

Immigration to Boomer Township from Dronninglund Parish

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As of 2017, access from the **Local History** area of website *bigpigeon.us*.

Dronninglund parish lies in the northern part of Denmark's Jutland peninsula, about 20 miles northeast of Aalborg. (See the Dronninglund area map on page 3.)

Boomer Township is a rural township in Pottawattamie County, Iowa, U.S.A., 10-20 miles north of Council Bluffs. (See the Pottawattamie County Townships map on page 7.)

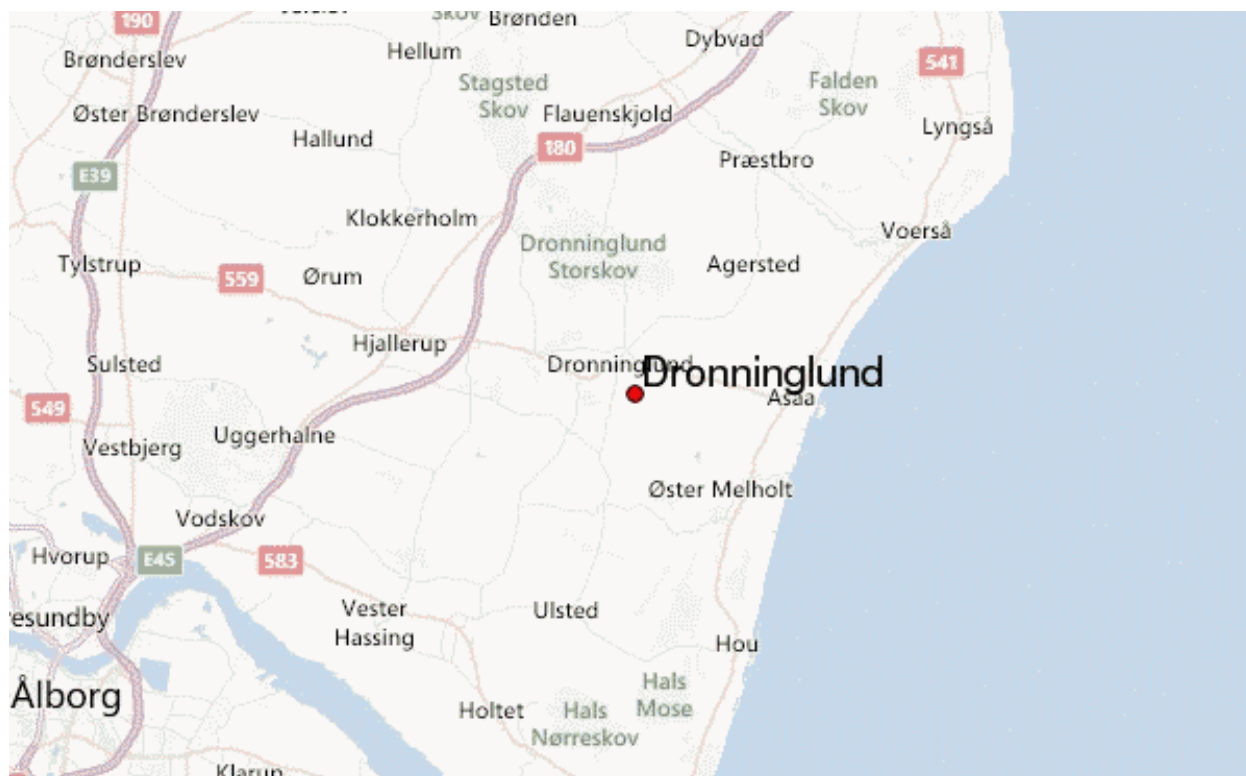
While studying the early history of Boomer Township, I noted that many of the Danish immigrants came from Dronninglund parish. Others, such as my great-grandparents Rasmussen, were from nearby rural parishes. After visiting Dronninglund in 2007, I prepared this report, which was left at the Dronninglund library in 2014.

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Maps from Denmark

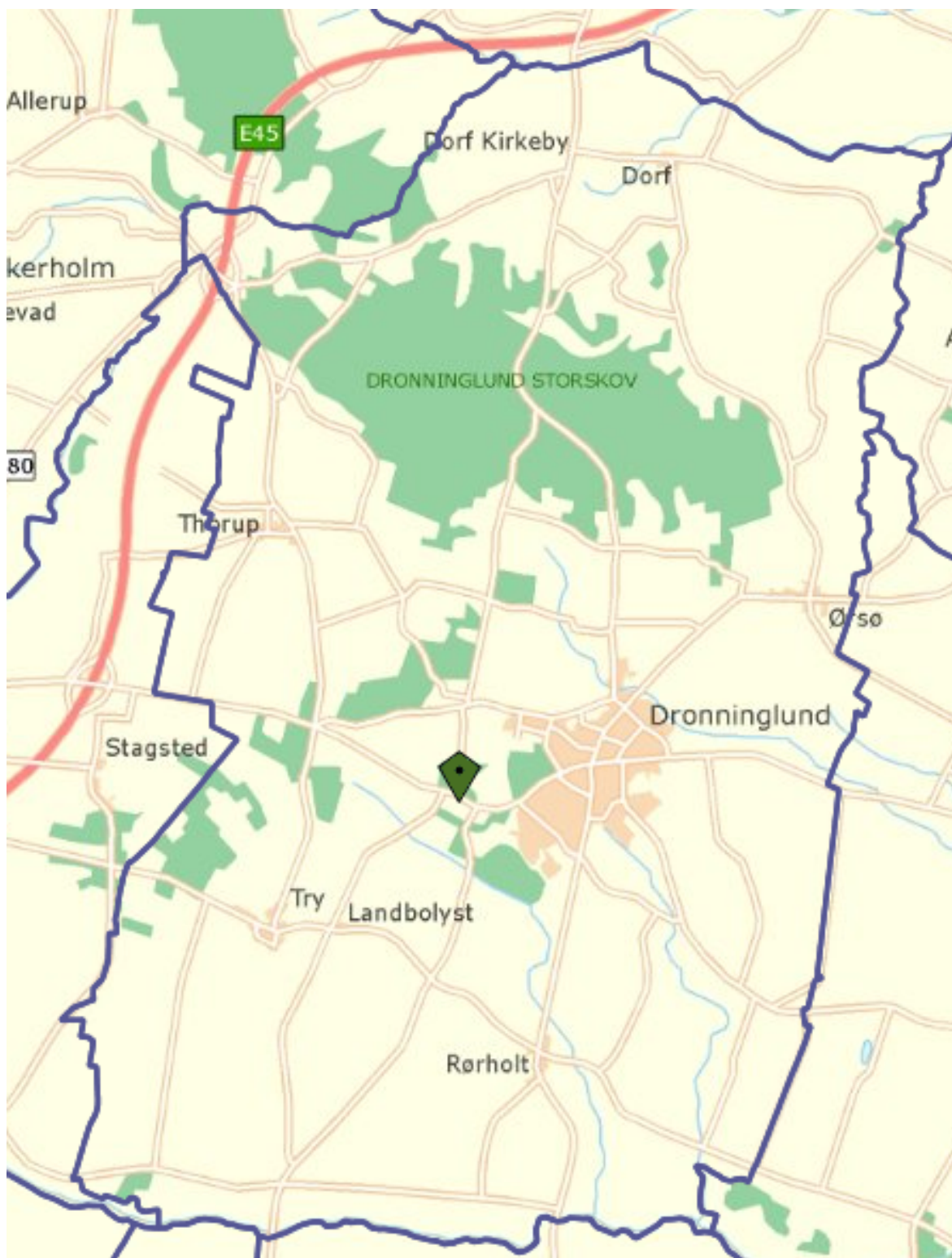


Denmark (courtesy of Google)



Part of northern Jutland in Denmark

Dronninglund parish is centered on the town of Dronninglund, shown on the above map (note the city of Aalborg in the bottom left corner). The town of Dronninglund has a population just over 3,000. The Dronninglund parish church is located at the medieval *slot* on the west edge of the town of Dronninglund as shown in the parish map on the following page.



Dronninglund Sogn (courtesy of *viskort.dk*)



Denmark Counties in the Late 19th Century

(familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/File:Denmark_Counties_1793_-_1970.jpg)

A note on the terminology used herein: "Sogn" is the Danish word for parish; "Herred" the word for district; and "Amt" the word for county. In the 19th century, Denmark was broken up into counties (amter) for administrative purposes, with the counties broken up into districts (herreder) for military purposes, and the districts broken up into parishes (sogne) for religious purposes. Rural parishes typically contained multiple villages, and each parish had a church, most of which still exist in 2014.

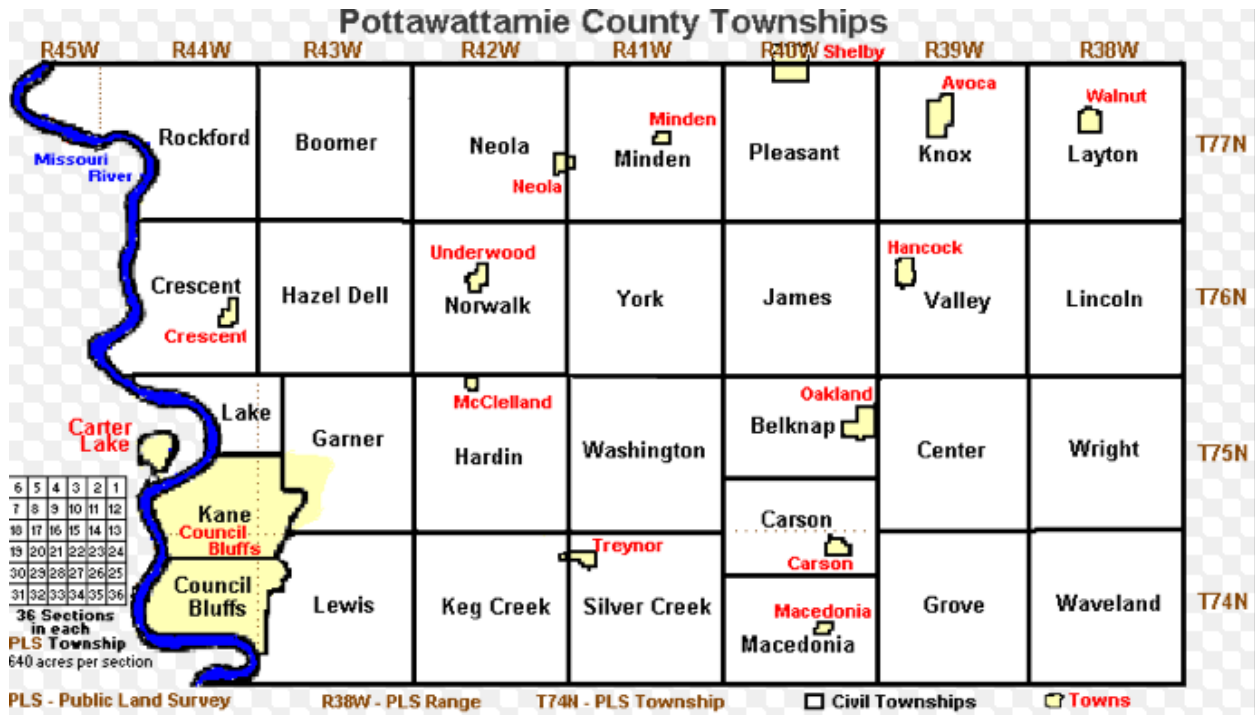
During the period covered herein, the town of Dronninglund was in Dronninglund Sogn, Dronninglund Herred, Hjørring Amt. Hjørring Amt occupied most of northern Jutland north of Ålborg and consisted of around six herreds. Dronninglund Herred consisted of 15 sogne, as shown on the map on the following page. Most of the parishes mentioned herein were in Dronninglund Herred near the town of Dronninglund.



(courtesy of da.wikipedia.org/wiki)

This map shows the different parishes that comprise Dronninglund district.

Maps from Pottawattamie County

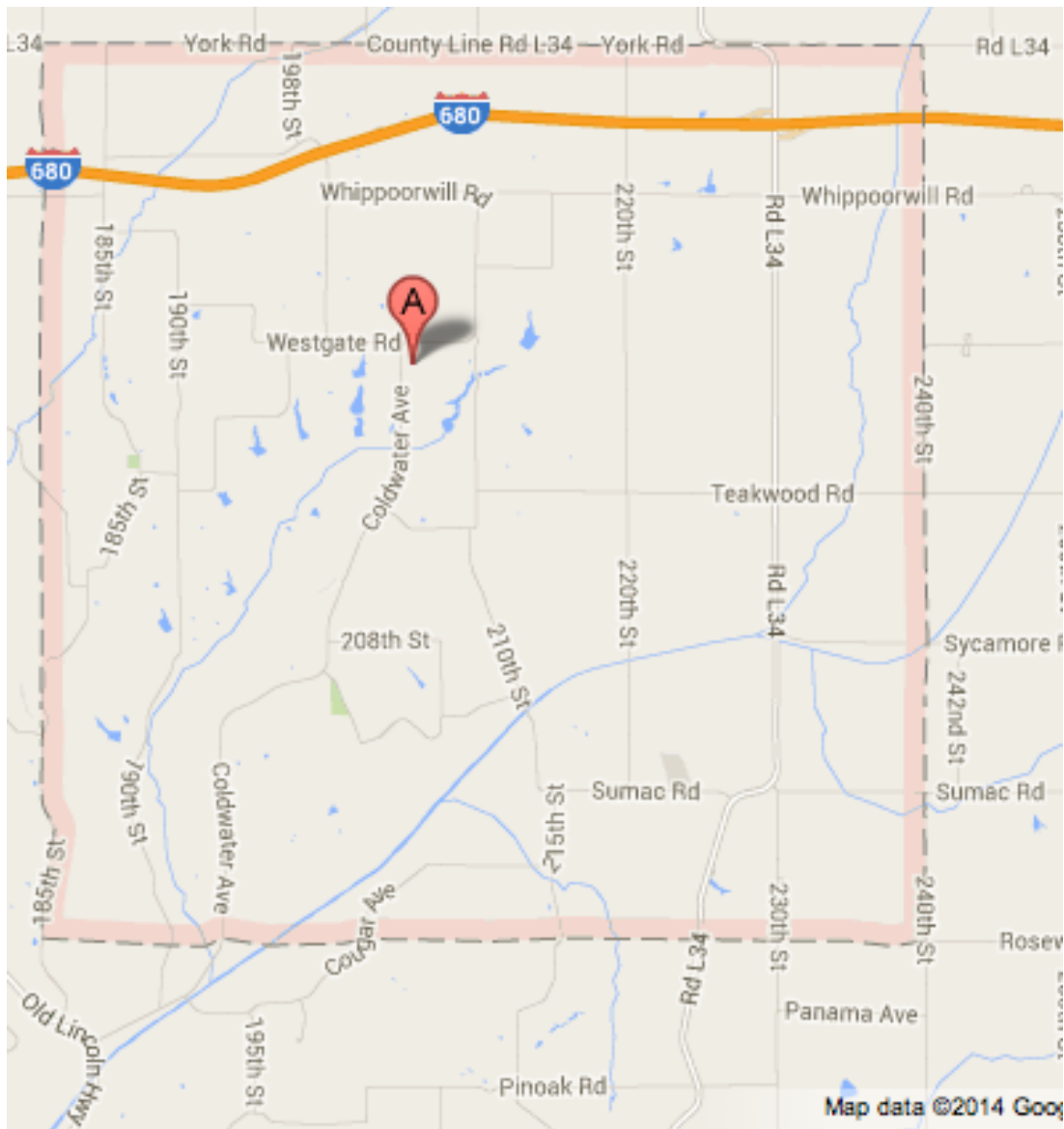


Townships and Towns in Pottawattamie County, Iowa

Courtesy of iagenweb.org/pottawattamie

Boomer Township is in the northwest part of Pottawattamie County north of Council Bluffs. Omaha, Nebraska is across the Missouri River from Council Bluffs.

See the next page for a contemporary map of Boomer Township. For more about township organization in Pottawattamie County, see my report *Boomer and Hazel Dell Townships Overview*.



Boomer Township Today

Courtesy of google.com

- The Old Lincoln Highway in the bottom left corner runs north from Council Bluffs and in the 1920s was part of the first paved highway across the United States.
- Pigeon Creek runs through southern Boomer Township.
- The Grange Cemetery is the triangular area in southern Boomer Township near Coldwater Avenue.
- St. Johns Lutheran Church and the old Boomer Township Hall are at the intersection of Coldwater Avenue and Teakwood Road.
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church & Cemetery and the Old Boomer Store are on Sumac Road west of county road L34.

Background for Dronninglund to Boomer Emigration

Locations of the Boomer Dronninglunders' Farms.

Refer to the list of nine Dronninglund families on page 1 and to the 1900 Boomer Township plat map in my report *Boomer and Hazel Dell Townships Overview*.

Many of the Dronninglunders mentioned herein are buried in the Grange Cemetery in Section 28.

- (1) Gregers Marcus Poulsen **Acton** and Dorthe Marie "Mary" Nielsen:
The Mary Acton farm - Section 29 in southwest Boomer.
- (2) Jens Christian "James" **Christensen** and Maren "Mary" Christensen
The J Christiansen farm - Section 20 in west central Boomer.
- (3) Peter Torgesen **Christiansen**
The P Christiansen farm - Sections 9 and 4 in north central Boomer.
The farm of his son, And W Christiansen - Section 11 in northeast Boomer.
The farm of his son-in-law, W Price - Section 28 in south central Boomer.
The farm of his cousin, Axel Christiansen - Section 11 in northeast Boomer.
- (4) Andrew **Jensen** and Caroline Jensen
The Andrew Jensen family did not live in Boomer Township until after 1900. I believe they were tenants on the J H Tyler farm (previously the Haines farm and subsequently the Anderson farm) in portions of several sections in southwest Boomer.
- (5) Thomas Christian **Jespersen** and Cathrine Madsdatter
Their farm of their son-in-law, Jens Pedersen - Section 5 in northwest Boomer.
- (6) Christian **Pedersen/Peterson** and Ane Margrete Christensen
In 1900 their farm, in Sections 16 and 21 of central Boomer, has three owners shown as C Petersen (the parents), G. H Darrington (son-in-law) and W S Peterson (son).
- (7) Christen **Skaksen** and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter (deceased before 1900)
Their farm in Sections 29 and 30 of southwest Boomer (previously the Bondo farm) is listed under John Schroder, their granddaughter's husband.
- (8) Jens Christian **Skaksen** and Marte Marie "Mary" Madsdatter
See (3) for the farm of their son-in-law, Peter Torgesen Christiansen.
The farm of their son, M Skakson - Section 4 in north central Boomer.
- (9) Christian **Svendsen** and Maren Madsdatter
See (3) for the farm of their son-in-law, Peter Torgesen Christiansen.
The farm of their son, M. Christiansen - Section 29 in southwest Boomer.

Notes on Family Composition of the Boomer Dronninglunders.

Of the nine families sketched here:

- Four (Acton, Christensen, Jensen and Pedersen/Peterson) immigrated with young children. The Pedersen/Peterson family immigrated with her parents and siblings as part of a company of Mormons; see my report *Kirsten Pedersen's Relatives*.
- Four (Jespersen, Skaksen, Skaksen and Svendsen) immigrated either with adult children or followed their adult children to the United States.
- Peter Torgesen Christiansen was not born in Dronninglund Sogn but his family is included since both of his wives were Dronninglund natives.
- I have not included Karen (Jensen/Hendriksen) Bondo in the report body, even though she was born and raised in Dronninglund Sogn and immigrated to Boomer Township as a young adult. Her family's story appears elsewhere, including the Bondo chapter of my *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*. However, you will find some of her story in the appendix *When Christian Met Karen*.

The Boomer Dronninglunders Extended Families in Denmark:

I believe that most individuals with Dronninglund ancestors who currently live in the Boomer Township area are descended from three couples that remained in Denmark:

Skak Nielsen and Johanne Marie Christensdatter lived in Bollehede in Dronninglund Sogn in the 1834, 1840, 1845 and 1850 censuses.

- A granddaughter, Martha Marie Skaksen, was the first wife of Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township.
- A great-granddaughter, Anna Matilda Nielsen, was the wife of John Schroder of Boomer Township.

Mads Andersen and Anna Margrethe Hansdatter lived in Dronninglund Sogn in the 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850 and 1860 censuses.

- A granddaughter, Ane Margrethe Christiansen, was the second wife of Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township.
- A grandson, Mads Peter Christiansen, was the second husband of Pauline Marie "Lena" (Jensen) Sanderson of Boomer Township.
- A granddaughter, Martine Thomsen, was the wife of Jens Pedersen of Boomer Township.

Peder Nielsen lived in Fladkjer in Dronninglund Sogn in the 1834, 1840 and 1845 censuses. His wife, **Maren Christensdatter**, had died in 1812 and Peder had married Ane or Anne Hansdatter soon thereafter.

- A granddaughter, Ane Margrete Christensen, married Christian Peterson and Christian and Ane Margrete Peterson became early Danish settlers in Boomer Township in 1867.
- A granddaughter, Karen M. Jensen, came to Boomer Township with Acton family in 1867, married Laurits Christian Bondo, and moved from Boomer to Hazel Dell Township in 1872.

Here are the connections between families that I am currently aware of:

- Jens Christian Christensen (see family 2) was employed by Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton (family 1) in Denmark.
- Christen Skaksen and Jens Christian Skaksen (see families 7 and 8) were brothers. They were born in Dronninglund Sogn, the first and seventh of eight known children of Skak Nielsen and Johanne Marie Christensdatter.
- Catherine Madsdatter (Mrs. Thomas Christian Jespersen, see family 5) Marte Marie Madsdatter (Mrs. Jens Christian Skaksen, see family 8), and Maren Madsdatter (Mrs. Christian Svendsen, see family 9) were sisters. They were born in Dronninglund Sogn to Mads Andersen and Anne Margrethe Hansdatter.
- Maren Christensen, a daughter of Christen Skaksen (see family 7) married Lars Nielsen. Lars and Maren were the parents of Anna Matilda Nielsen, who married John Schroder. Anna's other grandfather was Niels Jespersen, who remained in Denmark and was the brother of Thomas Christian Jespersen (family 5).
- Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township (family 3) was married twice with both wives born in Dronninglund. Peter T. Christiansen's first wife, Martha Marie Jensen, who died in 1872, was the daughter of Jens Christian Skaksen and Martha Marie Madsdatter (family 8). His second wife, Ane Margrethe Christiansen, was the daughter of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter (family 9). His two wives were first cousins, their mothers being sisters.
- The Acton family (family 1) brought Karen M. Jensen (*When Christian Met Karen*) to Boomer Township.
- Ane Margrethe Christensen (family 6) and Karen M. Jensen (*When Christian Met Karen*) were first cousins.

Dronninglund to Boomer Emigration Summary by Year.

A list by emigration year of those in my St. Paul's database from Dronninglund.

1855

- ◆ **Christian Petersen/Peterson and Ane Margrete Christensen** and their first two children.
Immigrated to Missouri with her family in a company of Mormons but did not continue to Utah.
Lived in Kansas and Nebraska before moving to Boomer Township in 1868.
The Christian Peterson farm was near the Boomer Township Hall in Section 21 and was later owned by his son-in-law, George Darrington and then by Floyd Ochampaugh.

1867

- ◆ **Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton and Dorte Marie Nielsen** and their seven children.
- ◆ The Acton's hired girl, **Karen M. Jensen**, later Mrs. Christian Bondo.
The Acton farm in Section 29 was later owned by Julius Schroder and then by Julius's son, Dale Schroder.

1871

- ◆ **Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter** and their four or five children.
- ◆ Their first grandchild, **Andrew Christian Christiansen**.
Their oldest daughter, Martha, married Peter Torgesen Christiansen soon after arrival.
- ◆ Their future son-in-law, **Peter Torgesen Christiansen**, a native of Hørby Sogn.
The Peter Torgesen Christiansen farm was in Section 4, as was the Skaksen farm.

