

Finding Aid to the Traill County County Seat Court Case

Traill County County Seat Court Case, 1884

.4 linear ft.

MSS 77

[Biography](#)

[Scope and Content](#)

[Folder List](#)

OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the NDSU Archives.

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Traill County County Seat Court Case (MSS 77), NDSU Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

Traill County was organized by an Act of the Territorial Legislature of Dakota Territory in 1875. Governor Howard appointed Asa H. Morgan, Jonas Ostland, and John Brown as the first County Commissioners. At the first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, the county seat was located in Caledonia. Voters were asked to move the county seat to Mayville. Mayville lost by a vote of 287 to 238. In 1879, the Commissioners approved the construction of a jail at a cost of \$389. In 1880, The Commissioners accepted a bid for \$2,100 for the construction of a new courthouse in Caledonia. The courthouse was completed that fall. In 1883, another vote was taken to move the county seat. In April, 1884 a case was brought before the District Court regarding the election. Those bringing the case did so

on the grounds that the election was not properly publicized; that the notice was not published for three successive weeks; and that the notice improperly stated that the purpose of the election was for the location of the county seat, not for the relocation. The judge eventually threw out the results of the election due to the fact that there were many more votes cast than there were legal voters, and that some of the voters resided in the local cemetery. In 1890, the county seat was relocated to Hillsboro.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Trail County County Seat Case includes the testimony of the court case.

FOLDER LIST

Box-Folder	Content
1/1	Testimony: Witnesses for the Respondent
1/2	Testimony: Witnesses for the Relator
1/3	Testimony: Witnesses for the Relator