

The Swedish Connection - CM & Anna Louisa Anderson's Relatives

It would be very helpful when researching the Anderson family in Sweden to speak and read Swedish; however, since they did total immersion in the English language when moving to the US, we will muddle through. Swedish Lutheran church records are the main source of information/documentation as these records often contain yearly clerical surveys, birth & christening, banns & marriages, and death & burial records. The records seem to have started in the late 1600s & beginning 1700s. The priests were involved in all facets of daily life and even approved and recorded moving into and out of the parish. As one reads church records made by the various priests, you see a wide variety of spellings, penmanship, and in the early 1700's, various styles of tables for recording information. As I'm typing letters on the keyboard, I am not able to use the extra ones created for the Swedish alphabet that have umlauts over some of the vowels, but you might see these on some names on Swedish maps. When identifying a person, I will use the birth name recorded by the priest and use parentheses for other spellings I have noticed in research. Also, during research, one does not track genealogy through the last name of the father, but instead Anders's children's last names would be AndersSons and Andersdotters, i.e. Eric's children would be EriksSons and Erickdotters, etc. This makes research even more interesting. In most cases I have been able to go at least one more generation back, and with the help of others on "Ancestry" I have a few more generations on some that I have been able to document. If you would like to see these or exact dates or places, please get an account on Family Search, the LDS free website, put in your information up to CM's child to which you are related, and do an attachment when & where prompted.

CM Anderson's father was And. (Anders) Mag. (Magnus) August AndersSon (1819-1886, lived to 67 years old) and born in Misterhult, Kalmar Lan (County), Sweden. Kalmar County is on the southeast coast of Sweden and is made up of many Baltic Sea inlets, lakes, rivers, and in the 1800's, lots of farming. He married Anna Lena Mansdotter in 1844 in Vastervik, Kalmar, Sweden. Anna Lena (1815-1896, 81 years) was born in Lofta, Kalmar, Sweden and in her twenties lived in Norrkoping, Ringarum, and Gryt of Ostergotland County.

Their four children were born in Misterhult; the first was Hulda Maria Augusta (1845-1931, 86 years). Hulda married in 1868 her first husband, Johan Magnus MansSon (1838-1869, 31 years) and they had a daughter, Ida Kristina Sofia (1869-1916, 47 years) who traveled to Nebraska April 1893 and married December 1893 perhaps as a mail order bride. Hulda's second husband (1871) was Erik Reinhold AndersSon (1824-1888, 64 years). They had four children: Karl Erik Edward (1873), Gustaf Ferdinand (1876), Axel Gottfrid (1879), and Hanna Josefina (1882). I don't believe any of these children traveled out of Sweden, but in 1905 Hulda followed her daughter, Ida, to Gothenburg, NE, and in 1916 helped care for the household after Ida's death. Ida married B. Nels Anderson in 1893 and they had Ernest F. (1895), Anna M. (1896), Esther J. (1898), Arthur C. (1901), Martin M. (1903), Minnie E. (1904), Walter E. (1905), and Ruth L. (1907).

The second child was Carl (Karl, Charles, Charlie, Jumbo, C.M.) Magnus AndersSon (1849-1930, 81 years). As he is the ancestor, I will return and tell his story later.

The third child was Johan Reinhold (1853-1916, 63 years). Johan married Anna Sofia Nilsdotter (1859-1893, 34 years) from Gladhammar in 1875. They had eight children born in Gladhammar, Vastrum, and Vastervik in Kalmar County: Albertina Sofia (1875-1950, 75 years), Carl Victor Theodore (1878-1958, 80 years), Johan Peter Gabriel (1880-1965, 85 years), Robert Solomon (1883-1965, 82 years), Gustav Adolf (1886-1972, 86 years), Seth Joakim (1888-1935, 47 years), Olga Maria Eugenia (1891-1891, 7 months), and Olga Helena Karolina (1892-1974, 82 years).