1872

- ◆ **Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter**.
- ◆ Their granddaughter, **Anna Matilda Nielsen**, later Mrs. John Schroder.
The Skaksens bought the Christian Bondo farm in Section 30, which later became the John Schroder farm and around 1953 the Clyde Peters farm.
- ◆ Their son-in-law and daughter, **Chr. Jensen and Christiane Christensen**, and two grandchildren. (Chr. and Christiane Jensen and their children probably didn't settle in Boomer Township.)
- ◆ **Jens Christian Christensen and Maren Christensen** and their three children.
(Jens Christian Christensen was the Acton's hired man in Dronninglund in 1860.)
Their farm in Section 20 later became the farm of their son, Frank Christensen, and then the Ronald Vorthmann farm.

1874

- ◆ **Ane Margrethe Christiansen**, who married the widower Peter Torgesen Christiansen soon after arrival.

1879

- ✦ **Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter**, parents of Ane Margrethe Christiansen who immigrated in 1874 and married Peter Torgesen Christiansen.
- ✦ Their niece, **Martine Thomsen**, later Mrs. Jens Pedersen.
The Jens Pedersen farm in Section 5 was later owned by several of his children and later by Donald and Ethel (Bertelsen) Ward, Ethel being a granddaughter of Jens and Martine Pedersen. However, my great-uncle, N. C. A. Johnson, bought a portion of this farm around 1910.
- ✦ **Andrew Jensen and Caroline Jensen** and four children.
- ✦ **Jens Anderson**, age 8 (I have no knowledge of this child).
I believe that Andrew Jensen farmed the Haines/Tyler farm in Section 33 from before 1905 to after 1917. This farm later became the J. D. Anderson/Don Anderson/Jay Anderson farm.

1882

- ✦ **Lars Nielsen**, a native of Albæk Sogn and the father of Anna Matilda Nielsen who immigrated in 1872.
- ✦ **Maren Nielsen**, mother of Anna Matilda Nielsen, and three of her daughters.
The Nielsens immigrated from Hellevad Sogn in two separate parties, in February/March and in June, and settled in Council Bluffs.
See the Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter sketch for additional information.

about 1882

- ✦ **Mads Peter Christiansen**, brother of Ane Margrethe Christiansen, who had married Peter Torgesen Christiansen.
Mads married Pauline Marie "Lena" Jensen, the widow of John Sanderson, in 1883. The John Sanderson/Lena Sanderson/Mads Christiansen farm in Section 29 later became the Otto Lehmkuhl and then the Emil Lehmkuhl farm. It is now rural residential.

1883

- ✦ **Asker Askersen**.
My grandmother Rasmine (Rasmussen) Christiansen's first cousin. Worked as a farmhand in the area. Never married and died young. Interred in the St. Paul's cemetery in Boomer Township.

1884

- ✦ **Thomas Christian Jespersen and Catherine Madsdatter** and their youngest child.
Parents of Martine Thomsen, who immigrated in 1879 and married Jens Pedersen.

(1) – Biographical Sketch - Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton and Dorthie Marie "Mary" Nielsen

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The Acton family brought Karen M. Jensen, later Mrs. Christian Bondo to Boomer Township. Gregers Acton died a few years after immigrating but his wife retained ownership of the Acton farm for many years thereafter.

The following lists the children and some of the grandchildren of Gregers and Mary Acton.

Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton (1824 - 1869) & Dorthie Marie "Mary" Nielsen (1828 - 1905)

| Jacob C. Acton* (~1852 - >1912) & Olive Frances "Fannie" Kirkland (1859 -)

| | Olive Acton (~1879 -)

| Jacob C. Acton* (~1852 - >1912) & Gertrude unknown (1875 -)

| Christian M. Acton (~1853 - 1930) & Mary Elizabeth Goodwin (1857 - 1944)

| | Orville E. Acton (1878 - 1905)

| | James Acton (1883 - 1927)

| | Florence Acton (1888 - 1954) & Carl W. Adolphson

| | Arthur Acton (1891 - 1977)

| | Harry Theodore "Teddy" Acton (~1901 - 1954) & Louisa unknown (~1903 -)

| Caroline Christine Acton (1855 - 1928) & Frank R. Levin (1854 - 1934)

| | Oscar Acton Levin* (1888 - 1974) & Ethel Thompson (1889 - 1949)

| | Oscar Acton Levin* (1888 - 1974) & Rosalind D. unknown

| Nels Peter "Peter" Acton (~1858 - 1916) & Martha Jane McKeown (1861 - 1923)

| | George Marcus "Mark" Acton (1879 -) & Annie Christina Nelson (1879 - 1954)

| | Eliza Jane Acton (1881 - 1942) & Lewis William Nelson (1877 - 1952)

| | David Edward "Edward" Acton (1883 - 1919)

| | Edith Elizabeth Acton (1885 - 1969) & James Peter Sanderson (1878 - 1969)

| | Clara Ellen Acton (1888 - 1945) & Salathiel Cordon Dorf (~1887 - 1973)

| | Mary Callista Acton (1890 - 1891)

| | Ernest Everett Acton (1899 - 1900)

| Edward Ludwig Acton (<1860 -) & Maggie Grindle

| Cathrine Marie "Kate" Acton (~1864 - >1920) & William F. Shear (~1857 - ~1950)

| | Modjesta Shear (~1892 -)

| | Morton C. Shear (1894 - ~1972) & Mary K. unknown (~1901 -)

| | Charles Shear (1896 - <1910)

| | Grace Shear (1898 -)

| Jennie Acton (1866 - >1940) & James Calder (~1856 -)

| Edith Acton (1868 - 1906) & Thomas Rochford (1865 - 1914)

| | George Thomas Rochford (1890 -)

| | Dorothy M. Rochford (1894 -)

In Denmark:

Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton (20 May 1824 – 23 Feb 1869) was born in Gunderup Sogn, Aalborg Amt to Poul Jacob Achton, a bookkeeper, and Christiane Cathrine Gregersen Vinther. His parents both died when he was a teenager.

In the 1845 and 1850 censuses for Skæve Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Gregers Acton was a gardener and gamekeeper on the estate of Adolf Nicolai Winkel.

It appears that Gregers Acton had a child by a relationship with Anne Christensdatter. This child, Frederikke Caroline Kristine Christensen, was born in Torslev Sogn on 28 Jan 1849.

Dorthe Marie Nielsen (12 Sep 1828 – 15 Jan 1905) was born in Flade Sogn, Hjørring Amt to Niels Jacobsen, a day laborer, and Inger Marie Pedersdatter. Her parents moved to Sæby in Hjørring Amt when she was a child.

In the 1850 census for Skæve Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Dorthe Marie Nielsen was a servant on the estate of Adolf Nicolai Winkel.

Gregers Acton and Dorthe Marie Nielsen married in Dronninglund Sogn on 6 Apr 1852.

In the 1860 census Mr. Acton, with name transcribed as Andreas Acton, was a Gaardmand (farmer) in Østerled Skoledistrikt in Dronninglund Sogn.

Emigration:

The Acton family emigrated too early to be included in the Danish Emigration Archives.

Gregers Acton and Dorthe Marie Nielsen, their seven oldest children, and their hired girl, Karen M. Jensen, emigrated in 1867.

In the United States:

Gregers Acton bought his future Boomer Township farm on June 5, 1867. It is possible that the Acton family did not move onto this farm until 1868.

Karen M. Jensen, who emigrated with the Acton family in 1867, soon left the Acton household and married Christian Bondo on 5 May 1868. The Bondo family lived near the Acton family until 1872, when the Bondo family moved about eight miles southeast to Hazel Dell Township. For more about the Christian Bondo family, see the appendix *When Christian Met Karen* herein.

Gregers and Dorthe Marie's last child, Edith, was born in June 1868.

Gregers Acton died early in 1869 and was interred in the Reels Cemetery in Boomer Township. Fortunately, his sons were old enough to take on farming duties.

Mrs. Mary Acton married Lorenz Jensen in Pottawattamie County around 7 Jun 1869. The marriage probably was of short duration.

I can't find Mary Acton in the 1870 census. In the 1880 and 1885 censuses Mary Acton and some of her younger children were living on the Acton farm. In 1895 and 1900 Mary Acton was living with her son-in-law, Frank Levin, in Council Bluffs.

The Gregers Acton/Julius Schroder/Dale Schroder Farm:

Gregers Acton bought about 117 acres in Boomer Township from A. A. Hutchinson on June 5, 1867. (Alexander A. Hutchinson was a farmer in Crescent Township.)

The 37 acres of Acton land in Section 20 was later sold and was part of the Parley Lewis farm in 1885. Mary Acton, as she was known in the United States, retained ownership of the bulk of the farm, in Section 29, until her death. Mary Acton moved from Boomer Township to Council Bluffs between 1885 and 1895, where she lived with her oldest daughter until her death in 1905.

After Mary Acton's death, M. Jensen, probably Markor Jensen, and later J. D. Anderson owned the Acton farm. Julius Schroder bought the old Acton farm around 1930 and his son, Dale Schroder, was still living on this farm as of 2014.

The children of Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton and Dorthie Marie "Mary" Nielsen:

The eight Acton children, the first seven of whom were born in Dronninglund Sogn, are listed below. None remained in Boomer Township.

- **Jacob C. Acton** (about 1852 – after 1910) married **Olive Frances "Fannie" Kirkland** (15 May 1859 -) in Pottawattamie County on 12 Aug 1877. Fannie Kirkland was the youngest of seven children of Samuel B. Kirkland, who died at the age of 41 while serving in the Union army during the Civil War.

Jacob and Fannie Acton had one known child and divorced. Later Jacob married Gertrude. Jacob lived in Omaha and Fremont, Nebraska where he was in the musical sales business in the early 1900s.

- **Christian M. Acton** (about 1853 – 30 Oct 1930) married **Mary Elizabeth Goodwin** (about 1857 – 6 Sep 1944) in Pottawattamie County on 26 Apr 1877. Mary Goodwin was the daughter of Zadock Goodwin Sr. and Nancy Sigler who were Indiana natives. Zadock Goodwin Sr. lived in Boomer Township before moving to Alliance in western Nebraska in the late 1880s.

Christian Acton was a street railway motorman in Omaha. Christian and Mary Acton had five children.

- **Caroline Christine Acton** (26 Nov 1855 – 1928) married **Frank R. Levin** (16 Jul 1854 – after 1940) in Pottawattamie County on 3 Aug 1880. Frank Levin, a Swedish native, was a cigar manufacturer in Council Bluffs.

Frank and Caroline Levin had one child.

- **Nels Peter "Peter" Acton** (about 1 Jun 1858 – 9 May 1916) married **Martha Jane McKeown** (20 Feb 1861 – 24 Jan 1923) in Pottawattamie County on 14 Apr 1878. Martha McKeown was one of the 21 children born to William McKeown, who was an early settler in Boomer Township in 1847.

Peter and Martha Acton lived in Hazel Dell and Boomer Townships before moving to the Norfolk, Nebraska area between 1905 and 1910.

The seven children of Peter and Martha Acton are listed below. Three, Mark, Eliza Jane and Edith, married spouses from Boomer Township. The two oldest children married siblings, whose parents were Lars Peter Nelson and Martha Ellen Nathalia Swanson of Boomer Township, Section 33.

- **George Marcus "Mark" Acton** (15 Jul 1879 -) married **Annie Christina Nelson** (Apr 1879 – 1954) in Pottawattamie County on 20 Feb 1901.

Mark and Annie Acton lived in Nebraska and had four known children.

- **Eliza Jane Acton** (23 Jun 1881 – 7 Mar 1942) married **Lewis William Nelson** (18 Mar 1877 – 12 Jun 1952) in Pottawattamie County on 3 Apr 1901.

Lewis and Eliza Jane Nelson lived in Nebraska and had one known child.

- **David Edward "Edward" Acton** (2 Jan 1883 – 9 Jan 1919).

- **Edith Elizabeth Acton** (7 Feb 1885 – 23 Jan 1969) married **James Peter Sanderson** (4 Aug 1878 – 26 Feb 1969) in Council Bluffs on 18 Jan 1905. James Peter Sanderson was the son of John Sanderson and Pauline Marie "Lena" (Jensen) Sanderson and the stepson of Mads Peter "Mace" Christiansen. See the *Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter* sketch herein for additional information.

- **Clara Ellen Acton** (1888 – 14 Apr 1945) married **Salathiel Cordon Dorf** (about 1887 – 2 Jul 1973) in Closter, Boone County, Nebraska on 12 May 1912.

- **Mary Calista Acton** (Oct 1890 – 4 Feb 1891).

- **Ernest Everett Acton** (Dec 1899 – 4 Feb 1900).

Peter and Martha Acton and three of their children, Edward, Mary Calista and Ernest, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Edward Ludwig Acton** (before 23 Apr 1860 -) married **Maggie Grindle** in Pottawattamie County on 1 Jul 1888. Edward's given name sometimes appears as Ernest or Edmund. He was thought to be living in Springfield, Illinois in 1905.

- **Cathrine Marie "Kate" Acton** (about Mar 1864 – after Jan 1920) married **William F. Shear** (about Apr 1857 – about 31 Mar 1950) in Omaha, Nebraska in Sep 1891.

William and Kate Shear lived in Omaha where he was a farmer and gardener and later a laborer in a meat packing plant. William and Kate Shear had four children.

- **Jennie Acton** (May 1866 – after 1940) married **James Calder** (about 1855 -) in Omaha, Nebraska in Mar 1912.

James and Jennie Calder had no children.

- **Edith Acton** (Jun 1868 – before Apr 1910) was born in Pottawattamie County and married **Thomas Rochford** (Feb 1865 -) in Omaha, Nebraska in Oct 1887.

Thomas and Edith Rochford lived in Omaha where he was a city employee. Thomas and Edith Acton Rochford had two known children.

Gregers and Mary Acton are interred in the Reels Cemetery in Boomer Township. Peter Acton is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Christian M. Acton is interred in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Omaha. Caroline (Acton) Levin is interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

End of the Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton and Dorthe Marie Nielsen Sketch

(2) – Biographical Sketch - Jens Christian "James" Christensen and Maren "Mary" Christensen

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In Boomer Township James Christensen lived a half mile west of my grandfather, James Christiansen. Since the Christensen and Christiansen surnames were often misspelled, my grandfather, who had no middle name, eventually took on the middle initial of "P." to try to avoid confusion.

The following lists the children and grandchildren of Jens Christian Christensen and Maren Christensen.

Jens Christian "James" Christensen (1843 - 1939) & Maren "Mary" Christensen (1831 - 1922)

| Chris Christensen (~1868 - <1880)

| Christen Peter "Peter" Christensen* (<1869 - >1945) & Dora Voss (~1868 - 1904)

| | Edna Christensen (~1893 - 1904)

| | Frank Christensen (~1895 - 1904)

| | Lila Christensen (~1898 - 1904)

| | James Christensen (~1901 - 1904)

| | Peter Christensen (~1903 - 1904)

| Christen Peter "Peter" Christensen* (<1869 - >1945) & Rose unknown (~1868 - >1945)

| Simon Peter Christensen (<1872 - <1880)

| Mary Christensen (>1872 - <1880)

| Frank Christensen (1874 - 1942) & Hedwig J. "Hattie" Jurgens (1872 - 1938)

| | Marie M. Christensen (1899 - ~1984) & Bodilius Jensen (1895 - 1979)

| | Laura Edna Christensen* (1904 - 1971) & Argyle Edison Ross (1902 - 1937)

| | Laura Edna Christensen* (1904 - 1971) & John Henry Harrison Woodward (1897 - 1963)

| | Elsie Lucile Christensen (1907 - 1992) & Eldred L. Prior (1910 - 1993)

In Denmark:

Jens Christian "James" Christensen (Apr 1843 – 4 May 1939) was born, perhaps in Dronninglund Sogn, to parents who are currently unknown.

In the 1860 Denmark census Jens Christian Christensen with age listed as 18 and birthplace as Dronninglund was a hired man working in the Gregers Acton household in Dronninglund Sogn.

Maren "Mary" Christensen (Feb 1831 or 1834 – 7 Feb 1922) was born in Denmark. Her parents and birth location are currently unknown.

Jens Christian Christensen and Maren Christensen married in Skæve Sogn, Hjørring Amt on 2 Aug 1868.

Emigration:

Jens Christian and Maren Christensen and their three oldest children registered to immigrate to Council Bluffs from Skæve Sogn, Hjørring Amt on 10 May 1872. They traveled indirekte, meaning that they changed ships, which for Dronninglund

emigrants was probably in England or Scotland. Also emigrating from Dronninglund at the time was a party that included Christen and Ane Skaksen.

In the United States:

By 1880 the Jens Christensen family was farming in Boomer Township, Section 20.

The Jens Christensen family was listed as charter members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Boomer Township, although they probably didn't remain as active members. For addition information, see the *Jens Christensen and Maren Christensen Family* sketch in my report *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*.

Between 1900 and 1905 Jens and Maren Christensen turned over their farm to their son, Frank, and moved to 525 North 8th St. in Council Bluffs where they enjoyed a long retirement. Jens and Maren died in Council Bluffs.

The Jens Christian Christensen Farm:

The Jens Christensen farm was in Boomer Township, Section 20, just north of the Acton farm. Jens probably bought the farm before 1880.

Jens Christensen Americanized his given name to "James", as did my grandfather, Jens/James Christiansen, who lived to the southeast less than a mile away. Further, many people did not distinguish between the surnames of "Christensen" and "Christiansen". To avoid confusion, my grandfather used a middle initial of "P."

By 1950 Paul Vorthmann, who moved to Boomer Township in 1944, owned the former Jens Christensen farm. The farm then became the residence of Ronald Vorthmann, Paul's son, and I believe is still owned by Ronald's widow in 2010.

The Children of Jens Christian Christensen and Maren Christensen:

The five children of Jens Christian Christensen and Maren Christensen are listed below. The first three were born in Denmark and emigrated with their parents. The last two were born in Iowa. Three of the children died in childhood.

- **Chris Christensen** (about 1868 – before 1880)
- **Christen Peter "Peter" Christensen** (about 25 Mar 1869 – after 1945) married **Dora Voss** (about 1868 – 2 Feb 1904) in Pottawattamie County on 5 Nov 1892.

In the winter of 1904 while Peter was absent, Dora and their five children, the oldest around eleven years in age, died in a house fire in Council Bluffs.

Peter Christensen subsequently moved to Miami, Florida and eventually married **Rose** (about 1868 – after 1945), a native of England.
- **Simon Peter Christensen** (about 11 Feb 1872 – before 1880)
- **Mary Christensen** (after 1872 – before 1880)
- **Frank Christensen** (17 Apr 1874 – 1942) married **Hedwig J. "Hattie" Jurgens** (May 1872 – 6 Oct 1938) in Pottawattamie County on 9 Feb 1898. Hattie Jurgens was the

daughter of J. H. "Heinrich" Jurgens and Magdalena Christians, former Boomer Township residents who moved to Lagrange Township in Harrison County between 1895 and 1900.

Frank and Hattie Christensen farmed his parents' home place. Their three daughters are listed below.

- **Marie M. Christensen** (Jun 1899 – about 19 Sep 1984) married **Bodilius Jensen** (9 Feb 1895 – 3 Dec 1979) in Pottawattamie County on 24 Mar 1920. Bodilius Jensen was the son of Markor Martin Jensen and Ane Margrethe Pedersen of Council Bluffs who had lived in Boomer Township in 1905 and 1915.

Bodilius and Marie Jensen lived in the Council Bluffs area before retiring to Council Bluffs. They had six known children, two of whom died in infancy.

- **Laura Edna Christensen** (16 Feb 1904 – Nov 1971) married **Argyle Edison Ross** (1902 – 1937) in Pottawattamie County on 15 Feb 1928. Argyle Ross was born in Kansas to William N. and Myrtle E. Ross.

After Argyle Ross's death, Laura married **John Henry Harrison Woodward** (25 Dec 1897 – Sep 1963). John Woodward was the son of George A. Woodward and Rena L. Adams.

Laura (Christensen) Ross Woodward lived in the Council Bluffs area. She had no known children.

- **Elsie Lucille Christensen** (2 Dec 1907 – 16 Oct 1992) married **Eldred L. Prior** (17 Jun 1910 – 24 Jan 1993) in Pottawattamie County on 11 Feb 1931. Eldred Prior was the son of Herbert E. Prior and Hazel Gertrude Sheen of Garner Township.

Eldred and Elsie Prior lived near the Glendale area in Garner Township just east of Council Bluffs. They had two known children, both of whom died in infancy.

Jens Christian and Maren Christensen and several of their children, including Frank, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, as are all three of Frank's daughters. Peter Christensen's wife, Dora, and his five children are interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

End of the Jens Christian Christensen and Maren Christensen Sketch

(3) – Biographical Sketch - Peter Torgesen Christiansen

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Although Peter T. Christiansen was not born in Dronninglund Sogn, both of his wives, whose parents appear in sketches (8) and (9) herein, were born in Dronninglund Sogn. Thus, I have chosen to include this Peter T. Christiansen sketch.

Peter Torgesen Christiansen (8 Mar 1848 or 8 May 1949 – 25 Dec 1922) was born as Peder Thøgersen Christensen in Hørby Sogn, near Sæby, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Christen Nielsen and Trine Axelsdatter. Hørby is about 15 miles north of Dronninglund and about five miles west of the seaside town of Sæby

The following lists Peter T. Christiansen's grandparents, parents, spouses, children and selected relatives. (See the end of this sketch for more about Peter T. Christiansen's uncle, Christen Axelsen, cousin, Axel Christensen, and niece, Emma Andersen.)

Axel Nielsen (~1767 - >1850) & Karen Olesdatter (~1785 - >1850)

1 Trine Axelsdatter (1819 -) & Christen Nielsen (~1814 -)

|| Peter Torgesen Christiansen* (1848 - 1922) & Martha Marie Skaksen (1849 - 1872)

||| Andrew Christian “Chris” Christiansen (1870 - 1948) & Trine Marie Jorgensen (1869 - 1960)

||| Tena Marie Christiansen (1872 - 1955) & William Price Jr. (1868 - 1912)

|| Peter Torgesen Christiansen* (1848 - 1922) & Ane Margrethe Christiansen (1848 - ~1908)

||| John H. Christiansen (1875 - 1934) & Jennie E. McCune (1880 - 1931)

||| Martha Christiansen (1876 - 1919) & Francis Chambers (1873 - 1958)

|| Ellis C. Christiansen (1878 - 1956) & Nannie Elisa Christians (1882 - 1973)

||| Axel Paul Christensen* (1879 - 1966) & Ida Marie Johnson (1882 - 1942)

|| | Axel Paul Christensen* (1879 - 1966) & Nellie Pearl Stevenson (1890 - 1983)

|| Henry Christiansen (1882 - 1912) & Nannie Elisa Christians (1882 - 1973)

||| Mary Christiansen (1884 - 1947) & Leon Driver (1878 - 1943)

||| Anna Christiansen (1886 - 1959) & Edwin Driver (1880 - 1965)

|| Karen Marie Christensen (~1843 -) & unknown Andersen

||| Emma Andersen (1893 - 1910)

| Christen Axelsen (1821 - >1900) & Else Marie Rasmusdatter (~1830 - <1900)

|| Axel Christensen* (~1853 - 1930) & Ansigne Kristine Sørensen

||| Christian Peter Christensen (~1874 -)

|| Axel Christensen* (~1853 - 1930) & Anna Marie "Mary" Hansen (1862 - 1955)

||| Karen Marie "Carrie" Christensen (1882 - 1977) & Frank Molder Clark (1880 - 1974)

||| John A. Christensen (1885 - 1920) & Hannah Petersen (1888 - 1965)

The following lists Peter T. Christiansen's children and grandchildren from his first marriage.

