

The History of Hans Sorensen

born
2 October 1825
Kragevig, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark
died
6 April 1893
Aurora, Sevier, Utah, USA

Researched and written
by
Joseph Forrest Buchanan
(a second great grandson)

The History of Hans Sorensen (1825-1893)
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The History of Hans Sorensen document can be found and read on-line from the BuchananSpot web site:

<http://aeb.buchananspot.com/histories/Sorensen/Hans/>

There is a link on that page for downloading this document in PDF form.

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*Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?
- Psalms 56:8*

Author's Note

I grew up in a home that valued the sense of ancestry. Both parents were very involved in genealogical research and family records, and yet, up until this year, I knew very little about my ancestor, Hans Sorensen. This document and the accompanying research began early this year with an exploration of Danish records that were generously provided by the Danish State Archives as an online service. This one resource was fundamental in the start of my adventure that has taken up many hours of my life this year.

As I progressed, I was driven by a strong personal desire and inspired, I believe, by the spirit of my ancestors and by a loving Heavenly Father, to bring this history to my family and to the many descendants of Hans Sorensen and his wives. Foremost, I thank my immediate family for their patience in letting me spend so much time working on my computer and visiting the LDS Family History Library and collaborating with newly found relatives.

One blessing I discovered in this process, besides getting to know Hans Sorensen, was the joy of discovering cousins and relatives along the way. The process of discovery led me to find many fine, generous and good people who also cherish the legacy of righteous ancestors. Among these, I most appreciate Thelma Pollei, a grand-daughter of Hans Sorensen and Matilda. She gave me many documents and pictures that were unknown to my side of the Sorensen family. I feel that this one acquaintance has been most providential in bringing many stories of Hans Sorensen together. Another valued resource is the autobiography of Andrew William Sorensen, published by Marilyn Fleming. There are others who have helped in this work as well, too many to mention by name.

I dedicate this writing to the memory of my father, Forrest "D" Buchanan (1918-1980) in whose mighty steps I humbly follow.

- Joseph Forrest Buchanan
5 December 2011

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Explanatory Notes

Danish genealogical research presents a number of problems that need to be explained. Because of these problems, significant confusion has developed over the years which require clarification. In all genealogical work, records of people and places used as source material are filled with variations and errors. Genealogy is not an exact science, especially when bridging languages and cultures. Alternate names, dates and places are used in this history, especially when source material is quoted or if there is uncertainty as to correctness. These issues can be summarized as 1) language-related issues; 2) variations in records; and 3) the nature of patronymics and common names in Denmark, especially before 1900.

1. Danish Language and Spelling

The Danish language includes a number of vowels which are not found in the English language.

Ø ø or Ö ö - Examples: Sørensen, Jørgen. Americanization replaces the letter with o, even though the pronunciation is different.

Å å - Example: Århus - the city where the Sørensen family lived around 1870, sometimes spelled Aarhus.

Æ æ - Example: Holbæk. In English, written as ae.

All vowels are pronounced. For example, Ane or Anne is pronounced as Anna ("Ah - nah") and are often interchanged with each other and with Anna.

There are differences in consonants as well.

th - Example: Methe Marie. Mette Marie is listed sometimes in the census records as Methe Marie. The "th" is always pronounced as "t," so Danes consider the two names the same.

J j - The letter J is more like the American Y in pronunciation.

v and w - Example: Anders Vilhelm or Wilhelm. W is not common in Danish. When used, it is pronounced as a v. When coming from Denmark to America, some people changed their names to a more American spelling, such as Anders Vilhelm to Andrew William. In his adult life, Anders Vilhelm was primarily known as William.

2. Variations in Recorded Information

Church and government agents and recorders sometimes were not in agreement with each other or with family in the spelling of names and places. Besides this, mistakes were made in the recording of the information. Over the years, family and even the people themselves relied on memory alone, so incorrect dates and places are eventually recorded. Because of this, it is good to use as many different sources as possible. Fortunately, Danish research using today's technological advances is much better than it was even a decade ago. Many of these people can be traced using church, census, military and other government records on computers. The Danish State Archives has provided access to a large portion of their church and census records via the Internet, some of which is searchable. This has helped tremendously in providing the background source material you find in this history. Still, since these records are so numerous and continuing work is being done to scan and index these records, mistakes and omissions can be resolved yet in the future. Updates will be provided using Internet services.

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3. Danish Naming Conventions

Prior to the late 1800's children were generally named with surnames that are based on the first name of the father, appended with either -sen or -datter (son or daughter), as applicable. Because of the use of this system, called patronymics, it is difficult to trace a family going only by last name. As they came to America, the people sometimes changed their last names to be the same as their father's last name. This was the case with Hans and his family. His children, who previously had Hansen as their last name, took on Sorensen as their last name in church and public records. Another issue is that a small number of first names were extensively used in Denmark. Hans and Ane are two of these over-used names.

Because of the commonplace nature of the name Hans, a mistake in research happened in the past that has affected the understanding of Hans Sorensen's name in particular. Hans Sorensen and Ane Nielsen (Nielsdatter) lived in the city of Ruds-Vedby soon after the birth of their first son, Soren Peter. At the very same time, another family lived in Ruds-Vedby with parents named Hans Sorensen and Ane Nielsen (Nielsdatter). They also had a son about the same age as Soren Peter, with that same name. Because of this confusing situation, research in the early 1900s concluded that these two Hans Sorensens were one and the same person. The other Hans Sorensen was born in the town of Reerslev in August 1821 and was given the name of Hans Henrik Sorensen. Because of research following the Reerslev Han Sorensen, some family members began using Henrik (or some variation of that name) as a middle name for our Hans Sorensen. A couple of histories in existence, written at that time, use this incorrect middle name. There is a page in the appendix devoted to explaining this situation and why we know that our Hans Sorensen is not Hans Henrik Sorensen.

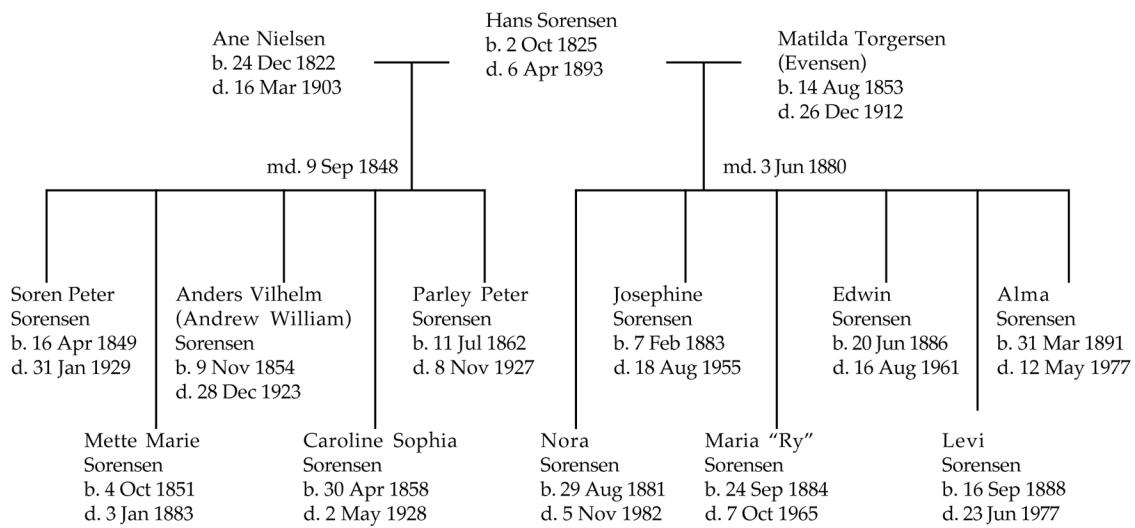
Note Concerning Danish Record References

The two Internet websites used extensively in finding information in Denmark both are provided by the Danish State Archives:

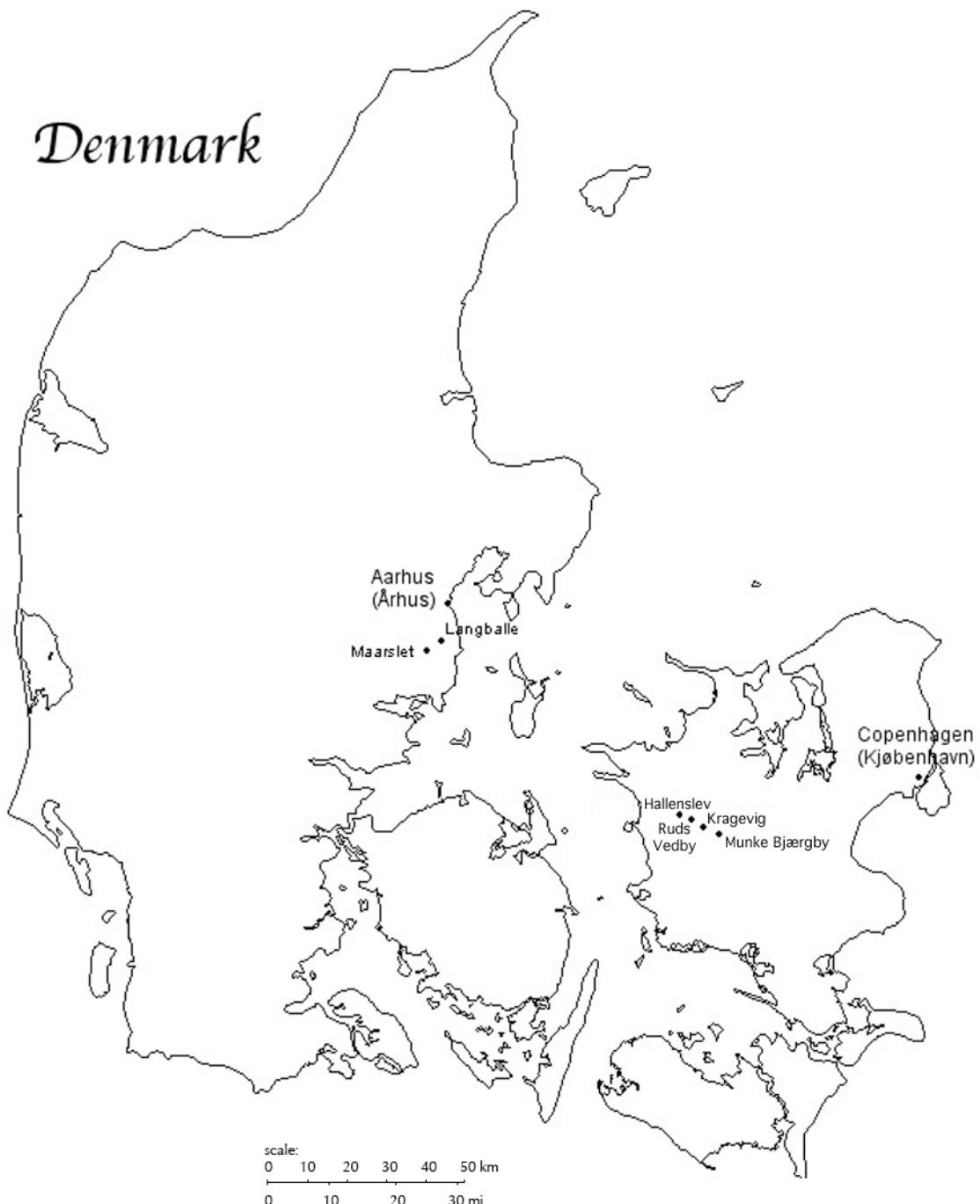
<http://www.sa.dk/ao/> (scanned images of parish and census records)
<http://ddd.dda.dk/> (searchable index of records)

The first one is called arkivalieronline.dk and has a set of images for each parish book or census locale. The individual images are each numbered as an "Opslag," which word corresponds roughly to "research page." As much as possible, when references are cited from the arkivalieronline, there will be an Opslag number and possibly also a page number, if page numbers were in the original document. This allows anyone who wishes to be able to find the document in the www.sa.dk website.

The Families of Hans Sorensen



Denmark





The history of Hans Sorensen and his family chronicles a lifetime of hope and perseverance in the face of personal and global turmoil and change. Above all, it gives his family and posterity a message that despite the challenges and tragedies that come into our lives, we must remain true to our convictions and trust in our Savior, Jesus Christ. This biography is written with the desire that those who read it will be true to the heritage left to them by this man and ancestors like him.

Hans Sorensen did not write his history. No diaries, journals, or notes have been found, but the records of others - including government, church and family writings - give a lot of detail into his life and the struggles he faced. This history contains many references which describe in detail the conditions surrounding the life of Hans and his family. Undoubtedly, there are more records and accounts that may be found in the future which will add to this story. The purpose of this writing is to paint as complete a picture as possible of Hans Sorensen.

A very fitting metaphor for the life of Hans Sorensen is the Salt Lake Temple, dedicated on April 6, 1893. This came after 40 long and difficult years of construction and dedicated effort. It is interesting that Hans Sorensen passed on

to eternity on this same date, after living a very difficult life of turmoil and hard work. Hans was a skilled stone cutter and worked at one time on the construction of the Salt Lake Temple. The construction of the temple began with a ground-breaking on April 6, 1853. Almost 5 years later, in 1858, Hans and his family were baptized and joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The process of building the temple involved many setbacks and difficulties over the years. Similarly, during his life, Hans struggled against many adversities, yet remained true to the Gospel he embraced in Denmark.

The Deseret News, on the occasion of the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple, published several articles about the temple and its dedication. The writer of one of these articles expounds on the foundation and construction of the temple, likening it to those who built it. One passage in that article rings true concerning Hans Sorensen:

"... Does it not typify in its construction to record of the Church whose members have built it — with its foundation broad and deep, with slow yet steady step marching forward and upward to perfection, with pinnacles pushing ever higher, crowned with the image of one who brought tidings of great joy, the everlasting Gospel to preach to them that dwell upon the earth? Does it not in its various stages represent the condition and circumstances of those whose names and toil have built it? Its history fully told would be in great measure their history; and since they came to these mountains there are but few pages that cannot be read in the enduring stone of its walls."¹

The story of Hans Sorensen shows his "broad and deep" foundation in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His struggles and toil, from beginning to end, indeed mirror the struggles and toils of those who worked on and completed the Salt Lake Temple. It is believed that some of "the enduring stone of its walls" was actually cut or set by Hans. The comparison of the temple structure to the history of the people gives a pattern for building the life, stone by stone, of Hans Sorensen and of his family's life from their humble and difficult beginnings in Denmark many years ago.

1. *Deseret News*, Apr. 8, 1893, p 19.

Chapter 2

Hans Sorensen began his life in 1825. It is useful to review some events and conditions that existed in America and Denmark at this time. The nation of the United States of America, having been in existence less than fifty years, was still recovering from the effects of the War of 1812 and working to establish itself among nations. John Quincy Adams was declared president the previous year, 1824, by the vote of the House of Representatives. In September 1825, in rural New York state, Joseph Smith experienced another visitation of the Angel Moroni, on the second anniversary of his original visit to the young prophet in 1823. In Denmark, the country was in a time of peace, having previously suffered from the effects of the Napoleonic wars some 10 years prior, when Norway was removed from Danish rule. It was a time of rebuilding national identity and pride. The prevailing religion in Denmark was the Evangelical Lutheran church. All vital records were kept by the church in parish records.

Hans Sørensen (as it was spelled at the time) was born on October 2, 1825, in Kragevig, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark.¹ At this time in Denmark, most of the people lived in villages and small farms where they worked in various trades. This was true of Hans' family. Søren Nielsen, his wife Karen Jørgensdatter, and their family lived in the small village of Kragevig in the parish of Ørslev. Hans was the seventh (and last) child of the family, though only three of the first children were still living when Hans was born. The family belonged to the Lutheran Church, which was true for most Danes. The parish records mark his christening as being on October 3rd in his home and again on November 6, 1825 in church. He was carried to the christening by Dorthe Hansdatter. Usually the carrier is a girl or young woman, possibly a relative. The godfathers at the christening were Niels Jensen and Peder Knudsen. Also documented in this record is his smallpox vaccination which was administered on September 7, 1826. The Danish people kept very good and detailed records. Those records made it possible to discover so much about Hans and his family.

Søren Nielsen, Hans' father, is listed in the 1834 census as a tenant farmer.² At the time of the 1834 census, only two of the children were left at home: Jørgen and

1. Danish Archives Online (<http://www.sa.dk/ao/>), Ørslev Holbæk. Parish records beginning 1812, Opslag [image number] 15, page 14, item 6 (fourth item on the page). The parish record specifies that the parents are from Kragevig. Some records use Kragerup as his birthplace.

2. Danish Archives Online, Ørslev 1834 Census (Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Ørslev) Opslag 11, page 248, house number 69 on the census page.

Søren Nielsen 64 Married tenant farmer
Karen Jørgensdatter 53 Married his wife
Jørgen Sørensen 18 Unmarried their son
Hans Sørensen 9 Unmarried their son

Hans. Three of the children died young, two named Lars (aged 2 and 9 at death), and the other a stillborn boy born just a year and a half before Hans was born. Hans' sisters, Anna Greta and Mette Marie, were married and living nearby. Han's mother, Karen, died on January 12, 1836, leaving the 10 year old boy motherless. His father, Søren, died a few years following, on November 5, 1839, making Hans an orphan at the age of 14. Hans' only living brother, Jørgen, was 23 and able to care for himself.

After his parents died, Hans lived with his sister, Mette Marie, and her husband. They all appear in the 1840³ and 1845 census records. In the Ørslev 1845 census record,⁴ Hans is listed as a weaver, a trade he followed until he was about 33 years of age. The military registration record of 1841 for Ørslev, which lists him as 15 years of age, contains a note that he moved to Munke-Bjærgby on 24 December 1841.⁵ The Military Levying Rolls were recorded in the birth town of young men, listed under their father's name (even if the father was dead). Though Hans lived and worked in other towns, he is always listed as being in Ørslev in the military records. These records also contain additional notes concerning the whereabouts of the young man in the years following the original record. The records for 1843 and 1846 give more details saying that he was apprenticed or working with Anders Johansen, a weaver in Munke-Bjærgby. It appears that there were several places in the area where he was working in his apprenticeship as a weaver. Hans likely was living in Munke-Bjærgby through these years, which happens to be the place where his future wife lived. In 1843, Hans, at the age of 18 years, is listed in the military record as being 62 1/4 "thumbs" tall.⁶ A Danish thumb was a little longer than our inch, so he was about 5 foot 4 inches at the time. According to the 1846 record he had grown a little, being shown as 63 thumbs, or nearly 5' 5".⁷ His 1846 Military Levying Rolls

3. Danish Archives Online, Ørslev 1840 Census (Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Ørslev) Opslag 11, page 546, house number 70 on the census page.

Hans Larsen 33 married tenant farmer
 Mette Marie Sørensdafter 33 married his wife
 Lars Hansen 5 unmarried their child
 Hans Sørensen 15 unmarried foster child, house mother's brother
 Mette Kirstine Nielsdatter 17 unmarried servant girl

4. Danish Archives Online, Ørslev 1845 Census (Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Ørslev) Opslag 19, page 362, house number 69 on the census page.

Hans Larsen 39 married tenant farmer [born] Kirke Flinterup parish, Sorø county
 Mette Marie Sørensdafter 38 married his wife [born] Ruds Vedby parish, Holbæk county
 Lars Hansen 10 unmarried their child [born] in this parish
 Karen Marie Hansdatter 5 unmarried their child [born] in this parish
 Hans Sørensen 20 unmarried house mother's brother, weaver [born] in this parish

5. Danish Military Levying Rolls, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark, 1841, film 0039725, lægd 67.

6. Danish Military Levying Rolls, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark, 1843, film 0510117, item 2, lægd 67.

7. Danish Military Levying Rolls, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark, 1846, film 0510120, lægd 67.

record is quite cluttered with a lot of information, mostly unreadable in the current state. The record shows that Hans served as a soldier from December 1, 1848 until June 28, 1849.

Hans married Ane Nielsen on September 9, 1848 in Tersløse⁸. In the marriage record, Hans is again listed as a weaver. The "arrivals" records of the Tersløse parish show that Hans moved to Tersløse on 17 Oct. 1848,⁹ even though he was already married and living there. Tersløse was fairly close to Munke-Bjærgby where he worked as a weaver (as mentioned in the military records). In Ane's history, it says that the two of them had been friends for several years: "He was a weaver by trade, and had a good clientele of customers. He built them a fine home, with clay floors, and green tinted glass windows which faced the front area."¹⁰ The history also tells of Hans grinding grain and of Ane making large loaves of bread. The history continues: "The story is told that it didn't matter if the bread got old and molded, as it could be washed down with beer. Moldy bread made one strong. Homemade beer was the usual drink as water was generally not fit for drinking."¹¹

Near this time, on September 23, 1848, Denmark declared war on Prussia over the issue of a dispute of the sovereignty of the Schlesvig-Holstein region between Denmark and Northern Germany. That war lasted until a treaty was signed on May 8, 1852, a victory for Denmark. Hans served in the military in the early part of this conflict, though it is difficult to determine whether he saw any action.

Their first child, Søren Peder was born the following spring, on April 16, 1849.¹² In the christening record, Hans is listed as a weaver. The family moved from Tersløse to Ruds-Vedby May 1, 1849 as recorded in parish records.¹³ The 1850 census for Ruds-Vedby shows Hans with his wife Ane and their son, Søren Peder.¹⁴ In Ruds-Vedby, their second child, a daughter, Mette Marie, was born on

8. Danish Archives Online, Tersløse Holbæk parish records beginning 1842, Opslag 155; p 158.

9. Tilgang Index -7 -34 (unable to find this - it was a source written on a family group chart)

10. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, unpublished, by Margaret Sorensen Peterson, a great granddaughter., p 1.

