

## MARIA ELIZABETH (JOHANNESSEN/NELSON) NELSON

(Written text and photographs provided by William John Krause II and Dennis Lyle Krause). **Maria Elizabeth Nilsdotter/Johannesson/Nelson** (Americanization = **Mary Elizabeth Johnson/Nelson**) was born on May 28, 1878, in Värmland, Sweden, and was the daughter of Nils Oster and Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson. She was the second youngest of seven children born Nils and Maria (Setterberg) Johannesson/Nelson with four brothers (Johan Adel, Anders Gustaf, Axel, and Jonathan) and two sisters (Amanda Christina and Anna Katarina). The family lived periodically on two different small farms in western Sweden, a few miles east of Säffle in the Province of Värmland approximately 225 miles from Stockholm. Her parents were farmers growing wheat in cleared forested areas and raising various farm animals that included hogs and dairy cattle. Mary Elizabeth Johnson was baptized near the By Church at the minister's farm and then attended and was confirmed into the Lutheran faith in the Södra Ny Lutheran Church located near the family's farm. Mary's early education was attained in the small chapel of Huggenäs also located near her family's home. On September 11, 1890, at the age of fourteen, Mary Elizabeth Johnson with her parents and sister, Anna Katarina, emigrated from Sweden to the United States to join her brothers and older sister who had immigrated earlier (1880's) to live with her mother's sister, Carolina Wilhelmina (Setterberg) Johnson Anderson, on her farm in Richwood Township, Minnesota. Mary Elizabeth Johannesson/Nelson married **Nels Christian Nelson (Chris)** on October 12, 1895, in Audubon, Minnesota. Nels Christian Nelson was born on July 11, 1873, in New York City and was the son of Martin and Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson, both natives of Denmark. Nels was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. When he was 4 years of age the family moved to Youngstown, Ohio. Nels Christ had a younger brother, Nels Maurice Nelson, born July 11, 1878 in Youngstown, Ohio. The family moved on to Detroit Lakes, (Becker County) Minnesota, where his father purchased a farm. The 1880 United States Census lists Martin Nelson as being 34 years old, the head of a household and a farmer from Denmark. Living with him are his wife Anna Christina (37 years of age), a son, Nels Christian (7 years old, born in New York), a son, Nels Maurice (2 years old, born in Ohio), and a bother Canute Nelson (32 years old) and sister-in-law, Johanna Nelson (22 years old). The 1880 census is the last record found that records the whereabouts of Martin Nelson. The 1885 census for Detroit, Becker County, Minnesota, lists Stina Nelson (43 years old, from Denmark), son Christian 12 years of age, born New York, and son Maurice (7 years of age, born Ohio). The next official document found with regard to Nels Christian parents is on an marriage application dated September 28, 1886, of his mother, Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson, who is referred to as Stina Nilson. Stina (Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson) married Anton Elleson on October 1, 1886, at First Lutheran Church of Audubon, Audubon, Minnesota. Nels Christian Nelson grew up and attended school in the Detroit Lakes area until he was 14 years of age. He then traveled to Hillsboro, North Dakota, which lies within the Red River Valley of Eastern North Dakota and worked at this location for three years. Chris then returned to the Detroit Lakes area and bought a farm near Floyd Lake, Minnesota, from his parents, Anton and Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson, in December of 1896. He had fifty acres under cultivation, and the rest of the property was timber and pasture. In addition to the small farm, Nels Christian operated a butcher shop in Detroit Lakes. The farm was described as having a good residence and a barn as well as other necessary buildings to a complete a home of many comforts. Water was plentiful, and he had a good supply of farm machinery, and he was reported to operate a model place. He kept three horses for work and had six head of cattle for dairy purposes. Chris and Mary operated a very successful farm and started raising their family of four sons (**Martin Leonard Nelson**, born on May 18, 1898, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota; **Victor Chris Nelson**, born on August 12, 1905, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota; **Floyd Ernest Nelson**, born on April 20, 1907, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota; **Arthur Cleveland Nelson**, born on August 12, 1909 in in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota) and two daughters (**Nora Velmina Nelson**, born on April 13, 1900, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota; **Anne Mathilda Nelson**, born on March 25, 1902, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota). Chris and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson were members of the Lutheran Church at Detroit City, were actively interested in the affairs of that denomination, and were held in high esteem by their neighbors and friends. The Nelson family sold this farm on January 3, 1911, and left the Detroit Lakes area to settle on a prairie homestead consisting of 320 acres located in Buggy Creek Community near Tampico, Montana, on the advise of Chris's younger brother Maurice Nelson. Maurice was working at this time in Glasgow, Montana, as a superintendent for the Montana-North Dakota Grain Elevators. He discovered a pure, soft water spring at a homestead site near Buggy Creek and persuaded Chris and Mary to move their family to this site.

Chris Nelson preceded his family to Montana to prepare the homestead near Buggy Creek for their arrival. Mary and children arrived by train bringing along a boxcar load of household furnishings, farm equipment, cows and horses. After the rocks were picked and the sod was broken, the main crop to be grown was wheat. Butter, milk and eggs were taken to Glasgow to be traded for groceries. The Nelson family continued to grow in size with the addition of the following children born at the Tampico homestead: **Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete)**, born on March 7, 1912, in Tampico, Montana; **Mabel Elizabeth Nelson**, born on April 12, 1914, in Tampico, Montana; **Max Walter Nelson**, born on April 29, 1916, in Tampico, Montana; **Hazel Ruby Nelson**, born on August 28, 1918, in Tampico, Montana; and **Lorraine Marion Nelson**, born on April 16, 1920 in Tampico, Montana. In all, twelve children were born to Nels Christian and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. Their first child, a boy, was stillborn in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Following their move to Montana, Chris Nelson was an active member of the school board and other activities in the Tampico community. Mary Elizabeth also was very active in community affairs and was a member of the Highland Ladies Aid.

Nels Christian Nelson passed away as a result of congestive heart failure at the homestead on October 29, 1927. Burial was in the Highland cemetery, Glasgow, Montana. Following the death of her husband, Nels Christ Nelson, Mary remained on the homestead until her death. Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson was know as Grandma Nelson to residents of the community and her home was always open to visitors for a cup of coffee and a special treat she always had on hand. Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson passed away on the original homestead on September 4, 1974, at the age of 97 years old. Funeral services were held on September 8, 1973, at the First Lutheran Church in Glasgow, Montana. Burial was in the Highland Cemetery, Glasgow, Montana.

*Additional information on Nels Christ Nelson's brother, Nels Maurice Nelson.*

**Nels Maurice Nelson** was born July 11, 1878, in Youngstown, Ohio, and was the son of Martin and Christina Nelson and the brother of Nels Christ Nelson. In the early 1900s he was a land owner purchasing a farm from his mother and step-father in Section 16 of Detroit Township immediately adjacent to that of his brother, Nels Christian Nelson. Nels Maurice Nelson left this farm and traveled to and worked in Glasgow, Montana, as the Elevator Superintendent for the Montana – North Dakota Grain Elevators. Grain elevators were located strategically along the railway system to temporarily store and load grain, which was then shipped to larger commercial centers by rail. Maurice Nelson also had a farm he operated located on the south Bench near Glasgow, Montana. Nels Maurice Nelson married **Mabel Edna Wright** in Detroit City, Minnesota, on November 5, 1902. Mabel Edna Wright was born on a farm in the Pelican Rapids area of Minnesota. She later worked as a servant girl in Pelican Rapids, Minnesota. Maurice and Mabel (Wright) Nelson had a son, **Maurice Thomas Nelson Jr.**, born in Glasgow, Montana. Maurice Thomas Nelson Jr. graduated from Glasgow High School in 1934. Later he was a purser in the Merchant Marines. A ship's purser was the person on a ship responsible for the handling of money on board. The purser was an officer responsible for all administration and supply; frequently the cooks and stewards answered to him as well. Maurice Thomas Nelson Jr. died at sea and was buried at sea. When Maurice and Mabel (Wright) Nelson lived in Glasgow, their nieces, Nora and Anne Nelson, lived with them when the girls attended high school. Maurice and Mabel Nelson played a very important role in the lives and raising these two girls.

Maurice Nelson died on October 18, 1918, and was the first victim of Spanish flu epidemic of 1918 in Glasgow, Montana. He was buried in Glasgow, Montana. Following the death of Maurice, Mabel (Wright) Nelson married **Richard H. Kane** of Glasgow, Montana, in August of 1926. Several years after the death of Richard Kane, Mabel (Wright) Nelson Kane moved to Bellingham, Washington. Mabel (Wright) Nelson Kane died in 1979 in Bellingham, Washington, at the age of 102.

*Remembrances of her grandson, William John Krause II (Bill), after spending summers and many holidays at the homestead (1946-1953):* Although I never knew my grandfather, my mother related to me that he smoked a pipe and that he enjoyed sitting in a rocking chair with his two youngest daughters, Hazel and Lorraine, on his lap and read to them. My first memories of the homestead stem from the late 1940's and early 1950's. At that time the homestead was without electricity or running water and lighting was by means of kerosene lanterns. Water was transported from the nearby well of fresh water to the house and temporarily stored in barrels. Heating was with fuel oil and cooking was done on a wood stove.

The homestead consisted of the residence with two bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room and a root cellar access of which was gained by opening a drop-down door in the living room. This door was covered by a very large rug. A shed was attached to the West side of the kitchen that housed a large black milk separator and other household equipment. A door at the north side had a small enclosed porch attached to it for taking off dirty boots, coats and hats. This addition was put on in the early 1950's. Just inside the door leading into the kitchen from this entrance was a small table that supported a washbasin and on the wall behind it was a large oval mirror with hooks for hats. The washbasin was used for washing up following a day's work outside. A large container of water with a water dipper for drinking was nearby. The homestead consisted of a large barn, two corrals, water tanks for livestock, a chicken coop, a bunkhouse near the residence and another two-story building (separated by floor) and a garage. Two strands of barbed wire fenced the perimeter of the property and the interior of the homestead subdivided by similar barbed wire fencing separating tilled fields from pastureland. The larger of the carrels was divided with one part being open with a surrounding log fence and the other end was roofed with solid walls made of willows to support a straw barrier. This was used to help the livestock to survive the cold winters. The livestock were usually brought in to pasture land near the house and fed hay during extreme cold and heavy snow. The door of the barn opened into the other carrel. During this time the two-story structure shaped like a house was used as a grainery. It may have been a residence at an earlier time and was similar in construction to Dumphy's house, an abandoned neighbors house to the northeast. My grandmother was a fantastic cook and was known throughout the community for her breads, cookies, cakes and especially her cinnamon rolls. She always had these items on hand and it seemed to me that she was baking on a daily basis. She always had a large pot of coffee brewing on the stove. This was boiled coffee in which water was added directly to ground coffee and boiled. To this brew she always added three or four empty eggshells to make a milder and less bitter coffee. It was my grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Nelson, that first introduced me into drinking coffee. Coffee was always served with a cup and saucer. Serving coffee in mugs was unheard of and would have been considered a crude jester in those days. Serving coffee was a break from daily chores and was a time to be enjoyed with family and friends. There were two ways to drink coffee according to my grandmother. Directly from the cup or, as this was boiling coffee coming directly off the top of the wood stove, it was acceptable to pour it in the saucer and sip the coffee from the saucer as it cooled. Grandma Nelson never added milk or sugar to her coffee. However, she always placed a hard cube of sugar under her tongue when she had her coffee. Grandma's pies, did I mention her fruit pies? The crusts of all her pies were made with lard and a flakey, more delicate crust has yet to be made. Grandma always kept a large lard can covered with a metal lid on a shelf near and to the right of the stove. The other special treat she would make for me was fried toast for breakfast with a fried egg. What she did was cut a piece of home made bread extra thick, butter it on both sides with freshly turned butter and then fry it on both sides on the griddle of the old wood stove. This was "Texas Toast" before restaurateurs even thought of it! I looked forward to staying at the homestead and enjoyed helping my grandmother with her chores as I was too small to help the others (her sons, Pete and Max) with their duties. I enjoyed helping her pick eggs in the chicken coup and bringing them back to the house. The chicken coup was built into the ground, made of stone and the roof was just a few feet above ground. This design of this structure enabled the chickens to survive the cold winter months. One descended down several steps after opening a door that closed parallel with and was part of the roof. The coup contained several roosts and numerous nest boxes that I searched each day whilst gathering eggs. The other chore that I enjoyed was turning the hand crank of the old, black separator in the back shed for my grandmother. After milking, which was done by hand, the milk was strained through cheesecloth before being run through the separator. I was strong for my age and had great endurance and I believe she appreciated me doing this for her as we separated milk from cream. The cream was stored in jars and kept cool the majority of which was then turned into butter. Milk was also sold and picked up by truck from a creamery in Glasgow, Montana.

