

Carl John Vanblad and Emma Charlotta Matson: Their Descendants, Relatives, and Ancestors in Sweden

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John and Emma wedding photo

John Vanblad and Emma Matson, the grandparents of Betsey Abbey Egger and Kay Abbey Guiney, grew up in the same region of southern Sweden and emigrated to the United States, Emma at 16 in 1889 and John at 17 in 1892. Emma joined her sister Dina and brother Carl, who had left Sweden together in 1887, Dina at 19 and Carl at 22. John's brother Axel came over in 1905. All these individuals apparently went directly to Smethport in McKean County in far northern Pennsylvania. A number of Swedes settled in Smethport and nearby towns, notably Mount Jewett, where a Swedish Festival is still held.

John and Emma were the first couple married, in 1898, in Ansgarius Lutheran Church on



Smethport Lutheran Church, 1895

Fulton Street after it was acquired from St. Luke's Episcopal Parish following completion of the "new" St. Luke's stone church on West Main Street in Smethport.

John's father Anders taught the craft of blacksmithing to his sons John and Axel. Upon arriving in Smethport, John was first employed at the blacksmith shop of Charles Lilgendahl and then worked for a time at the plant of Holmes & Gilfillan. After that, he opened his

own blacksmith shop, joined by Axel. See Appendix 1 for pictures of the two blacksmith shops of John Vanblad.

To improve his skills at shoeing horses, John took a short course at the veterinary and blacksmithing school at Cornell. At the height of his career, when operations were booming in oil and timber, all dependent on horses for motive power, he and his brother worked until late at night. He also was the pump operator on the Smethport Fire Department's "Henry Hamlin," a horse-drawn steam fire engine. In one notable incident, the engine was taken by train to fight scores of fires that broke out in the debris left by the Austin flood of September 1911. He was also chief bell ringer for the fire station, which at that time was next-door to the second blacksmith shop.

Upon arrival Emma was employed at the Wright House (later Hull's Hotel). She later was one of Smethport's first beauticians after taking a course in Buffalo, New York. She operated Vanblad's Beauty Parlor in partnership with her daughter, Louise, for ten years.



John and Emma lived in a house at 407 Water Street in Smethport that was converted from the original blacksmith shop

(Appendix 1). There was a large barrel on the top floor of that house that in early Decembers was used to soak **lutefisk**, a staple of a Swedish Holiday season. Lutefisk is prepared from air-dried whitefish, usually cod, that is soaked in lye as a preservative. Water in the barrel leaches out the lye and rehydrates the fish. The resulting mass, which lacks much texture or taste, is covered with a white sauce when served.



Both John and Emma contracted influenza during the Pandemic of 1919 that led to development of Parkinson's Disease later in their lives. That in turn contributed to their causes of death. After their deaths in 1959 and 1952, they were buried together in the Vanblad plot in Rosehill Cemetery.

SOURCES FOR THIS ARTICLE AND SWEDISH NAMING SYSTEMS

My sources include family stories, newspaper articles, and the United States census. The principal source of Swedish genealogy was records of the Swedish National Church. Sweden had only one church, Lutheran, and the records are very complete (if in Swedish). Records include births and christenings, marriages, and deaths and burials. In addition, Household Examination Records (Husförhörslängd) contain information about all families living in a parish. Examinations were conducted yearly and organized by farm or village. They are crucial in identifying everyone living in a family and also indicate comings and goings.

Because records are organized by parish, it is essential to know the parish in which ancestors lived. For Emma's family, I learned that the parish was Villstad from letters of Gunnel Gerhardsson, a granddaughter of Emma's brother Mårten. She became friends with the John Stull family; her son spent a summer with the Stulls at their summer house in Maine. Later, John's son Rob visited Gunnel in Sweden. For John Vanblad's family, I knew the general area in which they lived and found the parishes by trial and error. I searched the Swedish records on microfilm at my local Family History Center of the LDS Church. Those records can now be viewed digitally at a FHC. Many of the records have now been indexed at ancestry.com.

My surname is Egglar. People named Egglar can be traced in the Swiss town from which we come as far back as church records exist. Not so with Sweden. The predominant type of surname in Sweden is patronymic. These surnames are based on the father's given name and changed with each generation. I have a son and a daughter. So my son's surname would be Davidsson and my daughter's surname Davidsdotter. But, to confuse things, a person, usually a male, could change a surname. This change sometimes occurred when a male entered the military, in order to avoid confusion with too many named Larsson or Andersson.

The father of John and Axel was Anders Johan Gabrielsson. But at some point Anders decided to use the surname Wennblad. He is noted in the 1886-1890 Husförhörslängd for Månsarp Parish as "Gabrielsson (Wennblad)." Two of his brothers also used Wennblad. Evidently when John came to America Wennblad was Americanized to Vanblad.

The father of Emma was Peter Mathias Wilhelmsson. Several of his sons took the surname Willstrand, after their home parish of Villstad. Surnames of his daughters were Mathiasdotter or Petersdotter, but a surname ending in "dotter" rarely survived in America; the surname used by Emma and her sister Dina was Matson.

EMMA CHARLOTTA MATSON: HER ANCESTORS

Södra Kruvebo, Villstad, and Småland

Emma Charlotta Matson (1873-1952), the grandmother of Betsey Egger, was born at Södra (Southern) Kruvebo (the name of the farmland) in Villstad Parish, Västbo District, Jönköping County. Södra Kruvebo is 3.4 miles northeast of Burseryd, 4.9 miles northwest of Villstad, 48 miles southwest of the city of Jönköping, 1.4 miles southeast of Hallaback, and 225 miles south of Stockholm. Burseryd can be found on the map in Appendix 4, west of Vernamo. Hallaback is mentioned in Smethport obituaries. Villstad itself is today only a "church village" -- church, cemetery, and a few farmhouses east of the river Nissan. Villstad Parish was incorporated into Gislaved Kommun (municipality) in 1974.



Villstad church

It was not uncommon for immigrants also to refer to their origin in Sweden by the name of their province. The provinces of Sweden (Landskap in Swedish) are geographical areas that are based on political subdivisions that predate the county organization of 1634. The divisions are based on cultural and geographical characteristics that many Swedes (and people of Swedish descent) strongly identify with today. The provinces are unique from each other in many ways such as spoken dialects, traditional clothing, and local social traditions. For Emma and John, that province is Småland, which contains three counties, one of them Jönköping. Småland saw considerable emigration to North America in the nineteenth century.

If the names and places of birth and residence in the following paragraphs seem confusing, they probably are. But a chart of Emma's parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents (Appendix 2) may help.

A map of part of southern Sweden (Appendix 4) shows many of the place names mentioned. To simplify, all the place names in discussions of Emma Charlotta Matson and her ancestors are within a 10 mile radius of Burseryd. Place names in discussions of Carl John Vanblad and his ancestors, all in Jönköping County, are within a 15 mile radius of Vaggeryd, which is on the map 20 miles south of the city of Jonkoping. Those two centered points, Burseryd and Vaggeryd, are 42 miles apart. Accordingly, the ancestral regions of Emma and Carl John are close to each other but do not overlap.

Parents of Emma Charlotta Matson

Parents of Emma were **Peter Mathias Wilhelmsson (1839-1915)** and **Anna Sara Benjaminsdotter (1843-1935)**. Peter was born at Isberga Östergård, the farm where his parents lived and worked at Sännås in Villstad Parish. Sännås is about halfway between Södra Kruvebo

and Villstad. Peter left his home in Isberga Östregård on September 28, 1863, just before he married Anna Sara on November 7, 1863 in the Villstad church. Peter, Anna Sara, and their children lived from the time of their marriage to at least 1895 at Södra Kruvebo, which they took over from her parents.

Anna Sara Benjaminsdotter was born at her family's farm in Södra Kruvebo and stayed there the rest of her life. Her parents had come to Södra Kruvebo in 1842, a year before she was born. She left home in 1858, undoubtedly to work, for Håcksvik Parish, Svenljunga Municipality, Älvsborg County, like her sister Brita; she returned to Södra Kruvebo in 1860, three years before her 1863 marriage.

