

Severen O. Wald

by William O. Payne, 1911¹⁰

Among the active members of the Story county bar none occupies a more honorable place than the gentleman whose name introduces this review. He has been in the thick of the fray for fifteen years and has carried off a fair share of laurels, being known as one of the brightest lawyers in this section of the state, an attorney who never acknowledges defeat as long as he feels he is in the right and who in a remarkable number of difficult cases has convinced the court or jury of the righteousness of his contention.

He was born in Polk county, Iowa, December 10, 1865, a son of Ole J. and Bertha U. (Gaard) Wald, both natives of Norway. They came to the United States before their marriage, in the early '50s, and located near Ottawa, Illinois. Mr. Wald purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land in Elkhart township, Polk county, Iowa, from a man for whom he was working in Illinois, and in the spring of 1865 he and his family removed to this place. He built a log cabin and later improved his farm with modern structures, developing it into one of the valuable properties of the township. He also acquired land in Humboldt county, Iowa, taking up his residence there about 1890. Mrs. Wald passed away in 1899, her husband departing this life eight years later. They were both faithful members of the Lutheran church and active workers in behalf of every cause seeking to advance the permanent interests of the community. Mr. Wald possessed good business judgment and on account of his acknowledged reputation for integrity was a man of large influence whenever he was known.

Severen O. Wald was reared under favorable circumstances for a useful career. He acquired his education in the district schools and then took a course in the Iowa Business College of Des Moines. Subsequently he matriculated in the law department of Drake University, graduating with the degree of LL.B. in 1896. He was admitted to the bar January 22, of the same year, several months before his graduation from the university. Opening offices in Slater, he at once entered upon an active practice and has handled successfully some of the most important civil and land cases that have been tried in this

10 "History of Story County, Iowa, A record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement", by William O. Payne, Volume II, Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co. 1911.

section. Recently he won a land case at Clarion which involved twenty-five thousand dollars or more that had been unsuccessfully tried by some of the ablest lawyers in this part of the state. His clients are among the leading business men of the community and his opinions upon questions of law command respect as coming from one who has carefully considered the subject from all points of view.

In June, 1899, Mr. Wald was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Johnson, of Des Moines, and of this union six children were born, five of whom are now living, namely : Curtis M., Lowell M., Roscoe E., Bonnie V. and an infant daughter.

Mr. Wald gives his support to the republican party and has been frequently requested to allow his name to be proposed for the state legislature, but his extensive and growing practice has prevented his acceptance of this honor. He has served as a member of the town council and fraternally is connected with Slater Lodge, No. 384, I. O. O. F., and the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife are valued members of the Methodist church. Both as a pleader and counselor he has attained high standing in his profession, and as he is a man of studious habits who thoroughly prepares for every case in which he is interested, he apparently has before him many years of increasing responsibility and usefulness.

Volden, The Old Smoke House in the Meadow

Iver Lillemoe was born in the spring of the year 1773, in the beautiful glacial cut valley of Årdal Norway. His birth record is found in the records of the Lutheran Church from Hjelmeland parish which simply states: "Iver Olsen, born at Vallem, christened 23 May, 1773, in the church"¹¹. From this and other records we know for certain that Iver Lillemoe's father was named Ole. We also know that he was born at Vallem (later called Valheim) which is "one of the oldest farms in Årdal"¹². At this writing, there is significant uncertainty about the identity of Iver's father, Ole Vallem. The farm book from Årdal lists the family as: "Ola Valheimsvatne and wife Sofia Andersdtr., Children: Iver, born 1773 Anders, born 1784."¹³

This child, Iver, is the same person who would be called Iver Olsen Lillemoe our direct ancestor. Several lines of evidence¹⁴ indicate that Sofia Andersdatter was Iver's mother, however, another record indicates she married a second time in 1782 to Ola Toreson.¹⁵ This Ola may have been he who was later known as Ola Valheimsvatne, meaning: "Ole who lives at Valheim's lake." Therefore, Ola Valheimsvatne may have been Iver Lillemoe's father, but it seems equally likely that he was not. It is not known when Iver's father died.

11 From the Hjelmeland parish "kirkebok", FHL film #0126126, page 46, 1773, entry #28:

"Iver Olsen, born on the Vallem farm, christened 23rd May, in the church. Witnesses: Rasmus Åsenvigen, Peder Vallem, Peder Riveland, Mayia Hundness and Anna ibid"

12 Årdal, Gard og Folk, Sigurd Eikeland, 1971, volume 2, pg. 306.

13 Årdal, Gard og Folk, Sigurd Eikeland, 1971, volume 2, pg. 340.

14 1770 confirmations coincide with Ole Iversen Valde (#9--both were 16 years old in 1770). No other children between 1773 and 1782.

15 Ola Toreson was born in 1760 and would have been only 13 in 1773--too young to be Iver's father. Sofie Andersdatter was born in 1754 and would have been 19, old enough for her first marriage. Iver was with the family and listed as a child on the farm records in Øver Valheim.

Iver was the oldest son, so we can guess that his grandfather, by tradition, was also named Iver. An earlier census of 1758 lists an 'Iver Olson' in Årdal but there is no way to verify the connection. Eleven years later Iver's mother, Sofia Andersdatter, gave birth to Iver's only brother (half brother?), Anders, named after Sofia's father. Anders was christened on "the fourth Sunday after the Holy Trinity" which was 4 July, 1784. No other children of this family are known.

Iver Olsen Lillemoe appears to have received a good education because later in his life he worked as a vaccinator, preparing small pox vaccine and administering vaccinations to all of the children in Årdal, Hjelmeland, and Fister. Little did he know that 200 years later, during our generation, small pox would be declared eradicated from the planet, due in part to his efforts. In 1801, a complete census was taken of all the people in Norway, but Iver Olsen was not listed in any of the farms of Årdal. There was one individual named Iver Olsen, age 28, listed as a soldier serving in Kristiansand. This could have been the same person, but we do not know for sure. After the turn of the century, Iver Olsen returned home and married Siri Rasmusdatter on "the first Sunday after the new year", January, 1803. Together they lived at Lillemoe which was part of the farm called Vadla, near the home of Iver's parents. Lillemoe was located on the hillside near the mountains and the name literally means "Little Mountain". Iver Olsen was known as Iver Lillemoe, and he lived at Lillemoe for the rest of his life. In 1804 Siri she gave birth to her first and only child whom they called Anna Iversdatter. Anna grew up and married Helge Olsen Lid in 1825. Many of their children and grandchildren also emigrated to America, and we know of their descendants who survive today.

When Anna was still a young child, Iver Lillemoe fathered a son with another woman. This boy, the only son of Iver Lillemoe, was named Ole after his grandfather, and he was christened 11 March, 1808: "Ole Iversen". The boy grew up near his father, but not in the same home. His mother, Guro Olsdatter from Strand, had been working as a servant on a nearby farm. Guro married in 1814 with Torgils Halvorsen Bergeland, and they raised Ole together on the farm called Lille-Vadla. Guro had one daughter with Torgils whom they named Kari, born 25 December, 1820.

Despite the affair with Guro, Iver Lillemoe continued to live with his wife Siri for many years afterward. In the local census of 1835, Iver's wife, Siri, was said to be sickly. She died on 11 December, 1839. Iver Lillemoe married a second time in 1842 with Magla Olsdatter from Jørmeland. After a good long life he died at the age of 80 on 3 January, 1854.

The most remarkable thing to say about Iver Lillemoe's son, Ole Iversen, is that he grew up to become a master on the fiddle. In fact, he was so expert that they called him

"Spel Ola" which means "The Master Player, Ola" (see the story of Spel Ola). During these times there wasn't much entertainment out in the country, and it was a long journey by land and boat to the nearest city. The people in the valley no doubt enjoyed his music when he played at their special occasions. On 20 November, 1830, Ole Iversen married Siri Pedersdatter Hagen. Siri gave birth to their first son, Ole, on 8 January, 1831. After this time Spel-Ola and his family lived on the farm called Volden which was part of the Sedberg farm. Spel-Ola's proper name was Ole Iversen Volden, but in "The Wald History" he was named Ole Peter Vold. The origin of the middle name "Peter" is not known, but there can be little doubt that these two are the same person. Together Ole Iversen and his wife Siri would eventually have eight children whom they raised "in an old converted smoke house with a turf roof". The youngest of the eight children, Andreas was born in 1849. In the story of Spel Ola, and in the farm records, Volden was called a "husmannsplass" which means "cotters farm".

Early in the year 1854, the oldest son, Ole, took some of his younger brothers with him and sailed to America to realize their dream of owning their own land and running their own farms. Their grandfather, Iver Lillemoe, had died earlier that year, remember, and their father Spel Ola did not have a good reputation with the people of Årdal. We do not know exactly when Spel Ola went to prison, but we know that it must have been after 1855 because the family is listed in the local census of that year. His death is recorded in the prison church record of the Kristiansand tukthus parish as: "Ole Iversen Volden, Hjelmeland Sogn, died 25 February, 1860". This must have been a terrible hardship for their family because they were poor and they did not own the land that they farmed. The economy of south western Norway was very depressed at the time, and there were not many opportunities for young men who wanted to start a family. According to Cleva Darling, all eight of the children would eventually leave Norway. In 1861, their mother Siri would then be the only one of the family left in Norway. Finally, late that year, this mother of eight children, who just a few short years before had held so much hope and promise in her arms, died alone on Christmas day, probably of a broken heart more than anything else. The place called Volden, the place that was literally our name sake, was then torn down and the land was sold.