Peter Torgesen Christiansen (1848 - 1922) & Martha Marie Skaksen (1849 - 1872)
| Andrew Christian "Chris" Christiansen (1870 - 1948) & Trine Marie Jorgensen (1869 - 1960)
| | Clarence Peter Christiansen (1895 - 1992) & Alice Elizabeth Lauridsen (1898 - 1996)
| | Martha Margretha Christiansen (1898 - 1976) & Harry Norbert Lauridsen (1894 - 1969)
| | Mary Henrietta Christiansen (1901 - ~1942) & Chresten "Chris" Larsen (1893 - 1979)
| | George Edward Christiansen (1903 - 1971) & Mildred Naomi Deakins (1907 - 1983)
| Tena Marie Christiansen (1872 - 1955) & William Price Jr. (1868 - 1912)
| | Amos D. Price (1895 - 1960) & Verda C. Carpenter (1900 - 1970)
| | Ethel Irene Price* (1897 - 1982) & Julius Peter Schroder (1895 - 1948)
| | Ethel Irene Price* (1897 - 1982) & Thomas Albert Page (1898 - 1974)
| | Annie Alberta Price (1899 - 1976) & Jack E. Lake (1899 - 1989)
| | William Magnus Price (1901 - 1984) & Freda Rose Petersen (1905 - 1994)
| | Emma Marie Price (1904 - 1961) & Francis Auberg Whittington (1901 - 1967)
| | Viola Genevieve Price (1906 - 1996) & Frank Elvin James Miner (1901 - 1970)

The following lists Peter T. Christiansen's children and grandchildren from his second marriage.

Peter Torgesen Christiansen (1848 - 1922) & Ane Margrethe Christiansen (1848 - ~1908)
 | John H. Christiansen (1875 - 1934) & Jennie E. McCune (1880 - 1931)
 | | Mary Irene "Irene" Christiansen* (1902 - 1981) & Edward "Ed" Lynch
 | | Mary Irene "Irene" Christiansen* (1902 - 1981) & Wallace Alexander Hargrave (1887 - 1969)
 | | Grace Margaret Christiansen (1905 - 1991) & Charles Chester Schroder (1898 - 1971)
 | | John Harold "Harold" Christiansen (~1909 - <1952) & Alma L. Killpack (1909 - 1992)
 | | Ernest P. Christiansen (1913 - 1964) & Grace R. E. McIntosh (1917 - 2002)
 | | Earl Joseph Christiansen (1913 - 1981) & Bernice Marie McIntosh (1912 - 1991)
 | | Wilbur H. Christiansen (1915 - 1986)
 | | Genevieve E. Christiansen* (1917 - 1978) & William S. McIntosh (1907 - 1980)
 | | Genevieve E. Christiansen* (1917 - 1978) & Warren W. Wilmot (1908 - 1973)
 | Martha Christiansen (1876 - 1919) & Francis Chambers (1873 - 1958)
 | | Hazel Marie Chambers (1902 - 1951)
 | | Mable Francis Chambers (1903 - 1987) & Harry Claude Martens (1898 - 1947)
 | | Florence E. Chambers (1906 - 2000) & C. Wayne Miller (1904 - 1997)
 | | Robert Arnold Chambers* (1909 - 1999) & Darlene D. Mendenhall (~1916 -)
 | | Robert Arnold Chambers* (1909 - 1999) & Eva Helfrich (1915 - 1968)
 | | Margaret A. Chambers (1911 - 2009) & Clarence E. "Soup" Martens (1900 - 1958)
 | | Mary Elizabeth Chambers (1914 - 2010) & Carl V. Sproul (1915 - 2011)
 | | William Joseph Chambers (1918 - 2012) & Junne Adams (1921 - 2010)
 | Ellis C. Christiansen (1878 - 1956) & Nannie Elisa Christians (1882 - 1973)
 | | Lilly Margaret Catherine Christiansen (1915 - 2007) & James Kenneth "Kenneth" Larsen (1920 - 2013)
 | | Louise Gertrude Christiansen (1920 -) & Robert Willard Ward (1918 - 2002)
 | Axel Paul Christensen* (1879 - 1966) & Ida Marie Johnson (1882 - 1942)
 | | Henry Axel Christensen (1912 - 1977) & Hazel unknown
 | | William Lee Christensen (1915 - 1920)
 | Axel Paul Christensen* (1879 - 1966) & Nellie Pearl Stevenson (1890 - 1983)
 | Henry Christiansen (1882 - 1912) & Nannie Elisa Christians (1882 - 1973)
 | | infant_son Christiansen (1911 - 1911)
 | Mary Christiansen (1884 - 1947) & Leon Driver (1878 - 1943)
 | | James Lester "Lester" Driver (1907 - 1998) & Pearl Valentine Handbury (1911 - 2004)
 | | Ferne Lena Driver (1920 - 1961) & Ross W. Duncan (1917 - 1968)
 | Anna Christiansen (1886 - 1959) & Edwin Driver (1880 - 1965)
 | | Vera Alma Driver (1908 - 1989) & Fred DeArmand George (1910 - 1987)
 | | Vernon Ellis Driver (1912 - 1989) & Helen Louise Petersen (1918 - 2003)
 | | Alice E. Driver (1914 - 1981) & Marvin Rozel Parish (1913 - 1969)
 | | Leo G. Driver (1918 - 2004) & Bernice D. Reese (1925 -)
 | | Edwin Dale "Dale" Driver* (1924 - 2013) & Florence Kathleen Sampson (1927 - 1967)
 | | Edwin Dale "Dale" Driver* (1924 - 2013) & Lorraine Lynch (1918 - 2013)
 | | Dorothy Ann Driver (1927 - 1927)

Peter T. Christiansen immigrated to Council Bluffs with his future first wife, their oldest child, and her family in May 1871.

Peter T. Christiansen married **Martha Marie Skaksen** (19 Jul 1849 – 1872) in Pottawattamie County around 19 Jun 1871. Martha Skaksen was the daughter of Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter.

Martha (Skaksen) Christiansen died after less than two years of marriage.

Peter T. Christiansen married **Ane Margrethe Christiansen** (29 Sep 1848 – about 23 Oct 1908) in Pottawattamie County on 17 Jun 1874. Ane Margrethe Christiansen was the daughter of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter.

Peter T. Christiansen's two wives were first cousins, being grandchildren of Mads Andersen and Anne Margrethe Hansdatter.

The Peter Torgesen Christiansen Farm:

In 1885, the Peter T. Christiansen farm comprised 80 acres in Boomer Township, Section 4 and 80 miles of prairie land further east in Section 11. By the mid 1890s he had added 40 acres in Section 4, and by 1902 he had added 120 acres in Section 9.

The land in Section 11 became the farm of Peter T.'s oldest son, Andrew Christian Christiansen. The Section 9 land became the farm of Peter T.'s son, John H. Christiansen. Peter T.'s youngest son, Henry, and after Henry's death, Peter T.'s son, Ellis, owned the "home place" in Section 4.

The children of Peter Torgesen Christiansen and Martha Skaksen:

The two children of Peter T. Christiansen and his first wife, Martha Skaksen, are listed below.

- **Andrew Christian "Chris" Christiansen** (22 Mar 1870 – 21 Feb 1948) was born in Torslev Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark and christened as Anders Christen Christensen with parents' names transcribed as Peter Thoger Christensen and Martha Marie Jensen. (Martha's patronymic surname was used.)

Andrew Christian Christiansen married **Trine Marie Jorgensen** (5 Sep 1869 – 29 Oct 1960) in Pottawattamie County on 27 Oct 1893. Trine Jorgensen was the daughter of Jorgen C. Andersen and Maren Petersen.

Andrew and Trine Christiansen farmed in Boomer Township, Section 11, for many years on a farm that his father, Peter T. Christiansen, had owned as early as 1885. Andrew and Trine retired to Missouri Valley around 1945.

The four children of Andrew and Trine Christiansen are listed below. Two of the children, Clarence and Martha, married siblings, Alice and Harry Lauridsen, the children of Jens Nielsen Lauridsen and Mary Johnson. For more information about the Lauridsen family, see the *Jens Nielsen Lauridsen & Mary Johnson Family* sketch in my *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*.

- **Clarence Peter Christiansen** (24 Jun 1895 – 5 Nov 1992) married **Alice Elizabeth Lauridsen** (14 Feb 1898 – 10 Aug 1996) in Pottawattamie County on 14 Feb 1917 with the St. Paul's pastor officiating.

Clarence and Alice Christiansen lived in Boomer Township after marrying, moved to Missouri Valley, Iowa in 1922 and then moved to Council Bluffs in 1931.

Clarence and Alice Christiansen had seven children, one of whom died in childhood.

- **Martha Magreta Christiansen** (19 Apr 1898 – 16 Nov 1996) married **Harry Norbert Lauridsen** (23 Jul 1894 – 2 Dec 1969) in Pottawattamie County on 29 Jan 1919 with the St. Paul's pastor officiating.

After marrying, Harry and Martha Lauridsen lived in Boomer and Neola Townships before moving to Santa Clara County, California around 1926.

Harry and Martha Lauridsen had three children.

- **Mary Henrietta Christiansen** (31 Mar 1901 – about 24 Jul 1942) married **Christen "Chris" Larsen** (5 Aug 1893 – Jan 1979) in 1920. Chris Larsen was born in Try, Torslev Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Andreas Christian Larsen and Barbara Marie Olsen. For more information about the Chris Larsen family, see the *Barbara Marie Olsen and Andreas Christian Larsen* section of the *Ole Peter Jensen & Ane Marie Christensen Family* sketch in my *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*.

Chris Larsen farmed in Boomer Township.

Chris and Mary Larsen had five children, and Mary died a few months after the fifth child was born.

- **George Edward Christiansen** (16 Jun 1903 – Oct 1971) married **Mildred Naomi Deakins** (6 Dec 1907 – Oct 1983) in Pottawattamie County on 10 Dec 1930. Mildred Deakins was the daughter of John Amosa Deakins and Matilda Fredericka Mandelko of Harrison County.

George Christiansen farmed in Boomer Township, Section 11 in the 1940s and 1950s.

George and Mildred Christiansen had four children.

Andrew and Trine Christiansen and their children Clarence, Mary and George are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Martha is probably interred in California.

- **Tena Marie Christiansen** (14 Aug 1872 – 5 May 1955) married **William Price Jr.** (10 Mar 1868 – 27 Jan 1912) in Boomer Township on 16 May 1894. William Price Jr. was the son of William Price Sr. and Emma Drake, English immigrants who farmed in Boomer Township, Section 28.

In 1897 William and Tina Price bought the old William and Mary Lewis farm in Boomer Township, Section 28, which was located a quarter mile southwest of the William Price Sr. home place. After William Price's early death, Tena remained on the farm until her death 43 years later.

William and Tena Price's sons, Amos and William, shared responsibility for Price farm until the middle 1930s when Tena's son-in-law, Frank Miner, took over.

The six children of William and Tena Price are listed below.

- **Amos D. Price** (21 Apr 1895 – 2 Mar 1960) married **Verda C. Carpenter** (23 Dec 1900 – 14 Oct 1970) in Pottawattamie County on 19 Mar 1923. Verda Carpenter was the daughter of John H. Carpenter who moved from Carroll, Iowa to Council Bluffs around 1915. Verda taught country schools before marrying.

Except for service in World War I, I believe that Amos lived at home and took responsibility for the Price farm until he and Verda married. In 1925 Amos and Verda were living in Cincinnati Township, Harrison County. Sometime after William married in 1926, Amos and Verda returned to Boomer Township, where I suspect they lived near her mother in the William Price Sr. house.

Amos Price is thought to have contracted tuberculosis because of his service in World War I. Around 1937 or 1938, he and Verda moved to Colorado in search of a healthier climate.

Amos and Verna Price did not have children.

- **Ethel Irene Price** (24 Aug 1897 – 10 Sep 1982) married **Julius Peter Schroder** (15 Aug 1895 or 15 Aug 1896 – 4 Apr 1948) in Pottawattamie County on 21 Jan 1920. Julius Schroder was the son of John Schroder and Anna Nielsen of Boomer Township, Section 30. See the *Christen Skaksen and Anna Margretha Christensdatter* sketch herein for more information about Julius Schroder's older relatives.

After marrying, Julius and Ethel Schroder farmed the Claus Schroeder place in Hazel Dell Township, Section 6, and in 1930 bought and moved to the old Acton farm in Boomer Township, Section 29.

Julius and Ethel Schroder had one child, Dale, who as of 2010 has lived on the Schroder farm since 1930.

- **Annie Alberta Price** (16 Apr 1899 – 10 Apr 1976) married **Jack E. Lake** (16 Nov 1899 – 1989), a native of Missouri, in Council Bluffs on 21 Nov 1925.

Jack and Annie Lake lived in Council Bluffs and had two children, one of whom died at birth. Their surviving child, Darlene Ann, married James Christian Nielsen, the son of Niels Christian Nielsen and Maren Margrethe "Margaret" Christensen of Neola Township, Section 31. See the *Niels Christian Nielsen* section of the *Anton Nielsen and Kirsten Marie Christensen* sketch in my *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families* for information about James Nielsen's older relatives.

- **William Magnus Price** (2 Nov 1901 – 24 Mar 1984) took responsibility for the Price farm while his brother, Amos, was in military service in World War I.

William M. Price married **Freda Rose Petersen** (13 Apr 1905 – 9 Dec 1994) in Pottawattamie County on 24 Feb 1926. Freda Petersen was the daughter of Carl Petersen and Anna Schroder of eastern Rockford Township. See the *Christen*

Skaksen and Anna Margretha Christensdatter sketch herein for more about Freda (Petersen) Price's older relatives.

William and Freda Price lived in Boomer Township after marrying but moved to just northeast of Minden before 1943.

William and Freda Price had four children.

- **Emma Marie Price** (1904 – 1961) married **Francis Auberg Whittington** (1901 – 1967), a native of Nebraska, in Pottawattamie County on 10 Mar 1926.

Francis and Emma Whittington lived in Boomer Township after marrying but moved to the Underwood, Iowa area before 1944 and later lived north of McClelland, Iowa.

Francis and Emma Whittington had four children.

- **Viola Genevieve Price** (5 Jun 1906 – 28 Mar 1996) married **Frank Elvin James Miner** (30 Oct 1901 – 11 Feb 1970) at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church parsonage in Boomer Township on 15 Feb 1933. Frank Miner was born in St. Johns, Michigan to Elvin Joel Miner and Martha Pearl (Harper) Birmingham.

Frank Miner was a carpenter as well as a farmer.

After marrying Frank and Viola Miner lived briefly just south of the Grange Cemetery, where he was caretaker. Later they lived on Mackland property in Boomer Township, Section 27, across the road from the Boomer store. Around 1937 Frank took over the William Price Jr. farm and the Frank Miner family moved to a small house Frank had built near his mother-in-law's house.

Frank and Viola Miner lived on the William Price Jr. farm until around 1956 when they moved to the Carson, Iowa area. Around 1959 they moved to a farm in Fairview Township, Shelby County north and west of Avoca and in 1964 they moved to a house in Shelby.

Frank and Viola Miner had two children.

William and Tena Price and all six of their children are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

I currently don't know where Martha Marie (Skaksen) Christiansen is interred. Her children, Andrew and Tena, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

The children of Peter Torgesen Christiansen and Ane Margrethe Christiansen:

The seven children of Peter T. Christiansen and his second wife, Ane Margrethe Christiansen are listed below. Their two youngest children, Mary and Anna, married brothers, Leon and Edwin Driver, the sons of James Driver and Elizabeth Beswick of Boomer Township, Section 21.

- **John H. Christiansen** (4 Mar 1875 – 1 Oct 1934) married **Jennie E. McCune** (14 Mar 1880 – 18 Aug 1931) in Harrison County, Iowa on 24 Apr 1901. Jennie McCune was born in Boomer Township to Daniel McCune and Mary Loretta Brookhauser.

John H. Christiansen farmed in Boomer Township, Section 9, just south of the Peter T. Christiansen home place in Section 4.

The seven children of John H. and Jennie Christiansen are listed below. Three of the younger children, Ernest and Earl, who were twins, and Genevieve married siblings, the children of William Cleveland "Clee" McIntosh and Augusta Dorthea Rief who lived near Honey Creek in Rockford Township.

- **Mary Irene "Irene" Christiansen** (8 Sep 1902 – Oct 1981) married **Edward Lynch** and then married **Wallace Alexander Hargrave** (9 Jun 1887 – Aug 1969).

Irene (Christiansen) Lynch Hargrave lived in Iowa City and had two (or possibly four) children.

- **Grace Margaret Christiansen** (2 Mar 1905 – 28 Jan 1991) married **Charles Chester Schroder** (6 Nov 1898 – 26 Aug 1971) on 17 Apr 1923. Charles Schroder was the son of John Schroder and Anna Nielsen of Boomer Township, Section 30. See the *Christen Skaksen and Anna Margretha Christensdatter* sketch herein for more information about Charles Schroder's older relatives.

Charles and Grace Schroder lived on his parents' home place until 1953, and had two children.

- **John Harold "Harold" Christiansen** (about August 1909 – before 1952) married **Alma L. Killpack** (28 Jun 1909 – 2 Jul 1992). Alma Killpack was the daughter of David Killpack and Stella Hammitt of Harrison County.

Harold and Alma Christiansen had two children. Alma moved to Council Bluffs around 1953.

- **Ernest P. Christiansen** (22 Apr 1913 – 4 Nov 1964) married **Grace McIntosh** (21 Dec 1917 – 6 Aug 2002).

Ernest and Grace Christiansen lived in Council Bluffs and had two known children.

- **Earl Joseph Christiansen** (22 Apr 1913 – Jan 1981) married **Bernice Marie McIntosh** (1 Aug 1912 – May 1991) in Pottawattamie County on 26 Mar 1935.

Earl and Bernice Christiansen lived in Council Bluffs and had two children.

- **Wilbur H. Christiansen** (13 Oct 1915 – 9 Feb 1986) probably never married. Wilbur Christiansen lived in the Logan area and moved to Council Bluffs before 1964.

- **Genevieve E. Christiansen** (19 Dec 1917 – Sep 1978) married **William S. McIntosh** (26 Aug 1907 – Mar 1980) in Pottawattamie County on 25 Apr 1935.

William and Genevieve McIntosh lived in Council Bluffs and had three known children. They divorced before 1964 and Genevieve married **Warren W. Wilmot** (7 Feb 1908 – 27 Nov 1973).

John H. and Jennie Christiansen and their children, Grace, Wilbur and Genevieve, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Ernest and Earl are interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Martha Christiansen** (23 Sep 1876 – 1919) married **Francis Chambers** (27 May 1873 - 1958) in Pottawattamie County on 26 Apr 1899. Francis Chambers was the son of Joseph Chambers and Elizabeth Roland and was raised in Lagrange Township, Harrison County north of Boomer Township.

After leaving home, Francis Chambers farmed in Harrison County in St John Township, then Calhoun Township, and finally in St John Township again. Near the end of his working life, he was in the trucking business.

The seven children of Francis and Martha Chambers are listed below. Mable and Margaret married brothers.

- **Hazel Marie Chambers** (1902 – 1951).
- **Mable Francis Chambers** (25 Oct 1903 – 16 Aug 1987) married Harry Claude Martens (23 Aug 1898 – 18 Nov 1947).
- **Florence E. Chambers** (3 Feb 1906 – 27 Jan 2000) married C. Wayne Miller (14 Jul 1904 – 3 Nov 1997).
- **Robert Arnold Chambers** (13 Sep 1909 – 2 Jan 1999) married Darlene D. Mendenhall and after divorcing married Eva Helfrich (1915 – 13 May 1968).
- **Margaret A. Chambers** (31 Oct 1911 – 21 Oct 2009) married Clarence E. "Soup" Martens (4 Oct 1900 – 2 Jun 1958).
- **Mary Elizabeth Chambers** (29 Oct 1914 – 29 Dec 2010) married Carl V. Sproul (14 Feb 1915 – 29 Jan 2011).
- **William Joseph Chambers** (28 Dec 1918 – 23 Apr 2012) married Junne Adams (20 Mar 1921 – 11 Sep 2010).

Frances and Martha Chambers and their children, Hazel, Mable and Margaret, are interred in Rose Hill Cemetery in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Florence is interred in the Herman Cemetery in Herman, Nebraska. Mary is interred in the Ferguson Cemetery in Lake View, Iowa. William is interred in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. I don't know where Robert is interred.

- **Ellis C. Christiansen** (16 Mar 1878 – 23 Aug 1956) married **Nannie Elisa (Christians) Christiansen** (23 Aug 1882 – 16 Jul 1973) in Pottawattamie County on 30 Oct 1913. Nannie was the widow of Ellis's brother, Henry Christiansen.

Ellis Christiansen's original farm was in Boomer Township, Section 9. After his brother, Henry, died, Ellis took over the Peter T. Christiansen home place in Boomer Township, Section 4.

After Ellis died, Nannie continued to live on the family farm with her daughter and son-in-law, Lillie and Kenneth Larsen. She spent the last few years of her life in Missouri Valley with her daughter and son-in-law, Louise and Bob Ward.

As of 1997, Dennis Schroder owned the old Ellis Christiansen farm in Boomer Township, Section 4.

The two children of Ellis and Nannie Christiansen are listed below. Both lived into their 90s, as did their mother.

- **Lilly Margaret Catherine Christiansen** (17 Apr 1915 – 4 Apr 2007) married **James Kenneth "Kenneth" Larsen** (13 Oct 1920 - 29 Oct 2013) on 8 Apr 1942. Kenneth Larsen was the son of Hans Larsen and Anna Serena Olsen who farmed near Weston and west of Neola.

Kenneth and Lilly Larsen farmed the Ellis Christiansen farm in Boomer Township, Section 4. Around 1959 Kenneth went to work for a contractor on the nearby Atlas D intercontinental missile site. Once the site was complete, Kenneth continued working for the contractor. In 1971 Kenneth Larsen had a farm sale and Kenneth and Lilly left their farm.

Eventually Kenneth and Lilly Larsen moved to Omaha.

Kenneth and Lilly Larsen had three children.

- **Louise Gertrude Christiansen** (22 Oct 1920 -) married **Robert Willard Ward** (21 Dec 1918 – 20 Jun 2002) in Pottawattamie County by the St. Paul's pastor on 23 Nov 1940. Robert Ward was the son of Willard Ward and Nellie Pearl Stevenson who farmed the Ward home place in Boomer Township, Section 23 before Willard Ward's early death.

Robert and Louise Ward lived in Boomer Township, Section 6 before moving to Missouri Valley, Iowa before 1971. Later they moved to the Omaha area.

Robert and Louise Ward had four children, one of whom died in infancy.

Ellis and Nannie Christiansen and their daughter, Lilly, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Axel Paul Christensen** (27 Dec 1879 – Jun 1966) married **Ida Marie Johnson** (Dec 1882 – 16 Jun 1942) in Pottawattamie County on 5 Oct 1910. Ida Johnson was the daughter of John Johnson and Anna Olsen, Danish immigrants who lived in Shelby County and in Council Bluffs.

Axel appears to have consistently used the spelling "Christensen", which in Denmark is a completely different surname than "Christiansen".

In 1920, 1925, 1930 and 1940 Axel Christensen was living in Lewis Township near Council Bluffs, where he was once a fruit farmer.

After Ida's death, Axel married **Nellie Pearl (Stevenson) Ward** (22 Oct 1890 – 31 Oct 1983), the widow of Willard Richard Ward and the mother-in-law of his niece, Louise (Christiansen) Ward.

The two children of Axel and Ida Christensen, one of whom died in childhood, are listed below.

- **Henry Axel Christensen** (27 Aug 1912 – 23 Sep 1977) married **Hazel**.

Henry and Hazel Christensen appear to have lived in or near Council Bluffs, where Henry worked for the post office and Hazel was a public-school teacher.

Henry and Hazel Christensen are thought to have had four children.

- **William Lee Christensen** (4 May 1915 – 24 Sep 1920) died as a young child.

Axel and Ida Christensen and their son, William, are interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Nellie (Stevenson) Ward Christensen is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Henry Christiansen** (15 Jan 1882 – 28 Feb 1912) married **Nannie Elisa Christians** (23 Aug 1882 – 16 Jul 1973) in Harrison County, Iowa on 20 Apr 1904. Nannie Christians was the daughter of Johannes Adolf Christians and Catherine Magdalena Bielfeldt who lived in Boomer Township, Section 16, just northeast of the Boomer Township hall.

Henry Christiansen farmed the Peter T. Christiansen home place, in Boomer Township, Section 4.

Henry and Nannie Christiansen had one child, who died at birth.

After Henry's early death, Nannie married Henry's older brother, **Ellis Christiansen**.

