## The History of **Skonnord** The Early Years - Prehistory to 1850 Part 1 of 4







#### The Name "Skonnord"

In eastern Norway there is an old family farm called **Skonnord**. Its history is well known, even though its name is very rare. Historical records called it by various names: Schonnor (1616); Skoner (1664); and Schonnord (1816). By 1800 it came to be called Skonnord -

(with ch sometimes used in place of the k).

Professor Rygh, who is well know for his exhaustive work on Norwegian farm names, suggests that in old Norse, it was probably called **Skarnhøll**. Skarn means *fertilized soil* and høll means at an isolated height. (i.e. fertile place on a hill).

Today, (2022) modern maps call the farm Skonnol. This is because, in the local dialect, the two last letters in Skonnord (rd) are pronounced as a thick "L". Norwegian has no special letter for the thick "L", so it is usually written as "rd". The new map makers have tried to harmonise place names by spelling them as they sound so they changed the rd to a L. Family members are opposed to this new spelling and have written to the Norwegian Mapping Authority to express their grievances. So far it remains as Skonnol, but maybe one day it will be overturned and reinstated as Skonnord.

The descendants have always used Skonnord for their last name except for the American descendants of Bernt Olsen Skonnord, who spell it **Skonnard** (which is closer to how it is pronounced in North America).

North American farms usually take their name from the owner. But in the past, Norwegians were identified by their first name, their father's name and where they lived. Ole Eriksen Skonnord was Ole, the son of Erik, who lived at Skonnord. (Sen for son, or datter for daughter, was added to the father's name).







1616

1664

1816

**\** 





Skonnord



# Skonnord

#### **Description of Skonnord**

It can be misleading to call Skonnord a farm because it's easy to assume it is like a North American farm. Throughout its history, Skonnord has been much more than just a farm. In Norwegian it is called a gård (or gaard).

The most striking difference, compared to an American farm, is how much of the gård is forest. In older times one lived off the land, which included seed planting, animal husbandry, hunting and fishing. One needed trees to build lodging and fencing. Much firewood was also needed for heating and cooking. In earlier times, gårds in rural Norway had to produce all the necessities of life or trade with a neighbour for something that could not be produced at the gård.

Skonnord is very hilly, without large flat fields, like North American farms. A gård did not need large fields to generate income. It needed to produce just enough for the family, the servants, the animals and to pay taxes, with a little extra to trade for the few things that it could not produce.

Skonnord stretches from a small lake called **Skonnordstjernet**, (Skonnord Lake), in the south, to a high meadow in the north, called **Skonnord saeter**. The saetra is about 3 km (1 ½ miles) directly north of the farmhouse. **Skonnordselva**, (Skonnord Creek), also runs through Skonnord.

Skonnord is ideally situated on the south slope of a small mountain, where it gets good sun exposure. Skonnord varies between about **400** and **620** metres above sea level (**1300** to **2000** ft). It has access to large amounts of water from Skonnord Lake and, at least in the past, had good hunting and fishing on its property. (Today there are perch and trout in the lake. The largest trout caught in 2001 was 1.6 kg or 4 lbs).

## Approximate Boundaries of Skonnord in 2022







## Skonnord

#### **Ancient Times**

Before **1910** the district where Skonnord is located was called **Snertingdal**, which was an annex of the parish of Biri. (It is the southwest portion of Biri). It was a separate community from **1910** to **1964** but is now part of the municipality of **Gjøvik**. It is still called Snertingdal by the locals.

The name was derived from the first gård in the area called **Snartum**. Snart means **burnt forest clearing,** reflecting how the first gårds were cleared. The **um**, in Snartum is the old form of **heim**. (Heim means home in Norwegian). Linguistically, the "um" was used as early as 0 AD, but no archaeological finds before 500 AD have been found in the area. However, pollen analysis at Skonnordsmyra, a small bog at the southwest side of Skonnord lake, indicates that cultivated grains were grown in the area as early as 1000 BC with significantly increased agricultural activity around 500 AD. Most experts believe Snartum was cleared sometime between **500** and **700 AD**. "dal", at the end of Snertingdal, means valley. So Snertingdal means "Valley of the burnt forest homestead".



One of the neighbouring farms to Skonnord is **Hov** (the old spelling was **Hoff**). There are many places in Norway with this name because Hov was the term used for a gathering place for pagan worship. It was common for the local chieftain to be the pagan priest and Hov was often his place of residence. When Norway was Christianized, in Viking times, churches were often built at these gathering spots (however, no evidence of a Christian church has been found at the Snertingdal Hov). The chiefs, of coarse, resisted this forced conversion so it was not until about **1000 A.D.** that Christianity became fully accepted into Norwegian culture.

The gård adjacent to Skonnord is **Klette**. This is a Viking name, believed to have been cleared before **1000 AD**. While its not known for sure, it is a fair assumption that Skonnord was cleared shortly after Klette.











#### **Ancient Times**

The picture to the right shows metal items found in a Viking grave at **Snartum**. (From about **800 A. D**.).

The first written record in existance from Snertingdal is a letter from **1344**, which mentions the gårds: **Snartum, Nøss, Klette** and **Berg.** 



## **Snertingdal Gårds**











#### The Bubonic Plague (Black Death)

Like so many places in Europe, more than half of the population in Snertingdal died when the **Black Death** arrived in **1349**. This left many of the gårds uninhabited and it is very likely that Skonnord was one of them. It took over 200 years for the Snertingdal population to return to its pre-plague population.

