

Christiansen Volume - Chapter 7, Christiansen Notes

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The Christiansen volume focuses on my great-grandparents, Christian Christiansen and Ane Kirstine "Anna" Jensen, their older descendants, and Anna's relatives in the United States.

The Christiansen volume contains sections for the children of my grandfather, James P. "Jim" Christiansen, and his brother, Nels. In these sections I have marked portions as private since they include information about my cousins, most who are still living.

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Related Documents

- My *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families* report contains additional information about the older relatives of some of the individuals mentioned herein who married into the Christiansen family.

Assistance with the Christiansen Volume

My supplemental file *Family History Notes* contains a full list of acknowledgments. Here are some individuals who have provided assistance with aspects of the Christiansen history.

- My father, Alvin Christiansen, his sister, Vesta (Christiansen) Thompson, and his cousins, Agnes Christiansen and Junior Marion Rasmussen.
- My cousins and second cousins, Kathryn (Thompson) Hanson, Gerald Christiansen and Elaine (Bondo) Hoyer.
- Lorna (Christiansen) Long, the daughter of my second cousin, Arthur Charles Christiansen Jr., provided information and photos about the life and Navy career of her father.
- My third cousins, Dale Geise and Robert Bracker.

Christiansen Denmark Summaries - Location, Census, Immigration

Updated by RAC 21 Mar'16.

First look at Chapter 1 of the *Christiansen* volume, and the maps therein.

Where They Lived in Denmark

"b." = "born", "chr." = "christened", "l." = "lived"; "m." = "married".

Christiansen, Christian	b. Lille Linde, Karise Sogn, chr. Karise Sogn l. Lille Linde, Karise Sogn & Store Torøje, Smerup Sogn
+ Jensen, Ane Kirstine	b. Tokkerup, Fakse Sogn, chr. Fakse Sogn l. Tokkerup, Fakse Sogn & Lille Heddinge, Lille Heddinge Sogn
m. Smerup Sogn l. Smerup Sogn	

Where They Lived - Census Records (S. = Store, L. = Lille)

Great-Grandparent	Resident By and Sogn in Denmark (from census)			
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Name	1834	1845	1855	1870
Dates (age at death)	1840	1850	1860	1880

Christian Christiansen	S. Linde, Karise	S. Linde, Karise	(not found)	(in Iowa)
28 Feb 1832 – 9 Feb 1913 (80)	S. Linde, Karise	S. Linde, Karise	S. Torøje, Smerup	(in Iowa)
Ane Kirstine "Anna" Jensen	(not born)	Tokkerup, Fakse	L. Heddinge, L. Heddinge	(in Iowa)
~ 29 Jul 1839–23 Jan 1922 (82)	Tokkerup, Fakse	Tokkerup, Fakse	(not found)	(in Iowa)

Sogn (parish) Locator:

Sogne	Herred, Amt (before 1970)	Amt 1970-2006	Region 2007+	Kommune (Municipality)
Karise, Fakse	Fakse, Præstø	Storstrøm	Sjælland	Faxe
Smerup	Stevns, Præstø	Storstrøm	Sjælland	Faxe
Lille Heddinge	Stevns, Præstø	Storstrøm	Sjælland	Stevns

Christiansen Denmark Census Summary

This summarizes Denmark census availability through ddd.dda.dk for sogne of special interest in the Christiansen family history.

Præstø Amt – Christiansen/Jensen:

My great-grandfather, Christian Christiansen lived in Karise Sogn before moving to Smerup Sogn as a young adult. My great-grandmother, Ane Kirstine Jensen lived in Fakse/Faxe Sogn as a young child. Ane Kirstine and some of her orphaned siblings lived in Lille Heddinge Sogn with their uncle and aunt for a time.

Karise Sogn (Fakse Herred): 1771, 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1860, 1880, 1901

Fakse/Faxe Sogn (Fakse Herred): 1771, 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1880, 1890, 1901, 1906, 1921

Smerup Sogn (Stevns Herred): 1771, 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1901

Lille Heddinge Sogn (Stevens Herred): 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1901

In addition the 1930 Denmark census may now be available through the myheritage.dk subscription service.