Here is her obituary from the McKean County Democrat 4-18-1935: "Mrs C J Vanblad received a cablegram from Sweden containing the sad news of the death of her mother, Mrs Anna Sarah Wilhelmson, aged 91, which occurred at her home in Kruvebo, Hallaback, on Palm Sunday.... Mrs Wilhelmson was born Sept 13, 1843. Mrs. John Lindholm, also of Smethport, is a daughter of the deceased. A son, Charles Willstrand, who resides at home in Kruvebo, formerly lived in Dagus Mines, and at one time was employed here as a stonemason. Other surviving children are: Mrs Hulda Lundkvist at home, Hjalmer Willstrand of Leabo, Sweden, M L Willstrand of Smalandsstenar, Sweden.... Mr Wilhelmson died in 1915. Mrs Vanblad and daughter, Miss Louise Vanblad, spent a number of weeks with their mother and grandmother in Sweden last summer."

Grandparents of Emma Charlotta Matson

Parents of Peter, the father of Emma, were **Wilhelm Jönsson (1804-1884)** and **Lotta Petersdotter (1809-1858)**. Wilhelm and Lotta were married in 1833 in the Villstad church. Wilhelm was born and lived in Guaström in the Ma District of Villstad Parish, 2.6 miles west of Villstad, until his marriage, then for a year at Isberga Skjutsrättaregård in Villstad Parish, where his wife had lived with her parents. Then Wilhelm and Lotta lived the rest of their lives at Isberga Östergård at Sännås in Villstad Parish.

Parents of Anna Sara Benjaminsdotter, the mother of Emma Charlotta Matson, were **Benjamin Johansson (1800-1868)** and **Christina Jönsdotter (1799-1892)**. Benjamin was born in Våthult Parish, Västbo District, Jönköping County. Våthult is 7.5 miles north of Villstad. At some point he moved to Bosebo, Jönköping County, 4.4 miles north of Södra Kruvebo, but returned to his parents, who by then were living in Sjötofta Parish, Älvsborg County, on November 11, 1820. Älvsborg County is now part of the County of Västra Götaland. Sjötofta is eight miles north of Södra Kruvebo. After marriage, Benjamin and his wife Christina moved from Sjötofta Parish to Burseryd Parish in Jonkoping County on February 25, 1825, living in Norra Långhult in Långhults District, 0.5 miles southwest of Södra Kruvebo. The family finally moved from Norra Långhult to Södra Kruvebo, arriving on June 24, 1842.

The wife of Benjamin Johansson, Christina Jönsdotter, was born, baptized, and grew up in Burseryd Parish, Jönköping County. In 1816 she left her family home and went to Bredstorp in Sjötofta Parish, Älvsborg County, where she was a servant. In 1822 she moved to nearby Erikstorp, where she was a servant on the farm of her future husband's family. Christina lived from 1842, through the death of her husband in 1868, until her own death in 1892 in Södra Kruvebo, the family farm, along with her son Johannes and his family and her daughter Anna Sara and her family. From 1881 onward she was identified in church records as blind.

Great Grandparents and a few Second-Great Grandparents of Emma Charlotta Matson

Parents of Wilhelm Jönsson, the grandfather of Emma Charlotta Matson, were **Jöns Jonasson (1753-1826)** and **Christina 'Stina' Mathiasdotter (1758-1841)**. Jöns was born in Villstad Parish. His wife Christina was born in Gislaved Norregård, Båraryd (now Gislaved) Parish, Jönköping County. Gislaved Norregård is 10 miles north of **Södra Kruvebo**. Jöns and Kristina were married in 1779 in Villstad. They lived in Guaström, 2.6 miles west of Villstad, from the time of their marriage until their deaths.

The parents of Wilhelm's wife, Lotta Petersdotter, were **Peter Svensson (1772-1835)** and **Martha Bengtsdotter (1775-1858)**. Peter was born in Kappedel, which is one mile north of Villstad. Martha was born at Slåthult, which is just east of Guaström. As I said above, their farm was at Isberga Skjutsrättaregård in Villstad Parish.

I researched one-half of the paternal line of Peter Mathias Wilhelmsson, that of his mother Christina 'Stina' Mathisdotter. She was the daughter of **Mattias Lagerstedt (1730-1812)** and **Margaretha 'Gretha' Hansdotter (1731-1775)**. Mattias was born in Laggarebo, Haurida Parish, Jönköping County and Margaretha in Norragård, Båraryd (now Gislaved) Parish, Jönköping County. They were married in Båraryd Parish, and both died in Villstad Parish.

Ancestors of the wife of Peter Mathias Wilhelmsson, Lotta Petersdotter, can be traced beyond her parents to her grandparents (second-great grandparents of Emma Charlotta Matson), **Sven Persson (1744-1813)**, wife **Lena Mattesdotter (1749-1823)**, and **Bengt Erlandsson (1737-1796)**, wife **Ingierd Jönsdotter (1751-1819)**, and then even further back into the 1600s and to 5th-great grandparents of Emma Charlotta. All those ancestors lived and died within Villstad Parish.

Turning to the maternal line of Emma Charlotta Matson, parents of Benjamin Johansson were **Johans Benjaminsson (1774-1841)** and **Elsa Svensdotter (1769-)**, forming one set of Emma's great-grandparents. Parents of Benjamin's wife Christina Jönsdotter were **Jons Ericsson (1764-1838)** and **Britta Svensdotter (1777-1855)**, another set of Emma's great-grandparents.

Johans Benjaminsson was born in Redslared Parish, Svenljunga Municipality, Älvsborgs County. Elsa Svensdotter was born at Norra Hedenstorp, Båraryd (now Gislaved) Parish, Jönköping County. Parents of Elsa, and therefore second-great grandparents of Emma Charlotta Matson, were **Sven Knutson (1739-1804)** and **Kierstin Nilsson (1748-1805)**, who had been married in Båraryd Parish.

Half of the children of Johans and Elsa were born in Våthult Parish, Jönköping County, and half in Sjötofta Parish, Älvsborg County, indicating a move between 1807 and 1809. In 1818, the first available Sjötofta Husförhörlängd, Johans was an åbo (tenant farmer with a conditional lease) in Erikstorp, an area apparently named for Erik Svensson. Erikstorp is 10 miles north of Villstad. By 1823 he was no longer listed as a tenant farmer, and by 1834 had a farmhand and a maid servant, and by 1838 those plus a tenant farmer, who subsequently married their daughter Johana. Both Johans and Elsa died in Erikstorp.

Jöns Ericsson was born in Mörsebo Parish, Jönköping County and Britta Svensdotter in Sjötofta Parish, Älvsborgs County. They arrived together in Norra Långhult, Burseryd Parish, Jonkoping County, in 1798, and all their children were born there.

EMMA CHARLOTTA MATSON: HER BROTHERS AND SISTERS



This Matson family photo was probably taken in Smethport, perhaps about 1898. Dina (left) and Emma (right) are standing in the back. Others may include Hulda, standing at the right, Emil, and Charles.

1. Charles ‘Carl’ Anders Wilstrand (1865-1943), brother of Emma Charlotta Matson

Carl (Charles in America) was born at the family farm in Södra Kruvebo. He emigrated to America on August 17, 1887 together with his sister Dina. He was employed as a stone mason in Smethport. He was an attendant at the 1898 wedding of Carl John Vanblad and Emma Charlotte Matson. At some point he became a coal miner; in the 1900 census we find him as a coal miner and one of several boarders in the household of Alfred Josephson and his wife Inga Sophia Sandström in Dagus Mines, Elk County, Pennsylvania. The Josephsons were relatives from Villstad Parish (see below). In 1910 he was still a coal miner, living with Arvid L Johnson in Green Township, Indiana County, and in 1920, divorced and a coal miner, he rented a house by himself in Green Township. The 1910 record indicates that he was naturalized in 1896.

Between 1920 and 1930 he returned to Södra Kruvebo and died there.

2. **Mårten Lavin Willstrand (1865-1947)**, brother of Emma Charlotta Matson

Mårten was born at Södra Kruvebo and was the twin of Carl Anders. He lived at home until May 11, 1891, when he moved to Åtteras Jäppagl. in the Brännesgård District near Smålandsstenar, which is a short distance south of Villstad. There he was the Folkskoleläran = elementary school teacher.

Marten married **Anna Sofia Johansdotter (1868-1951)**. They had four children. Their granddaughter Gunnel Gerhardsson was my source for pinpointing the family home parish as Villstad.

