Germans from Russia Dolls and Lace
at the
Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection
2nd floor display case in E. Morrow Lebedeff Hall
March 16 – June 15, 2015

Elvera Reuer was born in South Russia. When she was ten, she and her family were forced to flee ahead of the Russian army. They finally arrived in the U.S. in 1949.

Elvera created a line of dolls dressed in traditional German-Russia styles. The dolls shown here are dressed in their formal Sunday clothes.

Crocheted tablecloths and lace were prized possessions of German housewives in Russia and these women brought their crochet skills to the Dakotas when they immigrated.

A selection of these women’s patterns were reproduced by Connie Dahlke as part of her research on the art of crochet by German-Russians.

The Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection works with the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection at the NDSU Libraries to house the GRHC Textile Collection.