

## JOHAN ADEL NILSSON

(Written text provided by William John Krause II and Dennis Lyle Krause). **Johan Adel Nilsson** was born on March 17, 1864, in Värmland, Sweden, and was the son of Nils Oster and Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. Johan was one of seven children born to Nils and Maria (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. Johan Adel Nilsson died of epilepsy on December 6, 1887. Interment was in Sweden.

## ANDREW GUSTAV NELSON

(Written text and photographs provided by William John Krause II and Dennis Lyle Krause). **Anders Gustav Nilsson (Gus)** was born on November 29, 1866, in Värmland, Sweden, and was the son of Nils Oster and Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. He was one of seven children born Nils and Maria (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. In 1907 Andrew Gustav Nelson together with his brother, Axel Nelson, and sister, Anna Katarina Johannesson/Nelson, left Minnesota with some of their neighbors and friends to seek land in McLean County, North Dakota. Andrew Gustav Nelson (Gus) homesteaded 160 acres in Section 19 of Malcolm Township in McLean County. Gus is listed as owning this property in both the 1914 and 1937 plat maps. (p. 43, Standard Atlas of McLean County North Dakota compiled and published by Geo. A. Ogle & Co., Chicago 1914; and p. 34, Atlas - McLean County, North Dakota. The Washburn Leader - Publisher. Washburn, North Dakota, 1937). He, together his brother and sister, spent the spring, summer, and fall working their homesteads and making improvements. Each winter they would go back to their home in Minnesota to work for the winter months. In Minnesota Gus worked cutting timber, logging and was involved in cutting ice from Floyd Lake. Tons of ice were cut and shipped to large meat packing plants located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Gus, together with Axel and Anna, would then return to their homesteads in North Dakota each spring. Farming was difficult with everything being done by hand and horse power. They picked rocks which continued to rise to the surface, broke sod, planted grain crops, and built fences. Trees were also planted. In 1919 Gus decided to rent his land to neighbors in North Dakota and returned to farm in Minnesota. Each year he went back to his homestead in Malcolm Township to visit family and friends and to check on his farm interests. The majority of the original property (homestead) of Andrew Gustav Nelson (Gus) was flooded by water when the Garrison Dam was built with some of the property being converted into shelter belts and game land next to the Garrison reservoir (Lake Sakakawea). Andrew Gustav Nelson never married. Andrew Gustav Nelson died on January 7, 1952, at Anna and John Fransen's residence in Bismarck, North Dakota. He is buried at Fairview Cemetery, Bismarck, North Dakota.

A photograph of Andrew Gustav Nelson (Gus). Place and date unknown.



# SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

EMIHAMN / THE SWEDISH EMIGRANT / 7/23/03

First name: ANDERS G  
 Last name: NILSON  
 Age: 23 Gender: M  
 Parish: HUGGENÅS County: S  
 Port: GÖTEBORG  
 Date: 1889 04 19  
 Destination: DETROIT  
 Fellows: NEJ  
 Source: 38:461:4894

Emigrant data for Andrew  
 Gustav Nelson (Gus). Becker  
 County Historical Society, Detroit  
 Lakes, Minnesota.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES																											
SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.																											
State <u>Minnesota</u> County <u>Becker</u> Township or other division of county <u>Becker</u> Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division																		Supervisor's District No. <u>16</u>		Sheet No. <u>6</u>							
Enumerated by me on the <u>27</u> day of June, 1900, at <u>L. H. Perry</u>																		Ward of city, <u>X</u>		603							
IN CITIES	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY	CITIZENSHIP	OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION	EDUCATION	ATTITUDE OF MIND	MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE		
									Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married	Never	Married
	100/100	Anders G. Nilson	Head	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	101/101	Martha Nilson	Wife	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	102/102	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	103/103	Anna Nilson	Daughter	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	104/104	William Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	105/105	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	106/106	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	107/107	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	108/108	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	109/109	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	110/110	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			
	111/111	John Nilson	Son	Swedish	Swedish	Farmer	0	7																			

The Twelfth Census of the United States (1900) for Becker County, Minnesota, shows Andrew Gustav Nelson (Gus) as the head of the household and that his brother, Axel Nelson, father, Nils Oster Johannesson, and mother, Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson, were living with him at this time. (Lines 19, 20, 21, and 22).

