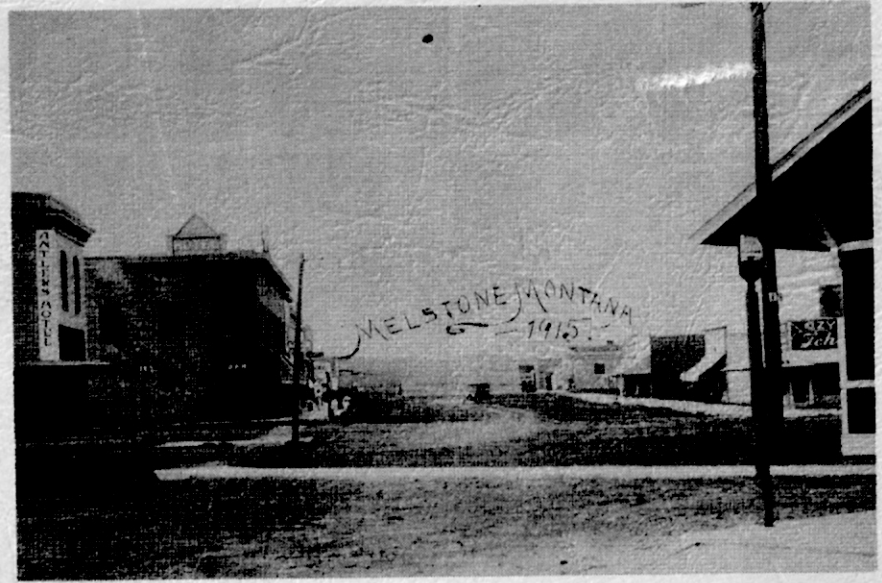


# MELSTONE

## The Town and Its Times



The Melstone History Class

# MELSTONE

## **The Town and Its Times**

Melstone History Class  
Melstone High School  
Melstone, Montana

## Preface

This book is the result of only 4 months of research, but brings to light many items of history that have been forgotten or have faded from memory.

References used in writing this book include the *Record of Postmaster Appointments* which is kept in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and in the Bureau of Operations of the Post Office Department in Washington, D.C. Records kept by the Musselshell County Clerk and Recorder and the County Superintendent of Schools have provided us with information unavailable elsewhere.

We are deeply indebted to Doris Spek who provided us with pictures and history of the Musselshell valley; to Mrs. Collier who also provided pictures and information; to Les Fields who provided us with a taped history that he had made; to Mary Maxwell for letting us copy some of her pictures; and to Bohlman for letting us copy family pictures and pictures of events of the past. We also want to thank Pete and Mary Harvey for letting us copy pictures of the "RL" Ranch and for providing us with a copy of the history of the Custer Road. We are very grateful to Don and Ethel Pease for helping us obtain pictures and helping with the identification of people and places as well as the encouragement they gave.

The old *Melstone Messenger* newspapers we had at our disposal, thanks to Doris Spek, Stensvads, and the *Roundup Record* provided us with a good verification of facts and events. The *Roundup Record* deserves special thanks for donating a series of bound copies of the *Messenger* to the High School after they found out about our project.

We are also indebted to all those people who have preserved some of the past in letters, pictures, and memories. It is hoped that this book will bring back memories as well as provide an interesting history of the area. There is much we have been unable to find and many people we did not get to interview, but if nothing else we hope that this brief history will create more interest and perhaps at a later time a more extensive history can be written.

June 1972

## Introduction

No finer tribute can be paid to the American Bicentennial than this book, *MELSTONE: THE TOWN AND ITS TIMES*, finally becoming a reality in this special year. Yes, it is only a small part in the American Bicentennial scene, but oh so large to us in this community.

As a way of saying thank you to Mr. Jim Sackett, originator of this book, the Preface will remain worded as his history class originally intended. In reality the book was completed by a second history class at Melstone High School. All the research and the writing of the book was done by the students.

The following students were involved in the writing of this book under the instruction of either Mrs. Carmen Galt and Mr. Jim Sackett.

Karen Biesheuval	Kevin Kincheloe
Terry Biesheuval	Renita Kincheloe
Sally Burke	Debby Lang
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Cookie Crom	Pam Moore
John Eike	Jean Ann Peddicord
Lori Gardner	Gary Robinson
Kathy Hougen	Laurie Stanhope
Charley Jennaway	Lynn Stanhope
	Ardell Stensvad

As in any historical accounting, not all people see the events through the same eyes, this book being no exception. Speaking for these students, we hope this book is an accurate representation of Melstone's history and hope this book will provide many fond memories.

Carmen Galt

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