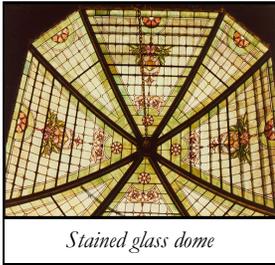


# Pembina County Courthouse

## 100th Anniversary

### Celebration

In 1867, the city of Pembina was designated as the county seat of Pembina County, and the original courthouse was built there in 1881. In 1910, a committee was formed to support moving the county seat to the city of Cavalier. In the November 8, 1910 election, 2,249 citizens voted to move the county seat to Cavalier – a more central location. The election was contested and brought to court, but the election result prevailed. In March 1912, an election was held to authorize bonds for the building of the courthouse, jail, and the sheriff's residence. The contract



*Stained glass dome*

for the buildings was let on April 5, 1912, to Rowles and Baily. The cost of the structure including plumbing, electrical, and furnishings was \$110,000. The stained glass dome/skylight was designed by Bruce Richardson of Bathgate, ND.

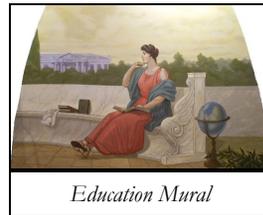
The **PEMBINA COUNTY COURTHOUSE** is an example of the Beaux Arts architectural style. One of the thirteen county courthouses in North Dakota designed by the St. Paul firm of Buechner and Orth between 1904 and 1919, the structure is an impressive, durable, and beautiful part of the state's heritage. The building is constructed of yellow Hebron brick over a Bealford limestone basement. The Pembina County Courthouse is the only Buechner and Orth courthouse that does not have a central dome, but it does have a functioning rotunda skylight with attendant murals and stencil treatments. The vaulted stained glass skylight springs from interior pilasters at the level of the second story ceiling. The wainscoting, stairs, and staircase are marble, and all floors are terrazzo.

The two-story brick sheriff's residence and jail stand south of the courthouse. This building is one of several other jail/sheriff residences built in association with Buechner and Orth courthouses. A new law enforcement center was built south of the Courthouse in 1975, with an addition in 1993.

The courthouse was placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 as part of a multiple property nomination of Buechner and Orth Courthouses in North Dakota. The Pembina County Courthouse is located at 301 Dakota Street West #1, Cavalier, ND. The Pembina County Courthouse is open to the public during regular working hours (8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday).



*Agriculture Mural*



*Education Mural*



*Justice Mural*



*Commerce Mural*



1912



2012

**Pembina County Courthouse**

**1912—2012**  
**100 Year Anniversary**

**Representing Pembina County**  
**And it's People**

**July 15, 2012**

**PEMBINA COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

The Pembina County Courthouse has been located in Cavalier since 1912 after citizens voted for a more central location and authorized bonds for the building and furnishing of the Courthouse. At that time the cost to build and furnish the Courthouse, jail and sheriff's residence was \$100,000.00. This solid, concrete marble building has endured one hundred years of continual service to the citizens of Pembina County. At various times changes occurred to the floor plans to accommodate the changing role government programs play in our lives.

On August 19, 2005, a fire occurred at the back entrance and hallway which caused extensive damage. The basement area was badly damaged by fire, heat, smoke, and water. Smoke, soot, and steam created by the water and heat, did unbelievable damage to the main floor, third floor and the rotunda. The Courthouse was devastating to see.

As quickly as possible repairs from the fire and updates to the mechanical, electrical, technical and accessibility components were made to this magnificent building to carry its functionality into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The North Dakota Historical Society approved plans, always keeping the historic integrity of the building. In 2010 the windows were replaced in the Courthouse, adding to the restored beauty of this Majestic building, which reflects the respect and appreciation for our local government and the people that work to execute the duties. May the building be enjoyed and revered for generations to come.

On July 16th, 1912 a gala celebration was held as the cornerstone of the building was laid. Estimates of 5,000 to 7,000 people were made of the attendance that Tuesday. Following a short parade led by brass bands from Cavalier, Walhalla, Drayton, Mountain, Neche, Svoid and St. Thomas, Commission Chairman Joseph Morrison, of Drayton, guided the machinery that laid the cornerstone into place—but not until he had placed a small copper box “time capsule” inside a recess of the cornerstone. The box, it was hoped, would preserve its contents for 100 years. Today, in honor the Pembina County Courthouse’s 100th Anniversary, we will reveal the contents of the time capsule.

We would like to extend a warm “Thank you” to all who helped in any way with today’s 100th Anniversary Celebration.

**PEMBINA COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Andy Adamson, Chairperson

Corene Vaughn

Gary Nilson

Hugh Ralston

Hetty Walker

District Judge ..... Laurie Fontaine

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Auditor/Treasurer..... Linda Schlittenhard

County Clerk/Recorder .....Kay Newell Braget

Interim States Attorney .....Barbara Whelan

Sheriff..... Brian Erovick

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

Veterans Service Officer ..... Ronald Berg

Social Service Director .....Jill Denault

Director of Tax Equalization .....Julie Doyle

Human Resource Director.....Tanya Wieler

Public Health Administrator.....Jeanne Chaput

Public Health Nurses.....Jenna Kujava

.....Kallie Lunde

Highway Superintendent..... Troy Kittelson

Extension Agent.....Helen Volk-Schill

E-911/GIS Coordinator.....Elizabeth Beck

Disaster Emergency Manager.....Jill Pederson

Buildings & Grounds.....Kelly Cluchie

Publications .....Renee Lunde & JeanneChaput