The oldest son, who was our direct ancestor through name and lineage, was called Ole Olsen Volden. From "The Wald History" by Cleva Darling he is known to us as Ole J. Vold, but when he came to America he used the name Ole J. Olsen. The family name was latter changed to Wold and then to Wald by his children. Both of these names are variations of the historical farm names. It is not very likely that the origin of this name is related to the German word "wald" which means forest. A more likely origin is from the Norwegian word "voll" or "vollen" which means "a meadow or a grassy field".

It is written in the Gaard family history that Ole J. Olsen Volden met Udbjørg Bertha Gaard while they sailed to America aboard the same ship. The two were married shortly after their journey on 15 September, 1855 in Ottawa Illinois. More of their story is told in "The Wald History" by Cleva Darling to whom we owe much gratitude, for without her work it would have been very difficult to research this side of our ancestry.

Evidence for the Vold genealogy line.

There exists a substantial paper trail which confirms our ancestry from Norway. To begin, our great grandfather was known to us directly through testimony from our grandfather, Ferdinand Oliver Wald, and through "The Wald History" by Cleva Darling, written in 1939. His name was Ole Olson Wold. We know that he served as a Lutheran minister in Moreland Illinois and Fertile Iowa from 1891 to 1908 when he died at the age of 46. On his letter head in the church he called himself O. O. Wold. In the book "Norwegians in America", in the chapter which lists priests, O. O. Wold is listed as a priest in Fertile Iowa. In this same listing it states: "His father was from Årdal, Ryfylke". Cleva Darling also confirms that the family was from "Ordahl". The latter spelling is an English translation of Årdal, and shows the correct way to pronounce the name as a Norwegian would say it. "Ryfylke" is the name of the judicial district which includes the township and parish of Årdal in Rogaland county. Emigration records from Årdal show that Ole Olsen, son to Ole Iversen and Siri Pedersdatter did in fact emigrate to America in 1854. Finally, the church records from the Palestine Lutheran church of Story Co. Iowa contain many references to the family of Ole J. Olsen Wold and his wife Udbjørg Bertine. This church record also confirms that Ole J. Olsen was born in Årdal Norway and his wife was born on the island of Talgje in Finnøy parish.

Cleva darling goes on to describe three generations of the family who lived in Norway. She states that the grandfather was named "Iver Lillemo", he married and had one child named "Ole Peter Vold", this son married "Siri" and together Ole and Siri had eight children. "Ole J. Vold", the oldest son, immigrated to America in "about the year 1850" where he married "Bertha" in 1854 "after a short courtship".

In the Årdal Bygdebok (farm book) a family which coincides is described very well with only a few variations. Iver Lillemo is listed as Iver Olson Littlemo, his parents are listed, it states that he married, his wife had one daughter, and that he also had an illegitimate son with Guro Olsdatter from Strand. The son's name is listed as Ola Iverson Volden who coincides with Ole Peter Vold. This Ola married Siri Pedersdatter. The eight grandchildren of Iver Lillemo are also listed with slight variations in order and

spelling. The table which follows lists the three generations as they are found in these three different sources for comparison.

Having established that this is the right place and time, the fact that the entire family described by Cleva Darling is listed in the Årdal farm book, and that they all appear in the original parish records, is very strong evidence that this is the actual family of our ancestors. The Årdal farm book also states that Ola (grandson to Iver Lillemoe) emigrated to America in 1854 which is the same time frame given by Cleva Darling. Furthermore, Cleva Darling states that Iver Lillemoe "lived all his life" at Årdal. The original parish records confirm this, and the Årdal farm book states that Iver lived on Lillemoe for 70 years.

We might also consider the names of the eight children. The custom in Norway at the time was to name the first son after his paternal grandfather and the second son after his maternal grandfather. The first daughter was named after the maternal grandmother and the second was named after the paternal grandmother, and so on. In this family the custom was followed with the exception of the first son, Ole, who was named after his father and great grandfather, Ole. The second child, Siri, was named after her maternal grandmother, Siri Torkelsdatter. The third child, Peder, was named after his maternal grandfather, Peder Pedersen. The fourth child, Guro, was named after her paternal grandmother, Guro Olsdatter. The fifth child, Torkel, was named after his maternal great grandfather, Torkel. The sixth child, Martha, was possibly named after Guro's mother, Marta Sjursdatter, although there may have been a different Martha because the name Martha Volden does appear on some of the church records as a witness of christenings. Ole the younger was also named after his father.

The naming of the children does not provide evidence to link the family to us. However, their names help us to link them to the earlier generations. Unfortunately, no church records earlier than 1760 exist for Årdal, and the records kept between 1760 and 1800 contain very few details.

The following table shows the family of Iver Lillemoe as listed in "The Wald History" by Cleva Darling, in the Årdal farm book (1971), and in the original Årdal parish records for comparison. Although there are slight variations in spellings and in the order of the children, these three coinciding records provide very good evidence that this family from Årdal is in fact the same family that was described by Cleva Darling.

by Allen H Wald

	Cleva Darling	Årdal Farm Book	Årdal Parish Records
Grand Father :	Iver Lillemo	Iver Olson Littlemo born 1773	Iver Olsen Lillemoe born 23 May, 1773
Father :	Ole Peter Vold	Ola Iverson Vollen born 1808	Ola Iversen Volden chr. 11 March, 1808
Mother:	Siri	Siri Pedersdtr. Vollen born 1809	Siri Pedersdtr. Volden chr. 5 Oct., 1807
Children: 1	Ole J. Vold	Ola Olson Vollen born 1831	Ole Olsen Volden, born 8 Jan, 1831
2	Sarah	Siri born 1833	Serine born 8 Sept, 1833
3	*Torkel	Peder born 1836	Peder born 29 Nov, 1836
4	Gurina	Guro born 1838	Guro born 12 July, 1838
5	*Peter	Torkel born 1841	Torkild born 7 Feb, 1841
6	Martha	Marta born 1844	Martha born 10 Jan, 1844

7	Oley	Ola born 1846	Ole born 19 Oct, 1846
8	Andrew	Andreas born 1849	Andreas born 27 June, 1849

*The order of Torkel and Peter were the only children out of place in the history by Cleva Darling.

Spel Ola “The Master Player”

The following is a translation of several excerpts relating to Spel-Ola from the Årdal bygdebok written by Sigurd Eikeland.

For over 150 years the cottager class had plenty of room in our farms. About 1860 this class composed about half of the population in the surrounding country. Then, because of their numbers, relations began to break down between the cottagers and other classes. Whenever they would snitch a little from others, it was as a rule out of necessity and of painful need to keep liveliness in themselves and their households. They were clever enough that they could steal milk from the cows and cheese from the cheese nets, and that they could take grain sheafs from the field during harvest and meat from the old smoke house where it hung to dry. Some would stand and confess publicly in church after a sermon, while others would go to prison. The worst of these was Spel-Ola.¹⁶

Ola Torgilson Volden and Daniel Jonson Kyrkhus were not exceptionally good friends. In 1823 Daniel said that Ola Torgilson had attacked him, and Daniel called Ola a thief and a scoundrel. According to Daniel, Ola first hit him in the back, between the shoulders, and then he hit him in the head "which afterwards left a slow unpleasant result for my health." Daniel had also said that Ola lived together (adulterously) with Guro Olsdatter from Lille Vadla (Ola Torgilson was Guro's step son. Guro had been widowed the year before by Torgils Halvorsen, Ola's father). Ola would moreover break himself into the mill house and grind illegally. Ola's wife, Gjertrud, was called a thief also.

Daniel Jonson came with a legal action and said: Ola had attacked him in his own house, he had ground illegally on the mill, and Gjertrud had stolen flour from his pile. Here there was no talk of reconciliation. 1825 was equally bad. Daniel brought another legal action against Ola and his step mother, Guro Olsdatter Lille Vadla -- and son to Guro -- Ola Iverson, because they had stolen 4 sheaves of grain from his field. They confessed and promised that it would never happen again. Daniel agreed under the condition that Guro and Ola pay 12 spd.¹⁷, and then Guro would also move her house away from Daniel and not display herself or her slender shape around his house after

16 Årdal, Frå istid til nåtid, Sigurd Eikeland, 1969, volume 1, pp. 210, 211.

17 spd. = spesiedalar. This was a coin which was worth about one dollar.

sunset. Both the accused and the complainant, Daniel Jonson, remained in agreement. Here shall one note that Ola Iverson above was the same who was called "Spel-Ola", the big thief. He had gone to a good school.¹⁸ In 1832 Ola Iverson Volden (Spel-Ola) brought a complaint against Iver Reierson Vadla and Andreas Reierson Østerhus because they had attacked him and "crunched" his fiddle. Afterwards he moved to Volden under Kyrkhus. (Formerly they lived on Volden under Midtre Sedberg).¹⁹

Ola Iverson was the last who lived on Volden before the place was sold to become the school's property.²⁰

Note: The following story of Spel-Ola was initially translated by Liv Meyers, and was revised into this side by side form afterwards. Some liberties have been taken in the translation, but this is mostly to try and preserve the flavor of the story. One can also use this version to compare the similarities and the differences between the Norwegian vs. English. The Nowegian version follows the original without deviation.²¹

18 Årdal, Gard og Folk, Sigurd Eikeland, 1971, volume 2, pp. 193,194. This note about his education is interesting because his father, Iver Lillemoe, was also presumably educated and worked as a vaccinator for Årdal, Hjelmeland and Fister. It is not yet known who taught Spel-Ola to play the fiddle.

