

THE BULLETIN

of the
Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc.
Portland, Oregon



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September 2010

GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON

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THE BULLETIN

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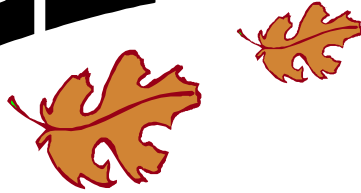
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THIS PERIODICAL IS INDEXED IN PERSI

FALL SEMINAR



**We Welcome . . .
Paula
Stuart-Warren, CG**



Seminar Features

- Book Vendor
- Genealogical Treasures
- Other Genealogical Societies
- GFO Surplus Book Sale

**Saturday
Oct. 23, 2010**

**At the
Milwaukie Elks Lodge**

***Hosts: GENEALOGICAL FORUM OF OREGON
Portland, Oregon www.gfo.org***

PAULA'S TOPICS

- Research Rewards in County Courthouses and Town Hall Records*
- Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records*
- Lord Preserve Us! Church Records for Family History Research*
- Midwestern & Plains State Level Census Records*



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LUNCH

Buffet lunch in the Elks Dining Room with payment for lunch.

The buffet luncheon for \$11 includes pot roast, baby red potatoes and various cold selections.

Coffee, hot tea and water included.

No lunch available for purchase after October 18, 2010.

REGISTRATION AT SEMINAR: 8-9 A.M. October 23, 2010 SATURDAY*First Class starts at 9:15 a.m.with a morning break, one-hour lunch, afternoon break, program ends about 4:00 p.m. Snacks & drinks at morning and afternoon breaks come with your price of admission.***FEE AT THE DOOR \$50 MEMBER, \$55 NON-MEMBER****TOPICS FOR THE SEMINAR**

PAULA STUART-WARREN, CG. Since the early 1980's, Paula has worked full-time in the area of genealogical and historical research, lecturing, consulting, and writing. She has been a Board-Certified Genealogist since 1988, passing the periodical renewal assessments by the National Board for Certification of Genealogists. She is a firm believer in education and strives to keep up-to-date by participating in national and local conferences. We welcome Paula's expertise, experience, and her dedication to the world of genealogy.

Research Rewards in County Courthouses and Town Hall Records Courthouses and town halls all across the U. S. are treasure troves of records for family history research. Yes, they include birth, death, marriage, and probate records, but go far beyond these. Learn about these basics and also tax, divorce, naturalization, criminal and civil court records, and others.

Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records So many researchers put up artificial brick walls because their ancestors weren't land owners, were perennial renters staying one step ahead of the bill collector, or didn't leave behind a ten page will listing all the children. Many researchers figure that the trail runs cold, but that is far from the truth.

Lord Preserve Us! Church Records for Family History Research Not all of our ancestors belonged to an organized religion. For those who did, the records which have survived until today can often be helpful to genealogists. Names, dates, relationships, places of new and former residences, burial location, and other details may be learned.

Midwestern & Plains State Level Census Records Many Midwestern and Plains states have superb state census records. Learn about the indexes, the many personal details these censuses include, locating the censuses, and alternate sources. The personal details vary but may include names of children, maiden names, military service, religious denomination, mother of how many children, occupation, value of real estate, and other helpful details.

SITE of SEMINAR:

Milwaukie Elks Lodge
13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd, Milwaukie, Oregon

Driving Directions: On McLoughlin Blvd. (Oregon Hwy 99E), 1/2 mile south of the town of Milwaukie. Located between SE Park Avenue (traffic light to the north) and the Bomber (airplane to the south). On the west side of the street. Look for the Milwaukie Elks Lodge sign near the boulevard.

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THE BULLETIN

of the
Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Volume 60, Issue 60

September 2010

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Letter from the Editor . . .

This has been a most interesting issue of the Bulletin to work on. The focus is on Scandinavian research. We have articles from six guest authors, three of whom are members of GFO- Gwen Newborg, Fred Hasle and Kena Jacobs. Our other guest writers include Mike O'Bryant of the Scandinavian Foundation, Pam Lindholm-Levy and Paula Stuart Warren, our upcoming speaker for the Fall Seminar. Our regular columns include Harvey Steele on Scandinavian Folk Art, Alene Reaugh on the Norse Hall in Portland, and Carol Surrency on "Man's Relationship with Death: Early Burials." We appreciate their contributions to this issue and their willingness to share their knowledge of genealogical research.

My interest in Scandinavia stems from being of one fourth Norwegian and one eighth Danish ancestry. I appreciated the privilege of traveling to Norway and becoming acquainted with my relatives living there. Our trip was based on the journal my great grandfather, John Philip Olsen, kept when he visited Norway in 1914, over thirty years after he came to America. His original passenger contract, No. 1456, records that John Olsen Torp age 19, sailed from Christiania, Norway, on 10 April 1882, to land in New York with a final destination of Portland, Oregon. Passage cost 399 Kroner. He worked for the railroad as he crossed the United States to reach Portland where his brother and sister were living.

I transcribed the journal and sent a copy to my distant cousin Marit in Canada, who is a native of Norway. We planned a trip to Norway in May of 1996. We left Portland on May 28 at noon and arrived in the afternoon in Oslo, on what would be the next day. We traveled through Minneapolis, Detroit, and Amsterdam. It was a very long journey, but one can hardly imagine the trip by steamer ship in 1882 or 1914.

The relatives there opened their homes to us and shared the history of the family. We visited the old homesteads, the three churches the family attended, the cemeteries where we found some markers, and any place mentioned in the journal. Three of the relatives we met were in their nineties. I learned a little Norwegian and they were gracious to translate most everything else. We ate their food, shopped in their stores and truly experienced their way of life. Some of the relatives are now gone, but I will always have fond memories of them. We stay in contact with those still there. One relative later sent me a copy of a historical farm book of the area. I will always treasure the seven days we spent with these wonderful relatives.

The research I did years ago needs to be revisited, as there are so many new avenues for research and more resources continue to be made available. Even if you do not have Scandinavian ancestors, the information included in this issue can be of value in general research of other localities. We look forward to your comments about this issue. We are always looking for additional guest authors.

Susan Olsen LeBlanc, AG®

Congratulations are in order for two of our own.

On April 30 at the NGS dinner in Salt Lake City, Connie Lenzen, CG, received the President's Citation "in recognition of outstanding, continuing, or unusual contributions to the field of genealogy or to the Society"

Susan Leblanc, editor of this issue of the Bulletin, genealogy researcher and lecturer, recently became an Accredited Genealogist through ICAPGen.

BOOK REVIEWERS WANTED!

The *Bulletin* staff is looking for people to write book reviews. Our goal is to get 6 to 10 people, who are willing to write one book review each quarter. We have established a new book review format that guides book reviewers through the process.

The GFO Library gets many books donated by authors and publishers, with the agreement that we will review the donated books, so you will be helping the GFO in a meaningful way. We want this to be fun and light work, by getting lots of people involved. If you want more information or want to volunteer, contact Susan LeBlanc, book review editor, dsleblanc@aol.com.

Feature Article

Scandinavian Emigration and Migration within America

by Kena Jacobs

The earliest Scandinavians to arrive in America were the Vikings in 1000 A.D. They visited, left their mark, and returned whence they came. They came as explorers. They explored the Atlantic Coast of Canada and perhaps as far south as New England. There is evidence of a camp that they occupied for a year or two in Newfoundland.

Six hundred years passed before the Scandinavians again came to America, this time to establish a colony. "Wealthy Scandinavians considered the eastern seaboard of the Americas a promising site for investment and sought to launch colonial enterprises there."¹ These immigrants were from Sweden and Finland. They established the colony of New Sweden along the Delaware River in 1638. After seventeen years of Swedish rule, the colony was absorbed into the colony of New Netherlands, which was subsumed nine years later by William Penn's colony. Finland was part of the Swedish empire at this time, so the names of the Finns in the early records are written in Swedish.

The great migration of Scandinavians to America began in the 19th century. "The once-prosperous Scandinavian nations were rocked by political strife and social upheaval as regional wars and agricultural disasters created tremendous instability in everyday life. Meanwhile, official corruption, the policies of powerful state churches, and an increasing disparity between the rich and the poor drove many thousands of Scandinavians to seek a better life elsewhere."² "Between 1825 and 1925, some 1,250,000 Swedes, 850,000 Norwegians, 360,000 Danes, 390,000 Finns, and 14,000 Icelanders came to the United States."³ Approximately one-third of the immigrants from Scandinavia eventually moved back to their native countries. This is close to the European average.⁴

Each group (Swedes, Finns, Norwegians, Danes, and the Icelandic people) streamed into American ports at different times and settled in slightly different manners among their new neighbors. The focus of this presentation is on those differences in migration and assimilation patterns and the unique contributions of each group.

The early Scandinavian immigrants tended to be financially comfortable and more affluent than immigrants arriving after the Civil War. They tended to be primarily young families and a few single men. By the 1880s, the pattern shifted with the emigrants tending to be from the

poorer classes. Travel costs had decreased, and many established Scandinavian immigrants in America could afford to send their impoverished friends and family members prepaid tickets, which they would work off upon arrival.⁵

By this time, much of the best land available through the Homestead Act and the railroads had been taken up. New arrivals either struggled to survive on less-than-ideal farmland in places like the Dakotas or they took industrial jobs in mining, logging, and manufacturing. The young women sought out jobs as domestic servants. The proportion of emigrants coming from cities in Scandinavia increased, and proportionately more single men emigrated. Likewise, the percentage of new arrivals settling in urban and industrialized areas grew. A number of Swedes settled in Worcester, and many Finns found a home in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. When ships switched from sail to steam, many ship-builders and seamen from the southern tip of Norway lost their jobs and relocated to Brooklyn, New York.⁶

Sweden

The Swedes were among the first Scandinavians who settled in America. The Scandinavians who established the New Sweden colony in 1638 introduced their notched-corner log cabin style of building construction which became a staple building style throughout pioneer America.

Why did they leave?⁷

- **Over-population and land hunger.** The population of Sweden doubled from 1750 to 1850 and continued to grow due to improvements in modern medicine and a more stable food supply. This increase in population led to a strain on the amount of land available, especially for farming. A famine swept the country. "Emigration regulations were eased, and ...between 1861 and 1881, 150,000 traveled to the United States, 100,000 of whom came in just five years, between 1868 and 1873."⁸
- **Religious persecution.** The government of Sweden was connected to the State Lutheran Church, and, until 1858, people who practiced another religion faced being fined, put in jail, or exiled from the country. Even though these practices stopped in 1858, many Swedes

continued to be intolerant of their fellow countrymen and women who practiced a religion other than that of the state. Because of this, many Swedes left Sweden between 1840 and 1860.

- **Avoidance of mandatory military service.** Young men in 1860, for example, were required to train in the Swedish military for 30 days out of the year. The Swedish conscription laws of 1885, 1887, and 1892 became increasingly strict and demanding. Some young men decided to leave the country rather than face this conscription.
- **Wanderlust, lost love, and family conflicts.** Of course, this is true for all of the other Scandinavian countries, too.

Where did they settle?

A few Swedes came into Wisconsin from 1838 on, but the Swedish immigration seriously began in 1845 with the arrival in southeastern Iowa of a group of 21 peasants from Kisa led by Peter Cassel. The following year, a thousand followers of the prophet Eric Janson arrived in Illinois and established the colony of Bishop Hill. The Swedes fanned out to Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Kansas. From there, they moved on to the Rocky Mountain states and the Pacific coast. There were also small Swedish and Norwegian settlements that formed in Texas.⁹

Swedes were attracted to Wisconsin and Minnesota due to the geographic similarity to their homeland, the availability of employment and higher wages offered to workers. Wisconsin and Minnesota offered rich and affordable farmland available through the Homestead Act of 1862. They also offered work in the timber industry, iron mining, and railroad development.¹⁰

Within Minnesota, Swedes settled heavily in the St. Croix and Rum River valleys, primarily in Washington, Isanti, and Chisago counties. Other areas of Swedish settlement include Goodhue County, near Red Wing; Carver County, on the western side of the Minnesota River; Nicollet County, especially in the city of St. Peter, and the areas in and around Lafayette and Bernadotte townships; and the counties of Meeker, Kandiyohi, and Wright (which served as later destinations for Swedish immigrants to the state).¹¹

In 1900, Chicago was home to 150,000 Swedes and Swedish Americans. It was widely considered the second-largest Swedish city in the world.¹²

What made them distinct?

Of all the Scandinavians, the Swedes came to America in the greatest numbers.¹³

The Swedes found work primarily as farmers, but many also worked in mining, the railroad industry, and various industrial trades. The Swedes have remained

among the most rural and agricultural of immigrant groups in America. They enjoyed life in the Pacific Northwest, where the dense forests and rugged coastline reminded them of home, and where they could readily find work in the timber industry.

“Swedish Americans in the early phases of the migration [from about 1860 to 1890] were less concerned than later with the preservation of their Swedishness. Many wished to learn English; many abandoned the Lutheran church; most wished to assimilate into American life.”¹⁴ Toward this end, they started several Baptist and Methodist churches. By 1890, their interest in their heritage was revived along with their ties with the Lutheran church.

There were more Swedes in Sweden who had experience working in the mining industry than there were people with comparable experience in other countries, so upon arrival in America, they felt comfortable moving into those occupations.

They were highly literate. They published many books, magazines, and over 1000 newspapers. “The Swedish American press was the second largest foreign-language press in the United States (after German language imprints) in 1910.”¹⁵

Norway

Some of the first Norwegians in America were seamen in Dutch New Amsterdam (later New York) in the seventeenth century.¹⁶ (There were also some Swedes, Finns, and Danes in New Amsterdam.) The following century, some Norwegian members of the Moravian religious sect joined German Moravians in Pennsylvania.¹⁷ The ongoing immigration of Norwegians began in 1825 when a group of 52 people sailed from Stavanger, Norway, to America on a small sloop, Restaurationen. They were Quakers and Quaker sympathizers who sought religious freedom. The group settled near Rochester, New York. By the mid-1830s, many people in this group relocated to northern Illinois. The enthusiastic letters they sent back home began drawing a steady stream of immigrants from 1836 on.¹⁸

Why did they leave?¹⁹

- **Religious persecution and conflict.**
- **Land hunger.** The Homestead Act of 1862 made it possible for younger brothers of the son who inherited the farm in Norway to own land.
- **The social system in Norway.** Men in Norway were required to show public signs of respect to members of higher social classes. America had no caste system.
- **Voting rights.** All white men in America could vote. In Norway, only people of the elite social class (including the significant land owners)

were permitted to vote.

- **Population growth, mechanization, and job shortages.** As the population in Norway grew rapidly and the industrial revolution replaced men with machines, many people found that they could not get a job and could not farm due to a lack of available land.
- **Crop failures, farm foreclosures, and failures of fish runs.** Those who had land found it difficult to pay the bills and feed their families.
- **Higher wages.**
- **Active recruitment.** Early immigrants and emigration agents extolled the virtues of America and glossed over the difficulties. A contagion called “America Fever” developed among many Norwegians causing such a drive to emigrate to the U.S.A. that one immigrant described it as a “case of homesickness reversed.”²⁰

Where did they settle?

As immigrants continued to stream into America, they spread from Illinois to Wisconsin, then to Minnesota and Iowa, and eventually to the Dakotas and the Pacific Northwest, including Alaska.

In Minnesota, Norwegians initially set up communities in the southeast, over half of them residing in Goodhue, Fillmore, and Houston counties in 1860. By 1880, large populations of Norwegians were also residing in Freeborn, Steele, and Waseca counties. As the railroads were built, the Norwegians spread predominantly to the northwest across the state.²¹

The Red River Valley, including Clay, Marshall, Norman, and Polk counties in northwestern Minnesota saw a tremendous influx of new immigrants and westward migrants. The families tended to settle alongside people from the same communities from whence they came in Norway, naming their new communities after their native homes. By 1875, Norwegian immigrants made up 30% of the total population of Polk and Clay counties. Later, immigrants also made homes in Grant, Pennington, Red Lake, Roseau, and Kittson counties.

The cities of Minneapolis and Duluth saw a tremendous influx of Norwegians from 1870 through 1900. Duluth offered jobs in the fishing industry. Many of the immigrants arriving in Minneapolis were single young people who planned to work for a few years and then return to Norway.²²

What made them distinct?

Although Sweden sent more emigrants to the United States than any other Scandinavian country, Norway sent a greater percentage of its population. More than one-ninth of Norway’s total population immigrated to America in the 1880s.²³

Norwegians were the most rural of the Scandinavian

populations - even more so than the Swedes.

Denmark

“The New Amsterdam colony was home to many prominent Danes, including Jonas Bronck, whose land north of Manhattan Island became widely known as Bronck’s, and, eventually, the Bronx.”²⁴ The earliest significant settlement of Danes in America may have been Moravian Brethren in North Carolina in the eighteenth century. The 1850’s saw the arrival of a small number of Danes and a few Icelandic Mormons. Large-scale immigration of people from Denmark, Finland, and Iceland did not begin until after the Civil War. Many Danes came to America from Slesvig in the 1860s through 1920 after that province was conquered by Prussia in 1864. They were being forced by the King of Prussia to abandon the Danish language and serve in his military. Unfortunately, many of these people who fled Slesvig are listed in the census records as immigrants from Prussia.²⁵

Why did they leave?²⁶

- **Religious reasons.** Many were Mormon converts who were headed for the Promised Land of Utah. Nearly 20,000 Danes sailed toward the Promised Land by the end of the 19th century. “By the end of the 19th century, Utah was home to the largest community of Danish immigrants in the United States.”²⁷
- **A highly restrictive class system and hierarchy.** Denmark was highly stratified. There was little, if any, hope of advancement.
- **Economic and social reasons.** The people of Denmark faced many stresses that were similar to those faced by their Scandinavian neighbors, but they did not endure the famines that plagued the other countries.
- **Rule of Prussia over their lands.**

Where did they settle?

The first wave of immigrants was Mormons who settled primarily in Utah.

The main waves of Danish immigrants settled primarily in Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, southern Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska, and along the West Coast. Eventually, Iowa became the most Danish of all states.²⁸ The largest concentration was in western Iowa where Audubon and Shelby counties rank first and third respectively in the United States in percentage of population with Danish ancestry.

As with other Scandinavians, the immigrants who arrived in the later waves were more likely to settle in urban environments. Racine, Wisconsin, has the highest percentage of Danes of any city nationwide.

What made them distinct?

They tended to have dairy farms rather than cropland.

The Danes tended to integrate into the American population more readily than the Swedes and Norwegians. They were among the most easily acculturated and assimilated of all American ethnic groups. They established fewer and less compact colonies. Many Danes started businesses such as creameries that served a mix of American pioneers, whereas the Swedes and Norwegians were heavily drawn to farming and the formation of close-knit communities.

Many of the Danish immigrants were Mormon converts. Danes are second only to Britain in the number of foreigners recruited by the church and immigrating to the state of Utah. They arrived in New York and set out on foot for Utah, enduring tremendous trials along the way. They were “part of the first mass influx of the pilgrims of a new religion: the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.”²⁹

Danes mixed more easily with Norwegians than with Swedes, because their languages were so similar. They could use the same printing presses. They also were more likely to share church buildings and pastors until they could afford to have separate buildings and clergy.

Danes were more urban than their Scandinavian neighbors. “Although many tried grain and dairy farming upon their arrival in the U.S., most eventually moved to cities and towns.”³⁰

Finland

Over the years of early Swedish settlement, a few Finns came to America with the Swedes, but their period of greatest influx between 1900 and 1914 was later than the other Nordic groups. Between 1890 and 1914, more than 200,000 Finns arrived. Although the number of Finns immigrating to America was much smaller than the number of Swedes and Norwegians, Finland lost about 10% of its population within a few decades.³¹ About 52% of the Finnish emigrants came from Vasa province. The emigrants left Finland to “whittle gold in America.” Two-thirds of them had to borrow the money for their ticket. “In North America they landed either in New York or Boston, or in Canada at Halifax, Quebec City or Montreal.”³²

Why did they leave?³³

- **Mistreatment by the Russians.** Many Finns who came to America were fleeing the increasingly anti-Finnish policies of the Russian government.
- **Recruitment by the U.S.A.** Several companies and local governments actively recruited Finns. “Small Finnish communities sprang up in locales as far-flung as Calumet, Michigan; Gloucester,

Massachusetts; and Montgomery, Alabama.”³⁴

- **Fleeing military service under the Russians.**³⁵
- **Annexation of parts of Finland by Russia.**
- **Failures of crops and fisheries along with financial recession.**
- **Conversion to steamships.** “Tar burning and shipbuilding were profitable industries. In the mid-1850s the world shifted from wooden ships which relied on tar to steamships made of steel.”³⁶

Where did they settle?

