of her death.