19 Årdal, Gard og Folk, Sigurd Eikeland, 1971, volume 2, pp. 194.

20 Årdal, Gard og Folk, Sigurd Eikeland, 1971, volume 2, pp. 219. Ola Iversen and Siri Pedersdatter are listed with their children on the Volden farm in the 1855 census. Siri Pedersdatter Volden died 25 Dec. 1861. According to volume 1, the place was sold before 1864.

21 Årdal, Frå istid til nåtid, Sigurd Eikeland, 1969, volume 1, pp. 399, 400.

Spel - Ola

About middle of the 1800-century stood an old smoke-house with a turf-roof on *the* meadow between the oldest school-house and Lonn -- on property-belonging to Kyrkhus. That was *the* coppers-farm Vollen. The place was sold to *be* school-property in 1864, so the happenings which here are told took-place before that time, but it-is not so easy for exact-dates *to be* established. On *the* coppers-farm lived Ola Vold, or Spel-Ola which he was best known under.

Spel-Ola

Omkring midten av 1800-talet stod ei gammal røykstove med torvtak på vollen mellom det eldste skulehuset og Lonn -- på eigedommen til Kyrkhus. Det var husmannsplassen Vollen. Plassen blei selt til lærarjord i 1864, så dir hendingane som her blir fortalt skjedde før den tid, men er ikkje så lett å tidfeste nøviktig. På husmannsplassen budde Ola Vold, eller Spel-Ola som han er best kjent under.

Johannes Vadla has called Spel-Ola for "Ola Person", but that can probably not be right. After this one can find out most likely name was Ola Ivarson. This Ola was born 1808, an illegitimate son to *the* married man Ivar Olson Lillemo, cottager under Walle, and Guro Olsdatter *from* Qvalshaug of Strand (living at Hundsnes), written thus in *the* churchbook. Ola was married 1830 with Siri Peders-daughter Hagen, probably from Segadal in Hjelmeland, born 1809.²² Ola was then called Ole Varden. Ola and Siri had many children, among others Ola born 1831 and Per (Peder) born 1836. *The* parents are called Vollen when *the* children became confirmed.

Johannes Vadla har kalla Spel-Ola for Ola Person, men dette kan truleg ikkje vere rett. Etter det ein kan finne ut må nammet vere Ola Ivarson. Denne Ola var født 1808, ein uekte son til gift mann Ivar Olson Lillemo, husmann under Walle, og Guro Olsdatter Qvalshaug av Strand, f. t. Hundsnes, står det i kyrkjeboka. Ola blei gift 1830 med Siri Pedersdatter Hagen, truleg frå Segadal i Hjelmeland, født 1809. (9) Ola er då kalla Ole Varden. Ola og Siri hadde fleire barn, mellom andre Ola født 1831 og Per født 1836. Foreldra er kalla Vollen då barna blei konfirmerte.

22 Ola's wife Siri Pedersdatter Hagen was actually born 5 October, 1807, and her christening is recorded in the Aardal church book. Siri Pedersdatter from Segadal in Hjelmeland, mentioned above, married a different man, and her unrelated family is found in the Hjelmeland bygdebok under the farm of Segadal.

Ola was *a* fiddler and *the* obvious-choice in weddings and other gatherings where they needed music. For he was master on *the* fiddle and became simply called "Spel-Ola", but other opinions of people that they well could call him "Stel-Ola". For steel that did he, many go so far that they called him a big-thief.

Where there were young-people -- there was Ola. And where there was liquor -- yes there was Ola always full.

Best-friend to Ola was Jonas Gjesfjell. There is just one Jonas to-be found among people who have lived on Gjesfjell, and that is Jonas Johannesson, born 1803, so that can agree good with times which were mentioned above. In behavior were they two alike, just then that Jonas not could play (*the fiddle*).

Ola var spelemann og skjølvskriven i bryllaup og andre samkomer der det trongst musikk. For han var meister på fela og blei bare kalla "Spel-Ola", men elles meinte folk at dei like godt kunne kalla han "Stel-Ola". For stal det gjorde han, mange går så langt at dei kallar han for stortjuv.

Der det var ungdom -- der var Ola. Og der det var brennevin -- ja der var Ola alltid full.

Bestevenn til Ola var Jonas Gjesfjell. Det er bare ein Jonas å finne mellom folk som har butt på Gjesfjell, og det er Jonas Johannesson, født 1830, så det kan rime godt med tida som er nemnt ovanfor. I åtferd var dei to like, bare det at Jonas ikkje kunne spele.

One day midst in
hay-making-season came
Spel-Ola and Jonas Gjesfjell
east to Bønardalen with
backpacks and fishingpoles.
To people who inquired,
replied they that they *were*
going east into *the* lake and
fish. *At* that time were there
people and cattle on all
summer-farms, and people who
came past were good
welcomed. So also with Ola
and Jonas. They stayed
themselves to a couple days on
Vasstøl, which in that time was
the farm of Øver Mæle.

But simultaneously with the
fishing-trip *it* happened that
away *went* three large kettles of
copper, one on Vasstøl, one on
Saupstøl and one on Onnestøl
(?).

Farm-folk became angry, they
must *come* up with new
cheese-kettles. Ola and Jonas
were blamed, but no-one had
proof on them. After / harvest
became stolen a bull in *its* stall
in a barn, and immediately
after had Ola gone on *a* boat to
town with meat. People were
mistrusting and inquired after.
Then came forth that Ola had
been in town with a
bull-carcass and a
hacked/asunder copper-kettle.

Ein dag midt i Slåtten for
Spel-Ola og Jonas Gjesfjell
aust Bønardalen med
ryggskrepper og fiskestenger.
Til folk som spurte, svara dei at
dei skulle aust i vatna og fiske.
Den tid var det folk og fe på
alle stølar, og folk som for
framom blei godt mottatt. Så
og med Ola og Jonas. Dei ga
seg til eit par dagar på Vasstøl,
som i den tid blei brukt av Øvre
Mæle.

Men samstundes med denne
fisketuren kom det bort tri store
primkjelar av kopar, ein på
Vasstøl, ein på Saupstøl og ein
på Onnestøl (?).

Bygdefolket blei arge, dei
mtteå opp med nye primkjelar.
Ola og Jonas fekk skulda, men
ingen hadde bevis på die.
Hausten etter blei stolen ein
stut på båsen i eit fjøs, og
straks etter hadde Ola fare på
båt til byen med kjøt. Folk
fekk mistru og spurte etter. Det
kom fram at Ola hadde vore i
byen med ein stutaskrott og ein
sundhakka koparkjel.

Then go they to Ola, and he must confess that he had done *it*. He had taken *the* bull, he / lead *it* to Gjeilå and slaughtered *it* there. Helps-man

(*accomplis*) named he not. *The* copper-kettles were they either not found. But Ola had also other things to answer for. One time had he stolen a ham on Ristingsvoll, *the* owner came over him with *it* as he crept out *the* smoke-vent in *the* cook-house, bearing *the* ham.

Ola was taken to prison in Kristiansand, and was sentenced to 5 years hard-labor.

Long was it not before Jonas came to *the* same place. That happened like this: He was in employment by Tore Johnsen Valheim. One evening came Dan Tengesdal inside with Tore, they were good pals. Dan had been in town with meat, and wanted *to* stay over/night on Valheim, and so travel up *the* lake *the* next day to Tengesdal.

Då gjekk dei på Ola, og han måtte vedgå det han hadde gjort. Han hadde tatt stuten, ført han til Gjeilå og slakta der. Hjelpesnamm nemnde han ikkje. Koparkjelane fekk dei heller ikkje greie på. Men Ola hadde og andre ting å svare for. Ein gong hadde han stolte ei fleskeskinke på Ristingsvoll, eigaren kom over han med same han kraup ut røykgluggen i eldhuset, berande på skinka.

Ola blei ført til fengslet i Kristiansand, og fekk dom på 5 års tukthus.

Lenge varte det ikkje før Jonas kom på same staden. Dette bar slik til: Han var i arbeid hos Tore Johnsen Valheim. Ein kveld kom Dan Tengesdal innom hos Tore, dei ver gode bussar. Dan hadde vore i byen med kjøt, og ville bli natta over på Valheim, og så fare opp vatnet neste dag til Tengesdal.

Then Dan let himself (*be careless*), and saw Jonas that he laid *his* shirt with *his* pocket-book inside over *his* lunchbox. So as-soon-as Dan had fallen-asleep, tip-toed Jonas himself in and took *the* pocket-book and went out to Valheims-mountain and concealed it under a rock. But this came up, people had met Jonas in (stormy) weather on *the way to the* mountain. And then usefulness there *was* no longer to deny.

