

The Marquis de Mores – Dakota Entrepreneur



State Historical Society of North Dakota 0042-115

Medora de Vallombrosa, Marquise de Mores
with Athenais, Louis and Paul 1901

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Athenais 1883 - 1969

Medora did not come to Dakota Territory until after the birth of their baby daughter. Athenais was just a few months old when she was brought out to the family's new home. She was cared for by a nurse. Athenais was about 3 years old when the family left in 1886. Athenais was married three times but had only one child. Her daughter, Thais, died when she was 19 years old in a horseback riding accident in Switzerland. After living in Argentina during World War II, she returned to France. She died in 1969.

Louis 1885 - 1959

Louis was born in New York in 1885. He also had his own nurse. When the family left in 1886, he was about one and one half years old. Louis and his sister grew up in France and did not return to Medora until 1903. Louis spent only a few days in Medora since he was entering Yale University. He married and had a son Antoine, called Tony, in 1921. Louis retired from the banking business in France and moved to Switzerland in 1936. That year he deeded the Chateau and 125 acres of land to the state of North Dakota. He died in New York in 1959.



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Louis Age 6, Athenais Age 8, 1891



Paul 1890 - 1950

A third child was born after the family returned to France in 1887. Paul was only six years old when his father was killed in 1896. He made a visit to Medora in 1913 when he spent about a week in the area taking photos of the Vallombrosa family property. He also worked in banking. Paul was a Lieutenant in the French cavalry from 1914 - 1918. He married but did not have any children. He died in 1950.

Antoinne 1921-1982

State Historical Society of North Dakota 0098-06 Louis' son, Antoinne or Tony, was born in 1921. As a child, he visited Medora with his father and made several visits in the 1970's and early 1980's. He died in 1982 without having married or had any children so was the last of the direct family line.



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