- **Mary Christiansen** (6 Jul 1884 – 28 Mar 1947) married **Leon Driver** (2 Oct 1878 – 1 Dec 1943) in Pottawattamie County on 14 Mar 1906.

By 1910 Leon and Mary Driver had settled near Beebeetown in Lagrange Township, Harrison County where they farmed for many years.

The two children of Leon and Mary Driver are listed below.

- **James Lester "Lester" Driver** (14 Aug 1907 – 27 May 1998) married **Pearl Valentine Handbury** (14 Feb 1911 – 11 Jun 2004) in Omaha, Nebraska on 19 Mar 1932. Pearl Handbury was the daughter of James Handbury and Amy Thomsen of Neola Township.
- **Ferne L. Driver** (3 Mar 1920 – 20 May 1961) married **Ross W. Duncan** (30 Dec 1917 – 8 Jun 1968), the son of Roy Duncan and Lena Wohlers of the Beebeetown area.

Leon and Mary Driver and their children, Lester and Ferne, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Anna Christiansen** (5 Mar 1886 – 30 Oct 1959) married **Edwin Driver** (26 May 1880 – 19 Feb 1965) in Pottawattamie County on 27 Feb 1907.

Edwin and Anna Driver lived on the Driver home place in Boomer Township.

The six children of Edwin and Anna Driver, one of whom died as an infant, are listed below.

- **Vera Alma Driver** (6 Sep 1908 – 25 Dec 1989) married **Fred DeArmand George** (7 Jan 1910 – Apr 1987) in Pottawattamie County on 12 Mar 1935. Fred George was born in Arkansas to William T. George and Pearl Reeder McFarland. As a young man, Fred George came to Boomer Township where he worked as a hired man for Nathan Darrington before marrying.

Fred and Vera Driver farmed in Boomer Township, Section 16, moving there from the eastern part of the township around 1941.

Fred and Vera George had two children.

- **Vernon E. Driver** (30 Nov 1912 – 21 Jun 1989) married **Helen Louise Petersen** (21 Apr 1918 – 19 Jan 2003). Helen Petersen was the daughter of Peter Petersen and Laura Christina Nielsen of Boomer Township, who moved to a small farm just north of Council Bluffs around 1946.

Helen (Petersen) Driver's mother, Laura Christina Nielsen was the great-granddaughter of Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter whose sketch appears herein.

Vernon and Helen Driver farmed in Boomer Township, Section 9.

Vernon and Helen Driver had no children.

- **Alice Edwin Driver** (23 Jul 1914 – 16 Apr 1981) married **Marvin Rozel Parish** (5 Aug 1913 – 12 Jun 1969) in Pottawattamie County on 27 Feb 1937. Marvin Parish was the son of Rozel Parish and Mary Jensen of Hazel Dell Township, Section 3.

Marvin and Alice Parish farmed in Norwalk Township.

Marvin and Alice Parish had three children.

- **Leo G. Driver** (28 Sep 1918 – 6 Jan 2004) married **Bernice D. Reese** (10 Feb 1925 – 8 May 2018) at St. John's Lutheran Church in Boomer Township on 16 Feb 1944. Bernice Reese was the daughter of William J. Reese and Dora Cohrs who lived on the old Christians place in Boomer Township, Section 16 just north of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Leo and Bernice Driver lived in Missouri Valley where Leo was a farm supply dealer.

Leo and Bernice Driver had four children.

- **Edwin Dale "Dale" Driver** (15 Feb 1924 – 18 Nov 2013) married **Florence Kathleen Sampson** (26 Oct 1927 – 8 Oct 1967) and after her death married **Lorraine (Lynch) Dickey** (3 Feb 1918 – 21 Aug 2013), the widow of Albert Dickey and a former neighbor of the Drivers.

Dale Driver lived on the Driver home place before moving to Council Bluffs, although most of the original Driver farm was sold to Julius P. Witt before 1967.

Dale and Florence Driver had four children.

- **Dorothy Ann Driver** (24 Nov 1927 – 26 Nov 1927) died in infancy.

Anna and Edwin Driver and four of their children, Vera, Vernon, Leo and Dorothy, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Alice (Driver) Parish is interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Peter T. and Ane Margrethe Christiansen and five of their seven children, John H., Ellis, Henry, Mary and Anna are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Axel Christensen is interred in the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Martha (Christiansen) Chambers is interred in Rose Hill Cemetery in Missouri Valley, Iowa.

Boomer Township Relatives of Peter T. Christiansen.

The following relatives of Peter T. Christiansen lived in Boomer Township, and some are interred in the Grange Cemetery:

- ➔ An uncle, Christen Axelsen.
- ➔ A cousin, Axel Christensen.
- ➔ A niece, Emma Andersen.

Although none were born in Dronninglund Sogn, I chose to include them here.

Christen Axelsen (2 Sep 1921 – after 1900), Peter T. Christiansen's uncle, was born in Hørby Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Axel Nielsen and Karen Olesdatter. Christen married **Else Marie Rasmusdatter** (about Jan 1830 – before 1900) in Albæk, Hjørring Amt, Denmark on 3 Nov 1853.

Christen and Else Marie had several children and were living in Hørby Sogn in 1880.

Christen and Else Marie immigrated to the United States on the Thingvalla in the spring of 1882. With them was Christian Peter Christensen, age 7, a grandson.

In 1900 Christen Axelsen, a widower, was living with his son, Axel Christensen, in Boomer Township. I have no further record of Christen Axelsen, his wife, or his grandson.

Axel Christensen (about 3 Nov 1853 – 24 Apr 1930), Peter T. Christiansen's cousin, was born in Albæk Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Christen Axelsen and Else Marie Rasmusdatter.

Axel Christensen had a relationship in Denmark with Ansine Kristine Sorensen. From this union a son, Christian Peter Christensen, was born. Christian Peter was baptized in Hørby Sogn on 25 Oct 1874 and in 1880 was living with his grandparents in Hørby Sogn. Christian Peter immigrated to the United States with his grandparents in 1882.

Axel Christensen immigrated from Skæve Sogn in the early spring of 1879, intending to go to Berlin, Ontario via New York.

Axel soon came to Pottawattamie County. He and **Anna Marie "Mary" Hansen** (Jan 1862 – 26 Jun 1955) married in Pottawattamie County on 29 Oct 1881. Mary Hansen was a native of the island of Moen in southeastern Denmark.

Axel and Mary Christensen and their two children were living in Council Bluffs in 1885 and in 1895 but by 1900 had settled in Boomer Township, Section 11, where they lived until the early 1920s when they retired to Council Bluffs. However, their farm remained in the family until at least 1939.

The two children of Axel and Mary Christensen are listed below.

- **Karen Marie "Carrie" Christensen** (Dec 1882 -) married **Frank Molder Clark** (May 1880 -) in Pottawattamie County on 22 Oct 1902. Frank Clark was the son of Molder Clark and Emma Killpack of Boomer Township, Section 1.

Frank and Carrie Clark lived in northeastern Boomer Township and then in Neola Township before moving to the Chappell area in Deuel County western Nebraska in the early 1920s. Frank's nephew, Earl Clark, also moved to the Chappell area around the same time.

Frank and Carrie Clark had seven children. Their oldest child, Elsie Marie, lived to the age of 107.

- **John A. Christiansen** (Jun 1885 - 1920) married **Hannah Petersen** (9 Jan 1888 – Jan 1965), the son of Niels C. Petersen and Marie Nielsen of Boomer Township, Section 30.

After marrying, John A. and Hannah Christensen first lived with his parents. Then they moved to southwestern Boomer Township where they lived near or with her father. In 1940 Hannah was still living on the Niels C. Petersen farm.

After John A. Christensen died, his widow, Hannah, married **Niels Christian Nielsen** (23 Nov 1880 – 7 Jan 1934) at St. Paul's on 27 Jan 1925. Niels Christian Nielsen was a bachelor farmhand who had immigrated to the Boomer Township area around 1904.

John A. and Hannah Christensen had four children, two of whom died before reaching adulthood.

Axel and Mary Christensen and their son, John, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, as is Hannah (Petersen) Christensen Nielsen, Niels Christian Nielsen, and three of John and Hannah's children.

Emma Andersen (5 Nov 1893 - 15 Dec 1910), Peter T. Christiansen's niece, immigrated with an older sister on the *SS Lusitania* in August 1910 and lived in the Peter T. Christiansen household after arriving. Emma attended Boomer #2 school and died a few months later.

Emma Andersen is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

End of the Peter Torgesen Christiansen Sketch

(4) – Biographical Sketch - Anders/Andrew Jensen and Caroline Jensen

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Of the nine extended families sketched herein, I believe this is the only family that did not own land in Boomer Township. Rather, they rented a large farm in southwestern Boomer Township.

The following lists the children and some of the grandchildren of Anders/Andrew Jensen and Caroline Jensen.

Anders “Andrew” Jensen (21 Sep 1848 - 24 Jun 1922) & Caroline Jensen (1 Apr 1850 - 27 Nov 1914)
| Ane Marie Jensen (4 Mar 1873 - 25 Nov 1945) & James Sorensen (17 Feb 1868 - 1911)
|| Raymond Sorensen (6 Mar 1893 - 3 Nov 1966)
|| Arthur Andrew Sorensen (26 Nov 1894 - 14 Mar 1960)
|| Agnes Marie Sorensen (18 Jun 1899 - 2 Jun 1976)
|| Evelyn Margaret Sorensen (20 Apr 1906 - 25 May 1953)
| William Peter (b. Ole Peder) Jensen (27 Apr 1874 - 22 Apr 1951)
| Martin Jensen (6 Oct 1876 - 24 Jul 1949) & Johannah Jorgensen (29 Nov 1884 - 10 Sep 1965)
|| baby Jensen (abt Mar 1910 -)
|| Ralph A. Jensen (2 Oct 1911 - 9 Apr 1989)
| Ida Margaret Jensen (11 Sep 1878 - 15 Feb 1967) & Andrew Jackson Parish (2 Aug 1867 - 1939)
| Matilda “Tilda” Jensen (9 Jan 1881 - 20 Jun 1945) & Andrew P. Larsen (22 Aug 1887 - 16 Aug 1923)
| Henry Jensen (5 Sep 1882 - Sep 1976) & Opal May Beaty (27 Aug 1896 - Dec 1978)
|| Robert Henry Jensen (15 Jul 1921 - 13 Sep 1999)
|| Helen Jensen (abt Jun 1927 -) & Raymond H. Dewaele (2 Oct 1918 - 8 Jan 1997)
| Carl Nels Jensen (25 Jan 1888 - 18 Apr 1976) & Hazel Ina Parish (21 Jul 1896 - 28 or 29 Nov 1986)
|| Ruth C. Jensen (abt 1917 -)
|| Marjorie C. Jensen (abt 1920 -)

In Denmark:

Anders Jensen (21 Sep 1848 – 22 Jun 1922) was born in Dronninglund Sogn, Aalborg Amt to Jens Lausen and Ane Nielsdatter.

Caroline Jensen (1 Apr 1850 – 27 Nov 1914) was born in Dronninglund Sogn to Jens Jensen and Margrethe Olesen.

Anders and Caroline Jensen married in Dronninglund Sogn on 23 Oct 1873.

Emigration:

Anders and Caroline Jensen and their four oldest children registered to immigrate to Council Bluffs, traveling indirekte, on 7 May 1879. At the time, they were living in Dronninglund Sogn. They also registered a child, Jens Anderson, age 8, who is unknown to me. Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter and their niece, Martine Thomsen, whose sketches appear elsewhere in this report, registered at the same time.

In the United States:

The Andrew Jensen family was living in Council Bluffs in 1885 and 1895. In 1900 Andrew and Caroline and their three youngest children were farming in Lewis Township south of Council Bluffs.

In 1905, 1910 and 1915 Andrew Jensen and some of his younger children were farming in Boomer Township. My guess is that they were tenant farmers on the Haines/Tyler/Anderson farm in Section 33, which at that time was owned by J. H. or Charles R. Tyler.

Members of the Andrew Jensen family tended to belong to the Reorganized Latter Day Saints Church (RLDS), now the Community of Christ, or to the Church of Christ.

The Children of Andrew Jensen and Caroline Jensen:

The seven children of Andrew and Caroline Jensen are listed below. The first four children were born in Dronninglund Sogn and the last three in Pottawattamie County, Iowa.

All three of the Andrew Jensen daughters spent long periods as widows. Anna was a widow for 34 years, Ida for 28 years, and Tilda for 24 years. Ida and Tilda lived together for some years, moving to Bemidji, Minnesota at some point and returning to Council Bluffs in 1943.

- **Ane Marie "Anna" Jensen** (4 Mar 1873 – 25 Nov 1945) married **James Sorensen** (17 Feb 1868 - 1911) in Council Bluffs on 20 May 1892.

James and Anna Sorensen lived in Omaha. Anna was still living in Omaha as a widow in 1920.

James and Anna Sorensen had four children (Raymond, Arthur Andrew, Agnes Marie and Evelyn Margaret).

- **Ole Peder Jensen** (27 Apr 1874 – 22 Apr 1951) evidently went by **William Peter Jensen** after emigrating. He was thought to be living in Albany County, Wyoming in 1930 and in California in 1945.

- **Martin Jensen** (6 Oct 1876 – 24 Jul 1949) married **Johannah Jorgensen** (29 Nov 1884 – 10 Sep 1965) in Pottawattamie County on 1 or 11 May 1907.

Johannah Jorgensen was the daughter of Anders Jorgensen and Hansine Hannibalsen of Garner Township. Her niece was Grace (Jorgensen) Jensen, the wife of Raymond Jensen of the St. Paul's congregation. Her sister was Josephine (Jorgensen) Merriam, the first wife of Charles Merriam, a grocer on North Broadway in Council Bluffs in the first part of the 20th century.

Martin and Johannah Jensen moved to Daviess County, Missouri between 1915 and 1930.

Martin and Johannah Jensen probably had two children (a son who died in childhood and Ralph A.).

- **Ida Margaret Jensen** (11 Sep 1878 – 15 Feb 1967) was the second wife of **Andrew Jackson Parish** (2 Aug 1867 – 1939), the son of Delorma Parish and Elethe Jane Hall, early settlers in Hazel Dell Township, Section 3. Andrew Jackson Parish and Ida Jensen married in Pottawattamie County on 9 Aug 1916.

Andrew Jackson Parish was a carpenter living in Council Bluffs in 1920. In 1925 and 1930 he was a poultry farmer living in Garner Township east of Council Bluffs.

Andrew Jackson and Ida Parish had no children.

- **Matilda "Tilda" Jensen** (9 Jan 1881 – 20 Jun 1945) married **Andrew P. Larsen** (22 Aug 1887 – 16 Aug 1923) in Council Bluffs on April 11, 1921.

In 1920 Matilda was living with her widowed sister, Anna Sorensen, in Omaha. In 1930 Matilda, now widowed herself, was living with her brother, Henry, in Council Bluffs.

Andrew and Tilda Jensen had no children.

- **Henry Jensen** (5 Sep 1882 – Sep 1976) married **Opal May Beaty** (27 Aug 1896 – Dec 1978) in Pottawattamie County on 28 Jul 1920. Opal was born in Iowa to George and Lizzie Beaty.

Henry Jensen farmed with his brother, Carl, in Boomer Township during World War I and moved to Council Bluffs before 1920.

Henry and Opal Jensen lived in Council Bluffs until after 1948. In their old age they lived in Bellevue, Nebraska.

Henry and Opal Jensen had at least two children (Robert Henry and Helen).

- **Carl Nels Jensen** (25 Jan 1888 – 18 Apr 1976) married **Hazel Ina Parish** (21 Jul 1896 – 28 or 29 Nov 1986) in Pottawattamie County on 2 Mar 1916. Hazel Parish was the daughter of Andrew Jackson Parish and his first wife, Clara Isabel Landon.

Carl Jensen farmed in Boomer Township during World War I. Around 1920 the Carl Jensen family moved to Missouri. They were living in St. Joseph, Missouri in 1930.

Carl and Hazel Parish lived in Galena, Missouri in their old age.

Carl and Hazel Jensen had at least two children (Ruth C. and Marjorie C.).

Andrew and Caroline Jensen and three of their children, Ida Margaret (Jensen) Parish, Matilda (Jensen) Larsen, and Henry Jensen are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

End of the Andrew Jensen and Caroline Jensen Sketch

(5) – Biographical Sketch - Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter

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The Jespersens were parents of Martine Thomsen, Mrs. Jens Pedersen, of Boomer Township, Section 5.

The following lists some older descendants of Thomas Christian Jespersen and Catherine Madsdatter.

Thomas Christian Jespersen (1821 - 1893) & Cathrine Trine Madsdatter (1826 - 1905)
| Mette Marie "Marie" Thomsen (1849 - 1895) & Jens Laurits Thomsen (1848 -)
| | Thomas Christian Thomsen (1876 -)
| | Maren Cathrine Thomsen (1878 -)
| | Christian Peter Thomsen (1880 -)
| | Jens Marinus Thomsen (1885 -)
| Ane Margrethe "Margaret" Thomsen (1854 - 1936) & Jens Nelson (1852 - 1948)
| | Andrew Peter Nelson (1879 - 1981)
| | Clara Esther or Lucie Nelson (1883 - 1978)
| | Dena Catrine Nelson (1886 - 1965)
| | Mary Christine Nelson (1895 - 1990)
| | John Elmer "Elmer" Nelson (1897 - 1989)
| Mads Peter Thomsen (~1860 -)
| Martine Thomsen (1862 - 1903) & Jens Pedersen (1853 - 1915)
| | Peter William Pedersen (1885 - 1918) & Dorothy "Dora" Thompson (1892 - 1961)
| | | Helen Esther Pedersen (1914 - 1991) & Charles Daniel Strahan (1916 - 2008)
| | Charles Pedersen (~1887 -)
| | Harry James Peterson* (1889 - 1948) & Ethel Emma Thomas (1892 - 1918)
| | | Earl Thomas Peterson (1914 - 1998) & Tacie Rue Payne
| | | Glen James Peterson (1916 -) & Shirley Lois Griebeling (1921 -)
| | Harry James Peterson* (1889 - 1948) & Courtney Caple (1902 - 1985)
| | | Duane Caple Peterson (1928 - 1999)
| | | Courtland Peterson
| | Elnora Christine "Nora" Pedersen (1891 - 1970) & Nels Christian Bertelsen (1887 - 1930)
| | | Esther Eleanor Bertelsen (1912 - 2009) & John Frederick "Jack" Bolliger (1914 - 2010)
| | | Edna Catherine Bertelsen (1917 - 1918)
| | | Ethel Vivian Bertelsen (1920 -) & Donald Richard Ward (1915 - 2004)
| | Elmer Peterson (1893 - 1957) & Mabel Claire Thomas (1893 - 1948)
| | | Dale James Peterson (1919 - 1982)
| | | Dorothy J. Peterson (~1924 -) & Newell Vane Starks
| | | Donald W. Peterson (~1926 -) & Shirley Price
| | | Jack Norman Peterson (1928 - 1992)
| | | Mary Ann Peterson (~1931 -)
| | Minnie Catherine Pedersen (1895 - 1937)
| | Agnes Martine Pedersen (1898 - 1935) & Donald W. Levertson (1896 - 1954)
| | Esther Stella Pedersen (1900 - 1904)
| | Lillian Ellen Pedersen (1903 - 1983) & Glenn John Muller (1902 - 1968)
| | | Suzanne Muller
| | | Judith Muller

| Christine "Stine" Thomsen (1872 - 1898) & Peter C. Madsen (1871 - 1938)
| | James C. Madsen (1896 - 1897)
| | Jennie M. Madsen (1898 - 1988) & Elmer T. Hansen (1900 - 1957)

In Denmark:

Thomas Christian Jespersen (31 Dec 1821 – 18 Sep 1893) was born in Dronninglund Sogn to Jesper Nielsen and Mette Jensdatter.

Cathrine Madsdatter (6 Mar 1826 – 31 Dec 1905) was born in Dronninglund Sogn to Mads Andersen and Anne Margrethe Hansdatter.

Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter married in Dronninglund Sogn on 31 Dec 1849.

Evidence suggests that Thomas Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter were born and lived until they emigrated in or near Ørsø, a village about two miles northeast of the town of Dronninglund. (Other places mentioned are Skjellet By and Hønborgbro, locations in Dronninglund Sogn that I have been unable to locate.)

In 1850 Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter and their first child were living with Cathrine's parents in Skjellet By.

In 1880 Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter were living in Skjellet By in Dronninglund Sogn.

Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter had five known children, all born in Dronninglund Sogn, of whom four are known to have immigrated to the United States.

Thomas Christian Jespersen had a brother, **Niels Jespersen**, whose granddaughter, Anna Matilda Nielsen, married John Schroder and lived in Boomer Township. See the *Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter* sketch herein for more information.

Emigration:

Thomas Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter's daughter, Ane Margrethe Thomsen, registered to emigrate on 10 May 1872. At the time, she was living in Hellum Sogn northwest of Dronninglund. Ane Margrethe registered indirekte, with destination Racine, Wisconsin. Ane Margrethe registered by herself, and gave her age as 16. Several others from Hellum Sogn registered the same day but gave Omaha or various other points in Wisconsin as their destination.

Thomas and Cathrine's daughter, Martine Thomsen, registered to immigrate to Council Bluffs with her uncle and aunt, Christian and Maren Svendsen, on 7 May 1879. She was living in Ørsø, Dronninglund Sogn. They traveled indirekte.

Thomas Jespersen, his wife, Cathrine, and their youngest child, Christine registered to immigrate to Council Bluffs on 29 Mar 1884. At the time, they were living in Ørsø, Dronninglund Sogn. They emigrated on the ship *Island*.

Thomas and Cathrine's daughter, Mette Marie Thomsen, her husband, Jens Laurits Thomsen, and Jens and Mette Marie's four children registered to emigrate on 20 Mar 1888. At the time, they were living in Gudumlund in Gudum Sogn, Aalborg Amt. They emigrated on the ship *Hekla*. Jens and Mette Marie and their oldest child entered a destination of New York. However, they presumably immigrated to Lamberton, Minnesota, as that is the destination recorded on the forms of the three younger children.

In the United States:

I have been unable to locate Thomas and Cathrine Jespersen in the 1885 Iowa census.

Thomas Jespersen died in Boomer Township, Pottawattamie County in 1893, according to family records. He is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

In 1895 his widow, Cathrine, was living with her son-in-law and daughter, Peter and Christine Madsen, in Council Bluffs.

Christine Madsen died in 1898 and Cathrine (Madsdatter) Jespersen moved to Cottonwood County, Minnesota, where she spent the remainder of her life.

In 1900 Cathrine was living with Niels Hansen, a married 26-year-old butter maker, in Westbrook Township, Cottonwood County.

In 1905 Cathrine was living with her son-in-law and daughter, Jens and Ane Margrethe Nelson, in Westbrook Township.

Cathrine died at the end of 1905 at the age of 79. I assume she died in Cottonwood County and is probably interred in Cottonwood County.

The Children of Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter:

The five known children of Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter are listed below. The first two spent most of their lives in Cottonwood County, Minnesota. The third perhaps died as a child. The fourth lived in Hazel Dell Township and then Boomer Township. The fifth lived in Council Bluffs but died young.

■ **Mette Marie "Marie" Thomsen** (22 Nov 1849 – 1 Mar 1895) married **Jens Laurits Thomsen** (Mar 1848 -) in Gudum Sogn, Aalborg Amt on 16 Dec 1875. Jens Thomsen was born in Hellum Sogn, Hjørring Amt about ten miles northwest of Dronninglund.

After marrying, Jens and Mette Marie remained in Gudum Sogn, where their four children were born. Gudum is south of the Limfjord about 20 miles south of Dronninglund.

Jens and Mette Marie emigrated in 1888 with their four children and settled in southwestern Minnesota in Westbrook Township, Cottonwood County. Their farm was near Mette Marie's brother-in-law and sister, Nels and Ane Margrethe Nelson. In the United States Jens used the surname "Thompson".

After Mette Marie died in 1895, Jens remained on their farm. Between 1900 and 1905 he married Pauline, but remained in Westbrook Township.