11. ibid.

12. Danish Archives Online, Tersløse Holbæk parish records beginning 1842, Opslag 11; page 8.

13. Danish Archives Online, Tersløse Holbæk parish records beginning 1841 - Tilgangsliste, Opslag 32; (no page number) line 150.

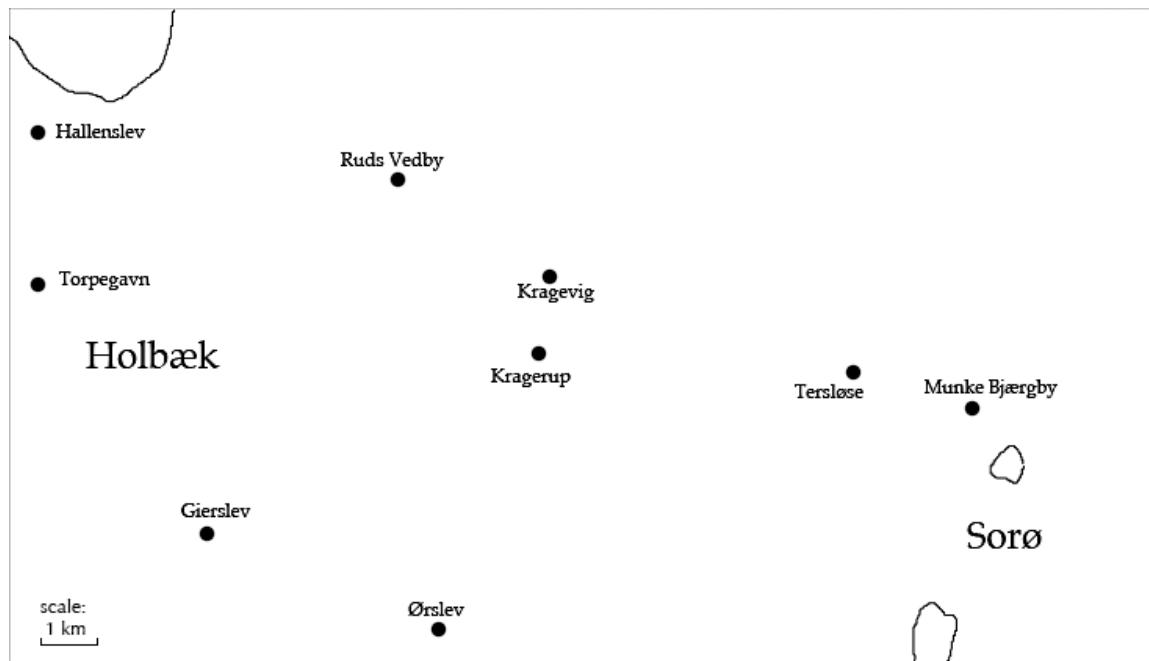
14. Danish Archives Online, Ruds-Vedby 1850 Census (Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Ruds-Vedby) Opslag 10, page 9, house number 49 (with another couple listed first).

Hans Sørensen 25 married [born] Ørslev weaver, housefather

Ane Nielsen 28 married [born] Tersløse his wife

Søren Peter Hansen 1 [born] here in this parish their son

October 4, 1851.¹⁵ She was probably named after Hans' sister, Mette Marie, who died two years before this, on October 30, 1849. Perhaps this indicates that the loss of his sister was difficult for Hans.



This is a map showing the places Hans lived from 1825 until about 1860.

This is in the north-central area of the island of Sjælland. Copenhagen is on the east end of the island.

Parish records show that on November 4, 1852, Hans moved again with his family, this time to Torpegavn, Hallenslev,¹⁶ where on November 9, 1854, their next child, Anders Vilhelm was born.¹⁷ The 1855 census of Hallenslev lists Hans with his family in Torpegavn.¹⁸ In the census, they are listed as belonging to the Lutheran Church.

Already, in just a few short years, Hans and his family experienced many changes and moved several times. This, however, was minor compared to what was in store for them in the next few years.

15. Danish Archives Online, Ruds-Vedby Holbæk parish records beginning 1849, Opslag 15.

16. Danish Archives Online, Hallenslev, Holbæk parish records beginning 1834, Opslag 85; p 86.

17. Danish Archives Online, Hallenslev Holbæk parish records beginning 1834, Opslag 16 p 13.

Name of child: Anders Vilhelm Hansen. Note: Andrew William wrote in his history that his birth date was November 9, 1855. Andrew William's LDS record in Aarhus shows the 1855 date as well. This later dated is used in histories and family genealogy. The parish records show the year as being 1854. That is the year used in this document.

18. Danish Archives Online, Hallenslev 1855 Census (Landsogn: Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Hallenslev) Opslag 9, page 252, house number 47. Torpegavn

Hans Sørensen, 30; Ane Nielsdatter, 34; Søren Peder Hansen, 6; Methe Marie Hansen, 4; and unnamed child, 1.

Chapter 3

In 1848, major change was taking place in Denmark. About six months before Hans and Ane were married, the king of their country, Frederik VII declared that he "renounced his absolute right," making way for a constitutional monarchy. As mentioned before, Denmark declared war against Prussia in that year as well. During the following year, an assembly of people drafted a constitution for the country, which was ratified and put into effect. King Frederik VII signed the constitution on June 5, 1849. Among the provisions of the constitution was the guarantee of freedom of religion.¹ In the fall LDS conference of 1849 (Oct. 6,7) in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, Brigham Young called missionaries to go to several European countries, including Denmark.² Two missionaries arrived in Copenhagen the following year. One of those missionaries carried with him his work of translating the Book of Mormon in the Danish language: "Elder Peter O. Hansen had translated most of the Book of Mormon into Danish before leaving America, and soon after the Elders had arrived in Copenhagen, steps were taken to have his translation revised and printed in that language."³ This was the first translation of the Book of Mormon after the English version. (The Danish translation was published in 1851. Peter O. Hansen did much of the translation while working on the Nauvoo temple.⁴)

There are a few interesting facts about the beginning of missionary work in Denmark. First, even though there was now a Danish constitution in place guaranteeing freedom of religion, the people did not really understand it and

1. *Danish Mission History*, a Masters Thesis," Brigham Young University, Marius A. Christensen, March 1966, pp 5-6:

"Under mild pressure from public opinion in Copenhagen, King Frederick VII proclaimed, in March 1848, that he had renounced his absolute right and considered himself a constitutional monarch. He stated that in the future his ministers would have the responsibility of the government. This significant revolution in Denmark was characterized by calm and dignity. ... "A short time after this revolution a Constituent Assembly, which also included a number of members selected by the King, was chosen by general election. A new Constitution was drafted and presented to this Assembly where a vote in favor carried by a large majority. On the fifth of June, 1849, Frederik VII signed the new Constitution.

"This Constitution, known as the June Constitution, has continued in effect to the present time. It introduced some of the most far reaching concepts which the Danish society has ever known. It was, among other things, a guarantee for 'private and civic freedom, freedom of religion, freedom of assemble, freedom of the press and the inviolability of house and property.'"

2 ibid, p 13. Elder Erastus Snow and Elder Peter O. Hansen were sent to Denmark.

3. *The Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine*, Volume 13, p 181: "Scandinavian Latter-day Saint Literature" by Andrew Jenson, Assistant Church Historian.

Also described in "In His Own Language", *Liahona* [LDS publication] (June 1997), Anderson, Kai A. p 29.

4. Internet page, accessed 2 Nov. 2011, Wikipedia entry for Peter O. Hansen. That page refers to: Jenson, Andrew. *LDS Biographical Encyclopedia*, p. 766 as the source.

many of the authorities were not inclined to honor that right. Society moves slowly in making such fundamental change. Second, because of previous conditions of the state-controlled religion (Lutheranism), priests had the exclusive right to distribute the Bible in Danish.⁵ Therefore, as missionaries began to preach, they found that they had to first teach the Bible to the people, since they did not have bibles in their homes. The Book of Mormon, as previously mentioned, was translated and available and taught as well. Also, the missionaries were very busy in printing other materials that were used in teaching the restored Gospel. A third fact of significance was that the overwhelming majority of those serving as missionaries in Denmark were local people who had recently joined the church themselves.⁶ Therefore, missionary work was certainly a challenge.

As mentioned, a number of tracts and publications were printed in the Danish language. Upon arriving, and before the Danish Book of Mormon was printed, Elder Hansen published a four-page tract in the Danish language, entitled "En Advarsel til Folket" (Danish, for "A Warning to the People"). This was the first Latter-day Saint literature ever printed in Scandinavia.⁷ Also of considerable significance was the translation and publishing of Parley P. Pratt's very successful missionary document, "Voice of Warning." Andrew Jenson records: "In 1855, a translation of Parley P. Pratt's 'Voice of Warning' was published in Copenhagen, Denmark, entitled 'En Advarsels Rost.'⁸

The work of the missionaries spread rapidly after the start in 1850, despite opposition from clergy and authorities. In 1850, there were 139 Danish people baptized into the church. By the end of 1853, the total local membership was

5 ibid, p 39:

"A provision had long ago given the priests of Denmark exclusive right to distribute the Bible in Danish. Elder Snow found a few honorable exceptions among the clergy, who favored religious freedom and the diffusion of scriptures, but "we sometimes may hunt whole neighborhoods over and not find a copy of the scriptures, except perhaps, in church, or with the priest." [quoting Erastus Snow, *One Year in Scandinavia*, Liverpool: F. D. Richards, 1851. p 20.]

6 ibid, p 75, 77:

"By the end of 1852, the force of local missionaries had increased to 150 of the Church membership of 1000." (p 75)

"For the first ten years of the Danish Mission, the local brethren did not merely dominate the scene, they were the scene. Some of them served five years before emigrating to America. During the first decade, Utah sent only 13 missionaries to Scandinavia, and six of these were Scandinavians who had joined the church in America. The early period saw very few American elders serving in Denmark." (p 77)

7. *The Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine*, Volume 13, p 181.

8. ibid, p 184.

1,703 [not including 602 who had emigrated to Deseret (Utah Territory) and about 100 who were excommunicated].⁹

The local people were not very friendly to the new converts. There were mobs who attacked the members and missionaries. Baptisms were often performed at night or in secret, to avoid attracting attention.¹⁰ There was even a young man who had joined the church who was stabbed to death shortly afterward.¹¹ This was one condition that encouraged recent converts to emigrate. At the time, members were strongly encouraged in their church sermons to emigrate to America to Zion. The missionary effort continued and an average of about 1000 were baptized into the church each year from 1853 to 1857, the year when Hans and his family were introduced to the Gospel.

Jørgen, Hans' brother, and his family were the first among Hans and Ane's relatives to embrace this new religion. Jørgen's second daughter, Christiane, was baptized on 6 Mar 1857, at age 14. Hans and his family were close at hand: "He and his family heard the Gospel for the first time in the winter of 1857. The gospel had just been brought to Denmark, and at Christmas time, 1857, they accepted it. On Feb. 5, 1858, Hans and Ane were baptized in Torpegavn.¹² The

9 Danish Mission History, Appendix C:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Elders from Zion</u>	<u>Baptisms</u>	<u>Emigration</u>	<u>Excom.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1850	4	139	4	135	
1851	3	476	65	547	
1852	1	664	218	42	895
1853		1314	384	103	1703
1854	1	916	255	258	2069
1855	2	956	262	287	2154
1856	1	700	113	243	2204
1857	3	1117	500	389	2317
1858	0	619	62	367	2492 "

10 ibid, p 41:

"By the end of 1851, the opposition was so widespread that in a letter written by Elder Snow in Copenhagen on December 15, 1851, he was forced to say, 'To embrace the gospel is almost equal to the sacrifice of one's life; and to travel and preach it, a man carries his own life in his hands.' In order to avoid exciting the people to mob action, many of the early converts were baptized late in the evening or at night."

11 ibid, p 41.

12. As recorded in the Aarhus LDS membership records, p 157:

Hans Sorensen born 30 October 1825 Kragevig

baptized 5 February 1858 Torpegavn by O. Poulsen

confirmed 14 February 1858 by Andersen emigrated 21/6/72

Ane Sorensen born 25 December 1822 Munkebjergby

baptized 5 February 1858 Torpegavn by O. Poulsen

confirmed 16 February 1858 by O. Poulsen emigrated June 1871

ice was broken with an ax in order that they could be baptized."¹³ Hans was confirmed on February 14, 1858, and Ane two days later on the 16th. Another interesting fact is that Ane gave birth to Caroline Sophia a little more than two months following, on April 30, 1858, in Torpegavn. She was "with child" at the time of her baptism. This choice for baptism, made by Hans and Ane, was undoubtedly the most significant event of their lives, with the most lasting consequences.

Also among their relatives, Ane's brother, Jacob Nielsen, and his wife, Ellen, were baptized a few months later, on June 14, 1858. He and his family lived in Solbjerg, a small village near Ørslev. They continued to live there until they emigrated to America in 1868. They had 8 children, only 2 surviving to adulthood.¹⁴ Two of the children, baby Annie and 11 year-old Karen died in the process of their emigration to Zion.¹⁵

1858 proved to be an interesting time for the church in Denmark. All American missionaries were pulled out of Denmark and called home to Utah. This was because of a crisis in Utah. The U. S. government received false reports from advisors and subsequently sent an army, known as Johnston's Army¹⁶. Because of

13. Unpublished history, written by his granddaughter, Anna Delila Buchanan Poole.

Also, see the unpublished history written by Wallace Sorensen and Lora Day, grandson and granddaughter of Hans. The two are very similar in many areas, i.e. one likely copied from the other.

14. L. D. S. Scandinavian Emigrations, Copenhagen Conf. 1868 - film 025696

Jacob Nielsen	46	Smith	Sealand
Ellen Nielsen	42	Wife	
Hans Nielsen	18	Son	
Ole Nielsen	14	Son	
Karen Nielsen	11	Dau	
Stine Nielsen	7		
Ane Nielsen	Inf		

15. Web site Ancestry.com, entry by Marlene Vernon, accessed 29 Nov. 2011:

"Jacob and Ellen left Denmark for Utah in 1866 When they arrived in New York harbor two of their children, Karen Marie and Anna Sophia, were so ill that their mother Ellen with Christine were quarantined on an island. Both sick girls died and were buried on the island. Meanwhile Jacob and his oldest son Hans continued on to Utah. After the burial Ellen and the other children came West and the family settled in Spring City."

16. *Danish Mission History*, pp 90-91:

"Johnston's Army, which was sent to Utah to quell a fancied rebellion against the American Government, had an immediate effect upon the missionaries in Denmark . . . President Brigham Young, upon hearing of the advancing army, immediately sent out messengers to call home all of the Saints in order to help defend Zion (ref: B. H. Roberts, *A Comprehensive History of the Church* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Press, 1930), IV, 181-556.) . . . The effects of this war lasted only a few months, but it did cause, for the first time in the history of the mission, the removal of all American missionaries from Denmark. This naturally caused a decrease in conversions and a temporary lull in emigration to America."

the anticipated effects of the approaching army, most missionaries were called home. Emigration dropped considerably as a result, especially in 1858, to about 12% of the previous year's baptisms (see the chart in an earlier footnote).

Meanwhile, Hans and Jørgen and their families were living in the same town, Gierslev, when the 1860 census was taken.¹⁷ Members of the LDS church were subject to criticism, prejudice and even harm because of their new affiliation. It was common for members to live near each other for moral and physical support. Hans and his family moved many times in his life so far, and it is likely that he now lived in the same town as his brother for that reason. The 1860 Census lists Hans and his wife, Ane as "Mormon", but the children are still listed as "Luth" or Lutheran. Hans is listed as a day laborer, not as a weaver any more. He is not listed as a stone-cutter, either, which was his trade for the remainder of his life. According to a family history, because of his new affiliation with the LDS church he was no longer allowed any work in his trade as a weaver.¹⁸ Their son, Andrew William wrote: "My father was a weaver by trade and he was very poor and when he obeyed the Gospel, the people where he lived got angry at him and would not support him with their work, so he was forced to leave that place."¹⁹ Stone-cutting would become his way of life after this. Jørgen is listed in the 1860 census as an unskilled laborer and his whole family as Mormons.²⁰ Christiane is not listed with the family. She was 17 at the time and may have been working outside the home to provide for the family. She did not get married until 1867 and emigrated to America years later than others of her family.

17. Danish Archives Online, Gierslev 1860 Census (Landsogn: Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Gierslev) Opslag 12, p 263.

Hans Sørensen (34), Ane Nielsdatter (37), Søren Peder Sørensen (11), Mette Marie Sørensen (9), Anders Wilhelm Sørensen (6), Sophie Caroline Sørensen (2).

18. Hans Sorensen history, by his daughter Josephine Christensen (via Josephine's daughter, Arla Dean Christensen Ashby), unpublished.

19. *History of Anders Vilhelm Sorensen, known in America as Andrew William Sorenson*, Salt Lake City, Utah : M.G. Fleming, 1992, p 3. Note: Throughout this history, he was known by two names, Anders Wilhelm in Denmark and Andrew William (or just William) in his adult life. This history will refer to him as William or Andrew William throughout. All footnotes relating to this work are labelled *Andrew William*.

20. Danish Archives Online, Gierslev 1860 Census (Landsogn: Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Gierslev) Opslag 6, p 257.

Jørgen Sørensen (44), Karen Rasmusdatter (44), Maren Jørgensen (11), Rasmus Jørgensen (8) and Mette Marie Jørgensen (6).

Chapter 4

Hans and his family moved to the Aarhus region (also spelled Århus) on the Jutland peninsula fairly soon after moving to Gierslev: "In about 1860 they moved to Jutland (Jyland) thinking they could get away from persecution, but as the Church grew, persecution grew with it, so the Sorensen family endured much those first years."¹ Their last child, Parley Peter, was born there on July 11, 1862. Parley was not a Danish name, but the LDS population knew the name well. As mentioned before, Parley P. Pratt's pamphlet, "Voice of "Warning" was translated into Danish in 1855.² (The family first heard the Gospel in 1857, two years later.) People were quite affected by his writing and, over the years, many children of members were named Parley in his honor. According to family genealogy, Parley Sorensen was born in Maarslet, a small town southwest of Aarhus. His birth is not recorded in the parish records since the family was not part of the local (government) religion. About two years later, on October 27, 1864, Parley's sister, Mette Marie was baptized. The LDS church records say that she was baptized in Langballe, which is about 3 kilometers ENE of Maarslet and about 8 km south of the city of Aarhus. Andrew William was baptized in Maarslet on January 26, 1866, according to the same records.³

In Maarslet the family all worked for their living and earned money in hopes of emigration. Ane's history reports: "In 1865 the three oldest children were hired out to learn a trade. Soren Peter was learning the trade of a tailor, Mette Marie started as a maid, and Andrew William worked as a hired hand."⁴ William recalls: " [His father, Hans] got work as a stone cutter. He rented a little place about six miles from the city where we could keep a cow and a few chickens. ... Our home was called Mosgaard Hus. We could have all the bread and milk we could eat, but it was a little different with mother. She had to be alone and care for us, and tend the chores, but she together with father would work with love to

1. Poole, unpublished history, also the same in Sorensen/Day.

2. On May 13, 1857, Elder Pratt was assassinated in Arkansas, which was reported in the LDS publications. Undoubtedly, the Sorensens would have been aware of his martyrdom.

3. LDS church records, Aarhus branch, LDS Family History Library film 0041938 page 157: Line 13: Hans Sorensen, born 30 October 1825, Kragevig, baptized 5 February 1858, Torpegavn, by O. Poulsen, confirmed 14 February 1858 by Andersen, Emigrated 21 June 1872.

Line 14: Ane Sorensen, born 25 December 1822, Munke Bjergby, baptized 5 February 1858, Torpegavn, by O. Poulsen, confirmed 16 February 1858, by O. Poulsen, Emigrated June 1871.

Line 15: Mette Marie Sorensen, born 4 October 1851, Rus Vedby, baptized 27 October 1864, Langballe, by H. Sorensen, confirmed 27 October 1864, by N. Christiansen, Emigrated 12 July 1870.

Line 16: Anders Vilhelm Sorensen, born 9 November 1854, Hallenslev, baptized 26 January 1866, Marsleth, by H. Sorensen, confirmed 26 January 1866, by S. Iversen, Emigrated 21 June 1872.

4. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 4.

support us, and were happy to know they were members of the Church of Christ and that they had a testimony of the same and that they could live in peace." ⁵

The Wallace Sorensen and Anne Poole histories give some details of their life in those first years in the Maarslet area: "Hans Hendrik⁶ Sorensen was ordained to the office of Elder and he worked and preached faithfully in his native land for many years. He was a talented speaker and he had a gift of expressing himself so that many listened to Him. He was a stone cutter and mason by trade. In Denmark it was hard to get rock for building purposes, consequently he had to go into the woods and dig deep to find rock, or go in a boat out into the ocean and draw the rocks up out of the water. In the year 1865 or 1866 the family was living about four miles from the city of Aarhus, close to the beautiful woods. The Elders came often to the Sorensen home and were always welcome. Finally the Elders prevailed on the family to move into the city of Aarhus and live at the Church headquarters there. This they did and grandmother [Ane] kept house and cooked for the Elders faithfully and well for five years. Grandfather [Hans] was faithful to his callings in the Church. The entire family enjoyed the sweet spirit of the Gospel, although some of the members had to leave home to work to help make a living for the family." ⁷

Andrew William tells of his and his sister's experience working to earn money for the family: "My father hired me out to a man by the name of Handrop. I should have two dollars for the first summer and a pair of wooden shoes. I would herd cows in the grove. ... Soon it was spring again. I was then hired for a year to the same man and my wages were double. ... My sister worked for the same man the next year. That made it a little better for me." ⁸ Their experience in school was not pleasant. Andrew William says that he was persecuted for his religion: "... it wasn't long until the children knew that I was a Mormon boy, and nearly all the school children hated me. Even the teacher could hate and if he could get half a chance he would punish me more than the rest because I was a Mormon boy. I would tell my mother at night when I got home. She would console me by saying, 'You do not need to care for that, they will soon stop and the time will soon come when we will get [out] of Babylon and go home to Zion.'" ⁹

War again was declared between Germany (Prussia / Austria) and Denmark in 1864. The war, or the disputed territory that caused the war, was just 190

5. *Andrew William*, p 3.

6. Note: Some histories, including this one by Wallace Sorensen were influenced by erroneous research in giving Hans Sorensen the middle name of Henrik, Hendrik or Henrich. For further details, see the Appendix.

7. Poole unpublished history, and Wallace Sorensen unpublished history.

8. *Andrew William*, p 4.

9. *ibid.*

kilometers (114 miles) south of the home of Hans Sorensen. The area of Schlesvig/Holstein was in dispute again and Denmark laid claim to a certain level of sovereignty (as they had done in 1848). That area between Denmark and Prussia was considered to be somewhat neutral, with the people having dual nationality. Germany was not the defined nation it is currently, but was a loose confederacy of kingdoms and duchies. Any threat to those people who felt loyalty to the German/Prussian Dukes and Barons caused the leaders of this confederacy to bring their army to bear. The Danes were woefully outnumbered in the dispute and the main result was loss of life among the Danish people. The effects of this war had a significant impact on the church in Denmark. According to the history of the mission: "It was an unhappy war for Denmark and the Church alike, because so many young men were taken from home into the army. Many of these young men were native elders who had been working as missionaries for the Church."¹⁰ In the mission report sent at the end of the year (1864), Carl Winderborg, President of the mission, reported: "Our increase in Denmark this year has not been so large on account of the unhappy war, which tore many of our best elders from their field of labor, and in some measure suspended the labors of the few elders that remained in the field."¹¹ It was also noted in the history that this caused the conversion numbers in Denmark to drop to the lowest point since 1851.

It does not appear that Hans and his family were directly affected by the war. He was nearly 40 at the time and his oldest son was 15, so they probably were not enlisted into the army. However, the history mentions that Hans and his family worked closely with the Elders and were very involved with the work, so problems in missionary work affected them.

10. *Danish Mission History*, p 92.

11. *Mission History*, December 23, 1864; Jenson, History, p. 182, as quoted and referenced in *Danish Mission History*, p 93.



The Hans Sorensen Family in Aarhus, about 1868

Andrew William, Ane, Parley, Hans, Caroline, with Soren Peter in back

The family moved into the center of the city of Aarhus somewhere between 1866 and 1868. Ane's history records: "The President of the mission, J. Howgaard requested that Ane, her husband and family move in the Mission Home where Ane would be the cook and housekeeper."¹² Caroline described it: "When I was between 7 and 8 years of age we lived about four miles out from the city of Aarhus, close to the beautiful woods. The elders came often to our home and finally prevailed on my parents to move to the city and live with them at headquarters so that my mother might be their cook and housekeeper, which she faithfully did for nearly five years. During that time my father labored in his calling in the Church whenever his financial circumstances would permit, and we did enjoy the sweet spirit of the Gospel while living under that influence. Even we children partook of it, those of us who could stay home and who were not compelled to work for our living."¹³ This was also an opportunity for the family to learn English: "President Howgaard and his wife taught their family to read and write in English so it would be an easier adjustment when they emigrated to Utah."¹⁴

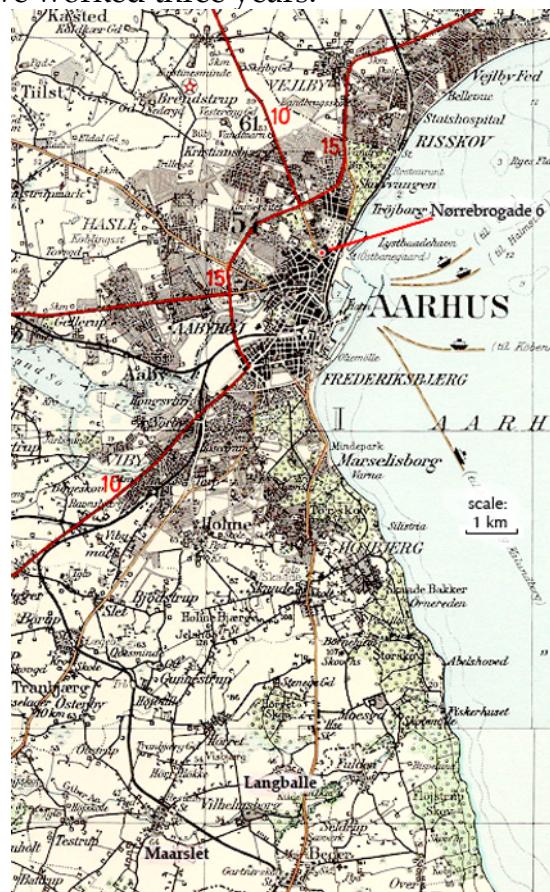
Andrew William relates his continuing experiences: "My father then hired me out to another man ... Now my schooling was ended and it was a limited one. I could scarcely write my own name. ... I had too much work to tend eleven cows and many other chores. ... I was sometimes so tired that I could not sleep at night. Now I had no mother to run and see for she had moved to the city of

12. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 4.

13. An unpublished history of Caroline Sorensen Buchanan, also Sorensen, unpublished history.

14. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 4.

Aarhus, as father had his work there and mother did housekeeping for the missionaries. So I had to bear my burden. ... I stayed there two years and endured many hardships." ¹⁵ He was then allowed to go home: "When my time was up father came to take me home to help him cut rocks and I was glad of it. ... I had a good father and would do all in my power to learn how to handle the hammer. In the evenings I could go home and see my dear mother. That was a treat for me and I could also have a chance to read and write both in Danish and English. ... We would work late and early to try to get enough money to go to Zion, but it seemed to be impossible and sometimes father and I would get disheartened. Thus we worked three years." ¹⁶



This is a map of the city of Aarhus, including the towns of Maarslet and Langballe.

Living in Aarhus must have been quite a change for the family, because they had lived in the country or in very small villages all their lives and now they were in the center of one of the largest cities of Denmark. According to the 1870 Census,¹⁷ they lived at the address Nørrebrogade 6 (Nørre means north and gade means street in Danish). This is likely where the church headquarters were located in Aarhus.

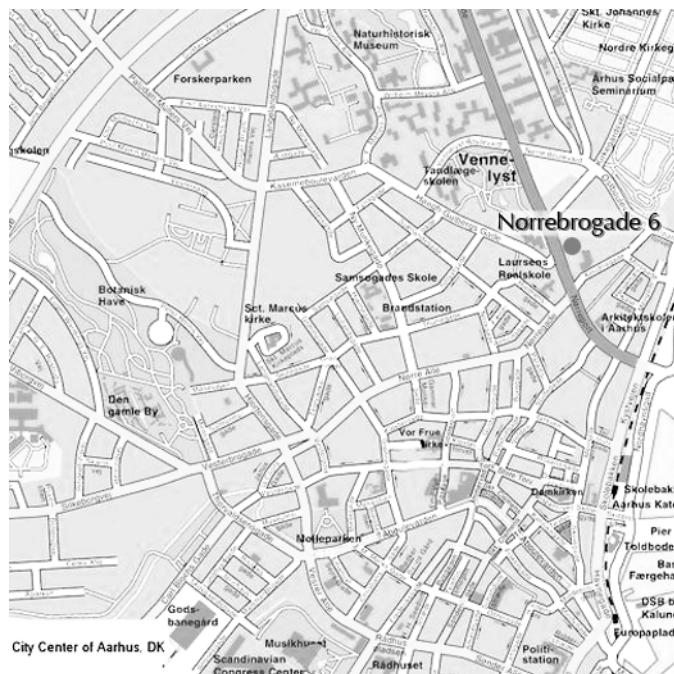
15. Andrew William, p 5.

16. ibid.

17. Danish Archives Online, Århus 1870 Census, Nørrebrogade 6 (Kobn: Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Gierslev) Opslag 25.

Their oldest son, Søren Peder is not listed in this census. He is also not listed among those baptized. He did not join the church with his family but stayed in Denmark and raised a family there.

Next door to the Sørensens another LDS family is listed: Carl Georg Jørgensen¹⁸ and his family of 5, at Nørrebrogade 8. This is probably in the same building. At present there is a large apartment-type building at this address that could possibly be from that time.



Nørrebrogade 6, just north of the center of the city of Aarhus
(map from University of Aarhus, Denmark.)

After a lifetime in the country, the family begins to experience life and missionary work in the big city.

18. Danish Archives Online, Århus 1870 Census, Nørrebrogade 8 (Kobn: Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Gierslev) Opslag 25. Family listed as:
Carl George Jørgensen (33), Vilhelmina Caroline Carlsen (29), Kjerstine Frederikke Emilie Jørgensen (5), Charles Fred. Wilhm Jørgensen (2), Emma Frederike Carlsen (17)

Chapter 5

In February, 1870 (the date of the Danish census), Hans and his family, with the exception of Soren Peter, lived in the center of the city of Aarhus. The record includes Hans and Ane and 4 of their children: Mette Marie, Anders Wilhelm, Caroline Sophia and Parley Peter.¹ Also listed are two missionaries listed living in their home: Erik Christian Henrichsen and John N Hougaard. Elder Henrichsen later lived with his family in Provo, Utah, where he was a well-known and respected potter. John Hougaard is possibly related to the President Howgaard mentioned in the Ane Nielsen history. Also, there is a reference to John Haugaard returning from Scandinavia in July, 1870, on the Ship Minnesota, along with many members and church leaders. He is listed as a "Returning Elder".² The census record says that John Hougaard is 27, married, and from Utah Territory, U. S. America. He was born in Falster, which is on the same island as Copenhagen, in the south end of the island.

Eric Christian Henrichsen served as a missionary in the Aarhus area of Denmark from 1869 to about 1871. He was originally from Veile (or Vejle) in the southern Jutland peninsula area of Denmark. He kept a detailed journal of his mission experiences during this time. The journal is part of the Eric Christian Henrichsen collection in the L. Tom Perry Special Collections department of the Harold B. Lee Library of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.³ The journal, of course, is written in Danish and requires translation into English. There are a number of entries in his journal that refer to H. Sørensen, or Elder H. Sørensen. [Note: In every case, Elder Henrichsen uses ö instead of ø, which are interchangeable in Danish.] Since Elder Henrichsen lived in the home of the Sorensens and Hans was actively involved with the missionaries, we can probably assume that this H. Sørensen is our Hans Sorensen. There are several other Sørensen men mentioned in the journal and nearly all include a name or initial (e.g. Lars, Jens, Rasmus, etc.).

From the references found in Elder Henrichsen's journal, it is clear that Hans was called upon and served faithfully with the missionary elders in Aarhus. The first reference is dated Sunday, Dec. 12, 1869, and mentions an anointing for the

1. Danish Archives Online, Århus 1870 Census, Nørrebrogade 6 (Kobn: Amt: Holbæk, Sogn: Gierslev) Opslag 25.

Hans Sørensen (44), Ane Nielsdatter (47), Mette Marie Sørensen (18), Anders Wilhelm Sørensen (14), Sophie Caroline Sørensen (11), Parley Peter Sørensen (7), John N Haugaard (27) Falkerslev, Falster Missionary Utah Territory U. S. America, Erik Chr. Henrichsen (22) Weile (Vejle) Missionary.

2. *Millennial Star*, #30, page dated July 26, 1870.

3. MSS 2026; E.C. Henrichsen Family Papers (1868-1990's); 19th-20th Century Western Americana; L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University.

healing of the sick: "After meeting, Elder H. Sørensen and I laid hands on Br. K. Emmertsen's head and I anointed him to bless for the recovery of his affliction." ⁴ Two weeks later, Hans was involved in a meeting in Pannerup, a small village 10 kilometers north, of Aarhus: "I was in the morning with Elder H. Sørensen and Teacher F. Petersen in Pannerup and held a meeting where Jens Pedersen lived. We had a good little meeting." ⁵ Hans is mentioned a month later as Elder Henrichsen records "(an) assembly of the saints desiring to fast and pray for Elder Ole Jensen's son long having a sickness. After that Brothers Hougaard, H. Sørensen and I anointed Br. Peder Rasmussen's little son." ⁶

A lot of activity happened in the last half of February, 1870, that involved Hans. In his 18 Feb. 1870 entry, Elder Henrichsen recorded his missionary work in Tiilst, a suburb of Aarhus about 5 km northwest of the city: "I missionaried (tracted) in Tiilst and the area and had a meeting. Elders J. H. Hougaard and H. Sørensen came forward with 3 sisters from Aarhus." ⁷ The next day's entry is reminiscent of the conditions when Hans and Ane were baptized 12 years earlier: "Dannis Rasmussen and his wife came in the evening and requested baptism. Br. H. Sørensen and I went and broke the thick ice. Elder J. Hougaard baptized them. After that I, at the request of Br. Hougaard, confirmed Dennis and I confirmed his wife, Mette Marie. Elder H. Sørensen assisted." ⁸ The next day's account (Sunday, the 20th) is very long and involved, and quite difficult to translate. The basis of the story is that they were holding a meeting and a couple of strange men came (he used the Danish word for "foreign" or "strange"), one who was of some note (identified with a Danish flag) and there was some heated discussion ("obscene calling out") and difficulty with those men. H. Sørensen spoke in the meeting and Elder Henrichsen also worked to calm the people (bade the Saints to "behave" or to be true). The men left and calm was restored. After the meeting Elder Henrichsen and Elder H. Sørensen counseled together and telegraphed Brother Hougaard. ⁹

The last reference that could be found mentioning H. Sørensen is dated Tuesday, 5 Apr. 1870: "Brothers Hougaard, H. Sørensen and J. Petersen came in the evening, and we had a good meeting." ¹⁰

4. MSS 2026, LTPSC, first (1869) journal, p 73, dated Sunday, 12 Dec. 1869.

5. ibid, p 77, dated Sunday, 26 Dec. 1869.

6. ibid, p 91, dated Monday, 31 Jan. 1870.

7. ibid, p 95, dated Friday, 18 Feb. 1870.

8. ibid, p 96, dated Saturday, 19 Feb. 1870.

9. ibid, pp 97-96, dated Sunday, 20 Feb. 1870.

10. ibid, p 112, dated Tuesday, 5 Apr. 1870.

In these early years of the 1870s, the family emigrated to America, but not all together at the same time. Mette Marie was first. On January 2, 1871, Mette Marie married Peter Christensen in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Utah.¹¹ Both of them also received their endowments the same day.¹² One family history says that she was married in 1869, but the census in 1870 clearly shows her as 18 and unmarried in early 1870. We don't have the details of her emigration, other than the note in the LDS records that says she emigrated 12 July 1870 (see footnote in Chapter 4). Ane's history explains: "Finally Mette Marie was the first to get the opportunity to leave. This was done by signing a note that she would work for a year after her arrival there to pay for her passage."¹³ Andrew William says, "In 1870 my elder sister got helped out."¹⁴ Caroline was baptized the following year, on April 8, 1871, in Aarhus.¹⁵ She, with her mother, emigrated to America a few months later on June 23, along with Parley Peter. Andrew William reports, "In 1871 the Lord opened the way so that my mother and younger sister and brother got off."¹⁶ According to Caroline's history, they did not have enough money to go as a family. Her history is off by a year, but this is how she described the process: "In the year 1870 my mother and my youngest brother, Parley P. Sorensen, and myself emigrated to Utah. My mother took my young brother to my sister's home to live, and she hired out to do general housework in order to help get money to emigrate my father and my brother, William Sorensen. Brother William Cluff was president of the Scandinavian Mission at that time and had just received his release to return home. He paid for my emigration and sent me to his parents' home in Provo, Utah." She also said, "My mother and we two children came over on the first steamship that ever crossed the Atlantic." (There had been other steamships cross, but theirs might have been the first of that size.) The group sailed on the "Humber" from Copenhagen to Liverpool, arriving there on the 27th of June, 1871. The group, with the addition of a few people from Scotland, boarded the "Minnesota," a 2000 ton ship, and sailed the next day for New York. William Wallace Cluff, recently released as president of the Scandinavian mission, was the leader of the group. They arrived in New York on July 12th. It was reported that "The day after the arrival of the emigrants in New York (July 13th) a desperate fight between conservative Irish and Orangemen

11. LDS Endowment House records, Sealings, volume F FHL Special Collections film 1149516, p 187, entry number #20148, Sealed 2 Jan. 1871 by Joseph F. Smith, Witnesses Elias Smith and S. H. B. Smith

12. LDS Endowment House records, Endowments, volume G FHL Special Collections film 1239501, p 231, entry #17 (females) for her, and entry #13 (males) for him. Both Jan. 2, 1871.

13. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 4.

14. *Andrew William*, p 5.

15. LDS church records, Aarhus, Denmark film 0041938 page 166:

Sophie Caroline Sorensen, birth date: 30 April 1858, birth place: Torbegaard, baptized 8 April 1871, Aarhus by N. J. S. Provstgaard, confirmed 9 April 1871, by H. Strade, emigrated June 1871.

16. *Andrew William*, p 5.

took place in the city of New York, in which many persons were killed and wounded, but the emigrants were not molested in any way." ¹⁷ They departed for the west and arrived without incident in Ogden on July 21st. Caroline stayed with the parents of President Cluff in Brigham City while her mother and Parley stayed with Caroline's sister and her husband, Peter Christensen, probably in Salt Lake City.

The costs of the journey from Denmark to New York City were 6 pounds 10 shillings for adults and 3 pound 3 shillings for children, for the ocean voyage, and 9 pounds 16 shillings for adults and 4 pounds 18 shillings for children for the rail fare from New York City to Salt Lake City. ¹⁸

According to the Wallace Sorensen history, "Grandmother hired out to do house work in Salt Lake City, to help earn money so that her husband and other little children could come to America, or Zion. Day after day she left her little children and went to work. Many times she would cook pastry and sell them; and many times she would iron at night to make a few extra pennies. She was an expert at ironing the stiff bosomed shirts and stiff collars worn at the time. After many months of hard work and saving, her husband was sent for." ¹⁹ Caroline writes in her history that she stayed with a family in Brigham City and her mother worked to earn money to pay for Hans and Andrew William to come in the following year.

Hans and Andrew William left Denmark in 1872. Andrew William reports, "Brother P. Madsen was then President, and he promised me in the name of Jesus, if I would be faithful, that the Lord would open the way for Father and me next year and that when I got to Zion I would be blessed a hundred fold. My father was not so strong as he might be. ... There was nothing else to do but work. A year went by and it was a hard one. Father and I would get up in the morning as soon as we could see and kept on until it was dark at night; but the time went and in the month of June 1872, our deliverance came for me and Father to go home to Zion, to the place where God has said that his people should gather." ²⁰ As previously mentioned, their oldest son, Soren Peter, and his family were not going with them. Andrew William states, "... there was still one left whom I loved as dearly as those who had gone before. He had no excuse so far as the

17. *Mormon Migration*, Liverpool to New York - Ship Minnesota, 28 Jun 1871; The Harold B Lee Library (Brigham Young University) URL: <http://lib.byu.edu/mormonmigration/voyage.php?id=244> Sources listed on that page: BMR, Book #1041, pp. 152-170 (FHL #025,692); Customs #661 (FHL #175,701); SMR, 1870 (FHL #025,696) [recorded on page 160 in the ship records]

18. As recorded in "*Emigration, Hans Sorensen Family.*" author unknown, unpublished.

19. Wallace Sorensen history.

20. *Andrew William*, p 5.

Gospel was concerned because father had taught him that for years and he was now a married man and was able to judge for himself." ²¹

Soren Peter remained in the "old country." Soren did come to Aarhus with the family, but by the time of the 1870 census, he was no longer with the family. He married Ane Petersen who was also from that area. They remained there and raised their family. One of their children did join the church and came later to Utah. This was their daughter Sophia Christene Sorensen.

Hans and Andrew William departed from Copenhagen on June 21, 1872, on the steamship "Otto" which took them to Hull, England. They took a train from there to Liverpool where they boarded the ship "Nevada." It was reported that the Atlantic journey from Liverpool to New York was fairly rough and stormy, lasting between June 26, 1872, and July 10, 1872. ²² They arrived in Utah on July 17, 1872. Anton Lund was their leader.