Spel-Ola and Jonas Gjesfjell came thus back / together -- but inside stone-walls. Ola became sick and *the* priest was with him often. One day confessed he all he could remember. Among other *things* said he that Jonas had been with *him* and slaughtered *the* bull, and *the* copper-kettles had they taken on the fishing-trip. *The* kettles had they carried up *the* moor and in Løyning to Gullster rock-pile and hid them there. Many other *incidents* came also forth during confession.

Prison-priest noted down all, comforted Ola and promised to bear this forward to people in Årdal. Day after, died Spel-Ola.

Då Dan la seg, såg Jonas at han la trøya med lommeboka i ovanpå matskrinet. Så snart Dan hadde sovna, stiltra Jonas seg inn og tok lommeboka og gjekk ut til Valheimsåsen og gjemde den under ein stein. Men dette kom opp, folk hadde møtt Jonas i uver på veg til åsen. Og då nytta det ikkje lenger å nekte.

Spel-Ola og Jonas Gjesfjell kom så saman att -- men innanfor murane. Ola blei sjuk og presten var hos han ofte. Ein dag skrifta han alt han kunne mennast. Mellom anna sa han at Jonas hadde vore med og slakta stuten, og koparkjelane hadde dei tatt på ein fisketur. Kjelane hadde dei bore ut heiane og inn Løyning til Gullsterøysane og gjemt dei der. Mykje anna kom og fram under skriftemålet.

Fengselpresten noterte ned alt, trøysta Ola og lova å bere det fram til folk i Årdal. Dagen etter døydde Spel-Ola.

Copper-kettles in Gullster rock-pile then were looked-for long and well after, but no-one was able to find them.

Farm-folks thought rather that *the* priest had mistaken *the* same place and name, or that Ola had been confused when he confessed.

His / son, Per Olson, followed in father's footsteps. One time stole he wool on Skogarbø and Øvre Valheim. He was caught on *the* way/home from town and received imprisonment he also. Like *his* father died he in prison.

The two other sons to Spel-Ola, Anders and Ola emigrated to America, Ola in 1854. What time Anders emigrated is not known. One other child to Spel-Ola was Serina Mælshorten.

Koparkjelane i Gullsterøysane har det vore leita lenge og vel etter men ingen har klart å finne dei. Bygdefolket trudde helst at presten hadde rørt saman stad og namn, eller at Ola hadde vore uklår då han skrifta.

Sonen hans, Per Olson, gjekk i farens fotefar. Ein gong stal han ull på Skogarbø og Øvre Valheim. Han blei tatt på heimveg frå byen og fekk tukthusstraff han og. Lik faren døydde han i fengslet.

Dei to andre sønene til Spel-Ola Anders og Ola reiste til Amerika, Ola i 1854. Kva tid Anders reiste, er ikkje kjent. Eit anna barn til Spel-Ola var Serina Mælshorten.

Ole Iversen Volden, or "Spel-Ola" was born in 1808 and married Siri Pedersdatter Hagen in 1830. As we now know, Spel-Ola and Siri Pedersdatter had eight children altogether, five sons and three daughters. The couple were still living together with the younger children in 1855, and they were listed in the Årdal census of that year. Ole died in prison on 25 February, 1860, and Siri died shortly afterward, on Christmas day in 1861.

Spel-Ola's father, Iver Olsen Lillemoe, was never married to his mother Guro Olsdatter. Iver Lillemoe's legal wife was Siri Rasmusdatter Hia whom he married four years before the affair with Guro, and with whom he fathered a daughter, Anna, b. 1804. Despite the affair, Iver lived at Lillemoe with his wife Siri until she died in 1839. In

1842 Iver married again with Magla Olsdatter from Jørmeland, Hjelmeland. Iver lived to be eighty years old and died in 1854.

Guro Olsdatter Strand

Spel-Ola's mother was named Guro Olsdatter from Strand. Guro was born in Rogaland county Norway, in the Strand parish, on a farm called Qvalshaug (Kvalshaug). This farm is part of Jørpeland, which now includes a city of over 3000. Guro was born 9 May, 1779, the sixth of nine children. Guro's father was Ole Jonsen who was born about 1721. Guro's mother was Martha Sjursdatter from Viglesdalen, Årdal. Ole and Martha were probably cousins, and if not cousins they were closely related. Martha was Ole's second wife, and the two of them were required to obtain the king's permission to marry because of their kinship. The actual relationship is not yet known. Guro's christening was recorded in the church book as:

Ole Jørpeland's datter Guraa

After her son Ola was born, Guro married three times and she was widowed by all three men. Her first marriage was in 1814 with Torgils Halvorson from Bergeland. Torgils was the father of Ola Torgilson Volden mentioned above. Ola, was only six years old at that time. Guro and Torgils had a daughter together named Kari, born in 1820. Torgils died in 1822. The identity of Guro's second husband is not yet known, but he may have been the person who taught the young Ola to play the fiddle. Guro's third marriage was with Ola Tolleivson from Følsvik in 1835.

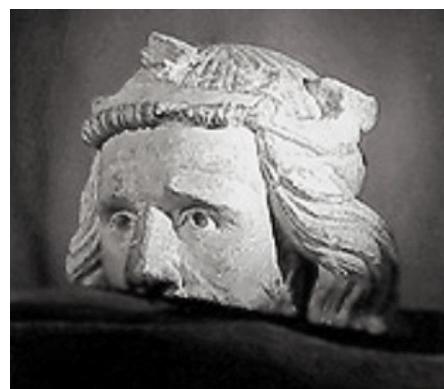
Guro emigrated to America in 1853 (at the age of 75) with the family of her daughter Kari and Kari's husband Markus Andersen from Vadla. This couple had two children at the time, Anders and Gurina (named after Guro). The family came with many other Norwegian immigrants to the Fox River settlement in La Salle county Illinois, and they are listed in the federal census of 1860. Guro was then over 80 years old. At that time Guro had taken the name Julia Anderson, Julia being an Americanized version of Guro, and Anderson being the surname used by Kari and her husband whom Guro lived with. As mentioned above, Ole J. Olsen, Spel-Ola's oldest son, emigrated in 1854, and he also came to La Salle County near Guro's family. Ole J. married in 1855 with Udbjørg Bertine Andersdatter from the Gaard farm (Bertha Gaard) on the island of Talgje. Guro most likely died shortly after 1860 because she is not found in census records of 1865 or later. Her daughter, Kari (Spel-Ola's half sister) died in Illinois during the birth of her third child in 1854. Kari's husband, Markus, married again and had several more children who moved to Grundy Illinois.

Spel-Ola's other half sister, Anna Iversdatter, married Helga Olsen from Tinn. They had one son, Ole Helgasen, born in Årdal. Then they moved to Sjernerøy, Rogaland county where they eventually had eleven children together. After Anna died, her husband Helga also came to America with one of their sons in about 1875.

Håkon V Magnussøn

The farm records from Veldre, Hedmark, Norway clearly show a lineage from our family back to 'King Haakon the fifth' who was our great grandfather twenty two generations ago. This royal line comes through Augusta Simerson, wife of Ole O. Wold, and her mother Pernille Larsdatter Bratten, b. 1836. Pernille's lineage can be shown back to Ales Lauritzdatter Bratten, b. 1625, who was called: 'adelsdamen Ales Lauritzdtr.' which means 'nobel woman'. The lineage from 1300 through 1600 is given, but there are some generations that are suspect with not many details. So there is considerable uncertainty, but we do know that Ales Lauritzdatter held this title, and therefore it is very likely that she was a direct descendant of the king. There are many files available on the internet about this king and his family. The following is from www.nationmaster.com/encyclopedia:

Haakon V Magnussøn was born in 1270 and was king of Norway from 1299 until 1319. He was married to Eufemia of Rügen, and father to Ingeborg Håkonsdotter who married duke Eric Magnusson of Sweden. Haakon V is considered to be the last Norwegian king in the Fairhair dynasty.²³ He was the younger surviving son of Magnus the Lawgiver, King of Norway and wife Ingeborg of Denmark. He succeeded when his older brother king Eric died without an heir. Haakon descended from king St Olav, Olav II of Norway through his mother Saxony, and herself a descendant of Saxony. Olav II Haraldsson (995 called during his lifetime 'the Fat' Olaf.



This broken bust is said to Magnussøn.

who was daughter of Jutta of Ulvhild of Norway, duchess of – 1030), king from 1015–1028, was and afterwards known as Saint

have been sculpted after Haakon V

23 <http://www.statemaster.com/encyclopedia/Haakon-V-of-Norway>

‘Gard Tøresen’

Gard Tøresen²⁴ was born in 1373 A.D. and is known to be one of our direct ancestors. We know of him from the family histories that were kept on the Gaard farm in Talgje, Norway where he lived. In 1959 our grandparents, Ferdinand and Velma Wald, traveled to the Gaard farm and visited our distant cousins who still live there. As a result we have copies of the genealogical records that have been kept by that family for many centuries.

Bertha Gaard, our great great grandmother, was named in her birth record:

‘Udbjørg Bertine Andersdatter Gaard’

Her given name was Udbjørg Bertine, and this is why she used the name Bertha when she came to the United States. Her father’s name was ‘Anders Olsen Gaard’, so she was called Anders’ daughter. Gaard or Gård is the name of the farm where their family lived, and thus her name: Bertha Gaard.

