

## **Rasmussen Volume, Chapter 9 - Rasmussen Notes**

© 2016 by Robert A. Christiansen, updated by RAC 21 Mar '16.

The *Rasmussen* volume focuses on my great-grandparents, Lars Christian Rasmussen and Karen Marie Andersen, their older descendants, and their older relatives in the United States.

I produced version 2 of Robert Christiansen's Family History in September 2012. Early in 2015, I began working on version 3, starting with the Rasmussen chapter. Version 3 incorporates some non-textual assets such as photographs and maps. In addition, version 3 breaks my history up into four volumes (Christiansen, Rasmussen, Larsen, Hansen), each comprised of chapters. Moreover, each chapter is in a separate .docx file.

<b>Contents of Rasmussen Volume, Chapter 9</b>	<b>page</b>
Related Documents	2
Assistance with the Rasmussen Volume	2
Rasmussen Denmark Summaries - Location, Census, Immigration	3
Rasmussen Volume Appendix - Voer Sogn	6
Rasmussen Volume Appendix - Stories from the Lars and Karen Rasmussen Family	8

**Need help?** Return to the preface and click on *Show Me Help*.

## My Related Documents

- My *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families* report contains additional information about the older relatives of many of the individuals mentioned herein who married into the Rasmussen family.
- Anne Kirstine Christensdatter, the mother of my great-grandmother, Karen Marie (Andersen) Rasmussen, was born in Dronninglund Sogn. Anyone tracing her family roots might find clues in my *Immigration to Boomer Township from Dronninglund Parish* (BoomerDronninglund.docx, about 76 pages), which sketches the lives of nine families who left Dronninglund Sogn north of Aalborg in the mid 1800s and ended on farms in Boomer Township north of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

## Assistance with the Rasmussen 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 Rasmussen history, along with the allied Christiansen and Bondo families.

- My father, Alvin Christiansen, his sister, Vesta (Christiansen) Thompson, and his cousins, Agnes Christiansen and Junior Marion Rasmussen.
- My cousins and second cousins, Elaine (Bondo) Hoyer, Alvina (Larsen) Hjortsvang, Kathryn (Thompson) Hanson and Gerald Christiansen.
- Keld Jensen, who placed Voer parish death records from 1814 to 1890 and Albæk parish death records from 1814 to 1891 on line (as of Mar 2015 can access through [www.keldslaegt.dk](http://www.keldslaegt.dk)).
- For some of the older relatives of my great-grandfather, Lars Christian Rasmussen, the site <http://sommerhusloenstrup.dk/daugaa.web/> was helpful. I don't know who is responsible for the site, but Sven Mosvad is a major contributor.

Karen Marie (Andersen) Rasmussen was my great-grandmother. The following have done research into her branch of my family tree:

- Rebecca Ann (Ebert) Kennedy, the granddaughter of Karen Marie's niece, Ida (Madison) Christiansen. The ancestry.com database *Becky\_Trees* by Rebecca Ann Kennedy contains information about the Rasmussen ancestors in Denmark including some parish records.
- Marsha (Hanson) Dillon, the granddaughter of Karen Marie's niece, Tillie (Madison) Hanson has also produced an ancestry.com database named *Hanson Feldt Tordrup Tree*.
- Jolene (Hoyle) Aitchison and others have studied the family of Karen Marie's niece, Ane Kirstine "Christina" (Larson) Gibler. Jolene's husband, Robert Dennis Aitchison, is the grandson of Christina's daughter, Tessa Ruth "Ruth" (Gibler) Wynne.
- Although it is a general source, I'd like to mention korttilkirken.dk, which contains maps of parish boundaries and photographs of parish churches.

## Rasmussen Denmark Summaries - Location, Census, Immigration

Updated by RAC 21 Mar'16.

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

### Where They Lived in Denmark

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

<b>Rasmussen, Lars Christian</b>	b. Hald, Voer Sogn; chr. Voer Sogn l. Hald, Voer Sogn
+ Andersen, Karen Marie	b. Vesterskov, Voer Sogn; chr. Voer Sogn l. Vesterskov, Voer Sogn & Idskov, Voer Sogn
m. Voer Sogn l. Hald, Voer Sogn	

### Where They Lived - Denmark Census Records

Great-Grandparent	Resident By and Sogn in Denmark (from census)			
-------------------	---	--	--	--

Name	1834	1845	1855	1870
Dates (age at death)	1840	1850	1860	1880

<b>Lars Christian Rasmussen</b>	(not born)	(not born)	Hald, Voer	Vestengaardens, Voer
27 Oct 1851 – 8 Jan 1834 (82)	(not born)	(not born)	Hald, Voer	Hald, Voer
<b>Karen Marie Andersen</b>	(not born)	Vesterskov, Voer	Vesterskov, Voer	Idskov, Voer
6 Jan 1843 – 29 Jan 1928 (85)	(not born)	Vesterskov, Voer	Dorf, Dronninglund	Hald, Voer

### Sogn (parish) Locator

Sogne	Herred, Amt (before 1970)	Amt 1970-2006	Region 2007+	Kommune (Municipality)
Voer	Dronninglund, Hjørring	Nordjylland	Nordjylland	Brønderslev
Dronninglund	Dronninglund, Hjørring	Nordjylland	Nordjylland	Brønderslev

## **Rasmussen Denmark Census Summary**

This summarizes Denmark census availability through [ddd.dda.dk](http://ddd.dda.dk) for sogne of interest in the Rasmussen family history.