They settled primarily in Massachusetts, New York, the northern parts of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota in areas rich with lakes and marshes like their homeland and in northwestern Oregon, Washington, Alaska, California, Ontario, and British Columbia.³⁷ Some of the Finns in Alaska were listed in the records as Russians due to Russia’s control of Finland.

What made them distinct?

Early on, the Finns were mainly involved in industrial occupations, especially mining and timber. As the Finns established themselves financially, many purchased farms in Michigan on land that had been deforested. Later, they became heavily involved in the auto industry. The population of Finns in Detroit shot up from 15 to 15,000 in the first 38 years of the 20th century. Michigan became, and remains, the heart of Finnish America.

Finns introduced slash and burn land clearance.³⁸

Their integration into American communities was more difficult than it was for the other Scandinavians, because the Finnish language is unrelated to English.³⁹ “As a result, many Finnish immigrants were relegated to low-paying unskilled jobs that did not require English-language skills, such as factory work and manual labor.”⁴⁰

They also arrived during a period of growing hostility toward immigrants, so they faced discrimination in housing and jobs, public insults, and physical attacks. In spite of this, the immigrant community grew and thrived.⁴¹

The Finns brought the socialist movement with them. They were very involved in forming cooperatively owned farms, dairies, and stores and establishing other social organizations in America.⁴²

They were also quite active in the labor movements. In part because of their socialist views, they were more antagonistic toward the established Lutheran church.

Finland had the highest rate of remigration of all the Scandinavian countries.

Iceland

Emigration from Iceland began later than any other Scandinavian country. The main emigration began in

the 1870s, when families and groups of families began moving to the Great Lakes states, seeking to escape the famine and overcrowding that had struck Iceland⁴³ About 30% of the total population of Iceland emigrated to North America and Brazil.⁴⁴ (Those who chose Brazil did so to escape the cold.)⁴⁵ “At first, the Icelanders did not arrive in sufficient numbers to start their own communities, and so tended to attach themselves to Norwegian or Swedish farm settlements, or to go to work for established farmers.”⁴⁶ “Icelandic immigration is difficult to track, as many Icelandic immigrants to the U.S. were counted as citizens of Denmark, which controlled Iceland at the time.”⁴⁷

Why did they leave?

- **Encroachment by polar ice both on land and surrounding the island.**⁴⁸
- **The destruction of farms by volcanic eruptions.** In the year 1875 alone, 200 farms were buried in lava or ash.⁴⁹
- **Overpopulation and starvation.**⁵⁰
- **Propaganda campaigns by American agents.**⁵¹
- **Diverse social and economic stresses.**⁵²
- **Over-monopolization of some trades.**⁵³

Where did they settle?

Beginning in the 1870s, most of the North American immigrants from Iceland settled in Manitoba primarily around Lake Winnipeg. There were also a few short-lived settlements in Wisconsin and Michigan. From Manitoba, a few drifted south into the Dakotas.⁵⁴ Most of the immigrants who initially settled in Wisconsin and Michigan moved on to Nebraska, Minnesota, and Manitoba. In the 1880s and 1890s, a few settlements were formed in British Columbia and western Washington. Some Icelanders who no longer wanted to endure the cold found the Pacific Northwest an agreeable climate.

What made them distinct?

They had an exceptionally high rate of literacy. They consumed books at a phenomenal rate. In spite of their tendency to intermingle with the other Scandinavian communities, Icelanders retained their identity.

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 8. The Icelandic Emigration, “Hard Times in Eyjafjörður,” extractions from the diary of Sveinn Þórarinnsson, magistrate’s clerk, 1869. <<http://servefir.ruv.is/vesturfarar/e/UppSveinn.html>>.
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Kena teaches Norwegian research classes for the Scandinavian Genealogical Society (SGS). She has been a member of the GFO and the local SGS for about ten years. The SGS meets monthly in the Finnish Room at Portland State University. For more information, contact the Membership Secretary, Jeanette Hillend, at (360) 694-5815.

On-Line Resources for Scandinavian Genealogical Research,

By Gwen Newborg

Those of us of Scandinavian descent have been fortunate to have plentiful resources available through church and government sources to conduct our genealogical research. Between the censuses conducted by the governments of Norway, Denmark and Sweden, and the parish records kept by the state-run Lutheran Church, genealogical records have been readily available on microfilm from Family History Centers and other sources for years.

However, in the last ten years the amount of information readily available on the Internet has greatly intensified. This article will attempt to give an overview of the similarities of the records of the Scandinavian countries, and then go into greater detail on specific databases for Norway, Sweden and Denmark. These similarities also apply to the smaller Scandinavian countries: Finland, Iceland and the Faroe Islands.

The first thing to recognize is that all the Scandinavian countries have the Lutheran Church as their official state church. Record keeping began in the 1600s after the Reformation, but the early records are very spotty. Each country was divided into counties, and each county into parishes. Records were kept by the local ministers for their parish. Records kept included birth, confirmations (about age 14), marriages, vaccinations for smallpox, entering and leaving the parish, and death. There were usually two sets of books, one from the Minister and the other from the Clerk.

In Sweden, the Household Examination Records (Husförhörslängd) were also kept. The Minister visited each household yearly and recorded the following information: name of farm, names of household members, birthplace, age, score for catechism knowledge, dates of taking communion, moving information, marriage and death dates, vaccination against small pox, and military service. This survey is a wonderful supplement to the census.

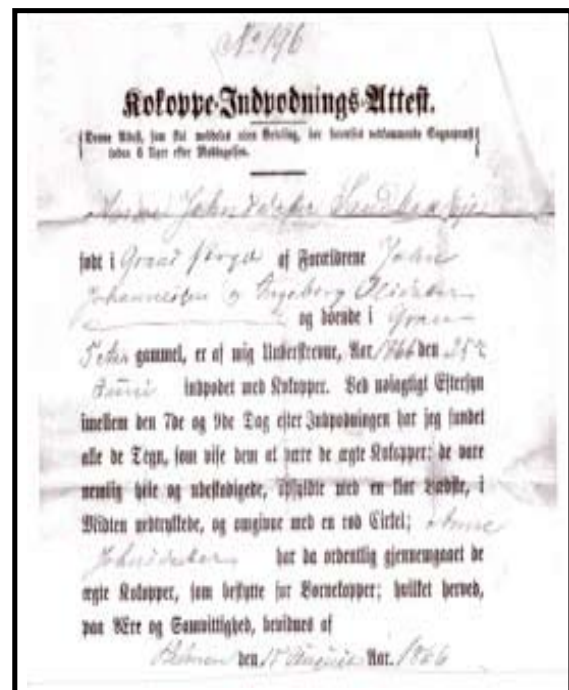
The national governments themselves conducted periodic censuses and the local police required the people emigrating to report when and where they were going. This was in addition to the church records documenting when people came into and left the parish.

Anyone beginning Scandinavian genealogical research needs to know a few essentials before they get started. First of all, you must know which parish your ancestors came from. If you do not, you will have a very

difficult time finding your ancestors. So, go through old trunks, letters, county histories, family bibles, obituaries and naturalization papers or vaccination records to try to find out their birthplaces.

I was at a complete dead end trying to find my grandmother Molstad's family. Her death certificate said that her father's name was Christian Molstad and that she was from Hønefoss, Norway. I could find nothing, until one day my cousin in Tacoma called to say that she had found our grandmother's old suitcase in her basement. There in the suitcase was her vaccination record from 1866. Her name was Anna Johannesdtr, daughter of Johan Johannessen and Ingeborg Olsdatter of Gran, Hadeland, Norway.

Vaccination certificate of my grandmother Anne Johannesdatter,



who became Anne Molstad Newborg.

With that information, I was off and running. Christian Molstad was her brother, and Hønefoss was the largest nearby town.

The other important thing to remember is that the Scandinavians used a patronymic naming system. Children were named after their parents and grandparents; a boy's surname was his father's given name and the suffix "son" or "sen"; the girl's surname was usually from her father's

mother, the father's given name and the suffix "dotter" or "datter". They usually used their ancestors' first names to honor parents and grandparents, etc. Sometimes a person used an occupation, town name, military occupation or Latinized name in addition to their surname. Then, as another form of identification, they used their farm name, particularly when they emigrated. For example, Anna Johannesdatter became Anna Johannesdatter Molstad; her brother Ole became Ole Johnson Molstad; the name of a farm they lived on in Norway. It sounds complicated, but once you can see the family names it becomes clear and understandable.

Armed with that knowledge, it is time to begin some basic research. I had originally planned to list some basic written guides to research in each country. However, I have decided instead to spend time on the latest research tool available from www.familysearch.org, what they call their Research Wiki Project. This is part of the recent emphasis by the FHL on getting as much as possible available on-line. On the Family Search main page, click on "Research Helps" and then on the drop down menu, click "Search the Wiki." Then type in the name of the country you wish to research, click on the Portal link and you will find an amazing set of topics that you can click on to find further information. All the country pages are set up similarly. For example, for Norway, you will find links to a number of broad topics—Jurisdictions and Countries, with a list of counties and links to information on them. Then, Research Tools—such things as Parish Lists, Gazetteers, Parish Heading Lists, Census Report Lists, Feast Day Calendars, Handwriting examples in Gothic Script, Websites, Maps, and many other things. There is another section called "Research Strategies." Here you will find a guide to starting research in Norway, Research strategies, Record Selection tables, Birth Record Strategies by time period, and more topics. There are also topics listed on the side of the page, similar to those you find when you use the Library Catalog "Place" location box: such things as Biographies, Cemeteries, Census Records, Probate, Land and Property, etc. At the bottom of the page are links to information on Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Scandinavian and Norwegian-Americans. There is also a "Did you know?" section, which has news notes on projects underway to add more information.

You do need to keep in mind that this is a work in progress, and there are certain sections that are still blank or incomplete. FHL is looking for people with expertise on various topics to be contributors to the wiki. You can sign up to be a contributor right on the front page. I cannot say enough about how helpful this site is. Every other

website I will talk about, and many more, can be directly linked from their mention in the respective country wiki page. Everyone needs to familiarize themselves with the respective wiki for their areas of interest. This is a wonderful new research tool provided by familysearch.org.

Now, it is time to turn to the most significant databases available on-line for Norway, Denmark and Sweden. I am most familiar with the Norwegian databases, particularly the Digital Arkivet, the Norwegian Historical Data Center from the University of Tromsø, and Norwegian Heritage, hands across the sea.

The Digital Arkivet: <http://digitalarkivet.uib.no>, is the gold standard of on-line databases for Scandinavian research. It is a free service from the Norwegian National Archives. The Regional State Archives in Bergen maintains the site. The text is available in both Norwegian and English, the records themselves are in Norwegian. Among the many databases available are the digitized parish records, digitized census and emigration records, and the Digital Inn, a section in which outside organizations or persons may submit specialized databases relating to Norwegian demographics.

The newest database, the Digitized Parish Records, is the most helpful file. This is a digitized version of the old FHL microfilm records. The images are very clear, and can be magnified up to 200%. The records are arranged by county (Flyke), then by parish, then by subject and time period. There is no name index, but if you have the correct parish and approximate date of what record you are searching for, you can scroll through the pages to find your person.

Parish record, birth and baptism of Anne Molstad, is no. 155, the second Anne listed, born to John Johannessen and Ingeborg Oldsdatter.



Found 4 persons of 283520 (show 1 - 4)

Kvar side nedunder viser maskimalt 10 funne postar. Du kan bla mellom desse sidene ved hjelp av knappane over.

Year	Page no.	Line no.	Serial no.	New family gr.	Contract date	Date of departure	Given name	Last name	Marital status	Occupation	Sex	Age	Domicile	Destination	Line	Ship	Payment info.	Nationality	P
27006	1880	273	3	8234	1	02.12.1880	03.12.1880	Andreas	Syphrians.	Maler	m	19	Rødenæs	Mona Iowa A. Sharpe		Angelo	Betalt		R
41523	1881	210	9	8234	1	29.09.1881	30.09.1881	Thea	Ols. ug	Pige	k	21	Næs, Rom.	Stevens P., H. Wis. Andersen		Rollo	Betalt	Norge	
57238	1882	160	33	8234	1	07.07.1882	07.07.1882	August	Anders.		m	25		Republic	Andersen	Angelo	Ppd		
76018	1883	281	10	8234	1	12.10.1883	12.10.1883	Karoline	Theodors.	P.	k	26	Krania	New York	Elster	Rollo	Ppd		

Nummeret på postane ovanfor er ei lenke. Trykkjer du den får du nedanfor sjå posten saman med postane før og etter i databasen.

America.

The next most heavily used database is the census database. Available are the 1801, 1865, partial 1875, and 1900 censuses. Once again, there are drop down menus asking you to choose a county and then a parish. Then you are sent to a site where you choose between a number of searchable fields, including first and last names, farm, occupation, marital status, age and sex. The more fields you choose, the narrower your results will be. Once you have found your family, you will find a great deal of information on your family, including names of household members, farm name, occupations, marital status, ages, sex, birthplace and the crops and animals on the farm, if they are on a farm.

The other very useful database is the emigration database. This database will help you find when and where your family left Norway, the name of the ship, how passage was paid for and where they were going, among other things.

Emigration record of my grandfather, Andreas Sypriansen, who became Andrew Newborg in

Another database which has census records is the Norwegian Historical Data Center from the University of Tromsø (<http://www.rhd.uit.no/indexeng.html>). Their aim is to computerize the Norwegian census from 1865 forward, and also digitize parish records. The number of parish records scanned is very small at present. The database uses a totally different search engine to find census records. In some ways it is simpler to use than the Digital Arkivet, but the information given is much less complete. The text is in both Norwegian and English, and there are several articles on tracing your ancestors and some additional statistical databases.

Once you have found when and where your Emigrants left Norway, you should turn to another wonderful database to trace your ancestors from England, which is where most Norwegian ships sailed to as feeder ships, depositing passengers in Hull, England or other English ports. Then the passengers would travel by train across England and catch another ship to North America. This database is called, "Norway-

Nummeret på postane ovanfor er ei lenke. Trykkjer du den får du nedanfor sjå garden/huset/hendinga til denne posten.

District no.	Page	School distr.	Local parish	Parish	Farm	Title											
309	4	83	Folkenborg	Rødenæs	Rødenæs	Rødenæs Præstegaard*											
Pers.no.	Household	Given name	Last name	Family pos.	Occupation	Marital status	Age	Sex	Birth place	Cattle	Sheep	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oat	Potatoes	
1694	20	1	Syprian	Amunds.	Husfader	Husmand med Jord	g	31	m	Ødemark	2	1	1/8	1/4	1/4	2	2 1/2
1695	21		Marie	Sypriansd.	hans Kone		g	30	k	Ødemark							
1696	22		Helene	Sypriansd.	deres Datter		ug	7	k	Ødemark							
1697	23		Andreas	Syprians.	deres Søn		ug	4	m	Rødenæs							
1698	24		Thea Elise	Sypriansd.	deres Datter		ug	2	k	Rødenæs							
1699	25		Helene	Johannesd.	Barnepige		ug	13	k	Ødemark							

Digitalarkivet 2010. Rettar til databasen: Digitalarkivet. Versjon frå 10.02.1999. Talet på oppslag: 39338 (6 i dag)

WebCens © Jan Oldervoll 1998-2010

Heritage, hands across the sea, 100 years of emigrant ships from Norway” (<http://www.norwayheritage.com/>). There is a wealth of information here, more than just transcribed passenger lists. There are wonderful articles about life in the steerage class, daily life at sea, sailing provisions, illness, types of ships from sail to steamer, the trip from Hull to Liverpool by train. Then there are photos of the ships, information on the shipping lines and agents, an article on how to find the passengers, and lists of arrivals and departures at various ports. This website is a volunteer project, it is ongoing and they are always searching for volunteers to transcribe passenger lists. It is a very valuable database.

Sweden also has several excellent databases. Unfortunately, unlike the Norwegian and Danish Databases, they are subscription services. However, there are ways to utilize them without huge cost. The most useful database, Genline, is available at the Family History Library and Centers. Genline also runs specials for short periods of time, so if you organize your material ahead of time, and subscribe for a short time period, you can accomplish quite a lot in a short amount of time.

Genline (<http://www.genline.com/>) contains the church records and the Household Examination Surveys that I mentioned earlier. Genline is arranged by county and parish. You must download the Genline Family Finder in order to use it. There is a free demo you can register for and try out before you get a subscription. Their prices are converted into US dollars so that you can see the cost and choose which time period is best for you. In this database you can search by name of the person, unlike the Norwegian parish register database. This database is the most important one to Swedish research. Note: On June 15, 2010, ancestry.com announced that it is acquiring Genline. The deal is not complete, but they expect to complete it soon. This opens up a new range of possibilities for the availability of Swedish resources.

There is also a very new Swedish database, Arkiv Digital (<http://www.arkivdigital.net>) which is just emerging which features the parish records newly photographed from the original records in color, available on CD or DVD for Parishes, or by short term on-line subscriptions. I have not seen this database close up, but it would be an alternative to Genline.

For Census information, the SVAR database (<http://www.svar.ra.se/>) is the one to use. It too is a subscription database. This is a database of the Swedish National Archives. They have subscriptions to various databases, including the censuses, which are searchable on-line, but they also sell CDs and microfilm. It is available for free at the Family History Library.

Another Swedish database, SweGGate, is the Swedish Genealogical Society portal to research (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~swewgw/>). Primarily in English, it is essentially a portal to other Swedish sites, with informative articles on doing Swedish research.

If you are searching for emigration records, go to the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana College in Illinois (<http://www.augustana.edu/x13856.xml>). This center has material related to emigration, including American Lutheran church records, passenger lists and newspapers. The records are not on-line, but available at the college or through Interlibrary loan on microfilm.

Denmark’s databases are also free. Fred Hasle is going to describe the main Danish databases so I will just briefly mention them. The most frequently used is the Danish Demographic Database, the DDD (http://www.ddd.dda.dk/ddd_en.htm.) It is used for census and emigration/immigration records.

For parish records see this website: Arkivalieronline.dk: (<http://www.arkivalieronline.dk/>). These are the scanned microfilmed records of the Family History Library.

Another useful Danish website is the Danish Emigration Archive: (<http://www.emiarch.dk/home.php3?l=en>). This database was compiled from extracted records of the Copenhagen Police Records of Emigration between 1869-1911. For more detailed information on Danish records, read Fred’s article. He has detailed information on how to use them.

These websites are by no means the only good websites available for Scandinavian research. However, they are basic sites that any genealogical researcher should be using. There are many other databases available for more specific subjects, most can be found listed in the wiki web pages. And of course, there are still a number of written guides and sources that are important in doing genealogical research. This article just scratches the surface.

Gwen Newborg was a librarian at Portland State University for 30 years. She was in charge of the Federal Regional Depository Program for Oregon, as well as managed the State and Local Documents Collections. She has been active in the Scandinavian Genealogical Society and the Sons of Norway, including teaching a class in Norwegian Genealogy at the Lodge

Arkivalieronline Danish Church Book Records On-Line

by Fred Hasle

When I located my Uncle and family with the Dansk Demografik Database census records—I reviewed the report to see if there was new information on other family members. For example, the 1890 census record of the family listed my grandfather Oskar’s birth year was as 1882. I had records from after he immigrated to Minnesota with his birth year listed as 1883. To verify the correct date, one can locate on-line an individual’s birth record in the Danish church books (Kirkeboger). Not only can one view digital copies of original birth records in the Danish kirkeboger but also confirmations, marriages, deaths and engagements.

To access the “Kirkeboger” records one must first establish a user-name and received a password from www. Arkivalieronline.dk. After opening the home screen of Arkivalieronline, click the English tab in the left-hand column then scroll down the screen to “User Profile.”

How do I proceed?

Accessing www.arkivalieronline.dk is free of charge, and so are user registration and searches in the archival material. On registration, which is effected via the field Brugerprofil (User Profile) on the first page of www.arkivalieronline.dk, you may search in and use the archival material for as long as you like.

After setting up your user name, and profile, you will

receive a password and have access to “kirkebog” records. In the left hand column of the “How do I proceed” page is a tab titled Generic Instructions, selecting it opens an Adobe file titled: GENERIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE USE OF arkivalieronline.dk. I would not only read the instructions, which are in Danish with English explanations, but to also copy and save them in a folder on your computer. I printed the twenty pages of instructions and placed them in my research notebook. Having the instructions available when you are searching Arkivalieronline is very helpful.

When you feel prepared to make your first search, return to the home page “forside” and click on “Kirkeboger.” The second option in the left column is “Søg I kirkeboger”. Remember the sound you made when the lime from your gin and tonic got stuck in your throat—surr— and you have the Danish word for search. Click “Søg I kirkeboger” and a screen will open with the below information.