Christiansen Immigration Summary

Immigration Year & Ship and Family Members	Relationship to Robert A. Christiansen	Major Residences
1869 on the SS Northern Light: Christian Christiansen* & Ane Kirstine "Anna" Jensen* + Christen Ole * & Jens* (became James P.)	(registered Apr 27) my Christiansen great-grandparents Jim's half-brother my grandfather Jim	Boomer Township
before 1869: Jens Pedersen & Maren Nielsen (became John & Mary Petersen)	Anna Jensen's aunt & her husband	Council Bluffs
1866: Niels Jensen (became Nels Johnson)	Anna Jensen's brother	New York state, Wisconsin, San Francisco & Berkeley
1868 on the SS Nebraska: Jacob Jensen Ole Jensen	Anna Jensen's brother Anna Jensen's brother	Boomer Township Boomer & Co. Bluffs

In the above **Immigration Summary** table:

- The emigration registration date is taken from Copenhagen Police Record of Emigrants that was begun in 1869. A transcript of much of this data is at ddd.dda.dk.
- "*" indicates placement on the Wall of Honor at the Museum of Danish America in Elk Horn, IA. See the *My Family and the Wall of Honor* section of the *Family History Notes* supplement for the list of my extended family members who are memorialized on the Wall of Honor.

End of *Christiansen Denmark Summaries - Location, Census, Immigration* section
of the *Christiansen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.

End of **Chapter 7 - Christiansen Notes**
of the *Christiansen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.

Christiansen Volume Appendix

Boomer Township Immigrants from the Stevns Area

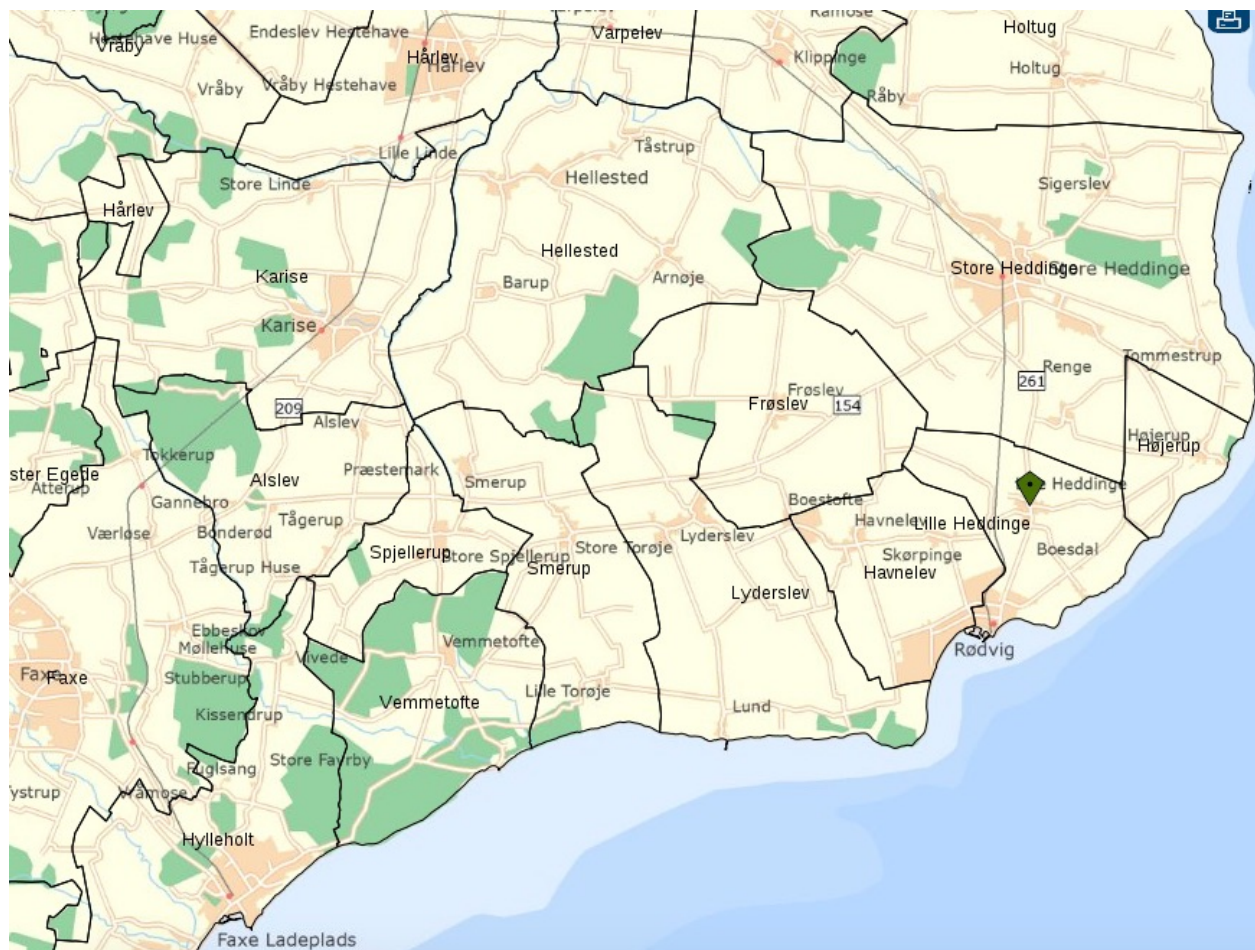
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The Stevns Peninsula is located in Denmark south of Copenhagen. More-specifically, it is south of Køge in the southeastern part of the island of Sjælland (Zealand).