3. **Vida Bernhardina 'Dina' Matson (1868-1945)**, sister of Emma Charlotta Matson

Dina was born in Södra Kruvebo and emigrated with her brother Carl in 1887. On Christmas Day in 1896, in Limestone, New York, she married **John August Lindholm (1872-1961)**. Limestone is just across the New York border from Pennsylvania. John Lindholm was born in Bjällum Bäckagård, Bolum Parish, Skaraborg County (now Västra Götaland), Sweden. That location is in central Sweden, 40 miles north of Jonkoping.

John's obituary appeared in the McKean County Democrat 11-16-1961: "At the age of 14 he was an apprentice to a shoemaker in Sweden, working at the trade for 4 years. In 1891 at the age of 19, through the efforts of an uncle, Frank Lindholm, who then was employed at the Colegrove store [McKean

Emma and Dina



County]operated by Charles Anderson, John came to the United States. He first was employed in the nearby woods, moving to Smethport in 1892 and for the past 69 years has made his home in this vicinity. He worked for Anderson and Carlson's Shoe Store for two years. Later he worked for the Clermont Coal Mines, moving back to the county seat to be associated with B F Wright in operation of the Wright House.

Mr Lindholm later entered a

partnership with J A Swanson in the Smethport Ice Co, operating an ice pond in Norman Hollow, north of





town. The ice company was sold [in 1918] after being in operation for 20 years, and Mr Lindholm embarked on a mercantile career, buying the grocery store of Oscar Engstrom. This building, a brick structure, located between the Legion Home and the Main Street Diner, was destroyed by the disastrous January 1933 fire, which

consumed all his treasured personal possessions....

In spite of his great loss, Mr Lindholm returned to the business world and bought the former Colegrove Grocery Store next to the Hamlin Bank and Trust Co. It was reported yesterday that the store will be closed once the present stock is sold.

For more than 69 years, Mr Lindholm has been a member of the Ansgarius Lutheran Church, now Trinity Lutheran Church; he was an active supporter of the church and a member of the Board of Trustees for many years.... He was married in 1897 to the former Dina Matson, also a native of Sweden. Mrs Lindholm died in 1944. A son, Edwin, died in 1938. An ardent supporter of the Republican Party, Mr Lindholm had served as a member of Smethport Borough Council for years. He was appointed as Burgess of Smethport in 1943.... He was reelected burgess (now called mayor) [multiple times].



back: John and Emma
front: Dina and John

Surviving are two daughters... eight grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, two brothers, Hjalmer [Hilmer] of Sweden and Frank of Minneapolis, and two sisters, both of Sweden..."

John's parents were **Karl Johan Johansson** (born 1844 in Rockstorp Olofsgård, Norra Lundby, Skaraborg County, Sweden, died 1926 in England, Härlunda, Skaraborg County) and **Karolina Johansdotter** (born 1850 in England, Härlunda, Skaraborg County, died 1917 in England).

John had three brothers who emigrated to America, all born in Skattegården, Häggum Parish, Skaraborg County: **Charles 'Karl' Edvin Lindholm (1880-1955, Caroline Olsen)**, a house carpenter in Minneapolis; **Frank Arvid Lindholm, Sr. (1883-1965, Alma Hanson and Merriam Schoberg)**, a flour mill watchman in Minneapolis; and **Gustave 'Gust' Enok Lindholm (1885-1951, Ruth Marie Armstrong)**, a flour mill miller in the Minneapolis area.

The uncle mentioned in the obituary of John August Lindholm was **Frank Gustave Lindholm (1857-1924)**, a wheeler-dealer who ran dry goods stores in and around Smethport and later was a bank president in Arcade, New York.

An interesting side note is that Frank Gustave Lindholm was the uncle of Beda Marie Jackson (1879-1934), who was also born in Skaraborg County, Sweden. Beda married Walter John Hall, a builder of houses and schools in Port Allegany and the surrounding area. He had begun building an inn outside Port Allegany in 1934, later called Lynn Hall, located on Route 6 on a hillside. It was this inn, later completed by his son Raymond Viner Hall, which helped Hall connect with Frank Lloyd Wright and get involved in the Fallingwater project.



In 1936, Wright and Edgar Kaufmann of Kaufmann Department Clothing Stores in Pittsburgh had begun building Fallingwater for Kaufmann at Bear Run but were fighting over the design and specifications of the house, which was to be built after the theme of "organic engineering." That meant the structure was to blend with nature and be part of nature. No bulldozers or earthmovers were to be used. The house would be one with nature, using native stone and concrete as the main building materials. In that time period, Edgar J. Kaufmann Jr., son of Edgar Kaufmann, was traveling through northwestern Pennsylvania when he saw Lynn Hall in Port Allegany. When the senior Kaufmann heard that there was a contractor-builder who worked in the organic engineering manner, he immediately contacted Wright. "We have our contractor," he told him.

In July 1936, Kaufmann and Hall signed a contract that stated, "Each week Mr. Kaufmann will pay the sum of \$50.00 a week to Mr. Hall as wages for services rendered." Hall had estimated the total cost of the house at Bear Run to be \$29,000. Kaufmann then stipulated that if Hall contained the cost within Hall's estimation, Kaufmann would pay a cash bonus of \$25 per week for every week Hall worked.

Walter Hall died in 1952. He had left his mark on Fallingwater. In 1938, the Architectural Record listed Fallingwater as "the most important building of the last one hundred years."

In its day Lynn Hall was well known as a banquet center for people of the area, but fell into disuse after the death of Walter Hall and his son. A couple is presently restoring it, hoping to return it to its original use as a public gathering place. Tours are available.

John Lindholm and Dina Matson had three children: **Edwin, Carrie, and Alva.**

a. **Edwin John Lindholm (1899-1938)** was born in Smethport. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy after the United States entered WWI. He suffered a severe attack of illness during his service and never fully recovered. He was associated with his father in conducting Lindholm's Food Market in Smethport. He was active in the American Legion and the Ansgarius Lutheran Church. He married **Mary Nord (1897-1938)** in 1921. They had four children: Jane (1922-2015, Richard Glenn 'Pitt' Raymond), Carolyn 'Connie' (1926- , Arthur Daniel Raszman), Mary Beth 'Betsy' (1931- , Paul DiFonzo), and John Victor (1934-2004, Ann Christine Lundquist).

Under strain because of the death of his wife in February 1938, Edwin shot himself in May of that year. He was in his grocery truck parked alongside the Ormsby-Mt Alton road. The body was discovered by Walter Hall and Alfred Peterson, cousin and brother-in-law. The four children were all orphaned.



Jane Lindholm
Raymond



Louise Vanblad Abbey, Alva Lindholm Anderson
Carrie Lindholm Peterson

b. **Anna Caroline 'Carrie' Lindholm (1900-1993)** married Alfred Walter Peterson (1901-1975), a Smethport painter and contractor. They had two children: Jean Marie (1930- , Duane Bickford) and Jonnie Lynn (1932-2003, Ralph J Mayer).

c. **Alva Bernhardina Lindholm (1904-1982)** married **Arnold Anders Anderson (1908-1944)**, a foreman for the Pennsylvania Department of Highways. They had two children: Greta Alva (1931- , Walter Arthur Tanner), and Nancy Louise (1933-2018, Chester Jay Billings).

4., **Emil Zacchaus Willstrand (1875 - ~1946)**, brother of Emma Charlotta Matson. I know little about Emil. He left Villstad on May 11, 1891 for

America and was an attendant at the wedding of John. Vanblad and Emil's sister Emma Charlotta.

5. **Hulda Saverina Mathiasdotter (1877-1955)**, sister of Emma Charlotta Matson.

Hulda emigrated to America in 1896. She was a bridesmaid at the 1898 wedding John. Vanblad and her sister Emma Charlotta. Her daughter Jenny later was a bridesmaid at the wedding of Kenton Abbey and Louise Vanblad, "reenacting a role performed by her own mother

at the wedding of the bride's mother" (McKean County Democrat Nov. 17, 1938). After spending a few years in Smethport, Hulda returned to Sweden and in 1903, in Villstad, married **Emil Idoff Hjalmar Lundqvist (1881-1965)**. The couple had several children, but then Emil spent a few years in the United States. After he returned, they had some more children (five children total of which at least two emigrated to the United States) [2018 correspondence from Bertil Turesson]. Bertil also wrote that when he was a kid, part of the farm at Ostra Kruvebo was owned by Hulda and Emil, where they lived until their deaths. Then that farm was sold to an outsider.