Kirkebøger

Amt	Alle	Hent Amt
Herred	Alle	Hent Herred
Sogn	Alle	Hent Sogn

Sogn	Herred	Amt	Tekst	Fra	Til	F	K	V	D	J	T	A
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1694	1759	X		X	X			
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1736	1759		X					
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1759	1818	X	X	X	X			
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1817	1836	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1835	1884	X	X	X	X		X	X
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1853	1875						X	X
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1860	1881	X	X	X	X			
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke Helsinge	1882	1892	X	X	X	X			
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke-Helsinge	1892	1908	X	X	X	X			
Kirke Helsinge	Løve	Holbæk	Kirke-Helsinge	1909	1923	X	X	X	X			

Since I had previously found my grandfather's family in the Dansk Demografik Database, I know they lived in Holbæk Amt (county), Løve Herred (district) and Kirke Helsing Sogn (parish). By clicking the black downward pointing arrows in the center column, you will find lists for Amt, Herred and Sogn from which to make selections. Then a form similar to the below will appear on your screen

On the bottom left side of your screen (see below) is a legend which gives you an explanation of the letters F,K,V,D,J,T,A, the top row on the right side of the table. FRA and TIL give the years included in the kirkebog record. So to find the birth record of my grandfather Oskar Schnell Hasle who was born in 1882 or 1883, I clicked on Kirke-Helsing in the 8th row. Doing so brings up a digital copy of the Kirke Helsing church book which contained the years from 1882 to 1892 of births, confirmations, marriages and deaths for the parish.

Tekst (text)

De sogne, som kirke-bogen indeholder.

F Fødte (birth)

K Konfirmerede (confirmed)

V Viede (marriges)

D Døde (deaths)

J Jævnførelser (index)

A Afgangslister (departure in parish)

T Tilgangslister (arrival in parish)

Once you click on Kirke-Helsing 1882-1892, Arkivalienonline advances to the selected digitized church book. I do not have the space to show you the screen but go get a "flaske af øl" (pint of ale) and your dice and then you will be ready for the next step in finding your relative's birth date in the church book. On the left side of the screen you will see a column starting with Opslag 1 and proceeding sequentially off the bottom of your screen. If you are lucky the Lutheran priest who put pen to paper in this kirkebog, provided a legend on Opslag 1 or 2. However, that is often not the case so have a sip of øl, roll your dice, and pick an Opslag (which means notice in English). Traditionally, the order of Opslag is births—males preceding females—and then confirmations, marriages and finally deaths.

If there isn't an index on Opslag 1 or 2 you have make a calculated guess as to where to start. In my case, I knew the Kirkebog covered the years from 1882 to 1892 and my grandfather was born in 1882 or 1883. Therefore, Opslag 2 or 3 should begin with male births in the year 1882. Below is the digitized Kirkebog page I found on Opslag 3.

Nr.	Aar og Datum.	Barnets fulde Navn.	Daabens Datum enten i Kirken eller Hjemme	Forældrenes Navn, Stand, Haandtering og Bopæl.
	<u>1882</u> <u>1883.</u>			
18.	16 Novbr.	Oskar Schnell Hasle	22. Novbr.	Gaardejer Peter Schnell Ejendomsforvalter af Huse Birkemosegaard Kirkens i Birkemosegaard 10 June 1883. Hans Sophie Rasmussen

There were seven births listed on the Kirkebog page but I cut and pasted just the page titles and my grandfather's record. The second column is "year and date" of birth, followed by the child's full name, then baptism date and location, and the final column is the parent's names and address. Oskar S[ch]nell Hasle was born on 16 November, and baptized on 22 November. His father was Gaardejer [farm owner] Peter Schnell Hasle owner of Birkemosegaard and his wife Sophie Rasmussen [maiden name]. I

therefore confirmed my grandfather was born 16 November 1882.

With Arkivalieronline, one can locate your ancestor's birth, confirmation, engagement, marriage, death and the movement of individuals into and out of the parish. You will often find misspellings of names and some other minor error. However, the family information in the "kirkebøger" provides you a valuable source of original records.

Genealogy Research for Your Danish Family, or “Where in Denmark did Great Uncle Sigurd live?”

by Fred Hasle

A start on your search to locate an unfound Danish relative could begin by logging on to the Statens Arkiver home page - www.sa.dk. Don't do like I did when I first opened the Statens Arkiver web site, “Oh, I know all this stuff,” and then skip on to the census web page. The title “Genealogy—How to get started”, is followed by a list of well-explained research options to help you find your Danish ancestors. Parish census records, probate court records and emigration reports, are all well defined and have links to specific web sites.

Like most beginning genealogists, I was eager to discover where Uncle Sigurd and the members of his family lived in Denmark. From family stories, I knew my great uncle came from the village of Kirke Helsing. But where in Denmark is the village of Kirke Helsing? Well, one can go to Powell's and buy the largest and most detailed map of Denmark and you may locate a small village, or you can go to your computer and Google “Kirke Helsing, DK.” Either way you would find the village in Western Sjælland, about 80 km west of Copenhagen. Locating the village on a map provides you the information you will need to locate the sogn (parish), herred (district) and amt (county) in which your relative lived. Knowing these three social-geographical designations are indispensable when searching for Danish relatives.

Once you have identified the location of the village, you can use the Danish Demographic Database—census reports—to identify his or her parish, district and county. On the home page of www.ddd.dda.dk click the British flag to view the page in English. Select Census and you will proceed to the below screen

- Search:
- What is in the database
- Search for individuals
- Advanced search
- Other databases
- Order CD-ROM
- Censuses
- Search in the database.
- » Map of the counties » Map of transcribed sources
- » What is in the database? 24/3 2010 » Coverage
- Search for individuals » Advanced search
- Autocheck of database
- No autofill of placenames

Select “**Map of the counties.**” The opening screen will show you a map of the “counties” (amter) in Denmark. It will be helpful to have your map of Denmark or a printed Google map to determine in which county Kirke Helsing is located. Once you identify the county click on it, in my situation it was Holbæk, and the opening screen will show all the districts (herred) and parish (sogn) and their names. Now we know Uncle Sigurd was from Kirke Helsing parish, Løve district and Holbæk County. With this essential information, close the map screens and click on Map of Transcribed Sources. This step will save you hours of futile searches because it shows which parish have been transcribed and are available for you to read.

On the Map of Transcribed Sources screen, click the British flag and read the brief instructions. Scroll to legend below the chart to understand the color code. Scroll back up to Holbæk County in the left most columns and then review the census years to the right of Holbæk. Uncle Sigurd was born in the 1880s so click on the year 1890 and a map of the Holbæk County will open. The white parishes on the map indicate they have not been transcribed and their census reports are not available at this time. However, the map of Kirke Helsing parish is colored blue which indicates it has been transcribed. So close the map and transcribed sources screen. Back at the Census screen one has several options for searching for a person but I have been most successful by clicking on Search for individuals.

On the opening form click the black down arrow in the County, District and Parish boxes and from the dropdown lists, select Holbæk County, Løve District and Kirke Helsing Parish. In the name box type Uncle Sigurd last name (Hasle) and click SEARCH at the bottom of the form. The “Data from DDD: Holbæk 1890” screen will open showing a list of all the individuals with the last name Hasle. Scrolling down the list I found Uncle Sigurd and selected [SHOW HOUSEWHOLE]. He and the members of his house whole were listed on the screen (see below).

Name:	Age:	Marital status:	Occupation in household:	Occupation:	Birth place:
Peter Schnell Hasle	49	Gift	H usfader	Gårdejer	Reerslev
Karen Sophie Rasmussen	44	Gift	Husmoder	Gårdejer	Kerteminde
Johannes Kristian Hasle	17	Ugift	Barn	Gartner	Kirke Helsing
Frede Schnell Hasle	13	Ugift	Barn		Kirke Helsing
Valborg Schnell Hasle	8	Ugift	Barn		Kirke Helsing
Oscar Schnell Hasle	7	Ugift	Barn		Kirke Helsing
Sigurd Schnell Hasle	5	Ugift	Barn		Kirke Helsing
Peter Mikkil Petersen	26	Ugift	Huslærer	Seminarist	Hundslund
Ane Marie Petersen	25	Ugift	Tjenestetyende*	Pige	Kirke Helsing
Maren Sophie Larsen	29	Ugift	Tjenestetyende	Pige	Drøsselbjerg
Anna Marie Kirstine Nielsen	14	Ugift	Tjenestetyende	Pige	Gierslev
Jens Henriksen	28	Ugift	Tjenestetyende	Karl	Drøsselbjerg
Frederik Nielsen	20	Ugift	Tjenestetyende	Karl	Hallenslev
Lars Hansen	17	Ugift	Tjenestetyende	Karl	Kirke Helsing

* Tjenestetyende (domestic maid or worker)

As you will readily observe, I now have the ages and place of birth for all of Sigurd's family that were living at home in 1890. I also have Sigurd's mother's maiden name and her place of birth. With the place of birth data, I was able to locate my great grandmother Karen Sophie Rasmussen's family. Rasmussen is a common name in Denmark but I now know her place and year of birth. In short, the Danish Demographic Database (census data) can provide you valuable information for genealogical research.

Author's note: My grandfather, Oskar Schnell Hasle

emigrated from Denmark in 1912 and my father Theodor Jørgen Schnell Hasle, who was probably conceived in passage, was born the same year in Albert Lea, Minnesota. In 1933, Oskar purchased a dairy farm in Jacksonville, Florida. I was a depression baby born in 1937. My grandfather Oskar was proud of being Danish, and he passed on the value of the family history and the family genealogy.

Fred Hasle attended San Francisco State University where he received a BA in Political Science & a MA in Social Studies—Anthropology. Since retirement, he has traveled to Denmark every couple of years to research his family genealogy and visit his cousins.

From Heritage to Culture The Scandinavian Heritage Foundation Meets its Mission

Mike O'Bryant, Executive Director



It is not a coincidence that the Northwest has a healthy population of people of Nordic descent. Nearly a million Swedes emigrated to the United States between 1851 and 1910 alone. Roughly, the same number of Norwegians had come over by 1935. Settling largely in the Midwest and the Northwest, the Scandinavian newcomers found the climate and landscape similar to their homeland. The great forests and abundant fish runs of Oregon and Washington had considerable appeal to settlers, who found an appropriate setting to preserve their heritage. Today well over one million people of Scandinavian descent live in the two states.

The Scandinavian Heritage Foundation represents the second largest ethnic group in its region (Oregon and Southwest Washington) with about half a million first, second or third generation people of Nordic descent. According to the 1990 Census (this was the last census that asked about heritage), 350,000 of these people were living in Oregon alone. There are almost 210,000 people of Nordic descent just in the five counties that make up the Portland metropolitan area -- Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Yamhill and Columbia counties.

Immigrants had formed organizations to be with people they knew and who spoke their language – Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish – for political clout or, sometimes, just to purchase insurance at group rates. Many of these organizations had their own lodges where they met and held social gatherings. Local Danish, Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish newspapers kept immigrants up to date on events “back home.”

They also reported the immigrant experience here in the Northwest. All in all, the lodges, organizations and newspapers helped to unite individual Scandinavian communities throughout the area.

While most immigration from Nordic countries had already occurred prior to 1935, in the 1950s there were still over 50 clubs and organizations with a Scandinavian focus in northern Oregon and Southwest Washington. Today that number has dropped to less than 30 and many of the lodges have been sold. Yet, the interest in Nordic culture by immigrants and their descendents has not diminished. This interest in the languages and unique culture of Scandinavian countries, along with the decline in the number of separate organizations, is the reason for the founding of the Scandinavian Heritage Foundation in 1985.

With the understanding that language is the base for culture, several native speakers – some immigrants, others born in the U.S. – began meeting to form a strategy that would ensure that Portland State University could continue offering Nordic language, history and literature classes at the university, which the college initiated in the early 1950s. In 1985, this group incorporated as the Scandinavian Heritage Foundation (SHF) and began fundraising to help pay for classes in Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish languages. Since then, the Danish government has lent its support to Danish language classes, and now the Scan/Design Foundation is supporting those classes. The support of PSU language, history and literature classes continues to be one of SHF’s missions.

Since its 1985 inception, SHF has steadily increased its membership, dramatically increased its program areas, established a permanent office and resource center, hired a professional staff, been recognized with prestige within the Portland community as a cultural dynamo with strong programs, and is viewed as playing an important role as a leader and facilitator with Portland area ethnic groups and organizations.

If recent new members are any indication of what motivates people to seek and join SHF, then potential members will probably feel some kind of identity or affection for their cultural heritage with an aspiration to preserve it for their family and to share it with friends and the community at large. They will also understand that the Nordic cultural community has significantly

more influence, resources and ability when immigrants and people of Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Swedish and Norwegian descent work together. All of these groups benefit from increased understanding of their perspective through activities and association with a wider community. SHF has played a significant role in facilitating this increased understanding and continues to maintain a focus on growth and service.

With a mission *To preserve, communicate and celebrate Scandinavian culture and heritage*, SHF seeks to:

- Enrich the cultural fabric of the community through diverse programs of culinary, visual and performing arts.
- Encourage education through Nordic language, literature and history classes.
- Offer Nordic cultural experiences and learning for families and children.
- Promote travel, trade and business between the Nordic countries and America.
- Explore Nordic heritage and values through genealogical research and oral history.
- Encourage historic preservation of significant artifacts and materials.
- Increase the awareness of the contributions made by Nordic Americans who came to the Northwest to work in its forest industries and fish its abundant waters, as well as to start new businesses.

In 1993, SHF raised over \$250,000 to purchase three parcels of property totaling 2.5 acres on Oleson Road in Southwest Portland. The purchase was with the dream of someday building a cultural center in which people of all Nordic nations can celebrate their heritage - both the heritage their ancestors remember and the incredible influence those nations currently have on the world.

Today, the SHF office is housed in a very small cottage situated on the 2.5 acres of land where the Cultural Center will be built. Because the organization does not have adequate space for the growing number of activities, it must hold its myriad programs off site at various locations throughout the region. SHF offers lectures, cultural events of music, dance and theater, dinners, meetings and business luncheons that touch thousands of people every year. SHF, literally, has no space for its present activities and is bound by space from any future growth.

The solution is a cultural center where all Nordic people and groups can meet and celebrate their heritage. SHF is proposing to build a 15,640 sq. ft. Scandinavian American Cultural & Community Center. The building has already been designed by Cy Stadvold, AIA of

Corvallis, Oregon, an expert in Norwegian Stave Churches, and the contractor of record is S.M. Andersen Co. Inc.

The Cultural Center will be a modern, accessible and inspiring building where art, architecture and landscaping converge to showcase the best of contemporary and traditional Scandinavian art and architecture. The Stage I building plan is for a 10,896 sq. ft. main floor that includes a Great Hall for concerts, banquets, large meetings, movies, dances and other cultural events; a café; a kitchen capable of serving the café and banquets; a large veranda overlooking a meadow that will also allow them to expand the café business outdoors in the spring and summer; business offices; an exhibition space and large reading library/board room. Below the Great Hall 4,742 sq. ft. of additional space will be available for storage and archive space.

The Cultural Center will facilitate the discovery and appreciation of Nordic culture, which is synonymous with SHF's mission. It is designed to house a burgeoning number of events, lectures, exhibits and artifacts for all Nordic organizations and become the focal point for Nordic culture and heritage in the region.

Location: 8800 SW Oleson Rd, Portland, OR, 97223

Phone: 503-977-0275

Hours: Mon - Fri: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Website: <http://www.scanheritage.org/>

Executive Director Mike O'Bryant is one of the everyday faces of the SHF and a leader in providing events, programs fund raising needed for both operations and for the Cultural Center. Mike's maternal grandmother arrived in the U.S. from Sweden in 1912 and his grandfather, also a Swede, arrived in 1914.



Oregon Snapshots

VELKOMMEN HJEM! Welcome Home

by Alene Reaugh



The Norse Hall was a vision of The Grieg Lodge, a Chapter of the International Sons of Norway (also including daughters) and a fraternal organization celebrating Norwegian culture. The group obtained a charter in 1910 and, after many years of holding meetings in various halls around Portland, they set out to build a home of their own. In 1928 on the brink of the Great Depression their dream was recognized.

The Norse Hall Association was established as a non-profit volunteer group to build and operate the Hall for the benefit of the Grieg Lodge. The task of finding a location and putting together a plan for the new lodge was assigned to a committee of three. They located a building site within three weeks and purchased a piece of land at 11th & NE Everett measuring 100 x 100 feet. The cost of this piece of land in 1925 was \$5,000. They were able to pay cash from the available funds the group had acquired since its inception, even using the Liberty Bonds they had purchased during “The Great War.”

Shortly after the land was purchased, they received an offer to sell it for a profit of \$1,500. They first rejected the idea, but then gave it a second thought and began to look for another site. What they found was a lot the same size just one street away at 11th and Couch in the “vibrant lower East Burnside neighborhood.”¹ By now, the offer on the original piece of land had increased to \$7500, a substantial profit in just a short time. They accepted the

offer this time and sold the first piece of land to Franz Bakery, which is still located on that site.

The Ladies Social Club began planning activities to raise money for the building. One of the many ideas was a raffle with the grand prize of - “a combination rail and steamship passage to Norway.”² The money needed for the building was acquired in just two years. As everything to this point was moving fast, it looked like they would have a lodge in no time at all.

They hired a well known Portland architect, who designed a beautiful Spanish Renaissance style building destined to become one of the most impressive buildings on the east side of the Willamette river. In August 1927, it was reported in the Oregonian that work would begin in September, however, it did not actually occur until spring 1928.

The designs called for specific plans to meet their many needs. On March 18, 1928, the Oregonian newspaper reported that the Sons of Norway hired a contractor, Johanseson and Villa, to build a Lodge at the cost of \$65,000.

The article described in detail the plans for the building:

“It is to be of hollow tile masonry construction and of the modified Spanish type in exterior appearance. Oriental stucco of a mottled tan and green is to be applied on the

outside walls, the whole to be lightened by a tile roof, brick trim at the windows, and terra cotta at the main entrance.

Lot 100 x 100 ft. Plans call for a building 94 x 96 feet, two stories high and with a full basement. On the first floor is to be a Ballroom 60 x 70 feet in size with a stage at one end 20 x 37 feet. Dressing rooms for those participating in amateur theatricals are located on either side of the stage. An office, concession space, checkroom, men's smoking and rest room, a 24 x 36 foot foyer and a 30 x 32 foot ladies lounge take up the remainder of the first floor.

To insure the best possible ventilation when dances may be held there, the ballroom ceiling is 26 feet high. This takes up considerable of what would have been normal second floor space. However, enough space is left for a lodge room 50 x 40 feet, a second rest room for women, locker rooms and a clubroom with a Pullman kitchen attached, and a mezzanine balcony around the ballroom.

In the basement is a sizeable banquet hall, 32 x 60 feet with kitchen and storage rooms in connection. In addition, there is a furnace and fan room, an apartment of three rooms and a bath for the building custodian.”³

Construction was to start March 19, 1928 and to be completed in 90 days; however, it was almost seven months before it was finished and ready for its Grand Opening.

The Grand Opening for the Grand Hall took place October 20, 1928 with dignitaries that included Judge T.O. Gilbert, National President of the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Norway and Portland's own Mayor George Baker giving the keynote speeches. Also in attendance were the president of the Pacific Coast division of the Sons of Norway, Harold Quam and guests from other chapters of the Pacific Northwest, including Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, Bellingham, Astoria and Bend, who were visiting Portland for the ceremonies. Thomas Thompson, president of the Norse Hall Association, was in charge of the dedication. This included a flag raising ceremony and musical groups including a 7-piece orchestra for dancing and singing in both Norwegian and English. The drill team from the Seattle Lodge was in charge of the ceremony to initiate the fifty new members. Then came the Grand Ball. As live music filled the air on this special night, dancers in their finest attire swirled round the room with the glamour and glitz of kings and queens.

In 1928, Portland's group of approximately 300 members was considered both in growth and finances one of the “strongest links in the National chain.”⁴ In 1930, their advertisement in the Oregonian stated they were one of the most popular eastside ballrooms holding a dance every Wednesday night for the admission price of thirty cents. They also advertised “halls for rent, afternoons, and evenings.”

In 1934, they formed the Grieg Lodge Leikarringen dance group to learn and perform Norwegian folk dancing at events in the Northwest. This group is still recruiting new members stating that no dance experience is needed, and you need not be Scandinavian to join.