- **Ane Margrethe "Margaret" Thomsen** (14 Sep 1854 – 26 Jan 1936) married **Jens Nelson** (16 Mar 1852 – 5 Dec 1878), a native of Maarskov, Herrested Sogn, Odense Amt, Denmark, in Racine, Racine County, Wisconsin on 26 Oct 1878.

Soon after marrying, Jens and Ane Margrethe Nelson moved to Westbrook Township in Cottonwood County, Minnesota, about 80 miles west of Mankato.

Jens and Ane Margrethe Nelson were farmers. They had five children and lived in Cottonwood County for the remainder of their lives.

- **Mads Peter Thomsen** (about 27 May 1860 -). I have no further information.

- **Martine Thomsen** (24 Aug 1862 – 9 Sep 1903) immigrated from Ørsø, Dronninglund Sogn, to Council Bluffs with her uncle and aunt, Christian and Maren Svendsen, in 1879.

Martine Thomsen married **Jens Pedersen** (19 Oct 1853 – 21 May 1915) in Pottawattamie County on 12 Mar 1884. (Descendants of this couple sometimes used the spelling "Pedersen" and sometimes the Americanized "Peterson".)

Jens Pedersen was born in Baadstedhede, Vrensted Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Peder Pedersen and Inger Kjerstine Pedersdatter. Vrensted is about 25 miles northwest of Dronninglund.

Jens Pedersen's older brother **Christen Peterson** (9 May 1849 – 8 Sep 1939) married **Severine Nielsine "Signe" Jensen** (5 May 1856 – 5 Feb 1948), who was born in Skæve Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark to Jens Christian Sorensen Kjarsgaard and Bodil Marie Hansdatter. Skæve Kirke is about ten miles north of Dronninglund.

Christen Peterson was a dealer in meat in Council Bluffs. Christen and Signe Peterson, some of their children, and some of her siblings, were all Boomer Township residents at one time. Around 1900 Christen Pedersen acquired land in Boomer Township, Section 19, which by 1919 he had expanded to a farm of about 250 acres. As of 2011 his descendants may still own some of this farm.

Christen and Signe Peterson's children, Frieda and Walter, married siblings, the children of John Anderson of Boomer Township, Section 20. Christian and Signe's son, Mark, married Mary Bertelsen, the daughter of Jens and Anna Bertelsen of Boomer Township, Section 17.

J. D. and Frieda Anderson's grandson is still living in Boomer Township, Section 32, as of 2011.

For more about the relatives of Severine Nielsine "Signe" (Jensen) Peterson, see the family history *Book of Remembrance for the Jensens and McCarthys and*

Allied Families by Roger J. Jensen, available at the Pottawattamie County Genealogy Society.

In 1885 Jens Pedersen, his wife, Martine, and Martine's younger sister, Christine, were living on a farm in southwestern Hazel Dell Township, in Section 29.

Around 1894 the Jens Pedersen family moved to a farm in northwestern Boomer Township, in Section 5. As of 2009 a portion of this farm was still owned by a descendant.

The Jens Pedersen Farm:

In 1885 Joseph Deur, an early settler in Boomer Township who had arrived around 1859, owned what later became the Jens Pedersen farm, in Boomer Township, Section 5.

Around 1894 Jens Pedersen bought the bulk of the Joseph Deur farm, consisting of around 353 acres. By 1913 he had sold the southwest portion of his farm, consisting of 80 acres, to my great-uncle, N. C. A. Johnson.

By 1919, after Jens Pedersen's death, the Jens Pedersen farm had been divided into three portions, owned respectively by his children Harry J. Peterson, Nora (Pedersen) Bertelsen and her husband, Nels C. Bertelsen, and Elmer Peterson.

By 1935 William Wohlers owned Harry J. Peterson's farm.

By 1967 Donald Ward, married to a granddaughter of Jens Pedersen, owned the previous Elmer Peterson farm.

By 1984 Donald Ward also owned the previous Nels C. and Nora Bertelsen farm. In 2009, the Donald Ward trust still owns 142 acres of the old Jens Pedersen farm.

The Children of Jens Pedersen and Martine Thomsen:

The nine children of Jens Pedersen and Martine Thomsen are listed below. Their sons Harry and Elmer generally used the spelling "Peterson".

Two of their sons, Peter and Elmer, married sisters, Ethel and Mabel Thomas, the daughters of Joseph Thomas and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Peterson of Boomer Township. Joseph and Lizzie Thomas lived on the old Drake place in Boomer Township, Section 31, just north of the farm of Lizzie's parents, Peter and Rachel Peterson. You can read about the Thomas / Peter Peterson history in *Two Families From Boomer Township*, available at the Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society.

- **Peter William Pedersen** (19 Feb 1885 – 12 Dec 1918) married **Dorothy "Dora" Thompson** (24 Feb 1892 – 19 Nov 1961) in Pottawattamie County on 10 Apr 1913. Dora Thompson was the daughter of Chris Thompson, a widower, who lived in Boomer Township, Section 8.

Peter Pedersen died young and Dora remarried Otto Christensen.

Peter and Dora Pedersen had one child, Helen, and Dora and Otto Christensen had one child, Kenneth.

- **Charles "Charley" Pedersen** (about Mar 1887 -) moved to California after 1910 and lost touch with the family.

- **Harry James Peterson** (17 Apr 1889 – 26 Oct 1948) married **Ethel Emma Thomas** (16 Jan 1892 – 15 Nov 1918) in Pottawattamie County on 19 Dec 1913

Harry and Ethel Peterson had two sons, Earl and Glen, before Ethel's early death during the 1918 influenza epidemic.

After Ethel died, Harry Peterson took their children and moved to Denver. Here he met and married **Courtney Caple** (15 Nov 1902 – Aug 1985), a native of Washington state. Harry and Courtney had two sons, Duane and Courtland. Harry later became a rancher in Snow, Oklahoma. Harry died in east Texas.

- **Elinor Christine "Nora" Pedersen** (27 May 1891 – about 17 Jul 1970) married **Nels Christian Bertelsen** (17 Feb 1887 – about 15 Oct 1930) at a friend's home in Council Bluffs on 22 Feb 1911.

Nels Bertelsen was born in Varde, Ribe Amt, Denmark to Jens Bertelsen and Anne Katrine Tofte. Varde is about 10 miles north of Esbjerg in southwestern Denmark. The Jens Bertelsen family emigrated in 1890 and settled in Boomer Township, Section 18.

Nels and Nora Bertelsen owned and farmed a portion of the Jens Pedersen home place in Boomer Township, Section 5. The Nels and Nora Bertelsen portion was 80 acres along the county line in the north part of Section 5.

The three children of Nels and Nora Bertelsen, one of whom died as a baby, are listed below.

- **Esther Eleanor Bertelsen** (6 Oct 1912 – 16 Jan 2009) married **John Frederick "Jack" Bolliger** (18 Feb 1914 – 11 Mar 2010) in Missouri Valley on 24 Jun 1943. Jack Bolliger was the son of Fred Bolliger and Agnes Tamisiea who farmed in the Beebeetown area east of Missouri Valley.

Jack and Esther Bolliger lived in the Beebeetown area and moved to Missouri Valley at an unknown date.

- **Edna Catherine Bertelsen** (2 Jun 1917 – 1918) died during the influenza epidemic of 1918.
- **Ethel Vivian Bertelsen** (7 Jun 1920 -) married **Donald Richard Ward** (15 May 1915 – 9 Feb 2004) in Hiawatha, Kansas on 27 Jan 1945. Donald Ward was the son of Willard Richard Ward and Nellie Pearl Stevenson of Boomer Township, Section 23.

Ethel (Bertelsen) Ward was a schoolteacher. She was my teacher at Boomer #8, a one-room rural school, in 1946-1947.

Donald and Ethel Ward took over the farm of Ethel's parents in Boomer Township, Section 5. Sometime between 1950 and 1967 Don Ward also bought the farm of Ethel's uncle, Elmer Peterson, just to the east. A portion of the Don and Ethel Ward farm may have been over the county line in Harrison County.

In 1959, the United States Air Force constructed an Atlas D intercontinental missile site, with three missile pads just to the north of the Don and Ethel Ward farmstead. The site was deactivated around 1964. (RAC: I believe the site may have been in Section 32 of Lagrange Township, Harrison County which is just north of Section 5 of Boomer Township.)

Donald and Ethel Ward moved to Missouri Valley at an unknown date.

- **Elmer Peterson** (5 Sep 1893 – 15 Jan 1957) served in World War I. Elmer married **Mabel Claire Thomas** (7 Apr 1893 – 20 or 21 or 27 Feb 1948) on 10 Jun 1918 at Port Townsend, Washington.

Around 1920 Elmer Peterson bought 80 acres of the Jens Pedersen home place containing the farmstead in Boomer Township, Section 5. After Mabel died in 1948, Elmer continued to farm until 1951 when he retired. The Elmer Peterson farm was sold to his niece's husband, Donald Ward.

Elmer and Mabel Peterson had five children, Dale J., Dorothy, Donald, Jack and Mary Ann.

- **Minnie Catherine Pedersen** (4 Dec 1895 – 28 May 1937) never married. She was an attorney, living in Los Angeles in 1929 and in New York City in 1930.
- **Agnes Martine Pedersen** (1 Mar 1898 – 27 Feb 1935) moved to Denver, where she married **Donald W. Leverton** (2 May 1896 – Aug 1954), a native of Indiana. Donald and Agnes Leverton probably did not have children.
- **Esther Stella Pedersen** (28 Nov 1900 – 16 Jun 1904) died as a toddler from scarlet fever.
- **Lillian Ellen Pedersen** (4 Mar 1903 – 2 Jan 1983) was a baby when her mother died. Cousins of her mother who lived nearby, Mary and Martinus Skaksen, cared for her.

Lillian Pedersen married **Glenn John Muller** (6 Sep 1902 – 5 Jul 1968) on 26 Nov 1924. Glenn Muller had lived in Missouri Valley, Iowa as a teenager.

Glenn and Lillian Muller lived in Omaha, where he was a dentist. Glenn and Lillian Muller had two daughters, Suzanne and Judith.

Jens and Martine Pedersen and all their children except for Charles and Lillian are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Christine "Stine" Thomsen** (25 Dec 1872 – 18 May 1898), the youngest known child of Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter, emigrated with her parents in 1884.

In 1885 Christine Thomsen, age 12, was living with her brother-in-law and sister, Jens and Martine Pedersen, in Hazel Dell Township, Section 29.

Christine married **Peter C. Madsen** (27 Nov 1871 – 29 Jan 1938) in Pottawattamie County on 23 May 1895. Peter Madsen was born in Denmark to Jens C. Madsen and Anna M. Benson, a native of Sweden.

In the 1895 Iowa census, Peter and Christine Madsen and her widowed mother, Trena Jespersen, age 68, were living in Council Bluffs.

The two children of Peter and Christine Madsen are listed below:

- James C. Madsen (2 Mar 1896 – 10 Aug 1897) died as a toddler.
- Jennie M. Madsen (Mar 1898 – 1988) was raised by her grandparents Madsen, and remained in Council Bluffs until 1944. Jennie Madsen married Elmer T. Hansen of Westbrook Township, Cottonwood County, Minnesota in Council Bluffs on 25 Aug 1944, and then moved to Minnesota.

Peter and Christine Madsen and their son, James, are interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

Thomas Christian Jespersen is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, as is his daughter, Martine (Thomsen) Pedersen. His wife and two of their children died in Cottonwood County, Minnesota, so may be interred there. Their youngest daughter, Christine (Thomsen) Madsen, is interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

End of the Thomas Christian Jespersen and Cathrine Madsdatter Sketch

(6) – Biographical Sketch - Christian Pedersen/Peterson and Ane Margrete Christensen

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Christian and Ane Margrete Peterson were parents of Mrs. George Darrington of Boomer Township, Section 21. Ane Margrete was the cousin of Karen M. (Jensen) Bondo.

For more about the older relatives of Ane Margrete Christensen, see my report *Kirsten Pedersen's Relatives*.

The following lists the older known descendants of Christian Peterson and Ane Margrete Christensen.

Christian Peterson (c. 1829 - 1911) & Ane Margrete Christensen (1826 - 1915)
| Maren "Mary" Peterson (1852 -) & Elisha W. McGruder (~1852 -)
| Peter Peterson (~1853 - <1867)
| Andrew Christian Peterson* (~1857 - 1925) & Letha unknown (~1862 -)
| | Wilford Peterson (1884 -)
| Andrew Christian Peterson* (~1857 - 1925) & Martha unknown (1866 -)
| Anna Katherine "Kate" Peterson (1862 - 1950) & George S. Ladson (1851 - 1934)
| | Margie E. Ladson (1888 -)
| | Vernie I. Ladson (1890 - 1965) & Arthur Thomas (1883 - 1957)
| | Serenus Thomas Ladson (1892 - 1968) & Margaret Elizabeth Christensen (1898 - 1989)
| | Georgia Anne Ladson (1899 - 1996) & Joseph Wilbur Nelson (1885 - 1958)
| Christina Peterson (1864 - 1921) & George Henry Darrington (1869 - 1956)
| | Roy Serenus Darrington (1894 - 1971) & Ruby Elisa Skelton (1896 - 1944)
| | Elmer William Darrington (1896 - 1976) & Gertrude May Thomas (1896 - 1965)
| | Clarence Christian Darrington (1898 - 1982) & Mable Geneva Bardsley (1897 - 1997)
| | George Everett "Everett" Darrington (1900 - 1989) & Frances Marie Bardsley (1902 - 1992)
| | Arnold Henry Darrington (1903 - 1981) & Esther Marie Catherine Reese (1901 - 1999)
| | Mable Irene Darrington (1905 - 2004)
| | Eva Christina Darrington (1907 - 2000) & Wayne Brewster Rule (1912 - 1966)
| Peter Herbert Peterson (1865 - 1943) & Alice Margaret Jennewein (1869 - 1937)
| | Leland Vern Peterson (1892 - 1970)
| | Leslie Raymond Peterson (1895 - 1924)
| | Floyd Claydean Peterson (1897 - 1970) & Louise Drechsler (1894 - 1971)
| | Herrold Otto Peterson (1899 -)
| | Van Fredrick Peterson (1903 - 1978)
| | Mina Margaret Peterson (1910 - 1954)
| | Lela Mae Peterson (1916 - 1969)
| W. Serenus "Serenus" Peterson (1869 - 1933) & Nellie Ann Divelbess (1875 - 1943)
| | Ruth Margaret Peterson (~1908 -)
| | Frances Mable Peterson (~1909 -)
| | Mildred Alice Peterson (1911 - 2011) & Mel C. Paulson (1908 - 1989)
| | Mary Eleanor Peterson (~1914 -)
| | Arnold Serenus Peterson (1917 - 1935)
| | Harriet Maude Peterson (1919 - 2008) & Mervin Winslow (1917 - 1984)

In Denmark:

Christian Pedersen (1829 - 1831 – 24 Sep 1911) was born in Denmark, probably near Dronninglund Sogn and possibly in Ulsted Sogn on 13 Nov 1831 to Peder Christensen and Maren Christensdatter.

Ane Margrete Christensen (29 May 1826 – 28 Dec 1915) was born in Ørsø, Dronninglund Sogn, Hjørring Amt to Christen Andersen and Ane Katrine Pedersdatter. Christian Pedersen and Ane Margrete Christensen married in Dronninglund Sogn on 18 Apr 1852.

Emigration:

Christian Pedersen and Ane Margrete Christensen emigrated in 1855 with their first two children, with Ane Margrete's parents, and with Ane Margrete's four youngest siblings. They were part of a party of several hundred Scandinavian Mormon immigrants.

The first part of their voyage, on the *Cimbria* from Frederikshavn on the eastern coast of Jutland to Hull on the eastern coast of England, was made under trying circumstances. The emigrants first left Frederikshavn on November 26 but due to a series of storms did not arrive in Hull until December 24th.

The emigrants traveled from Hull to Liverpool by train and then embarked on the *James Nesmith*, leaving Liverpool on January 7, 1855, and arrived at New Orleans on February 23. Thirteen deaths occurred on the otherwise uneventful voyage from Liverpool to New Orleans.

From New Orleans, the immigrants took the large steamboat *Oceanan* to St. Louis, leaving New Orleans on February 24 and arriving in St. Louis on March 7. Seven immigrants died on the Mississippi.

In St. Louis, the immigrants split. One party traveled by steamboat up the Missouri River to Weston, Missouri, about 25 miles northwest of Kansas City, with the intent of working until they had enough funds for passage to Utah. Another party, presumably intending to go to Utah in 1855, traveled to Leavenworth, Kansas then overland further north to Atchison, Kansas and then to Mormon Grove, five miles west of Atchison. Mormon Grove was the jumping off place for Mormons leaving for Utah in 1855.

It appears that Christian Pedersen and his wife were in the group which traveled to Weston, Missouri, while Christian's in-laws and his wife's siblings traveled to Mormon Grove.

Illness struck the immigrants while in Kansas. Late in 1855 Ane Margrete's parents and her younger brother, Niels Christian, died of cholera at Mormon Grove. Ane Margrete's remaining siblings are thought to have gone to Utah. Her sister, Christine, crossed to Utah with the ill-fated Willie Handcart Company late in 1856 and married Anders Jorgen Mortensen, a fellow survivor of the Willie Company, in Utah in 1857.

In the United States:

Christian and Ane Margrete and their children lived in Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska before buying land in Boomer Township in 1867 and moving to Boomer in 1868, where they remained for the remainder of their lives. It appears that Christian used the surname "Peterson" throughout his tenure in Boomer. The Christian Peterson farm consisted of about 220 acres in Sections 21 and 16. The Boomer Township hall, built in the early 1870s as a schoolhouse, stood on the Christian Petersen farm.

The Christian Peterson Farm:

Christian Peterson bought 80 acres in Boomer Township, Sections 16 and 21, from Joseph Hall on 25 Apr 1867. (Joseph Hall, an early settler in Boomer Township, moved to Newton County, Missouri before 1870.) Christian Peterson bought an additional 120 acres, all in Section 16, from Mr. Burroughs on 28 Apr 1869. By 1885 Christian Peterson owned another parcel, around the township hall.

After Christian Peterson retired from farming, the Christian Peterson farm was taken over by his son-in-law, George Darrington and later by George Darrington's son, Arnold Darrington.

In 1944 Arnold Darrington moved to the Underwood, Iowa area and the farm was sold to Floyd Ochampaugh. As of 2010 Floyd's widow, Clara (Hunt) Ochampaugh, still lives on the farm.

The Christian Peterson Children:

Christian and Ane Margrete had eight children, two of whom died in childhood. The seven known children are listed below.

- **Maren "Mary" Peterson** (Jun 1852 – after Jan 1920) was born in Dronninglund Sogn and married **Elisha W. McGruder** about 1883.

Elisha and Mary first lived in Boomer Township near her parents, but by 1900 were farming in Mesa County, Colorado. Between 1900 and 1910, Elisha died and Mary moved to Seattle, Washington, where she was living with her brother, Andrew, in 1910. In 1920 Mary was running a boarding house in Seattle.

Elisha and Mary had no children, but adopted a child, Dora O'Neil, a native of Kansas.

- **Peter Peterson** (about 1853 – before 1867) was born in Dronninglund Sogn, emigrated with his parents, and apparently died before adulthood.

- **Andrew Christian Peterson** (about 1857 – 28 Sep 1925) was born in Missouri as Christian Andrew Peterson. In the 1880 Boomer Township census he is enumerated with his parents as a 23-year-old farmer born in Missouri.

In 1885 Christian is married to **Letha** (about 1862 -) and was a farmer living on the Missouri River bottoms near Sloan in Woodbury County south of Sioux City, Iowa.

In 1900 Christian, now calling himself Andrew C., was married to **Martha** (about 1866 -) and was a station agent for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad in Grand Junction, Colorado. In 1910 Andrew was a grocer in Seattle and in 1920 he was a homebuilder in Seattle.

Andrew C. Peterson died in Seattle, Washington.

Andrew Christian Peterson had one known child, a son, Wilford (Jul 1884 -). Wilford Peterson was living with his father in 1885, with his Peterson grandparents in 1895, and again with his father in 1900.

- **Anna Katherine Peterson** (13 Mar 1862 – 22 Jan 1950) was born in Atchison, Kansas and married **George S. Ladson** (26 Apr 1851 – 28 Feb 1934), an Indiana native, in Pottawattamie County on 10 May 1884.

George and Anna K. Ladson farmed in St John Township, Harrison County near Missouri Valley, Iowa for most of their married life.

The four children of George and Anna K. Ladson are listed below.

- **Margie E. Ladson** (about Apr 1888)
- **Vernie I. Ladson** (9 Mar 1890 – 9 Nov 1965) married **Arthur Thomas** (11 Oct 1883 – 25 May 1957). Arthur Thomas was the son of William Thomas and Olive Tiffey of rural Missouri Valley.
Arthur and Vernie Thomas farmed in Rockford Township.
- **Serenus Thomas Ladson** (3 Dec 1892 – 11 Jun 1968) married **Margaret Elizabeth Christensen** (10 Sep 1898 – 6 May 1989).
- **Georgianna Ladson** (Oct 1899)

George and Anna K. Ladson and their daughter, Vernie, are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Christina Peterson** (18 Sep 1864 – 14 Jun 1921) was born in Kansas and married **George Henry Darrington** (10 Apr 1869 – 11 Aug 1956) in Pottawattamie County on 23 Mar 1893. George Darrington was the son of William Darrington and Mary Ann Sabey of Boomer Township, Section 22.

Shortly after marrying, George Darrington took over the Christian Peterson farm, which then remained in the family until 1944. Since then it has been owned and occupied by the Floyd Ochampaugh family.

The seven children of George and Christina Darrington are listed below. Two of the children, Clarence and George, married siblings, the daughters of Charles Bardsley and Dora Witz of Neola Township, Section 29.

- **Roy Serenus Darrington** (26 Feb 1894 – 8 Apr 1971) married **Ruby Elisa Skelton** (20 Jan 1896 – 26 Feb 1944) in Pottawattamie County on 3 Sep 1919. Ruby Skelton was the daughter of Louis Smith Skelton and Ella Holler who farmed in Rockford Township.

Roy and Ruby were living with his parents in 1920 but by 1925 were living in Ramsey County, North Dakota, where he died.

Roy and Ruby Darrington had several children.

- **Elmer William Darrington** (10 Feb 1896 – 26 May 1976) married **Gertrude May Thomas** (21 Feb 1896 – 23 Sep 1965) in Pottawattamie County on 9 Mar 1918. Gertrude Thomas was the daughter of Lon Thomas and Gertrude Brokman of the Underwood area.

Elmer and Gertrude Darrington moved to Colorado soon after marrying.

Elmer and Gertrude Darrington had at least one child.

- **Clarence Christian Darrington** (11 Sep 1898 – 25 Sep 1982) married **Mable Geneva Bardsley** (9 Apr 1897 – 23 Nov 1997) in Pottawattamie County on 28 Jun 1922.

Clarence and Mable Darrington were living in Beatrice, Nebraska in 1930. Clarence died in Athens, Ohio.

Clarence and Mable Darrington had at least two children.

- **George Everett "Everett" Darrington** (8 Sep 1900 – 25 Oct 1989) married **Frances Marie Bardsley** (8 Feb 1902 – 1 Jul 1992) in Pottawattamie County on 14 Jun 1923.

Everett and Frances Darrington were living in Crete, Nebraska in 1930 and died in Grand Junction, Colorado. They had at least two children.

- **Arnold Henry Darrington** (13 Dec 1903 – 26 May 1981) married **Esther Marie Catherine Reese** (17 Aug 1901 – 19 Nov 1999) in Pottawattamie County on 24 Aug 1927. Esther Reese was the daughter of Henry Reese and Anna Margaret Louise Wohlers of Boomer Township, Section 27.

Arnold Darrington farmed the Christian Peterson home place until 1944 when he moved to the William Whitney farm south of Underwood, Iowa.

Arnold and Esther Darrington had four children, two of whom died at birth.

- **Mable Irene Darrington** (21 Dec 1905 – 11 May 2004) never married.

Mable Darrington trained as a nurse and spent much of her working life as an administration in the nursing college at the University of Cincinnati. She lived in the Council Bluffs area in her later years.