Earl Savage
Jenny Lundkvist

Hulda and Emil had a daughter **Jenny Mathilde Ingeborg Lundkvist (1909-1999)**. Jenny came to the United States in 1926 when she was 16, first living on Water St. in Smethport and later moving to Buffalo. Said to be a great beauty, she was an occasional visitor to Smethport after moving to Buffalo. She attended both day and night school in Buffalo, persevering even after breaking her right (writing) arm in a skiing accident. She and Arleen Savage (see section on relatives) were attendants at Louise VanBlad Abbey's wedding in 1938.

In 1939, in Buffalo, Jenny married **Carlton Henry Waters (1915-2001)** of Medina, New York. Carlton received his MD degree from the medical school of the University of Buffalo prior to the wedding. After serving in Public Health Service in Washington DC, Dr. Waters had a long career in the Long Beach, California, area. Carlton and Jenny had two sons.

6. **Wilhelm Gottfrid Willstrand (1879-)**

7. **Inga Lovisa Mathiasdotter (1882-1900)**. Inga was born

and died in Villstad.

8. **Elof Hjalmer Willstrand (1886-1955)**

Elof became a farmer close to where he was born. He married Emmy Julia Sofia Persson (1887-1963). They had two daughters, both born in Bosebo, where Elof and Emmy lived and died: **Astrid Gunhild Maria Willstrand (1813-2000, Nils Martin Öst)** and **Elsa Anna Margareta Willstrand (1911-1977, Fritz Oskar Verner Svensson)**.

EMMA CHARLOTTA MATSON: SOME RELATIVES IN AMERICA

The Sandström – Savage – Bush families in Buffalo

As we have developed, the mother of Emma Charlotta Matson was Anna Sara Benjaminsdotter. Anna Sara had a sister **Eva Christina Benjaminsdotter (1830-1919)**. Eva married **August Saloman Svensson (1929-1907)** in 1855 in the Villstad church. Their seven children, all born in Villstad, took the surname **Sandström**. At least three of those children emigrated to America. Among them was **Lovisa Christina 'Louisa' Sandström (1871-1960)**, who left Sweden in 1891, ending up in Buffalo, New York. There, in about 1901, she married **Jeremiah Neil Savage (1875-)**. Censuses from 1910-1940 indicate that among the occupations of Neil Savage were construction foreman, penitentiary guard, real estate salesman, and post office watchman.

Louisa and Neil had four children: **Robert L Savage (1905-1926)**, who worked for the F W Woolworth Company in Pittsburgh and died of septicaemia following extraction of a tooth; **August N Savage (1907-1992, Winona Louise Moore)**, an airplane factory mechanic; **Earl Nathaniel Savage (1909-)**; and **Arleen Mary Savage (1915-1990, William George Bush)**. Bush was an Inspector for the American

Arleen
Bush



Machines Foundry.

Louisa Savage was the first cousin of Emma Matson Vanblad, and Louisa's daughter Arleen Savage Bush was the second cousin of Louise Vanblad Abbey. The Vanblad-Abbey families visited occasionally with their relatives in Buffalo. Louisa and Neil Savage were also well acquainted with John Vanblad's brother Axel and his wife Rose, with Sarah Vanblad, Louise's sister, and her husband Orson Stull, and with the children of Vida Bernhardina 'Dina' Matson, sister of Emma Matson Vanblad, and with Dina's

Lindholm children.

The Josephsson Family of Dagus Mines, Pennsylvania

In addition to Lovisa Christina 'Louisa' Sandström, Emma Charlotta Matson Vanblad had another first cousin, **Inga Sofia Sandström (1855-1916)**, the sister of Louise Sandström. On Christmas Day 1880, in Villstad, Inga Sofia married **Carl Alfred Josephsson (1855-1939)**. He was born in Burseryd Parish, the son of **Carl Joseph Davidsson (1832-)** and **Märtha Johannisdotter (1835-1913)**.

Carl Alfred Josephson emigrated to American in 1879 or 1880 to be a coal miner. In 1880 he was living as a coal miner in Sergeant Township, McKean County, which is south of Smethport. Living in the same house were other Swedish coal miners. Coal mining was concentrated in the area around Clermont in Sergeant Township. Inga Sofia was living in Elk County in 1880, a domestic servant. Evidently Carl Alfred and Inga Sofia returned to Sweden to marry, after which the two returned to Clermont, where their first three children were born. They then moved on, in about 1886, to Dagus Mines, Fox Township, Elk County, another coal mining area. We find them there in the 1900 census, along with coal miner boarders, one of whom was Charles Wilstrand (see above).

Some of the brothers and sisters of Carl Alfred also emigrated to America.

Betsey Abbey Egger remembers traveling with her Swedish grandfather 'Papa John' to Kersey and Dagus Mines to see Swedish relatives.

Carl Alfred and Inga Sofia had six children:

1. **Amanda Elvira Josephson (1882-1966)** was born in Clermont. She never married and took care of her father after Inga Sofia died. She is buried in the Maria Lutheran Church cemetery in Dagus Mines. The parents of Amanda, Carl Alfred and Inga Sofia, her sister Dora Nathalia



Josephson Anderson, and her brother John Gottfried Josephson are also buried at the Maria Lutheran cemetery.

2. **Selma 'Sal' Josefina Josephson (1883-1976)** was born in Clermont. In 1904, in Elk County, she married **Frederick Bell Wiley (1881-1968)**, a clothing store salesman They had one son **Burton Clifton Wiley (1906-1976)**. Burton attended Penn State (then a College, not a University), majoring in commerce and finance. He married Mary Frances Myers (1915-1991), managing editor of the North Hills News Record (Pittsburgh area).

Selma and Frederick must have divorced, because in about 1917 she married **Frank Irvin Gollmar (1885-1957)**, an attorney, Judge of Commonwealth Court, Sheriff of Allegheny County, and Acting Pennsylvania Attorney General. Selma and Frank lived in West View, Allegheny County.

Selma was a frequent correspondent with and host in West View for Louisa Sandstrom Savage of Buffalo, her mother's sister.

3. **Emma Charlotta Josephson (1885-1971)** was born in Clermont. She married **Timothy S Ryan (1875-1959)**. Timothy worked for the steam railroad, and they lived in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Both are buried in Calvary Cemetery in Cleveland. They had three children.

4. **Carl Haquin Josephson (1887-1966)** was the first of the children born in Dagus Mines. He married **Clara Wilhelmina Johnsen (1892-1976)**. He was a mill foreman and pipe fitter, and Clara was a bookkeeper. They lived in Titusville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania and had one son.

5. **Dora Nathalia Josephson (1891-1965)** married **Ben L Anderson**. She was a registered nurse in Pittsburgh.

6, **John Gottfried Josephson (1893-1961)** fought in WWI. His tombstone at the Maria Lutheran cemetery reads SFC 8BLN CO AIR SVC WORLD WAR I. In 1940 he was an oil lease manager living in Houston, Texas

PARENTS OF CARL JOHN VANBLAD AND AXEL HJALMAR VANBLAD

Parents of John and Axel were **Anders Johan Gabrielsson 'Wennblad' (1843-1904)** and **Augusta Aurora Johannisdotter (1850-1915)**. Anders was born in Angerdhestra Parish, Jönköping Municipality, Jönköping County. The Angerdshestra village church is about 15 km southwest of the city of Jönköping. The family home was at Kråkebo in the Sävdabo District of Angershestra Parish. Sävdabo is 2.4 miles east of the Angerdshestra church. In 1866 Anders left Angerdshestra Parish for Månsarp Parish, to the east, but returned a year later.



Anders and Augusta Johannisdotter were married on 22 February 1873 in her home church in Byarum, which is 15 miles south of the city of Jonkoping. After marriage they lived in his home community in the Sävdabo District, where **Carl John Vanblad (1875-1959)** was born, but in 1877 relocated to Bondstorp Parish, near Byarum, in the Vaggeryd Municipality. That is where their daughter **Axia Alfina Wennblad (1878-1902)** was born.



From 1880 onward the family lived in Skogslund, Bråten District, Månsarp Parish. That location is in the Taberg mining area. Taberg is two miles north of Månsarp and ten miles north of Byarum. Taberg is an unusual locality geologically and botanically. It contains about 30 percent iron ore. It was mined since the early Middle Ages. Mining declined after 1900 but was revived by the Germans during WWII. The Taberg hill rises 140 meters above the surrounding flat landscape. Today it is a protected nature preserve. **Axel Hjalmer**

Vanblad (1889-1962) was born in 1889 when the family lived in Skogslund. Axel's obituary says that he "was born in the shadow of the 'Iron Mountain' which was at that time the source of ore used in making Swedish steel."