The Gaard farm is located on the island of Talgje, just off the south west coast of Norway, near Stavanger. Gard Tøresen, (who’s name also comes from this place), was one of the earliest known proprietors. But it was actually much more than a farm as we would think of it. The place called ‘Gård’, (pronounced: [gôôrd]), would be better described as a farm village where many families lived together with their various homes circling around a central court yard. In ancient times Gård was even more than a village. Some might call it a castle or a manor with it’s protective walls and towers. It was also the center of the region and a place of justice where courts were held and the law was enforced. At one time it was the most important village thereabouts in the larger region called ‘Ryfylke’.

24 Lagmannsætta : Gard Tøreson ætta frå Sør-Talgje i Rogaland, Engen, Sigleif, 1903-1989. History and genealogy of the Tøreson family of Sør-Talgje in Rogaland, Norway. Includes histories and genealogies of related families on other farms in Rogaland county, ca. 900 to ca. 1600. FHL INTL Book: 948.31/F2 D2e v. 2 pt. 1 supp. Publication [Stavanger] : S. Engen, 1984. ISBN/ISSN: 8299079748

Gard Tøresen was a nobleman called ‘lagemann’. This word literally means ‘law-man’. However, in this case it means he was actually the supreme judge in this part of the country. In these early times the law was not like it is now in our country. The poor classes were not usually able to own property. The higher classes, who did own the land, were very careful to ensure that their ownership passed down only to their children or to other members of their family. The poor had to struggle just to have food to eat. Even if they could acquire some savings, it was very hard for them to find land to purchase that wasn’t already spoken for. There were also taxes required, both for the poor and for the land holders. Many of the earliest documents we have are tax accounts which list the farms, the men on those farms, and their property.

Because of the importance of royal family lines, there are many genealogies and family histories that were carefully kept by the royal families and their ‘noble’ grand children. Of our Norwegian ancestors, this is the second time we have seen a family line that can be traced back to royalty. Remember that the family of Augusta Simerson can be traced back through king Håkon V Magnussøn who was king from 1299 to 1319. Augusta’s family all came from south eastern Norway in Hedmark county. Although Gard Tøresen’s family lived on the opposite side of Norway, his family lines can be traced back to the same royal lines and also to the early Swedish royalty.

It is probably not that unusual that some family lines can be traced back to the kings and queens of medieval Europe. The number of ancestors we have twenty generations back is just over a million ($X = 2^{20}$). No doubt the vast majority of our ancestors were found among the peasants and the working class. After all, these were the people who emigrated to America looking for land that they could own for themselves. Nevertheless, it is wonderful and interesting to have access to records that show our royal heritage and tell about their history.²⁵



Tore Gardson
adelsvåpen

25 ‘adelsvåpen’ = ‘his royal coat of arms’

Pedigrees and Family Group Sheets

I often have family members tell me that they can't follow what I write because they don't know all the families and they need a pedigree they can see to understand how everyone fits in. Of course even I make heavy use of the pedigree files on my computer while I write, and I try to keep notes about most individuals in those files. So the best place to see my computer files is <www.rootsweb.com> and search for an individual like 'Ferdinand Wald', or you can download a possibly more current version from our family

Children of Iver Olsen Lillemoe



website which is <www.oooald.org>. Although there are many files and many ways to print them, here I have included just a few descendant charts and family group sheets referring to individuals who are found in my personal research. I hope this helps.

Children of Ole Ivarsen Volden

Ole Ivarsen Volden (b.1808;d.1860)

sp: Siri Pedersdatter Hagen (b.1806;m.1830;d.1861)

Ole J. Olson Vold (b.1831;d.1908)

sp: Udbjørg Bertine Andersdotter Gaard (b.1835;m.1855;d.1899)

Serine Olsdatter Volden (b.1833;d.1876)

: Gunder Helgesen (b.1832)

: Gustav Bernhard Olaus Beutich (b.1835)

: Ole Olsen Totland

Peder Olsen (b.1836)

Guro Olsdatter (b.1838)

sp: Syvert Pedersen (m.1864)

Torkild Olsen (b.1841)

Martha Olsdatter (b.1844)

Ole Olsen Dahl (b.1846)

sp: Allazenia or Ella Lowder (b.1856;d.1886)

Andreas Olsen (b.1849)

sp: Tørborg Andrea Ragnethe Andersdatter (b.1850;m.1874)

Children of Ole J. Olson Vold

Ole J. Olson Vold (b.1831;d.1908)

sp: Udbjørg Bertine Andersdotter Gaard (b.1835;m.1855;d.1899)

 |
 | Serina O Olson Wald (b.1858;d.1929)

 | sp: Hector Austad (b.1848;m.1899)

 | Sophia (Susie) Olson Wald (b.1860;d.1930)

 | sp: Charles Anderson (b.1865)

 | Ole Olson Wald (b.1861;d.1908)

 | sp: Augusta Simerson (b.1872;m.1891;d.1953)

 | Andrew Olson Wald (b.1863;d.1905)

 | sp: Clara Hansen

 | Severen O Olson Wald (b.1865;d.1941)

 | sp: Minnie E. Johnson (b.1874)

 | Martin Lewis Olson Wald (b.1870;d.1938)

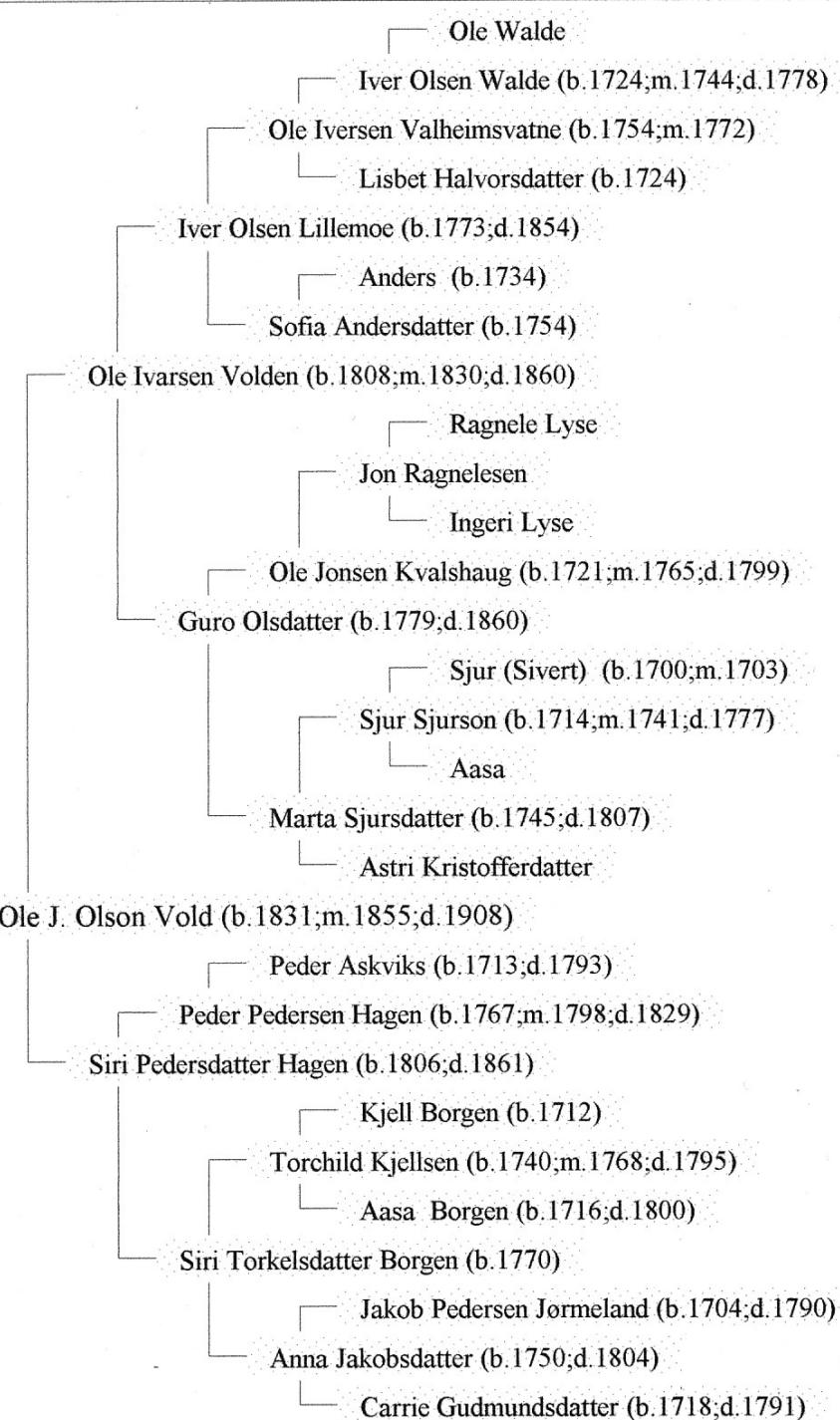
 | sp: Myrta Fowler (m.1896)

 | Bessie G Olson Wald (b.1872;d.1909)

 | sp: Andrew Maland (b.1874;m.1900)

 | Burton O Olson Wald (b.1872;d.1900)