Today, 100 years since the group formed, they have over 700 members and continue to operate with an all-volunteer staff. The beautiful Grieg Lodge Library was recently restored and contains an extensive collection of books in both Norwegian and English. One set of books contains all Norwegian immigrants arriving in the early 20th century. Others include cookbooks, the Norwegian humor books of “Ole & Len” and the literary works of Henrik Ibsen.

The Grieg Lodge is linked to the Portland community through their “...mission of service, fraternity and an interest or background in Norwegian or Nordic culture.”⁵

Historic Norse Hall is one of the last remaining ethnic halls in Portland which still offers social and cultural activities, including dancing in one of the finest ballrooms in town, book clubs, bowling, cooking, crafting and singing to mention a few. And their building is still “readily identified by its 1930s vintage neon Norse Hall sign – one of the most photographed landmark signs in the area.”

(Endnotes)

- 1 www.norsehall.org
- 2 www.norsehall.org
- 3 The Oregonian, March 18, 1928 front page
- 4 The Oregonian, October 21, 1928 page 10
- 5 www.norsehall.org
- 6 www.norsehall.org

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Alene Reaugh, softwalk2@yahoo.com

Written in Stone

Man's Relationship with Death: Early Burials

by Carol Ralston Surrency

The Written in Stone column of the June 2010 Bulletin made a brief reference to changing customs in burial practices and cemeteries during the 400 years of U.S. history. This time we will explore changing traditions of the burying ground in more detail.

The earliest known intentional burial sites were created by human relatives, the Neanderthals, 60,000 B.C., and the Cro-Magnons, 33,000 B.C. The Cro-Magnons, some believe, had specific practices for their burials, however, many early civilizations such as the Mesopotamians did not believe in life after death and, so, they simply buried their dead. Coffins began to come into use by the Chinese about 30,000 B.C. while Chileans started mummification by 3000 B.C. Egyptians did believe in an afterlife, so preservation of the body was critical to them. The Greeks built upon the Egyptian belief in the importance of burial rites; however, cremation became the preferred practice by 1000 B.C. for upper classes, although common people continued to be buried. Perhaps due to Christian influence, the Romans stopped cremation about 100 A.D. and important Romans in London had gravestones by the 1st Century.¹

Early Britons used burial mounds near clan holdings. By the 5th Century, individual burials became common throughout the British Isles and churchyard burials of common citizens can be seen by the 8th Century. In early British society, the churchyard was a place where meetings were held, business was conducted and games were played. The land around the church was considered part of the sanctuary, consecrated by the church, and, by 1182, the position of "keeper" or sexton was required.² The bones of nobility and priests were considered to have special powers and were often buried behind stones in the church walls or floors in the 14th Century. These burial sites are called crypts.

In the middle ages, stone coffins replaced shrouds for burial and ceremonies and might include both secular and religious components. Prayers and hymns followed the procession to the church, while community members both lamented and played games. The body was left at the lych gate, a roofed gateway to a churchyard, used as a resting place for the bier. Church officials then bought the body onto the consecrated ground and proceeded with

the burial. A funeral feast would follow.

The location of the burial in the churchyard indicated standing in the community.³ The middle of the yard was the most prestigious. The north side of the churchyard was reserved for criminals, suicides or unbaptized children. In some areas, Ireland for instance, this was considered a desirable location, as it was the side of the church where the gospel was preached and it was believed that those souls might benefit from hearing it.⁴ This practice came with the early colonists and pioneers to North America and today one will find the northern section of many older cemeteries reserved for felons, suicides, paupers, unbaptized children, slaves, servants, and the unknown. Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery is one local example, the northwest corner having been reserved for people from the poor house and others such as local murderers. There are no headstones in this area of the cemetery.

Burials in the British Colonies of America reflected the two main religious groups of earliest immigrants. The Anglicans of Virginia used tombs or tablet gravestones for more prominent people. These markers had to be imported from England, as there was no local source of good stone. As the plantation life-style developed, most people were buried on their own land and, if community designated burial grounds developed, only local settlers were allowed burial. Common people would have used two wooden posts with carved railings between them.⁵ These markers were being used in England at the time America was being colonized and they would likely to also have been used in New England. Wooden markers, however, do not have a long life span and those early memorials are long gone. Home burials may have used rough fieldstones or may have been unmarked. The oldest stone found in the Tidewater region of Virginia is dated 1637.⁶ The oldest known New England stone is for a death in 1538. Only fragments remain, but a replacement stone now stands in Dorchester, Massachusetts.⁷ By the mid 1600s, New Englanders began quarrying and carving stones locally. Many of these deposits were within a short distance of their homes and cemeteries. Originally, made thick and low to the ground, a number of these slate stones still exist. Pragmatic and practical,

these are the markers with sentiments such as

“HEAR LYETH THE BODY OF WILLIAN SMITH AGED 58 YEARS DEPARTED THIS LIFE AUGUST 1658”.

Puritans forbade the use of imagery on gravestones until after the 1670s, after which a common New England depiction of death seen in tombstone carvings is referred to as the “winged death heads”. They consist of carved skulls with wings sprouting from the sides. Although prevalent in America, these carvings were rare in England and in Europe. They may have been imported from Scotland where they occur in the 16th and 17th centuries.⁸ The Calvinistic belief in predestination and man’s mortality probably contributed to these frequently seen images. The skull, of course, represents death, and the wings, the soul’s escape from mortal life. Later carvings include stylized faces with wings, suggesting the soul being set free. Other frequent images include skeletons, shovels, hourglasses depicting time running out and lit candles being extinguished, symbolizing the coming of death.

Burials usually occurred at sunset with the grave oriented east-west. The body lay toward the west and the footstone sat to the east. Several explanations have been given for this. One of the most obvious is belief in the resurrection when Jesus will appear from the east as prophesied in the Bible.

When we hear the term “six feet under,” we know it refers to the depth bodies are traditionally buried. New Englanders often say that the expression comes from the need for bodies to be below the frost line in the ground. A well known New England specialist in tombstone restoration made that statement last summer at a workshop in the Portland area. According to Scott Andrew Bartley, in material from the Toronto based National Institute for Genealogical Studies, six- feet under was the law – a law that was enacted in 1665 when London was overwhelmed by the Bubonic Plague. The law required bodies to be buried six feet in the ground to help control the epidemic and, of course, that law would have covered the British Colonies.

America has seen a number of different types of cemeteries. Some of the most common are: (1) Frontier and Trail graves. These were often a single burial, often without anything to identify the dead. Many times this was deliberate to keep Indians or others from disturbing the grave, although sometimes pioneers would pick a place near an Indian burial ground, feeling that it was a desirable space to leave their loved one. (2) Private Family Plots. These small cemeteries were the first created in

many areas. Often created in the corner of a field, there was usually some kind of fence around the graves to keep out the livestock. There are still many of these around the state of Oregon and across the country today. In Oregon, they can be found located in wheat fields, wood lots and on hilltops. They are some of the most fragile cemeteries as the population expands and gobbles up ever more land. (3) Churchyard Burial Grounds. These developed in settled communities. The church was often built in the center of town and used as a meeting place. The cemeteries developed naturally around the church and, sometimes, burials were limited to church members. (4) Town Burying Grounds. Seen commonly in New England, these were places for all citizens to be buried. The town is responsible for the upkeep. This type of cemetery is common today. (5) Potter’s Fields. The name is taken from the book of Matthew in the Bible. Used as a place to bury indigents, these spaces were often in a section of an existing cemetery, although some cities created a separate cemetery for the poor. (6) State and National Cemeteries. These cemeteries are established for the burial of military personnel, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Societal attitudes toward death and mourning changed substantially in the two hundred years following the colonial period. Future columns will delineate some of these changes.

(Endnotes)

¹ Scott Andrew Barkley. *The National Institute for Genealogical Studies*. (Toronto, Canada, 2002) P.11.

² *Ibid.* P.11.

³ *Ibid.* P.12.

⁴ *Ibid.* P.12.

⁵ Elizabeth A. Crowell and Norman Vardney Mackie III. *The Funerary Monuments and Burial Patterns of Colonial Tidewater Virginia, 1607-1776*. (Markers VII: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies. Needham, Massachusetts, 1990) P. 103-138.

⁶ *Ibid.* P. 103-138.

⁷ New England Historic Genealogical Society, (Boston Mass., Manuscript Collection, SG/Cap/5.)

⁸ Betty Willshire. *Scottish Gravestones and the New England Winged Skull*. (Markers II: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies. Lanham, Md., 1983) P. 105-114

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Carol Ralston Surrency, lcsurr@aol.com

Relics

Migration Of An Evocative Tradition

by Harvey Steele

What makes an heirloom evocative? The simple answer is that the object has a story about it that is handed down through the family. The artist was perhaps a farmer ancestor who had unsuspected skill. For much of Norwegian folk art the answer is more complex. As an example of this complexity, this column has concentrated on Norwegian rosemaling, the art of painting flowers or other images on wood surfaces.

The word rosemaling translated means “decorative flower painting” and is pronounced “rose-maul-ling”. A broader definition would include the information that the painting is on walls, ceilings, and furniture of ancestral houses and, most likely, on the travel trunks used in immigration to America. At first glance, the Norwegian examples are not unlike painted roses and other flowers in other European folk art traditions. A closer look distinguishes the Norwegian styles from any other traditions.¹

Other European Folk Art Traditions

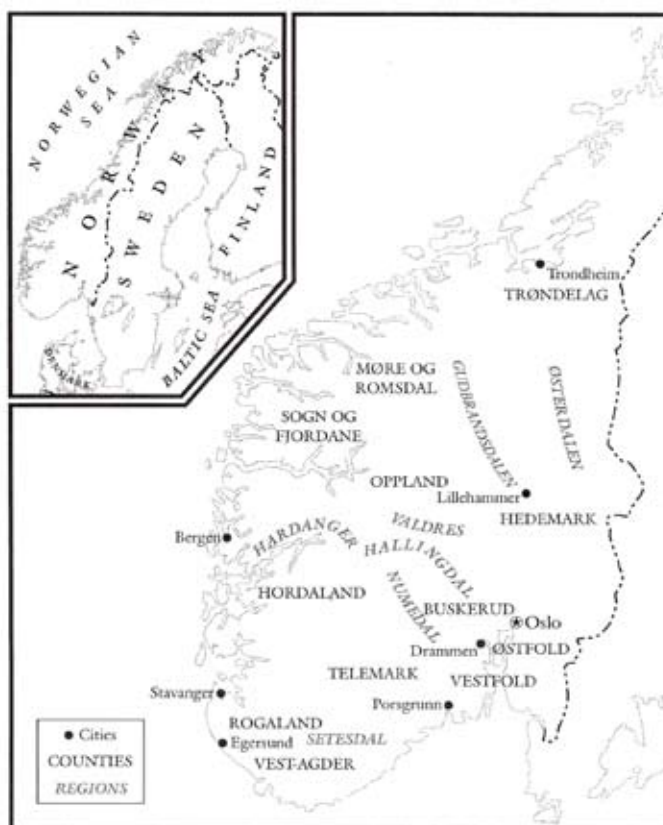
In Germany, Holland, Russia, and Sweden, there are also old traditions of floral painting on wood and other objects. Most famous is probably the German Bauernmalerei (pronounced bow-urn-maler-rye), which originated in the Alpine regions of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. The term comes from two words, “bauern” meaning peasant or farmer and “malerei” meaning painting. However, works in this style were done by itinerant painters and cabinetmakers. Most of the images in this style are painted on armoires, doors, kitchen cabinets, and wall panels. Like rosemaling, there are several regional variations of bauernmalerei, the Tolzer style (from Bad Tolz), the Rossler style (from a village north of Stuttgart), the Wismut style (Erz mountain area), the Hessian style (from Hesse), the Franconian style (from northern Bavaria), and the Black Forest style (SW corner of Germany). The German styles are similar to rosemailing in the manner of drawing flowers (especially the Tolzer roses) but the structure of the painted field in Bauernmaelerei is created in linear conventionalized flower images rather than the more realistic Norwegian images.²

Three other European styles of painting also focus on flowers, but in each case, the flowers are painted in simple clusters rather than in the Norwegian rosemaling

manner. The Hindeloopen (from a small town in northern Holland) decoration of woodcarvings and furniture uses linear and stylized images quite different from the Norwegian type. The village of Zhostova, just outside of Moscow, has a 150-year tradition that uses striking colors, strong contrasts, and intricate borders on its flower clusters but in a different manner than is found in rosemaling. Swedish rosenaling (notice the “n” replacing the “m”) uses simplistic linear floral images, is also quite distinct from the more realistic Norwegian decorative style. Although all of the other European styles use roses and other flowers predominantly, none are with the realism and complexity of the Norwegian images.³

History of Rosemaling and Migration to the US

The origins of rosemaling were probably medieval,



but it began to flourish in the southern provinces of Norway in the 17th century and peaked in the 18th and 19th centuries. First characterized by brush



strokes that began with a C or S shape of the painted field, stylized flowers, scrolls, and even fantasy figures were created. Within Norway, several regional styles emerged which were slightly different. One source takes the early history back to the 17th century, deriving rosemaling from the wood carving traditions exemplified in the Baroque period acanthus carving in the chancel of Lom stave church. Except for rare examples in Norway, most of the early images seen today are in museums in Minnesota and Wisconsin.⁴

Eight general styles of rosemaling were recognized, each named after the region of origin. The most popular, Telemark, was named for a valley in south central Norway. It is strikingly asymmetrical, with blooms coming off (or winding around) a rambling scroll. The flowers themselves tend to be somewhat irregular and were often transparent rather than opaque. Telemark style is recognized by a “C” scroll as part of the central design with “s” strokes radiating from it in subdued, even, earthy colors.⁵

Hallingdal, another nearby valley in southern Norway, was the name of a style that usually wrapped Baroque scrolls around a central flower in a manner similar to the interlacing technique often seen in medieval and Renaissance decoration. The designs are symmetrical and often use opaque colors. Backgrounds are often red, dark green, or blue-grey. In addition to smaller articles like travel trunks, this style can be seen on painted walls and ceilings. Hallingdal rosemaling is sometimes painted on a warm red-orange background but may also be combined with other colors such as the “farmer blue”.

Rogland, another southern region, became famous for flowers that were often not accompanied by scrolls and other foliage. Usually, the rose image predominated, painted with four or six rose petals, and occasionally tulips. The style used opaque colors on a dark background. Painters from this region were obviously influenced by earlier painters from Telemark, Hallingdal, and Vest-Adger.

The Os style, from Hordaland, used less flower motifs and more emphasis on the foliage. Geometric forms are used but the images could be symmetrical or asymmetrical. The backgrounds were usually red, black, or white. Clear, cheerful, bold and transparent colors were used, but they are mixed and lack the brightness of modern acrylic colors.

The Valdres style used realistic flowers, often in bouquets in a vase. Although few scrolls are used, the flowers have slender leaves in an S format painted on blue backgrounds. One odd characteristic is that the bowls have the lettering upside down, yet on plates it is upside down starting at the right and going around the edge.

The Gudbrandsdal style, which follows medieval decorative origins, has painting, which looks like carved wood. Here, the scrolls and foliage dominate over the flowers and there is heavy use of shading to present the carved look. Tulips and six petaled roses, in asymmetrical formats, make this a very distinctive style for Norwegian trunks and other smaller objects.

Romsdal style is similar to Gudbrandsdal, but typically with urns that contain flowers and animals and very simple scrolls usually painted on a dark

background. To a limited extent, all rosemaling has traces of the older European iconography and the religious art symbols, but in this style that earlier imagery is most prominent.

Vest Agder style uses oval symmetrical flowers painted with light colors on a dark background. A teardrop motif and only a small number of colors are used. Foliage can be two toned. The painted foliage can be two toned and this style is much more symmetrical and geometric than the other styles.

Rosemaling came to America in the early 19th century. Migration from Norway was heavy in the lowland areas of eastern Norway and the central valleys where it was well established and those geographic sections contributed the majority of the migrants to America. Travelers often packed beautifully rosemaled trunks for the journey across the Atlantic. Well known and lesser known painters emigrated, but their names were not well publicized in the New World and their contribution after migration was apparently negligible. During the Civil War period, rosemaling was out of style in Norwegian America, probably because of the social and economic effects of the Civil War and the difficult assimilation process. Not until the 20th century was rosemaling reborn in the United States, apparently when Norwegian-Americans turned their attention to the heritage of the painted trunks and other objects brought to America by their ancestors.⁶

One man, Per Lysne, who was born in Norway and learned to paint there, is credited with inspiring the revival of the art. He came to America in the early 20th century and worked as a wagon painter in Stoughton, Wisconsin. When the depression came and business was poor, he began to rosemal again. Another migrant, Ethel Kvalheim, observed Lysne's work and a rosemaling Renaissance began. Her work led to rosemaling classes and eventually, as Norwegian heritage institutions were established, the heritage was renewed. The Versterheim Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah, Iowa, is well known for its large collection of both early Norwegian and 20th century American rosemaled objects.⁷

Rosemaling Objects and Their Authentication

Although travel chests brought rosemaling to America, in its later forms it can be seen on a variety of objects, including plates, bread boards, vases, candleholders, coffee grinders, wood platters, lamps, and even glassware. In Norway, any furniture, including grandfather clocks, may be rosemaled.

For authenticating rosemal heirlooms, there are four historic categories to consider:

(a) The 1750-1800 early period in Norway

(b) The 1800-1860 early period in the United States

(c) The 1930-1945 Depression revival in the United States

(d) The modern revival dating from about 1950 to the present in the United States

Throughout all these periods the basic painting styles described above were used and often replicated, with only simple variations. The key to authentication and valuation is in the colors used at various times.

In the beginnings of the folk art, in Norway about 1750, the central valley peasant painters were still using the materials and techniques of the medieval and Renaissance artisans. Writers on the history of pigments generally divide the old pigments into two classes, natural and artificial. "Natural" comprised certain elements, compound minerals and vegetal extracts (for dyes). "Artificial" meant ground salts and oxides. This list included carbon blacks and ground graphite for black, white lead and lime for white, iron oxide ochres (and hematite) for red, azurite and copper for blues and greens, and limonite for yellows. These materials, ground by hand, produced mixed hues that were not as bright and sharp as modern manufactured pigments.⁸

After 1850, chromium oxides (red, yellow, and green) and cobalt oxides (blue and purple) were becoming available in Oslo, Norway, but even then they were not generally available to central valley peasants, nor those who migrated to Minnesota and Wisconsin in the new world. By the 20th century, large manufacturers like I.G. Farben in Germany and Allied Chemical in England were producing quantities of the modern oxides which could be obtained in the big cities and even the Sears and Wards catalogues. In recent times, rosemaling is still being practiced, now usually using modern Acrylic colors and modern oxides (like Cadmium which creates a sharp and bright red, orange, and yellow) produce a quite different effect than the hand-grown oxides.

Color chronology is important in rosemaling because older heirlooms have higher values. The author surveyed auction catalogues for Sotheby's and Christie's for the 1980-2000 period and noted the following averages: Pre-1800-Prices about \$50,000 or more; 1800-1850 - Prices up to \$10,000; 1930-1945 - Prices about \$100-\$900; and

1950-2000 - Prices about \$50-\$3500. The implications are that your older rosemaling heirlooms may have high "antique" value but what about the evocative story about your ancestor and his skill? Tora Bohn, a Norwegian folk artist, made an exhaustive study of U.S. rosemaling in 1949 and 1950.

She concludes her treatise:

..It has long been a popular myth in Norway that every Norwegian farmer bore within him the germ of an artist...one now begins to glimpse specialists behind the rich folk art -- rosemalers, tapestry, weavers, folk musicians, each with his special talent. (There were) artists who did not live entirely from the soil, but were paid in part by the well-to-do farmer who appreciated art and tradition but had no incentive to emigrate. Nor did they do so. The great majority of emigrants from the Norwegian county districts came from the soil and went to the soil.⁹

Websites:

Illinois Norsk Rosemaler's Association, <http://rosemaling.org>
 Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, http://vesterheim.org/learning/classes_rosemaling.php
 Milan Village Arts School, <http://www.milanvasillageartschool.org/painting.html>

(Endnotes)

- 1 Roar Hauglid, Norway: A Thousand Years of Native Arts and Crafts (Mittet A/S: Oslo) 1956.
- 2 Marion Nelson, editor, Norwegian Folk Art: The Migration of a Tradition (Abbeville Press: New York, London, Paris) 1995: 189-194.
- 3 Janice Stewart, The Folk Art of Norway (Scribner's: New York) 1972: 45-53.
- 4 Margaret Miller and Sigmund Aarseth, Norwegian Rosemaling (Charles Scribner's Sons: New York) 1974: 11-20.
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- 6 Miller and Aaseth 1974: 23-31.
- 7 Stewart 1972: 66-78.
- 8 Compare the old pigments described in Daniel V. Thompson, The Materials and Techniques of Medieval Painting (Dover Publications: New York) 1956L 74-188, with the modern materials described in Rutherford J. Gettens and George L. Stout, Painting Materials: A Short Encyclopedia (Dover Publications, Inc.: New York). The author, working as an Import Specialist for U.S. Customs in Portland, Oregon, had 27 "antique" rosemaled objects (including 12 trunks) tested nondestructively by X-Ray Fluorescence Spectroscopy for the elemental composition of the painted sections. All of the pigments used on the objects (all dated to the 1750-1820 period) were hand-ground natural oxides.
- 9 Tora Bohn, A Quest for Norwegian Folk Art in America, Norwegian-American Studies and Records, Volume XIX (Northfield, Minnesota: Norwegian-American Historical Association) 1957:141.