The patronymic surname of Anders was Gabrielsson, but in the 1886-1890 Husforhörlängd for Månsarp Parish is noted as "Gabrielsson (Wennblad) and in the 1900 census for Månsarp Parish is listed under the surname Wennblad.

Anders was a blacksmith and taught that trade to his sons Carl John and Axel.

Augusta Aurora Johannisdotter (1850-1915) was born in Bratteborg North, Byarum Parish, Vaggeryds Municipality, Jönköping County. Bratteborg is 2.5 miles north of the Byarum church.



She was the only child of her parents, but her mother had previously had six children by her first husband Johanis Persson.

After Anders Wennblad died in 1904, Augusta was left in Sweden with no members of her immediate family, so her sons brought her to Smethport in 1907. She lived with the family of Carl John Vanblad on Water Street until 1911, when she went to the Warren State Hospital in Conewango Township, Warren County. There she died in 1915 from bronchial pneumonia, contributed to by senile psychosis. Her grave is in Rosehill Cemetery.

GRANDPARENTS OF CARL JOHN VANBLAD AND AXEL HJALMAR VANBLAD

Parents of Anders Johan Gabrielsson 'Wennblad' were **Gabriel Jacobsson (1814-1890)** and **Sara Johansdotter (1818-1898)**.

Gabriel Jacobsson was born in Ödestugu Parish. Ödestugu is southeast of Taberg and Månsarp; it is 12 miles southeast of the city of Jönköping. Sara Johansdotter was born in Mulseryd Parish, 12 miles southwest of the city of Jönköping. After marriage in 1840, they lived all their lives in Kråkebo in the Sävdabo District of Angershestra Parish. Sara had gone there in 1830 but returned to the family farm in Mulseryd Parish a year later.

Gabriel and Sara had five children in addition to Anders.

Parents of Augusta Aurora Johannisdotter were **Johannes Isacsson (1818-1904)** and **Britta Caisa Isacsdotter (1808-1887)**. Johannes was born in Fryele Parish, Värnamo Municipality. Fryele is 34 miles due south of the city of Jonkoping and south of Byarum. He lived in various places in Byarum Parish and came to Bratteborg North, Byarum Parish in 1846, about the time he married Britta. They lived there until at least 1860.

Britta Caisa Isacsdotter came from Qvarnaberg in the Qvarnabergs District of Byarum Parish to Bratteborg North when she married her first husband Johanes Persson (1790-1844). Britta and Johanes had six children. Johanes Persson had actually had a wife before Britta, with whom he had three children. Britta continued to live in Bratteborg North after Johanes Persson died, with Johannes Isaksson and her children.

GREAT-GRANDPARENTS (AND BEYOND) OF CARL JOHN VANBLAD AND AXEL HJALMAR VANBLAD

Carl John Vanblad and Axel Vanblad had four great-grandparents on their father's side. Parents of Gabriel Jacobsson, their paternal grandfather, were Jacob Gabrielsson and Elin Andersdotter. Parents of Gabriel's wife Sara Johansdotter, their paternal grandmother, were Johannes Carlsson and Stina Jonasdatter.

Jacob Gabrielsson (1767-1842) was born in Malmbäck Parish, Jönköping County. Malmbäck Parish is 16 miles southeast of the city of Jonkoping and immediately east of Ödestugu Parish. **Elin Andersdotter (1767-1848)** was born in Hyltan, Ödestugu Parish. They were married in 1793 in the Malmbäck church. They had five children in addition to Gabriel. All the children except the first one were born in Ödestugu Parish, and Jacob and Elin died there.

Johannes Carlsson (1784-1876) was born, lived, and died in Mulseryd Parish. **Stina**

Jonasdotter (1786-1855) was born in Järstorp Parish. Järstorp is two miles northwest of the city of Jönköping. Johannes and Stina lived on a farm at Ryd Sörrgården in the Ryd District of Mulseryd Parish, which had been his family home. Johannes was a tenant farmer. They had three children in addition to Sara Johansdotter.

I have traced the paternal ancestors of Carl John Vanblad and Axel Vanblad back several more generations, with an increasing bewilderment of surnames. The paternal line, looking only at fathers, is:

Sven Hakansson (1645-1711) → Anders Svensson (1680-1753) → Gabriel Andersson (1731-1798) → Jacob Gabrielsson (1767-) → Gabriel Jacobsson (1814-1890) → Anders Johan Gabrielsson ‘Wennblad’ (1843-1904) → Carl John Vanblad (1875-1959). The men from Sven down to Jacob were born in Malmbäch Parish. Sven is the fourth-great grandfather of Carl John and Axel Vanblad.

Turning now to the maternal line of Carl John and Axel Vanblad, we have talked about their grandparents Johannes Isacsson and Britta Caisa Isacsdotter. I was not able to trace the parents of Johannes Isacsson. The parents of Britta Caisa Isacsdotter were Isac Bengtsson and Martha ‘Marta’ Gudmundsdotter.

Isac Bengtsson (1765-1850) was born, lived, and died in Byarum Parish. The Byarum Parish church is 15 miles south of the city of Jönköping. Isac went from his family home in the Qvarnaberg District of Byarum Parish to Rumperyd in the Uddebo District, Byarum Parish, about 1791. **Martha ‘Marta’ Gudmundsdotter (1777-1849)** was also born, lived, and died in Byarum Parish. She went from Ofdaskog in Uddebo District, home of her parents, to Rumperyd in Uddebo District in 1794, when she was married. Isac and Martha lived in Rumperyd until about 1809 and thereafter in Qvarnaberg in the Qvarnabergs District of Byarum Parish. Isac and Martha had seven children in addition to Britta.

The parents of Martha ‘Marta’ Gudmundsdotter, and therefore the second-great grandparents of Carl John and Axel Vanblad, were **Gudmund ‘Gunne’ Svensson (1735-1799)** and **Britta Hansdotter (1742-1820)**, both of whom were born and died in Byarum Parish. The parents of her husband Isac Bengtsson, and therefore also the second-great grandparents of Carl John and Axel Vanblad, were **Bengt Andersson (1733-1789)** and **Catharina Jonsdotter (1739-1806)**, both and whom were also born and died in Byarum Parish.

We can go back one more generation to the parents of Bengt Andersson, the third-great grandparents of Carl John and Axel Vanblad, who were **Anders Svensson (1705-1776)** and **Regina Börjesdotter (1707-1794)**. Anders and Regina were born, lived, and died in Byarum Parish.

AXEL HJALMAR VANBLAD, BROTHER OF CARL JOHN

Axel Hjalmar Vanblad (1889-1962), the younger brother of Carl John, was born in Skogslund, Bråten District, Månsarp Parish, near the Taberg mountain.. Taberg is listed as the birthplace on Axel’s WWI Draft Registration card. He emigrated to America in 1905, at age 16. He was John’s partner in the Vanblad blacksmith shop for a number of years and lived in the John Vanblad family home until his marriage in 1930 at age 41. Like John, he was a member of the Smethport Fire Company.

After the decline of the horse-and-buggy days and their demand for horseshoeing, Axel worked as a tool dresser in the local oil fields. His last employment was with the Herriman Plaster Co. in Smethport, from which he retired in 1956.

Axel Vanblad, WWI, seated right. Photo in France



Axel entered service during WWI on April 29, 1918. He became a citizen of the U.S. at Camp Lee, Va., before going to France with the American Expeditionary Forces. He served in the Headquarters Company of the 314th Field Artillery. After participating in the grueling Meuse-Argonne and St. Mihiel campaigns, Pvt. Vanblad was awarded two citations for heroism under enemy fire. Primarily a teamster, one of his assignments on the battlefields of France was to string barbed wire entanglements in No Man's Land, an extremely hazardous undertaking. He returned to the United States in July 1919.