Ancestors of Ole J. Olson Vold



Children of Serine Olsdatter Volden

Serine Olsdatter Volden (b.1833;d.1876)

sp: Gunder Helgesen (b.1832)

 |— Anna Karina Gundersdatter (b.1859)

sp: Gustav Bernhard Olaus Beutich (b.1835)

 |— Olaus Gustavsen (b.1864;d.1866)

sp: Ole Olsen Totland

 |— Olaus Olsen Mælsosen (b.1867)

Children of Guro Olsdatter Volden

Guro Olsdatter Volden (b.1838;d.1873)

sp: Syvert Pedersen Døvik (b.1842;m.1864)

 |— Serina Pedersdatter (b.1864;d.1958)

 |— sp: Ludwig Berg (b.1862;m.1887;d.1942)

 |— Thomas Pedersen (b.1866)

 |— Betsey Pedersen (b.1868)

 |— Caroline Pedersen (b.1869)

Children of Serina Pedersdatter

Serina Pedersdatter (b.1864;d.1958)

sp: Ludwig Berg (b.1862;m.1887;d.1942)

Henry S. Berg (b.1888)

Grace C. Berg (b.1891)

George B. Berg (b.1893)

Leonard S. Berg (b.1894)

Lilly S. Berg (b.1895)

Norris J. Berg (b.1897)

Family Group Record

Husband	Ole Olson Wold	
Born	11 Feb 1861	Place Fox River, Lasalle, Illinois
Died	18 Jan 1908	Place Fertile, , Iowa
Married	7 Jul 1891	Place Belmond Iowa
Husband's father	Ole J. Olson Vold	
Husband's mother	Udbjørg Bertine Andersdotter Gaard	
Wife	Augusta Simerson	
Born	5 May 1872	Place Belmond, , Iowa
Died	3 May 1953	Place Minneapolis, , Minnesota
Wife's father	Fredrick Simmerson	
Wife's mother	Pernille Larsdatter	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
1 F	Pauline Bertilla Wald	
	Born	29 Mar 1892 Place Chicago Ill
2 F	Alvah Ovedia Wald	
	Born	4 Apr 1894 Place Fertile IA
3 M	Ferdinand Oliver Wald	
	Born	27 Jul 1896 Place Fertile, , Iowa
	Died	30 Mar 1987 Place Sandy, Utah
	Buried	3 Apr 1987 Place Salt Lake City, Utah
	Spouse	Velma Howe
	Married	31 Dec 1925 Place Salt Lake City, Utah
4 M	Joseph Harold Wald	
	Born	30 Sep 1898 Place Fertile, IA
	Died	18 Jan 1955 Place
	Spouse	Ruth Gibson
	Married	24 Jun 1934 Place
5 M	Burton Emanuel Wald	
	Born	8 Feb 1901 Place Fertile IA
	Died	26 Jul 1965 Place
	Spouse	Evelyn Gulden
	Married	Jan 1939 Place
6 F	Selina Honora Wald	
	Born	18 Jul 1903 Place Fertile IA
7 M	Reuben Ephraim Wald	
	Born	25 Sep 1905 Place Fertile, Worth, IA
	Died	18 Aug 1993 Place Cornelius, Washington, OR
8 F	Oletta Augusta Wald	
	Born	22 Aug 1908 Place Fertile, Worth, IA
	Died	22 Dec 1997 Place Minneapolis, Hennepin, MN

Family Group Record

Husband		Fredrick Simmerson	
	Born	8 Jan 1838	Place Faråsen, Veldre, Hedmark, Norway
	Died	25 Oct 1928	Place Belmond, , Iowa
	Married	1867	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Husband's father	Simen Hansen	
	Husband's mother	Alis Frederiksdafter	
Wife		Pernille Larsdatter	
	Born	15 May 1836	Place Store Bratten, Veldre, Hedmark, Norway
	Chr.	5 Jun 1836	Place Store Bratten, Veldre, Hedmark, Norway
	Died	30 Jun 1912	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Wife's father	Lars Pedersen	
	Wife's mother	Johane Andersdatter	
Children List each child in order of birth.			
1	M	Simon Simerson	
	Born	15 Aug 1868	Place Gailsville, Trempealeau, Wisconsin
	Died	2 Mar 1944	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Spouse	Anna M. Johnson	
	Married	20 Apr 1893	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
2	M	Ludwig Frederick Simerson	
	Born	4 Apr 1870	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Died	26 Dec 1955	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Buried		Place Clear Lake, Iowa
	Spouse	Gena Mathilda Schonhood	
	Married	3 Jun 1908	Place
3	F	Augusta Simerson	
	Born	5 May 1872	Place Belmond, , Iowa
	Died	3 May 1953	Place Minneapolis, , Minnesota
	Spouse	Ole Olson Wold	
	Married	7 Jul 1891	Place Belmond Iowa
4	M	Johanes Simerson	
	Born	3 Aug 1874	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Died	8 Apr 1881	Place
5	F	Ida Simerson	
	Born	14 Feb 1876	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Died	24 Apr 1881	Place
6	M	Ole Simerson	
	Born	26 Apr 1879	Place Belmond, Wright, Iowa
	Died	21 Apr 1881	Place

Family Group Record

Husband Ole J. Olson Vold

Born	8 Jan 1831	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	31 Jan 1831	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	1 Jun 1908	Place	Thor, Humbolt, Iowa
Married	15 Sep 1855	Place	, Lasalle, Illinois
Husband's father	Ole Ivarsen Volden		
Husband's mother	Siri Pedersdatter Hagen		

Wife Udbjørg Bertine Andersdotter Gaard

Born	10 Jul 1835	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	19 Jul 1835	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Died	19 Aug 1899	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa
Buried	Aug 1899	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa
Wife's father	Anders Olsen		
Wife's mother	Siri Torbjørnsdotter		

Children List each child in order of birth.

1 F Serina O Olson Wald

Born	6 Sep 1858	Place	Ottawa, Illinois
Died	2 Jan 1929	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa
Spouse	Hector Austad		
Married	Jul 1899	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa

2 F Sophia (Susie) Olson Wald

Born	Jan 1860	Place	Ottawa, Illinois
Died	1930	Place	
Spouse	Charles Anderson		
Married		Place	Omaha, Nebraska

3 M Ole Olson Wold

Born	11 Feb 1861	Place	Fox River, Lasalle, Illinois
Died	18 Jan 1908	Place	Fertile, , Iowa
Spouse	Augusta Simerson		
Married	7 Jul 1891	Place	Belmond Iowa

4 M Andrew Olson Wald

Born	1863	Place	Ottawa, Illinois
Spouse	Clara Hansen		
Married		Place	

5 M Severen O Olson Wald

Born	10 Dec 1865	Place	Cambridge, Story, Iowa
Died	16 Sep 1941	Place	
Spouse	Minnie E. Johnson		
Married		Place	

6 M Martin Lewis Olson Wald

Born	11 Oct 1870	Place	Cambridge, Story, Iowa
Died	22 Mar 1938	Place	
Spouse	Myrta Fowler		
Married	1896	Place	

7 F Bessie G Olson Wald

Born	9 Nov 1872	Place	Cambridge, Story, Iowa
Died	10 Jan 1909	Place	War. township
Spouse	Andrew Maland		
Married	9 Oct 1900	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa

8 M Burton O Olson Wald

Born	20 Nov 1872	Place	Cambridge, Story, Iowa
Died	13 Dec 1900	Place	

Family Group Record

Husband		Anders Olsen	
Born	Abt May 1795	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	25 May 1795	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Died	13 Jan 1868	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Buried	18 Jan 1868	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Married	17 Jul 1827	Place	Finnøy, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father	Ole Andersen		
Husband's mother	Udbjørg Olsdotter		
Wife	Siri Torbjørnsdotter		
Born	Abt Mar 1804	Place	Hovda, Fogn, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	25 Mar 1804	Place	Hovda, Fogn, Rogaland, Norway
Died	26 Mar 1874	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Buried	6 Apr 1874	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Wife's father	Torbjørn Andersen		
Wife's mother	Helge Nielsdotter		
Children	List each child in order of birth.		
1 F	Margrethe Marie Andersdotter		
Born	8 Apr 1828	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	27 Apr 1828	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Nels Torsen		
Married	29 Apr 1855	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
2 M	Olaus Andersen		
Born	8 Jan 1830	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	24 Jan 1830	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Dorthea Maria Jakopsdotter		
Married		Place	Skjorvestad, Rennesoy ?
3 F	Helene Andersdotter		
Born	7 May 1832	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	13 May 1832	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Jorgen Tidesen		
Married	31 Oct 1856	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
4 F	Anne Serine Andersdotter		
Born	24 Apr 1834	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	4 May 1834	Place	Finnøy, Rogaland, Norway
Died	30 Jun 1834	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Buried	6 Jul 1834	Place	Finnøy, Rogaland, Norway
5 F	Udbjørg Bertine Andersdotter Gaard		
Born	10 Jul 1835	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	19 Jul 1835	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Died	19 Aug 1899	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa
Buried	Aug 1899	Place	Slater, Story, Iowa
Spouse	Ole J. Olson Vold		
Married	15 Sep 1855	Place	, Lasalle, Illinois
6 M	Theodor Andersen		
Born	16 Aug 1837	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	3 Sep 1837	Place	Finnøy, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Anna Hansdotter Melin		
Married		Place	
7 M	Anders Andersen		
Born	12 Apr 1840	Place	Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	17 Apr 1840	Place	Talgje, Rogaland, Norway