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Harvey Steele, harveysteele@verizon.net

A sample of resources from the Genealogical Forum of Orgeon Scandinavia Collection

See also: Denmark - Finland - Norway - Sweden

Donald S. Connery, *Scandinavians*, New York: Simon & Schuster, 1966, [Book: 948 A000 History]

Gwyn Jones, *History of the Vikings*, Oxford, England: Oxford University Press, 1984, [Pamphlet: 948 A000 History]

O. N. Nelson, *History of the Scandinavians and Successful Scandinavians in the U. S.* [photocopy], Minneapolis, Minnesota: 1893, [Book: 948 A000 History]

P. H. Sawyer, *Kings and Vikings : Scandinavia & Europe AD 700 - 1100*, Methuen, NY: 1982, [Book: 948 A000 History]

Paul B. Du Chaillu, *Land of the Midnight Sun*, New York: Harper & Brothers, 1882, [Book: 948 A000 History]

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Scandi-Roots Newsletter, Salem, Oregon: The Scandinavian Genealogy Society, [Periodical: 948 A000 Per]

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Story Teller

The Christenson Family

by Pamela Lindholm-Levy

Christian Olson was born in Norway in about 1800. His son, Christian Christenson was born in Lillehammer, Norway in 1830. We do not know who the wife and mother was. I have searched the Norwegian Digital Archive and found about six Christian Olson marriages in the late 1820s in the Lillehammer area. Christian Christenson married Ane Marie Christenson, her maiden name according to her son's church record. She was born in Faaborg, on the island of Fyn, Denmark. At that time Norway was part of Denmark.

Christian and Ane Marie lived in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Of their five surviving children, the three girls were born in Denmark, Ida in 1856, Sophia in 1858 and Henrietta in 1865; a son, Olaf, my great grandfather, was born in Christiania now Oslo, Norway in May 1860; and the younger son, Emanuel, in Sweden in 1870.¹ Christian was a gunsmith, and my belief is that he either went to Denmark as an apprentice and met Ane Marie, or she was a relative he already knew. At any rate, they seem to have moved around. There were three other children, who must have died in childhood, as we have no family record of their names or places of birth.

Olaf's baptism record at the Garnisonsmenigheten tells us that his full name was Olaf Christian Martin Christenson, that his father was a buskermager (gunsmith) and that the family lived on Upper Castle Street. One witness or godparent was a gunsmith named Ole Christenson. Two others were a saddle maker named Evan Olson and a woman named Anne Olson. Were these relatives? The Olsons might have been cousins or possibly a brother who did not change his last name. Ole Christenson might belong to either family. I believe Christian was working at the fort above Christiania harbor. I was in Oslo in 2007, but did not know all this at the time. Upper Castle Street crosses Karl Johans Gate, which we walked on nearly every day. I have been



to Copenhagen, but not to Fyn or Aarhus.

In 1879 the family was living in Aarhus, Denmark. My mother once told me that Olaf said his family "considered themselves Danes." According to Danish emigration records, Olaf came alone to Willmar, Minnesota. He had already been trained in Scandinavia to do precision work in metal and wood. Later that summer, Ane Marie and the rest of the children came to Willmar, and lastly Christian came.² I believe they traveled through England to Canada, up the St. Lawrence and thence to Minnesota. I have

not looked at Canadian ship records.

According to the 1880 census, Martina Christenson, a milliner born in 1827 in Norway, was listed as head of household in Willmar.³ She is a mystery and deserves some investigation. She was probably a sister of Christian, but possibly Ane Marie. Their children are listed as nieces and nephews. Martina apparently had no children at home, and we don't know whether she had been married or had children at all.

Christian's obituary said he "followed his trade as gunsmith" in Willmar. He died 25 November 1910.⁴ Ane Marie died in May of 1902. According to their obituaries they were buried in Fairview Cemetery there, although there is no record and my mother and I could not find their gravesites when we were there in 1987. Daughters Sophie Lorentzen and Henrietta Larson and their husbands Christen and Nels Peter, respectively, are buried there. Their sister, Ida Johnson, lived in Minneapolis. Sophie's two daughters lived in Seattle and I do not recall their names or ever meeting them. Henrietta had a son named Viggo, who lived in Willmar and visited his cousin George in Silverton, Oregon, where my parents and I met him. Ida had a son named Jens, whom we never met. Emanuel is listed as a survivor in Christian's obituary, so

he was alive in 1910, but my branch of the family lost track of him.

Olaf Christenson married Almira Satterly, possibly in Chicago in 1888. She was born in New York State in September of 1859.⁵ In St. Paul, Minnesota their son, George Martin, was born October 10, 1890. They had a daughter, Ella or Etta, who was younger and died at age two or three. Later they lived in Two Harbors, Minnesota and Olaf worked as a machinist on the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad. They are in Two Harbors with their son George in the 1900 census⁶ and in the 1905 State Census of Minnesota.⁷ Then in the 1910 census Olaf and George are in East Butte, Washington County, Oregon.⁸

After they moved to Portland, Oregon, Olaf worked for Portland Iron Works and they lived on NW Overton St. At some point he and Almira moved to Tacoma. She died there 21 October 1915 and is buried in Tacoma Cemetery. She was the daughter of Ephrium Satterly.⁹ Afterwards, Olaf worked up and down the west coast. The 1930 census shows he was in Sutter Creek City, Amador County, California.¹⁰ After 1934 he moved in with his son and family in Silverton. My uncle Don recalls that Olaf was rather crotchety about politics. Olaf died 25 November 1940 and is buried in Smyrna Cemetery at the Smyrna United Church on the Marquam-Canby Highway, Oregon.¹¹

On the place George bought near Tigard, Oregon he built a round barn in 1912. It was something he was proud of, and justly so. It is a beautifully wrought building. In February 1914, George married Rebekah Yoder, of an extended family that had settled around the "Yoder" area in Molalla-Canby farm country. George and Rebekah lived on the Tigard farm and later moved to the Yoder district. When registered for the draft on 5 June 1917 he was living in Molalla, Oregon and he had a wife and two children. He was noted to be born St. Paul, Minn., a citizen, and a farmer. He was a Private, in the Infantry with four years of service, from Oregon. His features were tall, slender, blue eyes, and brown hair. He was registered by L.H. Cochran registrar, in Needy, Oregon.¹²

In the 1920 census they are in Marquam, Clackamas County, Oregon with three children.¹³ They had moved by the 1930 census to Needy, Clackamas County, Oregon, and Rebekah is found alone with the four children.¹⁴ George never liked farming, so he worked on railroads (restoring one after the Tillamook Burn of 1933 for example), in sawmills, and fishing in Alaska. Their children were Ellen Virginia (my mother), born in Tigard in January 1915, John Olaf (Bud) in Tigard in August 1916, Donald Arthur in January 1919, and Harvey Bruce in September 1920. I have photos that George took in 1919 and 1920 in

Naknek, Alaska, a fish cannery town. George is shown in the 1930 census to be in Ketchikan, Alaska working as a halibut fisherman.¹⁵ My mother remembered his sending home oysters packed in barrels.

In 1934 the family traded the Yoder area farm for a house at 116 McClaine St. in Silverton, where George worked for Silver Falls Lumber Company. Behind the house George and Olaf built "The Fixit Shop," and did just about everything there. Olaf was a superb wood craftsman. My cousins and I each have one or more pieces he made. I

have a walnut spool bed with large matching dresser and mirror. He never used nails and these pieces are still as solid as the day they were made. I also have a round footstool with a needlepoint top and a beautiful round table---a sort of side table---that has a separate wood framed glass tray. He made a round sewing box of many, many wooden pieces glued together brick-style. It has a solid wood, hinged lid and removable tray inside. It is still as good as new and belongs to my daughter.

George sharpened the bread slicer's blades at Fish's bakery. He repaired the parking meters. He installed locks and made keys. I have the large Ilco metal key sign that hung over the Fixit Shop door. He built boats. He sewed canvas and caned chairs. He sharpened saws. At the same time he was an avid outdoorsman who would always "rather be fishing." Like his father before him, George taught his sons many skills. In the late 1940s George was mayor of Silverton.

Rebekah was born in Marseilles, IL January 24, 1887 and died in Silverton in 30 May 1964.¹⁶ George died 18 June 1982.¹⁷ They are both buried in Smyrna Cemetery beside Olaf.¹⁸ Of their children, my mother, Ellen Lindholm died in January 2000 and Harvey in January 2007, are also buried in Smyrna. Bud who died in January 2004 is buried in Portland Mausoleum. Donald lives in Oklahoma. George and Rebekah had 9 grandchildren.

The following are two histories of George's life that add priceless information about him and his family.

This is Number One of my history, or the Obits"
I am George Martin Christenson.

I started school in Chicago, Illinois at 6 years of age and finished in Portland, Oregon in Portland High School at 14th and Morrison Streets.

My first job in summer vacation was working on the section gang on the D&IR

Railroad [in Two Harbors, Minnesota] at \$1.50 a day, 14 years old. At Two Harbors, Minnesota, second job calling train crews nights next year at

vacation. My father had a homestead, a timber claim at milepost #44 on the D&IR Railroad 6 miles east of the railroad on a small lake in Lake County, Minn. It had a grove of Sugar maple on it. I learned to make Maple syrup in the spring thaw out. When the sap was running to keep the juice from boiling over we tied a piece of salt pork on a wire, just at the right height when the juice got up to it, it receded.

There was Moose and deer and Bear and lots of Wolves then, also Partridges and Spruce hens and squirrels and Rabbits. The logging was done in the winter when it froze up. The timber was Pine, spruce, birch and maple. The wild fruit was blue berries, Raspberries, goose berries, cranberries and some small wild strawberries. Lots of mosquitoes deer flies and yellow jackets. All good biters.

The spruce grew in the swamps was small and used only for pulp wood. The pine was the wood most logged, for the birch was the fire wood used. The birch trees grew big and the bark was used for canoes, also to start fires with. Lake County was mostly swamps and lakes, and the northern part had all of the Iron mines. Iron ore was the principle industry. Two Harbors was the shipping port, owned by the U.S Steel Corp. Some ore was shipped from Duluth and Superior, Minn. We moved to Portland, Oregon in 1906, July 25th. We came out on the Northern Pacific Ry. The end was at Kalama Wash. They ferried the trains across to Goble, Ore.

Written by George Martin Christenson, Silverton, Oregon, on his Underwood

typewriter that sat beside his big desk on a little table he made himself. I don't know when it was written, but I have reproduced it pretty much as the original reads.

George M. Christenson's Memories

Told to his daughter, Ellen Christenson Lindholm in 1980-81

When I was a boy we lived most of the time in Two Harbors, although I remember living with my Christenson grandparents in Wilmar, a railroad center in Southern Minnesota, where I played with my cousin Viggo Larson.

Two Harbors was a large iron ore shipping center on Lake Superior. When we moved to Portland I thought I would see some really big sailing ships, but they looked small compared to the huge ore

ships. My dad took a 160 acre homestead about 25 miles from town [Two Harbors] and we would take the train to a siding and then row our boat across the lake. The trees on the place were mostly pine and birch, the big ones with the smooth bark such as the Indians used for canoes and baskets.

We had a stand of maples and in winter we could walk across the frozen lake and tap our trees to boil down the sap for syrup. We never did try making sugar. You can't get good maple syrup like that these days.

Father had to live on the homestead 6 months a year for 5 years and improve it. The way you did that was to go the last day of a month, stay for a month and go home the first of the next month. Do that twice and you have it. We got the homestead in about 1900 when I was 10 and we cleared land and built a cabin. One year we planted potatoes and the next trip when we were rowing across the lake we saw that a moose was feeding on our potato tops. Dad shot the moose and we spent a lot of time dressing the moose and boning it and drying the meat, as we had no other way of preserving it. Our big dog spent the rest of the year burying and digging up the bones.

Dad gave me the title to the homestead, which bears the signature of Theodore Roosevelt, or a facsimile. After we [he and my grandmother] bought the farm near Tigard, I sold the homestead for \$500, and Ladd and Tilton bank in Portland paid me in \$20 gold pieces. Man, they were heavy. We carried them to an outfitter and bought a horse and buggy and a plow.

My father had been a machinist for the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad in Two Harbors. The RR and mines were a division of U.S. Steel Co. who were working the Masaba Iron Range. In Two Harbors, they had 5 docks, and tugs loaded the ore ships. The other RR employees were unionized, but when Father tried to help unionize the machinists, he was fired.

He then arranged to log off the timber on the homestead and sell the logs to the Duluth Log Co., who advanced him 3 horses and a wagon. He worked all summer cutting timber and hauling it to a mill, but at the end of the summer, the log company said he owned them money. That was when Father became a Socialist.

All was not lost---he took the horses out into the country and sold them to a farmer and used the money to travel to Portland where the Log Co.

couldn't find him.

In 1906 he sent money for Mother and me to come to Portland. At first we lived on Tacoma St and later at 19th and Overton on the West Side.the little house is still standing in nice condition.

I attended old Portland High School, which was not nearly as advanced as Two Harbors. In Minnesota we had already studied Ancient History and advanced mathematics. I grew bored and dropped out before I had quite graduated. It was too bad, because I was a good student, and should have had more education.

I was an apprentice metal worker before I moved out to the Tigard place.

I roamed all over Portland, and remember that the brewery, now Blitz-Weinhard, had an outside spigot for the use of firemen and policemen for free beer.

The farm at Tigard was on the Tualitin River. I had a boat. I built a round barn. The farm was not big, so I used the horse to do custom plowing and work on roads.



(Endnotes)

1 1880 US Federal Census, Willmar, Kandiyohi, Minnesota; Roll 624; Family History Film: 1254624; Page: 84B; Enumeration District: 47; Image: 0488. ancestry.com, accessed 12 June 2010.

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10 1930 US Federal Census, Sutter Creek, Amador, California; Roll 112; Page: 7A; Enumeration District: 8; Image: 742.0. ancestry.com, accessed 12 June 2010.

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12 World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Clackamas County, Oregon; Roll 1851980; Draft Board: 0. ancestry.com, accessed 12 June 2010.

13 1920 US Federal Census, Marquam, Clackamas, Oregon; Roll T625_1492; Page: 2B; Enumeration District: 44; Image: 199. ancestry.com, accessed 12 June 2010.

14 1930 US Federal Census, Needy, Clackamas, Oregon; Roll 1940; Page: 3A; Enumeration District: 64; Image: 618.0. ancestry.com, accessed 12 June 2010.

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16 State of Oregon, Oregon Death Index, 1903-1998.

17 State of Oregon, Oregon Death Index, 1903-1998.

18 Smyrna Cemetery, Row E, Plots 26-28, Clackamas County, Oregon, interment.net, accessed 12 June 2010. Smyrna Cemetery is located about one half mile north of Yoder, or 7.3 miles from Canby on the Canby-Marquam Road.

Pamela Lindholm-Levy was born in Silverton, Oregon when it was still quite a Scandinavian town. Pam's involvement with genealogy began years ago with her mother, but she has learned much from the Scandinavian Genealogical Society, and found valuable information online. Her mother's mother was from an Amish Mennonite family that has print copies of all its genealogy back to arrival in the colonies and later information about a family that came from Hesse, Germany in the 1830s.,

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Judi Scott, rb5522@aol.com

State by State

Minnesota Research

by Paula Stuart Warre

Minnesota became a territory in 1849 and a state on 11 May 1858 but records do exist before those dates for the land that was to be called Minnesota. The state has 87 counties and this has resulted in a vast array of records and repositories. There are also several early counties no longer in existence. The records, in addition to covering a wide span of time, also cover a wide scope of repositories. It is important to become familiar with the guide books, published and online histories, websites and the genealogical and historical societies.

This additional knowledge will enable researchers to narrow down not only the type of record sought, but also the repository where it may be found. Genealogical and historical societies all around the state are actively preserving and indexing material. Reading the newsletters of these groups gives clues about their past and current projects. Some are indexing newspapers, others are transcribing cemetery tombstones or preserving early school records, and some are seeking funds for new temperature controlled buildings. Check the GFO library for some of these newsletters.

Researchers with Minnesota ancestry are fortunate to have extensive, every-name state census records, large newspaper collections, county histories, extant military records, county level birth and death records beginning in the 1870s, and many transcribed cemeteries. As with research in any other state or country, there is no one historical society, archive, website, or courthouse that holds all the records that potentially include your family. What follows is a sampling of things that will aid in your search.

Cemeteries

Transcriptions and/or indexes of the tombstones or records of many Minnesota cemeteries exist. Some are in separate publications, some have appeared in genealogical quarterlies and newsletters, and others are in manuscript or card index form in a variety of locations. Others can be found on websites such as Findagrave.com, Interment.com, and USGenweb.org.

The Minnesota Genealogical Society's (MGS) Cemetery Project volunteers are compiling a master list of all cemeteries in the state of Minnesota

(with full location and contact information) as well as a statewide inventory of available cemetery resources such as transcriptions and indexes. A large number of actual transcriptions are housed in the MGS library. It is not complete, but is extensive and some are one-of-a-kind. Many of the larger cemeteries in the major cities have not been transcribed due to sheer size though some such as Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis have online indexes to burials.

MGS' own quarterly, the *Minnesota Genealogist*, has published details and/or indexes and transcriptions for many cemeteries. The Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) has many records for cemeteries in the state. Some of the ethnic branches of MGS have also transcribed and published cemetery information. Check for these in their newsletters and at the MGS library.

The Minnesota Historical Society holds veterans graves registration records and has an online index, Minnesota Veterans Graves Registration Index <<http://people.mnhs.org/vgri/>>. This includes reports covering 1857 - 1975. Most are twentieth century and not all burials were reported. Others are listed in the Nationwide Gravesite Locator for veterans and spouses at <<http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov>>.

Census Schedules and Indexes

Minnesota has territorial, state and federal enumerations of those living within its borders at the time of each census. Indexes in electronic format are available for most years and more are being compiled. The Native American population was also enumerated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and those may be viewed at various repositories and many are online at Ancestry.com.

Early territorial censuses of heads of households were taken in 1849, 1853, and 1855 but unfortunately, not all were listed. The 1857, 1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, and 1905 state censuses include the names of everyone in the household as do the 1850-1930 federal censuses. Today both MHS and Ancestry.com have a variety of online indexes to all these.

Though the 1890 federal census is largely gone for most of the U.S., two portions exist for Minnesota. One family exists for Rockford, Wright County and is available on microfilm and online. The enumerator's copy for seventeen people in Rockville Township,

Stearns County is at the Minnesota Historical Society. The statewide 1890 census of Union Veterans or their Widows does exist, with a printed and online indexes and online images at Ancestry.com.

The microfilmed Agricultural, Manufacturing, Mortality, and Social Schedules for 1860, 1870, and 1880 are available from MHS via Interlibrary Loan and at some other libraries. The Agricultural, Industrial, Mortality, and Social Statistics for 1850 are still in their original form at MHS. The Mortality Schedule has been transcribed and published along with the 1850 census. The extant portions of manuscript copies of the 1900 Mortality Schedule for Minnesota have been transcribed, indexed, and published. A copy is at GFO.

Church Records

Most church records in Minnesota remain in the individual churches. In the case of closed churches the records may be found at a nearby church of the same denomination or at an archive for that religion. Many church records are housed at the Minnesota Historical Society, including an extensive collection from the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota. Some religious and ethnic repositories have church records such as the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Luther Seminary in St. Paul, and the Swenson Swedish Immigration Center in Rock Island, Illinois.

City directories, newspapers, and county histories are good sources for determining the names of churches. Religious directories found in larger libraries and online will help to determine current addresses.

MHS has records from many missionaries who were in Minnesota in the 19th century. The bulk of these remain in their original form without indexes and must be consulted in person.

