

## **Bartley, Red Willow County, NE**

RG364

Bartley, Red Willow County, NE

Records: 1887-1951

Cubic ft.: .5

No. of Items: 3 volumes

### HISTORICAL NOTE

Bartley, situated in the Republican Valley of Nebraska, and a part of Red Willow County, was founded by a Methodist minister named Allen Bartley. Bartley homesteaded there in 1883.

In 1885, Bishop Willard F. Mallalieu, bishop of the Methodist church in Lincoln, visited the area and suggested that the third Methodist college in Nebraska be located on Bartley's land. As a result, the Lincoln Land Company donated the land where Bartley now stands to the Methodist church for this college. The college was named Mallalieu University after the Bishop, and the town of Bartley, after Allen Bartley, the founder.

The original town of Bartley was platted over 80 city blocks centering around the college. Envisioned were four grand avenues...with 20 feet parks in the center. The whole town plat covered 180 acres. Dedication of the college was on June 9, 1886 and the day of opening was September 30th of the same year.

Nearly 200 persons lived there in 1886. In December of the same year the college opened, a contest between different communities for a central Methodist college was the demise for this university. Lincoln, Nebraska Wesleyan University, won the election. The college remained opened and the town continued to grow for a few years. Although periodic building continued at the University, Bartley and the University were plagued by law suits and the lack of financial support. The college was closed in 1891. Bartley left the area in 1892.

The town of Bartley still exists, and celebrated its centennial in 1986. The above text was taken in part from "1886-1891, Bartley, Nebraska - Views of a College Town, by James J. Sughroue, 1986.



ADDED ENTRIES:\*\*

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT--RECORDS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Bartley, Rev. Allen

MALLALIEU UNIVERITY (BARTLEY, NEB.)

MALLALIEU, W. F. (WILLARD FRANCIS), c.1828-1911

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains the minutes of Bartley Village Town Board, 1887-1951 in three volumes. The records were transferred to the State Archives on May 21, 1990.

## DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE VILLAGE TOWN BOARD MINUTES, 1887-1951

Vols. 1-3 Minutes, 1887-1951

END OF INVENTORY  
SRW/pmc 7/2/1990