The Boomer Township area is located north of Council Bluffs in the southwestern part of Iowa.

After the Civil War ended in 1865, a number of Danish immigrants began settling in the vicinity of Boomer and Hazel Dell Townships (Hazel Dell is just south of Boomer). These immigrants eventually included my four sets of great-grandparents.

A number of these Danish immigrants came from the southern part of the Stevns Peninsula, shown on the following map.



Southern Stevns Area (courtesy of viskort.dk, via korttilkirken.dk)

Herein I list the immigrants to the Boomer Township area known to me from the Stevns Peninsula.

- My great-grandparents, Christian Christiansen and Ane Kirstine Jensen, and two sons, Ole Christen and Jens.
- Ane Jensen's two brothers, Jacob and Ole Jensen. (Ane Jensen's aunt and uncle, Maren and Jens Pedersen/Peterson, settled in Council Bluffs.)
- **Peter Peterson** may have been the first Danish settler in the Boomer Township area. He was born Peder Pedersen in Havnelev Sogn, about ten miles east of Fakse/Faxe, the son of Peder Jacobsen and Inger Andersdatter. He had worked as a miner in California for six years before visiting Denmark in 1860. A year or two later, he returned to the United States, and in 1862, he bought the Robert Kent farm in Boomer Township, Section 36. In 1864, he married his housekeeper, Rachel (Cady) Shadden, a Civil War widow. Peter and Rachel remained on their farm in Boomer Township until they died. Peter's story is told in *Two Families from Boomer Township*, available at the Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society.

There is evidence that Peter Peterson's visit to Denmark in 1860 encouraged others from the Stevns Peninsula to follow him to Pottawattamie County.

- **Hans N. Hansen** was born in Store Heddinge, about 15 miles northeast of Fakse, and immigrated to Utah in 1864 with his parents, Hemming and Johanne Hansen, and his sister, Annie. The Hemming Hansen family belonged to the LDS (Latter Day Saints or Mormon) church at the time. The Hansen family later back-trailed from Utah to Pottawattamie County, where they helped to organize the Danish RLDS (Reorganized Later Day Saints, now Community of Christ) congregation in Hazel Dell Township. Hans N. Hansen was the first missionary of the RLDS church to Denmark. Hans N. Hansen's account of his family's travel from Denmark to Utah was edited by his grandnephew, William Darrington, and published in the *Annals of Iowa* in 1971
- **Marie (Jensen) Pedersen Hansen**, the daughter of Jens Pedersen and Karen Pedersdatter, was born in Store Torøje in Smerup Sogn, about six miles east of Fakse, and immigrated in 1868 with her first husband, Peder Pedersen, and their oldest child. After her husband and children died, Marie married Isaac Hansen. Marie's brother, **Peter Jensen**, also immigrated but never married.
- **Isaac Hansen** was born in Lille Heddinge Sogn, about 12 miles east of Fakse, immigrated in 1869, married the widow Marie Pedersen in 1875, and was a charter member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Boomer Township.
- **Hans A. Petersen and Lars C. Petersen**, brothers, were born in Spjellerup, about five miles east of Fakse, immigrated in 1886, and lived in Neola Township east of St. Paul's. Hans was the grandfather of Cleo (Petersen) Christoffersen and of Robert Christiansen's maternal cousins Alvin, Donald and Phyllis Petersen, while Lars was the father of Alvin Christiansen's romantic friend, Mamie Petersen.
- **John Anderson** (immigrated in 1868) was a long-time resident of Boomer Township, Section 20. He was a relative of Isaac Hansen, so likely is from the Stevns peninsula.

RAC note to self: Check the early families of St. Paul's to see who else to add to this list.

End of *Appendix – Boomer Township Immigrants from the Stevns Area*
of the *Christiansen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.