Andrew William says that while they were in Copenhagen (Kjøbenhavn) they saw many people who went past them, including "two boys. They asked me if I was a Mormon. 'Yes,' was my reply. One of the boys had a shovel handle which he struck me with. I fell to the ground. I do not remember how long I lay there but when I got up I was very sick." ²³ They boarded the ship "Minnesota" and traveled to New York and then on rail to Utah. Andrew William says that he was continually sick and even worse with sea-sickness through the voyage. He reports later that "One day, my father came down and told me the ship had sprung a leak and that I would have to try to get up. I told him it could not sink too soon to suit me, just so I could get out of my misery. They got the leak stopped and the next day I heard someone talk about land. ... [The next morning] I was awakened by shouts of 'Land in sight!' I jumped up, seemingly well, and got up on the deck and ran over to the front end of the ship and stood there looking at the various fish until we arrived in the harbor of New York. I must say my joy was great!" ²⁴ The group arrived in Salt Lake City on July 18, 1872. Andrew William reports: "in the evening we reached the blessed city of Salt Lake. The station was lighted up with lanterns so that the platform was light. I looked out and saw my dear mother, sisters and brother amid the crowd. My heart leaped with joy and it was not long until I had my arms around my mother's

21. ibid.

22. *Mormon Migration*, Liverpool to New York - Ship Nevada, 26 Jun 1872; The Harold B Lee Library (Brigham Young University) URL: <http://lib.byu.edu/mormonmigration/voyage.php?id=264> Sources listed on that page: BMR, Book #1041, pp. 209-223 (FHL #025,693); Customs #717 (FHL #175,718); SMR, 1872 (FHL #025,696)

23. *Andrew William*, p 5.

24. ibid.

neck and also the rest of the family and was made welcome. ... we were escorted to some meeting house in the city where a long table was set for all the emigrants. On the table was all the good things of the earth to eat that could be thought of. ... After supper father and I went to a little house my mother had rented and she had everything very comfortable. ... We now again joined in prayer and again thanked our Heavenly Father for his protection over us." ²⁵

Hans' brother Jorgen and his family came later in the same year, 1872. They left Copenhagen at the end of August: "On Friday, Aug. 30, 1872, at 1 o'clock p.m., a company of 260 emigrating Saints sailed from Copenhagen, per steamer 'Cato,' accompanied by ... returning missionaries" ²⁶

In describing their new life in Utah, Andrew William wrote about what they needed to do to earn money: "We attended a meeting in the grand tabernacle and listened to the sweet music. After enjoying ourselves we then talked about what we should do to make a living. My sister knew of Bishop Rolly in the 19th ward that wanted a boy to drive his team. ... We had to haul the gravel up on Main Street. ... I stayed with the Bishop for three weeks and got my money every Saturday night. I now got me some clothes and paid my mother's home rent and gave her what I had left." ²⁷ He continued to work and worked also for some men on a farm, etc. and earned "enough to pay my emigration ... and helped my parents all I could." ²⁸

The first person of this extended family to join the church, Christiane, Jorgen's daughter, was the last to emigrate to Utah. She married Lars Peter Christensen in Denmark and started raising a family. They emigrated in 1875, leaving Copenhagen on June 24th, then taking the "Idaho" for the journey to New York, leaving Liverpool on June 29th, arriving July 13th. The company arrived in Utah on July 22, 1875. ²⁹

25. ibid, p 7.

26. *Mormon Migration*, Liverpool to New York - Ship Minnesota, 4 Sep 1872; The Harold B Lee Library (Brigham Young University) URL: <http://lib.byu.edu/mormonmigration/voyage.php?id=246>; source listed: BMR, Book #1041, pp. 232-252 (FHL #025,692); Customs #1013 (FHL #175,721); SMR, 1872 (FHL #025,696)

27. ibid, p 8.

28. ibid.

29. *Mormon Migration*, Liverpool to New York - Ship Idaho, 30 Jun 1875; The Harold B Lee Library (Brigham Young University) URL: <http://lib.byu.edu/mormonmigration/voyage.php?id=176>; source listed: BMR, Book #1042, pp. 16-22 (FHL #025,693); Customs #621 (FHL #175,755)

Chapter 6

Hans and Andrew William were finally with the rest of the family. It took almost three years to bring them all together from Denmark to Utah. Now they faced the challenge of making a new life in "Zion." According to the Wallace Sorensen history, Hans worked as a stonemason on the Salt Lake Temple in the first years following their immigration.¹ Another history says that "He worked on the Salt Lake Temple cutting rocks for it, which he was an expert. It is said he helped set the stone on the clasping hands either on the east or west of the temple near the top."² Other histories say that it was one of the moon stones. It is significant that Hans, a stone cutter, would be able to show his dedication to the Gospel by being part of the Salt Lake Temple construction.

Hans and his family did not stay long in Salt Lake City. According to the Glenwood Ward records, Ane and their son Parley moved into Glenwood on March 19, 1873 from Salt Lake City.³ The Glenwood Branch records, in an earlier book, showed Caroline arriving in Glenwood on April 13, 1873 (from Salt Lake City) recommended by James Leach.⁴ James Leach was the bishop of the 2nd Ward in Salt Lake City.⁵ A previous bishop recommended a member to the bishop of the member's next ward.⁶ This recommendation note gives us an idea of where the family probably lived in Salt Lake City. The boundaries of the Second Ward were: Third East, Sixth East, Sixth South and Ninth South.⁷ This might be where they rented their home in Salt Lake City.

Most immigrants, as they arrived in the Salt Lake Valley, were assigned by L. D. S. church leaders to settle in various locations in the territory, particularly where their skills or resources were needed in building up the Kingdom of God. Glenwood is in Sevier County, about 150 miles south of Salt Lake City. Some writings in family histories mention that they moved to Richfield (near Glenwood), but if so, it must have been temporary, because they were in Glenwood during this time, according to LDS church records. Nothing in these

1. Wallace Sorensen, unpublished history.

2. *Brief History of Grandfather Hans Sorensen* from the Alma Sorensen family, unpublished.

3. Glenwood LDS Ward and Branch records, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT. Film 0025980, item 1, page 6, line numbers 17 and 18 on the page. The first book (item 1) on the film is Ward records in a printed, columned format.

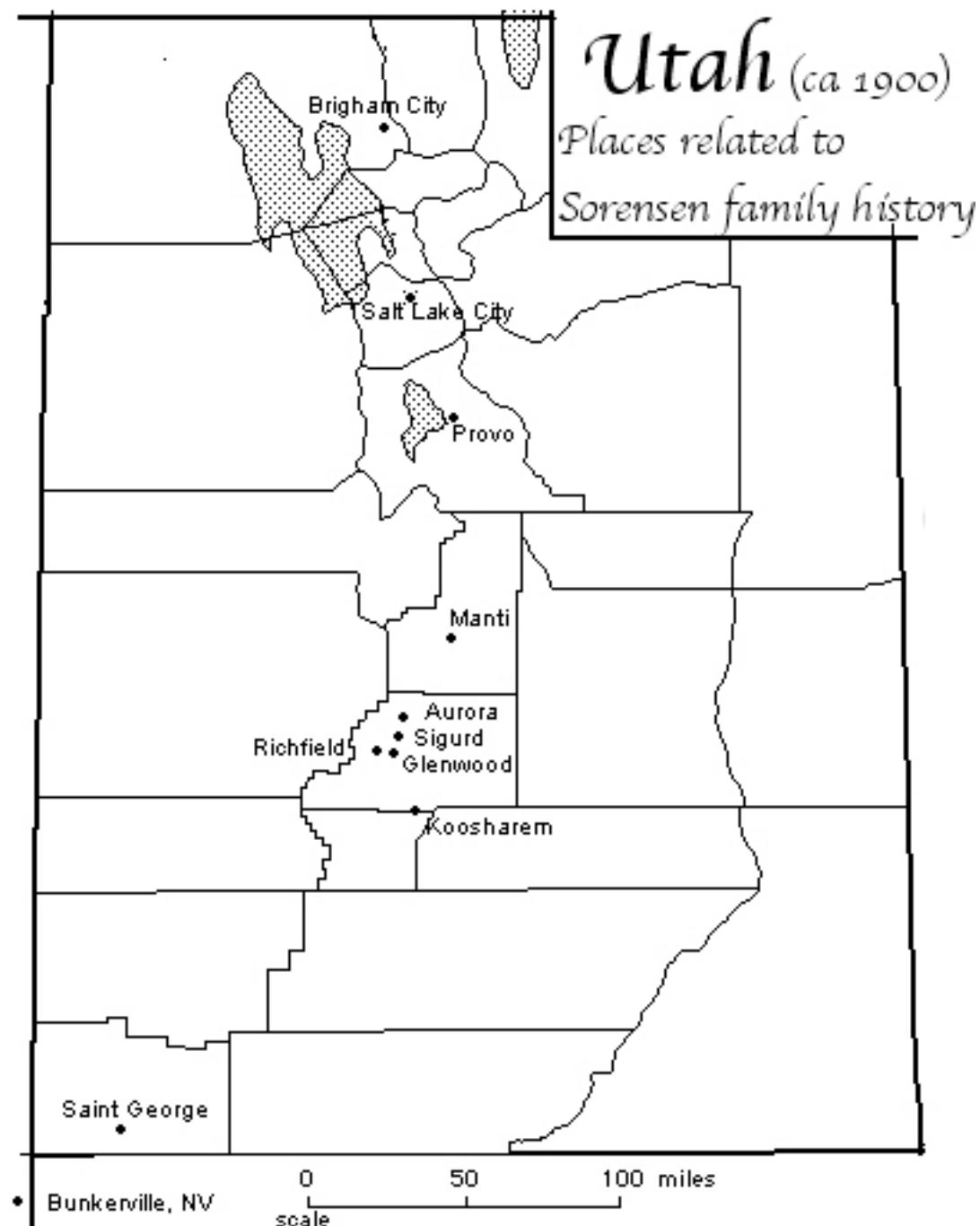
4. ibid, item 4, page 73, near the bottom. The fourth book (item 4) is an older record, specifically of the branch before it became a ward. Apparently both this and the first book (the newer one) were used at the same time. Some entries of the older book are newer than entries in the newer one.

5. See *Deseret News*, 1873-03-19 page 7 and *Deseret News*, 1874-06-03 page 12.

6. Doctrine & Covenants 72:25 (L.D.S. scripture).

7. *Hannah's Salt Lake City Directory*, 1873, http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~utsaltla/archive/directories/0940049_1_1873/frame.html

Glenwood records mentions Hans by name, but we assume he arrived with Ane and Parley.



Family tradition says that Hans was involved in building a gristmill in the Richfield or Glenwood areas. Granddaughter Anna Delilah recorded: "Later the family moved to Richfield, Utah, and grandfather built the old stone grist mill as well as several other buildings erected at that time. Then the family moved to Glenwood and he built two grist mills in that town. He also built the old Peterson home and many others of the fine old substantial stone homes of Glenwood. Grandfather Sorensen also worked as stone cutter on the Manti Temple."⁸ Andrew William mentions in his history that he came to Glenwood to visit his father in 1874.⁹ (It was there that Andrew William met his future bride, Mary Steffensen.)



The monument in Glenwood, with the plaque, also showing a grinding stone from the mill.

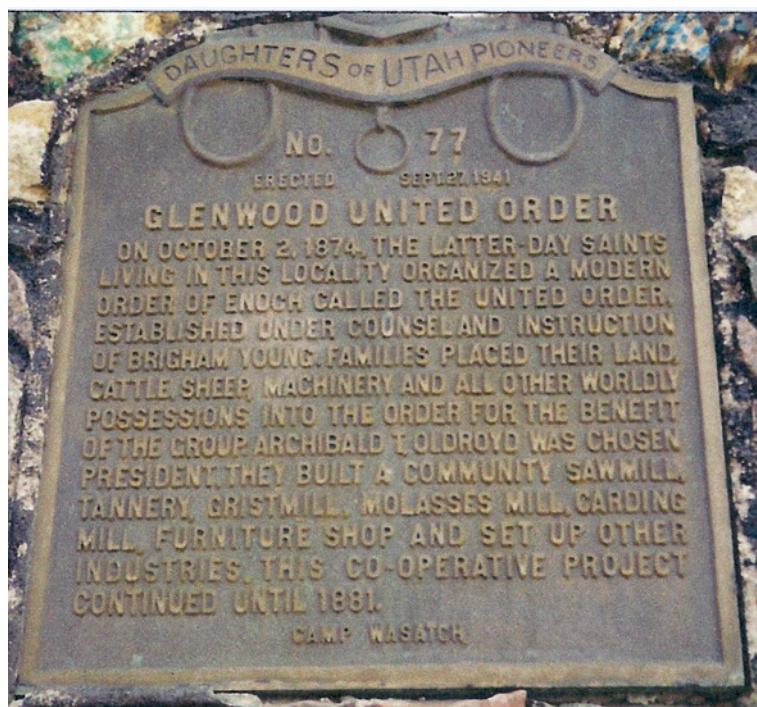
Caroline's future husband, Archibald Waller Overton Buchanan, lived in Glenwood with his three wives. Archibald had been the Branch President of

8. Hans Sorensen biography by Anna Delilah Buchanan Poole, unpublished.

9. *Andrew William*, p 8.

Glenwood, and was, on October 5, 1873, sustained as the first counselor to Bishop G. F. Willson.¹⁰ Meetings of the church were then held in a school house. The Branch and Ward records give details of meetings where plans for the building of a ward meeting house were discussed. In the second of these two meetings, held on January 25th 1874, Bishop Willson was elected superintendent of the building process. The details of the proposed building structure were outlined. The building was described as being "25 x 40 feet in the clear, with a galery [sic] walls of red sandstone 17 feet high. Hance [sic] Sorensen was chosen Boss Mason and Abram Shaw Boss carpenter."¹¹

The members of the Glenwood community were asked to live the United Order. The Sorensen family were involved in this undertaking. The United Order was a covenant agreement in which members surrendered their property and materials to the community (the Ward) and were then given stewardship in areas to best benefit the welfare of the community as a whole.



Pioneer plaque commemorating the Glenwood United Order

The United Order was organized in Glenwood on April 22, 1874.¹² The document recording the event in the ward records reads:
 "Glenwood April 22d 1874 [sic] Copy of Agreement

10. Glenwood LDS Ward and Branch records, page 118.

11. ibid, page 119.

12. ibid, page 124.

"We the undersigned do mutually [sic] and severally [sic] agree to join the United Order in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints with the full intent and purpose of living to its spirit and objects to this end we have hereunto affixed our names - "

Under that heading, Hans Sorensen, Ane Sorensen and their daughter, Caroline all signed their names in the first (left) column. A. W. Buchanan and his three wives (at that time) were listed on the next page.¹³

During this time, Hans and Ane were finally able to go to Salt Lake City to receive their temple blessings. They were sealed in the Endowment House on October 13, 1874.¹⁴ Their endowments took place on the same date.¹⁵ It had been over sixteen long years since joining the church in Denmark. They were finally able to enjoy the blessings of the Temple. Their children would not be sealed to them until 1889.

In the 1870's there was a practice in the church of baptizing people a second time to show faithfulness in the challenges faced by the church and the members. In the Glenwood record, the heading states: "Rebaptized with covenants to observe the rules to the United Order." According that record, Caroline was re-baptized on July 18, 1875, by A [Archibald]. W. Buchanan.¹⁶ There didn't appear to be re-baptism dates for Hans, Ane, or Parley. Caroline was married to Archibald as his fourth wife about a year later, on September 27, 1876.

The United Order in Glenwood was a fairly successful enterprise for about 5 years. The family and Glenwood histories quote from *Joseph Smith, An American Prophet*, saying: "By far the most successful effort ever put forth at any time in Mormondom was found in the settlement ... which went by the name of Glenwood."¹⁷ In the history of George Peter Pectol, another person of Glenwood who was part of this system, we find a description of some of the process, extent and experiences that were part of the United Order. He starts by saying: "I turned my property into the Order and began work 1 December 1874."¹⁸ He then goes on to detail his specific duties. We know that Hans was a stone mason and worked on a number of buildings in the Glenwood area, probably as part of his duties in the United Order. From Pectol's history, it is evident that the Order covered a large geographical area, including King's Meadow and Grass Valley,

13. ibid, page 125.

14. L.D.S. Church, Endowment House sealings, Book J, FHL Special Collections, film 0183400, p 59, #758. Sealed by Pres. H. W. Wells, witness John E. Eisgren.

15. L.D.S. Church, Endowment House endowments, Volume H FHL Special Collections film 00183407. Ane Sorensen on page 176, #8; Hans Sorensen on page 177, #13.

16. Glenwood Ward records, item 1 of FHL film 0025980, page 7

17. *Joseph Smith, An American Prophet*, John Henry Evans, New York : Macmillan, 1944, p 246.

18. *Founded on Faith - The History of Glenwood*, by Iva Lee Sorensen, p 306.

where Koosharem is situated. Pectol reported one of his days: "September 21, 1875: Helped survey Kings Meadow. . . ." ¹⁹ Later in his writing, Pectol gives a statement concerning the Order: "Nov. 19, 1878: The United Order has not been a success. Preparing to go to Grass Valley and build a house and ditch." ²⁰ By that time, Hans and his family had also moved to Grass Valley.

Hans probably moved his family to Kings Meadow in 1876. ²¹ Kings Meadow is a small valley in a canyon about 7 or 8 miles east of Glenwood. There was a road going over the pass directly east of Glenwood, but they might have traveled by way of Sigurd and down to that little canyon because that path was less steep and winding. The meadow is about 5 miles south of Sigurd. Today it is just to the east of Utah Highway 24, near the reservoir that is now in that small valley. Though it must have been generally uninhabited, the place is mentioned a few times in histories, including a report that the Ute Chief, Arapeen, was buried there in 1860. ²² Wallace Sorensen lists Kings Meadow chronologically after Koosharem: "Grandfather moved several times after living in Glenwood. He moved to Koosharem then up to Kings Meadow Canyon, where he built the little rock cabin that is partly standing. Here they were very poor and endured many hardships during the cold winter." ²³ It seems more likely that his time in Kings Meadow was prior to their living in Koosharem, because the later Aurora church records refers to the family as coming directly from Koosharem. Koosharem is 24 miles south of Kings Meadow, in Grass Valley.

19. ibid, p 307.

20. ibid. p 309.

21. *Brief History of Grandfather Hans Sorensen*, unpublished.

22. Mentioned in *The Deseret Weekly* volume 43, page 219, [Vol. 43, No. 7. August 8, 1891], in a description of a tour led by Ephraim Hanks from Loa to Richfield. Narration by Andrew Jenson, dated June 28, 1891.

23. Sorensen, unpublished history.



The Kings Meadow homestead (picture taken August 1978 - probably by Kathleen Bartholomew)
Below are pictures of the same structure taken in October 2011, by Joseph Buchanan.



Today, the ruin of a house is near the reservoir off highway 24. It is probably the one referred to by Wallace. The coordinates of that ruin are: 38° 47' 12.39" N 111° 55' 37.28" W, elevation 5932 feet. Kings Meadow is referenced in the Glenwood Ward records (minutes): "A. W. Buchanan said there was a choice good place for our dairy near the head of Kings Meadow where there is a large spring and a great abundance of grass."²⁴ In Ane's history, it gives some more details of their experience: "Hans was given permission to homestead some land a few miles east of Glenwood, called Kings Meadow Canyon. It was a beautiful area with a creek running through it. Hans built a two-story rock home, and Ane decorated the plastered walls with stenciled artwork and cheerful colors. Together they planted trees, flowers and garden. They cultivated the ground for farming and planted grain. They were happy with their home and land for awhile. Unfortunately the farming failed, as the water was too scarce for the crops to mature, and the soil was poor."²⁵

24. Glenwood Ward Records, book 4, page 120, entry dated Sunday March 22, 1874.

25. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 5.

Chapter 7

In about 1878, Hans and his family moved to Koosharem, in Grass Valley. Ane's history says that they were welcomed in Koosharem and that Hans "secured a house and farmland." The story continues: "They established a mercantile business which proved successful. After the items were brought from Salt Lake City, Ane took charge of the shelving and arrangements of the goods. The bartering of goods made the store successful, as the village people would bring in their commodities, such as eggs, flour, vegetables and such, and exchange or get credit for other supplies."¹ Ane Sorensen was listed as a Visiting Teacher in the Koosharem Ward in 1878.² Marie Christensen is also listed under that date. It is likely that this was Hans and Ane's daughter, Mette Marie. The ward records began in that year, so it is possible that they were there prior to that time.

At this time, Hans followed the direction of church leaders and married a second wife in the practice of Plural Marriage. Carol Christensen Gibson records that "Brigham Young asked Hans to take another wife in polygamy."³ In Ane's history, it tells of her support of this marriage: "Ane and Hans met a fine young woman who they both admired, by the name of Matilda Evenson. She had immigrated from Norway, and they had many things in common. She was unmarried, lonely and yearned for children of her own. Since polygamy was practiced and accepted by the Church at that time, both Ane and Hans were in accord for Hans to marry her."⁴ He was sealed to Matilda Evensen (also called Torgersen) on June 3, 1880, in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.⁵ Hans was 54 years old at the time, Matilda was 26. She received her Endowments the same day.⁶ Anna Delilah writes: "Grandfather entered into the principle of plural marriage when he was quite advanced in years. His second wife was Matilda Torgersen. They raised a family of three girls and three boys."⁷ The Norwegian language, Matilda's native tongue, is quite similar to the Danish language, so communication should not have been difficult for them. Matilda came west with her family as a young girl of ten. Her family came by handcart in 1863.

1. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 5.

2. *Grass Valley History* - Provo, Utah : BYU Press, 2005, page 115.

3. *The Story of a Brave Little Tilla - Matilda Torgersen Sorensen*, unpublished history by Carol J. Christensen Gibson.

4. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 5.