On May 29, 1930, in Olean, Cattaraugus, New York, Axel married **Rose Helen Liebel (1887-1945)**. Rose was the daughter of Peter Liebel

(1863-1892) and Jenny Bailey (1854-1913). Peter and Jenny had two children in addition to

Rose. After Peter's death, Jenny married George Wesley Campbell (1869-1936), with whom she had two children, Violet Martha Campbell (1897-1947, Percy E Brown and Earl Stephen Terry) and Grace E Campbell (1898-1968, Albert Leo Kohl). In 1930 we find Rose Liebel, a



bookkeeper in a wholesale grocery, living in a house on Green Street in Smethport with Earl S. Terry, Earl's wife Violet, Rose's half-sister, Violet's children George and Phyllis Brown, and Violet's father George Campbell. Earl Terry, incidentally, was the second cousin of Kenton Abbey, the husband of Axel Vanblad's niece Louise Vanblad Abbey. Rose was also an expert seamstress.

After marriage, Axel and Rose lived at 606 West Green Street in Smethport.

Rose died of a heart attack on October 20, 1945. Her obituary in the Bradford Era reads:

"Mrs. Rose Vanblad, 58, of 58 Green St, Smethport, died unexpectedly early Saturday after a heart attack. Born in Buffalo, daughter of Peter and Jenny Leibel, she was married to Axel Vanblad in Olean. She was a member of St. Luke's Episcopal in Smethport. Survivors include a brother, Charles Leibel

of Limestone, two sisters, Mrs. Violet Terry of Smethport and Mrs. Albert Kohl of Olean. Burial was in Rose Hill."



Sometime after Rose's death, Axel moved back into the Vanblad home on Water Street. Axel died in the Bradford Hospital on April 15, 1962, three years after the death of his brother John. He was buried with military honors in Rosehill Cemetery. His obituary in the McKean County Democrat reads in part: "As the plaintive notes of taps

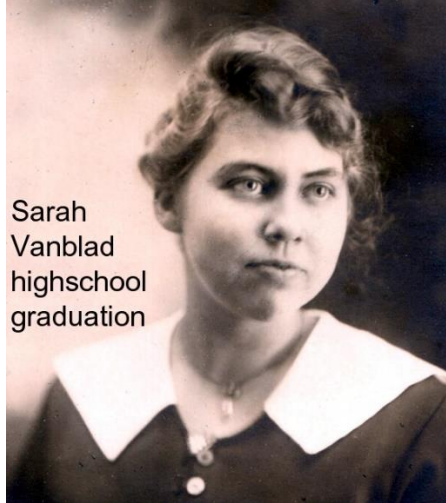
echoed, re-echoed and died among Smethport's hills, the listeners could be sure that another good soldier had found peace in the silent bivouac of the nation's honored dead -- far from strife, toil and pain -- while awaiting the final reveille."

Axel and Rose are buried side-by-side in the Vanblad plot in Rosehill Cemetery.



DESCENDANTS OF JOHN VANBLAD AND EMMA CHARLOTTA MATSON

John and Emma Vanblad had two daughters, Sarah Augusta and Louise Hulda, both born in Smethport.



Sarah
Vanblad
highschool
graduation

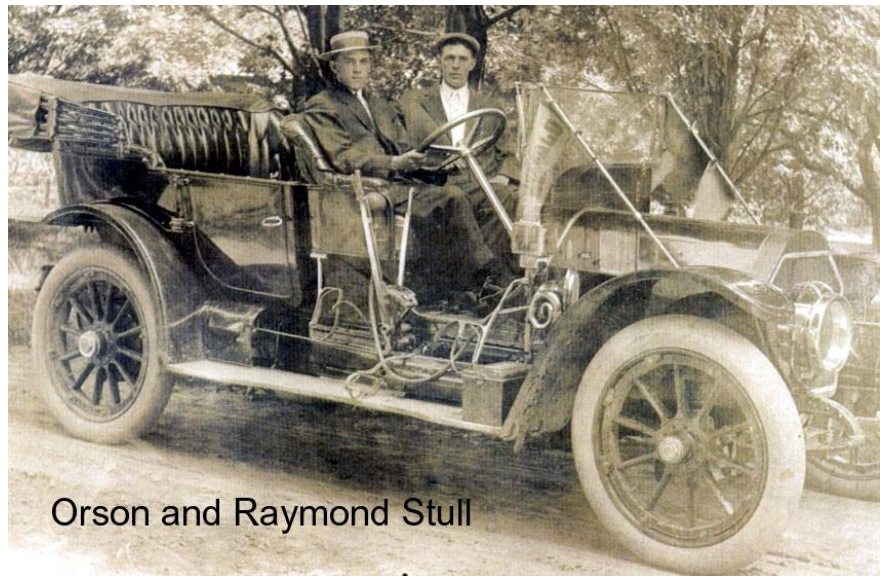
A. Sarah Augusta Vanblad (1899-1983) was born in Smethport. After growing up there, she was sent by her parents to Briggs and Statton Secretarial School in Buffalo for two years. There she lived with her cousins Louise and Neil Savage. Upon graduation, she was a proof reader for the McKean County Democrat. In the 1920 census, living with her parents, she is listed as a linotype operator. That linotype machine was on the first floor of the Vanblad residence (Appendix 1).

Sarah played both piano and organ for the Lutheran church and Eastern Star. She went to school in Sweden for fourth grade and became fluent in Swedish, not only speaking but also reading and writing.

In 1922, in Smethport, Sarah married **Orson Gilbert Stull (1892-1969)**. Orson was the son of **Sylvester Eli Stull (1849-1895)** and **Margaret Elizabeth Finley (1853-1926)**. Sylvester had a farm in Kent Hollow, where Orson was born. Tragically, Sylvester was killed by a log that fell while they were clearing forest for more farmland.

The Stull name can be traced back to **Jacob Jansen Hap Stol (1610-1659)**, who was born in Amsterdam, Holland, and emigrated to New Amsterdam (New York City). Orson's great-grandfather **Joseph Stull (1776-1866)** was an early pioneer to McKean County, establishing a farm in Stull Town, which is on the Allegheny River between Eldred and Coryville.

After the death of Sylvester in 1897, Orson's mother remarried **Charles Mortimer Leete**. Orson dropped out of school at age 12, in 1904, to help run the farm. Later he became a chauffeur and mechanic in Smethport and Bradford in conjunction with his brother Raymond. At the time of his wedding, he



Orson and Raymond Stull

was superintendent of the Suhr-McSweeney Oil Company on the Smethport side of Rew Hill, which is between Bradford and Coryville. By 1930 the family had moved to Bradford, McKean County. For a number of years, Orson operated the Tanner Oil Company in Bradford in partnership with his brother-in-law, Ernest Tanner. In about 1947 the family moved to Clearwater, Florida, where Orson worked in construction.



Sarah Augusta Vanblad and Orson Gilbert Stull had three children:

1. **Sarah Belle Stull (1923-1997)** graduated from Florida State College for Women in physical education and taught high school in Clearwater, Florida. She was married three times, to William Frederick Firneisen, Jr., to William Schworak, and to Richard Kelly Slocum. She had residences in Huntington Station, Long Island, and in Florida. She had three children with Mr. Firneisen.

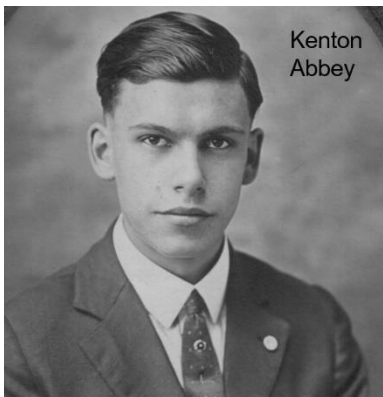
2. **John Orson Stull (1924-2010)** was a member of the Bradford High School graduating class of 1942. He volunteered for service during World War II, joining the United States Navy and serving with distinction as a Torpedoman aboard the submarine USS Hawkbill, completing five war patrols in hostile Japanese waters in the Pacific Theater of Operations. John then attended the University of Texas, graduating in 1952 with a degree in Electrical Engineering and notably spending his summers working as an electrician in Yellowstone National Park. Throughout his life, John maintained his Master Electrician's license through the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Following his graduation, John married Dorothy J. Fender of Austin and in 1952 began a 37 year career with Bechtel Corporation, ultimately managing the construction of many of our nation's fossil fuel and nuclear power plants. Known throughout the construction industry as a creative innovator and dedicated leader; he mentored several generations of constructors and designers who went on to become leaders in the power industry. The many innovations championed by John have become Bechtel, industry and national standards.

John and Dorothy settled on a small farm near Clarksburg, Maryland, in 1968, and there raised three boys.