Military Records

In addition to the draft, service, and pension records found at the national level, MHS has an excellent array of printed materials and archival records dealing with Minnesota military service. These vary by war and time period, but may include muster rolls, pension records, bonus payments, regimental histories, veterans homes, diaries, draft records, and Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post records. Some are microfilmed and available via Interlibrary Loan. Most of the records remain in original form and must be consulted in person.

The bonus payments paid to Minnesota military personnel or to survivors of war dead are filled with personal details. These are at MHS for the Spanish-American War, both World Wars, Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. MHS has a description of some of

these on their website <www.mnhs.org/genealogy/family/genieguide/military.htm>

Naturalization Records

The county district court naturalization records for Minnesota are on microfilm at MHS and at the Minnesota Discovery Center. This includes the Declarations of Intent, actual Naturalization records, and related papers for all 87 counties. An index to these was produced by volunteers at the Iron Range Research Center (now known as Minnesota Discovery Center) and is available at their website and at Ancestry.com (1854-1957). The films are available from MHS via Interlibrary Loan. Some repositories around the state have purchased the films for their respective counties. There are microfilmed separate county indexes at MHS for most of the records.

Not all naturalizations occurred at the county level. Some are at a municipal level, others in the state Supreme Court, and still others at the federal level. Some municipal level records and the state Supreme Court naturalizations are at MHS. Some federal level naturalizations are at the National Archives - Great Lakes Region in Chicago and at the National Archives - Central Plains Region in Kansas City or on microfilm at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Contact these repositories or their catalogs and guides to be sure which districts and years their naturalization records for Minnesota cover.

As with other states, the records for the years preceding 1906 contain sparse information. Some give an approximate date of arrival, some include a port of entry, and others simply give his name; few women are included before the 1920s. Beginning in 1906 the Declaration of Intent includes extensive personal details.

Newspapers

The vast majority of newspapers ever published in Minnesota are available on microfilm at the Minnesota Historical Society and are listed in the online catalog. The films at MHS are available on Interlibrary Loan. There is no master index to articles and names in Minnesota's newspapers. However, indexes at some libraries and historical societies around the state cover some of that area's newspapers for specific periods of time. Some Minnesota newspapers can be found in digitized and searchable format online at the Library of Congress website and on such subscription sites as Ancestry.com, GenealogyBank.com, and NewspaperArchive.com.

Bound copies of some newspapers and also various copies of MHS microfilms may be found at libraries and historical societies around the state.

Vital Records

Birth and death records were generally created at the county level beginning in 1870, or later if the county was not in existence in 1870. Most early recordings were a one line entry in a registration book and the information is not extensive. In some localities these were also recorded at the township level until the mid 1950s. Many of the township records books can be found at the Minnesota Historical Society. For many years, the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis also registered births and deaths. Today these are found with their respective counties. Beginning in 1900 for birth records, and in 1908 for death records, the event was also reported to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

For death records before 1908, contact the county in which the person died. Some are also at the FHL and at MHS. MHS has microfilms of the MDH death record cards for 1900-1907. The microfilmed records may be viewed on-site at MHS and may be borrowed via Interlibrary Loan.

Even though there are early registrations of births and deaths in Minnesota, not all events were registered. It was well into the 20th century before the registrations were "complete." In the 1940s the state health department was still urging complete compliance with the registration laws.

By law, the birth and death records in Minnesota are public records. This does not always mean that researchers have "hands-on" access to the original records. The record books may be in deteriorating condition, they may contain non-public information such as illegitimate births, or the office which holds the records may not have room to let researchers check the record themselves. And, yes, in some cases, the record keeper simply does not wish to have researchers on-site. The state requires that the person requesting the record have a "tangible interest" and those details can be found at <www.health.state.mn.us/>. With the proper MDH form and the payment of the fee of \$13.00 for death records (either certified or non-certified), \$26.00 for a certified birth record (\$13.00 non-certified) a record may usually be obtained. The fee includes payment for the search time and the fee is not returned if no record is found.

The MDH no longer accepts walk-in vital record requests, but the county registrars do. The MDH website has information on this. The counties have direct access to the electronic database MDH has created for many of the twentieth century records for all counties. Some of the registrars already have computers that may be used by customers to check for records. The electronic format

is an excellent way to find the initial information, but this does not contain all the original details. It is important to request a photocopy of the actual certificate from the MDH, from the county where the event occurred, or from the microfilmed records at MHS.

Marriage records were generally created from the time a county officially began and the marriage records generally remain in the county. The majority of Minnesota marriage records do not contain large amounts of genealogically significant information. Marriage records are generally more open to "hands-on" research. In most counties, the researcher can hand copy the data. The marriage records for some counties are at MHS and at the FHL.

Divorce records for Minnesota are part of the District Court's civil court records at the county level. Some older county civil court records are found at the Minnesota Historical Society.

Many Minnesota vital records are also available through the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Check under both the county and the state categories. As mentioned earlier, for the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, births and deaths were also filed at the city level and the FHL has microfilmed these up to the 19teens.

Vital Records Indexes Online

Ancestry.com Minnesota vital record indexes to records filed at the state level

Birth Index 1935-2002

Death Index 1908-2002

Marriage Index 1958-2001

Divorce Index 1970-1995

Minnesota Historical Society <www.mnhs.org>

vital records indexes to state level registrations

Birth Index 1900-1934

Death Index 1904-2001

MOMS - Minnesota Official Marriage System <www.mncounty.com> Free online index to county marriage records. Some counties are more complete than others at this time.

Selected Research Repositories in Minnesota

Minnesota Genealogical Society Library (MGS)

1185 Concord St. N. Suite 218

South St. Paul, MN 55075-1150

(651) 455-9057

www.mngs.org

MGS is an open stack reference library. It is not necessary to be a member to use the library, but there is a fee charged for non-members of MGS or its branches.

The holdings include cemetery transcriptions, county histories, family histories, St. Paul and Minneapolis

city directories, genealogical periodicals and indexes, abstracts of records, general guides, CD-ROMS, and more. The collection is not limited to Minnesota. The ethnic resources of MGS branches and sub-groups relate to Canadian, Danish, English, Finnish, French-Canadian, Germanic, Icelandic, Irish, Native American, Norwegian, Polish, Scottish, and Swedish research. MGS also houses Czech research materials. The large collection of MGS' Germanic Branch is housed at the Buenger Memorial Library, Concordia College, in St. Paul.

Volunteers from the MGS ethnic branches staff the library on specific days. Check the website for regular hours and for the special ethnic days. This is also the place to find the name of a professional researcher if you need some advice or research assistance.

MGS has published many genealogical materials including indexes to the *Minnesota Genealogist*, its quarterly journal, indexes to county plat books, cemetery transcriptions, and other items. The *Minnesota Genealogist* carries articles on research repositories, book reviews, and other features. Check the website for a topical index.

Minnesota Historical Society (MHS)

Minnesota History Center, Library

345 Kellogg Blvd. West

St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

(651) 296-2143

www.mnhs.org

MHS began in 1849 when prominent men of the territory established the society; many donated their personal libraries to MHS. MHS is housed in the Minnesota History Center, which opened to researchers in June of 1992. Members of MHS receive discounts on parking, at the copy center, in the museum shops, at the café, and receive the quarterly magazine *Minnesota History*. This publication is indexed on the MHS website.

The majority of the published materials, the manuscripts collections, maps, and state archives materials in original form are housed in closed stacks. The published holdings at MHS include business and church histories; cemetery transcriptions; city and county directories; family histories; historical and genealogical periodicals; local, county, and state histories; and military histories. MHS has a variety of unpublished indexes, chief among these is the Minnesota Biography File.

The manuscripts include the papers of individuals, businesses, and organizations. These are diaries, journals, store ledgers, applications to join organizations, church records, papers of hereditary societies, personal letters, and more. Some papers of individuals have been microfilmed.

MHS holdings include significant materials for ethnic groups including Indian, Scandinavian, English, and French-Canadian. The published materials also include states other than Minnesota, with a significant number related to early New England.

The state archives include records from the state, county, and local governments. This includes governors' papers, school records, township birth and death records, state level birth and death records, probate records, tax lists, military records, alien registration records (1918, indexed), naturalization records; and General Land Office records.

Some archival and manuscript material is available on microfilm via Interlibrary Loan. These include naturalizations, tax lists, military records, alien registration records, church records, railroad records, personal and family papers, and the General Land Office tract books. Contact your local library which participates in ILL. While MHS has many county level records, not all records from all counties are at MHS. Most remain in the county courthouses.

The library offers a fee based research service and volunteers staff a genealogy help desk. Access to the extensive audiovisual, photo, and artifact collections is also in the library.

Researchers have self-service access to the many cabinets of microforms. These include state and federal census records, city directories, naturalization records, newspapers, tax lists, some church records, fire insurance maps, plat maps, and more. Copies from microforms are self-service.

Throughout the microform room and the library are inventories, card catalogs, and the computer catalog, which have descriptions of much of the collection. The MHS website has other helpful information including databases related to Minnesota people. Researchers will also benefit from reading *A Guide to Family History Resources at the Minnesota Historical Society* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 2003).

County Courthouses

Many of the courthouses in Minnesota are now called government centers; the records are in various offices throughout the buildings. Birth, death, and marriage records are generally in the office of the county recorder or county auditor. Addresses for courthouses are in Elizabeth Petty Bentley's *County Courthouse Book* (3d ed., Genealogical Publishing Company, 2009) and also via the MDH website.

Other records which may be in the court house include probate, land, tax, and civil (including divorces) and criminal court records. Most records remain in the

county courthouses. However, some older records have been transferred to the state archives at MHS, to regional research centers, and some have been microfilmed and may be used via the Family History Library.

Other places for research

Minnesota is fortunate to have many excellent public, academic, and historical libraries and museums across the state. Many other important genealogical and historical societies, college and university libraries, and ethnic organizations around the state have wonderful collections of material helpful in family history research. Two places to find many of these are:

<www.mnhs.org/localhistory/moh/>

<www.mnhs.org/resources.shtml>

The holdings vary at each facility, but may include newspaper indexes, family histories, vertical files, biographical files and indexes, cemetery records, censuses, and local, county, state, and regional histories. Public libraries frequently have local history collections and specialized indexes. For example, the Faribault, Minneapolis, and Winona public libraries have newspaper indexes.

There are other societies in Minnesota's bordering states and provinces, which have Minnesota connections. You may also find some local genealogy groups which are composed only of local residents and don't publicize their existence. You may find others that are informal sections of the county or local historical society.

Online Resources

These sites have a variety of indexes, digitized images, censuses, military records, county histories, vital records, discussion boards, catalogs, finding aids, lists of records and many other items. Take some time to explore each to get the full benefit. These will tell you much more than I could in this one article.

Many allow free searching, some have free images, and others require a fee. Don't forget to see if your genealogical, historical, or public library has access to some of the paid sites.

Ancestry.com <www.ancestry.com>

Cyndi's List <www.cyndislist.com>

Dalby Database <www.dalbydata.com>

Family History Library <www.familysearch.com>

Footnote.com <www.Footnote.com>

GenealogyBank.com <www.GenealogyBank.com>

HeritageQuest <www.HeritageQuestOnline.com>

Immigration History Research Center <www.ihrc.umn.edu>

Minnesota Discovery Center

<<http://mndiscoverycenter.com/>>

Minnesota Genealogical Society <www.mnhs.org>

Minnesota Historical Society <www.mnhs.org>

Minnesota Tourism <www.exploreminnesota.com/>

NewspaperArchive.com <www.NewspaperArchive.com>

Norwegian-American Historical Association
<www.naha.stolaf.edu>

Online Links to Minnesota Death Records

<<http://www.deathindexes.com/minnesota/>>

Park Genealogical books <<http://parkbooks.com/>>

Wide array of Minnesota publications

Rootsweb.com <www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>

USGenWeb <www.usgenweb.net>

World Vital Records

<www.worldvitalrecords.com>

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, will be the speaker for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon's Fall Seminar on October 23, 2010. Her lectures will cover a variety of techniques, methodologies, and record types.

She has been involved in family history research since 1977 when her late father-in-law insisted his mother's maiden name and married name were the same. He was correct! Since that point she has researched and lectured in most states.

Paula, a Minnesota resident, coordinates the intermediate course, American Records & Research, at the annual Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and currently serves on the Federation of Genealogical Societies Board of Directors. You can reach her via her blog Paula's Genealogical Eclectica <http://www.paulastuartwarren.blogspot.com/>

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Judi Scott, rb5522@aol.com

Extracts . . .

Abstracts of Probate Case Files Multnomah County 1856-1866 Oregon State Archives, Part II by Mickey Sieracki

The first probate record for Multnomah County recorded in 1856, concerned the estate of Ebenezer Creswell, deceased in the same year. Probate records give an interesting and historical picture of the past. Estates, guardianships, adoptions of our ancestors are chronicled, sometimes in great detail. I became interested in the early history of Multnomah County when I first moved to Portland in 1998, and began a project extracting information from the early probate files. As I progressed, the history of Portland unfolded year by year. As I drove around the county the street names had a background. The county and city became more familiar and its history more intriguing. All of the information below came from the original files at the Oregon Archives. My project covered 10 years of Multnomah county records, from 1856 – 1866. I eventually sent a copy of my research to the DAR library in Washington DC since many individuals use that library to help in family research. The Bulletin staff thought the GFO members might find this helpful as well.

Probate Case File Number: 64
:Northrup, Thomas E.: Estate: 1858
Northrup, Thomas E., deceased, intestate

Northrup, Eliza A., administrator and widow, remarried to John C. Carson
Northrup, Frank Edward, son, aged about 6

Northrup, Henry, sureties
Northrup, Nemiah, sureties
Dickinson, Josiah, sureties
Carson John C., husband of Eliza A.

Probate Case File Number: 65
Neeves, Henry: Estate: 1859

Neeves, Henry, deceased
Neeves, Henry W., Jr., heir, son, 26 yrs.
Neeves, William W., minor heir, son, 10 yrs.
Walters, Emaline, heir, married daughter, 18 yrs. of Salem, Marion Co. OR
Walters, John, husband of Emaline
Walters
Wilkinson, Adaline, heir, married daughter
Wilkinson, John, husband of Adaline
Wilkinson
Neeves, Alfred, minor heir, 11 yrs.

Probate Case File Number: 66
:Fahie, Thomas: Estate: 1861
Fahie, Thomas, deceased
Fahie, Arthur, executor and heir, brother

Probate Case File Number: 67
Northrup, Frank E.: Guardianship: 1868
Northrup, Frank E., minor heir

Northrup, Thomas E., deceased parent
Carson, John C., guardian

Carson, Eliza A. mother of Frank
Probate Case File Number: 68
Vickers, Perry A.: Guardian: 1864
Vickers, Perry A. minor heir, was 19, years of age in 1862
Vickers, Leonard B., brother of Perry Vickers and guardian
Vickers, Jesse, deceased parent, late of La Grange, Indiana

Probate Case File Number 69 - Missing

Probate Case File Number: 70
Carson, Minette: Guardianship: referred to Case File Number 0374
Carson, Minette, minor heir
Carson, D.R., deceased parent

Probate Case File Number: 71
Hoyt, Richard: Estate: 1862
Hoyt, Richard, deceased
Hoyt, Richard, Jr. heir, 16 years of age
Hoyt, Sarah M., heir, 8 years of age
Hoyt, Mary Frances, heir, 5 years of age
Hoyt, Mary A., widow and heir
Gibbs, Addison, guardian
Flanders, George, administrator

Probate Case File Number: 72
Cartter, George H.: Estate: 1862
Cartter, George H., deceased
Cartter, Rosetta, widow and heir

Probate Case File Number: 73
Woodard, Buel: Estate: 1863
Woodard, Buel, deceased
“... was murdered by Indians in the

mountains East of the Dalles...”
Woodard, Rose E., daughter, heir, aged 11 in 1863, residing in Coldwater, Branch Co., MI
Woodard, Harvey R., brother of deceased, residing in Washington Territory
Woodard, C. Perry, brother of deceased, residing in Branch Co., Michigan
Woodard, S.J., brother of deceased, residing in Chehalis Co., Washington Territory
Woodard, E.R., sibling of deceased, residing in Louisa Co., Iowa
Woodard, Henry K., brother of deceased and administrator of estate, residing in Portland
Smith, Mary, sister of deceased, residing in Branch Co., Michigan
Smith, Samuel, husband of Mary Smith
Coon, Rosina, sister of deceased, residing in San Francisco, CA
Coon, W.S., husband of Rosina Coon, residing in San Francisco, CA
Rutledge, Betsey, mother of deceased, remarried, residing in Washington Territory
Rutledge, William, husband of Betsey
Rutledge, residing in Washington Territory
Woodard, Jud, father of deceased, also deceased
Van Rensellaer, James C., guardian of Rose E. Woodard

Probate Case File Number: 74
Woodard, Rose E.: Guardianship: 1862
Woodard, Rose E., minor heir
Van Rensellaer, James C. guardian,

appointed 1862

Short, Rose E., formerly Rose E. Woodard
Short, A.T., husband of Rose E. Short

**Probate Case File Number: 75
Lownsdale, Daniel H.: Estate: 1863**
Lownsdale, Daniel H., deceased
Lownsdale, James, P.O., administrator, guardian, son & heir, aged 32 in 1862
Lownsdale, Ruth Adelaide minor daughter of deceased, aged 7
Lownsdale, Millard O., minor son of deceased, aged 10
Cooper, Mary E., married daughter of deceased, resident of Quincy, IL, aged 36 yrs.
Cooper, William, husband of Mary E., resident of Quincy, IL
Squires, Emma, granddaughter of deceased, aged 13 in 1862, residing in Covington, KY
, (married name of Lamb, Emma Squires)
Squires, Ida, granddaughter of deceased, aged 9 in 1862, residing in Covington, KY
Squires, Sarah, married daughter of deceased, deceased

**Probate Case File Number: 76
Lownsdale, Millard O.:
Guardianship: 1862**
Lownsdale, Millard O., minor
Lownsdale, James P.O., guardian
Lownsdale, Nancy, mother, deceased
Lownsdale, Daniel H., father, deceased

**Probate Case File Number: 77
Staples, Nathaniel: Estate: 1863**
Staples, Nathaniel, deceased
Cline, Jacob, administrator

**Probate Case File Number: 78
:Claggett, Benjamin F.: Estate: 1863,**
Claggett, Benjamin F., deceased
Claggett, Charles S., heir and administrator
Brown, C.W., administrator
Claggett, Elizabeth H., widow, guardian, heir
Claggett, Jesse E., heir
Claggett, Elizabeth S., daughter, heir, aged about 14
Claggett, James S., son, heir, aged about 12
Wing, Margaret A., married daughter, heir
Kelly, Mary A., married daughter, heir

**Probate Case File Number: 79
:Ladd, J. Marshall: Estate: 1862**
Ladd, J. Marshall, deceased, resident of San Francisco, CA. Died in San Francisco.
Ladd, Nathaniel G., father of deceased, heir
Ladd, Abigail K., mother of deceased, heir

Ladd, William S, brother of deceased, administrator, heir
Ladd, Carrie, sister-in-law of deceased, wife of William S. Ladd, heir
Ladd, Charles, nephew of deceased, child of William S. and Carrie Ladd, heir
Ladd, Nellie, niece of deceased, child of William S. and Carrie Ladd, heir
Ladd, William, nephew of deceased, child of William S. and Carrie Ladd, heir
Ladd, Helen, niece of deceased, child of William S. and Carrie Ladd, heir
Kendall, Helen, sister of deceased, heir
Kendall, George, brother-in-law of deceased, husband of Helen Kendall
Ladd, Josephine, sister of deceased, heir
Ladd, Mary, sister of deceased, heir
Ladd, J. Wesley, brother of deceased, heir
Ladd, Sarah, sister-in-law of deceased, wife of J. Wesley Ladd, heir
Ladd, Loretta O., cousin of deceased, heir
Sanborn, Homer, friend, heir
Russell, Harlow, friend, heir

**Probate Case File Number: 80
:Myers, Tobias: Estate: 1863**
Myers, Tobias, deceased, died in Los Angeles, CA, 28 March 1863
Myers, Milbrey M., wife of deceased, heir, executor
Myers, Andrew J., nephew of deceased, heir, son of Jacob Myers
Myers, William, nephew of deceased, heir, son of Jacob Myers
Myers, George T, nephew of deceased, heir, son of Jacob Myers
Myers, Charles, nephew of deceased, son of Jacob Myers
Myers, George, brother of deceased, residing in Westmoreland Co. PA
Myers, John, brother of deceased, residing in Westmoreland Co. PA
Myers, Abraham, brother of deceased, residing near Philadelphia, PA
Myers, Katherine, sister of deceased, residing in Iowa
Myers, Jacob, brother of deceased, also deceased, of Westmoreland Co. PA