5. LDS Endowment House records, Sealings, volume L FHL Special Collections film 0183402, p 167. Sealed 3 June 1880 by Jos. F. Smith, witnesses John Smith and Elias Smith.

6. LDS Endowment House records, Endowments, volume I FHL Special Collections film 0183408, p 121, entry #7 June 3, 1880. Joseph F. Smith presided, lectured, recorded and sealed. Note: Each of these records show her last name as Evansen or Evandsen. Also her date of birth is listed as 14 Aug. 1854 (not 1853). The endowment record states that her baptism date was 14 Nov. 1866.

7. Anna Delilah Poole.

The 1880 census in Utah, taken on June 4, 1880, in Greenwich, Piute County, Utah, shows Hans and Ane with their son Parley. He is listed in the record as being a farmer, Ane as "keeping house" and Parley as "at home." ⁸ Greenwich is about 6 miles south of Koosharem, in Piute County and was probably the location of reference because of the way the census was taken. It is likely that Hans was not physically present at the time of the census, because he was in Salt Lake City in the Endowment House the day before, June 3rd. Matilda does not appear at all in the 1880 Census. In the 1870 Census, she is listed with her parents in Ephraim, Sanpete County, Utah. At this time (1880) they were in the Koosharem Ward, though the records do not list them. There were others of his and Matilda's families in Koosharem as well. Parley was married later in 1888 to Emma Christine Helquist in Koosharem. Hans' daughter Mette Marie, and her husband Peter Christensen, were also in Koosharem at the time Hans and his families lived in there. Even Torgersen (Matilda's father, listed as Ivin Torgasen in the census) is in the 1880 census along with his new wife and daughter. A brother and a sister of Matilda are also listed in the records of Koosharem. They are Gurine Torgersen De Lange and Charles Edw. Torgersen. Gurine's husband, Lennert DeLange served as the ward clerk of the Koosharem Ward from its beginning in 1877 until his release in 1896. ⁹ This information is found in the Koosharem Ward records.¹⁰ Others of the family were in other places in Utah. Caroline and her husband stayed in Glenwood. Andrew William was also in Glenwood when the 1880 census was taken. Jorgen, Hans' brother, and his family, are recorded in the 1880 census in Peoa, Summit County, Utah. ¹¹

Family stories recall that Hans was involved significantly in community improvements. It is reported that "Hans Sorensen planted the first fruit trees in Aurora and shade trees in Koosharem. He surveyed the Koosharem canal with a spirit level from the reservoir to Koosharem. When the canal was cemented in 1964, the engineers pretty well followed the first survey of Hans Sorensen." ¹² The Grass Valley history has a section that describes the history of the irrigation district. In that record it mentions that the canal was built in 1876 and 1877 "and in 1878 it was extended to a place about a mile and a half south of town." ¹³ The history goes on to record that Hans Sorensen was a member of the committee designated to "take actions necessary for construction of the canal." In a couple of recorded decisions, Hans is listed as having made motions that were voted on

8. U.S. Census 1880 Greenwich, Piute, Utah, page 12, dated June 4, 1880. They are family number 19.

9. *Grass Valley History*, p 92.

10. Koosharem Ward records, FHL film 0026059.

11. U.S. Census 1880 Peoa, Summit, Utah, page 19, dated June 13-15, 1880. They are family no. 19.

12. History from the Alma Sorensen family.

13. *Grass Valley History*, p 165

and "were carried." ¹⁴ He is also listed as a Trustee approved in a meeting on 9 October 1882. ¹⁵ He is again mentioned in a meeting held on 17 February 1883, as making a motion recommending a person to be the water-master. ¹⁶ He is not mentioned in later meetings.

The conditions in Grass Valley were difficult. Besides the problems of bringing water to their farms and homes, the weather was difficult at the time. Some of the families recorded that the winter of 1879-1880 was spoken of as "the Hard Winter." ¹⁷ Peter E. Olsen reported: "The summer of 1879 was exceptionally dry and very little hay or grain was raised... [and] during the winter of 1879-80 the snow fall was very heavy and extremely cold that all the feed was covered up, so nearly all the livestock in the valley perished and many people lost nearly all..." ¹⁸ It was reported that "the winter of 1882-83 probably was not so blizzardsly ... as the winter of 1879-80, but its cold snaps were just as bitter. On Friday the 19th of January, Eliza [Rust] rose early to help Laura [Rust] with her washing. As the day wore on, the cold became so intense they found it impossible to keep the wash water warm. ... Ice froze on the water buckets all day." ¹⁹

Hans' new family started to grow at this time. The first two children of his second marriage, Nora (August 29, 1881,) and Josephine (February 7, 1883,) were born in Koosharem. This was also a time of sadness as his daughter Mette Marie, died there on January 3, 1883. Marie's husband, Peter Christensen, and the family eventually moved to California.

The ward record of the Aurora Ward showed that Hans moved from the Koosharem Ward to the Aurora Ward on April 13, 1884. ²⁰ At the time, their new little girls were still very small. Matilda was again with child. According to Ane's history, she offered to care for Nora in Koosharem as Hans, Matilda, and Josephine would move to Aurora. The history states: "Ane offered to take care of Nora, for which Hans and Matilda were grateful. Ane had passed the age of child-bearing, and she was delighted to have this precious little girl to care for. Ane raised her and loved her as her very own." ²¹ Ane remained with Parley and Nora in Koosharem. Parley married Emma Helquist on January 20, 1887. Parley brought his family to Aurora in 1890 during the time Hans was having problems

14. ibid.

15. ibid, p 166.

16. ibid, p 167.

17. Ibid, p 202.

18. ibid.

19. ibid, p 203.

20. Aurora Ward records, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT. Film 0025800, page 50.

21. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 6.

with the law. In Spring 1890, Hans returned home from his incarceration in the Sugarhouse Prison (described in the next chapter).

Family histories record that Hans worked on the Manti Temple,²² though no records can be found listing him as a worker on that temple. It is likely that he did this work after the family moved to Aurora, because he was a lot closer to Manti in Aurora: 35 miles instead of the 70 miles from Koosharem.

In Aurora their next child, Maria, was born on September 24, 1884. In her later life she was known as "Ry." Their first son, Edwin was born June 20, 1886.

The Manti Temple was dedicated on May 17, 1888. The family very likely attended the dedication, since it was not very far away from Aurora. The location also made it easier for them to make use of a temple. Hans and Ane were sealed to their children the following March. Andrew William, Caroline Sophia and Parley Peter were sealed to their parents on March 6, 1889.²³ Mette Marie, who died six years earlier was sealed by proxy to them, with Caroline as proxy. Only Soren Peter, who was still in Denmark, was not sealed to them at the time. On that same day Parley Peter was sealed to his wife, Emma Christina Helquist. They were married two years earlier in Koosharem. Also at the time of their sealing, Parley and Emma's son, Parley Earvan, was sealed to them. Parley's brother Andrew William was proxy for him, since he died as an infant.²⁴ Andrew William had been to the Saint George Temple back on April 11, 1877, just 5 days after that temple was dedicated. It was there that he married Mary Kirstine Steffensen. Now, other than Soren Peter, they all had the blessings of the temple.

22. E. g., Wallace Sorensen history.

23. L.D.S. Church, Manti Temple sealing of children to parents, Book A, FHL Special Collections film 0170493, p 205.

Pres. D. H. Wells, sealer, A. Thompson, jr. And Isaac Riddle witnesses, recorder Lewis Anderson Sealed :

#1 Andrew William Sorensen 9 Nov. 1855 Sabe, Holbek, Den

#2 Marie Sorensen dead 27 Sept 1851 RusValey Holbek, Den 3 Jan 1883

#3 Caroline Sophia Sorensen 30 Apr. 1858 Saber, Holbek, Den

#4 Peter Parley Sorensen 11 July 1862 Morslev Aarhus, Den

Sealed to parents

Hans Sorensen 3 Oct 1825 Erslev, Holbek, Den

Ane Nielsen Sorensen 24 Dec 1822 Therslev, Soroe, Den

No 3 acting for 2

24. ibid. Parley Erwin Sorensen dead 15 Sept 1888 Koosharem, Piute, Utah

Sealed to parents

Peter Parley Sorensen 11 July 1862 Morslev, Aarhus, Den

Emma Christine Helquist Sorensen 30 Sept 1866 Haroldslook, Skorwick, Swed

Andrew William Sorensen acting for 1

Lewis Anderson recorder

Chapter 8

In Aurora, Hans started having problems with the United States marshalls who were hunting "cohabs," or men who had plural wives. The law forbade what was called, "unlawful cohabitation." One of the children remembers: "Many times he would hide in the fields and his children would bring his lunch to him and sit to listen to the wonderful stories he could tell of things that were of interest to him and his family."¹ Levi, one of his youngest children stated: "... he was hounded day and night. He would hide out any place he could find a place to sleep, down by the river in the thick willows and many other places."² It is possible that this last observation was of a later experience in Bunkerville, after he was released from prison.

Hans was known by the authorities as having a second wife as early as May 1886. There is a fair amount of detail found in a set of court records, housed in the National Archives in Denver, Colorado. These documents are summarized here to show the official process of his eventual arrest and conviction.³ The complaint and arrest warrant, dated December 31, 1888, lists his "illegal activities" beginning on September 3, 1886:

"William Bennet of Provo, in the County of Utah Territory of Utah, on behalf of the United States of America, on oath complains, that Hans Sorensen in the County of Sevier and Territory of Utah, on the Third day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and eighty-six in the County of Sevier and Territory aforesaid, and on divers other days and times thereafter, and continuously between said last mentioned day and the 2nd day of September A. D. 1888 did then and there unlawfully live and cohabit with more than one woman, to-wit: With Mrs. [Anna] Sorensen, Mathilda Evensen Sorensen against the peace of dignity of the United States of America, and contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided, wherefore complainant prays that a warrant may issue for the arrest of said Hans Sorensen and that he be dealt with according to the law." [signed] W Bennett⁴

A warrant was then filed for his arrest,⁵ followed with a subpoena for Anna Sorensen and Parley Sorensen to appear in court as witnesses.⁶ All three of these documents had the same date: 31 Dec. 1888. The next document, dated 15 Aug. 1889, seems to be a statement of bail. Parley Sorensen and Ezra Curtis appear to

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1. A history written by Arla Dean Christensen Ashby (unpublished) as told her by her mother, Josephine.
 2. Levi Sorensen history.
 3. Utah Territorial Records, U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, Case file number 2031, microfilm reel 28, 10 double-sided documents and a cover page.
 4. *ibid*, paper 1 (unnumbered) in the collection.
 5. *ibid*, paper 2.
 6. *ibid*, paper 3.

have posted \$300 bail for Hans on that date.⁷ The next paper, dated 10 Aug. 1889, is a statement that Matilda Evensen was not expected to honor the subpoena to be a witness against Hans because "She is the reputed plural wife of the defendant and does not wish to give evidence against him."⁸ An arrest warrant is then issued on that same day, 10 Aug. 1889, for Matilda commanding: "attach the body of Matilda Evensen and have her before me at my office in Salina."⁹ That warrant was filed on August 15, 1889. This very difficult time, especially because their infant son, Levi was born less than a year before, on September 16, 1889, at "Lost Creek, across the Sevier River from Aurora."¹⁰

Anna Sorensen, Parley Sorensen, and Matilda Evensen were commanded in the next paper to appear before a Grand Jury in Provo on 27 Sept. 1889, at 10 o'clock A. M.¹¹ This summons was dated 21 August 1889. A statement of bail showed that Parley and Hans Sorensen posted bail for Matilda Evensen on 16 August 1889. The amount was \$100.¹² A Grand Jury indictment was issued on 27 September 1889, against Hans Sorensen.¹³ He was charged for adultery instead of unlawful cohabitation. What is curious is that in this document Matilda is listed as Matilda Sorensen instead of Matilda Evensen, seeming to indicate that the court considers her as being married to Hans. Why then could it be considered adultery? The wording of the accusation is quite specific: "... unlawfully having carnal knowledge of the body of one Tilda Sorensen, [she] being then other than the wife of him the said Hans Sorensen."¹⁴ The last paper of the set of documents specifies the indictment against Hans Sorensen for the crime of adultery and calls for his arrest. Hans was held on bail of \$1500.¹⁵ He was arraigned before Judge J. W. Judd.¹⁶

Joseph Smith Black, a bishop of the LDS church from the city of Deseret, went through a very similar process a few months prior and had this to say about Judge Judd: "Judge Judd was considered as good a judge as we had on the bench, and I will here record a few of his judicial acts, and then the reader can form an opinion of what the other judges would do. Many old gray-haired veterans, honorable citizens who had married their wives many years ago in their young days and raised honorable families, which they refused to abandon, were given

7. ibid, paper 4.

8. ibid, paper 5.

9. ibid, paper 6.

10. A history written by Levi Sorensen, unpublished.

11. Utah Territorial Records, paper 7.

12. ibid, paper 8.

13. ibid, paper 9.

14. ibid.

15. ibid, paper 10.

16. ibid.

from sixty days to eight years in the penitentiary and in some cases a heavy fine and costs besides."¹⁷ Black then proceeds to enumerate cases where non-Mormons committing "deliberate murder, seduction of women, leaving them with child," etc., received minor or suspended sentences - all from Judge Judd.

Black also gives some details of Judge Judd and his work: "Judge Judd was a man of medium height, heavy set and about 55 years old with a short gray beard. He is a native of Tennessee. He had an open and pleasant countenance and looked like a man with some sympathy, and were it not for his extreme prejudice against the Mormons, I think he would be an honorable judge. In passing sentence upon our Brethren he declared in a loud voice that this practice had to be stopped, having reference to unlawful cohabitation, and this government has got the will and power, and will never let up as long as the sun shines."¹⁸

Black describes the tenacity and cruelty of the process: "The procedure against the Mormons was so strong that evidence and arguments for the defendants were not taken much notice of. When a defendant was called before the court for sentence his family in some cases was sitting in the court room in great agony, and many were the tears of anguish that fell from their cheeks while they were listening to the sentence pronounced upon their loved one."¹⁹

Another thing that Black reports is that if a man on trial renounced his plural wife and family, he was often let free. He reports: "A man [name omitted here] had accompanied me from Deseret and was to have been sentenced the same afternoon. I kept watch to see him coming, but after a while was informed that he had unconditionally agreed to obey the law and abandon one of his families."²⁰ (An interesting, but unrelated fact is that the son of Bishop Black, Joseph Western Black, married a granddaughter of Hans: Mary Ann Buchanan, Caroline's daughter.)

As to the idea of abandoning a wife or family, we have a quote attributed to Hans declaring: "I am proud of my wife and little children. Our love transcends a decree. We will be blessed because we did what the Prophet asked us to do. I cannot leave them just because of the Manifesto. Our Prophet asked me to do this. I will never leave my little wife and family."²¹

17. *Our Pioneer Heritage*, vol 10, by Kate B. Carter, pp 303-304 "The Journal of Joseph Smith Black." DUP 1967

18. ibid, p 305.

19. ibid, p 304.

20. ibid, p 305.

21. Carol J. Christensen Gibson.

A Deseret News report two years later reports Hans' conviction and sentence to prison. The record states: "Mon. 30 (September 1889) - ... In the First District Court, at Provo Jens L. Jensen, of Central, Sevier Co., was sentenced to 62 days' imprisonment and costs for unl. coh.; Hans Jensen, of Goshen, to two years and costs, and Hans Sorensen, of Aurora, to six months, and costs for adultery and Terry Thurston, 70 years old, to a fine of \$25 and costs, for unl. coh." ²² The crime for some, including Hans, was adultery. For others, it was "unlawful cohabitation." In 1887, with the passing of the Edmunds Tucker Act, "It annulled the law of the Utah Territory which provided that prosecutions for adultery could only be commenced on the complaint of the spouse, declaring that adultery could thereafter be instituted in the same way as prosecutions for other crimes. ... An indictment for adultery could be prosecuted through the testimony of witnesses who did not have to prove sexual intercourse." ²³ It was therefore easier for the judges and prosecution to bring about adultery convictions than before so that sentence became more common.

Hans Sorensen entered the Utah Territorial Penitentiary as a convicted criminal on that day, Monday, September 30, 1889, and remained there 5 months. His release date was March 1, 1890. There doesn't appear to have been a fine assessed, but he (or his family) paid court costs totaling \$52.00. ²⁴ Hans was 64 years old at the time of his incarceration. ²⁵

Since Hans did not write a history, his experiences in prison can only be surmised from the report of others. His son, Andrew William, mentions in his history that he visited his father in the penitentiary, saying, "It was a trying scene to see my father dressed in striped clothes and to know that he had to lay on an iron floor when old and feeble. He was sick most of his time there and he was never right well after he got out. I conversed with him a half hour and spoke a few comforting words to him and gave him three dollars. It was a visit never to be forgotten by him or me. We had to make the best of it and it was a joyful day when he came home again and I could visit him by his own home and dear ones." ²⁶

We can learn more about that cruel time by reading the accounts of some others who served in the penitentiary at the same time and for similar "crimes." Fortunately, there are a number of these accounts. Only a few will be cited here.

22. Deseret News, 5 Sept. 1891 page 20.

23. *Judicial Prosecution of Prisoners for LDS Plural Marriage: Prison Sentences, 1884-1895*, a Masters Thesis, BYU, Rosa Mae Evans, 1986, p 23.

24. *ibid*, p 129.

25. The list of prisoners in the thesis lists him as being 67 instead of 64.

26. *Andrew William*, p 15.

In the appendix, there is a list of references of known writings outlining prison experiences of men who served during those 5 months. Only the most applicable are included in this writing.

Generally, those convicted of these crimes were immediately taken into custody and transported to Salt Lake City. In Hans' case, he traveled by rail from Provo. Black describes his experience: "We arrived at the depot of Salt Lake at 6:30 p.m. It was beginning to get dark. I met on the platform Sister Yates, who had been to the penitentiary to see her husband. She greeted us kindly and bid us be of good cheer. Two wagons awaited our arrival into which we seated ourselves with our bedding and satchels, being very crowded and uncomfortable. We proceeded up South Temple Street, thence down Main on East Temple Street, and while riding along viewing the brilliant electric lights and the handsome displays in the store windows." ²⁷ The penitentiary was located east of 13th East and south of 21st South Street in Sugarhouse, where Sugarhouse Park and Highland High School now stand.

"We arrived at the penitentiary about 8 o'clock and we were ordered to leave our things outside. We were then crowded into a space of about four feet by twelve, between two gates. The outer gate was opened to receive us and then shut on us before the inner one was opened. Thus we were made to feel near to each other, that being the first process of applying the screw. But before we were passed through the gate we were taken into a room and searched, and relieved of our money and our pocket books. A small man was sitting at the end of the table taking a list of what was taken from us and a large one with a black beard was doing the searching. This was done to ascertain whether we had any contraband goods." ²⁸

Another prisoner, Franklin W. Young relates: "I soon learned there was a great difference between 'toughs' and 'co-habs'. The former were convicts [convicted] for breaking some law, such a burglary, adultery, etc. while the latter was having more than one wife - those who were suffering imprisonment rather than abandon their wives, and deny their children. The prison authorities were kind to us in that they kept us separate as much as they could. As a rule they did not put a 'tough' and a 'co-hab' in the same cell together." ²⁹

27. Black, p 306.

28. ibid, p 306

29. Franklin W. Young Autobiography. Manuscript on microfilm in the LDS Church History Library, call number MS 1148 #1-2. He describes his experiences between pages 146 to 157. This comes from page 152.

The living conditions were as bad as you might expect, especially at the time Hans was imprisoned. The winters were cold and summers hot and sweltering. Hans was imprisoned when the facility was the most over-crowded: "At the peak of overpopulation in 1888, officials built three bunkhouses of two-by-sixes laid flat and spiked together for walls, floor, and ceiling. These provided an excellent breeding ground for bedbugs, a common Salt Lake pest in the best of households. Three-tier-high bunks, sleeping two in each, surrounded a small heating stove and an impossibly tiny center lounging area. Partitioned off in one corner was a wooden box and water barrel cut in two, called the "dunnigan," which did duty for the men during the night. A few barred windows and ventilating shafts in the roof relieved the stuffiness."³⁰

Black describes the first entry into their cell (there were two men, Jolley and Black): "We were then conducted to an upper room which they called the highest heaven in the institution. An iron gate was opened to us by the guard, and Black and Jolley were ushered into cell No. 55. The bolts were shoved back with an extremely harsh grate on our feelings, and for the first time in our lives we realized what it was to be prisoners. We were in the dark in a strange place among strange people. We felt around and found a piece of a candle and struck a light. In our cell we found two pieces of canvas about seven by two feet, which we understood from previous information were to serve as beds, but being unacquainted with things and ways here, tried to construct a double bed by buckling the two pieces of canvas together. On this we made our bed out of our quilts, and the space being narrow for two large men, about two feet."³¹

The food was described by Franklin Young:

"The prison food was generally meat and gravy and bread and coffee for breakfast. Sometimes we had potatoes with our bread and meat for dinner, with bread, and mush and tea for supper. The mush was alternated, corn meal one day and oat meal the next. A poet wrote of prison foods:

"Twice a day they feed you meat,
Sometimes a big potato sweet,
On Fridays fish, on Sundays beans,
The bread is fit for kings or queens,
And all you lack is cabbage and greens,
When you get into limbo.