As I grew a bit older I was required to engage in chores that I was not particularly fond of. Every fall the chickens were reduced in number so the remaining flock could survive the winter. It would cost less to feed them at this time plus it eliminated overcrowding and disease as they were housed in the chicken coup over the cold winter months. The chickens were butchered by cutting off their heads with an axe and the carcasses dunked scalding hot water and the feathers picked off. I didn't mind the picking but the smell was terrible. To this day I cannot stand the smell of boiled chicken and dumplings. My parents would take about two-dozen of these chickens and store them in a locker for eating over the winter months. Hogs were often butchered about the same time and they too were dunked in a large barrel of scalding water. I was given a dull knife to scrape the hair off. The rind on a slab of bacon, for example, is pigskin with the hair removed for those that don't appreciate this fact. The other thing I remember about butchering a hog at the homestead was the production of lard for cooking. Fat was cut from the carcass of the hog and then cut into small cubes. The cubes of fat were then placed in a large cast iron pot or caldron and cooked over a wood fire beneath. After cooking, this material was then strained and the lard put into lard cans used for cooking. The materials that were strained out were like crispy bacon bits and those with meat were delicious and eaten. As I became older I was allowed to go with my uncles and helped by operating a binder that gathered bundles of wheat and oats and tied them into a bundle called a shock. These bundles would then be shocked by standing the bundles upright in a pyramid to protect the kernels of grain. After harvest the shocks were picked up with pitchforks and pitched into horse drawn wagons. The shocks were then transported to a belt driven threshing machine to separate grain from straw and thatch the latter of which was blown into a large straw pile some times the height of a two-story building. The grain was then temporarily stored in a wood framed grainery prior to being sold. As many of my cousins and I were still quite young at the time we were forbidden from playing around the old tractor with its spiked steel wheels that drove the belts that operated the threshing machine. We were also forbidden from hanging around the straw pile for fear we would attempt to climb it, and then disappear into it center and suffocate. A very fond memory I have with regard to harvest time was the meals that were served. Neighbors and relatives would all gather to help with threshing. After threshing at one farm, the threshing machine and everyone would then move on to the next farm as the threshing machinery moved from farm to farm during harvest time. At this time all the wives of the farmers and helping hands involved with threshing would bring food of every description and four large meals would be served each day until harvest was over.

The other fond memory I have of spending summers on the original homestead was playing amongst the old abandoned equipment that was organized in a long row down a fence line behind the house. I spent hours at this location examining and pretending to operate equipment of every description from tractors, cars, to older vintage horse drawn wagons.

Paper trash was burned in a steel barrel and solid waste materials were dumped into two large pits located at some distance from all the building in pasture land. My brother (Dennis Lyle) and I would later discover these treasure pits which was filled with antique bottles and glass ware of every description. Unfortunately, we were both equipped with our Red Ryder BB-guns and destroyed everything in sight. When we finally realized bottles were worth money we stopped our assault but it was too late. We then turned our attention to gathering long-necked beer bottles (worth 2 cents), coke or soda bottles (worth 4 cents) or milk bottles (worth 10 cents) along Highway 2 to earn money for candy in Glasgow.

In the 1950's and earlier, grandma Nelson maintained a large vegetable garden across from but near the house. She also loved flowers of various types and grew a patch of hollyhocks just outside the front door of the house. I remember her watering these with dishwater after washing and water from the wash basin just inside the front door.

At this time, due to a lack of water, an outhouse was used. It was a two holer. In the cold winter and in the dead of night thunder mugs were used which were kept under the bed, had a lid, and were emptied in the morning if used. With the expansion of Rural Electric Administration (REA) electricity finally reached the homestead and as a result eliminated many daily chores and made life so much easier. The house now had running water pumped up from the well, an electric stove and other electric appliances and an indoor toilet. I should mention, grandma could listen to the radio prior to the arrival of electricity as her son, Max Nelson, had erected a wind charger next to the house. It was on a positioned on the top of a tall steel derrick and had a propeller about the size of an airplane propeller. It was wind driven and produced enough electricity to run the radio.

The other very vivid and fond memories I have of my grandmother, Mary E. Nelson, was the family gatherings at the homestead to celebrate Christmas, New Years Day, or Thanksgiving. All family members were invited and how all of us fit into that small house that I revisited in recent years escapes all understanding. Brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins all crowded in sitting around several tables that were set up for both eating an extensive holiday meal to which everyone contributed, followed by an evening of card playing and story telling. On one occasion, in 1951, much of the living room was cleared and my father, William John Krause (Johnny), projected some home movies. He had recently purchased an 8 mm motion camera and everyone was amazed to see themselves projected onto a screen and had a good laugh at seeing themselves captured by the camera doing whatever they were doing. The one other memory that I have of my grandmother, when I was very young and before I started school in Fort Peck, was a collection of indian head pennies she let me play with to keep me entertained when she was looking after me.

My paternal grandmother, Bertha Krause, traveled on several occasions (by train) to both Glasgow and Fort Peck to visit her son (Johnny) as well as other family members. Both my grandmothers knew each other quite well. As a matter of fact, now that I look back, it is amazing how much travel took place prior to 1950. Uncle Max went to Minnesota to visit the Krause family and enjoyed fishing in Minnesota. Julius Krause (one of my father's older brothers) and his family also visited the homestead. My uncle, Herbert Krause, a noted birder and author of the northern plains, visited the homestead on several occasions. At the time Herb was gathering information for a novel about the settling of the northern plains but was also interested in a bird that nested in the Buggy Creek area called the long-billed curlew (*Numenius americanus*). Because I spent so much time just roaming around the homestead, I knew exactly where these birds were and was able to guide Herb to their exact location. Two other events occurred that I remember about my grandmother. Firstly, she contracted mumps at 92 years of age. She was thought to be one of the oldest recorded individuals in Valley County, Montana, to be infected by this virus. Secondly, my grandmother refused to sign up for Social Security Act when it came into being in 1935. She told her children, who were trying to convince her to sign up and would do the paper work for her, that she didn't need the governments help before and did not need it now or in the future. She could take care of herself as she had always done, and besides there were others who had a much greater need for this type of assistance than her.



The wedding photograph of Nels Christ Nelson and Mary Elizabeth Johannesson/Nelson taken on October 12, 1895, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.



A photograph of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson taken in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Date: early 1900s. (Courtesy of Donald Bruce Nelson).



A photograph of Nels Christ and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson's children taken in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Standing in back is Martin Leonard Nelson. From left to right are: Anne Mathilda Nelson, Floyd Ernest Nelson, Victor Christ Nelson, and Nora Vilmina Nelson. Date: about 1908. (Courtesy of Donald Bruce Nelson).



A photograph taken of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson with three of her daughters on the day of Nels Christ Nelson's funeral, October 30, 1928, in Glasgow, Montana. Hazel Ruby Nelson is standing at the left, Anne Mathilda Nelson is standing at the right in back, and Lorraine Marion Nelson is standing at the right front.



An undated photograph of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson (back row third from left). Also shown are Bertha (Stensland) Nelson (back row fifth from left), Floyd Ernest Nelson (back row sixth from left), and Max Walter Nelson (back row seventh from left) and Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete) (back row eight from left). The other individuals have yet to be identified. Hazel Ruby Nelson is sitting, first on the left. Date: Thought to be the early 1930s in Glasgow, Montana.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson photographed in Glasgow, Montana. Date: 1938.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson photographed with Bertha (Peters) Krause in Glasgow, Montana, in the early 1940s.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson photographed with her surviving sons: Martin Leonard Nelson, Victor Christ Nelson, Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete), Max Walter Nelson, and Floyd Ernest Nelson. Date: unknown.



The surviving daughters of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. From left to right are : Hazel Ruby Nelson, Lorraine Marion Nelson, Anne Mathilda Nelson, and Nora Velmina Nelson. Date: unknown.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson photographed with her daughter, Hazel Ruby Nelson, (sitting) in Glasgow, Montana, during the summer of 1935.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in an undated photograph.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in an undated photograph.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson sitting in front of the residence on the homestead at Buggy Creek to enjoy the sun. Note the barn and corral in the background and that the front porch has yet to be built. Date thought to be 1938.



Photograph taken at the Buggy Creek Community homestead. From left to right are: Martin Leonard Nelson, Victor Chris Nelson (behind), Max Walter Nelson, Bertha (Stensland) Nelson, Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson, Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause, and Mabel Hilda (Nelson) Nelson. Date: Early 1960's.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson (right) in her kitchen at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead with her daughter, Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause. Date: Early 1960's.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson (right) in dining room of her residence on the Buggy Creek homestead with her daughter, Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause. Date: Early 1960's.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in her kitchen at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead cutting bread dough into loaves for baking. Date: Early 1960s.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in her kitchen at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead removing freshly baked bread from the oven. Date: Early 1960s.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in her kitchen at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead cleaning freshly gathered eggs prior to selling them in Glasgow, Montana. Date: Early 1960s.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in her kitchen at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead cooking pancakes for her boys (Pete and Max) and guests at breakfast. Date: Early 1960s.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead. Standing in back from left to right are: Jack Stull, Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete), Kelvin Keith Krause, Floyd Ernest Nelson, Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause, unknown. Standing in front from left to right: Anne Mathilda (Nelson) Stull, Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson, Nora Velmina (Nelson) Whitson, unknown. Boy with fishing rod, unknown Date: 1961.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson in the living room at the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead is seated at the left. Standing from left to right are Lorraine Marion (Nelson) Bain, James Allen Bain, Floyd E.rnest Nelson, and Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete). The children around the table from left to right are: Jackee Nelson, Mary Elizabeth Bain on Mary Elizabeth's lap, Roger Lee Bain, James Allen Bain Jr., Donald Bruce Nelson, William Joseph Bain, and Nelson Charles Bain. Date: July 1960.



A photograph taken in the living room of the residence at the buggy Creek homestead showing Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson (Ma), Donnie (Donald Bruce Nelson), Max Walter Nelson, Elias Stensland, and Sonny (Floyd C. Nelson Jr.). Date: 1956.



A photograph taken in the living room of the Floyd Ernest Nelson residence in the Highland Community near Tampico, Montana. Sitting from left to right are: Floyd Ernest Nelson, Bertha (Stensland) Nelson, Doris (Nelson) Christiansen, Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson, Mabel Hilda (Nelson) Nelson, Martin Leonard Nelson, and Linda Christiansen. Standing are: left to right Victor Chris Nelson and Roy K. Christiansen. Date: Late 1950s.



A photograph taken in the living room of the Floyd Ernest Nelson residence in the Highland Community near Tampico, Montana. Seated from left to right are: Doris (Nelson) Christiansen, Roy K. Christiansen, Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson, Martin Leonard Nelson, Chris Molvig, William John Krause, and unidentified children. Note that William John Krause (Johnny), near the lamp, is readying his 8mm projector to show family films. Date: 1956.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson and Bertha (Peters) Krause with their grandsons, William John Krause II (left) and Dennis Lyle Krause at the residence in Fort Peck, Montana. Date: 1948.



Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson at age 82 with her grandson, Donald Bruce Nelson, age 4 years old and great granddaughter, Jackee Nelson, age 3 years old. Date: May 28, 1960.



Birthday celebration for Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson (front right) held at the Buggy Creek homestead on May 28, 1953. In attendance, back row left to right: Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause holding Kelvin Keith Krause, Mrs. Disrude, Anna Boreson, Jennie Person, Ann Cornwell, Bernice Boreson, Gladys Fleijer, Mrs. Vegge, Bertha (Stensland) Nelson, Mabel Hilda Nelson, Mrs. Malreid. Front row left to right: Mrs Lee Cornwell with grandsons, Mrs. O.C. Anderson, and Mrs. Malreid. Date: About 1970.