Carl moved to Washington State in 1919 and both Johan Peter and Robert Solomon moved to New Zealand in 1903 and 1906 respectively. After the early death of Anna Sofia, Johan in 1902 married Emilia Maria Olsson of Oskarshamn. According to church records, she left him in 1913, and he eventually died in 1916.

The last child, Peter August, was born in 1856. He married in 1878, first wife, Maria Louisa Johansdotter. She died in Sept 1879, and in 1884 he married Emma Josefina Apelgren whose birth was in 1859 in Vessige. They had two children born in the town of Varbergs, Charles Gottfrid in 1884 and Annie Emilia in 1886. We searched for several weeks trying to find them, but records indicated they went to Brasilien, Amerika. We eventually decided to search on Ancestry to see if there was any ship travel information listed. I found a family tree from a wonderful genealogist in Sweden that had researched especially Johan's line, and that person had the same thing for Peter that I had found. Their trail ends with perhaps going to Brazil in South America in 1886.

So now we go back to (Great-grandfather) Carl Magnus, the second child. In 1872 he married first wife Anna Maria Andersdotter (1849-1876, 27 years) from Gladhammar. They had two daughters Emelie (Emilia) Amanda (1873-1889, 16 years) and Anna Emilia (1876-1966, 90 years). Anna Maria had difficulties with childbirth and died one month later. The midwife stayed on in the home and became the second wife on Jan 1, 1877. Her name was Anna Lovisa (Louisa) Nilsdotter (Nilson) (1852-1935, 83 years). They had ten children, five born in Kalmar County, Sweden, and five born in Iowa & Nebraska. Hulda Teresia Adolfina (12 Jan 1878-30 Jan 1878) who lived 18 days, Karl (Charles) David (1879-1954, 75 years) born in Vastrum, twins Gustaf Adolf and Svante Fabian (Gust & Fabe) (1882-1962 & 1954, 80 years & 72 years) born in Vastervik, and Ada (Addie, Adeline) Mathilda (1883-1967, 84 years) also born in Vastervik. In 1884 Carl Magnus (CM) left the family behind (I've not found travel documentation.) and traveled to America, settling in Kiron, Iowa.

In 1885, Anna Louisa with her four children, two step daughters, and sister Carolina Josephina (Fina) Nilsdotter (1858-1945, 87 years) traveled to Kiron, Iowa, where C.M. was located. They had five more children: Johan (John, J.P.) Peter (1886-1978, 91 years) born in Kiron, Iowa, Harry Axel (1888-1984, 96 years) was born in Odebolt where his older half-sister died. Otto Magnus (1889-1969, 80 years) also born in Iowa before the family moved to Nebraska, Minnie Marie (1891-1990, 98 years) born in Hartington, NE, and the last child Reuben Daniel born (1894-1985, 91 years) in St. James, NE. I haven't researched enough to know how many cousins they produced, but some of the siblings had quite a few children.

Anna Louisa's father was Nils Borjeson (1793-1872, 79 years) who was born in Frodinge. He married first wife, C. Maria Nilsdotter (1782-1849, 67 years) from Vimmerby in 1815. They had four children who were step-siblings to Anna Louisa: Carl Peter (1816), Nils Gustaf (1818), Johan August (1819), and Maja Stina (Maria Christina) (1822). He married his second wife in 1851; she was Stina (Christina) Lisa Myron (1817-____) born in Vena, Sweden. They had two daughters: Anna Lovisa (1852-1935, 83 years) and Carolina Josephina (1858-1945, 87 years). After both sisters came to America together in 1885, Carolina Josephina married Anders Gustaf Johanson (Andrew Johnson) in 1889. They lived near Kiron, Iowa, for years, and we have a picture of the two sisters together. They had five children: Robert A. (1890-1986, 94 years), Ethel J. (1892-1920, 28 years), Ellis Rudolph (1894-1895, 6 months), Myrtle D (1898-1972, 74 years), and Jeanette (1900-____).

I have been stuck on Stina Lisa's records since early December. I've run into irregularities that I haven't been able to precisely document and I've been unable to find a death record.