- **Eva Christina Darrington** (17 Nov 1907 – 14 Jul 2000) married **Wayne Brewster Rule** (27 Dec 1912 – Aug 1966).

After marrying, Wayne and Eva Rule lived in the eastern part of the United States. Eva lived with her sister, Mable, in the Council Bluffs area in her later years.

George and Christina Darrington and their children George Everett, Arnold and Mable are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Elmer Darrington is interred in Fairview Cemetery in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

■ **Peter Herbert Peterson** (22 Jul 1865 – 23 Apr 1943) was born in Fremont, Nebraska. Peter was enumerated as an 18-year-old (sic) living with his parents in the 1885 Iowa census.

Peter Peterson married **Alice Margaret Jennewein** (18 Mar 1869 – 24 Aug 1937) on 15 Sep 1891. Alice Jennewein was born in Davis County, Illinois to Johan Jennewein and Margaret Catherine Monaghan.

Peter and Alice Peterson farmed near Sloan in Woodbury County, Iowa to after 1900. By 1903 they had moved to Springfield, Oregon.

By 1910 the Peter Peterson family had moved to Lacombe near Red Deer in Alberta, Canada.

Before 1930 the Peter Peterson family returned to Springfield, Oregon, where he died.

The seven children of Peter and Alice Peterson are listed below. I have marriage information on only one.

- **Leland Vern Peterson** (12 Dec 1892 – 16 May 1970)
- **Leslie Raymond Peterson** (22 Dec 1895 – 21 Jul 1924)
- **Floyd Claydean Peterson** (12 Jul 1897 – 7 Feb 1970) married **Louise Drechsler** (19 Apr 1894 – 7 May 1971) and lived in Detroit, Michigan.
- **Herold Otto Peterson** (16 Jul 1899 -)
- **Van Fredrick Peterson** (18 Sep 1903 – 31 Dec 1978)
- **Mina Margaret Peterson** (10 Nov 1910 – 10 Jul 1954)
- **Lela Mae Peterson** (19 Jun 1916 – 27 Apr 1969)

■ **W. Serenus "Serenus" Peterson** (14 Jun 1869 – 17 May 1933) was a single music teacher living with his parents in 1900. In the 1900-1902 Boomer Township plat, W. S. Petersen appears as the owner of a portion of his parents' farm.

Around 1906 Serenus married **Nellie Ann Divelbess** (17 May 1875 – 24 Dec 1943). Nellie Divelbess was born in the Harris Grove area in northern Lagrange Township, Harrison County to Benjamin Arnold Divelbess and Fannie Longman.

After marrying, Serenus Peterson lived in Missouri Valley, Iowa. In 1906, he purchased a drugstore in Missouri Valley with LeRoy Doty. He continued in the drugstore business through 1920. In 1930, he was a clerk in the Harrison County engineer's office.

The six children of Serenus and Nellie Peterson are listed below.

- **Ruth Peterson** (about 1908 -).
- **Frances Peterson** (about 1909 -).

- **Mildred Alice Peterson** (12 Apr 1911 – 16 Oct 2011) lived to be 100 years old. Mildred married **Mel C. Paulson** (24 Jul 1908 – 9 Jan 1989) and lived in the Mason City, Iowa area.

Mel and Mildred Paulson had two children.

- **Eleanor Peterson** (about 1914 -).
- **Arnold Serenus Peterson** (8 Feb 1917 – 17 Jul 1935).
- **Harriet Maude Peterson** (10 Dec 1919 – 22 Apr 2008) married **Mervin Winslow** (13 Feb 1917 – Jun 1984) in Omaha, Nebraska on 10 Nov 1945.

Mervin and Harriet Winslow lived in the Council Bluffs/Omaha area. They had no children.

Serenus and Nellie Peterson and their son, Arnold Serenus, are interred in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Missouri Valley, Iowa.

Christian and Anna Margaret Peterson are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, as are their daughters, Anna Katherine and Christina. Serenus Peterson is interred in Rose Hill Cemetery in Missouri Valley.

End of the Christian Peterson (n. Pedersen) and Ane Margrete Christensen Sketch

(7) – Biographical Sketch - Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter

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Mr. and Mrs. Christian Skaksen were grandparents of Anna Matilda Nielsen, Mrs. John Schroder, of Boomer Township, Section 30.

The following lists some older descendants of Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter.

Christen Skaksen (~1804 - >1880) & Ane Margrethe Christensdatter (<1809 - >1880)
| Johanne Marie Christensen (~1833 -)
| Peder Christian Christensen (~1835 -)
| Maren "Mary" Christensen (~1841 - 1931) & Lars Nielsen (1839 - 1913)
| | Anna Matilda Nielsen (1862 - 1953) & John Schroder (1855 - 1916)
| | | John Schroder (1880 - 1969) & Abalone Johanne Petrea "Lona" Petersen (1882 - 1963)
| | | Anna Magdalena Schroder (1883 - 1969) & Hans Carl "Carl" Petersen (1878 - 1954)
| | | William Ernest Schroder (1886 - 1973) & Margaret Amelia Hansen (1881 - 1967)
| | | Rose Marie Schroder (1889 - 1976) & John Thomas Page (1887 - 1974)
| | | Henry August Schroder (1892 - 1954) & Jessie Mae Shadden (1897 - 1958)
| | | Julius Peter Schroder (1895 - 1948) & Ethel Irene Price (1897 - 1982)
| | | Charles Chester Schroder (1898 - 1971) & Grace Margaret Christiansen (1905 - 1991)
| | Christine Nielsen (~1864 -)
| | Nielsine Nielsen (~1864 -)
| | Christen Skak "Skak" Nielsen (1865 - >1953) & Marie Larsen (~1866 -)
| | | Laura Christina Nielsen (1893 - 1975) & Peter Petersen (1885 - 1963)
| | | Martine "Stena" Nielsen (~1868 - >1953) & George Fred Wagner (~1861 - ~1944)
| | | Louise M. Wagner (1900 - 1994)
| | Maren Nielsen (~1869 -)
| | Maren Johanne "Annie" Nielsen (~1870 - 1941) & Andrew Christoffersen (~1859 - >1940)
| | | Edna Christoffersen (~1892 -)
| | | Hazel Christoffersen (~1896 -)
| | | Irene Christoffersen (~1902 -)
| | | Louise Christoffersen (~1909 -)
| | Louise Nielsen (~1874 - >1953) & Charles L. Chester (~1854 - ~1927)
| | | Helen C. Chester (1902 - 1986) & Victor Elias (1901 - 1994)
| | Charles Lawrence "Charlie" Nielsen (1883 - >1953) & Mabel M. unknown (~1885 -)
| Christiane Christensen (~1845 -) & Chr. Jensen (~1847 -)
| | Christian Jensen (1868 -)
| | unnamed Jensen (~1871 -)

In Denmark:

Christen Skaksen (about 1804 – after 1880) was the first of eight known children of Skak Nielsen and Johanne Marie Christensdatter.

Ane Margrethe Christensdatter (about 1809 – after 1880) was born in Dronninglund Sogn to Christen Christensen and Maren Pedersdatter.

Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter married in Denmark, with date and location currently unknown.

The Christen Skaksen Children:

The four known children of Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter, all born in Dronninglund Sogn, are listed below.

■ **Johanne Marie Christensen** (about 1833 -) may have remained in Denmark.

■ **Peder Christian Christensen** (about 1835 -) may have remained in Denmark.

■ **Maren "Mary" Christensen** (about 18 Jan 1841 – 9 May 1913) married Lars Nielsen (1839 – 15 Sep 1913) in Dronninglund Sogn on 3 Jan 1862.

Lars Nielsen was born in Albæk Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark. Lars appears to have been an only child of his parents, Niels Jespersen and Maren Sorensen, who were possibly adoptive parents. Lars Nielsen was the nephew of *Thomas Christian Jespersen*, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this report.

In 1880 Lars Nielsen and Maren Christensen were living in Hellevad Sogn, Hjørring Amt.

Lars Nielsen and Maren Christensen had thirteen children but only six were living as of 1910. I list these six children later in this sketch. I believe these are the only six who emigrated or who had connections with Boomer Township.

■ **Christiane Christensen** (about 12 May 1845 -) married Chr. Jensen (about 1847 -).

Emigration:

The Christen Skaksen party registered to emigrate on 10 May 1872. They listed their residence as Dronninglund, their mode of travel as indirect, and their destination as Council Bluffs. Registrants were Chr. Skaksen 68, Ane M. Skaksen 63, Chr. Jensen 25 (their son-in-law), Christiane Jensen 27 (their daughter), and grandchildren Christian Jensen 3 $\frac{3}{4}$, unnamed Jensen $\frac{1}{2}$, and Mathilde Jensen 9 (sic, Christen Skaksen's granddaughter, Anna Matilda Nielsen, age 10).

I have no further information about the Chr. And Christiane Jensen family.

In the United States:

Shortly after arriving in the Council Bluffs area in 1872, Christen Skaksen bought a farm in Boomer Township.

In 1880 and perhaps 1885 Christen and Ane Skaksen were living on this farm. I have no further information about them.

The Christian Bondo/Christen Skaksen/John Schroder/Clyde Peters Farm:

In January 1868, Christian Bondo and John Sorenson, recent immigrants from Denmark, jointly purchased 123 acres of wooded land in Boomer Township, Sections 29 and 30 from William Selvy for \$1,600. (John Sorenson, born as Jens Sorensen in Denmark, was later known as John Sanderson.)

In May 1868, Christian Bondo married Karen Jensen, who had immigrated the previous year with the Gregers Acton family. The Acton farm was located just east of the Bondo/Sanderson land, and from about 1930 to 2010 was owned by Julius Schroder and later his son, Dale.

In May 1870, Christian Bondo and John Sanderson split the property, with Christian Bondo assuming ownership of the west portion of 86 acres.

In 1872, Christian Bondo, moving to prairie land in Hazel Dell Township, Section 11, sold his farm to Christen Skaksen for \$1000.

In 1882 Christen and Margrethe Skaksen sold their farm to John Schroder, who had married Christen Skaksen's granddaughter, Anna Matilda Nielsen, for \$1000.

After John Schroder died in 1916, ownership remained with the family until Anna (Nielsen) Schroder's death in 1953. Anna lived on the farm with her youngest son, Charles, and his family.

After Anna (Nielsen) Schroder's death in 1953, the farm was sold to Clyde Peters, who had grown up on the Lewis Peters farm just to the north. (Clyde came from a family of eight children, all boys, almost enough for a baseball team.)

After the Clyde Peters family moved to Council Bluffs in 1957, the farmhouse was rented out. It burned on Christmas day around 1970.

Between 1986 and 1997 Clyde Peter's widow, Agnes, sold the portion of the farm west of the road to Darrell Deterding. Darrell built a log cabin on the property.

As of 2010 a young couple, Jeremy and Stacie Martinsen, were living in the log cabin.

Selected Children of Lars Nielsen and Maren Christensen:

■ **Anna Matilda Nielsen** (22 Jan 1862 – 9 Jul 1953) emigrated in 1872 at age 10 with her grandparents, Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter.

Shortly after arriving in Pottawattamie County, Christen Skaksen bought a farm in Boomer Township. Christen and Ane Skaksen and their granddaughter, Anna, settled on this farm.

Anna married **John Schroder** (2 Feb 1855 – 16 Jun 1916) in Pottawattamie County on 18 Dec 1878.

John Schroder was born in Rendsburg, Schleswig-Holstein and emigrated as a teenager around 1870.

John and Anna Schroder lived on her grandparents' farm in Boomer Township. After John's death, Anna remained on the farm until her death. Anna lived on the same farm for 81 years.

The seven children of John and Anna Schroder are listed below. Descendants are still living in Boomer Township as of 2010.

John and Annie Schroder's two oldest children, John and Anna Magdalena, married siblings. Their spouses were the children of Laurs Christian Pedersen and Kjersten Jensen and were siblings of Peter Thybo Petersen of southwestern Boomer Township. For more information about the Peter Thybo Petersen family, see the Helen (Larson) Peterson sketch in the Larsen/Larson chapter of my family history, *Ancestors and Older Relatives of Robert Christiansen – Christiansen, Rasmussen, Larsen/Larson, Hansen*. (Helen Larson married Victor Petersen, the son of Peter Thybo Petersen.)

- **John Schroder Jr.** (17 Jan 1880 – 17 May 1969) married **Abalone Johanne Petrea "Lona" Petersen** (7 Oct 1882 – 7 Oct 1963) in Pottawattamie County on 7 Jan 1903.

John and Lona Schroder lived on a farm a mile northeast of Honey Creek in Rockford Twp. Section 25.

The four children of John and Lona Schroder are listed below. Two of the children, Carl and Vernie, married siblings, the children of Louis John Larsen and Mary C. Nelson of Rockford Township.

- **Carl William Schroder** (16 Oct 1903 – 4 May 1991) married **Pearl Larsen** (31 Dec 1903 – 4 Sep 1977) in Pottawattamie County on 18 Feb 1925.
- **Viola Rose Schroder** (12 May 1905 – 6 Jan 2003) married **James Edward Kermeen** (8 Nov 1904 – 18 Oct 1984) in Pottawattamie County on 3 Mar 1926.
- **Vernie Marie Schroder** (10 Jan 1908 – 14 Dec 1997) married **Frank Larsen** (4 Mar 1905 – 18 Dec 1954) in Pottawattamie County on 22 Feb 1928.

After Frank Larsen's death, Vernie married **Clarence Ryan** (27 Aug 1907- 7 Sep 1983) in Denver, Colorado on 8 Dec 1968. Clarence Ryan was the widower of my mother's first cousin, Florence (Johnson) Ryan.

- **Irene Christiana Schroder** (3 Mar 1912 – 11 Jan 1999) married **Ralph Henry Axtell** (26 Oct 1909 – 12 Oct 1986) in Pottawattamie County on 25 Feb 1931.

John and Lona Schroder and all four of their children are interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

- **Anna Magdalena Schroder** (29 Jun 1883 – 26 Apr 1969) married **Hans Carl "Carl" Petersen** (29 Jul 1878 – 5 Oct 1954) in Pottawattamie County on 4 May 1904.

Carl and Anna Petersen lived on a farm northeast of Honey Creek in Rockford Twp. Section 24.

The five children of Carl and Anna Petersen are listed below.

- **Freda Rose Petersen** (13 Apr 1905) married **William Magnus Price** (2 Nov 1901 – 24 Mar 1984) in Pottawattamie County on 24 Feb 1926.
- **Henry Ernest Petersen** (30 Oct 1908 – 4 Apr 1988) married **Irene Iva Peters** (9 Jun 1909 – 14 Sep 1972) in Pottawattamie County on 26 Feb 1930.
- **Helen MaryEllen Petersen** (19 Sep 1910 – 9 Oct 1985) married **Franklin Rayburn** (17 Mar 1912 – 4 Mar 1963) in Pottawattamie County on 3 Jun 1931.
- **Fred Carl Petersen** (14 May 1913 – 24 Dec 1970) married **Mary Jane Hough** (14 Jun 1920 – 25 Jul 1986) in Pottawattamie County on 4 Aug 1938.
- **Elmer Leroy Petersen** (5 Sep 1919 -) married **Lorene Peters** (12 Mar 1922 -) on 16 Jan 1943.

Carl and Anna Petersen and their children Freda, Henry, Helen and Fred are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **William Ernest Schroder** (6 Apr 1886 – 1 Aug 1973) married **Margaret Amelia Hansen** (29 Jul 1881 – 29 Aug 1967) in Pottawattamie County on 30 Oct 1907. Margaret Hansen was the daughter of Hans Fredrik Hansen and Ane Marie Nielsen and the stepdaughter of Andrew J. Larsen of Hazel Dell Township, Section 34.

William and Margaret Schroder lived in various locations, primarily in western Pottawattamie County.

The six children of William and Margaret Schroder, two of whom died in early childhood, are listed below.

- **Freda M. Schroder** (23 May 1909 – 12 Apr 1911) died as a toddler.
- **Chester William Schroder** (5 Jan 1911 – 2 Aug 1983) married **Alta Leona Wimer** (8 Nov 1911 – 30 Jan 1988) in Pottawattamie County on 1 Jun 1933.
- **Ruby R. Schroder** (9 Jan 1913 – Sep 1989) married **George Leonard Bird** (23 Apr 1916 – Mar 1988) in Pottawattamie County on 9 Jan 1938.
- **Henry E. Schroder** (23 Jan 1915 – 17 Feb 1915) died as an infant.
- **Julius Schroder** (24 Jan 1916 – 25 May 1981) married **Marjorie Berry** (9 May 1922 -) in Pottawattamie County on 9 May 1946.
- **David E. Schroder** (12 Jun 1923 – 30 Nov 2007) married **Dorothy McCrickard** from Modale, Iowa.

William and Margaret Schroder and their children Freda, Chester and Henry are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. Ruby (Schroder) Bird is interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Julius is interred in Rose Hill Cemetery in Missouri Valley.

- **Rose Marie Schroder** (20 May 1889 – 14 Oct 1976) married **John Thomas Page** (22 Jan 1887 – 15 May 1974) in Pottawattamie County on 6 May 1908. John Page was the son of James Henry "Henry" Page and Mary Ellen Mackland of Boomer Township, Section 33.

After marrying, John T. and Rose Page were living in Boomer Township in 1910 and in Rockford Township in 1915. Around 1917 they moved to Tripp County in south central South Dakota. After 1930 they moved to Nampa in western Idaho. They presumably died in the Nampa area.

The seven children of John T. and Rose Page, the oldest of whom, Julius, died as an infant, are listed below. The first four were born in Pottawattamie County and the last three in Tripp County, South Dakota. All six surviving children seem to have remained in the northwest, mostly in the Nampa area.

- **Julius Page** (1 Feb 1909 – 16 Feb 1909)
- **Lloyd H. Page** (3 Aug 1910 – 30 Jan 1994)
- **Velma M. Page** (5 Dec 1913 – 14 Jun 2006)
- **Lewis J. Page** (8 Nov 1916 – 19 Dec 1994)
- **Mary Ellen Page** (22 Aug 1919 -)
- **Glen T. Page** (26 Aug 1922 – 2 Jul 1996)
- **James Albert Page** (15 Jul 1928 – 18 Oct 2009)

Julius Page is interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Henry August Schroder** (11 Sep 1892 – 16 Oct 1954) married **Jessie Mae Shadden** (7 Sep 1897 – 3 Jul 1958) in Logan, Iowa on 27 Mar 1916. Jessie Mae Shadden was the daughter of Arthur Dillard Shadden and Isophene B. Price who lived in and near Council Bluffs.

Henry and Jessie Schroder lived in Hazel Dell Township, in Beadle County, South Dakota, in Boomer Township and in Lewis Township. Before 1946 they settled on a small farm about a mile north of Loveland in northeastern Rockford Township. While living in the Loveland area, Henry worked on the railroad. After Henry Schroder died, Jessie and her youngest child moved to Missouri Valley.

The nine children of Henry and Jessie Schroder are listed below.

- **August Arthur Schroder** (16 Mar 1917 – 1 Jul 1952) married **Doris Golland** (21 Jun 1925 – 7 Nov 2003) in England on 3 Feb 1945. Doris Golland was the daughter of William and Doris Golland.

August Schroder served in England during World War II with the U.S. Army Air Corps. While in England, he met and married Doris, who then came to the United States as a war bride after World War II.

Doris's parents and two of her siblings immigrated to Missouri Valley in 1948.

August Schroder was killed in an accident while working as a commercial fisherman in Alaska.

August and Doris Schroder had two children.

After August's death, Doris married Harry Berry. Harry and Doris Berry had two children.

- **Freddie Ernest Schroder** (26 Dec 1918 – 1 May 1993) married **Arda May Walter** (23 May 1923 -) on 27 Aug 1941. Arda was the daughter of William Walter and Amanda Krieger of Rockford Township.

Freddie Schroder bought and farmed the old William Price Jr. place in Boomer Township, Section 28.

Freddie and Arda Schroder had three children, one of whom died as a teenager.

- **Thelma Mae Schroder** (10 Dec 1920 – 20 Jan 2002) married **Vernon Edwin Larson** (18 Oct 1919 – 13 Jan 2003) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on 26 Jul 1939. Vernon Larson was the son of Andrew A. and Maggie Larson of Hazel Dell Township and the brother of my mother, Leona (Larson) Christiansen.

For more about the Vernon and Thelma Larson family, see the Vernon Larson section of the Vernon Larson sketch in the Larsen/Larson chapter of my family history, *Ancestors and Older Relatives of Robert Christiansen – Christiansen, Rasmussen, Larsen/Larson, and Hansen*.

Vernon and Thelma Larson farmed in Hazel Dell and Boomer Townships.

Vernon and Thelma Larson had four children and eventually divorced.

Thelma (Schroder) Larson married Maynard Henry Jensen (6 Mar 1920 – 29 Jan 1998) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on 14 Jun 1986. Maynard Jensen was the son of Henry Jensen of Hazel Dell Township, Section 9.

For more about the older relatives of Maynard Jensen, see the Jorgen "John" Jensen section of the Mads Jensen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter Family sketch in my report *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*.

- **Maxine June Schroder** (9 May 1923 – 12 Aug 2011) married **William Chester Freeman** (27 Mar 1921 – 27 Apr 2010) on 18 Nov 1944.

William Freeman had served as Cherry County sheriff in Valentine, Nebraska.

William and Maxine Freeman had two children.

- **Everett Dallas Schroder** (10 Feb 1926 – 16 May 1993) married **Beverly Jean Kady** (10 Oct 1928 -) at Crescent, Iowa on 17 Sep 1948. Beverly Kady was the daughter of Arthur Allan Kady and Bessie Gilmore who lived in Boomer Township after World War II.

Everett Schroder was blinded in a hunting accident in 1950. Starting around 1953, he ran the Dew Drop Inn in Loveland, Iowa for many years.

Everett and Beverly Schroder had one child and divorced.

Everett Schroder married **Patricia "Pat" Barger** (13 Mar 1934 -), who was thought to be from North or South Dakota.

Everett and Patricia Schroder had three children.

- **Vern Henry Schroder** (22 Nov 1927 – 9 Nov 1951) never married.

Vern Schroder was killed in a road construction accident.

- **Elmer Chester Schroder** (3 Mar 1932 – 2 Nov 2013) married **Marilyn Kay Madsen** (19 Aug 1936 – 4 Jan 2003) around 1953.

Elmer Schroder lived in the Minden, Iowa area.

Elmer and Marilyn Schroder had four children.

- **Rudolph Richard "Dick" Schroder** (23 Apr 1934 – 11 Dec 2007) married **Rosella Hager** in Florence, Pinal Co., AZ on 10 Mar 1954.

Richard Schroder lived in Arizona.

Richard and Rosella Schroder had two children.

- **Betty Lou Schroder** (2 Nov 1940 -) married **Melvorn Carl Wohlers** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on 27 Mar 1959.

Melvorn and Betty Wohlers divorced and Betty married **Terry Carmichael** (6 Aug 1942 – 1 Jul 1991).

Terry and Betty Carmichael divorced and Betty married **Richard Danker** (18 Jan 1937 -) from Missouri Valley, Iowa.

Melvorn and Betty Schroder had three children.

Henry and Jessie Schroder and their children Freddie, Thelma, Vern and Elmer are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township. August is interred in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Maxine is interred in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Valentine, Nebraska. Everett is interred in Branson Cemetery in Loveland, Iowa.

- **Julius Peter Schroder** (15 Aug 1895 or 1896 – 4 Apr 1948) married **Ethel Irene Price** (24 Aug 1897 – 10 Sep 1982) in Pottawattamie County on 21 Jan 1920. Ethel Price was the daughter of William Price Jr. and Tina Christiansen of Boomer Township, Section 28 and the granddaughter of Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township, Section 4. For more information about the Peter Torgesen Christiansen family, see the *Peter Torgesen Christiansen* sketch herein.

Julius and Ethel Schroder bought the old Acton farm in Boomer Township, Section 20, in 1930.

The one child of Julius and Ethel Schroder is listed below.

- Dale Schroder (17 May 1924 -) married Cecile Marie Kinney (27 Mar 1928 -) on 28 Jun 1946.

