

1976

District #36 - Malmo

Office of the County Superintendent, Saunders County

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The first building of District #36 was located about a half mile east of the present village of Malmo.

It was here the children of the early settlers of the district began their education and drank water from a flowing spring on the bank of nearby Cottonwood Creek.

Some who still have families here told of waiting out the terrible blizzard of 1888 in this building.

Later when the town of Malmo was formed the district built a two-room school in town. This was during the period of growth of the town and community and "going to school" became more practical, as well as being required by law. Soon there was not enough space for the students so the district built the present four-room structure in about 1905 and the two-room school was divided into two dwellings that are still in use.

During this time some classes were held in the Sunday School rooms of the Lutheran Church as well as in the town hall and even in a room of the hotel.

The present building has had a number of changes in grades and enrollment. It had 4 years of High School for about 20 years. Because of stricter State requirements and declining enrollment the high school grades were dropped and only elementary grades were taught.

Some of the things that are still in my memory of school days were the old fashioned spelling bee, mental arithmetic contests and playing basketball outside. Some times we went to a neighboring country school for a baseball game on Friday afternoon.

In those days the school grounds were not kept mowed as short as in later years and usually our first ball practices would involve several nests of bumble bees to add to the excitement.

In the days before storm windows and insulation, some cold windy days meant wearing a heavy coat most of the day in the class room in spite of the janitor's best efforts to stoke the coal burning furnace.

The old building has been changed to include indoor plumbing, modern lights, fire alarms, insulated walls and automatic gas furnace. The years are showing and most likely before long it will have to be replaced.

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 15, Township 15, Range 6
Mariposa Precinct
Malmo

School Board - Duane Lindgren
Leonard Chmelka
Robert McPeck

Teachers - Dorothy Kemerling
Lodema Heiser

Pupils

Scott Holtorf	Marilyn Jaroska
Lynne McPeck	Paul Lindgren
Thomas Chmelka	Lori McPeck
Jody Hauschild	Nancy Jean Nelson
Cynthia Nelson	Sheryl Swartz
Karen Nice	Edward Frana
Suzanne Frana	Tim Nelson
Gerald Nelson	Scott Nice
James Swartz	Craig Cihal
Cyndy Frana	Danette Hauschild
Frank Hicken	Susan Jaroska
Shelly McPeck	Jim Nelson
Amy Speichinger	Wendy Nice
Kevin Swartz	Donald Swartz
Nancy Chmelka	
Ronald Hauschild	
Scott Hicken	