30. Internet Website: *Utah Territorial Prison, Sugar House, 1855-1951* by Don Strack, accessed October 2011 URL: <http://utahrails.net/utahrails/utah-territorial-prison.php>, copyright 2000-2011 by Don Strack, but licensed under a Creative Commons License: Attribution, Noncommercial and No Derivative Works.

31. Black, p 307.

"The meat (beef) was boiled or steamed, and never or very seldom, until it was done tender, then a good lot of the soup thickened to make a sort of meat gravy, and most everybody seemed to relish the meat and gravy at first, but when they came to eat the same twice a day for weeks they grew tired of it, and some actually abhorred the sight of it." ³²

Young goes on to say how the prisoners were allowed some other, nicer things, but they had to be bought and/or provided for by someone from the outside: "About once a week the mush was doped so as to loosen the bowels, of those who ate of it. We were allowed, during all the time I was there, to furnish ourselves with extras, such as sugar, butter, honey, pickles, vinegar, fruit, tomatoes, onions, etc. and my Father's folks furnished me generously, so that I was always supplied with extras. Then we bought milk, but the man who had no friends close enough outside to help him, or had no means - 'no money at the gate' was to be pitied" ³³ Black also mentioned this: "Between four and five o'clock we got supper, which consisted of mush and tea with or without sugar. Those who are able can buy milk at the rate of 3 1/2 ¢ a pint, which is a good favor. The bread and beef is good and plentiful. Those of us who have money or friends on the outside can get luxuries sent to them, such as fruit, sweets, etc. We are allowed vegetables once a week." ³⁴ According to the previous writing, Hans did once have a visit from his son, Andrew William and was given \$3.00, but it was not likely that anyone else of his family was in a position to come up north to help out or to provide money for these "luxuries".

Black describes more of the physical layout: "Cells and corridors are all composed of iron 1/4 inch thick, very cold in winter and excessively hot in summer. On each southeast corner is a wash stand containing eight bowls with a sink at the bottom, in which the prisoners are required to wash every morning. In one corner of each cell is a little closet which can be closed with an iron door, where we can put our night bucket. ... From the second corridor south is a door leading to the dining room, which is 40 by 50 feet. Tables are arranged crosswise. There are windows on each side which are also protected by iron bars." ³⁵ He also describes the dining hall as the place where they held their religious services on Sunday: "In this room religious services are held on the Sabbath afternoon. In the forenoon we Mormons are permitted to hold Sabbath School, which is appreciated very much. All are compelled to attend Divine Service in the afternoon, but attendance at Sabbath School is optional." ³⁶ Apparently, the men

32. Franklin W. Young, p 152.

33. ibid, p 153.

34. Black, p 308.

35. ibid, p 309.

36. ibid.

had a kind of Sunday School organization in prison. They had some books including scriptures. James Bywater, in his autobiography, describes this organization a little in his experiences: "Brother B. H. Roberts was the scripture reader and expounder in the Sunday School, and as his time of release came around, Bishop Horn [Joseph Smith Horne] called me in my cell early one morning and said: "Brother Bywater, you are aware that Brother Roberts is going out, and another will have to be appointed to take his place as scripture reader. I have chosen you from among all the brethren to take his place." ³⁷ Brigham H. Roberts was a general authority who served time in the penitentiary from May 1, 1889, to Sept. 10, 1889, released just before Hans entered the institution.

The men were able to work (or required to) and could make a little money. Joseph Smith Horne writes: "The Warden allows each prisoner 2 candles a week. For those who read, write, or whittle much it is not enough. I exchanged one of the little rattles I had made for 13 candles, which helped out my light supply." ³⁸

Horne writes something that is quite interesting with respect to Hans. Horne served at the same time as Hans, and he wrote specifically about an experience in prison on Joseph Smith's birthday in 1889: "Mon. Dec. 23rd. Joseph Smith, the Prophet's Birthday. Having learned that this day had been set apart as a day of fasting and prayer by the L. D. S., the brethren are in favor of observing it. I took a little pains to learn how many intended to fast so that we could inform Mr. Doyle [the prison cook] -- there need not be so much food prepared. I told him there were 68 or 70 who will not take breakfast or dinner today. Was told that not one of the co-habs took breakfast or dinner." ³⁹ A Masters Thesis history, written by Rosa Mae Evans in 1986, lists every prisoner in the penitentiary incarcerated for polygamy. By counting the names of those men who were in prison on that day, there can be found the names of 70 men, including Hans Sorensen. ⁴⁰ Two of the 70 were released on that day. This matches exactly the number reported by Horne. Hans was one of the men who showed their love and dedication to the Gospel and the Prophet Joseph Smith by fasting that day. This, in spite of him being sick throughout the prison experience.

In the end, when Joseph S. Black was released, he wrote some suggestions for the prison: "First, I would abolish the sweat box, as I consider it a barbarous means of

37. *The Trio's Pilgrimage - Autobiography of James Bywater*, compiled by Rose Ellen Bywater Valentine, Edited by Hyrum W. Valentine, Copyright 1947, James Bywater Family Organization, printed by Utah Printing, page 116.

38. *Autobiography of Joseph Smith Horne*, Written by him in 1923 and 1924, LDS Church History Library, call number M270.1 H8151h 1984, p 75.

39. Horne, p 73.

40. Evans, pp 117-132. The list of names of men in prison on Dec. 23 is included in the appendix. Hans is listed on page 129 in the original.

torture, and behind this enlightened day. I would punish willful offenders for violating the rules, but would do it in a humane manner. I would suppress profanity and smoking, as they are both low and degrading. I would have a suitable building for a hospital with two apartments, for the different classes of criminals. I would move the outhouse to some more out-of-the-way place, and not have it right at the main entrance of the building, and have it more private, as so much exposure blunts the finer feeling which humanity should possess. There should be a large building suitably furnished for school purposes and all should be required to attend, at least four times daily."⁴¹

Hans was released on March 1, 1890, one month short of his sentence. It may be that his health was a factor in his early release. At any rate, all family records state that he was permanently affected by the incarceration and suffered ill health until the day he died, three years later.

41. Black, p 310.

Chapter 9

In 1891 Hans moved his family from Aurora to Bunkerville, Nevada.¹ Ane probably remained in Aurora with Parley or in her own home with Nora. It is possible that Hans and his family went to Nevada to escape continuing persecution from the marshalls. Even though a man was convicted for a crime related to polygamy, some were re-arrested and served again in the penitentiary. Some of Hans' fellow prisoners had served several sentences. The Manifesto was issued in 1890, but since the men did not give up their marriages and families, the prosecutors were still busy.

Hans and Matilda's youngest son, Alma, was born in Bunkerville on March 31, 1891. This small settlement is on the Virgin River, just below the present town of Mesquite. Several of his younger children wrote of their experience. Maria told her daughter: "The evening they arrived in Bunkerville, it was after dark. They made their beds which they quickly moved when they discovered they had made their beds on a bed of rattle snakes."² Maria also recalled: "This was a wonderful time for the children. The climate was very hot in the summer, warm enough to go barefoot, if you wanted to, in the winter. All kinds of fruit, vegetables, melons grew there. Even snakes and Indians. I saw my father cut a snake down that started up my sister's arm. She had picked a melon and the snake was under it. Father was irrigating close by. We raised sugar cane. They had a molasses mill there. We also picked cotton."³ Josephine recorded: "time in Bunkerville was the happiest, most carefree and relaxing time we ever had. It was good going barefoot since shoes were very scarce."⁴ Levi wrote: "I have a faint memory of living in Bunkerville, Nevada, where Alma was born. While living there this instance occurred. We kids were playing out under the bowery of our house when two men came down the road on horses, driving a bull. When they saw us, they told us to get in the house quickly. We hurried just as the bull came under the bowery."⁵

They only stayed a year or so in Bunkerville. Anna Delilah records: "While living in Bunkerville he [Hans] had a partial stroke. He served a term in jail for obeying the law of plural marriage"⁶ William, when he describes their return from Bunkerville, he calls it an exile: "My dear father had just returned from a trip

1. A history written by Maria "Ry" Sorensen Mason, unpublished.

2. Memory recalled by Thelma Mason Pollei. Interviewed in October 2011.

3. Mason.

4. Ashby.

5. Levi Sorensen history.

6. Poole, unpublished history.

south where he had been in exile for two years." ⁷ Wallace Sorensen gives more details: "During the polygamy raid, Grandfather and his second wife, Matilda and children moved to Bunkerville, Nevada, his son Parley moving them out there. Here they had to start a new home and they were very poor. While living in Bunkerville, Grandfather had a partial stroke and lost his voice. ... it can truthfully be said he died a martyr to his religion, his death being caused by exposure while a prisoner." ⁸ Levi recalled some of the events at the time of their departure: "When we moved back to Utah, father loaded his family into a covered wagon with the other belongings he could crowd in. He hired a man and his outfit to haul part of our things. I was told later that this man's name was Wire Leavit. ⁹ As we came to the Virgin River, Mr. Leavit went first. He crossed all right, but as father got in the middle of the river, his wagon mired in the mud and we were stuck. He rolled his pant legs up above his knees and brought out his team out into the river and pulled us out. That night or the next, one of father's horses died." ¹⁰ David Sorensen, a son of Alma gave a little more information about the trip back to Aurora: "My father (Alma) was 18 months old, and his father was ill with influenza. My father's half-brother Parley drove an iron tire wagon 700 miles to Bunkerville, Nevada and back to pick up the part of the family what was living there. Grandfather was too sick to sit up, and my father was carried a great deal of the way on the shoulders of his half-brother Parley." ¹¹ Since Alma was born at the end of March 1891, this puts the return trip at around October 1892. One related piece of information of note is that Alma's family has a tradition that Hans was in jail after their return from Bunkerville. While there are not any records found that indicate such an additional incarceration, it is possible that he could have spent some time in jail in those last six months of his life. Men were tried and convicted more than once for polygamy during this time. William's history records the return from Bunkerville after recording events in February 1893. The best we can guess is that they arrived between October 1892 and March 1893 from Bunkerville.

As Hans and his family returned to Aurora conditions were bleak. Anna Delilah's record says that Hans was in ill health and they probably were not faring well financially. William records: "He [Hans] was very feeble and could not take care of himself. My brother [Parley] has all he could do to support his family and look

7. Andrew William Sorensen history, p 20.

8. Wallace Sorensen history.

9. Note: A pioneer who lived in Bunkerville was named Alfred Weir Leavitt. He appears in the 1900 Census for Bunkerville. He was born 27 Dec 1860 at Mountain Meadows, Washington, Utah.

10. Levi Sorensen history.

11. A history of Parley Peter Sorensen (1862-1927) written by Dorothy Day MacNiven, grand-daughter of Parley's and daughter of Lora and Jess Day, p 6.

after our father." ¹² Levi records: "As I remember, the first place we lived in after reaching Aurora was a little dug out, west of where the windy canal is now. We moved into this dug out with a widowed lady by the name of Bell Bromly. It consisted of one small room with a dirt floor and roof, no windows, one door with steps leading down into it. How it was heated or how they cooked I can't recall. I don't remember how long we lived there. The next place we lived in was a log home, my brother built for us north of town on a small farm." ¹³ This last referenced home was built for the family after Hans died, and was built by Parley for Matilda and her family.

As this story shows, this was a very difficult time for Hans, Matilda and the family. They were not alone in their suffering among their extended family, though theirs was probably the worst. Two others of Hans' children were also experiencing difficulties. Andrew William was living in Glenwood through this time. His wife, Mary Steffensen died in 1892, leaving him to care for three children. Their youngest baby died as a 2-week old infant one month prior to Mary's passing. ¹⁴ During that time, they tried to care for the baby of Mary's sister as well, who was having serious problems, but in the end, when Mary died, that child had to be given to someone else to be taken care of. Mary died on May 21, 1892. William was in debt and tried in vain to sell produce and decided that he needed to go to Nevada to sell his goods to get money to pay his debts. While he was in Nevada, selling to the miners, he got word that his 8 year old daughter, Carrie (Caroline), was near death with diphtheria. He traveled the 190 miles back home as quickly as he could. All of his children were afflicted with diphtheria. Carrie died before he was able to return. ¹⁵

Caroline, the daughter of Hans, was in Mexico at the time. Archibald Buchanan fled the United States a few years earlier in order to escape the marshalls and took Caroline, his fourth wife, and their children with him to live in Colonia Dublan. It was there that his youngest children, the twins Archie Earl and Carrie Myrl, were born on March 24, 1892. Caroline's history states that she and her husband did not live as man and wife after returning to Utah, in order to avoid continuing pressure from the marshalls.

Parley was now in living Aurora, closer to Hans, Matilda and the young children. From the above descriptions we see that he was very helpful. He moved from Koosharem, (or Grass Valley) to Aurora on 15 June 1890, ¹⁶ a few months after

12. *Andrew William*, p 20

13. Levi Sorensen history.

14. *Andrew William*, p 15.

15. *ibid*, p 16.

16. Aurora Ward records, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT. Film 0025800, p 50.

Hans was released from prison. A few months after this move, Parley and his wife, Emma Helquist buried their second child, Murthe Malenda on September 21 in Aurora. Parley Earvan, their first child died, also as an infant, back on October 2, 1888, in Koosharem. Their third child, Wallace was born in Aurora on July 11, 1891. Wallace lived long and wrote a history of Hans that is quoted several times in this document. As already mentioned, Parley helped the family move to Bunkerville and then upon their return to Aurora, helped make a home for them and watched over them.

As recorded at the beginning of this history, Hans died on April 6, 1893, the same day that the Salt Lake Temple was dedicated. William headed north to Salt Lake a few days before. He gives the most detailed description of Hans' poor health: "On the third day of April, 1893, I took my little daughter Lorena, she was then twelve years old, and started for Salt Lake City to attend a conference and the dedication of the Temple. On our way we visited my father. He could not speak to me. I told them where I was going and when I could get someone to take care of my children, I would go on my mission. He looked at me and smiled and nodded. ... I prayed to God that he would heal my dear father or take him out of this world for he was in much agony" ¹⁷ Two different histories say that he had had a stroke. Whether that was while he was in prison or afterwards, it is not certain. What is certain, though, is that he died as a result of remaining faithful to the teachings of the church and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

17. *Andrew William*, p 20.

Afterword

Hans was buried in Aurora, Utah. Levi recalls the funeral experience: "My brother Parley came and got mother and we kids in a wagon with a high bed on it. Parley and mother rode in a spring seat and we kids played in the back. It was fun for us to ride in the wagon because we didn't do that very often."¹ At the time of his death, Hans had 10 living children, 4 from his marriage to Ane: Soren Peter in Denmark; Andrew William in Glenwood; Caroline Sophia in Colonia Dublan, Mexico; and Parley Peter in Aurora. The six children of Hans and Matilda were all still quite young, 5 of them living with their mother in Aurora at the time: Josephine, 10; Maria (Ry), 8; Edwin, 6; Levi, 4; and Alma, 2. Nora, 11, lived with Ane.



Ane Nielsen Sorensen lived almost 10 years more. Nora, Hans and Matilda's oldest child, cared for Ane in her old age, especially after she broke her hip.² Ane died in Aurora on March 16, 1903. The newspaper account reads:

"Aurora Mrs. Sorenson Dead

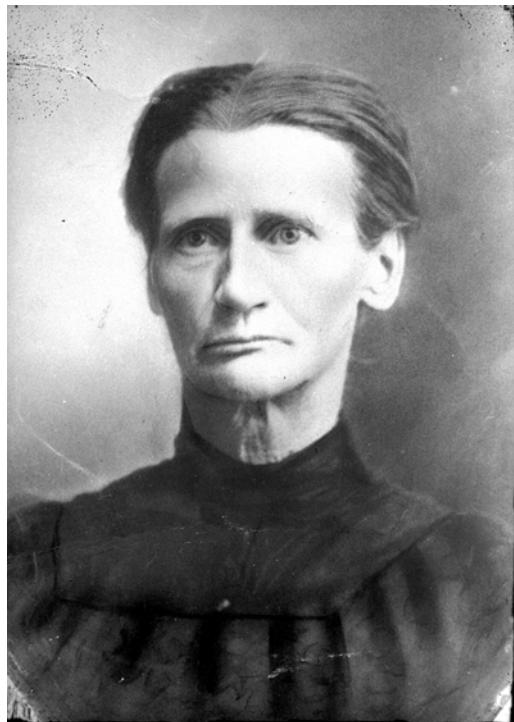
"Mrs. Annie Sorenson was buried here this afternoon. Nearly four years ago Sister Sorenson fell and injured her hip and has been bedfast ever since. "She joined the Church in Denmark and remained true to the last. She leaves a large circle of friends and relatives. She was 80 years old."³

Matilda carried on and raised her large family of six children. Certainly, this was a difficult time for her.

1. Levi Sorenson history.

2. Ane Nielsen Sorensen history, p 6.

3. *Deseret News*, 18 March 1903, page 7.



Matilda Sorensen

Matilda died in 1912 of pneumonia as a complication of the flu. She died on the day after Christmas that year. She was 59 years old. The death certificate was made out and signed by her daughter and son-in-law, Maria (Ry) and Phillip Mason.

The family discovered this poem, written in Norwegian, translated into English, and use it as a tribute to her.

*Oh, I dreamed one night, dear Mother,
one dream that fascinated my mind
why, then soft cloud
where I rested in bed
the song of small birds in evening song.*

*Over all the mossy grown stones
small lilies in rows come to fine,
and round about where I lay
songs sounded from each thing,
to call all small flowers blooms home.*

*And in tones escaping form the sea,
wreaths of sunbeams leans
in toward dreams
over land and sea
I was dreaming while I softly went to sleep.*

*There I saw one wonderful angel,
she spoke then, declaring to me
and with a smile on her mouth
she stood with me in time,
and I saw dear Mother, it was you.*

*From Norway -- 16 November 1955.
Writer unknown.*

Hans Sorensen Timeline

<u>age</u>	Born 2 Oct. 1825 in Kragevig, Ørslev parish, Holbæk county, Denmark
0	3 Oct. 1825 christening at home, Kragevig
0	6 Nov. 1825 christening at Lutheran church in Ørslev
0	7 Sep. 1826 smallpox vaccination
10	12 Jan. 1836 mother died
14	5 Nov. 1839 father died
	lived with sister Mette Marie (1840 and 1845 Ørslev Census)
16	1841 Military Levyng Rolls
	24 Dec. 1841 started living in Munke-Bjærgby (possibly working as an apprentice weaver)
18	1843 Military Levyng Rolls - height 62 1/2 thumbs (abt 5' 4")
19	1845 census listed as a weaver (Ørslev)
21	1846 Military Levyng Rolls - height 63 thumbs (abt 5' 5")
	recorded earlier apprenticeship to Anders Johansen as a weaver, working in Munke-Bjærgby
22	9 Sep. 1848 married Ane Nielsen, Tersløse
◊ 23	Sep. 1848 - Denmark declared war on Prussia (males b. 1823-1825 called into service)
23	17 Oct 1848 moved to Tersløse
23	1 Dec. 1848 entered military service
◊ 12	Feb. 1849 - Law instituted general military obligation (males b. 1826 called into service)
23	16 Apr. 1849 son Soren Peter born
23	1 May 1849 (recorded) moved to Ruds Vedby
◊ 5	June 1849 - King Frederick signed constitution
23	28 June 1849 left military service
24	30 Oct 1849 sister Mette Marie died
26	4 Oct. 1851 daughter Mette Marie born
26+	early 1850s moved to Torpegavn, Hallenslev
◊ 8	May 1852 - Danish-Prussian (First Schleswig) war ended with signing, Danish victory
29	9 Nov. 1854 son Anders Vilhelm born (Hallenslev)
31	6 Mar. 1857 niece Christiane baptized
32	5 Feb. 1858 Hans and Ane baptized
32	30 Apr. 1858 daughter Caroline born (Torpegavn)
33+	(1859-1860) moved to Gierslev
35+	(1861-1862) moved to Maarslet, Aarhus, Jylland
36	11 July 1862 son Parley Peter born (Maarslet)
◊ 1	Feb. 1864 Second Schleswig war began
39	daughter Mette Marie baptized 24 Oct 1864 (Langballe)
◊ 30	Oct. 1864 Second Schleswig war ended (Danish defeat)
40	26 Jan 1866 son Anders Vilhelm baptized (Maarslet)
40+	(1866-1868) moved to Aarhus city
44	1870 Aarhus census, address: Nørrebrogade 6
44	19 Feb 1870 Hans assisted in baptism of Dinnis and Mette Marie Rasmussen
45	2 Jan. 1871 daughter Marie married to Peter Christensen in Endowment House, Salt Lake City, UT
45	8 Apr. 1871 daughter Caroline baptized (Aarhus)
45	23 June 1871 Ane, Caroline and Parley Peter emigrated, arrived in Utah
46	17 July 1872 Hans and Andrew William arrived in Utah
47	19 Mar. 1873 - Ane and Parley (and Hans?) moved to Glenwood
47	13 Apr. 1873 - Caroline moved to Glenwood from Salt Lake City
48	25 Jan. 1874 - Hans appointed "boss mason" to build new church building in Glenwood
48	22 Apr. 1874 - Hans, Ane and Caroline signed as part of the United Order in Glenwood
49	13 Oct. 1874 - Hans and Ane received endowments and sealed in Endowment House.