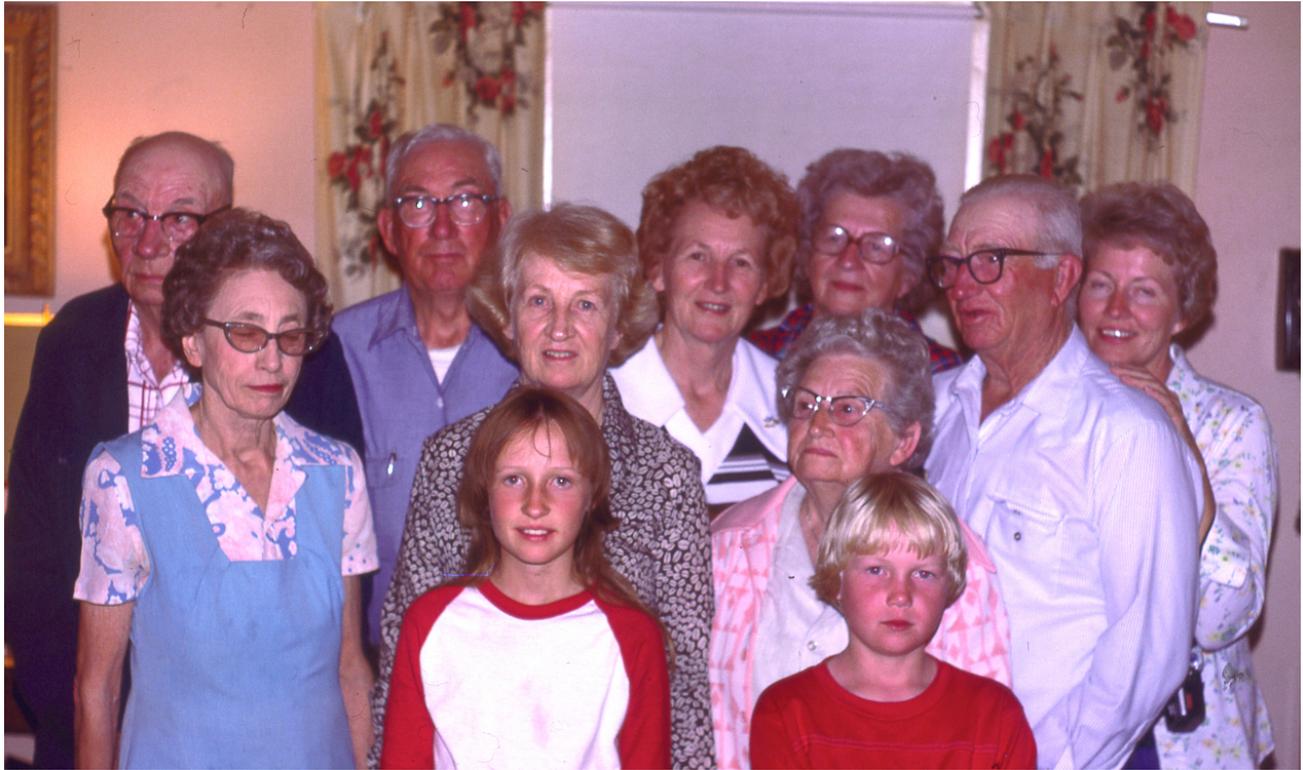
Birthday celebration for Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson held at the Buggy Creek homestead. Her daughter : Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause is presenting the birthday cake. Date unknown. Guests are Mary's lifelong friends and neighbors. Date: About 1970.



Children of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. Left to right: Lorraine Marion (Nelson) Bain, Floyd Ernest Nelson, Martin Leonard Nelson, Anne Mathilda (Nelson) Stull, Victor Chris Nelson, and Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause. Date: Early 1970s.



Children of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. Back left to right: Floyd Ernest Nelson, Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause, Martin Leonard Nelson, and Victor Chris Nelson. Center left to right: Anne Mathilda (Nelson) Stull and Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete). In front from left to right: Max Walter Nelson and Lorraine Marion (Nelson) Bain. Date: Early 1970s.



Relatives of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. Back row left to right: Martin Leonard Nelson, Victor Chris Nelson, Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause, Bertha (Stensland) Nelson, Beverly Ann (Nelson) Pederson. Center row left to right: Mabel Hilda (Nelson) Nelson, Lorraine Marion (Nelson) Bain, Anne Mathilda (Nelson) Stull, and Floyd Ernest Nelson. Children in front are: Barbara Rae Pederson and Theresa Nelson. Living room at the Buggy Creek Community homestead. Date: Early 1970s.



Relatives of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. Back row left to right: Hazel Ruby (Nelson) Krause, Morris Joseph Nelson (Pete), Victoria D. Fransen, Anne Marie Fransen, Victor Chris Nelson, and Arvid Fransen. Front row left to right: Lorraine Marion (Nelson) Bain, Anne Mathilda (Nelson) Stull, and Max Walter Nelson. At the Buggy Creek Community homestead. Date: Early 1970s.



A photograph of the residence on the Buggy Creek homestead near Tampico, Montana. Date: Late 1980s.



The descendants of Nels Christian and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson. Back row left to right: Donald Bruce Nelson (Donny), Dennis Lyle Krause, William John Krause II, Joseph Nelson Svien, Ron Svien, Bob Irwin, Jessica Rose Svien, James Bain, Roger Lee Bain, Sherry Bain, and Floyd C. Nelson (Sonny). Second row left to right: Sandra Lee (Lynch) Krause, Winifred Alice (Clark) Krause, Penelope Ellen Fain (Penny), Mary Elizabeth (Bain, Fain) McCoy, Arielle Jean Svien, Jackee (Nelson) Svien, Bertha (Stensland) Nelson, Lorraine Marion (Nelson) Bain, Matthew Allen Bain, Deanna (O'Neil) Nelson. Two kids: Charles Scott McCoy and James Pete McCoy (on Mary McCoy's lap). Adults in front row left to right: Joe Reyling, Gina (Nelson) Reyling, and Theresa Nelson. Children in front row left to right: Rose Mary Reyling, Michael Nelson Reyling, Matthew Edward Reyling, and JoLynn Marie Reyling. Photograph taken at the Stensland reunion held in the park at Fort Peck, Montana, on July 4, 2000.

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

# United States Census, 1880 for Martin Neilson

[« Back to search results](#)

Image is not available online.

### Search collection

name: **Martin Neilson**  
residence: **Detroit, Becker, Minnesota**  
birthdate: **1846**  
birthplace: **Denmark**  
relationship to head: **Self**  
spouse's name: **Christina Neilson**  
spouse's birthplace: **Denmark**  
father's name:  
father's birthplace: **Denmark**  
mother's name:  
mother's birthplace: **Denmark**  
race or color **White**  
(expanded):  
ethnicity **American**  
(standardized):  
gender: **Male**  
marital status: **Married**  
age (expanded): **34 years**  
occupation: **Farmer**  
nara film number: **T9-0615**  
page: **109**  
page character: **A**  
entry number: **1583**  
film number: **1254615**

	Household	Gender	
	<b>Martin Neilson</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>34</b>
spouse	<b>Christina Neilson</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>37</b>
child	<b>Christian Neilson</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>7</b>
child	<b>Maruse Neilson</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Canute Neilson</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>32</b>
	<b>Johanna Neilson</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>22</b>

A transcribed version of United States census of June 8, 1880, taken in Detroit Township, Becker County, Minnesota, lists Martin Nelson (Neilson) as being 34 years old, head of household, a farmer, and from Denmark. Note the spelling of the surname on this 1880 document. This is the last known record of Martin Nelson.



APPLICATION FOR AND MARRIAGE LICENSE RECORD.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
COUNTY OF BECKER.

I, Anton Elleson  
of the County of Becker State of Minnesota  
desiring to procure a license to be joined in marriage unto Stina Nilson  
do declare upon oath as follows:

That I am of the full age of twenty-one years.  
That the said Stina Nilson is of the full age of eighteen years, and a  
resident of the County of Becker, of the State of Minnesota.  
That I have no living wife.  
That said Stina Nilson has no living husband.  
That we are not nearer of kin than first cousins.  
That there is no legal impediment to said contemplated marriage.

Signed Anton Elleson.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 1886  
W. J. Morrow  
Clerk of District Court.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
DISTRICT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BECKER.

To any Person Lawfully Authorized to Solemnize Marriages within said State:  
Know Ye, That license is hereby granted to join together as husband and wife Anton Elleson  
of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, and  
Stina Nilson of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota,  
being satisfied by the Oath of said Anton Elleson

that there is no legal impediment thereto.  
Therefore, This shall be your sufficient authority for solemnizing the marriage of said parties, and making return  
thereof as provided by law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said District  
Court, at Detroit, in said County, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of  
September 1886  
W. J. Morrow Clerk.  
By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
COUNTY OF BECKER.

I hereby certify that on the First day of October in the year of our  
Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty eight at Audubon  
in said County, I, the undersigned, a Lutheran Minister  
did join in the holy bonds of matrimony, according to the laws of this State, Anton Elleson  
of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, and Stina Nilson  
of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, in presence of

B. Hanson } WITNESSES. O. J. Bergh  
T. W. Bergh }

A copy of my credentials of ordination is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the County of  
Chippewa State of Minnesota. O. J. Bergh

A copy of the Application for Marriage and Marriage Licenses between Anton Elleson and Stina Nilson (Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson). The Application for Marriage is dated September 28, 1886. The State Marriage License is dated September 28, 1886. The Becker County Marriage License is dated October 1, 1886. The marriage ceremony was conducted the at First Lutheran Church of Audubon, Audubon, Minnesota.

Filed for record this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March A. D. 1888, at 9 o'clock P. M.

Hans Hanson  
Register of Deeds.

10987

This Indenture, Made this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight between Stina Elleson, formerly Stina Nilson, and Anton Elleson her husband, of Becker County Minnesota

part<sup>s</sup> of the first part, and Halvor O. Storlie of Becker County Minnesota

part<sup>y</sup> of the second part:

Witnesseth, That the said part<sup>s</sup> of the first part, in consideration of the sum of One Thousand Dollars, to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby GRANT, BARGAIN, SELL and CONVEY, unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER, all those tract<sup>s</sup> or parcel<sup>s</sup> of land, lying and being in the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to wit:

Lots Two (2) and Three (3) and the North east quarter of the South West quarter (NE 1/4 of SW 1/4) and the North West quarter of the South east quarter (NW 1/4 of SE 1/4) all in Section Numbered Sixteen (16) in Township Numbered One hundred and thirty nine (139) North of Range Forty one (41), West of the Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Principal Meridian, and containing according to United States Government Survey thereof One hundred and Forty five (145) acres be the same more or less

To Have and to Hold the Same, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, to the said part<sup>y</sup> of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER. And the said Stina Elleson formerly Stina Nilson one of the

part<sup>s</sup> of the first part, for her self, her heirs, executors and administrators, do covenant with the said part<sup>y</sup> of the second part, his heirs and assigns, that she is well seized in fee of the lands and premises aforesaid, and has good right to sell and convey the same in manner and form aforesaid; that the same are free from all incumbrances; except a mortgage to Thomas D. Williams for \$400.00

and the above bargained and granted lands and premises, in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said part<sup>y</sup> of the second part, his heirs and assigns, against all persons lawfully claiming or to claim the whole or any part thereof, the said part<sup>s</sup> of the first part will WARRANT AND DEFEND.

In Testimony Whereof, The said part<sup>s</sup> of the first part hereunto set their hands and seal, the day and year first above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

John Peterson

Hans Hanson

Stina Elleson

Anton Elleson



STATE OF MINNESOTA,

COUNTY OF Becker

I, Hans Hanson, Register of Deeds

within and for said County, do hereby certify that on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March A. D. 1888; personally came before me Stina Elleson formerly Stina Nilson and Anton Elleson her husband

to me well known as the same persons described in and who executed the foregoing Deed, and they personally acknowledged that they executed the same freely and voluntarily.

Register of Deeds  
Beck  
Becker Co. Minn

Hans Hanson Register of Deeds  
Becker Co. Minn

A land deed showing the purchase of 145 acres of farm land in Section 16 of Township 139 (later to become known as Detroit Township) in Becker County, Minnesota, on March 2, 1888, by Stina Elleson, formerly Stina Nilson (Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson), and Anton Elleson her husband, of Becker County, Minnesota.



APPLICATION FOR AND MARRIAGE LICENSE RECORD.

PIONEER PRESS CO., PRINTERS, ST. PAUL, MINN.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
 COUNTY OF BECKER.

I, Nels C. Nelson of the County of Becker State of Minnesota desiring to procure a License to be joined in marriage unto Mary E. Nelson do declare upon oath as follows:

That I am of the full age of twenty-one years.  
 That the said Mary E. Nelson is of the full age of eighteen years, and a resident of the County of Becker, of the State of Minnesota.  
 That I have no living wife.  
 That said Mary E. Nelson has no living husband.  
 That we are not nearly of kin than first cousins.  
 That there is no legal impediment to said contemplated marriage.

Signed: Nels C. Nelson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ten day of October 1896  
L. C. McKinstry  
 Clerk of District Court.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
 DISTRICT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BECKER.

