

My Story

by Rohl Peterson



I have always been interested in the story of my great uncle Isaac Anderson because there were so many gaps in his history. I knew that he came to America in 1887 and settled first in Brookings SD, then Faulk Co. and finally in Roberts Co. I was told he had a son Philip and a daughter Agnes that died young, possibly from diphtheria and he married the widow Lena Binde who also was from Norway. While researching my great-grandparents in Faulk Co., we discovered a land bill of sale executed by Isaac Anderson and his wife Lise, was this a misspelling of Lena? Just this winter, my wife discovered that South Dakota birth records of 100 yrs. or older were online. Here was our opportunity to discover the birth dates of Philip and Agnes. To our surprise no record came up for Agnes, but one did for Philip & 2 more!! two other sons: Axil & Oscar and the mother was listed as "Lise". Back to the 1910 census, and sure enough Isaac said Lena was his second marriage. Now we had three boys to trace not one and another wife. With the help of a book on emigration written by a distant relative in Norway, we were able to trace the family of Lise and the VERY interesting way her family was connected to Isaac's' long before they were married. (Historisk årbok for Flatanger Historielag, 1994 by Sigurd Laukvik)*

Surely someone else must be interested in Isaac's family. Pat checked family trees on ancestry and there was someone asking about Axil Anderson. We have now traded photos and information. Also I have discovered relatives in Rogers MN and that there are some in Watertown SD! *this book is available in the Trondgerlag library)