### **Hjørring Amt – Rasmussen/Andersen:**

My great-grandparents, Lars Christian Rasmussen and Karen Marie Andersen, lived in Voer Sogn until they emigrated in 1882. Nearby Dronninglund Sogn was the earlier residence of a number of immigrants to Boomer Township.

**Voer Sogn** (Dronninglund Herred): 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890

**Dronninglund Sogn** (Dronninglund Herred): 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1921

In addition the 1930 Denmark census may now be available through the [myheritage.dk](http://myheritage.dk) subscription service.

## Rasmussen Immigration Summary

<b>1882 on the SS <i>Furnessia</i>:</b> Lars Christian Rasmussen* & Karen Marie Andersen * + Anna Christina "Stena", Rasmine "Minnie"*, Mette Marie "Mary", Alvina "Winnie"* & Bendine "Dena"	(registered Apr 22) my Rasmussen great-grandparents  my grandmother Minnie	Boomer & Co. Bluffs
<b>1882 on the SS <i>Island</i>:</b> Rasmus Christian Justesen	(registered October 28) Lars Rasmussen's half- brother	central Idaho
<b>1883 on the SS <i>Thingvalla</i>:</b> Peter Severin Martinus Justesen	(registered November 9) Lars Rasmussen's half- brother	Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah
<b>1871 on the SS <i>Humboldt</i>:</b> Carl Magnusen (became Charles Madison) & <b>1873:</b> Jensine Christine "Sena" Andersen + Anders Valdemar "Walter"	(registered September 6) Karen Rasmussen's brother-in-law (registered Apr 16) Karen Rasmussen's sister	Co. Bluffs
<b>1878:</b> Thomas Larsen & Ane Cathrine Andersen + Anna Kirstine "Christine" & Anders Christian "Chris"	(registered Apr 11)  Karen Rasmussen's sister	initially Co. Bluffs, then Nebraska?
<b>1883:</b> Asker Askersen	(registered May 12) Karen Rasmussen's nephew	St. Paul's community in Pottawattamie Co.

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](http://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 Rasmussen Denmark Summaries  
of the *Rasmussen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.

End of Chapter 9 - *Rasmussen Notes*  
of the *Rasmussen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.

## Rasmussen Volume Appendix - Voer Sogn

© 2016 by Robert A. Christiansen, updated by RAC 15 Mar '16.

My great-grandparents, Lars Christian Rasmussen and Karen Marie Andersen, and their five oldest children were born in Voer Sogn (parish), about 25 miles northeast of the city of Aalborg. When Lars and Karen were born, Voer Sogn was in Dronninglund Herred (district), which was part of Hjørring Amt (county). Voergaard, a historic manor house now an art museum, is located in Voer Sogn.

Referring to the *Voer Sogn Today* map on page 9 of the *Rasmussen Family Overview* chapter:

- **Voer Sogn** marks the location of **Voer Kirke**, the Voer parish church.
- **Voergaard**, the manor house with outbuildings, is located about a half mile west of Voer Kirke. Voergaard even has a moat! Before visiting, check the web site, voergaardslot.dk, for hours as some family visitors have been disappointed to find it closed.
- **Flauenskjold**, a town two miles west of Voer Kirke in Voer parish, has population 703.
- **Dybvad**, a town three miles north of Voer Kirke in Skæve Sogn, has population 644.
- **Præstbro**, a town two miles east of Voer Kirke in Albæk Sogn, is not on the map and has population 249.
- **Albæk**, a town four miles east of Voer Kirke in Sogn parish, is too small to be listed in Wikipedia.
- **Idskov**, a rural neighborhood about a mile north of Voer Kirke, had a school as early as 1830. Idskov does not appear on the map. I suspect much of Idskov disappeared when the Aalborg to Frederikshavn freeway was built.
- **Hald** marks the location of the farm where my great-grandfather Lars Christian Rasmussen was born, is about two miles north of Voer Kirke north of the freeway. The Rasmussens lived at Hald until they emigrated in 1882. My guess is that Hald was a medium sized farm. Several generations of Lars Christian Rasmussen's ancestors had lived at the Hald farm for at least sixty years. Presumably the sale of the Hald farm helped finance the move to the United States.
- **Vesterskov**, the birthplace of my great-grandmother, Karen Marie Andersen, is a large rural area to the west of Flauenskjold, parts of which are in other parishes. West of Vesterskov is a large woods, the Allerup Bakker, which is probably unsuitable to be used as farmland. ("Vesterskov" means "west woods".)

Peder Bronnum "P. B." Scavenius owned Voergaard from 1872 until his death in 1914. P. B. Scavenius' nephew, Erik Scavenius, then owned Voergaard until 1946.