To any Person Lawfully Authorized to Solemnize Marriages within said State:

Know Ye, That license is hereby granted to join together as husband and wife Nels C. Nelson of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota and Mary E. Nelson of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, being satisfied by the affidavit of said Nels C. Nelson that there is no legal impediment thereto.

Therefore, This shall be your sufficient authority for solemnizing the marriage of said parties, and making return thereof as provided by law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said District Court, at Detroit, in said County, this ten day of October 1896  
L. C. McKinstry Clerk.  
 By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
 COUNTY OF BECKER.

I Hereby Certify, That on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Ninety six at Audubon in said County, I, the undersigned, a Sudderan Minister did join in the holy bonds of matrimony, according to the laws of this State, Nels C. Nelson of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota and Mary E. Nelson of the County of Becker, and State of Minnesota, in presence of

N. Marius Nelson } WITNESSES. O. Bergh  
M. M. Nelson }

A copy of my credentials of ordination is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the County of Chippewa State of Minnesota. O. Bergh

Filed for record the 14<sup>th</sup> day of October 1896  
L. C. McKinstry  
 Clerk District Court.  
Chas. G. Stoutenart Deputy

**Top:** The application for a Marriage License in Becker County, Minnesota, between Nels Christiansen Nelson and Mary Elizabeth Johannesson/ Nelson is dated October 10, 1896. **Middle:** the State Marriage License between Nels Christian Nelson and Mary Elizabeth Johannesson/Nelson dated October 10, 1896. Interestingly, Mary Elizabeth lists her maiden name in these records as Nelson. **Bottom:** Note also that witnesses are: Nels Christian's brother, Nels Marius Nelson and Mary Elizabeth's mother, Maria Mathilda (Setterberg) Johannesson/ Nelson. Note that her mother also uses the surname Nelson rather than Johannesson or Johnson. The actual marriage took place in Audubon, Minnesota.

SCHEDULE No. 1. - POPULATION.

State Minnesota County Becker Township or other division of county Wisconsin Name of Institution Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, Richard Anthony Ward of city, 78.2

Table with columns: LOCATION, NAME, RELATION, PERSONAL DESCRIPTION, NATIVITY, CITIZENSHIP, OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION, EDUCATION, OVERSEAS IF BORN ABROAD. Includes handwritten entries for various individuals and their family details.

STATE Minnesota COUNTY Becker DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910-POPULATION SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT No. 2

Table with columns: LOCATION, NAME, RELATION, PERSONAL DESCRIPTION, NATIVITY, CITIZENSHIP, OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION, EDUCATION, OVERSEAS IF BORN ABROAD. Includes handwritten entries for various individuals and their family details.

The Twelfth Census of the United States (1900) for Becker County, Minnesota, shows Nels Christian Nelson as the head of the household with his family (Lines 82-85). His brother Maurice Nelson was living with him at this time and owns the adjacent farmland. (Line 86). The Thirteenth Census of the United States (1910) for Becker County, Minnesota, shows Nels Nelson as the head of the household and his wife and children at this time (Lines 14-21).

apolis. Mr. Weston has gained a wide circle of acquaintances and is universally esteemed and respected.

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#### JAMES McDONALD.

James McDonald, one of the early settlers of Polk county, has accumulated a valuable property in Nesbit township. He is an energetic farmer, and has taken great pains in the development of his homestead, adding to its value and beauty by the careful culture of trees, shrubs and other ornaments and improvements which greatly enhance the value of his estate.

Mr. McDonald was born in western Ontario, December 6, 1853, and was the second in a family of ten children born to Donald and Ellen (Hannah) McDonald. His childhood was spent on the farm in Canada, and he left his home there in 1876. He went to Polk county, Minnesota, and has since resided there. Soon after locating there he filed a homestead claim to one quarter of section 32, in Nesbit township. This is his present home, and by its pleasant location and good improvements evidences what may be accomplished in northern Minnesota by industry and perseverance. Mr. McDonald has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, and has become thoroughly acquainted with the operation of a model farm. Fortune has favored him, and he has added to his acreage, as circumstances justified, and is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of valuable farm lands. He has given considerable attention to the improvement of his immediate home surroundings, and his efforts are rewarded by the enjoyment of a pleasant and comfortable home.

Mr. McDonald was married in 1878 to Miss Isabel Miller, also of Canada. This union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Ethel Ellen, William James, Eva Belle, Daniel Lloyd, Mabel Jennie, Maggie Fern, Roy Herbert, Kate Gladys and Mary Edith. Mr. McDonald, with his family, worships in the Presbyterian church, he being a member of that denomination. He also holds membership in the I. O. O. F. and in the I. O. F. He is a Republican politically and stands firmly for his convictions and lends his influence for the principles of his party. He is a citizen of true worth in his community, and has always taken an active part in township affairs and served as a member of the township board for a number of years.

---

#### NELS CHRIST NELSON.

The younger men of a community are the ones who are responsible in a large degree for the future of the country where they reside. The gentleman above named has located in Detroit town-

ship, Becker county, where he follows agriculture and by his industrious habits and active public spirit has proven himself a citizen of most exemplary character. He is one of the men upon whom the region in which he lives may depend for a prosperous future and morality. He has built for himself an enviable name and a comfortable home in section 16.

Our subject was born in the state of New York July 11, 1873, and was a son of Martin and Christina Nelson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. He left New York with his parents at the age of two years and went to Ohio, and from there at the age of nine years to Minnesota, his father purchasing a farm in Becker county. He attended school at Detroit until he was fourteen years of age, and after passing his boyhood there he went to Hillsboro, North Dakota, where he remained three years. He then returned to Becker county, Minnesota, and purchased a farm of one hundred acres. He has fifty acres under cultivation, and the rest of the land is timber and pasture land. A good residence and good barn, with other necessary buildings, complete a home of many comforts. Water is plentiful, and he has a good supply of farm machinery, and conducts a model place. He keeps three horses for the work of the farm and six head of cattle for dairy purposes, and derives a good income from each feature of the place.

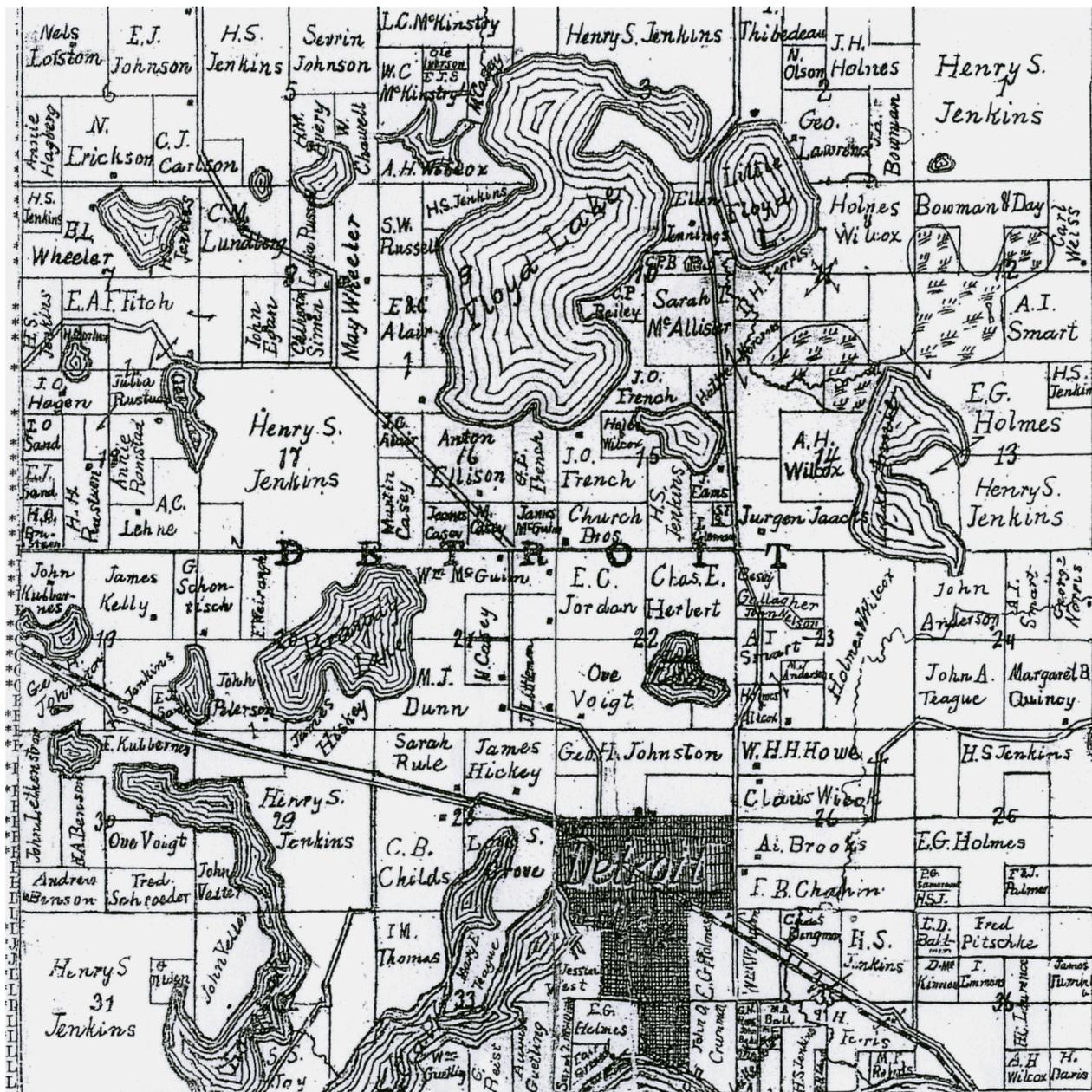
Our subject was married in 1896 to Mary Johnson, who was born in Sweden May 28, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of two children, Martin and Nora. Mr. Nelson and family are members of the Lutheran church at Detroit City, and are actively interested in the affairs of that denomination, and are held in high esteem by their neighbors and friends. Our subject is a young man of good education and studies the topics of the day, and is identified with the reform principles of the Populist party.

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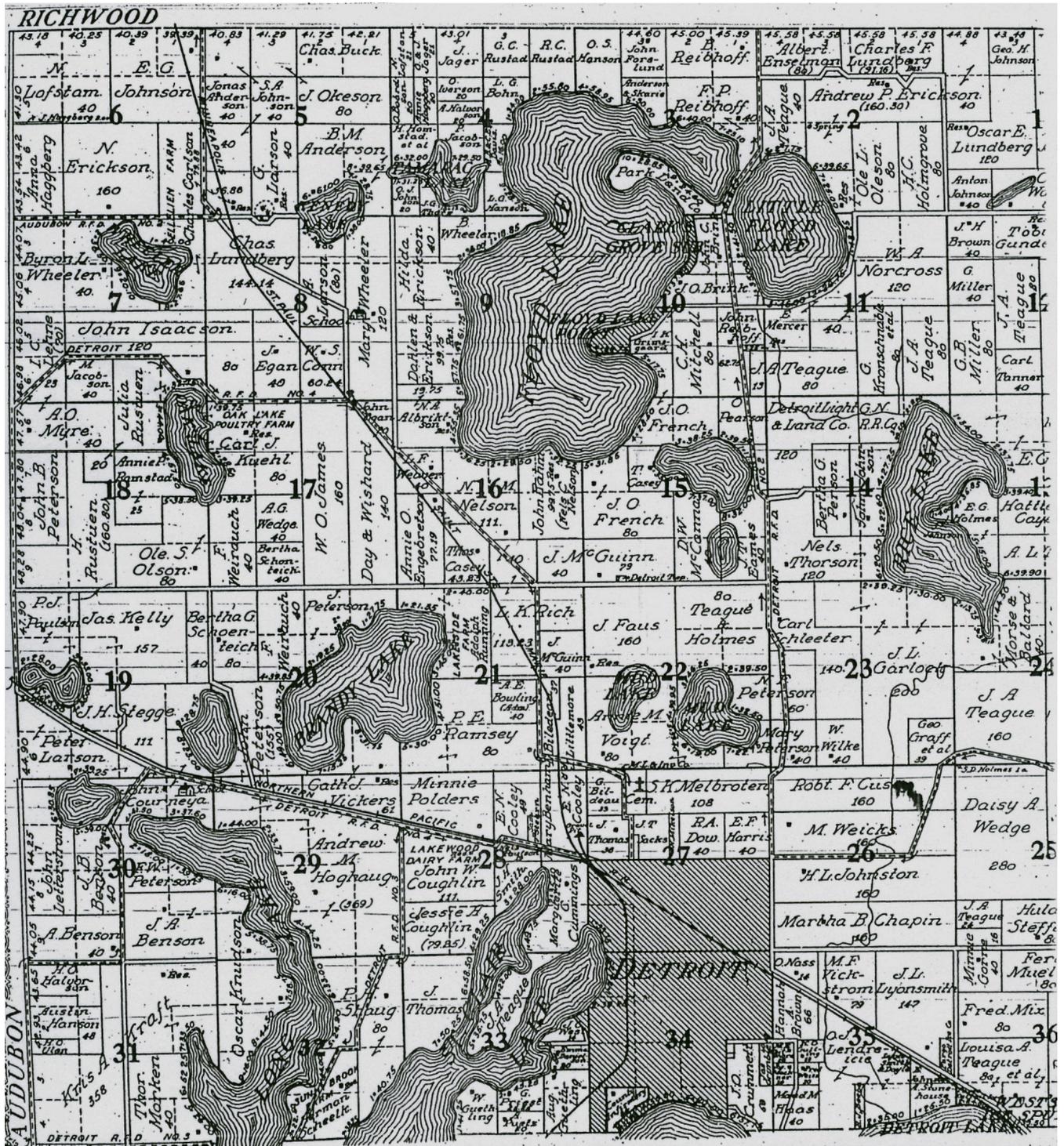
#### OLE C. RIAN.