John died from complications due to Parkinson's disease.

3. **Barbara Louise Stull (1936-2014)** was born after her family moved to Bradford. In 1963, in Anchorage, Alaska, she married Harvey Leroy Harr, with whom she had a daughter. After divorcing Hall in 1970, she married a Mr. Fox.

B. Louise Hulda Vanblad (1911-1983), the second daughter of Carl John Vanblad and Emma Matson, was born in Smethport. She married **Kenton Clark Abbey (1903-1984)** in 1938 in Smethport. He started to work in the McKean County Democrat office in Smethport as a "printer's devil" at age 13.



The linotype was then located on the first floor of the John Vanblad home at 407 West Water Street. Kenton became a typographer (Linotype operator) for the Democrat and, after it ceased operations, for the Bradford Era. He also was a writer and the first city editor and then managing editor of the Democrat and was responsible for the makeup of the Democrat and the Eldred Eagle.





Louise & Kenton Abbey 1939

Like her mother, Louise received training at a beauty school in Buffalo. She then ran a beauty parlor in Smethport with her mother for ten years. After raising her daughters, Louise became a teacher aide in a class for special needs children in Smethport Elementary School.

Kenton and Louise had two daughters Betsey and Kay, who appear in the photo below with their grandmother Nettie Smith Abbey.

I have written about the Abbey family in my articles

Descendants of Timothy Abbey and Betsey Jacox and *Solomon Patterson Descendants in New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Iowa*.

Pitt Eben Abbey (1859-1915), father of Kenton Abbey, married **Nettie Maria Smith** (1864-1951) in 1882. She was the granddaughter of Eseck Smith, who accompanied his father William Smith as part of the 1815 pioneering group to Potato Creek in Norwich (then Sergeant) Township. Herman took his family west to Otsego County, Wisconsin, to settle on a government section of land. Nettie was born there. Once the Civil War started, Herman served with the Wisconsin Heavy Artillery Regiment. After he returned from service, broken in health, he brought his family back to McKean County. He lived, however, only a short time after returning



Nettie Smith Abbey 1950

to Pennsylvania. The five children of Herman and Eliza Jane were parceled out to various relatives and non-relatives.

Born in Smethport, in early life Pitt Abbey became a telegraph operator and was employed for a time as an operator in the Western New York & Pennsylvania (later the Pennsylvania) station at East Smethport. Afterwards Pitt and Nettie resided in Derrick City, Rock City, State Line, and Four Mile while Mr. Abbey was station agent on the narrow-gauge railroad (Olean, Bradford, & Warren) between Olean and Bradford. He was also postmaster at Four

Mile, an oil town near Olean. The family moved to Smethport about 1891, when Pitt Abbey became Railway Express agent. He sustained a stroke in 1907 that partially disabled him and prevented his pursuing an occupation, although he was not confined to the home and could be seen around town. He was in apparent good health the day before his death.

APPENDIX 1. TWO BLACKSMITH SHOPS OF JOHN VANBLAD



When John Vanblad emigrated from Sweden to Smethport, he was first employed at the blacksmith shop of Charles Lilgendahl on Mechanic Street. This business, one of several in Smethport, performed horseshoeing, wagon and carriage repair, wagon painting, wagon manufacturing, and basic fabrication. John can be seen standing in the left doorway at the rear of the horse.

Carl John Vanblad,
Practical Horseshoer,
and
General Blacksmith.

Corns and Interfering Cured by Scientific Shoeing.

PURBLE'S SHOP,
WATER ST. SMETHPORT, PA.

After Lilgendahl, John worked for a time at the plant of Holmes & Gilfillan. He then bought out Purtle Blacksmithing and changed the name from Purtle to



Vanblad. **This first shop** was on the south side of West Water Street, number 407, just west of the intersection of Water Street and Fulton Street. Here is a view inside the shop:



first Vanblad blacksmith shop

A second shop was then established at a nearby location on the north side of Water Street, half a block east of the original shop and east of Fulton Street.



second Vanblad blacksmith shop
John and Axel

Here are two views inside the second blacksmith shop, both showing John on the left and Axel on the right:



second Vanblad blacksmith shop with John and Axel



second Vanblad blacksmith shop with John and Axel

A much later photo of John in the second shop:



An ad for the new shop ran in the newspaper (left).



Once the second shop was established, a linotype machine for the McKean Democrat newspaper was installed on the ground floor at 407 West Water Street, where the blacksmith shop had been. A stairwell led up to the second floor, and living quarters were established on the second floor for John and Emma and children.

In 1941, when printing operations were moved to Bradford, John and Emma contracted with Russell and Robert Norman to convert the Democrat offices into an apartment on the ground floor. Cost of the conversion was \$2085. After the deaths of Emma and John, the two apartments

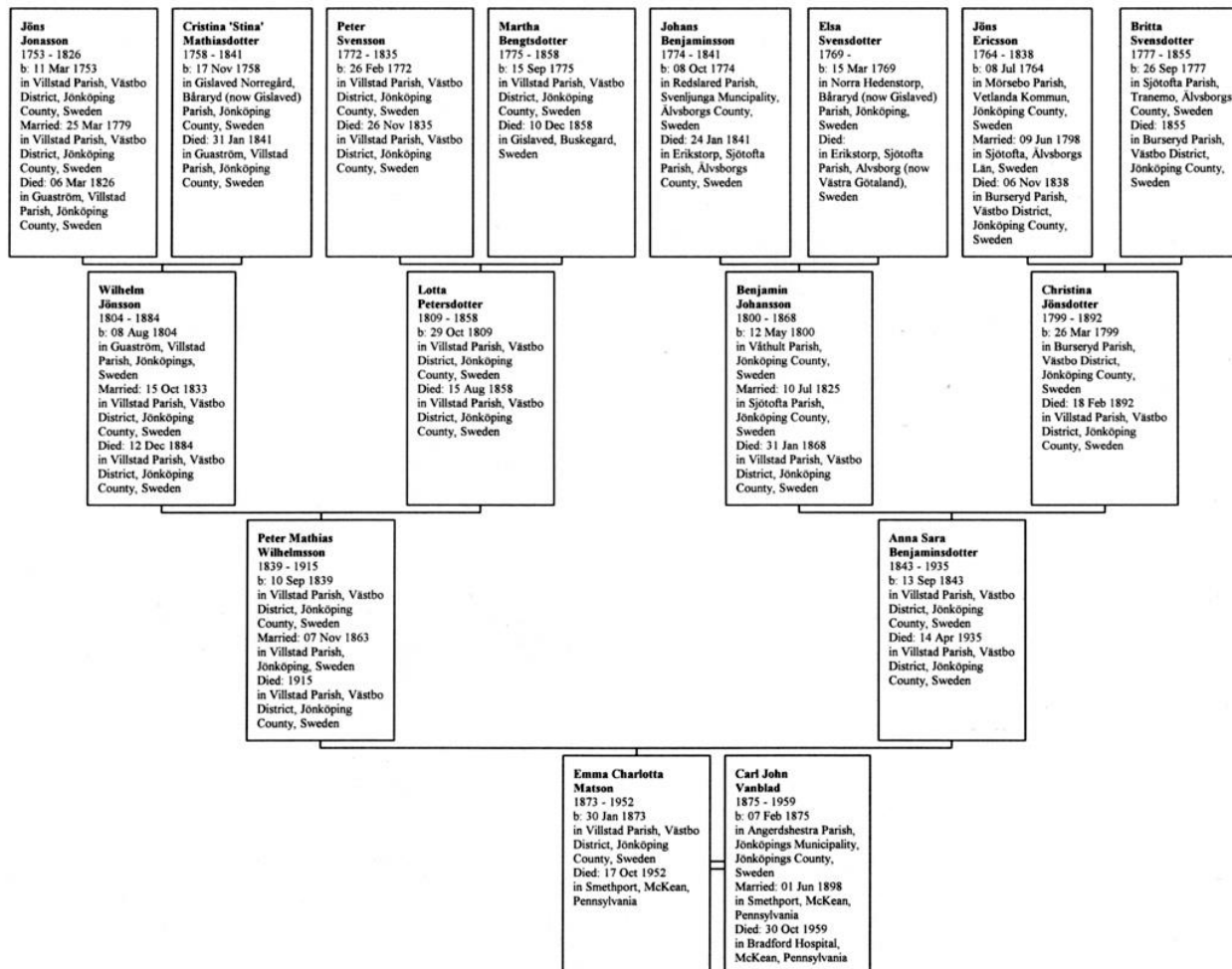
were rented. The building later became offices for Chef Specialties, who had manufacturing facilities net door.