# The United States of America,

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

WHEREAS, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at **Bismarck, North Dakota,** has been deposited in the General Land Office, whereby it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Congress of May 20, 1862, "To Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain," and the acts supplemental thereto, the claim of **Andrew G. Nelson**

has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law, for the **east half of the southwest quarter and the Lots three and four of Section nineteen in Township one hundred forty-eight north of Range eighty-two west of the Fifth Principal Meridian, North Dakota, containing one hundred fifty-four and twenty-five-hundredths acres,**

according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Land, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the Surveyor-General:

NOW KNOW YE, That there is, therefore, granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said claimant the tract of Land above described; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said claimant and to the heirs and assigns of the said claimant forever; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws, and decisions of courts; and there is reserved from the lands hereby granted, a right of way thereon for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States; reserving, also, to the United States all coal in the lands so granted, and to it, or persons authorized by it, the right to prospect for, mine, and remove coal from the same upon compliance with the conditions of and subject to the limitations of the Act of March 3, 1909, (35 Stat., 844).

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, **Woodrow Wilson**

President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, the **TENTH**

(SEAL)

day of **DECEMBER** in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **THIRTEEN** and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and **THIRTY-EIGHTH.**

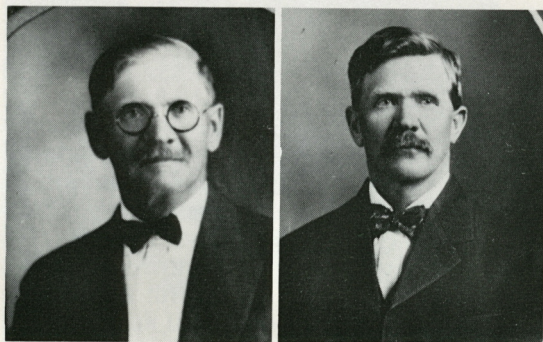
By the President: *Woodrow Wilson*  
By *M. O. LeRoy* Secretary,  
*L. L. Lamar* Recorder of the General Land Office.

RECORD OF PATENTS: Patent Number **370442**

The Land Patent awarded to Andrew Gustav Nelson on December 10, 1913, signed by United States President, Woodrow Wilson. (Courtesy of Mary Elizabeth (Bain) Fain McCoy).

## GUST ANDREW NELSON AND AXEL NELSON

In the year of 1889 Johann Nelson, left his homeland of Varmland, Sweden, with his wife and four children. He settled near Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, formerly known as Detroit, Minnesota. Several of their relatives and friends who previously immigrated to America had settled in Minnesota as the lay of the land was similar to their homeland in Sweden. Lots of trees, many lakes, and fisheries.



Gust Nelson, Coleharbor. Axel Nelson, Coleharbor.

In the early 1900, Gust, Axel and Annie left Minnesota with some of their neighbors and friends who had come to McLean County to seek land.

Axel homesteaded three miles Northeast of Coleharbor. Gust in Malcolm Township, and Annie in Snow Township. They spent the spring, summer and fall working their land and in the late fall would go back to their home in Minnesota to work for the winter, such as Logging, Cutting Tons of Ice on Floyd Lake for the big meat packing plants in St. Paul. Returning to their homesteads each spring.

In 1907 Grandpa Nelson passed away, and in the spring Grandma Nelson packed her trunks, loaded the furniture and farm machinery in a "Box Car", and came to North Dakota to make her home with her family on their homesteads. In the meantime Annie, her daughter had married a neighbor homesteader — John Fransen. To this union three children were born — Victoria, Anne, and Arvid. Family ties of the pioneers were closely knit and families and neighbors would always help each other in

time of sickness, harvesting or any busy season.

Sunday afternoons Dad would hitch up his favorite team Beauty and Nig and we would all go to Grandmother's house for the best homemade bread, butter, sauce, yummy sugar cookies, and all the home cooked foods. Since we were the only grandchildren, living close by, our grandmother and uncles were very special and dear to us.