**Probate Case File Number: 81
:Meloy, Nathan H.: Estate: 1863**
Meloy, Nathan H., Deceased, 1862
Quimby, E.L., Administrator
Meloy, Mrs., Wife of deceased, heir, residing in Olympia, Washington Territory
Meloy children, 5 small children mentioned in will, no further identification

**Probate Case File Number: 82
:McBurney, Thomas: Estate: 1863**
McBurney, Thomas, Deceased
McBurney, John, son of deceased, heir (22 yrs. old)

McBurney, Martha Jane, daughter of deceased, heir (20 yrs. old)
McBurney, Catherine, widow of deceased
Patton, Matthew, Administrator

**Probate Case File Number: 83
:Chapin, Arlington M.: Estate: 1864**
Chapin, Arlington M., deceased, 24 December 1863
Kelly, Hampton, Executor
Chapin, Sophia, heir
Chapin, Frank Arlington, heir

**Probate Case File Number: 84
:King, James W.: Guardianship: 1864**
King, James W., minor
King, William M. Guardian and father

**Probate Case File Number: 85
Stratton, Elizabeth: Estate: 1864**
Stratton, Mary Elizabeth minor daughter, heir of Rosa Ann Stratton, deceased
Burke, William P., guardian of M. Elizabeth Stratton
Stratton, Rosa Ann, deceased, died 13 January 1861
Gaffney, Catherine, sister of Rosa Ann Stratton, guardian and heir of M. Elizabeth Stratton
McDermott, Julia m sister of Rosa Ann Stratton, heir of M. Elizabeth Stratton
Gaffney, B, cousin and heir of M. Elizabeth Stratton
Gaffney, Patne (Patric), cousin, heir of M. Elizabeth Stratton, living in Ireland
Gaffney, Andrew, cousin heir of M. Elizabeth Stratton, living in Ireland

**Probate Case File Number: 86
:Voit, Iva: Estate: 1864**
Voet, Iva (also Voit), deceased, Belgian consul called him Ivan Van Voet
According to consular records was born 17 April 1816 at Knesseleare, East Flanders, Belgium
Voet, Leopold, father of deceased, residing in Belgium
Bauslliasne, Catherine, mother of deceased, Mrs. Leopold Voet, residing in Belgium
Kern, J. W., Administrator

**Probate Case File Number: 87
Groom, Jane, Anna, and Alameda:
Guardianship: 1864**
Grooms, Artimesia, deceased
Grooms, Anna, minor heir, 8 yrs. old
Grooms, Almede minor heir, 6 yrs. old
Grooms, Jane, minor heir, 12 yrs. old
Grooms, Mr., predeceased wife

**Probate Case File Number: 88
Hitchcock, George, Lyman, &
Hellen: Guardianship: 1864**
Chittenden, Austin, deceased, father of Helen Hitchcock
Hitchcock, Helen, deceased, mother of George, Lyman, and Hellen, minors

Hitchcock, J.M., husband of Helen
 Hitchcock, father of minors
 Hitchcock, George H. heir,
 grandson of Austin Chittenden,
 residing in LaPorte Co., Michigan City,
 IN
 Hitchcock, Lyman C. heir,
 grandson of Austin Chittenden,
 residing in LaPorte Co., Michigan City,
 IN
 Hitchcock, Hellen E. heir,
 granddaughter of Austin Chittenden,
 residing in LaPorte Co., Michigan City,
 IN
 Wright, Edward P., guardian
 Wright, Delia A., wife of Edward P.
 Wright, sister of Helen Hitchcock

Probate Case File Number: 89**Kelley, Maria F.: Estate: 1864**

Kelley, Maria F., deceased
 Kelly, Clinton, executor and husband

Probate Case File Number: 90**Moore, John: Estate: 1864**

Moore, John, deceased, died in Lewis
 Co., Washington Territory
 Coulson, H.C., Administrator
 Moore, Mary Ann, widow and heir
 Moore, Charles H., son of deceased
 Ford, Mary E., daughter of deceased, of
 Chehalis Co., Washington Territory
 Ford, S.S.J., husband of Mary E., of
 Chehalis Co., Washington Terr.
 Moore, Richard, son of deceased
 Moore, William, son of deceased
 Moore, Oregon, son of deceased
 Moore, Robert, son of deceased
 Moore, Terry, son of deceased
 Moore, Lewis, son of deceased
 Widow and all children residing in
 Lewis Co. Washington Territory

Probate Case File Number: 91**Jones, Franklin M.: Estate: 1864**

Jones, Franklin M., deceased, 1865
 Died suddenly on the steamer Brother
 Jonathan on its voyage from Victoria,
 BC to Portland
 Jones, Daniel, brother of deceased,
 administrator, of Portland OR
 Jones, Catherine, mother of deceased,
 residing in Reading, Berks Co. PA
 Jones, Henry, father of deceased, also
 deceased
 Jones, Charles, brother of deceased,
 residing in Philadelphia, PA
 Jones, William, brother of deceased,
 residing in Philadelphia, PA
 Jones, Mary, sister of deceased,
 residing in Philadelphia, PA
 Jones, Elizabeth, sister of deceased,
 married to Aaron Greenleaf, residing in
 Reading, PA
 Greenleaf, Aaron, husband of Elizabeth
 Jones, residing in Reading, PA
 Jones, Samuel, brother of deceased,
 serving in Army in 1864

Probate Case File Number: 92**Costello, James: Estate: 1864**

Costello, James, deceased
 Kelly, James, Cousin and administrator
 Costello, Honor, widow of deceased
 Kelly, Patrick, cousin of deceased,
 residing in Idaho
 Kelly, Thomas, cousin of deceased,
 residing in St. Louis, MO
 Kelly, Elen, cousin of deceased,
 residing in New York City, NY
 Penisot, Mrs. Mary (Perisot), cousin of
 deceased, residing in Butler Co., OH
 Welch, Mrs. Ann, cousin of deceased,
 residing in Ohio
 Monroe, Patrick, cousin of deceased,
 serving in US Army in 1864
 Miller, John F., administrator

Probate Case File Number: 93**Brady, Bernard: Estate: 1865**

Brady, Bernard, deceased, 31 October
 1862
 Brady, Patrick, executor
 Brady, Andrew, father of deceased,
 heir, living at 16 Middle Synge St.,
 Dublin, IR
 Brady, Esther, mother of deceased, heir,
 residing in Dublin, Ireland
 McGill, Margaret, sister of deceased,
 heir, residing in Portland OR
 Brady, George Andrew, orphan child of
 John Brady, heir
 Brady, John, brother of deceased, also
 deceased, resided in St. Louis, MO
 Brady, Esther, sister of deceased, heir,
 residing in Dublin, Ireland
 McGill, Daniel, brother-in-law of
 deceased, husband of Margaret McGill,
 heir
 Brady, Matthew, brother of deceased,
 heir, residing in Portland OR

Probate Case File Number: 94**Wolf, Morris: Estate: 1865**

Wolf, Morris, deceased, 12 January
 1865
 Wolf, Iola, widow
 Wolf, Edwin, minor child, 8 yrs. old

Probate Case File Number: 95**Lownsdale, Ruth A.: Estate: 1865**

Lownsdale, Ruth A., minor, now Mrs.
 Eugene Semple
 Blanchard, John A., guardian
 Semple, Eugene, husband of Ruth A.
 Lownsdal
 Lownsdale, Nancy, mother of Ruth
 Lownsdale, deceased
 Lownsdale, Daniel H., father of Ruth
 Lownsdale, deceased

Probate Case File Number: 96**Jones, Thomas: Estate: 1864**

Jones, Thomas, deceased, late of
 Boise, Idaho
 Freeman, C.A., Administrator
 Jones, Margaret, sister of deceased,
 residing in Hamilton Co., OH
 Jones, Mahlonbrother of deceased,
 residing in Butler Co., OH
 Beekley, Catherine, sister of deceased,

residing in Hamilton Co., OH
 Beekley, James, husband of Catherine
 Jones Beekley, residing in Hamilton
 Co., OH
 Caldwell, William S., Attorney

Probate Case File Number: 97**McKinney, Daniel: Estate: 1866**

McKinney, Daniel, deceased. Died on
 the way to Bitter
 Root Valley, either in Idaho or
 Washington Territory
 Wiley, Richard, Administrator
 McKinney, William, brother and heir
 McKinney, James, brother, heir,
 residing in Roseburg OR
 Ross, Margaret, sister, deceased
 Ross, Stephen, heir of Margaret Ross,
 deceased
 Peal, Emily, heir of Margaret Ross, her
 niece
 Ross, Stephen Evans, child of Stephen
 Ross
 Ross, Elizabeth, child of Stephen Ross
 Ross, Catherine, child of Stephen Ross
 Ross, Waldo, (?sp), child of Stephen
 Ross
 McMahan, Emily, daughter of Stephen
 Ross
 Washburne, Frances, daughter of
 Stephen Ross
 Washburne, J.M. husband of Frances
 Washburne
 Ross, Sherry, eir, partner of Daniel
 McKinney, heir of Margaret Ross

Probate Case File Number: 98**Howe, Ammasy: Estate: 1865**

Howe, Ammasy, deceased

Probate Case File Number: 99**Dillon, Francisco, William H., and Nancy: Guardianship: 1865**

Dillon, Jeremiah, deceased
 Cramer, John, guardian
 Dillon, William H., minor heir, 11 yrs.
 old, residing in Wisconsin
 Dillon, Nancy O., minor heir, 9 yrs.
 old, residing in Wisconsin
 Dillon, Francisco, minor heir, 13 yrs.
 old, residing in Wisconsin
 Dillon, William H., guardian

Probate Case File Number: 100**Blackistone, Francis G., Charles, and Clara: Guardianship: 1863**

Blackistone, Charles Augustus, minor
 Blackistone, Clara, minor
 Blackistone, Francis G., minor
 Palmateer, Garret, grandfather of minor
 children
 Blackistone, William, father of minor
 children
 Ward, John P., guardian

Probate Case File Number: 101**Watson, Thomas L.: Estate: 1864**

Watson, Thomas L. deceased
 Watson, Margaret, widow,
 administratrix
 Watson, Agnes, minor heir, aged 1 year

Watson, Jemima, minor heir, aged 6 years
 Watson, Andrew J., brother of deceased, administrator

**Probate Case File Number: 102
 Ebinger, William A.: Estate: 1867**

Ebinger, William M., deceased
 McCracken, John M., executor
 Ebinger, Mary Elizabeth, daughter, minor heir
 Ebinger, Frederick Wilhelm son, minor heir
 Ebinger, Joanna (Johanna) Caroline daughter, minor heir
 Ebinger, Emma, daughter, minor heir
 Ebinger, Augustus Edward, son, minor heir
 Ebinger, Charles, son, minor heir
 Ebinger, Ida, daughter, minor heir
 Schulters, Caroline Wilhelmina widow of deceased, remarried
 Schulters, John, husband of Caroline Shutties, Caroline
 Jubitz, Rosa Amelia Joanne, formerly Ebinger, Rosa, married daughter of deceased
 Jubitz, Albion, husband of Rosa Jubitz
 Coulson, H.C., guardian ad litem
 Wilson, R.B., co-executor

**Probate Case File Number: 103
 Reinhardt, Lelia Augusta:
 Guardianship: 1870**

Reinhardt, Lelia Augusta, minor heir, born 25 March 1857
 West, Frank H., guardian
 Reinhardt, Sarah B., deceased mother of minor heir
 Reinhardt, Henry G., deceased father of minor heir, died at Roseburg OR, predeceased Sarah.

**Probate Case File Number: 104
 Beeny, Richard: Estate: 1865**

Beeny, Richard (also Beeny), deceased
 Griswold, W.N., administrator

**Probate Case File Number: 105
 Luther, Albert: Guardianship: 1865**

Luther, Albert, insane person
 Lent, Oliver T. guardian

**Probate Case File Number: 106
 Garrison, Mary: Estate: 1865**

Garrison, Mary, deceased
 Garrison, John B., son, heir, administrator, executor
 Masters, Samuel L., grandson and heir
 Masters, John, grandson and heir
 Kerns, Lois, present at reading of will
 Masters, William, present at reading of will
 Masters, Lafayette, present at reading of will
 Masters, Wilbur, present at reading of will

**Probate Case File Number: 107
 Avery, William F.: Estate: 1865**

Avery, William F., deceased, May 1863
 O'Connor, Michael John administrator
 Avery, Eliza Jane, widow
 Avery, Frank, son, aged 9
 Avery, William, son, aged 10

**Probate Case File Number: 108
 Streitter, Reinhardt: Estate: 1865**
 Streitter, Reinhardt, deceased, 27 June 1865
 Schafer, Louis, administrator

**Probate Case File Number: 109
 Hall, Emily M.: Estate: 1865**
 Hall, Emily M., deceased
 Williams, Peter C., administrator, son-in-law of deceased
 Hall, Benjamin, husband of deceased, also deceased

**Probate Case File Number 110 -
 Missing**

**Probate Case File Number: 111
 Frush, William H.: Estate: 1865**
 Frush, William H., deceased, 28 July 1865, kept and ran a ferry boat
 Frush, Ann Eliza widow, administratrix
 Frush, James H., aged 30 in 1865

**Probate Case File Number: 112
 Elwert, Charles: Estate: 1865**
 Elwert, Charles, deceased, 4 June 1865
 Elwert, Jacobeana, widow, administratrix
 Elwert, Caroline daughter of deceased, aged 10 in 1865
 Elwert, Charles, son of deceased, aged 5 in 1865

**Probate Case File Number: 113
 Stiles, Alva L.: Estate: 1865**
 Stiles, Alva L., deceased, "died upon the high seas" 30 July 1865
 Stiles, C.C., brother, heir, administrator
 Stiles, John M., brother, aged 46 in 1865, residing in San Francisco
 Stiles, Silas, brother, aged 41 in 1865
 Lowell, Sarah, sister, aged 35 in 1865

**Probate Case File Number: 114
 Crandall, Dwight: Estate: 1865**
 Crandall, Dwight, deceased, 30 July 1865
 Towle, Charles S., administrator
 Crandall, Mary Jane, widow
 Crandall, John C., son, aged 10 in 1865
 Crandall, Charlotte, daughter, aged 7 in 1865
 Crandall, Agnes, daughter, aged 5 in 1865
 Crandall, Frank, son, aged 2 in 1865

**Probate Case File Number: 115
 Bottler, George F.: Estate: 1865**
 Bottler, George F. deceased
 Bottler, George M. brother of deceased, executor

**Probate Case File Number: 116
 Gillihan, William T.: Guardian:
 1864**

Gillihan, William T. minor heir of Nancy Lownsdale, formerly Nancy Gillihan.
 Was characterized by James P.O. Lownsdale as "...subject to convulsions or fits of a dangerous character that it is very necessary that medical aid be rendered..."
 Gillihan, Martin, guardian of William T. Gillihan, uncle
 Lownsdale, Nancy, deceased mother of William T. Gillihan and Isabella Gillihan
 Gillihan, Isabella, minor heir of Nancy Lownsdale
 Gillihan, William, deceased father of William T. and Isabella Gillihan
 Lownsdale, James P.O. stepson of Nancy Lownsdale
 Patten, Matthew, initial guardian of William T. Gillihan

**Probate Case File Number: 117
 Clary, John: Estate: 1865**

Clary, John, deceased, born in Newmarket, County Clare, Ireland
 Macken, P., administrator
 Clary, Bridget, sister-in-law of John Clary, residing in East Boston, MA, only heir
 McNierney, Bridget, now Bridget Clary
 Clary, Daniel, husband of Bridget McNierney, brother of John Clary, died c. 1848
 Clary, Michael, brother of John Clary, died c. 1855
 Clary, Sarah, mother of John Clary, died in Ireland
 Clary, Daniel, father of John Clary, died in Ireland
 Clary, Margaret, daughter of Daniel and Bridget Clary, died c. 1866
 McNierney, Mary, sister of Bridget Clary, married John Costello
 Costello, John, husband of Mary McNierney

**Probate Case File Number: 118
 Backenstos minors: Guardian: 1863**

Holman, J.D., guardian
 Backenstos, James S., minor heir of Jacob B. Backenstos
 Backenstos, Charles A., minor heir of Jacob B. Backenstos
 Backenstos, Eugene L., minor heir of Jacob B. Backenstos
 Backenstos, Jacob B., deceased father of minors

**Probate Case File Number: 119
 Lefel, Pierson: Estate: 1865**

Lefel, Pierson, deceased
 Lefel, James, father of deceased, residing in Springfield, Clark Co., OH
 Lefel, Mary Ann, mother of deceased, residing in Springfield, Clark Co., OH
 Lefel, Frederick, brother, aged 28,

residing in OH
Lefel, Warren, brother, aged 12,
residing in OH
Lefel, Edward, brother, aged 7, residing
in OH
Myers, Elizabeth, sister, aged 30,
residing in Salem OR
Myers, Shannon, husband of Eliza,
administrator
Bookwater, Alyce, sister, 23

**Probate Case File Number: 120
King Elizabeth A. and Harriett:
Guardianship: 1865**

King, Elizabeth A., minor, 15 years old
King, Harriet, minor, 13 years old
King, William M., father and appointed
guardian

**Probate Case File Number: 121
Steele, Flora: Guardianship: 1864**

Steele, Flora (Mary) aged 7,
illegitimate child of ___ Steele, now
deceased, removed from custody of
Chs. Burkhart and wife for cruel and
inhumane treatment...
Caldwin, William S, guardian

**Probate Case File Number: 122
Barr, James S.: Estate: 1864**

Barr, James S., deceased, on or about 1
December 1863
A father and other connections residing
in Mercer County, Illinois.

**Probate Case File Number: 123
Cremens, Joseph D.: Estate: 1862**

Cremens, Joseph D., deceased, on or
about August 17, 1862, Owned liquor
saloon on First Street.
Cremens, Mary, widow and
administratrix
Cremens, Anne Maria, heir, aged 8
months

**Probate Case File Number: 124
Cooke, George: Estate: 1863**

Cooke, George, deceased, on or about
19 December 1862.
Cooke, Horatio Sr., administrator,
father, aged 63 years
Cooke, Vincent, appraiser of estate
Cooke, James W., surety for bond of
Horatio Cooke Sr.
Cooke, Horatio Jr. surety for bond of
Horatio Cooke Sr.
The deceased left no wife and no
descendants, sole heir was father.

**Probate Case File Number: 125
Cremens, Anne Maria:
Guardianship: 1862**

Cremens, Anne Maria, infant
Cremens, Mary, guardian, and mother
Cremens, Joseph D., deceased father
Mackin, Patrick, guardian

**Probate Case File Number 126 –
Missing**

**Probate Case File Number 127 –
Missing**

**Probate Case File Number: 128
Decker, B.B.: Estate: 1864**

Decker, Benjamin B., deceased, on or
about 11 April 1864
Decker, Adelaide R, administrator, wife
Decker, Katie, infant child. Died at 2
yrs of age in December 1866 prior to
final probate of father's will

**Probate Case File Number: 129
Huber, Noah: Estate: 1863**

Huber, Noah, deceased, in 1859 in
California.

Risley, O., administrator
Huber, Mary widow and heir
Unnamed minor children heirs
Buck, Mary E. formerly Mary
Huber, widow of deceased

**Probate Case File Number: 130
Hoyt, Richard et al: Guardianship:
1866**

Hoyt, Richard Sr. deceased father
Hoyt, Richard Jr. minor heir, 16 yrs of
age in 1863
Hoyt, Sarah M. minor heir, 10 yrs of
age in 1863
Hoyt, Mary Francis, minor heir, 7 yrs
of age in 1863
Hoyt, Mary Ann, mother
Gibbs, Addison C., guardian of minor
children

**Probate Case File Number: 131
Hinton, minor: Guardianship: 1864,**

Hinton, S.B., minor child
Hinton, Joseph, deceased father
Hinton, Sarah, deceased mother
Rothwell, James, guardian

Probate Case File Number: 132

Kendall, B.F.: Estate: 1863

Kendall, Bion F., deceased, late of
Olympia WA, died on or about 7
January 1863.
Kendall, Bezabel, father; sole heir;
resides in town of Bethel, Oxford Co.
Maine; aged 75.