Ole C. Rian, well known as one of the old settlers and influential business men of Ottertail county, whose portrait appears elsewhere in this volume, does an extensive business in general merchandise at Elizabeth, and is the oldest resident settler of that city. He is a man of excellent business capacity and from a meager start has built up a profitable and increasing trade.

Mr. Rian was born on a farm near Trondhjem, Norway, January 27, 1847. His parents were natives of Norway, but of their work and lives our subject knows little, having left home at an early age. He was the fourth in a family of six children and was reared on a farm. While still a boy he went to sea as a fisherman, and



A plot map dated 1890-1892 of Detroit Township (also known Township 139) subdivided into the sections it contains and well as the ownership within the sections listed. Note that a large portion of Section 16 located just beneath the tip of Floyd Lake is owned by Anton Elleson. Anton Elleson married Nels Christian Nelson's mother, now referred to as Stina (Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson). Anton and Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson subdivide this property and sell it to Anna's two sons, Nels Christian Nelson (December 19, 1896) and Nels Maurice Nelson (March 22, 1900). (Courtesy of the Becker County Historical Society).



A 1904 plot map shows the location of the Nels Christian and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson farm in Detroit Township, Minnesota, near Floyd Lake (Section 16). Note that this portion of Section 16 contains acreage owned by Christian's brother, Nels Maurice Nelson and is why the plot map shows N and M Nelson. Note also that Nels Christian Nelson also owns a small narrow property on the extreme right hand corner of Section 16 that borders Floyd Lake. A fond childhood memory recalled by Anne Mathilda (Nelson) Stull described the country side around Floyd Lake as like heaven - natural and beautiful with lots of wild raspberries and strawberries with plenty of fish in the lake. Anne remembered living near Floyd Lake and rowing a boat to reach Grand Elleson's place. It is believed Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson lived on this property by Floyd Lake and is the property that Anne Nelson remembered visiting. (Courtesy of the Becker County Historical Society).

Anton Elleson & wife

Filed for record this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December A. D. 1896, at 11:30 o'clock A. M.

Hans Hanson Register of Deeds.

Niels Christian Nielson

By Deputy.

This Indenture, Made this Nineteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety six between Anton Elleson and Stine Elleson his wife of Becker County Minnesota

parties of the first part, and Niels Christian Nielson of Becker County Minnesota

Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part, in consideration of the sum of Two Hundred and Seventy DOLLARS, to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby GRANT, BARGAIN, SELL and CONVEY, unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit:

Twenty Seven (27) Acres of land off and from the East Side of Lot Numbered two (2) and the Northwest quarter of the South east quarter (NW 1/4 of SE 1/4) of Section Sixteen (16) in Township No One hundred and thirty nine (139) North of Range No Forty one (41) West of the 5th Principal Meridian

To Have and to Hold the Same, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, to the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER. And the said Anton Elleson and Stine Elleson

parties of the first part, for themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, do covenant with the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, that that they are well seized in fee of the lands and premises aforesaid, and have good right to sell and convey the same in manner and form aforesaid; that the same are free from all incumbrances;

and the above bargained and granted lands and premises, in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, against all persons lawfully claiming or to claim the whole or any part thereof, the said parties of the first part will WARRANT and DEFEND.

In Testimony Whereof, The said parties of the first part hereunto set their hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of Hans Hanson Gus. Moline

Anton Elleson Stine Elleson

State of Minnesota, County of Becker

I, Hans Hanson Register of Deeds within and for said County, do hereby certify that on this 19th day of December A. D. 1896, personally came before me Anton Elleson and Stine Elleson his wife

to me well known to be the same persons described in and who executed the foregoing Deed, and they severally acknowledged that they executed the same freely and voluntarily.

Register of Deeds

Hans Hanson Register of Deeds Becker Co Minn.

The sale of the farm property in Section 16 of Becker County, Minnesota, to Nels Christian Nielson by his parents, Anton Elleson (step-father) and mother, Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson, on December 19, 1896.

Anton Elleson & wife

Filed for record, the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D. 1896 at 8 o'clock A.M.

Nels Maurus Nelson

Hans Hanson Register of Deeds.

By Deputy.

This Indenture, Made this Twenty seventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety- between Anton Elleson and Stine Elleson his wife of Becker County Minnesota

Nels Maurus Nelson of Becker County Minnesota

Witnesseth, That the said part of the first part, in consideration of the sum of Five Hundred DOLLARS, to them in hand

paid by the said part of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby GRANT, BARGAIN, SELL and CONVEY, unto the said part of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER; all those tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Becker, and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit:

Lot two (2) and three (3) and the north east quarter of the South west quarter (N.E. 1/4 of S.W. 1/4) and the north west quarter of the South East quarter (N.W. 1/4 of S.E. 1/4) of Section sixteen (16) in Township One hundred and thirty nine (139) north of Range Forty one (41) west of the Fifth Principal Meridian Sars and excepting from above described lands a strip of land containing twenty seven (27) acres off and from the east side of Lot Two and off and from the east side of the north west quarter of the South East quarter (N.W. 1/4 of S.E. 1/4) of said Sec 16. - Twp. 139 - R. 41

To Have and to Hold the Same, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining, to the said part of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER. And the said Anton Elleson and Stine Elleson his wife

part of the first part, for themselves their heirs, executors and administrators, do COVENANT with the said part of the second part, his heirs and assigns, that they are well seized in fee of the lands and premises aforesaid, and ha a good right to SELL and CONVEY the same in manner and form aforesaid; that the same are free from all incumbrances.

and the above bargained and granted lands and premises, in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said part of the second part, his heirs and assigns, against all persons lawfully claiming, or to claim, the whole or any part thereof, the said part of the first part will WARRANT and DEFEND.

In Testimony Whereof, The said part of the first part ha hereunto set their hand, s. and seal. The day and year first above written.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF

N. C. Nelson Hans Hanson

50 9.P. a.E. 3/23/1900

Anton Elleson wife Stine Elleson

Seal Seal Seal Seal

State of Minnesota, County of Becker

I Hans Hanson Register of Deeds withing and for said County do hereby certify that on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March A. D. 1900

came before me Anton Elleson and Stine Elleson his wife to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged that they executed the same as their free act and deed.

Register of Deeds Seal Hans Hanson Register of Deeds

The sale of the farm property in Section 16 of Becker County, Minnesota, to Nels Maurice Nelson by his parents, Anton Elleson (step-father) and mother, Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson, on March 22, 1896.

64-464

# DEED RECORD-41

Security Blank Book and Printing Co., St. Cloud, Minn.—10887 P5

INSTRUMENT

54911

By John Christian Nielson  
Deputy  
County Auditor, Becker Co.

Niels Christian Nielson  
TO  
John Rahm

Filed for record this 3rd day of Jan  
A. D. 1911 at 3:15 o'clock P.M.  
Phillips J. Courser Register of Deeds.  
By J. A. Sealander Deputy.

This Indenture, Made this third day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eleven between Niels Christian Nielson and Mary E. Nielson his wife of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota parties of the first part, and John Rahm of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota party of the second part,

Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred Dollars and other valuable consideration DOLLARS, to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby Grant, Bargain, Sell and Convey unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, Forever, all those tract or parcels of land lying and being in the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit:

Twentyseven (27) Acres of Land off and from the East side of Lot numbered two (2) and the North west quarter of the Southeast quarter (NW 1/4 SE 1/4) of Section Sixteen (16) and all of Lot numbered one (1) and the Northeast quarter of the Southeast quarter (NE 1/4 SE 1/4) of Section Sixteen (16) all in Township One Hundred Thirty nine (139) North, of Range Forty One (41) West of the Fifth Principal Meridian containing ninety nine and 7/8 (99.875) Acres more or less according to the United States Government survey thereof

To Have and to Hold the Same, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining, unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, FOREVER. And the said Niels Christian Nielson and Mary E. Nielson his wife parties of the first part, for themselves their heirs, executors and administrators, do covenant with the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, that he are well seized in fee of the lands and premises aforesaid, and he good right to sell and convey the same in manner and form aforesaid, and that the same are free from all incumbrances except two mortgages of record amounting to one thousand fifty and no which party of the second part assumes and agrees to pay and the above bargained and granted lands and premises in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, against all persons lawfully claiming or to claim the whole or any part thereof, the said parties of the first part will WARRANT AND DEFEND.

In Testimony Whereof, The said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.  
Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of  
A. M. Fredson }  
E. D. Holmes }  
Niels Christian Nielson [SEAL]  
Mary E. Nielson [SEAL]

State of Minnesota, }  
COUNTY OF Becker } ss. On this 3rd day of January A. D. 1911, before me, a Notary Public within and for said County, personally appeared Niels Christian Nielson and Mary E. Nielson his wife



to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.  
A. M. Fredson  
Notary Public Becker County, Minnesota.  
My commission expires March 22 1917

The deed of sale of the Becker County farm (Section 16) owned by Nels Christian and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson to John Rahm on January 3, 1911. Note the spelling of their names used in this and several others: Niels Christian Nielson and Mary E. Nielson.

Glasgow 015366.

# The United States of America,

To all in whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

WHEREAS, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at **Glasgow, Montana,** 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 **Nels C. Nelson**

has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law, for the **south half of Section fourteen in Township thirty north of Range thirty-eight east of the Montana Meridian, Montana, containing three hundred twenty 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.

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-FIRST** day of **OCTOBER** in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and **FOURTEEN** and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and **THIRTY-NINTH.**

By the President:

*Woodrow Wilson*

By

*M. O. LeRoy* Secretary,

*L. L. Lamar*  
Recorder of the General Land Office.