Family Group Record

Husband	Anders Olsen	
Wife	Siri Torbjørnsdotter	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
7 M	Anders Andersen	
	Spouse	Elen Marie Sjursdotter
	Married	14 Jul 1874 Place Finnøy, Rogaland, Norway
8 F	Anne Serine Andersdotter	
	Born	10 Feb 1843 Place Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
	Chr.	12 Feb 1843 Place Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
	Died	28 Jul 1926 Place
	Spouse	Lars Larsen
	Married	Place
9 F	Inger Malene Andersdotter	
	Born	19 Jul 1845 Place Gaard, Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
	Chr.	20 Jul 1845 Place Talgje, Rogaland, Norway
	Spouse	John Larsen
	Married	28 Jun 1865 Place Finnøy, Rogaland, Norway

Family Group Record

Husband	Ole Ivarsen Volden	
Born	11 Mar 1808	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	25 Feb 1860	Place Kristiansand, Rogaland, Norway
Married	20 Nov 1830	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father	Iver Olsen Lillemoe	
Husband's mother	Guro Olsdatter	
Wife	Siri Pedersdatter Hagen	
Born	5 Oct 1806	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	5 Oct 1807	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	25 Dec 1861	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Wife's father	Peder Pedersen Hagen	
Wife's mother	Siri Torkelsdatter	
Children:	List each child in order of birth.	
1 M	Olc J. Olson Vold	
Born	8 Jan 1831	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	31 Jan 1831	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	1 Jun 1908	Place Thor, Humbolt, Iowa
Spouse	Udbjørg Bertine Andersdotter Gaard	
Married	15 Sep 1855	Place Lasalle, Illinois
2 F	Serine Olsdatter	
Born	8 Sep 1833	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
3 M	Peder Olsen	
Born	29 Nov 1836	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
4 F	Guro Olsdatter	
Born	12 Jul 1838	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Syvert Pedersen	
Married	29 Mar 1864	Place
5 M	Torkild Olsen	
Born	7 Feb 1841	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
6 F	Martha Olsdatter	
Born	10 Jan 1844	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
7 M	Ole Olsen Dahl	
Born	19 Oct 1846	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Allazenia or Ella Lowder	
Married		Place
8 M	Andreas Olsen	
Born	27 Jun 1849	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Tørborg Andrea Ragnetha Andersdatter	
Married	9 May 1874	Place Arendal, Aust-Agder, Norway

Family Group Record

Husband Peder Pedersen Hagen		
Born Chr. Died Married Husband's father Husband's mother	Born 1767	Place Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
	Chr. 25 Dec 1767	Place Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
	Died 2 Nov 1829	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	Married	Place
	Husband's father	Peder Askviks
	Husband's mother	
Wife	Siri Torkelsdatter	
Born Chr. Wife's father Wife's mother	Feb 1770	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	27 Feb 1770	Place
	Torchild Kjelsen	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
1	F Anna Hagcn	
	Born 1802	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
2	F Siri Pedersdatter Hagen	
	Born 5 Oct 1806	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	Chr. 5 Oct 1807	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	Died 25 Dec 1861	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	Spouse Ole Ivarsen Volden	
	Married 20 Nov 1830	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
3	F Marthe Pedersdatter Hagen	
	Born 3 Apr 1809	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	Died 10 Jul 1809	Place
4	M Peder Pedersen	
	Born 4 Aug 1811	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
	Died 5 Oct 1831	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
5	F Marthe Pedersdatter	
	Born 11 Aug 1811	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway

Family Group Record

Husband Iver Olsen Lillemoe

Born	May 1773	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	23 May 1773	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	3 Jan 1854	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Married	2 Jan 1803	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father	Ole Iversen Valheimsvatne		
Husband's mother	Sofia Andersdatter		

Wife Siri Rasmusdatter

Born	26 Nov 1767	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	19 Nov 1839	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Wife's father	Rasmus Olsen Or Hia		
Wife's mother	Siri Jacobsdatter		

Children List each child in order of birth.

1 F Anna Iversonsdatter

Born	Jun 1804	Place	Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	11 May 1864	Place	Sjernaroy, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Helge Olsen		
Married	1825		

Family Group Record

Husband	Iver Olsen Lillemoe	
Born	May 1773	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	23 May 1773	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	3 Jan 1854	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Married	Not married	Place
Husband's father	Ole Iversen Valheimsvatne	
Husband's mother	Sofia Andersdatter	
Wife	Guro Olsdatter	
Born	9 May 1779	Place Strand, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	9 May 1779	Place
Died	Aft 1860	Place , Illinios
Wife's father	Ole Jonsen Kvalshaug	
Wife's mother	Marta Sjursdatter	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
1 M	Ole Ivarsen Volden	
Born	11 Mar 1808	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	25 Feb 1860	Place Kristiansand, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Siri Pedersdatter Hagen	
Married	20 Nov 1830	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway

Family Group Record

Husband	Torgier Halvorsen	
Born	1755	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	15 Feb 1822	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Married	11 Jul 1814	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father	Halvor Ormson	
Husband's mother	Anna Torgilsdatter	
Wife	Guro Olsdatter	
Born	9 May 1779	Place Strand, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	9 May 1779	Place
Died	Aft 1860	Place , Illinios
Wife's father	Ole Jonsen Kvalshaug	
Wife's mother	Marta Sjursdatter	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
1 F	Kari Torgilsdatter	
Born	25 Dec 1820	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	10 Aug 1853	Place Fox River, Lasalle, Illinois
Spouse	Markus Andersen	
Married	30 Jul 1848	Place Aardal, , Norway

Family Group Record

Husband	Ole Jonsen Kvalshaug	
Born	1721	Place Strand, Rogaland, Norway
Died	7 Jul 1799	Place Strand, Rogaland, Norway
Married	3 Feb 1765	Place Forsand, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father	Jon Ragnelesen	
Husband's mother		
Wife	Marta Sjursdatter	
Born	Abt 1745	Place Forsand, Rogaland, Norway
Died	1807	Place Strand, Rogaland, Norway
Wife's father	Sjur Sjurson	
Wife's mother	Astri Kristofferdatter	
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
1 F	Ingrid Olsdtr	
Born		Place Lyse, Fossand, , Norway
Chr.	14 Jul 1765	Place
Died	1799	Place Kvalshaug U. Jorpeland, Strand, , Norway
2 F	Astri Olsdtr	
Born	1767	Place Lyse, Fossand, , Norway
3 M	Ragnhild Olsen	
Born		Place Kvalshaug U. Jorpeland, Strand, , Norway
Chr.	21 Oct 1770	Place
4 F	Marta Olsdtr	
Born	1772	Place
5 F	Marta Olsdtr	
Born		Place Kvalshaug U. Jorpeland, Strand, , Norway
Chr.	8 May 1774	Place
6 F	Guro Olsdatter	
Born	9 May 1779	Place Strand, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	9 May 1779	Place
Died	Aft 1860	Place , Illinios
Spouse	Iver Olsen Lillemoe	
Married	Not married	Place
7 M	Sjur Olsen	
Born		Place Kvalshaug U. Jorpeland, Strand, , Norway
Chr.	10 Feb 1782	Place
Died	1807	Place
8 M	Jon Olsen	
Born		Place Kvalshaug U. Jorpeland, Strand, , Norway
Chr.	19 Jun 1785	Place
Died	Abt Dec 1785	Place
9 M	Jon Olsen	
Born		Place Kvalshaug U. Jorpeland, Strand, , Norway
Chr.	9 Aug 1789	Place
Died	1807	Place

Family Group Record

Husband	Ole Iversen Valheimsvatne	
Born	1754	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Married	Abt 1772	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father	Iver Olsen Walde	
Husband's mother	Lisbet Halvorsdatter	
Wife	Sofia Andersdatter	
Born	Abt 1754	Place Finnoy, Rogaland, Norway
Wife's father	Anders	
Wife's mother		
Children	List each child in order of birth.	
1 M	Iver Olsen Lillemoe	
Born	May 1773	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Chr.	23 May 1773	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Died	3 Jan 1854	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Spouse	Guro Olsdatter	
Married	Not married	Place
2 M	Anders Olsen	
Chr.	4 Jun 1784	Place

Family Group Record

Husband Iver Olsen Walde

Born	Abt 1724	Place
Died	16 May 1778	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
Married	Abt 1744	Place Vadle, Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
Husband's father		
Husband's mother		