Dale and Cecile Schroder lived on the old Julius Schroder farm in Boomer Township, Section 20, where they were still living in 2010.

Dale and Cecile Schroder had three children.

Julius and Ethel Schroder are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township.

- **Charles Chester Schroder** (6 Nov 1898 – 26 Aug 1971) married **Grace Margaret Christiansen** (2 Mar 1905 – 28 Jan 1991) on 17 Apr 1923. Grace Christiansen was the daughter of John H. Christiansen and Jennie McCune of Boomer Township and the granddaughter of Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township. For more information about the Peter Torgesen Christiansen family, see the ***Peter Torgesen Christiansen*** sketch herein

Charles and Grace Schroder lived on the Schroder home place in Boomer Township, Section 30 until around 1954. Charles' widowed mother, Anna (Nielsen) Schroder, lived with them.

After Anna (Nielsen) Schroder died, Charles and Grace lived in the Honey Creek area and then in Crescent. After Charles died, Grace lived in Honey Creek with her son, Donald.

The two children of Charles and Grace Schroder are listed below.

- Donald Lewis Schroder (17 Jul 1924 – 25 Jan 2004) married **Olga Marian Clausen** (7 Apr 1925 – 1 Jan 2015) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on 6 Jun 1945. Olga Clausen was the daughter of Harold Clausen and Carrie Petersen of Hazel Dell Township, Section 9.

Donald Schroder was a prisoner of war in Germany near the end of World War II.

Donald and Olga Schroder lived in Honey Creek, Iowa before retiring to Council Bluffs.

Donald and Olga Schroder had three children, one of whom died as a baby.

- Dean Charles Schroder (1 Jun 1926 – 8 Jul 1945) died while returning from the Pacific Theater in World War II.

Charles and Grace Schroder are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, along with their son, Dean. Donald Schroder is interred in St. Paul's Cemetery.

John and Anna Schroder are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, as are their children Anna (Schroder) Petersen, William, Henry, Julius

and Charles. John Schroder Jr. is interred in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Rose (Schroder) Page is probably interred in the Nampa, Idaho area.

■ **Christen Skak "Skak" Nielsen** (2 Dec 1865 – after Jul 1953) married **Marie Larsen** and remained in Denmark. One child is of interest.

■ **Laura Christina Nielsen** (28 May 1893 – 31 Aug 1975) emigrated around 1914. Laura married **Peter Petersen** (10 Jul or 7 Oct 1885 – 11 Apr 1963) in Pottawattamie County on 22 Aug 1916. Peter Petersen was the son of Niels C. Petersen and Marie Nielsen of Boomer Township, Section 30.

I believe Peter Peterson may have farmed his parents' home place in Boomer Township before moving to a small farm in northern Lake Township several miles north of Council Bluffs around 1946.

Peter and Laura Petersen had two children, one of whom, Helen Louise, married Vernon Driver and lived in Boomer Township, Section 9.

■ **Martine Nielsen** (about 5 Jan 1868 – after Jul 1953) emigrated in 1882 with her mother, married George F. Wagner, and lived in Omaha.

■ **Maren Johanne "Annie" Nielsen** (about 1870 -) emigrated in 1882 with her mother, married Andrew Christoffersen, and lived in Council Bluffs.

■ **Louise Nielsen** (about 1874 – after Jul 1953) emigrated in 1882 with her mother, married Charles L. Chester, and lived in Omaha.

■ **Charles Lawrence "Charlie" Nelsen** (10 Oct 1883 or Aug 1884 -) was born in Iowa and lived in Superior, Nebraska.

I don't know where Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter are interred. Their daughter, Maren (Christensen) Nielsen is interred in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

End of the Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter Sketch

(8) – Biographical Sketch - Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie "Mary" Madsdatter

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Jens Christian Skaksen (about 1818 – 1885), the seventh of eight known children of Skak Nielsen and Johanne Marie Christensdatter, was born in Dronninglund Sogn.

Marte Marie Madsdatter (29 Oct 1820 – 1903), the third of six known children of Mads Andersen and Anne Margrethe Hansdatter, was born in Hønborgbro, Dronninglund Sogn.

Their oldest child was the first wife of Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township, Section 4.

The six known children of Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter:

Jens Christian Skaksen (bef 16 Aug 1818 - 1885) & Marte Marie "Marie" Madsdatter (29 Oct 1820 - 1903)

m. 9 Apr 1847, Dronninglund Sogn, Hjørring Amt, Denmark

Martha Marie Skaksen (19 Jul 1849 - 1872) & Peter Torgesen Christiansen (8 May 1849 - 25 Dec 1922)

m. abt 19 Jun 1871, Pott. Co., IA

infant Skaksen (1852 - 1852)

Karen Marie Skaksen (22 Sep 1853 - 11 Jun 1909) & Christian "Chris" Johnson (8 Aug 1850 - 15 Sep 1919)

m. abt 1873

Mette Margrethe "Gertrude" Skaksen (13 Feb 1857 - 14 Jul 1928)

Ane Johanne "Hannah" Skaksen (7/16 Mar 1860 - 7 Feb 1907) & John Olson (10 Jul 1856 - 28 Jun 1934)

m. 8 Apr 1884, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA

Skak Martinus "Martinus" Skaksen (5 May 1863 - 10 Aug 1937) & Mary C. Jorgensen (25 Oct 1873 - 25 Jul 1927)

m. 30 Dec 1891, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA

In Denmark:

Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter married in Dronninglund Sogn in 1847.

In the 1850 Denmark census, Jens, Marie and their oldest child were living with his brother, Niels, in Bollehede, Dronninglund Sogn. In the 1860 census Jens was a smith living in Hjallerup school district in Dronninglund Sogn.

Immigration:

Jens Christian and Marie Skaksen and their five children registered to immigrate to Council Bluffs on 17 May 1871. At that time, they were living in Skæve Sogn, Hjørring Amt. They traveled indirekte, meaning that they probably changed ships in England or Scotland. The party included Martha Marie's soon-to-be husband, Peter Torgesen Christiansen, and Martha and Peter's first child, Andrew Christian Christiansen.

In the United States:

In 1880 Jens and Mary Skaksen and their son, Skak, were living on their farm in Boomer Township. In 1885 and again in 1900 Mary, now a widow, was living with her son,

Martinus, on their Boomer Township farm. I haven't located Mary Skaksen in the 1895 Iowa census.

The Jens Christian Skaksen Farm:

Jens Christian Skaksen died in 1885, perhaps before the 1885 Pottawattamie County plats were produced. In the 1885 Boomer Township plat, Mary Skaksen owned 40 acres in Boomer Township, Section 4, on which the Skaksen family lived and another 40 acres of prairie land further east in Section 2. By 1902 the prairie land was part of the farm of Peter Torgesen Christiansen's cousin, Axel Christensen, and Mary Skaksen owned 40 acres in Section 2 closer to the home place. The Skaksen land was sold between 1913 and 1919.

The Jens Christian Skaksen Children:

The five known surviving children of Jen Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter are listed below. All five likely immigrated with their parents. Although the children used the patronymic surname "Jensen" in Denmark, after emigrating they generally used "Skaksen".

- **Martha Marie Skaksen** immigrated with her parents, siblings, her infant son, and her future husband.

Martha Marie Skaksen married **Peter Torgesen Christiansen** in Pottawattamie County in 1871. She died the following year. In the 1880 census their daughter, Tina Christiansen, age 8, was enumerated both as living with her Skaksen grandparents and as living with her uncle and aunt, Chris and Karen Marie Johnson, in Council Bluffs.

Peter Torgesen Christiansen (8 May 1849 - 25 Dec 1922) & Martha Marie Skaksen (19 Jul 1849 - 1872)
m. abt 19 Jun 1871, Pott. Co., IA

Andrew Christian "Chris" Christiansen (22 Mar 1870 - 21 Feb 1948) & Trine Marie Jorgensen (5 Sep 1869 - 29 Oct 1960)

m. 27 Oct 1893, Boomer T., Pott. Co., IA

Tena Marie Christiansen (14 Aug 1872 - 5 May 1955) & William Price Jr. (10 Mar 1868 - 27 Jan 1912)

m. 16 May 1894, Boomer T., Pott. Co., IA

Peter Torgesen Christiansen was a farmer in Boomer Township, Section 4. See the *Peter Torgesen Christiansen sketch* herein for additional information.

- **Karen Marie Jensen** was not included in some family history I was given twenty years ago. She married Christian "Chris" Johnson about 1873 and lived in Council Bluffs, where Chris worked as a shoemaker, grocer, and proprietor of a stationery store. They had three children. The following list includes the known grandchildren.

Christian "Chris" Johnson (8 Aug 1850 - 15 Sep 1919) & Karen Marie Skaksen (22 Sep 1853 - 11 Jun 1909)
m. abt 1873

James C. Johnson* (Sep 1874 -) & Minnie Bergen (Dec 1877 -)

m. 8 Jun 1898, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA

James C. Johnson* (Sep 1874 -) & Minnie C. Madsen (1880 - 1951)

m. abt 1907
 Martha M. Johnson* (Jun 1876 - 7 Jan 1947) & Charles William Jones (13 Mar 1875 - 13 Mar 1918)
 m. abt 1897
 Myrle Jones (20 Nov 1898 - Apr 1987) & Leo Moran (7 Dec 1895 - 12 Oct 1939)
 m. 1 Dec 1917
 Warren Leslie Jones (29 Aug 1900 - 12 Dec 1956) & Elizabeth Lydia Grafstein (5 Jul 1904 - 26 May 1974)
 m. abt 1922
 Earl William Jones (14 Nov 1903 - 29 Apr 1994) & Margaret Catherine Hart (15 Oct 1904 - 19 Feb 2001)
 m. 17/21 Mar 1925, Glenwood, Mills Co., IA
 Martha M. Johnson* (Jun 1876 - 7 Jan 1947) & James Elbert Medley (10 Mar 1873 - 13 Mar 1943)
 Jack Elbert Medley (6 Nov 1924 - 26 Jan 2009) & Colleen Mae McAvoy (21 Jan 1926 - 10 Jul 1985)
 m. 7 Apr 1945, Hermosa Beach, Los Angeles Co., CA
 Ella Marie Johnson (Apr 1880 - 22 Dec 1953) & William H. Ellam (1881 - 28 Jul 1928)

Christian and Karen Marie Johnson are interred in the Fairview Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

■ **Mette Margrethe "Gertrude" Skaksen** (13 Feb 1857 – 14 Jul 1928) never married and suffered from mental illness. In the 1895 Iowa census, she was enumerated both in Council Bluffs and at the state hospital in Clarinda, Iowa. In 1900, 1905, 1910, 1915 and 1920 she was living at St. Bernard's Hospital in Council Bluffs. She died at the state hospital in Clarinda.

■ **Ane Johanne "Hannah" Skaksen** married **John Olson** in Council Bluffs in 1884.

John Olson immigrated from Denmark around 1876. After working on the railroad, he became a grocer in Council Bluffs. He lived at 910 Avenue B in Council Bluffs for many years.

John and Hannah Olson had eight children, two of whom died before reaching adulthood. The following list includes some of their grandchildren.

John Olson (10 Jul 1856 - 28 Jun 1934) & Ane Johanne "Hannah" Skaksen (7/16 Mar 1860 - 7 Feb 1907)
 m. 8 Apr 1884, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA
 Ella May Olson (18 Jun 1886 - 15 Aug 1969) & James M. Jensen (10 May 1869 - 1963)
 m. 25 Sep 1921, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA
 Betty A. Jensen (abt 1923 -)
 Lois N. Jensen (15 Apr 1925 - 26 Dec 1996)
 Amos Chris Olson (7 Mar 1888 - 24 Jan 1942) & Irene Louise Momsen (23/28 Jan 1898 -)
 m. 30 Jun 1922, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA
 Clarence E. Olson (? 17 Jul 1891 - 30 Jul 1894)
 Louis Alfred Olson (17 Jul 1891 - 20 Jul 1972) & Elsie Christine Sorensen (17 Oct 1891 - 2 Jan 1983)
 m. 20 Oct 1919, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA
 Marjorie Ellen Olson (23 Sep 1921 - 22 Mar 1936)
 Clara E. Olson (Jul 1895 -)
 Esther Katherine Olson (18 Feb 1898 - 20 Oct 1988) & Herman Zilg Hoyer (30 Jul 1896 - Sep 1987)
 m. 9 Jun 1923, Missouri Valley, Harrison Co., IA
 Ethel Jenny/Jane Olson (18 Feb 1898 - 10 Sep 1978) & Dale Thurston Smith (18 Mar 1900 - 11 Jan 1975)

m. 31 Mar 1923, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA
Bertha Christine Olson (abt 1901 - 23 Mar 1901)

John and Hannah Olson are interred in the Fairview Cemetery in Council Bluffs.

■ **Skak Martinus "Martinus" Skaksen** married **Mary C. Jorgensen** in Pottawattamie County in 1891.

Martinus Skaksen lived in Boomer Township on his parents' home place in Section 4, selling the Skaksen farm between 1915 and 1919. He may have lived in California later.

Skak Martinus "Martinus" Skaksen (5 May 1863 - 10 Aug 1937) & Mary C. Jorgensen (25 Oct 1873 - 25 Jul 1927)

m. 30 Dec 1891, Council Bluffs, Pott. Co., IA

Mamie A. Skaksen (Apr 1893 -) & Charles Duncan (30 Jul 1889 - Nov 1981)

m. 21 Oct 1914, Pott. Co., IA

Eugene C. Duncan (abt 1916 -)

Glen L. Duncan (abt 1917 -)

Virginia M. Duncan (abt 1920 -)

Donald G. Duncan (abt 1923 -)

Ellen M. Duncan (abt Jun 1926 -)

Mary J. Duncan (abt Dec 1928 -)

Shirley L. Duncan (abt Feb 1930 -)

William Duncan (aft 1930 -)

The one child of Martinus and Mary Skaksen is listed below.

- **Mamie A. Skaksen** married **Charles Duncan** in Pottawattamie County in 1914. Charles Duncan was the son of Israel Duncan and Jane Pierce, Kentucky natives who lived in Boomer Township before moving to Lagrange Township in Harrison County between 1900 and 1905.

Charles Duncan farmed in Lagrange Township. Some members of the Charles Duncan family moved to Sac City, Iowa.

Jens Christian and Mary Skaksen are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township, as are their children, Gertrude and Martinus. Their daughters, Karen Marie (Skaksen) Johnson and Hannah (Skaksen) Olson, are interred in Fairview Cemetery in Council Bluffs. The 1872 burial location of their oldest child, Martha (Skaksen) Christiansen, is unknown.

End of the Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie "Mary" Madsdatter Sketch

(9) – Biographical Sketch - Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter

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Mr. and Mrs. Christian Svendsen were parents of Mrs. Peter Torgesen Christiansen of Boomer Township, Section 4 and Mads. C. Christiansen of Boomer Township, Section 29.

The following lists some older descendants of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter.

Christian Svendsen (~1813 - 1908) & Maren Madsdatter (1815 - 1896)
| Ane Christiansen (1846 - 1881) & Martin Kjeldgaard (1836 - 1912)
| | Herman Christian Kjeldgaard* (1878 - 1961) & Anna Hedeveg Petersen (1881 - 1955)
| | | Daniel Herman Kjeldgaard (1906 -)
| | | Ella Enola Kjeldgaard (1915 -) & Harold Louis Kjeldgaard (1907 -)
| | Herman Christian Kjeldgaard* (1878 - 1961) & Anna Christensen (1880 - 1963)
| Ane Margrethe Christiansen (1848 - ~1908) & Peter Torgesen Christiansen (1848 - 1922)
| | John H. Christiansen (1875 - 1934) & Jennie E. McCune (1880 - 1931)
| | | Mary Irene "Irene" Christiansen* (1902 - 1981) & Edward "Ed" Lynch
| | | Mary Irene "Irene" Christiansen* (1902 - 1981) & Wallace Alexander Hargrave (1887 - 1969)
| | | Grace Margaret Christiansen (1905 - 1991) & Charles Chester Schroder (1898 - 1971)
| | | John Harold "Harold" Christiansen (~1909 - <1952) & Alma L. Killpack (1909 - 1992)
| | | Ernest P. Christiansen (1913 - 1964) & Grace R. E. McIntosh (1917 - 2002)
| | | Earl Joseph Christiansen (1913 - 1981) & Bernice Marie McIntosh (1912 - 1991)
| | | Wilbur H. Christiansen (1915 - 1986)
| | | Genevieve E. Christiansen* (1917 - 1978) & William S. McIntosh (1907 - 1980)
| | | Genevieve E. Christiansen* (1917 - 1978) & Warren W. Wilmot (1908 - 1973)
| | Martha Christiansen (1876 - 1919) & Francis Chambers (1873 - 1958)
| | | Hazel Marie Chambers (1902 - 1951)
| | | Mable Francis Chambers (1903 - 1987) & Harry Claude Martens (1898 - 1947)
| | | Florence E. Chambers (1906 - 2000) & C. Wayne Miller (1904 - 1997)
| | | Robert Arnold Chambers* (1909 - 1999) & Darlene D. Mendenhall (~1916 -)
| | | Robert Arnold Chambers* (1909 - 1999) & Eva Helfrich (1915 - 1968)
| | | Margaret A. Chambers (1911 - 2009) & Clarence E. "Soup" Martens (1900 - 1958)
| | | Mary Elizabeth Chambers (1914 - 2010) & Carl V. Sproul (1915 - 2011)
| | | William Joseph Chambers (1918 - 2012) & Junne Adams (1921 - 2010)
| | Ellis C. Christiansen (1878 - 1956) & Nannie Elisa Christians (1882 - 1973)
| | | Lilly Margaret Catherine Christiansen (1915 - 2007) & James Kenneth "Kenneth" Larsen (1920 - 2013)
| | | Louise Gertrude Christiansen (1920 -) & Robert Willard Ward (1918 - 2002)
| | Axel Paul Christensen* (1879 - 1966) & Ida Marie Johnson (1882 - 1942)
| | | Henry Axel Christensen (1912 - 1977) & Hazel unknown
| | | William Lee Christensen (1915 - 1920)
| | Axel Paul Christensen* (1879 - 1966) & Nellie Pearl Stevenson (1890 - 1983)
| | Henry Christiansen (1882 - 1912) & Nannie Elisa Christians (1882 - 1973)
| | | infant_son Christiansen (1911 - 1911)
| | Mary Christiansen (1884 - 1947) & Leon Driver (1878 - 1943)
| | | James Lester "Lester" Driver (1907 - 1998) & Pearl Valentine Handbury (1911 - 2004)
| | | Ferne Lena Driver (1920 - 1961) & Ross W. Duncan (1917 - 1968)
| | Anna Christiansen (1886 - 1959) & Edwin Driver (1880 - 1965)

| | | Vera Alma Driver (1908 - 1989) & Fred DeArmand George (1910 - 1987)
 | | | Vernon Ellis Driver (1912 - 1989) & Helen Louise Petersen (1918 - 2003)
 | | | Alice E. Driver (1914 - 1981) & Marvin Rozel Parish (1913 - 1969)
 | | | Leo G. Driver (1918 - 2004) & Bernice D. Reese (1925 -)
 | | | Edwin Dale "Dale" Driver* (1924 - 2013) & Florence Kathleen Sampson (1927 - 1967)
 | | | Edwin Dale "Dale" Driver* (1924 - 2013) & Lorraine Lynch (1918 - 2013)
 | | | Dorothy Ann Driver (1927 - 1927)
 | Mads Christian Christiansen (1851 - <1860)
 | Mads Peter "Mace" Christiansen (1853 - 1941) & Pauline Marie "Lena" Jensen (1846 - 1911)
 | | Christine Christiansen (1884 - 1888)
 | | Pauline Christina "Christina" Christiansen (1889 - 1934) & George Able Driver (1889 - 1948)
 | | | Viola Ingeletta Driver* (1912 - 2000) & George D. Kurth (1903 - 1971)
 | | | Viola Ingeletta Driver* (1912 - 2000) & Charles Franklin Perry (1912 - 1984)
 | | | Robert Howard Driver (1919 - 1986) & Helen D. unknown (1920 -)

In Denmark:

Christian Svendsen (about 2 May 1813 – 13 May 1908) was born in Hellevad Sogn, Hjørring Amt to Svend Jensen and Anna Poulsdatter.

Maren Madsdatter (7 May 1815 – 12 Nov 1896), the second of six known children of Mads Andersen and Anne Margrethe Hansdatter, was born in Hønborgbro, Dronninglund Sogn.

Christen Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter married in Dronninglund Sogn on 19 Oct 1845.

Christian and Maren appear as smallholders in the 1850 and 1860 Dronninglund censuses. In the 1860 census they were living in the Ørsø school district.

The four known children of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter were all born in Dronninglund Sogn.

Emigration:

Christian and Maren Svendsen registered to emigrate on 7 May 1879. At the time, they were living in Ørsø, and they gave Council Bluffs as their destination. They registered as indirekte, which for Dronninglunders probably means that they changed ships in England or Scotland.

In the United States:

In 1880, Christian and Maren Svendsen were living with their son-in-law and daughter, Martin and Ane Kjeldgaard, near Herman Nebraska. In the 1900 census, Maren was deceased and Christian was living with his son-in-law and daughter, Peter T. and Ane Margrethe Christiansen, in Boomer Township.

The Christian Svendsen Children:

The four children of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter are listed below. The three who survived childhood all emigrated to the Midwest and Ane Margrethe and Mads Peter lived in Boomer Township.

- **Ane Christiansen** (7 Feb 1846 – 30 Nov 1881 or 1883) married **Martin Kjeldgaard** (31 Dec 1836 – 29 Jan 1912) in 1877.

Martin and Ane Kjeldgaard lived near Herman, Nebraska

The one known child Martin and Ane Kjeldgaard is listed below. They may also have had a second child who died in infancy.

- **Herman Christian Kjeldgaard** (30 Aug 1878 – 16 Mar 1961).

After Ane (Christiansen) Kjeldgaard's death, Martin and his second wife, Anna Johanna Johnson, a native of Norway, had three children.

Between 1900 and 1910 the Martin Kjeldgaard family moved to Brush, Colorado and the children from Martin's second marriage later lived in Big Springs, Colorado.

Martin Kjeldgaard and both of his wives are interred in the Thone Cemetery in Washington County, Nebraska. Herman Kjeldgaard is interred in Brush, Colorado.

- **Ane Margrethe Christiansen** (29 Sep 1848 – about 23 Oct 1908) married **Peter Torgesen Christiansen** (8 Mar 1848 or 8 May 1849 – 25 Dec 1922) in Pottawattamie County on 17 Jun 1874.

Peter Torgesen Christiansen was a farmer in Boomer Township, Section 4. See the *Peter Torgesen Christiansen sketch* herein for additional information.

- **Mads Christian Christiansen** (11 Jan 1851 – before 1860) died as a child.

- **Mads Peter "Mace" or "M. P." Christiansen** (28 Jan 1853 – 1 Feb 1941) married **Pauline Marie "Lena" (Jensen) Sanderson** (8 Mar 1846 – 29 Oct 1911), the widow of **John Sanderson** of Boomer Township, Section 29, in Council Bluffs on 24 Jul 1883. Lena brought three young children to the marriage.

John Sanderson (about Apr 1843 – 19 Jan 1882) was born in Denmark as Jens Sorensen and immigrated around 1867.

In January 1868 John Sanderson and Christian Bondo jointly purchased 123 acres of wooded land in Boomer Township, Sections 29 and 30 from William Selvy for \$1,600. In May 1870, they split title to the land, with Christian Bondo acquiring title to the west 86 acres and John Sanderson title to the east 36 acres. In 1872, when Christian Bondo moved to Hazel Dell Township, he sold his portion to Christen Skaksen, also an immigrant from Dronninglund. The Christen Skaksen farm later became the John Schroder farm.

John Sanderson and Pauline Marie "Lena" Jensen married between 1870 and 1875.

The John Sanderson family is listed as charter members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Boomer Township, although they probably didn't remain as active members. For addition information, see the *John Sanderson and Lena Jensen Family* sketch in my report *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*.

Mads Peter and Lena Christiansen lived on the former John Sanderson farm in Boomer Township, Section 29. Mads Peter remained on the farm for some years after Lena's death in 1911.