- 50 about 1876 - Hans and family moved to Kings Meadow
52 about 1878 - Hans and family moved to Koosharem
54 3 June 1880 - Hans married Matilda Torgersen as 2nd wife in Endowment House.
55 29 Aug. 1881 - daughter Nora born
57 Oct. 1882 - Hans a trustee and worker on irrigation system in Koosharem
57 3 Jan. 1883 - daughter Mette Marie Sorensen Christensen died
57 7 Feb. 1883 - daughter Josephine born
58 13 Apr. 1884 - Hans and Matilda's family moved to Aurora
58 24 Sep. 1884 - daughter Maria born
60 20 June 1886 - son Edwin born
◊ 17 May 1888 Manti temple dedicated
62 16 Sep. 1888 - son Levi born
63 31 Dec. 1888 - warrant filed for Hans' arrest
63 6 Mar. 1889 - Children sealed to Hans and Ane (except Soren Peter)
63 August 1889 - trial in Salina, Hans arrested, bail \$300, Tilda brought into custody Aug. 15, as a witness
63 28 Sep. 1889 - grand jury indictment, Hans arrested, bail \$1500
63 30 Sep. 1889 - trial before Judge J. W. Judd. Hans found guilty of Adultery, sentenced to 6 months
63 30 Sep. 1889 - Hans entered penitentiary
64 23 Dec. 1889 - all "cohabs" in penitentiary fasted and prayed
64 1 Mar. 1890 - Hans released from penitentiary
◊ 6 Oct. 1890 Manifesto issued, declaring no more plural marriages to be performed
65 1891 - Hans and Matilda's family moved to Bunkerville, Nevada
65 31 Mar. 1891 - son Alma born
65-66 1892/1893 - Hans and family returned to Aurora
66 6 Apr. 1893 - Hans Sorensen died
◊ 6 Apr. 1893 Salt Lake Temple dedicated

The Children and Grandchildren of Hans Sorensen

This is a summary of the children and grandchildren of Hans Sorensen, showing both families. There are undoubtedly errors and omissions in this summary, so please accept it as an approximation. Also, there is a liberal use of abbreviations, which assumes some knowledge of the Utah area and some standard abbreviations. Four of Hans Sorensen's grandchildren are still living as of early 2012, so limited information is shown for them in the interest of privacy.

Hans Sørensen 2 Oct. 1825 (Kragevig, Ørslev, Holbæk, DK) - 6 Apr. 1893 (Aurora, Sevier, Utah, USA)

◊ Ane Nielsen 24 Dec. 1822 (Munke-Bjærgby, Sorø, DK) - 16 Mar. 1903 (Aurora, Sevier, Utah, USA)
married 9 Sep. 1848 (Tersløse, Holbæk, DK)

Søren Peter Sørensen 16 Apr. 1849 (Tersløse, DK) - 31 Jan. 1929 (Vejlby, Aarhus, DK)

◊ Ane Christine Pedersen 25 Jan. 1848 (Odder, Aarhus, DK) - 15 Jan. 1930 (Vejlby, DK)
married 3 Mar 1872

- Hans Peter Sørensen 23 June 1873 (Aarhus) - 29 May 1939 (Vejlby, Aarhus, DK)
- ◊ Anna Marie Svensson 21 Jan. 1876 (Aarhus) - 27 Nov. 1928 (Vejlby, Aarhus, DK)
- William Parley Sørensen 2 Jan. 1875 (Aarhus) - 23 Jul. 1875 (Aarhus, DK)
- Carl Martin Sørensen 20 Aug. 1877 (Aarhus) - 1 Sep. 1877 (Aarhus, DK)
- Sophia Christine Sørensen 1 Nov 1879 (Aarhus) - 14 Nov. 1953 (Glenwood, UT)
- ◊ Isaac Stewart Hansen 21 Sep 1874 (Draper, UT) - 20 May 1948 (Glenwood)
married 19 Sep. 1906 (Manti)
- Henry Sørensen 15 Mar. 1881 (Aarhus) - ?
- Frode Mikuel Sørensen 24 May 1885 (Beder, Aarhus, DK) - 30 Oct. 1885 (Beder)
- Klare Sørensen 18 Dec. 1888 (Beder, DK) - 2 Apr. 1897 (Beder)

Mette Marie Sorensen 4 Oct. 1851 (Ruds Vedby, DK) - 3 Jan. 1883 (Koosharem, UT)

◊ Peter Christensen 27 Nov. 1850 (Wieborg, DK) - 19 May 1935 (El Monte, LA, CA)
married 2 Jan 1871 (Endowment House, SLC)

- Mariah Anna Christensen 4 Dec. 1873 (Glenwood) - 21 Sep. 1939 (LA, CA)
- ◊ David Reed 11 Feb 1870 (Waldron, Sussex, Eng) - 29 Jun 1917 (SLC)
married 24 May 1893 (Salt Lake City, Utah)
- Hannah Maria Christensen 1875 (Died young)
- Alvin Lorenzo Christensen 18 Jul. 1877 - (Died young)

Anders Vilhelm (Andrew William) Sorensen 9 Nov 1854 (Hallenslev, DK) 28 Dec 1923 (Glenwood)

◊ Mary Kirstine Steffensen 1 Apr 1859 (Aalborg, DK) 21 May 1892 (Glenwood)
married 11 Apr 1877 (St. George)

- Andrew William Sorensen 22 Jan 1878 (Glenwood) - 30 Oct 1964 (Provo)
- ◊ Christine Petersen 4 Dec 1880 (Richfield) - 11 Jan 1975 (Provo)
married 27 Sep 1905 (Manti)
- Mary Lorena Sorensen 12 Aug 1880 (Glenwood) - 27 Jul 1969 (Richfield)
- ◊ Heber Hendricksen 7 Oct 1869 (Manti) - 2 Feb 1916 (Richfield)
married 26 Sep 1900 (Manti)
- ◊ George Sorensen 25 May 1875 (Scipio) - 21 Aug 1957 (Richfield)
married 17 Oct 1919 (Manti)
- Caroline Sorensen 4 May 1884 (Glenwood) - 28 July 1892 (Glenwood)
- Eva Ann Sorensen 6 Sep 1886 (Glenwood) - 21 Apr 1904 (Glenwood)
- Emma Ane Sorensen 3 Apr 1892 (Glenwood) - 19 Apr 1892 (Glenwood)

◊ Mary Josephine Christiansen 20 Jul 1870 (Gunderup, DK) - 17 Feb 1916 (Glenwood)
married 22 Jun 1893 (Manti)

- Athol Henry Sorensen 27 Apr 1894 (Glenwood) - 3 Jun 1894 (Glenwood)
- William Christian Sorensen 30 Jul 1896 (Glenwood) - 7 Jan 1964 (SLC)
- ◊ Lillian Irene Tuttle 19 Feb 1898 (Glenwood) - 24 Mar 1979 (Richfield)
married 19 May 1920 (Manti)
- Mary Murray Sorensen 12 Mar 1898 (Glenwood) - 15 Dec 1989 (Evanston, WY)
- ◊ Arnold Archibald Oldroyd 4 Jan 1893 (Glenwood) - 15 Dec 1975 (Glenwood)
married 3 Jan. 1917 (Manti)
- Harvey Glendew Sorensen 30 Jan 1900 (Glenwood) - 26 May 1987 (Richfield)

- ◊ Leola Gillespie 7 Jan 1905 (Glenwood) - 11 Mar 1968 (Richfield)
married 2 Sep 1925 (SLC)
- LeRoy Gerome Sorensen 18 Feb 1902 (Glenwood) - 16 Sep 1977 (Napa, CA)
- ◊ LaVerda Hendrickson 5 Apr 1902 (Glenwood) - 26 Mar 1993 (Napa, CA)
married 20 Jun 1923 (Manti)
- Twila Evelyn Sorensen 22 May 1904 (Glenwood) - 8 Jul 1986 (SLC)
- ◊ John Henry Naisbitt 25 Apr 1901 (SLC) - 20 May 1977 (SLC)
married 28 Mar 1928 (SLC)
- Arba or Orba (Bobbie) Sorensen 12 Mar 1906 (Glenwood) - 11 May 1960 (SLC)
- ◊ Fredrick Thomas Naisbitt 17 Jan 1905 (SLC) - 3 Jul 1936 (SLC)
married 8 Sep 1927 (SLC)
- ◊ Ruben Cottrel married 31 Aug 1944 (divorced, other information unknown)
- ◊ Clifford "J" Warburton 11 Nov 1898 (SLC) - 18 Jul 1981 (SLC)
married 31 Aug 1949
- Leslie "H" Sorensen 8 Aug 1908 (Glenwood) - 29 Sep 1909 (Glenwood)
- Lee Cliff Sorensen 22 Jun 1910 (Glenwood) - 4 Dec 1984 (SLC)
- ◊ Ethel Mae Konold 12 Jan 1911 (Murray) - 30 Jul 1973 (SLC)
married 10 Feb 1951 (Elko, NV)
- Farrell Evan Sorensen 30 Apr 1913 (Glenwood) - 1 Sep 1973 (Richfield)
- ◊ Rosamond Beanland Gribble 12 Aug 1912 (Salina) - 11 Jun 1984 (Richfield)
married 4 Oct 1933 (Richfield)

- Caroline Sophia Sorensen 30 Apr 1858 Hallenslev, DK) - 2 May 1928 (Venice)
- ◊ Archibald Waller Overton Buchanan 9 Feb 1830 (Lexington, Ky) - 7 May 1915 (Venice)
married 27 Sep 1875 (Endowment House, SLC)
 - John Lorin Buchanan 15 Jan 1879 (Glenwood) - 29 Jul 1880
 - Anna Delilah Buchanan 27 Apr 1881 (Glenwood) - 2 May 1954 (Annabella, UT)
 - ◊ Robert Hampton Poole 25 Mar 1878 (S Carolina) - 17 Apr 1966 (Richfield)
married 5 Jun 1900 (Glenwood)
 - Mary Ann Buchanan 7 Sep 1883 (Glenwood) - 11 Feb 1955 (Richfield)
 - ◊ Joseph Western Black 25 Oct 1880 (Deseret) - 16 Feb 1937 (Los Angeles, CA)
married 31 Aug 1903 (Venice)
 - ◊ James Wallace Kirkham 1883 -
married 22 Feb 1940
 - William Aaron Buchanan 5 Sep 1885 (Glenwood) - 9 Jul 1889
 - Parley Ammon Buchanan 10 Feb 1888 (Glenwood) - Aug 1889
 - Carrie Myrl Buchanan 25 Mar 1892 (Col. Dublan, MX) - 1 May 1968 (Price)
 - ◊ George Brugger 20 Feb 1890 (Venice) - 7 Jun 1980 (Price)
married 15 Nov 1911 (SLC)
 - Archie Earl Buchanan 25 Mar 1892 (Col. Dublan, MX) - 5 Aug 1976 (Ogden)
 - ◊ Florene Davis - 28 Apr 1896 (Kanarra, UT) - 11 Mar 1980 (Mendon, UT)
married 7 Feb 1917 (Manti)

- Parley Peter Sorensen 11 Jul 1862 (Maarslet) - 8 Nov 1927 (Aurora)
- ◊ Emma Christina Helquist 30 Sep 1866 (Haroldstock, Sweden) - 12 Mar 1938 (Aurora)
married 20 Jan 1887 (Koosharem)
 - Parley Earvan Sorensen 18 Sep 1888 (Koosharem) - 2 Oct 1888 (Koosharem)
 - Murthe Malenda Sorensen 2 Jan 1890 (Aurora) - 21 Sep 1890 (Aurora)
 - Wallace Hans Sorensen 11 Jul 1891 (Aurora) - 28 Mar 1976 (Richfield)
 - ◊ Elva Clark 14 Mar 1896 (Richfield) - 9 Apr 1980 (Richfield)
married 11 Jul 1917 (Manti)
 - Cline Sorensen 25 Jan 1894 (Aurora) - 18 May 1965 (Aurora)
 - ◊ Rita Catherine Stevens 11 Dec 1898 (Holden) - 10 Dec 1977 (Aurora)
married 21 Nov 1917 (Manti)
 - Lora E Sorensen 2 May 1896 (Aurora) - 8 Jul 1962 (Gunnison)
 - ◊ Jesse Elvon Day 30 Oct 1889 (Fillmore) - 1 Dec 1971 (SLC)
married 10 Sep 1919 (Manti)
 - Emma Floy Sorensen 20 Jun 1899 (Aurora) - 21 Nov 1959 (Provo)
 - ◊ Edgar Rollo Moody 26 Mar 1897 (Deseret) - 30 Jul 1961 (SLC)
married 8 Sep 1920 (SLC)

The History of Hans Sorensen

Appendix 2

◊ Matilda Torgersen 14 Aug 1854 (Hurum, Buskerud, Norway) - 26 Dec 1912 (Aurora, Sevier, Utah, USA)
married 3 June 1880 (Endowment House, SLC)

Nora Sorensen 29 Aug 1881 (Koosharem) - 5 Nov 1982 (Richfield)
◊ Joseph Alvin Sorensen 19 Mar 1883 - 6 Jan 1968 (Salina, Sevier, UT)
married 16 Mar 1907 (Richfield)
• Muriel Sorensen 23 May 1910 (Salina) - 29 Jul 1989
◊ Josiah Allen Martin 4 Jan 1912 (Salina) - 21 Jun 1996 (Gunnison)
married 21 Nov 1935 (Elko)
• Lydia Bee Sorensen 15 May 1913 (Salina) - 24 Jul 1973 (Orem)
◊ Golden McKinley Christiansen 17 Dec 1901 (Richfield) - 23 May 1989 (Provo)
married 2 Aug 1934 (Richfield)
• Beth Sorensen 5 Jan 1916 (Salina) - 19 Sep 1981
◊ Lester Smith Quick 23 Feb 1911 (SLC) - 16 May 2006 (Salt Lake City)
married 1 Sep 1934

Josephine Sorensen 7 Feb 1883 - 15 Aug 1955 (d. Rock Springs, WY, bur. Hinckley, Millard, UT)
◊ Niels Hyrum Christensen 23 Jan 1882 (Oak City) - 11 Feb 1920 (Hinckley)
married 8 Feb 1906 (Manti)

• Owen Sorensen Christensen 12 Nov 1906 (Aurora) - 1 Mar 1908 (Hinckley)
• Arla Dean Christensen 2 Dec 1908 (Hinckley) - 18 Jun 1984 (Bellflower, LA,)
◊ LeRoy Tovey Ashby 21 Aug 1904 (Bountiful, UT) - 1995
married 4 Sep 1936 (Salt Lake City)
• Melda Christensen 4 Oct 1910 (Hinckley) - 2 Oct 1989 (SLC)
◊ George Ernest Clark 7 Feb 1909 (Alpine) - 9 Jul 1990 (SLC)
married 31 Jul 1942 (Salt Lake City)
• Niels La Verl Christensen 6 Dec 1913 (Hinckley) - 6 May 1989 (Provo)
◊ Faye Erva Van Wagenen 1 Feb 1911 (Provo) - 6 Apr 2002
married 5 May 1938 (SLC)
• Vernell Christensen 18 Mar 1918 (Hinckley) - 25 Jun 1951 (SLC)
◊ Harold Fay Shields 16 Mar 1906 (Lewisville, ID) - 15 Nov 1986 (SLC)
married 8 Mar 1944 (SLC)
• Bernice Christensen 10 Jun 1919 (Hinckley) - 4 Jan 2000 (Oregon?)
◊ Walter Tovey Ashby 26 Feb 1918 (Garland, UT) - 29 Jan 2007
married 23 Mar 1944

Maria Sorensen 24 Sep 1884 (Aurora) - 7 Oct 1965 (Salt Lake City)
◊ Phillip Mason 11 Mar 1880 (Aurora) - 21 May 1966 (Salt Lake City)
married 8 Feb 1906 (Manti)
• Vonda Mason 29 Nov 1906 (Aurora) - 22 Mar 1909
• Deon Mason 13 Oct 1908 (Aurora) - 21 Apr 1909
• Philip Grant Mason 29 Mar 1910 (Aurora) - 9 Sep 1994 (Salt Lake City)
◊ Varna Johnson 16 May 1910 (Aurora) - 11 Dec 1994 (Salt Lake City)
married 30 May 1934 (Manti)
• Wendell Mason 3 Jun 1912 (Aurora) - 17 Jun 1912 (Aurora)
• Orland "E" Mason 10 Apr 1913 (Aurora) - 25 May 2005 (Salt Lake City)
◊ Fawn Roberts
married 31 May 1939 div
◊ Ora "V" Morrill 30 Sep 1921 (Torrey) - 22 Mar 1999 (Salt Lake City)
married 28 Apr 1952 (Manti)
• Laun H. Mason 1 Mar 1915 (Aurora) - 24 May 1992
◊ Betty Jane Slye 27 Jan 1921 (Richfield) - 29 Jun 1995 (Salt Lake City)
married 8 Aug 1939 (Salt Lake City)
• Helen Mason 1 Aug 1917 (Aurora) - 11 Oct 2006 (Bountiful)
◊ Paul Erskin Campbell 3 Jun 1915 (Salt Lake City) - 16 Jan 1976
Married 21 Jan 1939 (Salt Lake City)
◊ John Richard Reed 30 May 1910 (Delphos, Allen, Ohio) - 30 May 1969 (Denver)
married 17 Aug 1949 (Salt Lake City)
• Iza Leaola Mason 14 Nov 1919 (Aurora) - 17 May 1921 (Aurora)
• Betty Lou Mason 10 May 1926 (Aurora) - 5 Oct 2003 (Coupeville, Island, WA)
◊ John Coyne 8 Nov 1919 (Marshall, Harrison, TX) - 13 Dec 2005 (Coupeville)

The History of Hans Sorensen

Appendix 2

married 9 Jul 1952 (Salt Lake City)
•Beverly Mason 1930 - 2011
◊ William Taylor Stone 17 Jun 1927 (Murray) - 11 Aug 1990 (Riverton, SL, UT)
 married 26 Aug 1950
◊ Delbert Kent Lott 1 Jul 1925 (Joseph) - 28 Jul 1996
 married 20 Jan 1958
•Verr Don Mason 4 May 1922 (Aurora) - 31 Dec 2011 (SLC)
◊ Jean Holbrook 4 Oct 1922 - before 1997 (Oregon)
 married 14 Jun 1946 (SLC)
◊ Barbara Wiggins
 married 1997 (SLC)
•Gayland Lamar Mason
◊ Marva Noreen Averett
•Thelma Mason
◊ Ralf Pollei

Edwin Sorensen 20 Jun 1886 (Aurora) - 19 Aug 1961 (Sevier Co.)
◊ Clarissa Josephine Jensen 30 Nov 1888 (Salina) - 7 Nov 1988
 married 14 Dec 1910 (Manti)
 No children

Levi Sorensen 16 Sep 1888 (Aurora) - 23 Jun 1977 (Aurora)
◊ Ethel Elnora Nielson 10 Oct 1889 (Koosharem) - 5 Nov 1951 (Salina)
 married 17 Feb 1915 (Manti)
 •Keith L Sorensen 4 Jun 1916 (Salina) - 8 Jan 2005 (Aurora)
 ◊ Phyllis Jensen 14 Oct 1916 (Centerfield) - 22 Oct 2006
 married 16 Dec 1936 (Manti)
 •Wayland V. Sorensen (adopted)
 ◊ Norma Ray Savage

Alma Sorensen 31 Mar 1891 (Bunkerville) - 12 May 1977 (Richfield)
◊ Mattie Amelia Helquist 2 Apr 1896 (Koosharem) - 1 Dec 1984 (Richfield)
 married 13 Dec 1916 (Manti)
 •Alma Garth Sorenson 8 Apr 1918 (Salina) - 4 Sep 1996 (Woodland Hills, LA, CA)
 ◊ Hallie Jean Lincoln 15 Jun 1912 (Zephyr Hills, Pasco, FL) - 28 Jun 1994 (Chatsworth, LA, CA)
 ◊ Cecily Fink 3 Jun 1920
 •Voyle B Sorensen 15 Mar 1920 (Aurora) - 19 Oct 1985 (Aurora)
 •Anna Doris Sorensen 27 Feb 1923 (Aurora) - 3 Aug 1959 (Aurora)
 ◊ Iles Fairfax Shupe
 married 19 Jul 1958
 •Morris Sorensen 15 Feb 1925 (Aurora) - 17 Dec 1958 (Manti)
 ◊ Marva Walker
 •Phyllis Louise Sorensen 15 Jul 1928 (Aurora) - 15 Jun 1933 (Aurora)
 •Ronald Kent Sorensen 5 Nov 1931 (Aurora) - 9 Apr 1932 (Aurora)
 •David Eugene Sorensen (Of the Seventy)
 ◊ Verla Anderson
 •Vera Carolyn Sorensen
 ◊ Conrad Hinckley Burgoyne

Appendix - Prison Details

A number of good references were found describing the history of and conditions found in the Territorial Penitentiary located in Sugarhouse, Salt Lake City, Utah. Here are the primary research works used in writing Chapter 8 of this history:

- *Prisoner for Polygamy: The Memoirs and Letters of Rudger Clawson at the Utah Territorial Penitentiary, 1884-1887*, by Stan Larson, Rudger Clawson, published 1993 by University of Illinois Press.
- *Judicial Prosecution of Prisoners for LDS Plural Marriage: Prison Sentences, 1884-1895*, a Masters Thesis, BYU, Rosa Mae Evans, 1986.
- *Our Pioneer Heritage*, vol 10, DUP 1967, by Kate B. Carter, specifically "The Journal of Joseph Smith Black." p 257-320.
- Franklin W. Young Autobiography. Manuscript on microfilm in the LDS Church History Library, call number MS 1148 #1-2.
- *The Trio's Pilgrimage - Autobiography of James Bywater*, compiled by Rose Ellen Bywater Valentine, Edited by Hyrum W. Valentine, Copyright 1947, James Bywater Family Organization, printed by Utah Printing.
- *Autobiography of Joseph Smith Horne*, Written by him in 1923 and 1924, LDS Church History Library, call number M270.1 H8151h 1984.