Christiansen Volume Appendix
Christiansen Boomer Township Land Transactions
(Includes Christian Christiansen's brothers-in-law, Jacob and Ole Jensen.)
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Summary of Jim Christiansen and Alvin Christiansen holdings in Boomer Township:

By the end of 1905 my grandfather, James P. "Jim" Christiansen, and his wife, Minnie, owned about 124 acres, consisting of the eighty-acre Jim Christiansen home place in Section 21, an outlying forty-acre parcel just to the southwest in Section 28, and the four-acre woodlot in Section 29.

Jacob Jensen died in 1921 and his widow in 1923. In 1924, Alvin Christiansen bought 40 acres of the old Jacob Jensen farm. The remaining 80 acres became the farm of Jacob Jensen's son-in-law and daughter, Nels and Mary Nelson.

Around 1940 Alvin Christiansen bought the remaining 80 acres of the Jacob Jensen farm.

Around 1948 Glen Olsen purchased the 80-acre home place north of the road owned by Jim Christiansen's widow, Minnie. Emil Lehmkuhl purchased the woodlot. Russell Spencer purchased the 160 acres south of the road consisting of the 120 acre old Jacob Jensen farm owned by Alvin and 40 acres owned by his mother, Minnie.

Chronological Record of Known Purchases of Christiansen/Jensen Boomer Township Land:

1856: Alvin S. Grosvenor of Pott. Co. makes original entry for SE SW Sec. 21. This later became the Ole Jensen and then the Jim Christiansen home 40.

10 Nov 1859: Hiram J. Sigler, the brother of Isaac Sigler, makes original entry for SW SW Sec. 22. This is the 40 acres that Christian Christiansen first acquired.

1859: William Campbell makes original entry for SE SE Sec. 21. This was the 40 acres just west of the Christian Christiansen original 40.

1956: Horace Everett makes original entry for SW SE Sec. 21. This was the 40 acres that Christian Christiansen bought from Zadock Goodwin.

25 Nov 1867, filed 25 Nov: J. Pleasady and wife to Martin Martinson SE ¼ of SW ¼ of Sec. 21, Twp. 77, Range 43. (RAC: This is the 40 acres where Jim and Minnie Christiansen later lived all their married life. I speculate that Martin Martinson was Morten Sorensen Kuk in Denmark and is the father of the first wife of Jacob Jensen.)

June 24, 1871, filed June 28: Quit claim deed for E. A. Huber and wife and special warranty deed from Joseph McCoid: My great-grandfather Christian Christiansen buys the 40-acre Christiansen home place in Section 22 with payments of \$280 to E. A. and Martha Huber; and \$280 to Joseph McCoid. The total price of \$560 amounts to \$14 per acre. (filed June 28)

Joseph McCoid was one of at least eleven children born to Nathaniel McCoid and Mary Sarchet. McCoid family members came to Pottawattamie County via Putnam County, Indiana in the 1850s. Joseph McCoid was living in Boomer Township in the 1870 census, probably on a different farm.

Emanuel A. Huber was a real estate dealer living in Council Bluffs in 1875. He died in Council Bluffs in 1875.

March 20, 1875, filed April 26: Warranty deed from Isaac Hansen: My great-grandfather Christian Christiansen and great great-uncle Jacob Jensen together bought the family woodlot in Section 29. The irregularly shaped woodlot had a size of 12+ acres and purchase price of \$207.

February 5, 1876, filed October 3, 1876: Warranty deed (I don't have copy) from Isaac Hansen: My great-grandfather Christian Christiansen and great great-uncle Jacob Jensen together bought – probably more woodlot land in Section 29. See book 60, p. 458). (RAC: The legal description in the March 20, 1875 warranty deed appears to be incorrect. This may have been an attempt to rectify the legal description.)

Jun 18, 1874: M. Martinson and wife deed to Thomas Hansen SE ¼ of SW 1/4 of Sec. 21 Twp. 77 Range 43. (see next entry)

July 6, 1876: (I have the deed) Thomas and Christine Hansen, husband and wife, deed SE ¼ of SW ¼ of Sec. 21 Twp. 77 Range 43 consisting of forty acres to Ole Jensen for \$500. (RAC: This is the west forty acres of the eighty-acre Jim Christiansen home place on which Alvin Christiansen was born and lived until 1948. Thomas and Christine Hansen settled in Boomer Township around 1870 after living in Utah and Nebraska. In the late 1870s and thereafter, they lived in Boomer Township Sec. 36. Ole Jensen was still single at this time. I believe that part of the \$500 he paid might be a loan of \$100 from his older brother Jacob. Jacob had received the \$100 from one of the grandparents of Karen, his daughter by his deceased first wife.)