In early 1918 Mads Peter sold the Sanderson farm to Otto Lehmkuhl and retired to Council Bluffs, where he lived by himself at 1123 East Washington Avenue for many years. In the 1930s he went to live near the Old Lincoln Highway just north of Council Bluffs in the household of his son-in-law, Andrew Jensen, where he died at the age of 87.

The three children from Lena's first marriage and the two children from the marriage of Mads Peter and Lena Christiansen are listed below.

- **Joseph Emil Sanderson** (7 Jul 1875 – 28 Jun 1968) married **Ida Billerbeck** (17 Jun 1875 – 26 Feb 1962) in Pottawattamie County on 28 Feb 1900. Ida Billerbeck was the daughter of Detlef "David" Billerbeck and Margaret Hansen of northern Boomer Township.

Joseph Billerbeck farmed in Rockford Township and in the 1920s moved to Woodbury County, Iowa.

Joseph and Ida Billerbeck had seven children.

- **James Peter Sanderson** (4 Aug 1878 – 26 Feb 1969) married **Edith Elizabeth Acton** (7 Feb 1885 – 23 Jan 1969) in Council Bluffs on 18 Jan 1905. Edith Acton was the daughter of Nels Peter "Peter" Acton and Martha Jane McKeown and the granddaughter of Gregers Acton. See the *Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton and Dorthie Marie "Mary" Nielsen* sketch for additional information.
- **Marie Cecilia "Mary" Sanderson** (31 Jan 1880 – 17 May 1960) married **Andrew Emile Jensen** (25 Nov 1878 - 14 Apr 1959) in Missouri Valley, Iowa on 11 Nov 1911.

The two children of Andrew Jensen and Mary Sanderson are listed below.

- **Albert Walter Jensen** (14 Oct 1914 – 29 Jul 1981) married **Kathryn Florence Barnes**.
- **Gladys Mae Jensen** (14 Aug 1916 – 5 Jun 1974) married **Everett Louis Gano** (31 Dec 1907 – 12 Jan 1990).
- **Christine Christiansen** (31 Oct 1884 – 7 May 1888) died at the age of three.
- **Pauline Christina "Christina" Christiansen** (14 Feb 1889 – 24 Jun 1934) married **George Able Driver** (Mar 1889 – 24 Dec 1948) in Pottawattamie County on 9 Mar 1910. George Driver was the youngest of seventeen children born to James Driver and Elizabeth Beswick of Boomer Township, Section 21.

George Driver farmed in Rockford Township before moving to Council Bluffs in the early 1920s, where he was a barber.

The two children of George and Christina Driver are listed below.

- **Viola Ingeletta Driver** (13 Sep 1912 – 21 Jul 2000) married George D. Kurth (9 Apr 1903 – 7 Apr 1971), a Nebraska native, and lived in the Des Moines, Iowa area. Later she married Charles Franklin Perry (2 Jul 1912 – Jan 1984).
- **Robert Howard "Howard" Driver** (11 May 1919 – Aug 196) served in the 96th Infantry Division in the South Pacific during World War II. He lived in Des Moines and married Helen (4 Dec 1920 -).

Christian and Maren Svendsen are interred in the Grange Cemetery in Boomer Township under the names Christian and Mary Swansen. Their children, Ane Margrethe (Christiansen) Christiansen and Mads Peter Christiansen, are also interred in the Grange Cemetery. Ane (Christiansen) Kjeldgaard is interred in the Thone Cemetery in Washington County, Nebraska.

End of the Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter Sketch

Sources and Acknowledgments

for *Immigration to Boomer Township from Dronninglund Parish*
by Robert A. Christiansen, updated Jul '18

In the summer of 2007 my dear wife, Martha, and I spent 19 days in Denmark exploring the areas from which my eight great-grandparents emigrated in the late 1800s. While driving to Voergaard, we stopped at the Dronninglund church. I told the church receptionist that I was studying the early history of an area in the United States where several families from Dronninglund had settled. The receptionist then arranged a visit with a local Dronninglund historian. Since the local historian did not speak English and I do not speak Danish, we met in the Dronninglund library with the librarian serving as translator. The local historian expressed an interest in learning the names of Dronninglund emigrants that I knew of. Thus, this report.

This report comprises a MS Word file named BoomerDronninglund.doc. The immediate source for the data in this report is a database kept in a file named "St.Paul's" that contains data for over 39,000 individuals with family connections to early rural northwestern Pottawattamie County, Iowa.

In my research for this report I used the following on-line and printed sources:

- I heavily use the subscription service *ancestry.com*, especially for United States census records through 1940, for family histories, and for city directories. As time passes, Ancestry is beginning to acquire more and more vital records (births, marriages and deaths) for various states in the U.S.A.
- I find a surprising amount of information through *Google*.
- For research in Denmark, I use *ddd.dda.dk* to access census and immigration records.
- I obtained much of my earlier data from the LDS web site *familysearch.org* and have recently begun to reuse it for information on Danish births and marriages.
- For Pottawattamie County, Iowa:
 - ◆ I use Pottawattamie County marriage and cemetery books published by the Botna Valley Genealogical Society and Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society.
 - Marriage books currently go through 1940 and there is an on-line index through 1940 at *rootsweb.ancestry.com/~iapcgs*.
 - Cemetery books are incomplete because they don't include recent burials or individuals who lack gravestones.
 - ◆ There are Pottawattamie County bibliographic histories from 1883, 1891, 1907 and 1978 but these generally lack entries for immigrants.
 - ◆ The Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society library in Council Bluffs has some family histories, as well as most of the printed materials listed here.

- ◆ I use Pottawattamie County plats for 1885, 1902, 1913, 1919, 1935, 1939, 1950 and 1967.

As of 2014, the key older atlases are available on-line to anyone with a suitable browser, sometimes in multiple locations. These atlases contain township plats showing land ownership, and with most farmstead locations marked.

- The 1885 Allen Pottawattamie County atlas:
digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm/ref/collection/atlasses/id/6802
- The 1902 Ogle Pottawattamie County atlas, which appears to be identical to the 1900 Innes atlas:
historicmapworks.com/Atlas/US/9274/Pottawattamie+County+1902
- The 1913 Bee atlas, which includes some surrounding counties:
historicmapworks.com/Atlas/US/8559/Mills+and+Pottawattamie+Counties+1913
- The 1919 Anderson Pottawattamie County atlas (the 1930 Hixson atlas appears to have been copied from the same source):
digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/atlasses&CISOPTR=1060&REC=12

- ◆ Selected issues of the Council Bluffs, Iowa Nonpareil for the 1940s and 1950s, are available on-line to ancestry.com subscribers.
- I use other on-line sites which list burial information, especially *findagrave.com*, but also *billiongraves.com* and *iowagravestones.org*.

Here are some of the individuals who helped with this project:

- My dear cousins, Richard and Kathy Torneten, hosted me on many visits to the Council Bluffs area.
- Derald Blois, his wife, Gladys, and sister-in-law, Arlene Driver, continue to be my main contemporary sources for information about Boomer Township history.
- Willie and Stella Witt mentored me about Boomer Township history before Willie's untimely death.
- The wonderful volunteers at the Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society in Council Bluffs were always helpful.
- Robert Randall Jr., my second cousin once removed, left this report at the Dronninglund library in June 2014.

Friends and relatives who are descendants of the Boomer Dronninglunders provided most of the family lists that appear herein. I especially want to thank:

- The late Thelma (Schroder) Larson Jensen, my aunt by marriage and the great great granddaughter of Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter.
- Joan (Minor) Eggerss, a childhood friend and the great-granddaughter of Peter T. Christiansen and great-great-granddaughter of Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter.

- Dale Schroder, the great-grandson of Christen Skaksen and Ane Margrethe Christensdatter and the great-great-grandson of Jens Christian Skaksen and Marte Marie Madsdatter.
- Louise (Christiansen) Ward, the great-granddaughter of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter. Years ago, Louise was especially helpful by sending me handwritten materials.
- Ethel (Bertelsen) Ward, my fifth-grade teacher and the great-granddaughter of Thomas Christian Jespersen and Catherine Madsdatter.
- Mary Lou (Gano) Burke, the step great-great-granddaughter of Christian Svendsen and Maren Madsdatter, provided research on the Christian Bondo / John Sanderson land holdings in Boomer Township. This land later became the nucleus for the Jens Christian Skaksen (later John Schroder) and Mads C. Christiansen farms.
- In 2018, Kevin Jones provided information on the family of Christian “Chris” Johnson and Karen Marie Skaksen.

Here are some miscellaneous on-line sources:

- The map headed *Pottawattamie County Townships* is courtesy of IAGenWeb.org.
- To find localities in Dronninglund parish: <http://www.gomapper.com/travel/list-of-cities-near/dronninglund.html>
- For the data in section (6) on the Peter Herbert Peterson family, I am indebted to *rjg761*, who placed a database entitled *Sanborn Upload 20081025* in ancestry.com.

For the appendix *When Christian Met Karen*, additional sources included:

- Bondo family historians, my second cousins Elaine (Bondo) Hoyer and Alvina (Larsen) Hjortsvang and their second cousins Paul Christoffersen and Don Pedersen.

When Christian Met Karen
The early lives in America of Christian Bondo and Karen Jensen
Appendix 1 of *Immigration to Boomer Township from Dronninglund Parish*

© 2014 by Robert A. Christiansen, last updated Jun 2014, 6 pp

I first wrote this for the Bondo reunion held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in May 2011 as an appendix to my *Immigration to Boomer Township from Dronninglund Parish* collection of family sketches. In November 2013, I also copied it into the **Christian Bondo and Karen Jensen Family** sketch in my *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*. Those interested in the older relatives of Karen "Carrie" Jensen (Bondo), also known as Karen Hendriksen, should also see my report *Kirsten Pedersen's Relatives*.

This sketch contains the immigration stories of Laurits Christian Bondo and Karen Jensen, such as I know them, along with the context during which they lived during their first years north of Council Bluffs in Boomer Township, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. I have tried to indicate the portions that are conjectural on my part.

About Christian Bondo:

Laurits Christian Fog "Christian" Bondo (1846 – 1907), also known as L. C. Bondo, was born in Denmark to Niels Gumme Bondo and Ana Petrea Elisabeth Fog. Christian was born in Faaborg parish, Svendborg County, where his father was a parish priest at the time. Faaborg is a scenic town of about 7,000 in the southwest part of the island of Fyn. Later Christian's father became parish priest in Vallensbæk, near Copenhagen.

Many members of Christian Bondo's family were Lutheran clergy in Denmark. Christian's uncle, Bruun Juul Fog, was bishop of Sjælland for ten years and Christian's younger brother, Peter Bruun Juul Bondo, served as dean of Roskilde Cathedral.

Christian Bondo immigrated around 1865 and by 1867 was employed by Peter Peterson of southwestern Boomer Township.

About Peter Peterson:

I believe that the Peter Peterson mentioned above was the first Danish settler in the Boomer Township area. Peter Peterson had been a miner in California and in 1862, after returning to Denmark for a visit, bought and settled on the Robert Kent farm in Boomer Township, Section 36. Peter Peterson married his housekeeper, the Civil War widow Rachel (Cady) Shadden, and Peter and Rachel had eight children.

Peter Peterson, like many of the later Danish settlers in the Boomer Township area, came from the Stevns peninsula on the island of Sjælland south of Copenhagen.

The Peter Peterson farm and several nearby farms were located on the site of Bybee's Camp, established in 1847. Bybee's Camp along North Pigeon Creek was one of many temporary settlements in the Council Bluffs area where Mormons paused for several years before continuing to Utah. When the United States Government opened Pottawattamie County land for sale around 1853, speculators acquired most of the land.

Thus in 1862, when Peter Peterson bought his farm, speculators still owned large amounts of raw land, both timber and prairie, just a few miles distant.

Peter Peterson's farm was well situated to serve as the nucleus for the Boomer Township Danes who began to arrive in the late 1860s. The road north from Crescent into Boomer Township forked at the Peter Peterson farmstead. One branch continued north along the west side of North Pigeon Creek. The main branch turned east, crossed North Pigeon Creek, ascended McKeown hill, and then turned north and followed a ridgeline for several miles, as county road L36, also known as Clearwater Avenue, does today. From 1879 to 1884 the Harrison post office was located at the Peter Peterson farm.

Peter Peterson's two oldest children married siblings, sons of Thomas Thomas and Martha Evans, Mormon immigrants from Wales who had returned to Boomer Township from Utah. The Peter Peterson and the extended Thomas families are the subjects of an interesting family history, *Two Families from Boomer Township*.

... back to Christian Bondo:

Perhaps Christian Bondo ended up in Boomer Township because of a chance encounter between a Bondo relative and Peter Peterson, a meeting that happened to be documented in the Peterson/Thomas family history mentioned above:

"Upon his return to Denmark, Peter Peterson went to his old home in Skjorpinge, and the following was entered in his Book of Recommendation:"

'Peder Pedersen, having been six years in California, has notified me of his arrival here. He is stopping with his stepfather, Peter Jensen, in Skjorpinge. August 4, 1860, C. D. Fog, Pastor'

C. D. Fog is Carl David Fog, the pastor in Lille Heddinge Sogn, not in the adjoining Havnelev Sogn where Skjorpinge was located. Lille Heddinge and Skjorpinge are about four miles apart. Carl David Fog was the first cousin of Christian Bondo's mother.

In January 1868, Christian Bondo and John Sorenson, another recent immigrant from Denmark, jointly purchased 123 acres of wooded land in Boomer Township, Sections 29 and 30, from William Selvy for \$1,600.

About John Sorenson Jens Sorensen/John Sanderson:

Christian Bondo's partner, who in 1868 called himself John Sorenson, was born as Jens Sorensen in Denmark and was later known as John Sanderson. We have been unable to find his roots in Denmark. In 1881, he was a charter member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Boomer Township, but he died in 1882 and is buried nearby in the Grange Cemetery.

About Karen Jensen:

Karen M. "Carrie" Jensen, sometimes known as Karen Hendriksen, was born in Dronninglund Sogn in northern Denmark to Jens Christian Hendriksen, a smallholder,

and Kirsten Pedersen. Jens Hendriksen died when Karen was a child, leaving behind a pregnant wife and several children.

Karen's mother, three of Karen's siblings, and other of Karen's relatives converted to Mormonism and immigrated to Utah. I have sketched their story in my report *Kirsten Pedersen's Relatives*.

Karen Jensen immigrated from Dronninglund to the Council Bluffs area of Iowa in 1867 with Gregers Marcus Poulsen Acton, his wife, and their seven children who ranged in age from fifteen down to an infant.

About the Gregers Acton family:

On June 5, 1867 Gregers Acton bought land in Boomer Township, Section 29.

Why did the Acton family, newly arrived in the United States, happen to pick Boomer Township in which to settle?

I may now know the answer, and it lies with another family from Dronninglund.

About Christian Pedersen/Peterson:

Christian Pedersen (Peterson in the United States) and his wife, Ane Margrete Christensen, along with Ane's parents and four of her siblings, emigrated from Dronninglund with Mormons in 1855. Christian and Ane did not go on to Utah, perhaps because Ane's parents died near Atchison in northeastern Kansas. Christian and Ane and their growing family lived in Kansas and Nebraska and came to the Council Bluffs/Omaha area in 1867.

On April 25 and June 5, 1867 Christian Peterson bought land adjoining the later Boomer Township hall site and in 1868 the Christian Peterson family moved to this farm, where Christian and Ane remained until their death. Their farm later became the George Darrington farm and then the Floyd Ochampaugh farm.

Christian Peterson and Gregers Acton were both from Dronninglund. As explained in my report, *Kirsten Pedersen's Relatives*, Mrs. Christian Peterson and Karen Jensen, who lived with the Acton family, were first cousins. Christian Peterson and Gregers Acton both bought land in Boomer Township, 1 ½ miles apart, on the same day, June 5, 1867. This suggests to me that the Acton and Peterson families were acquainted prior to the Acton family deciding to move to Boomer Township.

Christian and Karen together:

The road to the Acton farmstead in Boomer Township went past the Peter Peterson farm. Evidently Laurits Christian Bondo, employed by Peter Peterson, and Karen Jensen, the Acton's hired girl, soon met. In *Karen, A Forsaken Little Girl*, based on an interview with Karen (Jensen/Hendriksen) Bondo in 1925, their meeting is described thusly: "When Laurits first saw Karen it was as if 'someone had hit him on the forehead with a mallet'."

Laurits Christian Bondo and Karen Jensen were married by a local justice of the peace on May 5, 1968, about one year after Karen's presumed immigration date.

I suspect that Karen Jensen's departure from the Acton family, who had brought her to America the previous year, was not easy for the Acton family. Mary Acton's eighth and final child was born in June 1868. And in February 1869 Gregers Acton died and was buried in the Reel's Cemetery just northwest of the Peter Peterson farm. Mary Acton's boys were old enough to do the farming, but the oldest Acton girl was only thirteen when her father died.

The Acton family and Karen Jensen shared one bond. Several Acton family members adhered to the Seventh Day Adventist religion. And Karen (Jensen) Bondo, before St. Paul's Lutheran Church was established in Boomer Township in 1881, sometimes sent her children to Adventist school for religious instruction.

After marrying, Christian and Karen Bondo are thought to have worked on railroad construction in the area, perhaps with Christian as a teamster and Karen as a cook.

Christian and Karen Bondo settled in a "simple block house" near the west end of the Bondo/Sanderson land. Here their first two children were born, my great-uncle by marriage, Peter Bondo, in 1869 and Minnie Bondo, later Minnie Christoffersen, in 1870.

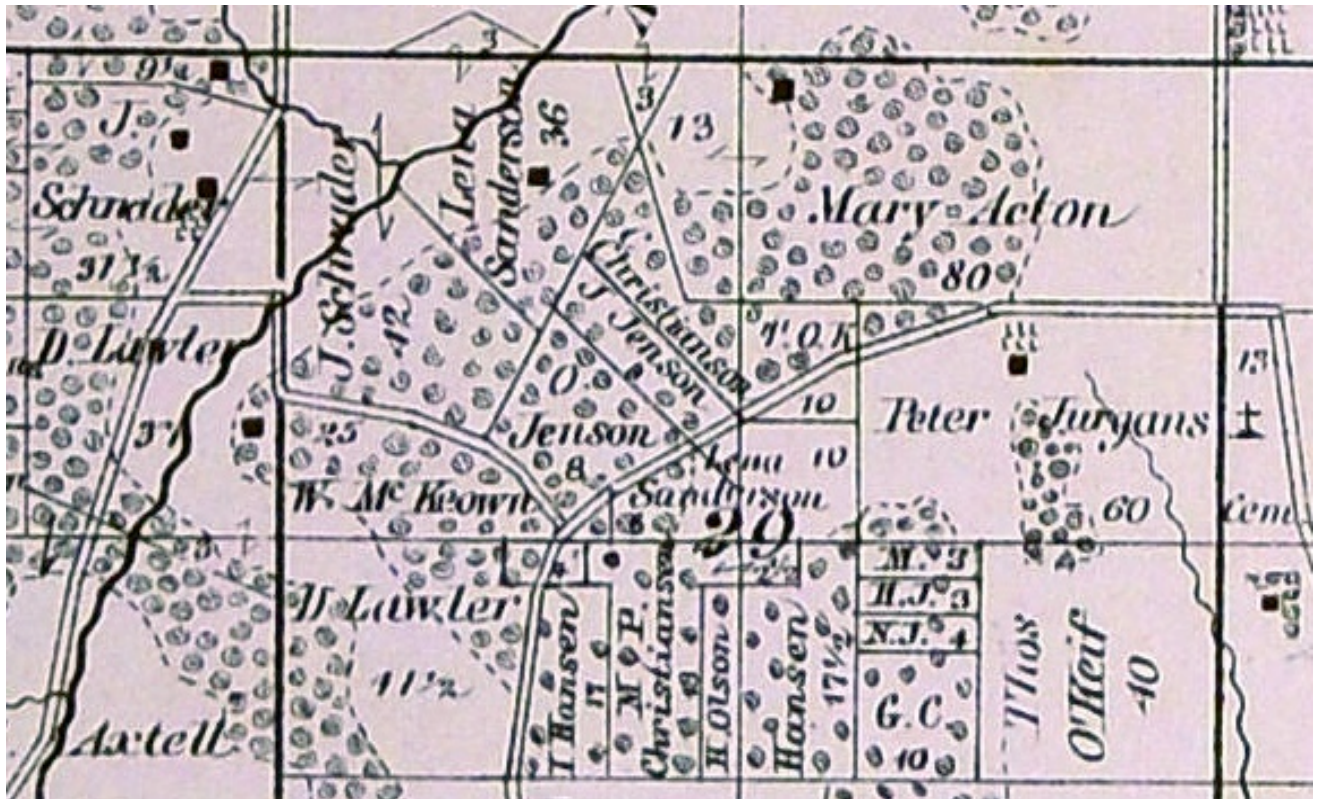
In May 1870, Christian Bondo and John Sanderson split their 123-acre property in Boomer Township, with Christian Bondo assuming ownership of the west portion of 86 acres.

In 1872, the Christian Bondo family left Boomer Township. They moved about eight miles to the southeast, to prairie land in Hazel Dell Township, Section 11. Their home place in Hazel Dell Township has remained in the Bondo family and is currently owned by Paul Christoffersen, a great-grandson of Christian and Karen Bondo.

The first Bondo farm:

When Christian Bondo left Boomer Township in 1872, he sold his Boomer farm to Christen Skaksen, the great great-grandfather of my late aunt by marriage, Thelma (Schroder) Larson Jensen. Aunt Thelma's grandmother, Anna Matilda Nielsen, then 10 years old, had immigrated with her grandparents from Dronninglund Sogn earlier in the year. Anna Nielsen married John Schroder in 1878 and by 1883 ownership of the Bondo/Skaksen farm had passed to John Schroder. Anna (Nielsen) Schroder remained on the Bondo/Skaksen/Schroder farm for the next 81 years. After Anna Schroder's death, the Schroder family sold this farm.

The following plat from 1883 shows the J. (John) Schroder farm, which had been the first Bondo farm. It appears to comprise about 80 acres (37 ½ + 42), lying on both sides of the road and both sides of North Pigeon Creek. Note the two houses on the property. Note also the farm of Lena Sanderson, the widow of John Sanderson, Christian Bondo's partner in the land purchase. See also the farm of the widow Mary Acton, where Karen (Jensen) Bondo first lived. Peter Peterson, who employed Christian Bondo, lived about two miles south of the Bondo/Skaksen/Schroder farm.



Finding the first Bondo farm:

One can locate the original Bondo farm in Boomer Township, Section 30, by taking the Old Lincoln Highway north from Crescent, turning right onto Coldwater Avenue, and then left onto 190th Street.

- ☛ After about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, look for a one-story house with a block foundation on the left-hand side. This is the Peter Peterson farmstead where Christian Bondo worked. The current home was built around 1913. On the right-hand side note the remains of a steel bridge across North Pigeon Creek. The old county road crossed this bridge and ascended McKeown Hill before turning left and following the ridgeline.
- ☛ Shortly after the Peter Peterson farmstead site, note a small sign on the left-hand side pointing to Reels Cemetery where Gregers and Mary Acton are buried.
- ☛ About 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles past the Reels Cemetery sign, look for a modern log residence, well screened by trees, on the left-hand side of the road. This is the approximate site of the Bondo home in Boomer Township. The original Sanderson and Acton home sites were on low land across North Pigeon Creek and may be lost.

It is not my intent here to relate subsequent Bondo family history, since I am not a Bondo family member and others have already done so. However, for a Bondo family overview, one can see the *Christian Bondo and Karen Jensen Family* sketch in my *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*. A recent Bondo family writing is the 2009 document

The Bondo and Henriksen Families United – The Story of Henry Bondo and Lilly Henriksen, subsequently updated with *Appendix J*, by Donald Pedersen, a great-grandson of Christian and Karen Bondo.

Incidentally, around 1912 Ernest Bush, a Danish-American outlaw, burned the house on the Peter Peterson farmstead, which had been so instrumental in the early Danish-American history of the Boomer Township area. But that is another story ...