A number of prisoners who served at the same time as Hans Sorensen wrote of their experiences. The date range following the name represents the time these men were in prison. This list comes from the *Prisoner for Polygamy* book, pages 232-234 and includes some references mentioned in the previous list.

- Christopher Arthur 18 May 1889 - 24 Oct. 1889 BYU, Utah State Library; Henry E. Huntington Library
- Joseph S. Black 10 Oct. 1889 - 23 Dec. 1889 BYU, Henry E. Huntington Library; Carter, *Our Pioneer Heritage*, vol. 10
- James Bywater 9 July 1889 - 28 Nov. 1889 Henry E. Huntington Library; Valentine, *Trio's Pilgrimage* [Pilgrimage is found in the U of U Marriott Library CT275.B9 A3 1947]
- Morton B. Cutler 22 May 1889 - 22 Oct. 1889 BYU
- William Grant 20 Apr. 1889 - 20 Aug. 1890 BYU, UU. Church Historical Dept.
[LDS Church Historical Library MS 1956]
- Joseph S. Horne 5 Mar. 1889 - 20 May 1890 Church Historical Dept.
[LDS Church Historical Library M270.1 H8151h 1984]
- James M. Paxton 21 Sep. 1889 - 1 June 1890 Church Historical Dept.
[LDS Church Historical Library MS 6481 # 182]
- Teancum Pratt 25 Feb. 1890 - 25 Aug. 1890 Church Historical Dept.
- William Robinson 14 Dec. 1889 - 14 Oct 1890 Church Historical Dept.; University of Utah
[LDS Church Historical Library MS 9538]
- Jens C. A. Wiebye 25 Feb 1890 - 25 July 1890 Church Historical Dept.
- George C. Wood 29 May 1886 - 5 Nov. 1889 Church Historical Dept. [LDS Church Historical Library M270.1 W8755h 1987, but this was not 302 pages, there might be another document.]
- Franklin W. Young 18 May 1889 - 7 Dec. 1889 Church Historical Dept.
[LDS Church Historical Library MS 1148 #1-2]

As mentioned in Chapter 8 of the history, there were "68 or 70 who will not take breakfast or dinner today." These men chose to fast in commemoration of the Prophet Joseph Smith's birthday on December 23, 1889. This is the list of the 70 men who were in the penitentiary on Dec. 23 (from the Masters Thesis list):

Stephen H. Allred (released that day)	Charles Jensen
Olof A. Andelin	Fred Jensen
Christian Andersen	Hans Jensen (Goshen)
James Anderson	Jens L. Jensen
Niels Anderson	Hans Jesperson
Joseph P. Barton	Thomas Johnson
John F. Beck	Joseph Jolley
E. A. Beckstrand	Thomas J. Jones
William Beeston	Jens Jorgensen
John Bergen, Sr.	Sydney Kent
Kelsey Bird	Andrew Kershaw
Joseph Smith Black (released that day)	Lars James Larson
Thomas Broadbent	Chas. W. Mann
Jens Larson Brown	E. P. Marquardson
C. F. Carlson	Joseph W. McAllister (arrived the day before)
Chris L. Christensen	Harvey Murdock
Hans Christensen	L. H. Newman
John Christopherson	Hans C. Nielsen
Levi Dunham	James M. Paxton
Bedson Eardley	John Powell
W. P. Evans	John Quarnberg
John Frandsen	Peter L. Quist
Charles Frank	William Robinson
William Gee	James Sellers
William Grant	A. L. Skanchy
William H. Griffin	Thos. C. Stephenson
John Hart	Hans Sorensen
John F. R. Hicks	Otis L. Terry
Thomas Higham	Hans Thurgeson
G. Hogan	J. H. Turner
Joseph Smith Horne	Newman Van Leuven
Richard N. Humphries	William R. Webb
William Hutchings	Charles L. White
John W. Jackson	Walter E. Willcox
Thomas R. Jackson	Thomas Yates

Who is Hans Henrik Sorensen?

On May 1, 1849, Hans Sørensen moved his family from Tersløse to Ruds-Vedby, both in the county of Holbæk, Denmark. At the time, the family consisted of Hans Sørensen, Ane Nielsdatter (Nielsen), and their new son, Søren Peter (who was born just two weeks before). It happened that another family already lived in Ruds-Vedby with the father named Hans Sørensen and mother named Ane Nielsdatter. In September, that family had a son born whom they named Søren. Because of this striking similarity, some early 1900s research followed this incorrect family's genealogy.

This section endeavors to show the differences between these two families and to explain some of the subsequent inaccuracies. The most notable error is the middle name Henrik given to our Hans Sorensen. It is easy to understand these mistakes because there are many ways that false leads can be followed. The existence of secondary sources, particularly vaccination dates, has helped show how these two families are different.

Here is the specific information from records of each event found for our Hans Sorensen and his wife as they began their family (see specific references in the main body of the history):

Hans Sørensen - born 2 Oct. 1825 Kragevig, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark

father: Søren Nielsen; mother: Karen Jøgensdatter
christened at home 3 Oct. 1825, in church 6 Nov. 1825
vaccinated 7 Sep. 1826

Ane Nielsdatter - born 24 Dec. 1822 Munke-Bjærgby, Sorø, Denmark

father: Niels Nielsen; mother: Ane Marie Olsdatter
christened at home 24 Dec. 1822, in church 2 Mar. 1823
vaccinated 29 Aug. 1823

Married - 9 Sep. 1848 Tersløse, Holbæk, Denmark

Hans, bachelor, age 23, father: Søren Nielsen
Ane, girl, age 25 1/2, father: Niels Nielsen
(Hans vaccination: 1826, Ane vaccination: 1823)

Søren Peter - born 16 Apr. 1849 Tersløse, Holbæk, Denmark

father: Hans Sørensen, weaver; mother Ane Nielsdatter
christened 6 May 1849 in church

Move-in (Tilgangsliste) - 1 May 1849 (recording date) in Ruds-Vedby, Holbæk, Denmark

Hans Sorensen (and wife Ane Nielsdatter) age 24 born and christened Ørslev (his information)
from Tersløse

1850 census, Ruds Vedby, page 9, house number 49

Hans Sørensen 25, weaver, of Ørslev
Ane Nielsdatter 28 of Tersløse (Note: most records incorrectly say her birth place is Tersløse.)
Søren Peder Hansen 1 of this parish

No records were found documenting Hans Sørensen with the middle name Henrik, Hendrik or anything similar. However, when we look at the other Hans Sørensen, Henrik is sometimes listed as his middle name. This is likely where the family started using the Henrik middle name.

Here are the details of the other family:

Hans Henrik Sørensen - born 6 July 1821 Reerslev, Holbæk, Denmark

father: Søren Larsen; mother: Marie Andersdatter
christened 5 Aug. 1821 (no vaccination listed)

Ane Nielsdatter - born 1 Nov. 1823 Niløse, Holbæk, Denmark

father: Niels Bertelsen; mother: Ane Marie Nielsdatter
christened 2 Nov. 1823
vaccinated 21 Aug. 1824

Married - 27 Jan. 1848 Ruds Vedby, Holbæk, Denmark

Hans Sorensen, 26 1/2 years old, vacc. 7 Aug. 1823, born in Reerslev
Ane Nielsdatter, 24 1/2 years old, vacc. 21 Aug. 1824, born in Nidlose

Anne Marie Hansen - born 5 Mar. 1847 Ruds Vedby, Holbæk, Denmark

to unmarried Ane Nielsdatter from Vedbygaard (Hans Henrik Sørensen, father)
christened 5 Apr. 1847

Søren Hansen - born 7 Aug. 1848 Ruds Vedby, Holbæk, Denmark

father: Hans Sørensen; mother Ane Nielsdatter of Vedby
christened 5 Nov. 1848 in church

1850 census, Ruds Vedby, page 6

Hans Sørensen 29
Ane Nielsdatter 26
Ane Marie Hansen 3
Soren Hansen 2

Also of note is that in the 1834 census, this Hans (as a youth) is listed as Hans Henrik Sørensen

Some of our genealogy has also listed this Ane Marie Hansen as Hans Sorensen's first child.

When going purely from the parish birth and marriage records, and knowing that records are sometimes incorrectly written, it is easy to see how researchers could have been confused. The Sorensen family probably did not read Danish and could not corroborate the results of researchers' work who were researchers in Denmark. Now we have microfilm copies and are able to do a lot of research online which makes it a lot easier to find the secondary information necessary to correct the errors.

Some Selected Record Images

1. Hans Sorensen's 1825 birth record (left side above right side):

G. 2 - den October -	Hans - - - - -	3. Oct.	C. Nor.	Gm. Egon Nielsen v. d. Klaus Jørgensdatter i Køgeby
	Den 2. Octobre 1800 - - - - -			
G. af F. Dorte Hans. gen Falbæggarde i Køge. Gm. Egon Nielsen. Tidet omvendt af 2. Octobre 1800 i Køgeby - - - - -		454	Antimons af Hannegesdatter i Køge. Tidet.	

Ørslev Holbæk. Parish records beginning 1812, Opslag [image number] 15, page 14, item 6

2. Hans and Ane's 1848 marriage record (left side above right side):

16. Høytær i Hans Sørensen, 23 Aar gh. Håndværk i Krag- ebyg. Son af afdaleb. Jønned Søren Nielsen. Kragerup, 2	Figur Anne Nielsdatter, 25 i Aar gh. Datter af Jønned Niels Nielsen. Tørd- løpe, Jyndum. Læb. Salmen.
--	--

Tersløse Holbæk parish records beginning 1842, Opslag 155; p 158, item 6

3. Hans listed in his Military Levying Roll record of 1846.

Danish Military Levying Rolls, Ørslev, Holbæk, Denmark, 1846, film 0510120, lægd 67.

The History of Hans Sorensen

Appendix 5

4. Aarhus 1870 census (left side over right side):

Optegnelse paa Folketallet den 1^{te} Februar 1870 i Ejendommen № 6

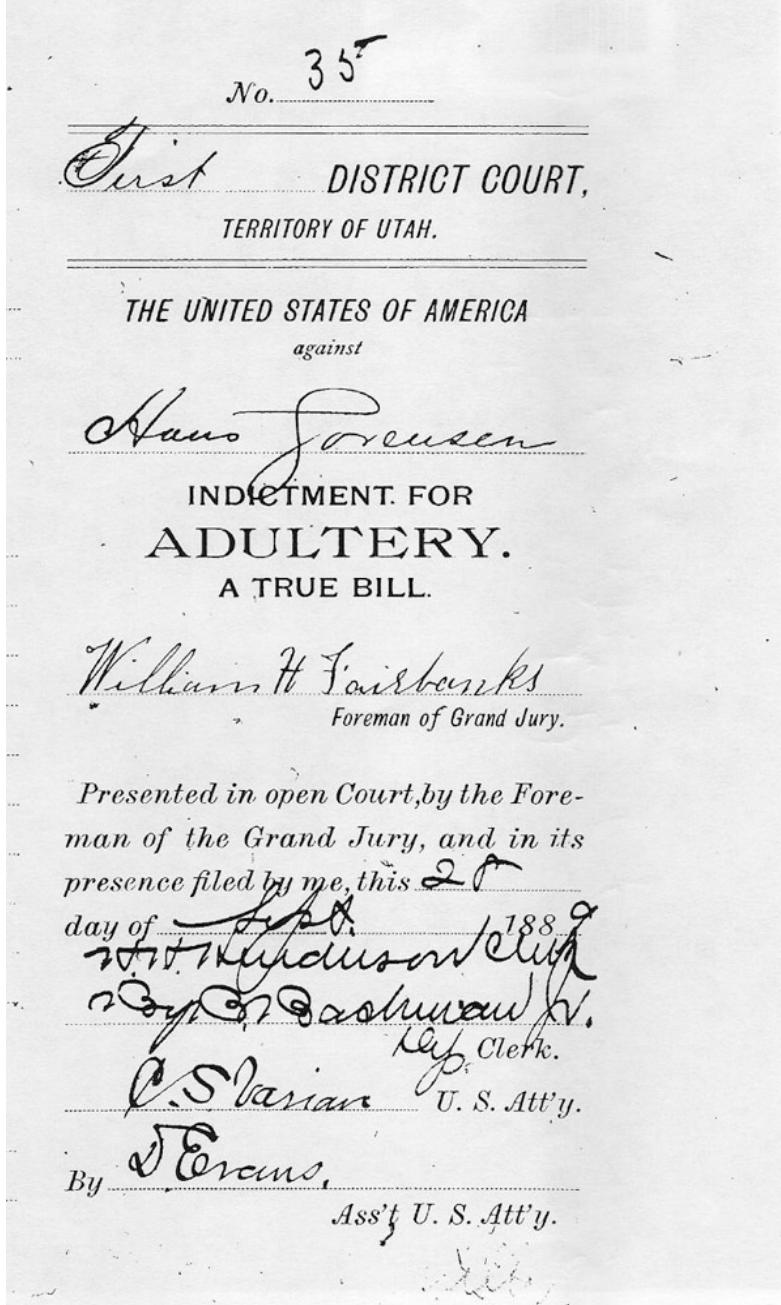
Fornavn, Side- eller Mellombyg- ning, Bagbyg- ning, Kjælder- teilighed eller Etage.	Familienes navn	Befolknings Redebetegnelse:	Gamle Personers fulde Navn.	Kjøn.	Alder.	Vigtigstabelig Stilling.	Troedsbestjendelse.
			(Udøde Born anføres som „Udødt Drengebarn“ eller „Udødt Døgebarn“.)	Mandskjen (M.) eller Kvindeskjen (K.)	Alderen anfø- res med det syldte Åar, men for Born, der ikke have syldt i Åar, anføres „Under 1 Åar.“	Ugift (U.) Gift (G.) Fravælt (F.) Enkemand eller Enke (E.)	
W. Sol	1	1	Knud Andersen	M.	44 År.	Gift	Siste Dag Helge
.	.	2	Anne Nielsen	K.	47	G.	Do. Do.
.	.	3	Morthe Marie Sivarsen	K.	18	M.	Do. Do.
.	"	4	Anders Wilhelm Sivarsen	M.	14	M.	Do. Do.
"	"	5	Sophie Caroline Sivarsen	K.	11	M.	Do. Do.
"	"	6	Pasley Peter Sivarsen	M.	7	M.	Udøbt
"	X	7	John O. Hennyaard	M.	27	G.	Sistes Dags Helge
"	X	8	Erik Olof Henriksen	M.	22	M.	Do. Do.

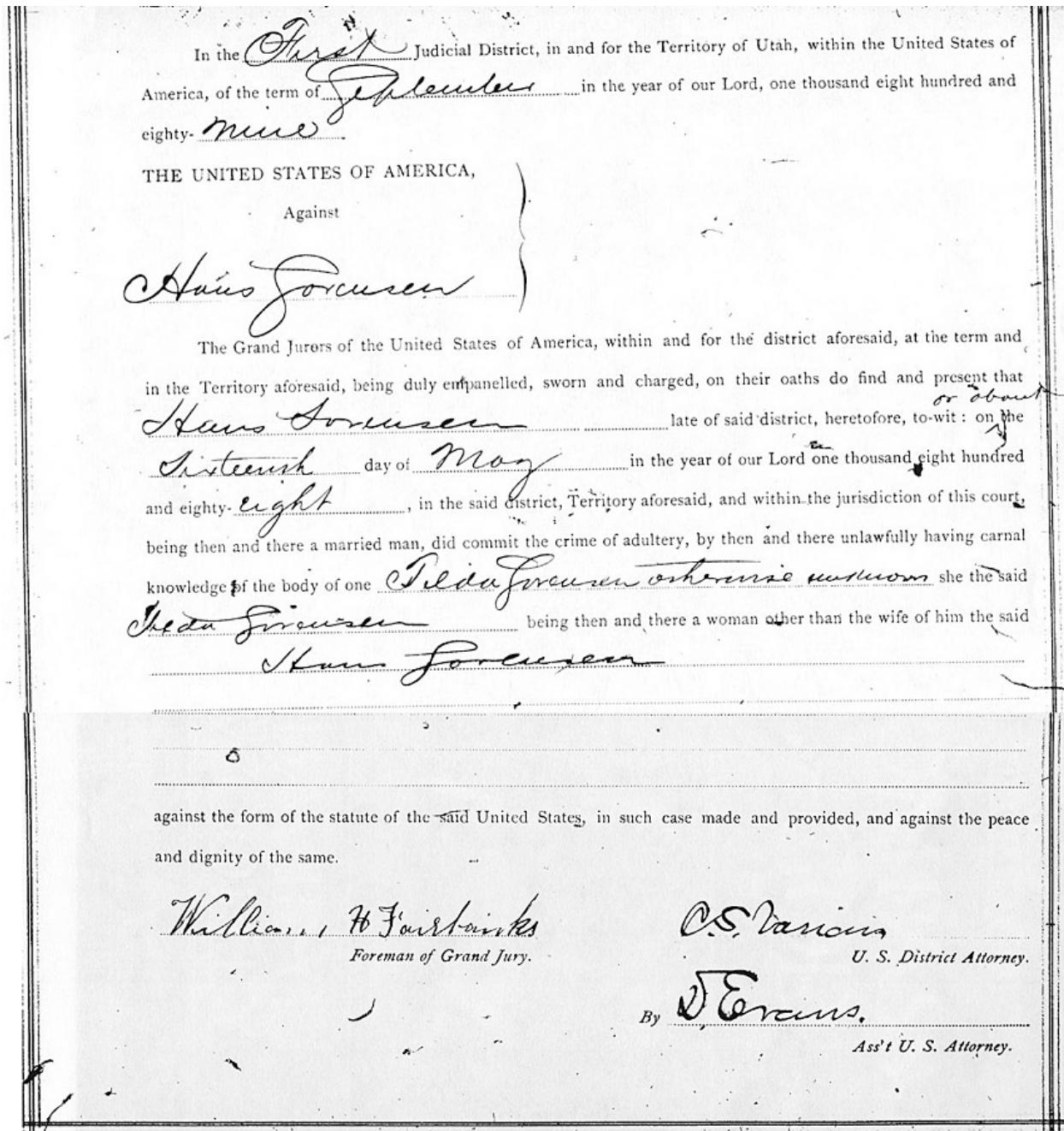
i nærheds =Gade, Straede eller Torg i

Abartheer.

Sødested, nemlig Kjøb- stadens eller Sognets og Amtets Ravn, og for i Bilandene og Kolon- ierne. Høste samt for Udlandene Landet, hvor de er fra.	Stilling i Familien. Husfader, huns- moder, Børn, Slægt- ninge, Tjenestehende, Legerende o. s. v.	Titel, Embede, Forretning, Ræringsovel- eller af hvilket Enhver de leve som hovedperson eller som Medhjælper, (handels- bejgent, Svend eller Dreng o. s. v.) eller om de forsøges af Fattigvæsenet.	Hvorvidt Bedkommende er:			
			Døfum.	Den (Gælden abcies herbet).	Ømblad (Ømst abcies herbet).	Gorstanden berøvet.
			Gra. Gælden.	Gra. Ømblad.	Gra. Enes Eje- punkt.	
Ørsløv Sogn Høllbekk Amt.	Herrfader	Steershusmand				
Ørsløv Sogn Søre Amt.	Herrmoder	—	—			
Rørreby Sogn Høllbekk Amt.	Vættre	—	—			
Sølvsalot Høllbekk Amt.	Søn	—	—			
Sølvsalot Sogn Høllbekk Amt.	Datter	—	—			
Mørrele Sogn Barneværk Amt.	Søn	—	—			
Falksløv Sogn Falken	Legerende	Missionær				
Wæle	Legerende	Missionær				
Ørsløv Sogn Høllbekk Amt.	Præst	—	—			

5. Indictment cover and page, 28 Sept. 1889 (Documents page 17, 18):





6. The next two are the final arrest warrant and indictment documents (Pages 19, 20):

No. 20-

TERRITORY OF UTAH,

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.

THE UNITED STATES

vs.

WARRANT.

Filed on return 188

Court.

By
Deputy Clerk.

Territory of Utah
County of Utah

Do hereby certify that I have arrested the within named defendant and have him before this Court now.

J. H. Parsons
U. S. Marshal
By Deputy
keeping.

Sept 28/1889

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE TERRITORY OF UTAH.**

The President of the United States,

To the U. S. Marshal for Said Territory, Greeting:

An indictment having been found on the 28 day of Sept.
A. D. eighteen hundred and eighty Mile in the District Court for the First
Judicial District, in and for the Territory of Utah, charging
Hans Sorensen
with the crime of Adultery

You are therefore commanded to forthwith arrest the above named

Hans Sorensen
and bring him before that Court, to answer said indictment; or if the Court
has adjourned for the term, that you keep, or cause him to be safely kept in
custody until the further order of this Court; or if he require it, that you take
him before the Clerk of this Court
to be admitted to bail in the sum of \$ 1500.

J. W. Judge Judge.

WITNESS, my hand and the seal of said Court, affixed
at Ogden City, this 28 day of Sept.

A. D. 1889.

H. O. Henderson Clerk.
By D. D. Quisenberry Deputy Clerk.

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