Grandma Nelson passed away in the winter of 1915, and is buried at the Coleharbor Cemetery.

Farming was very difficult for the early pioneers — rocks to pick, sod to be broken for planting grain crops, and fences built. Prospect of a good harvest, could end in disaster. Hail, wind and grasshoppers could destroy a field in a short time.

In the year of 1919, Gust and Axel decided to rent out their land to neighbors and return to their farm in Minnesota. Each year they returned to North Dakota for visits, and attend to their farming interests.

Their farms were taken by the Garrison Diversion and now is covered with water, shelter belts, and game land.

Axel passed away in 1925 and Gust in 1952. Annie became Mrs. John Fransen.

Taken from and courtesy of - McLean County Heritage. McLean County, North Dakota.

McLean County Historical Society, Washburn, North Dakota. Printed by Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas. Page 411 (1978).

Note: The text was written for Gustav and Axel Nelson by their nieces, Victoria D. Fransen and Anne Marie Fransen.

## Andrew G. Nelson, 85, Dies Here Monday

Andrew G. Nelson, 85, 405 First St., died in a local hospital at 11:20 a.m. Monday. He entered the hospital on October 7.

Mr. Nelson moved to Bismarck in July of 1950 from Detroit Lakes, Minn., and had made his home with John Fransen, 405 First St., since that time.

He was born Nov. 29, 1866, in Varmland, Sweden, the son of Nels and Marie Mathilda Johnson. He came to the United States in 1886, settling in Detroit Lakes. In 1907, he moved to Coleharbor and in 1919, returned to Detroit Lakes.

Mr. Nelson leaves one sister, Miss Mary Nelson, Tampico, Mont., 10 nieces and seven nephews. A retired farmer, he was a member of the Lutheran church.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday in the chapel of the Hall funeral home with the Rev. G. Adolph Johns officiating. Interment will be made in Fairview cemetery.

The family requests that no flowers be sent. Memorial contributions will be accepted instead. The body is at the Hall funeral home.

The obituary of Andrew Gustav Nelson published in the Bismarck Tribune, Tuesday, January 8, 1952, on page 3.

## AXEL NELSON

(Written text and photographs provided by William John Krause II and Dennis Lyle Krause). **Axel Nilsson** was born on January 21, 1869, in Värmland, Sweden, and was the son of Nils Oster and Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. He was one of seven children born to Nils and Maria (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. In 1907 Axel Nelson together with his brother, Andrew Gustav Nelson, and sister, Anna Katarina Johannesson/Nelson, left Minnesota with some of their neighbors and friends to seek land in McLean County, North Dakota. Axel Nelson homesteaded 3 miles northeast of Coleharbor, North Dakota, in Victoria Township of McLean County in Section 2 (147 N., Range 83 W). (p. 49, Standard Atlas of McLean County North Dakota compiled and published by Geo. A. Ogle & Co., Chicago 1914). He owned 160 acres. He, together his brother and sister, spent the spring, summer, and fall working their homesteads and making improvements. Each winter they would go back to their home in Minnesota to work for the winter months. In Minnesota Axel worked cutting timber, logging and was involved in cutting ice from Floyd Lake. Tons of ice were cut and shipped to large meat packing plants located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Axel, together with Gus and Anna, would then return to their homesteads in North Dakota each spring. Farming was difficult with everything being done by hand and horse power. They picked rocks which continued to rise to the surface, broke sod, planted grain crops, and built fences. Trees were also planted. In 1910 his mother, Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson moved to this homestead to live with her son following the death of husband Nils Johannesson. The 1914 plat map shows that this homestead was about one mile from the homestead of his sister, Anna Katarina (Johannesson/Nelson) Fransen, and brother-in-law, John Fransen, who farmed a 160 acres in section 10 of Victoria Township of McLean County. In 1919 and following the death of his mother in 1914, Axel decided to rent his land to neighbors in North Dakota and returned to farm in Minnesota. Each year he went back to his homestead near Coleharbor to visit family and friends and to check on his farm interests. The 1937 plat map shows Anna Katarina (Johannesson/Nelson) Fransen as the proprietor of both of these properties. The majority of the original property (homestead) of Axel Nelson was flooded by water when the Garrison Dam was built with some of the property being converted into shelter belts and game land next to the Garrison reservoir (Lake Sakakawea). Axel Nelson never married. Axel Nelson died on ????? in 1925, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

A photograph of Axel Nelson. Place and date unknown.



# SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

EMIHAMN / THE SWEDISH EMIGRANT / 7/23/03

First name: AXEL  
 Last name: NILSSON  
 Age: 19 Gender: M  
 Parish: HUGGENÅS County: S  
 Port: GÖTEBORG  
 Date: 1888 10 12  
 Destination: CHICAGO  
 Fellows: NEJ  
 Source: 37:143:4667

Emigrant data for Axel Nelson. Becker County  
 Historical Society, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

## 1910 United States Federal Census record for Adel Nelson

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
 THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 - POPULATION

SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT No. 2  
 ENUMERATOR DISTRICT No. 77 SHEET No. 2 B

STATE *North Dakota* COUNTY *McLean* TOWNSHIP *Victoria Township* NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

ENumerated by ME on the *18* DAY of *April* 1910. WARD OF CITY \_\_\_\_\_

LINE NO.	NAME	RELATION	SEX	AGE	MARRIAGE	BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	NATIVITY	RACE	OCCUPATION	SCHOOLING		LITERACY		REMARKS
											Years	Months	Years	Months	
57	John Fransen	brother-in-law	M	35	1	1875	Sweden	Swedish	White	farmer	8	0	8	0	
58	Anna Katarina	sister	F	32	0	1878	Sweden	Swedish	White	farmer	8	0	8	0	
59	Victoria D. Fransen	niece	F	12	0	1898	Sweden	Swedish	White	farmer	8	0	8	0	
60	Adel Nelson	head of household	M	19	0	1891	Sweden	Swedish	White	farmer	8	0	8	0	
61	Maria Mathilda	mother	F	42	0	1868	Sweden	Swedish	White	farmer	8	0	8	0	

The Thirteenth Census of the United States (1910) for McLean County, North Dakota, shows Axel Nelson as the head of the household and that his mother, Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson, was living with him at this time. (Lines 60 and 61). Note that lines 57, 58 and 59 list their neighbors: John Fransen (brother-in-law), Anna Katarina (Johannesson/Nelson) Fransen (sister), and Victoria D. Fransen (niece).

# The United States of America,

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

WHEREAS, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at **Bismarck, North Dakota,** has been deposited in the General Land Office, whereby it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Congress of May 20, 1862, "To Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain," and the acts supplemental thereto, the claim of **Axel Nelson**

has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law, for the **southeast quarter of Section two in Township one hundred forty-seven north of Range eighty-three west of the Fifth Principal Meridian, North Dakota, containing one hundred sixty acres,**

according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Land, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the Surveyor-General:

NOW KNOW YE, That there is, therefore, granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said claimant the tract of Land above described; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said claimant and to the heirs and assigns of the said claimant forever; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws, and decisions of courts; and there is reserved from the lands hereby granted, a right of way thereon for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States; reserving, also, to the United States all coal in the lands so granted, and to it, or persons authorized by it, the right to prospect for, mine, and remove coal from the same upon compliance with the conditions of and subject to the limitations of the Act of **March 3, 1909, (35 Stat., 844).**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, **Woodrow Wilson**

President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, the **TWENTY-FIFTH**

(SEAL)

day of **OCTOBER** In the year of our Lord one thousand

nine hundred and **THIRTEEN** and of the Independence of the

United States the one hundred and **THIRTY-EIGHTH.**

By the President:

By

*Woodrow Wilson*  
*M. O. LeRoy* Secretary,  
*L. L. Lamar* Recorder of the General Land Office.

RECORD OF PATENTS: Patent Number **361893**

The Land Patent awarded to Axel Nelson on October 25, 1913, signed by United States President, Woodrow Wilson. (Courtesy of Mary Elizabeth (Bain) Fain McCoy).