The building as it as it appeared in 2015:

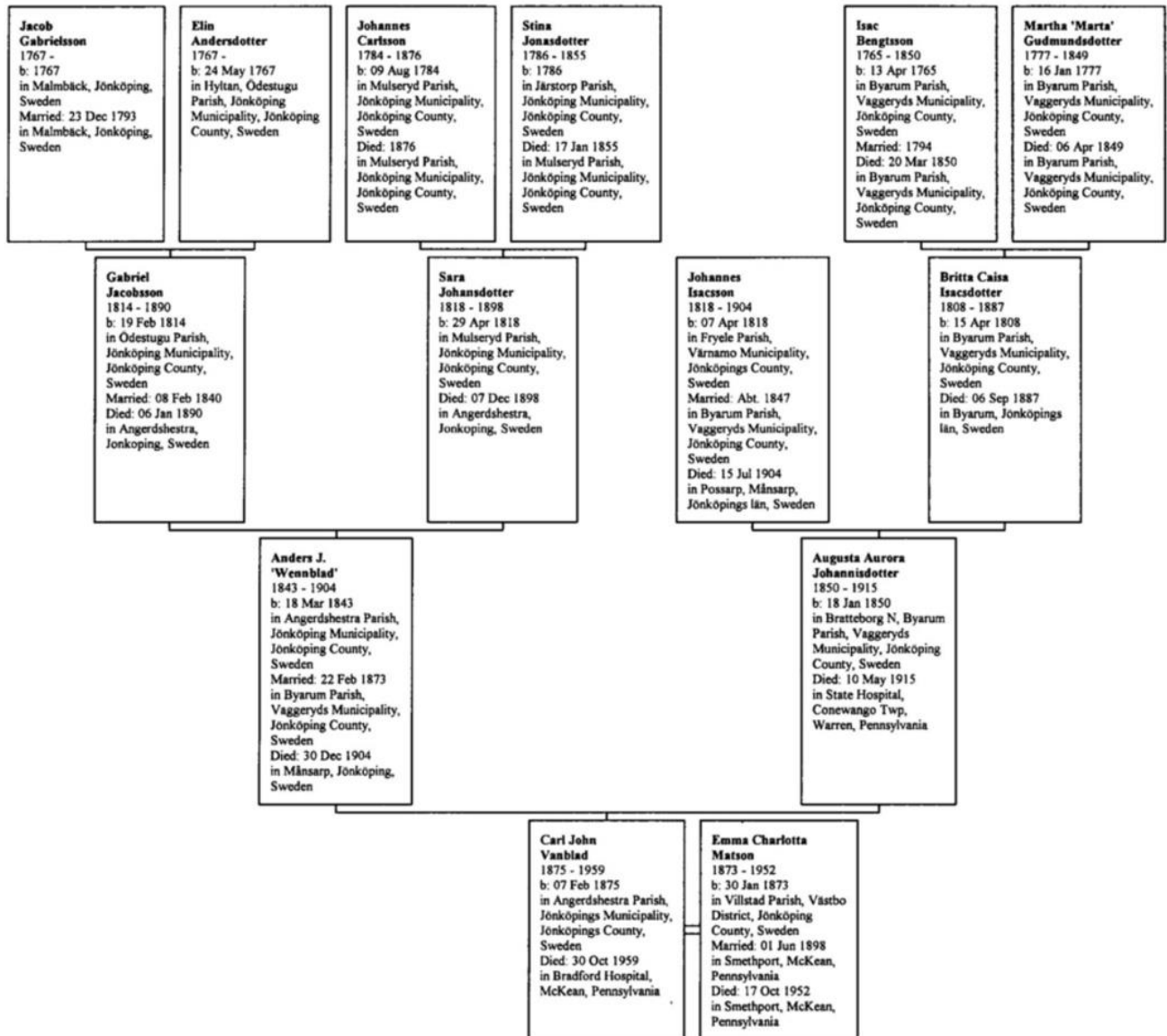


APPENDIX 2. ANCESTORS OF EMMA CHARLOTTA MATSON

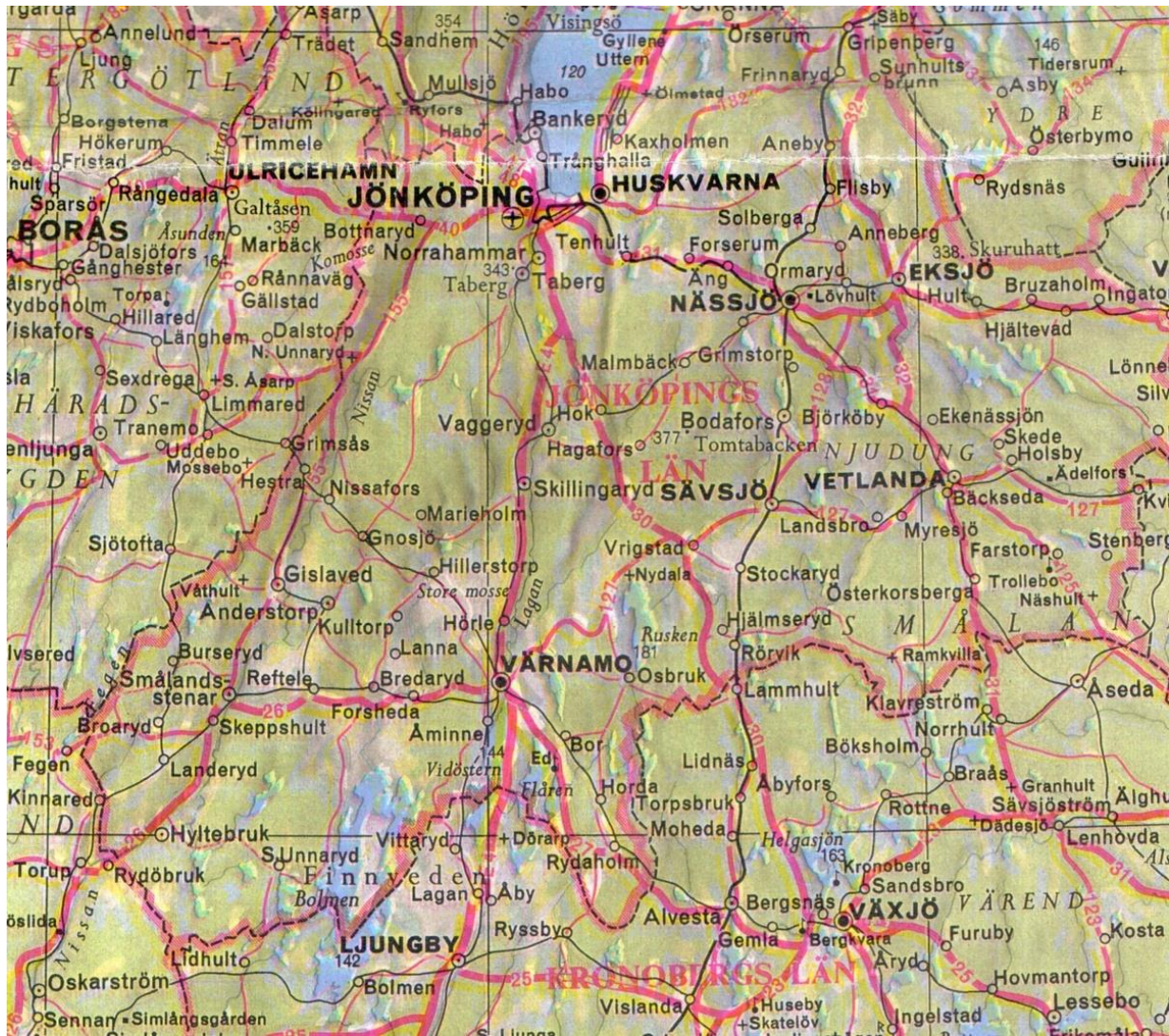
Ancestors of Emma Charlotta Matson



Ancestors of Carl John Vanblad



APPENDIX 3. ANCESTORS OF CARL JOHN VANBLAD



APPENDIX 4. MAP OF A PORTION OF SOUTHERN SWEDEN