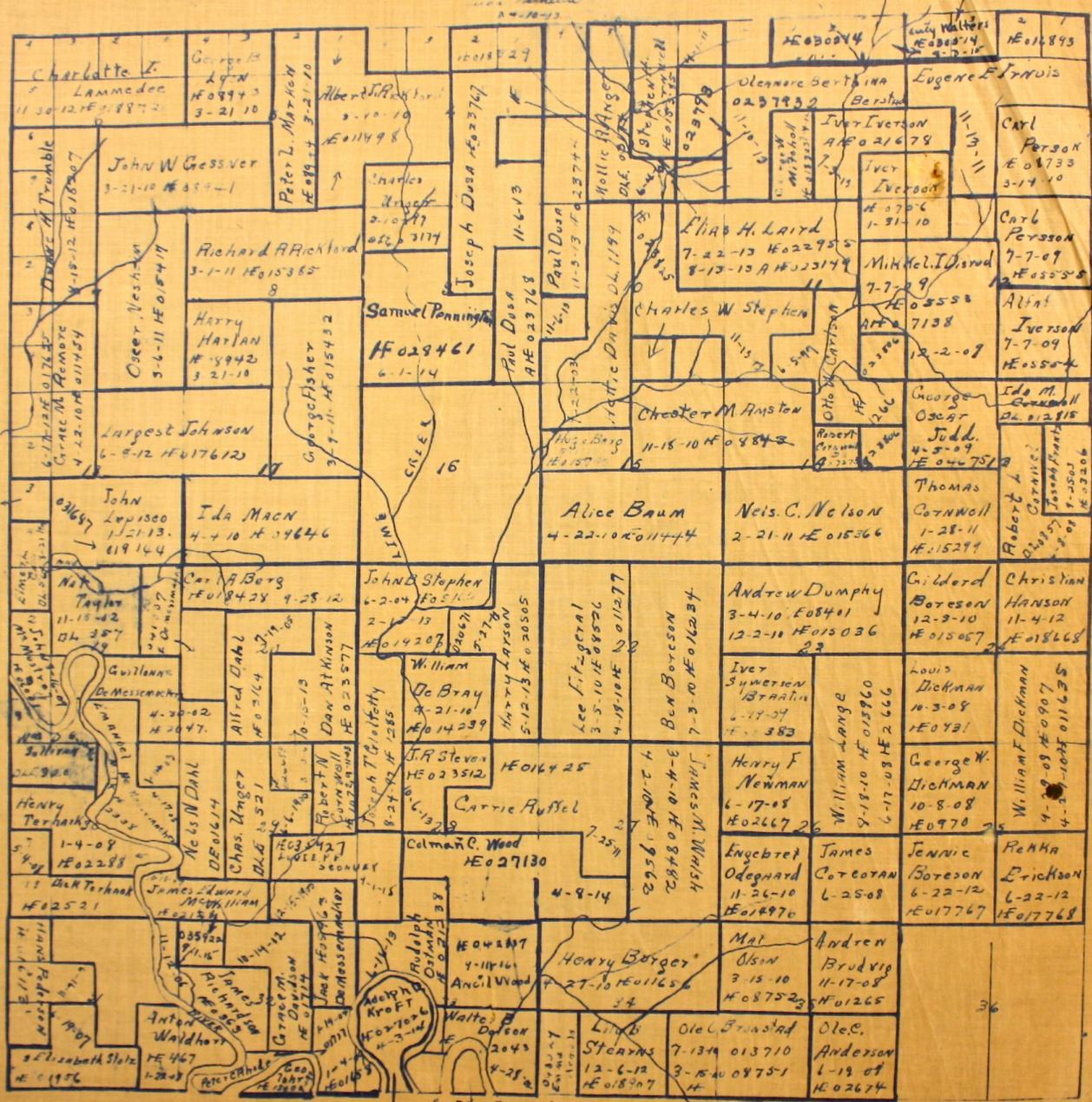
17109-15-

437098

RECORD OF PATENTS: Patent Number

The Land Patent awarded to Nels Christ Nelson on October 21, 1914, signed by United States President, Woodrow Wilson. (Courtesy of Mary Elizabeth (Bain) Fain McCoy).

Township N<sup>o</sup> 30 N. Range N<sup>o</sup> 38 East P.M. Montana

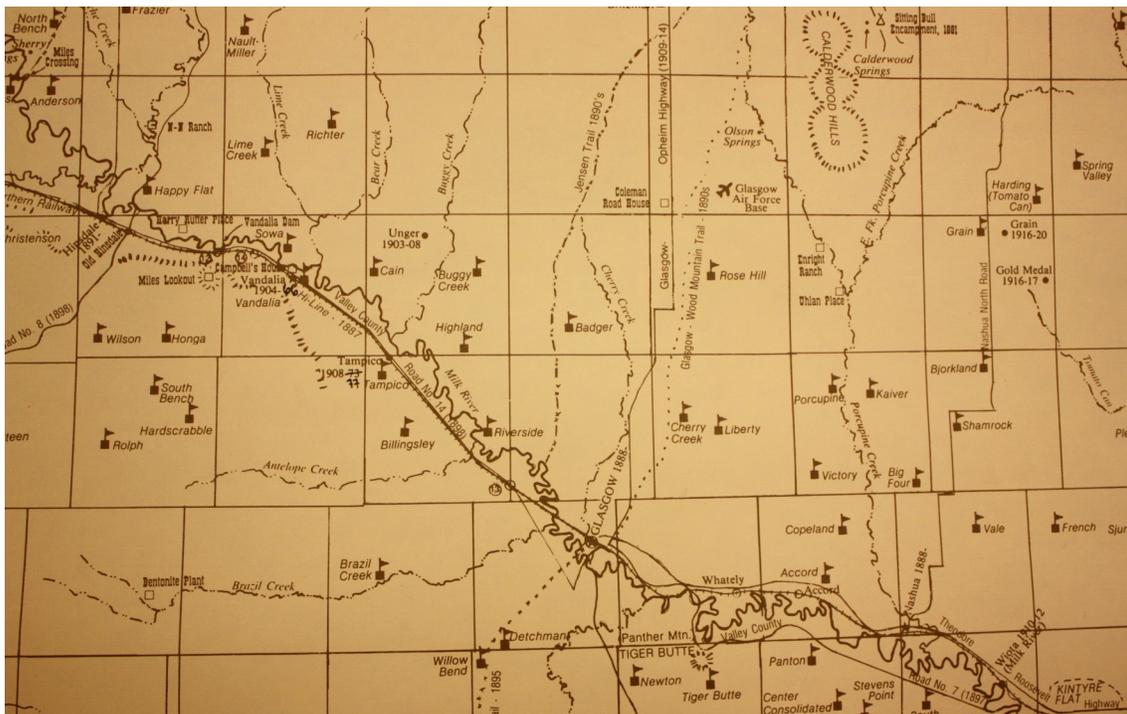


Montana Loan & Abstract Company

A plot map showing the names and locations of the original homesteaders to this township (Township N1 30 N Range N1 16 East P.M. Montana) of Montana. Note the locations for the homesteads of Nels C. Nelson (Section 14), Andrew Dumphy, Thomas Cornwell, and Ben Boreson. (Courtesy of the Valley County Historical Society, Glasgow, Montana.)

62			John	Doughton			F	W	9	S				yes		Montana	
63			Mildred	Doughton			F	W	2 1/2	S						Montana	
64			Helmer	Son			M	W	9 1/2	S						Montana	
65	FM	36	35	Jervon	Head	0	M	M	W	38	S	1905	na	1914	yes	yes	Montana
66	FM	37	36	Stevens James R.	Head	0	F	M	W	50	M				yes	yes	Montana
67			Jadulina	wife			F	W	26	M				yes	yes	Montana	
68	FM	38	37	Jervon	Head	0	M	M	W	33	S	1909	na	1915	yes	yes	Montana
69	FM	39	38	Cornwell Robert L.	Head	0	M	M	W	47	M				yes	yes	Montana
70			Ida M.	Wife			F	W	36	M				yes	yes	Montana	
71			Thomas H.	Son			M	W	11	S				yes	yes	Montana	
72			Robert L.	Son			M	W	9	S				yes	yes	Montana	
73			Hazel E.	Doughton			F	W	8	S				yes	yes	Montana	
74			Ida M.	Doughton			F	W	3 1/2	S				yes	yes	Montana	
75	FM	40	39	Nelson Christian	Head	0	M	M	W	47	M				yes	yes	Montana
76			Mary E.	Wife			F	W	43	M	Na Na			yes	yes	Montana	
77			Robert L.	Doughton			M	W	19	S				yes	yes	Montana	
78			Annd	Doughton			F	W	17	S				yes	yes	Montana	
79			Victor	Son			M	W	14	S				yes	yes	Montana	
80			Alfred	Son			M	W	12	S				yes	yes	Montana	
81			Walter	Son			M	W	10	S				yes	yes	Montana	
82			Morris	Son			M	W	7	S				yes	yes	Montana	
83			May	Son			M	W	3 1/2	S				yes	yes	Montana	
84			Hazel	Doughton			F	W	15	S				yes	yes	Montana	
85	FM	41	40	Dumphy Andrew J.	Head	0	M	M	W	57	M				yes	yes	Montana
86			Thomas	Son			M	W	15	S				yes	yes	Montana	
87			Alice	Doughton			F	W	14	S				yes	yes	Montana	
88			Andrew J.	Son			M	W	13	S				yes	yes	Montana	
89			Helen	Doughton			F	W	10	S				yes	yes	Montana	
90			Lenore	Doughton			F	W	9	S				yes	yes	Montana	
91			Danie	Son			M	W	7	S				yes	yes	Montana	

A segment taken from the Fourteenth Census of the United States (1920) for Valley County, Montana, shows Nels Chris Nelson as the head of the household and his wife and children at this time (Lines 75-84). Note the listing of the Cornwell's and the Dumphy family that lived across the lane. The Dumphys would leave and move to the Napa Valley of California. Years later (early 1940s) Victor Chris Nelson and his nephew, William John Krause II, would meet them once again in Napa, California.



A map showing the location of schools in central, eastern Montana that several of Nels Christian and Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson's descendants attended (Buggy Creek and Highland). (Courtesy of the Valley County Historical Society, Glasgow, Montana.)

### NELS CHRIS NELSON FAMILY

In 1911 Nels Christ Nelson came from Detroit Lakes, Minn. to settle on a Montana homestead. He was persuaded to homestead near Tampico by his brother, Maurice Nelson. Maurice was stationed at Glasgow as Elevator Superintendent for the Montana-North Dakota Grain Elevators.

Nels Christ Nelson, known as Chris, was born in the state of New York on July 11, 1873 to Martin and Christina Nelson, both of whom were natives of Denmark. He had an older brother, Maurice. When Chris was two years old, the family moved to Ohio. After seven years in Ohio they moved to Detroit Lakes, Becker County, Minn. where his father purchased a farm. Chris grew up and attended school there. He spent three years in Hillsboro, N.D. He then returned to Detroit Lakes and bought a 100 acre farm on Floyd Lake. He also ran a butcher shop in Detroit Lakes. Chris married Mary Elizabeth Nelson on Oct. 12, 1895.

Mary Elizabeth Nelson was born May 28, 1878 to Johann and Mathilda Nelson at Varmland, Sweden. Mary was the youngest of five children; two brothers, Axel and Gust and two sisters, Amanda and Annie. The Nelson family left Sweden in 1889 and settled in Detroit Lakes, Minn. Mathilda Nelson's sister, Carolene Anderson, had previously come to America and lived just northeast of Detroit Lakes.

Maurice Nelson had picked out the homestead site for Chris, a place on the prairie, near Buggy Creek. The main asset of

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L-R: Martin, Victor, Morris (Pete), Max, Floyd; seated: Mary



L-R: Hazel, Lorraine, Anne and Nora.

this place was the spring that supplied plenty of pure, soft water.

Chris Nelson preceded his family to Tampico to prepare the homestead for their arrival. The family arrived by train bringing along a boxcar load of household furnishings, farm equipment, cows and horses. The nearest neighbors were the families of R.L. Cornwell, Andy Dunphy, Mike Disrud, and Alice Baum. The Ben Boreson family arrived later that year.

At the time of their move to Montana, the Nelsons had five children: Martin Leonard, Nora Velmina, Anne Mathilda, Victor Chris and Floyd Ernest. Children born to them in Montana were: Arthur Cleveland, Mabel Elizabeth, Morris Joseph (Pete), Max Walter, Hazel Ruby, and Lorraine Marian.

The family was Lutheran. Mr. Nelson was an active member of the school board. Nora and Anne were among the first graduating class of nurses at the Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital in Glasgow in 1924.

After the rocks were picked and the sod broken, the main crop to be grown was wheat. Butter and eggs were taken to Glasgow to be traded for groceries.

As usual there were good times and bad times--droughts, grasshoppers, severe winters, World War I, the flu, the Depression, World War II and deaths.

Mabel died in 1916 of a brain tumor. Chris Nelson passed away on the homestead on Oct. 28, 1927. Anne took a break from her nursing job in California to be with her father and family during the time of his death. Dr. Cockrell, the attending physician, would drive from Hinsdale to make house calls. Then Arthur, who was working in Anaconda, died there

from measles complications in May, 1929. Nora Nelson Whitson passed away on Sept. 15, 1965 in Bakersfield, Calif. Mrs. Nelson passed away on the original homestead on Sept. 5, 1973. She was 96 years old. Anne returned from California to nurse her mother during those final months. Pete and Max remained on the home place. Pete died Jan. 2, 1975 and Max passed away Dec. 12, 1976. Floyd has his own ranch about three miles away and tends to the homestead. Martin expired Nov. 2, 1984.

Since 1911 there have been many changes around Tampico. But, some things never change--the original homestead is still there, the spring with its pure, soft water is still there, and the Boresons and the Cornwells are still there, too.

Taken from and courtesy of - Footprints in the Valley. A History of Valley County, Montana. Volume 2. Typing and Layout by Glasgow Courier & Printing, Glasgow, Montana. Printed by Promoter Publishing, Shelby, Montana. Pages 595-596 (1991).



A photograph of Mabel Edna (Wright) Nelson Kane. Date unknown. Following the death of her husband Mabel Edna (Wright) Nelson married Richard H. Kane in August of 1926. Source: Glasgow Times 8--27-26 Society.

Right: Photographs of Mabel Edna (Wright) Nelson Kane. Date: 1979.