Christine Hansen was the sister of Mrs. Jorgen Christoffersen. Mr. and Mrs. Jorgen Christoffersen were charter members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the great-grandparents of Paul Christoffersen. Thomas and Christine Hansen were former Mormons. Their four surviving children were born in Denmark, Utah, Nebraska, and Iowa respectively.

1885 Pottawattamie County, Iowa plat book: O. Jensen owns 40 acres in Section 21, J. Jensen owns 80 acres in Section 28, and Chris Christianson owns 40 acres in Section 21 and 40 acres in Section 22. O Jensen, J Jensen and Christiansen own adjoining woodlots in Section 29.

May 23, 1883 recorded same date: Z. Goodwin Jr. and James Goodwin W 1/2 of SW of SE 1/4 of Sec. 21 Twp. 77 Range 43; see book 134 p. 616. (RAC: This is an incomplete transcription on my part. Evidently the Goodwins sold to Ole Jensen.)

I have the deeds for all of the following transactions:

May 2, 1885: Z. Goodwin, Jr. and James Goodwin, both single, deed E ½ of SW ¼ of SE ¼ of Sec. 21 consisting of 20 acres to Christian Christiansen for \$500. This later became the east 20 acres of the James Christiansen home place.

The extended Goodwin family was from Putnam County, Indiana and some were early settlers in central Boomer Township. Several members of this family, particularly Zadock Goodwin Sr., were cattle and horse dealers. My great-grandfather bought this parcel from Zadock Goodwin Jr. and his brother, James. Zadock Sr., Zadock Jr., and James all moved to western Nebraska. Zadock Goodwin Jr.'s biography is on the Internet.

April 1, 1886: Ole and Marie Jensen, husband and wife, deed 61 acres to Christian Christiansen for \$1200. This is the west 60 acres of the eighty-acre Jim Christiansen home place with a 20-foot strip on the south side of the forty-acre parcel bought by Jim and Nels Christiansen in 1898 (see below). Evidently this strip had been bought earlier to provide access from the west to the Jensen family holdings.

July 13, 1886: Jacob and Anna Jensen, husband and wife, deed a 20-foot strip to Christian Christiansen for \$50. This is just east of the forty-acre parcel bought by Jim and Nels in 1898 and is for road purposes.

January 20, 1898: Elizabeth Driver et. al. deed forty acres to J. P. and N. Christiansen for \$1200. This is NW ¼ of NW ¼ of Sec. 28. This just west of the Jacob Jensen farm, just southwest of the Jim Christiansen home place, and just south of the Driver home place. (The twenty-foot strip on the south previously mentioned is excluded.) (Elizabeth Driver's husband James died in 1889. In 1899 she married Richard Cromack, but the marriage didn't last.)

March 26, 1903: Nels Christiansen and Mary Christiansen, husband and wife, deed their undivided half interest in the above forty acres to J. P. Christiansen for \$1000.

May 23, 1905: Christian Christiansen and Annie Christena Christiansen, husband and wife, deed 84 acres to J. P. Christiansen for \$3000. This is the eighty-acre Jim Christiansen home place plus the four-acre woodlot in Sec. 29.

December 26, 1905: Christian Christiansen and Anna Christiansen, husband and wife deeded to J. P. Christiansen the 20-foot strip on the south side of the NW ¼ of NW ¼ of Sec. 28, Twp. 77, Range 43 for \$1. Christian and Anna signed with marks. Joseph Mackland, Justice of the Peace, handled the transaction.

March 18, 1924: Niels J. Nelson and Mary Nelson, husband and wife, deed to Alvin M. Christiansen a forty-acre parcel on the northeast corner of their farm for \$5,880. This is an irregularly shaped parcel, presumably laid out so the western boundary is on the contour.

March 25, 1932: L. A. Andrew, superintendent of banking for Iowa and receiver of the Exchange State Bank of Walnut, deeds to Alvin M. Christiansen the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 27 Twp. 76, Range 38 consisting of 120 acres more or less for \$15,500. (RAC: This is the Walnut farm lost by Fred "Shorty" Martens and then rented by him. Dad borrowed part of the money from Nate Darrington.)

End of *Appendix – Boomer Township Christiansen Land Transactions*
of the *Christiansen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.