Probate Case File Number: 133

Knox, Jeremiah: Estate: 1863
Knox, Jeremiah. deceased, on or about
28 November 1863, no widow left
Potter, L.C., administrator and son-in-
law, living in Multnomah Co.
Arnold, Angeline, daughter, living in
Multnomah Co.
Knox, Jeremiah, son, living in
Multnomah Co.
Woodard, Sarah, daughter, living in
Multnomah Co.
Knox, William, son, living in
Washington Territory
Potter, Hannah, daughter, wife of L.C.
Potter
Weinart, Harriet, daughter, living in
California
Knox, Granville, son, living in

Victoria, British Columbia

**Probate Case File Number: 134
MaDan, John T.: Estate: 1865**

MaDan, John T., deceased, died
intestate in Massachusetts in Fall of
1863.
MaDan, John, father, and alleged sole
heir, residing in Woburn, MA, age
about 65.
McCracken, John, administrator
Humiston, Charles N.
administrator and surviving partner of
Hummiston MaDan, a wholesale liquor
business.
MaDan, Margaret alleged divorced wife
of deceased, claimed to be legal heir
and that divorce never finalized.
Cooper, Helen F. sister of deceased,
residing in Woburn, MA.

Probate Case File Number: 135

Kunath, August: Estate: 1865
Kunath, August, deceased, on or about
6 December 1865
No relatives living in Multnomah
County, OR.

**Probate Case File Number: 136
Drew, Clark: Estate: 1866**

Drew, Clark, deceased, resident of
Washington Terr., died on or about 16
Aug 1859.
No will, no widow, no known heirs.
Failing, Josiah, administrator &
creditor

**Probate Case File Number: 137
Kohlberg, Solomon: Estate: 1866**

Kohlberg, Solomon, deceased, on or
about 22 December 1865
Kohlberg, Gustav, general
administrator, cousin of deceased
Rosenbaum, Isaac S., special
administrator, surviving partner of
Rosenbaum & Kohlberg, tobacconists
Kohlberg, Selig brother, about 48 yrs
of age, 1/6th heir, of Washington DC.
Kohlberg, Jacob brother, about 43 yrs.
old, 1/6th heir, of New York City, NY
Ham, Julia, sister, about 46 yrs old,
1/6th heir, of Seisin, Electorate of
Brunswick, under Protectorate of
Hanover.
Sturmthal, Johanna, sister, about 40 yrs
old, 1/6th heir, of Piermont, Prussia.
Loewenstein, Matilda, sister, about 31
yrs old, 1/6th heir, of Witten, Prussia.
Rosenbaum, Bertha, sister, about 36 yrs
old, 1/6th heir, of San Francisco, CA
Left no wife or children, nor lineal
descendants.

**Probate Case File Number: 138
Cason, William: Estate: 1866**

Cason, William A., deceased, on or
about 3 December 1865.
Cason, A.J., administrator, brother of
deceased.
Himmons, Emanuel, creditor

Hedges, Joseph creditor
 Beal, C. creditor
 Lent, O.T. creditor, Justice of
 the Peace
 No wife or children.

Probate Case File Number: 139**Kimmel, Jacob: Estate: 1866**

Kimmel, Jacob deceased, on or about
 20 July, 1865

"... drowned in the Columbia River
 while a passenger on a voyage and
 journey from Selilo to Umatilla..."

Kimmel, Singleton heir, brother,
 living in New Westminster in British
 Columbia

Kimmel, Matilda sister, in Pottsville,
 Schuilkill Co. in PA.

Kimmel, Sarah sister, in Pottsville,
 Schuilkill Co. in PA

Probate Case File Number: 140**Hosmer, Ruth & Franklin:****Guardianship: 1866**

Hosmer, Ruth, heir, minor, 8 yrs. old
 Hosmer, Franklin heir, minor, 6 yrs. old
 Barber, M.L., Uncle of children,
 appointed guardian

Barber, Martin, L., deceased, great-
 grandfather of children, late of Niagara
 Co., NY, left children \$166.66.

Hosmer father of children, deceased 6
 yrs. ago

Mother of children is remarried.

Probate Case File Number: 141**Southmayd, Allen & Daniel:****Guardianship: 1866**

Southmayd, Daniel S. deceased
 prior to 1862

Potter, Sylvester guardian, husband of
 Alice Potter, resident of St. Johns.

Southmayd, Sarah H., minor heir of
 deceased

Southmayd, Jane S., minor heir of
 decease,

Southmayd, Allen C., minor heir of
 deceased, aged 11 in 1870

Southmayd, Daniel Starr minor heir
 of deceased, aged 9 in 1870

Potter, Sarah H. formerly Sarah H.

Southmayd, married 27 October 1867

Potter, Alice formerly Alice

Southmayd, late widow of deceased

Potter, Lester husband of Sarah H.

Potter, and resident of Yamhill Co.

Probate Case File Number: 142**Richards, James R.: Estate: 1866**

Richards, James R., deceased, of San
 Francisco, C, died on steamer 'Brother
 Jonathan' when it wrecked above
 Crescent City on July 30, 1865..."

Richards, Annie M., widow, residing
 in San Francisco with minor children.

Richards, William W.. minor child,
 about 8 yrs.

Richards, Alexander O., minor child,
 about 6 yrs.

Richards, Annie L., minor child, about

4 yrs.

McCracken, John executor

Fisk, Royal executor

Probate Case File Number: 143**McKew, Anthony: Estate: 1866**

McKew (McCue), Anthony, deceased,
 on or about January 1864

McKew, Elizabeth M. administratrix
 and wife

McKew, Anthony, son, aged 11 yrs.

McKew, Elizabeth, daughter, aged 6

McKew, Mary Ann, daughter, aged 2

Coulson, H.C., guardian ad litem

Probate Case File Number: 144**Murphy, Daniel: Estate: 1866**

Murphy, Daniel, deceased, on or about
 23 January 1866

Murphy, Matthew O'C., Executor,
 oldest son

Murphy, Peter, son, living in

Champoeg, OR

Murphy, Andrew, nephew

Murphy, Ellen M., daughter-in-law,

wife of Matthew of Marion Co. OR

Murphy, Dan H., son

Probate Case File Number: 145**Rand, Vincent: Estate: 1866**

Rand, Vincent. deceased, on or about 1
 May 1863

Rand, Jane, widow, administratrix

Rand, Robert, son, aged 19

Rand, Abraham T. son, aged 17

Rand, Vincent G., son, aged 10

Rand, Sarah Jane, daughter, aged 8

Rand, J. Crittenden, son, aged 6

Probate Case File Number: 146**Morgan, Ellen L. & Jesse A.:****Guardianship: 1866**

Morgan, Ellen L. minor daughter, aged
 15

Morgan, Louisa E. deceased mother, on
 or about 23 Sept. 1865

Morgan, Jesse A, minor, aged 9 yrs.

Morgan, minor, aged 2 yrs.

Morgan, H.G., father and guardian

Probate Case File Number: 147**Humiston, Charles: Estate: 1867**

Humiston, Charles N., deceased, of
 San Francisco, CA, died on or about 27
 March 1866

Huminston, Francette, wife,
 administratrix

Ferry, C.P, heir, friend, administrator

Humiston, David, heir, brother

Humiston, heir, father

Humiston, heir, mother

Book Reviews

James Edmond Carbine and Marianne Lemly Carbine, *An American Family: 1575-1945*, Carbine-Lemly Publishing, LLC, Baltimore, Maryland, 2007, 393 pages. ISBN 978-0-9790848-0-5. Available through New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116, or on line at <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/store>.

Audience: This book will appeal to those with a love of history and how it plays out in our ancestors lives and will provide family information for people researching these family lines.

Purpose: The purpose is to provide historical context for the ancestors of the Carbine and Lemly families, and share their personal stories.

Author's qualifications: James E. Carbine and Marianne Lemly share their combined family history research and personal historical knowledge. The book is the result of family history research accumulated by his wife Marianne over a forty year period. James spent two years putting the information into the context of contemporary American history.

Organization: There are fifteen chapters in the book. These cover the year 1945, then move onto histories of the Pilgrims, the Church of Kings, the Puritans, religious intolerance, and several family groups. It quickly moves through settlement of the United States, migration patterns, Civil War highlights, moving west, financial changes, development and the depression. Personal thoughts are in the final two chapters. There are abbreviated genealogies for fourteen families in the appendix. A historical timeline from 1517 to 1945 provides a nice review of the book. The bibliography is a good reference for future information. The index seems to cover the topics and people mentioned. The overall documenting of sources seems to be limited. About sixty photographs included.

Accuracy: The book seems to provide an accurate view of the topics covered. Without a good knowledge of history, the average reader may struggle with understanding all that they present.

Content: Families referred to in the book include: Walker, Porterfield, Lemly, Carbine, Robinson, Brigham, Stout, Lee (Lea), Matthews, Hogin, McCallum, and Becker. The authors share that, "In this family history book, the profiles of our ancestors are interwoven with that portion of American history directly impacting their lives. The result is a history of the United States, viewed through the eyes of a single family. What begins with the dream of a Cambridge University divinity student, born

in 1575, ends with a Christmas dinner in 1945 reuniting a mid-western family at the conclusion of the Second World War."

Conclusion: This is a very interesting book documenting United States and world history, in relation to the history of extended family members. -SL

Jay M. Reeves, Kathryn Zang Hess and Thomas Richards Hamilton, *From Dorset Farm To Ohio Factory: A History of the Family of Albert George and Martha Reeves*, Anderson Printing, College Place, Washington, 1992, Library of Congress: 92-60377, 231 pages.

Audience: The descendants of Albert George Reeves I and Martha Arnold will find that this book provides a wonderful collection of information about their family.

Purpose: The three authors collaborated on presenting a thorough collection of family information from their respective family lines descending from the original immigrants to the United States. They also present the original work of researcher Latimer Reeves, who influenced the creation of the book. "This family history is an attempt to record contemporary family history and is an effort to revisit the past."

Author's qualifications: The authors all descend from one of the original collaborators with Latimer Reeves. Jay M. Reeves is a nephew of Latimer Reeves; Thomas Richards Hamilton is the grandson of Martha Richards Phillip and Kathryn Zang Hess is the eldest surviving grandchild of Albert George Reeves II.

Organization: The first five chapters give the basic information on the places the family lived in England, Picking Up a Cold Trail, Hard Times, The English Ancestry of Albert George Reeves and the Beginning of the American Experience. The last five chapters cover their children: Mary Ann Reeves, Jabez Albinas Reeves, Jeremiah Reeves, the family of Albert George Reeves II and the other children of Albert George and Martha Reeves. Appendix A: "The Reeves Family History Compiled by Latimer Reeves" is the original family history from which the current authors started their research, and covers twenty pages. Appendix B: "The Business Enterprises of Jabez, Jonathan, Jeremiah and George Reeves," covers ten pages. Notes and references are included, followed by the index. On the inside cover are two limited decendancy charts. There are some photographs included in the book.

Accuracy: This is a very well researched work, but does not include many cited sources for personal information. The detail and presentation are well done.

Content: The book seems to be the results of questionnaires sent to family members. The responses

vary as to the personal knowledge of the submitter and their desire of having the information included in the book. Most include birth, adoption, death, marriage and divorce information, both dates and places. There is often information on educational accomplishments, membership in clubs, military service, church, civic and service positions, occupations, sports, hobbies, activities, collections, etc. The spouses' information may include the above and their parent's information, previous marriages and children from other marriages. The children are included with brief information. In the next generation, their personal information is expanded, and includes their family group. Also included are family remembrances, obituaries, news articles and histories.

Conclusion: This book is a fine example of creating a family history that will be of value to the descendants in generations to come. There are priceless stories and remembrances preserved in a format that is enjoyable to read. -SL

Michael Furl, *The Ancestries of a Furl Family and a Moe Family: From 19th Century Norway and Prussia to Wisconsin; From 16th Century Scotland to Pennsylvania to West Virginia to Texas and Places In-Between and Beyond*, Gateway Press, Inc. (now Otter Bay Books, July 2009), Baltimore, Maryland, 2008, 262 pages. Digital copy available at <http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu>. To purchase contact author at padremike@tx.rr.com.

Audience: This book may hold clues for people researching the Furl, Moe, Brock, Dundas, Hepburn, Jarratt, Scholz, Simmons, Strege, Thingstead, Thornburg, Woychik, Offerdahl, Sterge, Klebig, Hickman, McDade, Settle-Suttle, Watson, Ramzy, Henderson, Baumgardner, Stirling, Merritt, Turley, Van Meter, Sheperd, DuBois and Oswald families. There are 1,600 unique names in the index of this book. The descendants of these family founders found their way to Virginia, the District of Columbia, West Virginia and Tennessee.

Purpose: This book provides a format in which to share the family history research accumulated over thirty years, of the families of John Michael Furl and Sharon Lee Moe, who were married in 1971. The book is for their sons Nick and Nate.

Author's qualifications: John Michael Furl was born in 1945 in Midland, Texas. He married Sharon Lee Moe in 1971. They have researched a vast amount of records in researching their family history.

Organization: The book is divided into three different books, covering various families and time-periods. The preface includes the Introduction, a 25 page Ahnentafel Report of fifteen generations, and 24

pages of Pedigree Charts. Book one, is *The Immigrant Experience: Moe and Thingstead*, pages 1 to 24. Book two, is *Woychick*, also Scholz, Strege, pages 25 to 39, with nine pages of pictures and illustrations. Book three, is *Furl*, pages 40 to 133, with eleven pages of pictures. Following these are eight appendices, and the concluding appendix is a brief history of the author's personal family with another nine pages of pictures. The bibliography includes a good accounting of the various references used on pages 205 to 224. There are limited endnotes found on pages 225 to 242 and an index on pages 243 to 262.

Accuracy: The accuracy is difficult to determine, as there are few citations for the information for the individuals presented. It appears to be well written, and the references provided may lead to assist the reader in finding some of the original information used.

Content: The ancestries of a Furl family and a Moe family: including the main surnames - Brock, Dundas, Hepburn, Jarratt, Scholz, Simmons, Strege, Thingstead, Thornburg, and Woychik. While the histories of most of the individual people in the book are recorded in just a few lines, others have lengthy stories about their personal lives. The author has made a thorough search of court records and documents that define the lives of the good, the bad and the ugly.

Conclusion: This book provides very interesting reading. Use of the index by the reader is important to determine which parts of the book are relevant to find information of interest to them. There is so much information on each of the families, that it can be difficult to retain the information and stories about them. -SL

Harold G. Glasgow, *ALL MY LIFE, A Family Record of the Glasgow, Hunter, Williams, McKinney, Hightower, Prater, Harland and Related Families, 1735-2008*, Gateway Press, Baltimore, MD, 2008. Vol. I, First edition, 786 pages. To order contact H.G. Glasgow, 8115 Covington Court, Brentwood, TN 37027-7303; Telephone 615-661-7967; email: halocarol@aol.com. Price: \$21.90 + case \$1.10 + postage \$2.93 = \$25.00.

Audience: *ALL MY LIFE* is a fine modern family record. The beautiful sage book jacket is tastefully done with names, dates and photos. Contemporary descendants of these families will be most interested in "those we loved and lost" and the details of their lives, both remembered and documented.

Purpose: The back cover offers the publisher's opinion that the book is more than a simple family record; it is a study of education, career patterns and family settlement. The descriptions of "down-home" life help

answer the question of why many relatives were born in their hometowns. There is focus on the cultural changes over a 250-year period, pointing to changes in the family structure today. General Glasgow believes in the strength of the family as a national priority and that every child deserves both male and female role models. This record supports those ideas and illustrates fundamental themes in American life.

Author's qualifications: Author Major General Glasgow, USMC (Retired) was a drafted Korean veteran who remained in the Corps, and in 1962 was assigned to an independent tour as an Inspector-Instructor for the reserve 40th Rifle Company in Lubbock, Texas. After retiring from the Marine Corps in 1987, to become President of the Marine Military Academy, where he served until 1999, when he began this first volume of ALL MY LIFE. His is a grass-roots background in genealogy that began when he was a boy. All of his life he wondered why he was born in Heflin, Alabama. His mother said this is where we, and our parents, were born and you, too. His father's terse response, "I was born here because my daddy was and what's causing you to ask all these dumb questions?" Harold's grandfather, Probate Judge of Cleburne County, remembered that his Paw was just six years old when he came to Benton County (now Cleburne), Alabama in wagons and they had a black man named Ben. This grandfather died before the author was born.

Organization: According to the author, beginners will easily be able to find both their descendants and ancestors, if they start with their most recent relatives and read forward for the descendants and read backward for their ancestors. While this organization is unusual for genealogists, it may work well for the casual researcher. **Writing Style:** This extensive record is arranged by generations, denoted by an eccentric series of typed characters, explained in the Illustrations on page ix., [Examples: G, 1st generation; g, 2nd generation; ^^^ - 3rd; #### - 4th; oooo - 5th; xxxx- 6th; ++++7th; etc.; with remarriage noted by an underline _____. While this is not difficult to understand in the text, one needs a cheat sheet at hand to keep track. Attempting to create a family chart will be challenging, especially if an entry does not list the children.

Accuracy: The writing is clear and straightforward, if a bit declarative in the narrative. Some entries have considerable personal "reality" from their lives, clearly the result of someone's memories. Others appear to have been taken from county histories, obituaries or other published information. Yet, some must have been sent in by family members. There are excellent photographs

of contemporary and earlier families, clearly reproduced throughout the volume, adding to its value.

Content: The major surnames are listed in the subtitle Glasgow, Hunter, Williams, McKinney, Hightower, Prater, Harland; those ancestors hark back to Cork Shire (sic. Scot), Ireland and Ayr, Scotland. Other surnames with many individuals in the index include: Adair, Beauford, Blackwell, Duke, Jennings, Miller, Pope, Scott, and Tolbert. Chapters 4 and 9 relate the history of the Abbeyville District of South Carolina and Baldwin County, Georgia, the heart of Dixie.

Conclusion: Educated at the University of Alabama, the author was on his way to boot camp in 1951 stopping to visit his grandparents when his grandmother asked him to take this small bag [of papers] and try to update the things in it when he got the chance. Little chance while he was in the Marine Corps! Some years later, he looked into the bag and found four small packets held together with clothespins. Some of the old papers had scribbling on them, where it seemed a semi-literate person had attempted to record a basic genealogy. Experts at Texas Tech were consulted to decipher the original Scottish lines that read,

IwaebonninaecotebridgScotdAebrilfiferseffenaeten-hunnertaeforreyaegithyersaeddaebiroHesus." Their translation: "I was born in Coatbridge, Scotland April 5, 1748." A second unbroken written line refers to Ayr, Scotland, in 1735. See page ix.

Glasgow treats his bibliography in a similarly independent manner. Personally annoyed by interrupting footnotes, he doesn't use them. but divides his research literature into eight categories: Books, Early Letters, Personal Letters (3,000 + responses to the author), Personal Interviews, Online References, Official Documentation, Family Records and Family Bibles. The standard style Index (in 6 point type) runs to 38 pages. His serious research began in 2000 and as a result includes many contemporary families and photos submitted by the owners.

Acknowledgments are given to the several informants who helped with personal information: William Pettigrew "Pet" Hunter, who died in 1995, had notes dating back to 1845; Sarah Jeannette McKinney, who died in 1998, had a prodigiously accurate memory going back five generations; Lydia Lorena Glasgow Harlan, who died in 1983, provided many official documents from Cleburne County; India Anna "Indie" Glasgow, whose 1950's compiled family record was never located, died in 1964; and Garvis Wyatt Prater who in 1982 was asked to help with several large Prater families. -GM

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the Column Editor: Susan LeBlanc at dsleblanc@aol.com.

In Memoriam

EUGENE E. SNYDER

Local Author and Former GFO Member

Eugene Edmond Snyder passed away July 15, 2010 at the age of 91. He was best known among genealogists and history buffs for his books filled with history and short bios of Portland's early settlers such as "Portland Names and Neighborhoods" and "they Claimed This Land: Portland's Pioneer Settlers". Other books included "Early Portland: Stump-Town Triumphant" and "Portland Potpourri: Art, Fountains & Old Friends". (All can be found on the GFO shelves)

BECKY TORLAND

Anna Rebecca Torland passed away on July 26, 2010. She had been an active GFO member in the 1980's and '90s, serving as a receptionist (or Research Assistant as we called them then) in our libraries in the Neighbors of Woodcraft location as well as the 5th & Lincoln location. She also worked on the 1991 Conference in the States of the National Genealogical Society, locally hosted by the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. Becky was born in Eugene, Oregon and passed away in Beaverton, also, having lived in Seattle and Portland over the years. She married Bill Torland on June 25, 1955, per the brief obituary in The Oregonian. The obit went on to say that she loved spending time at the coast and, in her retirement years, enjoyed searching genealogical archives. The family names for which Becky was searching included Oliver, Oder, Alexander, Buchanan, Robb, and Kerr.

VELDA CAMERON

Word has come to us that Velda Cameron passed away on July 11, 2010. Velda was a lifetime member of GFO, having joined the group in 1995. She will be missed.

(Please contact Lyleth Winther when hearing of the recent passing of one of our members. Lylaw1@verizon.net or 503-658-8018)

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