Finding Aid to the
Arneson Family Photograph Collection

Arneson Family Photograph Collection, 1880s-1950s
483 photographic prints
45 glass plate negatives : 5 x 7 in.
Collection number: Photo 2042
                      Photo Folio 76
                      Neg. 5x7G, numbers 18-62

OVERVIEW

**Links:** View images in [Digital Horizons](#).

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

**Provenance:** Donated by Harry R. Arneson, Jr. Family, 1987 (Acc. 2213).

**Property Rights:** The Institute owns the property rights to this collection.

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**Citation:** Institute for Regional Studies, NDSU, Fargo [item number]

BIOGRAPHY

Harry R. Arneson, Sr. began working for the W. J. Lane Company of Fargo in 1904. He served as the company’s president until 1972. He was born on January 7, 1886 in Moorhead, Minnesota. He attended North Dakota Agricultural College and Dakota Business College before becoming associated with W. J. Lane Co. Harry Arneson married Mable Torgerson on September 1, 1908. They had two sons, Harry Jr., and C.A. Mrs. Arneson died in 1968 and Harry Arneson on May 9, 1973.

Son, Harry Arneson, Jr., began working for the W. J. Lane Company after he returned from military service in World War II. His career was in appraisals, and apparently he established his own company of
Harry Arneson, Jr. and Associates around 1954. This business worked out of the W.J. Lane Company office, handling its appraisal work. In 1972, the firm became the Arneson Company operated by Harry Arneson, Sr. and his son, Harry, Jr. After Harry Arneson, Sr. died Harry Arneson, Jr. appears to have continued his appraisal business as well as the Arneson Company until his death on May 4, 1997.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Arneson Family Photograph Collection contains a rich variety of images of the Fargo area as well as some images from Moorhead, and other areas in North Dakota and Minnesota. Some were accumulated by the W. J. Lane Co. and later by Harry R. Arneson, Jr., as well as personally accumulated by the Arneson family. The photographs have been organized into two series: Fargo, and Topical. The original glass negatives have been linked to photographic copies that are interfiled in the appropriate file. Most of them are scenes in Fargo.

The **Fargo, N.D. Series** is arranged topically and includes images from the 1880s to the 1950s, although most are not dated and few have written identification. Among the larger files are the 1934 American Legion convention parade in Fargo, aerial views, Broadway scenes, businesses and buildings, churches, 1950s fires, houses, the W.J. Lane Co., and parades.

The **Topical Series** is arranged by subject or geographic area, as appropriate. The major files include Moorhead, Minn., Detroit Lakes, Minn., the 1950 fire at Christine, N.D., threshing and harvesting, Jack Spratt Grocery at Breckenridge, Minn., lake cabins, and homestead scenes. A unique image is a baseball game at Dilworth, Minn. on July 5, 1909.

**BOX/FOLDER**

**FOLDER LISTING** (No. of images)

1/0 Finding aid and biographical information

**Fargo, N.D. Series**

1/1 American Legion convention, 1934 (31)
1/2 Banks (6)
1/3 Broadway scenes (8)
1/4 Businesses and buildings- (9)

- NDSU YMCA
- Elks Lodge site
- Aaker's College
- Fargo Portrait and Art Studio
- Orpheum Theatre
- Gust Olson Concrete
- F.J. Haynes photography studio
- Back view of apartments
- Basement of Vidger & Lewis

1/5 Cass County Court House (4)
1/6 Churches- (15)

- Orig. First Presbyterian
- First Methodist
First Presbyterian
Gospel Tabernacle
First Lutheran
St. Marks Lutheran
Broadway Methodist
St. Mary's Catholic
1/7 deLendrecie home, 1121 5th St. S. (1)
1/8 Early scenes (2)
1/9 Elevated views, taken from post office, and Fargo College Hill (9)
Folio 76/1 Fargo-Moorhead Street Railway car (1)
Folio 76/12 Fargo Fire, 1893
1/11 Fire engine (1)
1/12 Fires, 1950s (11)
1/13 First Ave. North (3)
1/10 Flood, 1897 (7)
Folio 76/3 Flood, 1897, (4)
2/50 Flood, 1947 (18)
1/22 Flood, 1950 (4)
Folio 76/4 Football team (1)
1/14 General- (11)
T.V. tower
View from NP Ave.
1950 Christmas scene
Woman with child in buggy
Tree fallen on car
Posters of World War I
Two men in front of Grand Theatre
Fargo Board of Realtors float
View of N.P. Park
Folio 76/11 F. J. Haynes photography studio (1)
1/15 High school (5)
1/16 Houses (80)
Folio 76/5 Houses (3)
1/17 Hospitals (3)
1/18 House construction (2)
1/19 McLaughlin Oil Co. (10)
1/20 Military (8)
1/21 Moulton, C. J. residence (1)
1/23 1950 Jubilee (10)
Folio 76/6 Northwest Airlines (3)
Folio 76/2 Oldsmobile Automobile, 1902 (1)
1/24 Parade, June 1942 (43)
1/25 Parades (15)
1/26 Post office (3)
1/27 Public library (1)
1/28 Railroad stations (4)
2/29 Red River and bridge (6)
2/30 Soap Box Derby, 1953 (5)
Folio 76/7 Street scene, 1930s (1)
Street scenes - South (3)
Folio 76/8
Theatre group (1)
2/32
W. J. Lane Co.-
   Exterior, interior, and employees (19)

Topical Photographs Series

2/33
Badlands (2)
2/34
Breckenridge, Minn. - Jack Spratt Grocery (4)
2/35
Christine, N.D. - Fire, Oct. 9, 1950 (8)
2/36
Copper Kettle Inn (1)
Folio 76/9
Dilworth, Minn. baseball game, July 5, 1909 (1)
2/37
Detroit Lakes, Minn. - Cafe and North Shore Cabins (11)
2/38
Dilworth, Minn. - Asp Motel (6)
2/39
General- (8)
   General store
   Northern Pacific RR excavating for reservoir, Oriska, N.D.
   Pres. T. Roosevelt's cabin on capitol grounds, Bismarck
   Two water towers
   Snow storm in Ellendale, N.D.
2/40
Holes, Andrew home, Moorhead (1)
2/47
Homesteads (8)
2/41
Lake cabins (9)
2/42
Lake scenes (2)
2/43
Lindbergh Day (4)
2/44
Luverne, N.D. - Hardware, implement (2)
2/45
Moorhead, Minn. Buildings- (11)
   Concordia College (President’s house, Old Main)
   High School
   Moorhead State Teacher's College
   Post office
   Public Library
   Armory
   Nord Furnace Co.
   Moorhead Storage and Transfer
Folio 76/13
Folio 76/10
Pasture scene, western North Dakota (1)
2/46
People (11)
2/47
Prairie homesteads (8)
2/48
Threshing and harvesting (5)
2/49
Well drilling (1)

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