## MAURICE NELSON

Maurice was a brother to Nels Crist Nelson. Maurice was stationed in Glasgow as Elevator Superintendent for the Montana-North Dakota Grain Elevators. He had a farm on the south Bench. Maurice married Mabel Wright of Glasgow. They had one son, Maurice Thomas Nelson. Maurice Nelson, Sr. died during the flu epidemic of 1918. Maurice, Jr. graduated from the Glasgow High School in 1934. He was a purser in the Merchant Marines. He died at sea and was buried at sea. Mabel Wright Nelson Kane moved to Bellingham, Wash. She died there in 1979 at the age of 102.

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Mabel Kane - 1979



Mabel Kane 102 yrs old

2005 - POWERS PRESS CO., Printers, Stationers and Blank Book Manufacturers, St. Paul, Minn.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
COUNTY OF BECKER.

I, Nels M. Nelson of the County of Becker State of Minnesota desiring to procure a License to be joined in marriage unto Mabel Edna Wright that neither of us have been divorced within six months next do declare upon oath as follows: prior to this date; and that neither of us are epileptic, That I am of the full age of twenty-one years, imbecile, feeble minded or afflicted with insanity. That the said Mabel Edna Wright is of the full age of eighteen years, and a resident of the County of Becker, of the State of Minnesota. That I have no living wife. That said Mabel Edna Wright has no living husband. That we are not nearer of kin than first cousins. That there is no legal impediment to said contemplated marriage.

Signed: Nels M. Nelson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this first day of November 1902  
L O McKinstry  
Clerk of District Court.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
DISTRICT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BECKER.

To any Person Lawfully Authorized to Solemnize Marriages within said State: Know Ye, That license is hereby granted to join together as husband and wife Nels M. Nelson of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota and Mabel Edna Wright of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota, being satisfied by the affidavit of said Nels M. Nelson that there is no legal impediment thereto.

Therefore, This shall be your sufficient authority for solemnizing the marriage of said parties, and making return thereof as provided by law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said District Court, at Detroit, in said County, this first day of November 1902

L O McKinstry Clerk.  
By [Signature] Deputy.

State of Minnesota, } ss.  
COUNTY OF BECKER.

I Hereby Certify, That on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and two at Detroit - City in said County, I, the undersigned, a Minister of the M.E. Church did join in the holy bonds of matrimony, according to the laws of this State, Nels M. Nelson of the County of Becker and State of Minnesota and Mabel Edna Wright of the County of Becker, and State of Minnesota, in presence of

Katie R. Wright } WITNESSES. E. P. Holliday  
Roy E. Wright }

A copy of my credentials of ordination is recorded in the Clerk's office of the District Court for the County of Becker State of Minnesota. E. P. Holliday

Filed for record the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 1902  
L O McKinstry  
Clerk of District Court.

The application and marriage license of Nels Maurice Nelson (Nels Christian Nelson's brother) and Mabel Edna Wright. The marriage took place in Detroit City, Minnesota, on November 5, 1902.

## MORRIS NELSON IS "FLU'S" FIRST TOLL

Death of Glasgow Man Occurred Late  
Yesterday Afternoon After an  
Illness of Only a Week.

Morris Nelson, for many years manager of the Montana-Dakota Grain company, passed away about 5:30 yesterday afternoon after only a week's illness with the Spanish influenza. Mr. Nelson contracted the disease and was sent to the Central hospital in the west part of town. His condition rapidly grew worse but was not considered fatal until about 2 o'clock Wednesday morning when his heart gave way.

Since that time he has been fighting hard for life but grew steadily weaker until last evening when he passed away. Mr. Nelson is well known through this part of the state as his business interests have taken him over much northeastern Montana territory. He also has a ranch near Glasgow where he and his family have spent much of their time. He is survived by his wife and several children. No funeral arrangements have yet been made and further particulars will be given in next week's Courier.

The obituary of Maurice Nelson published on the front page of the Glasgow Courier, Glasgow, Montana, on October 18, 1918. Maurice was reported to be the first victim of the Spanish influenza in the Glasgow, Montana area and passed away after only a week's illness.

The obituary of Nels Christian Nelson published on the front page of the Glasgow Courier, Glasgow, Montana, on November 4, 1927. The obituary traces the movement of the Nelson family to Tampico, Montana, and also lists among the survivors that Nel's mother, Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson, is still alive and living in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

## NELS NELSON OF TAMPICO PASSES

Death Comes to Worthy Citizen of County at Tampico Home Saturday—Funeral Tuesday.

Funeral services were held in the Lutheran church in Glasgow Tuesday afternoon for Nels Christ Nelson of Tampico, who passed away at his home Saturday afternoon of last week. The service was conducted by the Rev. I. M. Stubkjaer and interment was in the Glasgow cemetery.

Death resulted from dropsy, inflammatory rheumatism, and heart trouble from which Mr. Nelson has suffered for 25 years. His death was very peaceful, coming in his sleep. Though Mr. Nelson had never been strong on account of the heart disease with which he was afflicted, he bore his infirmity with such fortitude that very few of his friends knew of it. Late in August he had a severe attack from which he never recovered. He was respected and revered by all who knew him, and his neighbors grieve over his loss.

### Obituary

Nels Christ Nelson was born in New York City July 11, 1873, and was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran church. When four years of age the family moved to Youngstown, Ohio, and from there to Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, in 1885. Here Mr. Nelson engaged in farming and business.

In 1896 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elisabeth Nelson. Twelve children were born of this union, of whom 10 are living and two deceased.

In 1911 the family moved to Montana. They homesteaded near Tampico, where they have resided since.

Relatives who live to mourn his departing are his mother, Mrs. Christina Nelson Allison, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota; his wife and children: Martin Leonard, of Harvey, North Dakota, Nora Velmina and Anna Mathilda (now Mrs. Albert Stull) of Long Beach, California, and Christ Victor, Floyd Ernest, Arthur Cleveland, Morse Joseph, Max Walter, Hazel Ruby, and Lorraine Marion, all at home.

## VIII. Burial Register

NUMBER	Name	Birth		Death		Burial		MEMBER		NOT MEMBER	
		DATE	PLACE	DATE	PLACE	DATE	PLACE	C.	A.	C.	A.
<u>1926</u>											
1.	Fred Kaulitzke	10-22-97	Alberta, Can.	1-11	Glasgow	1-15	Glasgow				
2.	Lisa Drager	4-24-34	Toten, Norway	2-5	Glasgow	2-8	Glasgow				
3.	Leona Dorothy Lenz	10-10-25	Glasgow	2-17	Glasgow	2-19	Glasgow				
4.	Charles Johnson	7-8-43	Sweden	4-7	Glasgow	4-14	Glasgow				
5.	Hannah Kaulitzke	3-21-61	East Prussia	7-20	Glasgow	7-21	Glasgow				
6.	Helen Gust	3-3-25	Glasgow	7-26	Glasgow	7-28	Glasgow				
7.	Horace Peterson	1-21-16	Glasgow	8-3	Nashua	8-5	Nashua				
8.	Donabelle Barnes	8-2-23	Montana	11-25	Nashua	11-27	Nashua				
9.	Mrs. King	1894	Montana	12-8	Glasgow	12-10	Glasgow				
<u>1927</u>											
1.	Coramae Caroline Sampson	Nov. 1926	Glasgow	2-10	Glasgow	2-12	Glasgow	X			
2.	Amund Kittelson	1-4-53	Norway	2-17	Glasgow	2-19	Glasgow				
3.	William Melvin Schroeder	2-1-27	Glasgow	4-9	Glasgow	4-11	Glasgow				X
4.	Vera Catherine Robinson	11-27-26	Glasgow	9-27	Glasgow	9-29	Glasgow				X
5.	Louis Hoffman	9-20-37	Germany	10-9	Glasgow	10-12	Glasgow				
6.	Nels Christ Nelson	7-11-73	New York City	10-29	Glasgow	11-2	Glasgow				

The Burial Register from the First Lutheran Church of Glasgow, Montana, lists the birth city of Nels Christian Nelson as being New York City on July 11, 1873. His death was on October 29, 1927, in Glasgow, Montana.



A photograph of Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson (Nels Christian Nelson's mother) thought to have been taken in the early 1900s on the Anton and Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson farm located near Floyd Lake, in Becker County, Minnesota.



A page taken from a school year book lists members of the seventh grade, Glasgow, Montana, showing Maurice Nelson Jr.. Maurice Thomas Nelson Jr. was the son of Maurice Nelson senior who was Nels Christ Nelson's younger brother. Maurice Nelson Jr. graduated from Glasgow High School in 1934. (Courtesy of the Valley County Historical Society, Glasgow, Montana.)

1 PLACE OF DEATH		STATE OF MINNESOTA	
County <u>Otter Tail</u>		Division of Vital Statistics	
Township _____		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH <b>11178</b>	
Village _____		Reg. District No. _____ No. in Registration Book _____	
City <u>Fergus Falls, Minn.</u>		(Above numbers to be filled in only by local registrar or his deputy.)	
FULL NAME <u>Anna C. Nelson</u>		No. <u>State Hospital</u> St. _____ Ward _____	
(2) Residence, No. <u>Detroit, Minnesota</u>		(If nonresident, give city or town and State)	
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred <u>8 yrs. 6 mos. 4 ds.</u>		How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.	
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS			
3 SEX <u>Female</u>	4 COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	5 Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced (WRITE THE WORD) <u>widowed</u>	
5a If married, widowed, or divorced HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of _____			
6 DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) <u>1846</u>			
7 AGE Years Months Days If LESS than 1 day, hrs. or min. <u>81</u>			
8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED (a) Trade, Profession, or particular kind of work <u>Housewife</u>			
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) _____			
(c) Name of employer _____			
9 BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <u>Denmark</u>			
10 NAME OF FATHER <u>Nels C. Sorenson</u>			
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (city or town) (State or country) <u>Denmark</u>			
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>?</u>			
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (city or town) (State or country) <u>Denmark</u>			
14 Informant (Address) <u>State Hospital Rec., Fergus Falls, Minn.</u>			
15 Filed <u>5-28-28</u> <u>Maligen</u> Registrar			
16 DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) <u>5-24-28</u> 19 <u>28</u>			
17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>11-20-19</u> 19 <u>19</u> to <u>5-24-28</u> 19 <u>28</u> that I last saw h. er alive on <u>5-24-28</u> 19 <u>28</u> and that death occurred on the date stated above, at <u>2:45 P. m.</u> The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows: <u>Arterio-sclerosis</u>			
CONTRIBUTORY (SECONDARY) <u>Chronic Myocarditis</u> duration yrs. mos. ds.			
18 Where was disease contracted if not at place of death? _____			
Did an operation precede death? _____ Date of _____			
Was there an autopsy? _____			
What test confirmed diagnosis? (Signed) <u>Bernice M. Nager</u> M. D. (Address) <u>Fergus Falls, Minnesota</u>			
*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, OR HOMICIDAL. (Use reverse side for additional space.)			
19 Place of Burial, Cremation, or Removal <u>Detroit Lakes, Minn.</u>		DATE OF BURIAL <u>5/27/28</u>	
20 UNDERTAKER <u>E. T. Barnard</u>		ADDRESS <u>City</u>	

The certificate of death for Anna Christina (Sorenson) Nelson Elleson. The document states that she was born in 1846 somewhere in Denmark and that her father was Nels C. Sorenson. Her mother's maiden name is not given but the document records that her mother was also born in Denmark. Anna Christina died May 24, 1928, of arteriosclerosis and chronic myocarditis at the State Hospital located in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, at 81 years of age. Following the death of her son, Maurice, and second husband, Anton Elleson, her daughter-in-law, Mabel (Wright) Nelson Kane, had her placed in this State Hospital because of old age and the fact that Mabel was a young widow raising her son Maurice Nelson Jr. in Glasgow, Montana. Her eldest son, Nels Christian Nelson, was ill and raising a large growing family and simply didn't have room for her at the Buggy Creek homestead. Anna Christina lived in this facility from November 20, 1919, until her death on May 24, 1928.