Erik Scavenius was Foreign Minister of Denmark during World War I and during the first part of World War II. He also was Prime Minister from 1942 until 1943 when the German occupiers stripped the Danish government of any authority. Erik Scavenius is

not a popular figure in Danish history because of his policy of accommodation during the German occupation from 1940 to 1945.

Wikipedia, the on-line encyclopedia, says that Erik Scavenius suffered financial difficulties and sold Voergaard shortly after World War II ended. Both P. B. and Erik Scavenius are interred at the Voer parish church.

The art collection in the Voergaard manor house was brought back from France by the Danish count Ejnar Oberbeck-Clausen, who bought Voergaard in 1955 and oversaw a massive restoration of the manor house.

End of *Appendix – Voer Parish*  
of the *Rasmussen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.

## **Rasmussen VolumeAppendix**

### **Stories from the Lars and Karen Rasmussen Family**

#### **Contributors:**

- Junior Marion Rasmussen, grandson.
- Kathryn (Thompson) Hanson, great-granddaughter.
- Alvina (Larsen) Hjortsvang, great-granddaughter.

### **Stories from Denmark**

**Karen Rasmussen remembers (via Junior):** When I was old enough, I was a goose girl. It was my job to herd geese every day down in the swamp. My mother would give me a bowl of bread and milk in the morning. At noon I got a slice of bread with lard on it. Even that was a treat – to have something to eat.

**Karen Rasmussen's daughter, Rasmine Rasmussen, remembers (via Kathryn):** When we lived in Denmark, the house, barn and other buildings were built around a courtyard laid with cobblestones. When the men were busy in the fields, they would work until dark. We girls would be fed early and put to bed, but we could clearly hear the men come home as the wagons made a lot of noise as they were pulled into the courtyard and over the cobblestones.

**Rasmine Rasmussen remembers (via Kathryn):** My sister, Stena, and I sometimes stayed with an aunt in town where we went to school. We even got to go to a dancing school. When we stayed in town, we wanted the soft white bread for a snack, but we were told that we needed to eat the black bread and butter first. Then if we wanted more, we could go back for the white bread. Stena and I would go out into the yard and bury the black bread, then go back in and say, "See, it is all gone. Now may we have white bread?" (Kathryn remarks that when she visited Denmark, she preferred the black bread as she found it more flavorful.) (Kathryn and Bob suspect that the aunt was Lars' only sister, Bendine, who married in 1879, lived in Albæk about four miles east of Voergaard. Bendine died in 1881 at the age of 24, leaving a baby, Mette Marie, who died ten weeks later.)

### **Stories from Boomer Township**

**Rasmine Rasmussen remembers (via Kathryn):** When my parents would go to Council Bluffs to shop, they would need to stay overnight. At night we girls would huddle together as some nights we would hear the wolves howling.

**Rasmine Rasmussen remembers (via Kathryn):** In the summertime during the first years we lived on the farm, Indians would sometimes be going through the woods to hunt game. If my mother had just baked bread and the windows were open, the Indians would stop and ask for some bread, or if it was sitting close to the window, they



would just take some. (Kathryn notes that whites didn't understand that it was common in Indian culture to share food with others around them.)

**Junior Rasmussen remembers:** I remember hearing Grandma Rasmussen quote scriptures in Danish. She was very old, and she was very feeble. You had to be careful as a little child that you didn't bump against her. I mustn't try to climb up onto her lap. She liked to wear an apron, and she always worried that her seams weren't straight enough. She was always fixing the seams on that apron or on her dress; they had to be perfect. (Junior was three when his grandmother Karen died early in 1928.)

**Junior Rasmussen remembers:** Grandpa Rasmussen and I would go up to the stock tank where Grandpa would take a shingle and whittle a point on it like a boat. He would make a little hole in the middle of the shingle, using the leather awl on his big pocketknife, which he carried all the time. Then he would find a big white chicken feather and stick it into the middle of the shingle. The wind would blow the shingle across the tank. I would stand on one side and then in Danish he would say "Run around to the other side and get it." I'd go to the other side and the ship would come over, and he would have me bring it back. I thought it was because he was such a good seaman, but it was because he knew which way the wind was blowing! (Junior was nine when his grandfather Lars died in 1934.)

**Alvina Larsen remembers:** I have one memory of Grandpa Rasmussen and it probably covered many Sundays. I remember him as a little man with a beard, in his white shirt and black suit and black tie going down and sitting under the pulpit, on the right hand side at the front of the church. I see it in my mind as one memory, but it is probably Sunday after Sunday during this period of time. (Alvina was seven when her great-grandfather Lars died.)

Several Rasmussen family members and the Genealogy Center of the Museum of Danish America in Elk Horn, Iowa also have "Stories Related by Junior Marion Rasmussen", which consists of printed transcripts of three interviews with Junior Marion Rasmussen taped in the 1990s with subsequent typescripts prepared by Elaine (Bondo) Hoyer.

End of **Appendix – *Stories from the Lars and Karen Rasmussen Family***  
of the *Rasmussen* volume of *Robert Christiansen's Family History*.