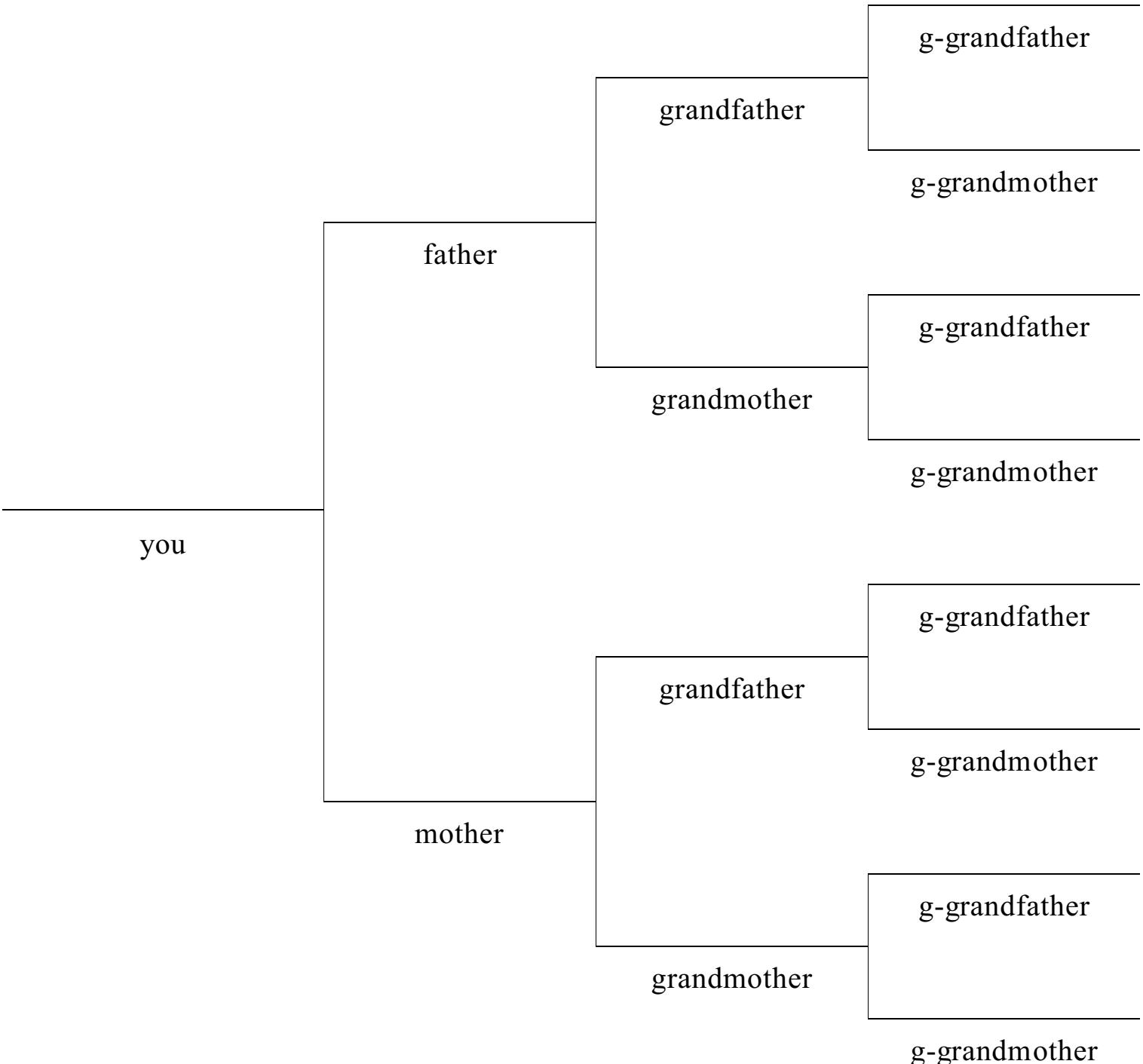
Wife Lisbet Halvorsdatter

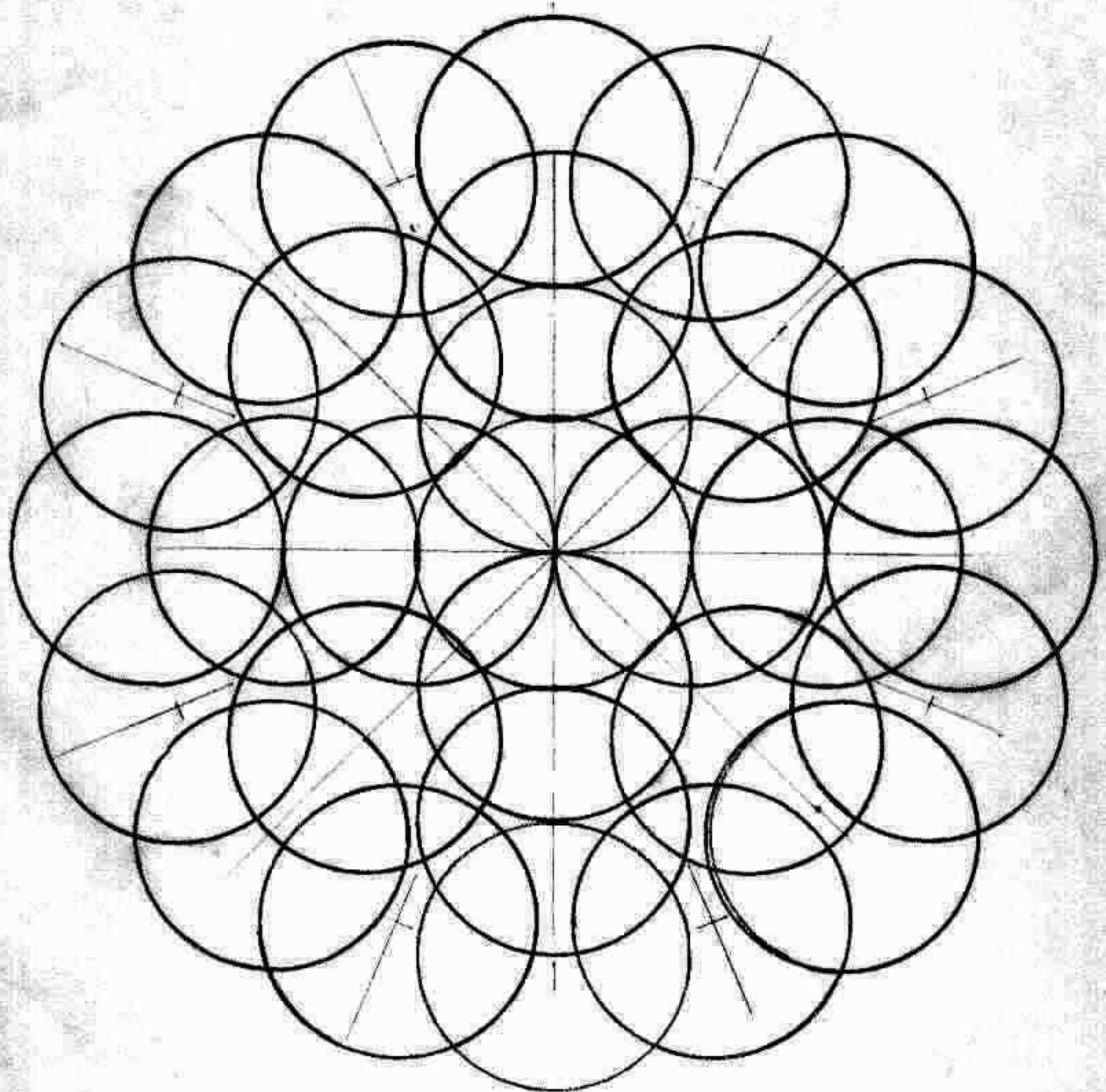
Born	Abt 1724	Place
Wife's father		
Wife's mother		

Children List each child in order of birth.

1	F	Marta Iversdatter	
		Born Abt 1745	Place Vadle, Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
		Died 1771	Place Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
2	F	Katrine Iversdatter	
		Born Abt 1746	Place Vadle, Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
3	F	Lisbet Iversdatter	
		Born Abt 1748	Place Ardal, Rogaland, Norway
		Spouse John Pedersen	
		Married 1778	Place Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
4	M	Iver Iversen	
		Born Abt 1750	Place Vadle, Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
5	F	Siri Iversdatter	
		Born Abt 1753	Place Vadle, Hjelmeland, Rogaland, Norway
6	M	Ole Iversen Valheimsvatne	
		Born 1754	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway
		Spouse Sofia Andersdatter	
		Married Abt 1772	Place Aardal, Rogaland, Norway

A Personal Pedigree





The art work above represents an individual at the center, surrounded by 4 grand parents, 8 great grand parents, and 16 great great grand parents. As you can see, everyone of us has many close ancestors. We don't have to go back far before there are many more to learn about. If you have any interest at all, there are dozens of family lines that still need much attention. Please let me know if you want to help.

My Research Journal

Allen H Wald

Note:

I have sometimes been accused that I only wanted to dig up old skeletons from the Wald family closets. For the record I want to say that I really just wanted to see what was in that closet, no matter what it was. Furthermore, I have a great desire to find whatever else there is, good or bad, as long as it helps to tell the story of our family and preserve that history for future generations.

Along with archery, this research has become my other favorite pass time, and as my bow arm grows less steady I find my desire to learn about our family grows stronger. Therefore, I continue to write about what I find, and I hope those whom I write about will forgive me if there are mistakes that result. Nevertheless, even as our arrows don't always hit the center, at the end of the tournament we usually find that the majority of hits leave a well punctured mark around the middle of the target. So it will be, I hope, with this work.

Allen H Wald