1930 Montana State Census Index Valley County – N

NELSON, Floyd E N	Valley	14 Tampico	25	221	2-A	6	
NELSON, Frank A	Valley	4	10	167	3-B	100	
NELSON, George L	Valley	4	10	166	2-B	90	
NELSON, George L	Valley	9 Opheim	17	192	6-B	100	
NELSON, Geraldine	Valley	Glasgow	38	125	6-A	17	
NELSON, Gotfreid H	Valley	2 Frazer	7	153	1-B	96	
NELSON, Hans	Valley	9 Opheim	17	191	5-A	12	
NELSON, Harold W	Valley	4	10	167	3-B	73	
NELSON, Hazel E	Valley	4	10	167	3-B	72	
NELSON, Hazel R	Valley	14 Tampico	25	221	2-A	9	
NELSON, Henry	Valley	1 Glasgow	4	142	1-A	37	
NELSON, Ida TA	Valley	7 Hinsdale	14	178	5-A	13	
NELSON, Imogene L	Valley	13	37	215	1-A	8	
NELSON, Jannelyn	Valley	2 Frazer	7	153	1-B	100	
NELSON, John M	Valley	Glasgow	38	133	14-A	43	
NELSON, Laura C	Valley	4	9	163	2-A	30	
NELSON, Lauretta M	Valley	13	37	216	2-B	56	
NELSON, Lawrence B	Valley	Glasgow	1	115	5-B	60	
NELSON, Lena M	Valley	9 Opheim	18	194	1-A	40	
NELSON, Lilly	Valley	24 Oswego	35	242	1-B	64	
NELSON, Loraine M	Valley	14 Tampico	25	221	2-A	10	
NELSON, Louise E	Valley	5 Beaverton	12	172	2-A	1	
NELSON, Mary C	Valley	14 Tampico	25	221	2-A	5	
NELSON, Mary E	Valley	Glasgow	38	125	6-A	16	
NELSON, Mary S	Valley	13	37	216	2-B	55	
NELSON, Mary E	Valley	2 Frazer	7	153	1-B	98	Ink blot
NELSON, Maurice T	Valley	Glasgow	38	125	6-A	13	
NELSON, Max W	Valley	14 Tampico	25	221	2-A	8	
NELSON, Milford C	Valley	13	37	215	1-A	9	
NELSON, Montana I M	Valley	Glasgow	1	116	6-A	1	
NELSON, Morris J	Valley	14 Tampico	25	221	2-A	7	
NELSON, Norma J	Valley	4	10	167	3-B	76	
NELSON, Rachel	Valley	24 Oswego	35	242	1-B	79	
NELSON, Richard P	Valley	4	10	165	1-B	67	
NELSON, Robert V	Valley	2 Frazer	7	154	2-A	2	
NELSON, Ruby	Valley	24 Oswego	35	242	1-B	77	
NELSON, S Carl	Valley	9 Opheim	19	201	3-B	100	
NELSON, Shirley A	Valley	4	10	165	1-B	69	
NELSON, Sophronia	Valley	Glasgow	1	117	7-A	49	
NELSON, Svend	Valley	24 Oswego	35	242	1-B	63	
NELSON, Trygve	Valley	9 Opheim	19	204	6-B	66	

Valley County

# Society

& Club News

12 The GLASGOW COURIER  
Thursday, June 21, 1962



MRS. N. C. NELSON

## Early Homestead Resident Honored on 84th Birthday

By Courier Correspondent

TAMPICO — The 84th birthday of Mrs. N. C. (Mary Elizabeth) Nelson was celebrated in her home at an informal afternoon planned by her two daughters-in-law, Mrs. Floyd E. Nelson of Tampico and Mrs. Martin L. Nelson of Glasgow, and Mrs. Lloyd E. Flesjer of Tampico.

Joining in the afternoon of talking over time were a number of neighbors, who included Mrs. R. L. Cornwell, Mrs. Walter Cornwell, Mrs. Howard Cornwell, Mrs. Bernard Boreson and Mrs. Erwin Miller, and former neighbors, Mrs. Mike Disrud, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Boreson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Person, Mrs. Marie Vegge and

eight granddaughters and 21 great-grandchildren.

"Gram" Nelson, as she is affectionately called by the community children, always welcomes guests with cookies, coffee and other signs of western hospitality. She recalls many things from early homesteading days, when the washboard, water hauled in barrels and wood ranges supplied some of the basic needs now met with automatic washers, water piped in the house and electric ranges and refrigerators. Television is another big pleasure to her.

"Many of my old neighbors have moved away, but I can still visit with them over the phone," she commented.

Mrs. Arthur Blew. Some of the longtime friends included Mrs. Troy Brekjern, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Christiansen, Mrs. Clifford Combs, Mrs. Mike O'Neil, Mrs. Anna Kirwan, Mrs. Chris Molvig and a former resident, Mrs. James Falson of Bainville, who was visiting at the Molvig home.

Members of her family honored her later at a birthday supper with the Bernard Boreson, Lloyd Flesjer and Norris Braaten families also taking part.

Mrs. Nelson was born on May 28, 1878, in Sweden. Coming to the United States as a young girl, she first located in Detroit Lakes, Minn. She was married there to N. C. Nelson, who died here in November, 1927, and they came to Montana to locate on a homestead northeast of Tampico in 1911. She still lives on the same farm and keeps house for her two sons, Max and Morris (Pete).

Others in her family of nine children include Martin L. of Glasgow, Mrs. Nora Whetson of Bakersfield, Calif., Mrs. Anna Stull of Willows, Calif., Victor of Napa, Calif., Mrs. John (Hazel) Krause of Pickstown, S.D., Mrs. James (Lorraine) Bain of Fort Sumter, S.C., and Floyd of Tampico, in addition to 14 grandsons and



MRS. MARY NELSON

## Mrs. M. Nelson Dies at 95, Rites Here

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Nelson, 95, a resident of the Tampico community for more than 60 years, died at her home on her original homestead site northeast of Tampico Sept. 5. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Sept. 8, in the First Evangelical Lutheran Church with Rev. Olaf Magis officiating.

Music was provided by Mrs. Robert Martens, organist, and Mrs. Kenneth Dige, who sang Mrs. Nelson's favorite hymns.

Burial was in the Highland cemetery. The local mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were Bernard Boreson, Chris Molvig, Walter Cornwell, Norris Braaten, all of Tampico, Howard Cornwell of Hinsdale and Lloyd E. Flesjer of Glasgow.

A daughter of Nels and Matilda Nelson, Mrs. Nelson was born in Varmland, Sweden, May 28, 1878. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. She left Sweden at the age of 12 and lived in Detroit Lakes, Minn., where she was married to Nels Chris Nelson, Oct. 12, 1895. They came to the Tampico area in 1911 and homesteaded in the Buggy Creek Community. Her husband died Oct. 28, 1927, and she remained on the homestead.

Known as Grandma Nelson by residents of the community, Mrs. Nelson's home was always open to youths and adults, with special treats on hand. She shared her 95th birthday observance this year with her family, including four great-granddaughters, and neighbors. She was a member of the Highland Ladies Aid.

Survivors include five sons, Martin L. of Glasgow, Floyd E., Morris J. and Max W., all of Tampico, and Victor C. of Napa, Calif.; three daughters, Mrs. Anne Stull of Willows, Calif., Mrs. John (Hazel) Krause, Pickstown, S.D., and Mrs. James A. (Lorraine) Bain of Dallas, Texas; 19 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Arthur, in 1929, and another in infancy, and two daughters, Mrs. Jack (Nora) Whitson in 1965 and Mabel in 1916.

Relatives coming from a distance to attend the funeral were her sons and daughters; John Krause, son-in-law; Arvid Fransen, a nephew, and his wife of Coleharbor, N.D.; Victoria and Anne Fransen of Bismarck, N.D., nieces; a granddaughter and her husband, Dr. and Mrs. Rollin W. Pederson of Billings.

Longtime friends and neighbors of Mrs. Nelson served lunch at the church after the service.

An article about Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson published in the Glasgow Courier, Glasgow, Montana, on June 21, 1962.

The obituary of Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/Nelson) Nelson published in the Glasgow Courier, Glasgow, Montana, September 5, 1973.

IN MEMORY OF  
MARY NELSON  
BORN  
May 28, 1878  
PASSED AWAY  
September 4, 1973

SERVICES  
First Lutheran Church  
September 8, 1973 2:00 P..M

OFFICIATING  
Pastor Olaf E. Magis

BURIAL  
Highland Cemetery  
Arrangements  
Bell Mortuary  
Glasgow, Montana

And he was called  
the King of Sheepon  
His son, God gave us all  
And life like a rose, starts just a bud  
And toward its end,  
The petals fall

Memorial Bulletin for Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/ Nelson) Nelson.

Looking back

Sept 5  
1983

**50 YEARS AGO**  
The Courier announced that produce, butter, eggs, vegetables and poultry could be applied to overdue subscription accounts. Stanley Mayberry and Charles Peterson Jr., were named managers of the Glasgow high school football squad. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Lacock and three small children of Hinsdale were traveling by covered wagon, drawn by four horses, to Idaho, where they planned to locate.

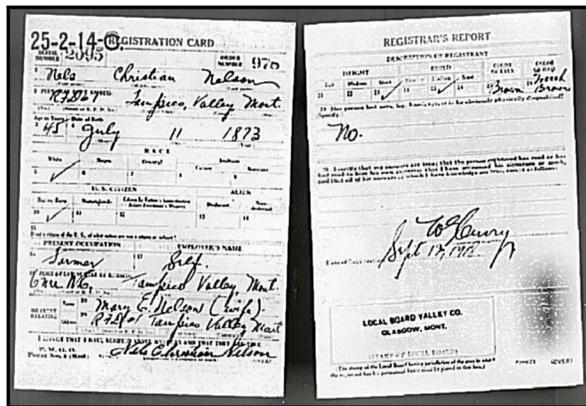
**10 YEARS AGO**  
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Nelson, 95, a resident of the Tampico Community for more than 60 years, died at her home on her original homestead site northeast of Tampico. Brian Lee defeated Buck Archambeault in sudden-death overtime to win the Sunnyside Golf Club Labor Day tournament. Two couples from the

Valley County fair Crochet Queen cup and rosette. Reserve queen was Mrs. H. D. Rempel. An uncle, nephew were born just one day apart at the Deaconess hospital. Uncle Thomas Everett Arnott of Saco, son of the John Arnott's would probably never hold nephew Sidney Carl Arnott of Tampico, son of the Edwin Arnott's daughter-in-law and son of John.

Wallace Blue of Saco, and Irene Zervals of Little Falls, Minn., were married by the Rev. Charles Miller in the Congregational Church parsonage; and Ethel Moyer of Grain and George D. Benson of Nashua were married by the Rev. Will LeDrew Bennett in the home of the bride's parents.

An article about Mary Elizabeth (Johannesson/ Nelson) Nelson published in the Glasgow Courier, Glasgow, Montana, on September 5, 1983.

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 record for Nels Christian Nelson

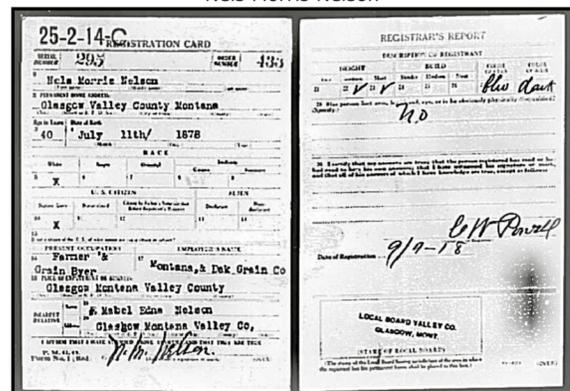


**Record Index**  
Name: Nels Christian Nelson  
County: Valley  
State: Montana  
Birth Date: 11 Jul 1873  
Race: White  
FHL Roll Number: 1711447  
DraftBoard: 0

**Source Information**  
Record URL: <http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/SSe.dll?h=9163353&db=WW1draft&indiv=try>  
Source Citation: Registration Location: Valley County, Montana; Roll: 1711447; Draft Board: 0.  
Source Information: Ancestry.com. The National Archives Archives.gov World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005. Original data: United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged

Above: The World War I Draft Registration Card for Nels Christian Nelson. Note that he was farmer from Tampico, Valley County, Montana, and that his birthday was July 11, 1873.

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 record for Nels Morris Nelson



**Record Index**  
Name: Nels Morris Nelson  
County: Valley  
State: Montana  
Birth Date: 11 Jul 1878  
Race: White  
FHL Roll Number: 1711447  
DraftBoard: 0

**Source Information**  
Record URL: <http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/SSe.dll?h=9163354&db=WW1draft&indiv=try>  
Source Citation: Registration Location: Valley County, Montana; Roll: 1711447; Draft Board: 0.  
Source Information: Ancestry.com. The National Archives Archives.gov World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005. Original data: United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged

Right: The World War I Draft Registration Card for Nels Morris Nelson (Nels Christian Nelson younger brother). Note that he was a farmer and grain buyer who worked for the Montana and Dakota Grain Company. Morris's birthday was July 11, 1878.