

Niels Nielsen and Ane Nielsdatter Family (charter members)
Two-page sketch excerpted from *St. Paul's Boomer-Neola Early Families*.
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Reviewed by _____.
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Nielsen, Niels & Ane Nielsen (charter members)

Peter Rasmussen & **Ane Margrethe Nielsen** (see the Peter Rasmussen sketch)

Francis "Frank" Warren & Mary Rasmussen

Nels Rasmussen & Inger Marie Nielsen

Edward T. Rasmussen & Clara Nielsen

Peter Hansen & **Inger Marie "Mary" Nielsen** (charter members)
(see the Peter & Mary Hansen sketch)

Niels Nielsen & Mary Helgeson

Niels Nielsen (17 Aug 1816 – 26 Oct 1901) was born in Smerup Sogn (possibly Lyderslev Sogn), Præstø Amt, Denmark to **Niels Jørgensen and Katrine Pedersdatter**. Niels Jørgensen was a municipal official in Smerup Sogn for many years.

Ane Nielsdatter (30 Jun 1815 – 1885/95) was born in Fakse Sogn, Præstø Amt, Denmark to **Niels Hansen and Ane Margrethe Nielsdatter**.

Niels Nielsen and Ane Nielsdatter married in Faxe, Fakse Sogn in 1842 and raised their children in Præstø Amt before emigrating. They were living with his parents in Store Torøje By, Smerup Sogn in 1845 and 1850; in Faxe By, Fakse Sogn in 1855; and in Eskildstrup, Kongsted Sogn in 1860. Niels' occupation was listed as a tømmermand (cooper).

Niels and Ane Nielsen immigrated to Council Bluffs from Fakse in the early summer of 1872. They brought with them a granddaughter, Anna, age 2 1/2. Their single son, Niels Nielsen, immigrated at the same time.

Niels and Ane were living in Norwalk Township in 1880, and in Neola Township, Section 32 in 1885. In 1895, Niels, a widower, was living with his daughter, Anna, in Neola Township.

The three known children of Niels and Ane Nielsen are listed below. All three had St. Paul's connections.

✠ **Anna Margrethe Nielsen** (19 Aug 1843 – 31 Jan 1903) married **Peter Rasmussen** (10 Apr 1851 – 1926) in Kongsted Parish, Præstø Amt on May 3, 1873.

A few days after marrying, Peter Rasmussen and Anna Margrethe Nielsen immigrated to Council Bluffs from Præstø Amt.

See the **Peter Rasmussen sketch** for more information.

✠ **Inger Marie "Mary" Nielsen** (27 or 29 Oct 1848 – 18 Jul 1914) immigrated to Council Bluffs from Kongsted Sogn, Præstø Amt in July 1873 and married **Peter Hansen** (3 Jan 1843 – 1 May 1918) in Council Bluffs on March 17, 1874.

See the **Peter Hansen and Inger Marie “Mary” Nielsen sketch** for more information.

- **Nels Nelson (b. Niels Nielsen)** (22 Jul 1853 – after 1930) married **Mary Helgeson** (19 Oct 1853 -30 Jan 1927), a Wisconsin native, in Council Bluffs on 4 Dec 1878.

Nels Nelson farmed in Norwalk Township, Section 5 for many years. In 1930, after Mary’s death, he was living by himself on a farm in Norwalk Township.

The one child of Nels and Mary Nelson is listed below:

- **Clara Nelson** (11 Sep 1879 – 1 Jul 1964) married **Edward T. Rasmussen** (5 Apr 1882 – 21 Oct 1956) in Pottawattamie County on April 27, 1904. See the **Edward Rasmussen section of the Peter Rasmussen sketch** for more information.

I don’t know where Nels and Mary Nelson are interred.

I don’t know where Niels and Ane Nielsen are interred, which is a shame considering his role in establishing the St. Paul’s congregation. Rev. G. B. Christiansen, the first pastor at St. Paul’s, wrote poignantly describing his first meeting with Niels Nielsen:

One late afternoon in the fall of 1880, an hour or so before I was to take the train to Minneapolis to resume my studies at the seminary, a farmer from somewhere northeast of Council Bluffs came to the home where I stayed. He took a chair and remained seated in silence for a while, saying not a word. Finally he broke the silence, and explained with tears streaming down his face: ‘I am in a miserable strait, and so are all the rest of them out where I live. Can’t you come out and bring us the Word of God?’ ... I told him that I was just on the point of leaving for another year at school. I promised that when I returned, if the Lord permitted, and would open a way for me, I would come out into his community.”

Sources Specific to the Niels Nielsen and Ane Nielsdatter Family:

■ **References to other sketches in *St. Paul’s Boomer-Neola Early Families*:**

- For the family of Peter Rasmussen and Anna Margrethe Nielsen, see the **Peter Rasmussen sketch**.
- For the family of Peter Hansen and Inger Marie “Mary” Nielsen, see the **Peter and Mary Hansen sketch**.

■ **Danish Emigration Archives (ddd.dda.dk):**

- Niels, Ane and Anna Nielsen registered 6/20/1872 (parents and granddaughter age 2 1/2); Niels Nielsen registered 6/20/1872 (son).
- Ane Margrethe Nielsen registered 5/8/1873 (daughter); Peter Rasmussen registered 5/8/1873 (son-in-law). (RAC: Although they registered to emigrate separately on May 8, 1873, Danish records show they married on May 3, 1873.)
- Inger Marie Nielsen registered 7/10/1873 (daughter).

End of the Niels Nielsen and Ane Nielsdatter Family Sketch