

Collection name: Besser Museum Collection [Trelfa Histories]

Repository: Special Collections Department -Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. 211 First Ave, Alpena, MI 49707.
specialcollections@alpenalibrary.org. <https://alpenalibrary.org/>

Collection number: BMFNM-9

Dates: 1840-1968

Creator Name: Fred R. Trelfa

Quantity: 2.5 Linear ft / 5 boxes

Language: English

Provenance note: On April 15, 2008, the Besser Museum's Board of Trustees passed a motion to de-accession most portions of its archival collection in order to focus on its artifact collection. Once de-accessioned by the Museum, the archival collections become the property of the Library.

Biographical & Historical Information: In 1964, as a gift from Jesse H. Besser and other contributors, Alpena citizens became the recipients of the Jesse Besser Museum. In return local citizens collected funds to help purchase highly specialized projection and control equipment for a planetarium in the center of the new Museum. To this day, the Besser Museum is the only museum to host a Planetarium in Northern Michigan.

Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan is a community resource that serves to inspire curiosity, foster community pride, and cultivate personal legacy. The Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan is an educational 501(c)(3) public charitable organization accredited by the American Association of Museums. Its mission is to serve the public of all ages and abilities in art, history, and science. Through programs and exhibits, it promotes understanding and appreciation of the past, present, and future.

- **Scope & Content:** Historical paper collection of Fred R. Trelfa who worked under the tutelage of a local photographer as a young man. Mr. Trelfa was an avid amateur historian and was considered a go-to person for local history.

Access: Open for research

Preferred Citation: *item, folder, box* Besser Museum Collection, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. Alpena, MI

Collection Contents:

Box 1 of 5: Alpena History

Folder

1. Fires
2. History – Boulton (duplicate of Notebook)
3. Notes – early histories, chronological histories
4. Topics A – C
5. Topics D – K
6. Topics L – O
7. Topics P – Z

Box 2 of 5: Congregational Church, Fish Hatchery, Fisheries

Folder

1. Congregational Church - History
2. Congregational Church – News articles
3. Congregational Church – Correspondence 1860-1875
4. Congregational Church – Correspondence 1876-1968
5. Congregational Church – Financials
6. Fish Hatcheries
7. Fisheries

Box 3 of 5: Cattle brands, Log marks.

Folder

1. Cattle Brands
2. Log Marks A – K
3. Log Marks L – Z
4. Log Marks 1-300
5. Log Marks 230-321
6. Log Marks – Gustin
7. Log Marks

Box 4 of 5: Lumbering – Marine

Folder

1. Land Grants
2. Lumber Companies
3. Lumbering
4. Loggers – Lumberman's Monument
5. Marine – Pewabic (correspondence)
6. Marine – Pewabic (general)
7. Marine – Pewabic (monographs)
8. Marine – Pewabic (newspaper articles)
9. Marine – Pewabic (salvage)
10. Marine – Shipwrecks
11. Marine – Shipwrecks
12. Marine – Vessels
13. Marine – Vessels (Mackinaw boats)
14. Montmorency County

Box 5 of 5: People, Railroads, Thunder Bay Island.

Folder

1. People
2. People – Comstock
3. People – Fletcher
4. People – Gilchrist
5. People – Loud
6. People – Pack
7. People – Persons
8. People – Trelfa
9. People – Voegele, Fred
10. Railroads 1840 – 1902
11. Railroads 1900 – 1963
12. Thunder Bay Island