A tax list from **1602** mentions many gårds in the Snertingdal area, but Skonnord is not among them. However, mention was made that there were many uninhabited gårds in the area.













#### The First Mention of Skonnord

#### Bjørn

The first mention of Skonnord is in a **Tax List** from **1612**. In that list, **Bjørn** is named as "bruker" at Skonnord. In Norwegian, the term "bruker" can be used for "farmer", but it is better translated "user" as it does not imply ownership of the land.

In the 1600s, rural Norway did not often use money, preferring to trade in real goods. Taxes were often paid in goods like grain, butter, cheese, animal hides, iron bars, silver pieces, etc. (See the iron bars, in the picture at the bottom right of this page, found under a rock at Klette, the farm next to Skonnord).

Gårds needed their forests because it was not legal to hunt animals on land that did not belong to you.

The early Skonnords hunted moose, deer, fox, wolf, lynx, rabbit, badger, wild boar and various birds. In the northern part of Skonnord there is a area called **Bear Valley**. While bears have not been seen in the area since 1910, they too were once actively hunted.

In the 1600s, farmers owned about 40% of the land, the crown about 30% and the church about 25%. Prior to **1537** the Catholic Church owned much land, but much of it was taken over by the crown during the reformation.

Most gårds had a horse, sheep for wool and cows for milk, cheese and leather.

# Land ownership<br/>in 1600Iron bars found<br/>hidden under a rock<br/>at KlettedImage: Construction of the second seco





Skonnord entry in the Biri land registry for 1624





#### Simen (Continued)

From **1645** to **1660** Sweden was trying to expand their land holdings and many Norwegians were called to fight in border skirmishes. In a list of soldiers from Snertingdal was a man called **Jon Olsen Schonor.** It is not clear who this person was but it may have been a son of Ole Klette who was living at Skonnord since Ole Klette owned part of Skonnord for a short time.

The tax register for **1647** lists Skonnord as an **ødegård**. At this time, gårds were listed as either full, half, or øde. Øde means abandoned or desolate but here it is used as a tax term. Full gårds paid full taxes, half gårds paid half the amount and ødegårds 1/4 the amount.

Øde was a reference to the many gårds that were abandoned during the black plague but were now again being cultivated. (One can imagine that after 300 years, the land would have reclaimed any earlier clearings).

The **1647** tax list indicates that Simon was "Bunde goedtzs" or "**bundet gods**". This means he was bound (or owner) to the property. So Simen must have taken over the gård from Ole Klette by this time.

In this list, Skonnord is valued at **1 fjerding** with a tax rate of **1**  $\frac{1}{2}$  **daler**. Tax rate for a full gård was 6 daler. (1 daler in 1647 equates to about US \$800.00 in 2022).

There were about 100 gårds in Biri at this time. Only about 20 gårds were owned in full or part by the crown. Most were self owned with a few owned and leased out by absentee landowners.

In **1660** Simen had a horse, 5 cows, and 2 sheep.

It is not believed that Simen (nor Bjørn before him) are genetically related to present day Skonnords.













#### Simen

In **1636**, Skonnord was farmed by a man named **Simen**. (A very uncommon name in Snertingdal at the time).

A tax list from **1642** indicates **Oluff** (or Ole) **Klette** leased a portion of Skonnord for 1 **fjerding**. (See **Skonnord History part 4** for a discussion of taxes and the meaning of hud, skinn and fjerding.

Oluff Klette - j hud ij schind med bøxell In same farm f med bøxell» Vdi Skaanor Jbm (On Skonnord gaard)

## 1642 Tax List

1 hud 1 ½ skinn with mortgage (for Klette) 1 fjerding with mortgage (for Skonnord)

Simen can not be found in the 1642 tax list, so it is possible Simen was working for Ole Klette in **1642**. 1 fjerding, the price paid by Ole Klette, was the entire value of Skonnord at that time.

There has always been a strong connection between Klette and Skonnord. Before the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the residents of Skonnord had to pass through Klette in order to get to the main country road.











**1700** 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

**Note:** No pictures of the Skonnords exist prior to about 1875. To help represent the family graphically, characters have been created. These characters do not represent what the actual person looked like, however they are based on real life Skonnord descendants. A red dot indicates a created character. —

#### **The First Generation Skonnords**

**Torger Christoffersen Rødnes** (b. 1618) is the first person at Skonnord who can positively be linked genetically to the Skonnords of today.

1600

1650

Torger's father **Christoffer** (b. ca 1580) was user at Rødnes from sometime before **1612**, so Torger was likely born at Rødnes (about 14 miles or 22 km S.W. of Skonnord). Christoffer was married to **Kari** (Karren) and his first son was **Erich**. Kari took over Rødnes when Christoffer died in **1638** because Erich was not considered old enough at age 24. Two years later Erich took over Rødnes.



Christoffer's seal Used in a document on July 6, 1633







Torger Christoffersen Not his real picture (Based on Hans Olsen Skonnord)









## Skonnord



**Torger Christoffersen** 

at Skonnord 43 years old

himself. He found land at Skonnord.

1580 1590 1600 1610 1620 1630 1640 1650 1660 1670 1680 Rødnes Christoffer Christoffer Christoffer born about 1580 at Rødnes (30 to 58 years old) (dies about 58 years old) Christoffer's wife Erich Christoffersen Kari akes over in 1639 takes over Rødnes in 1641 about age 26 Torger Erich born ca 1615 As was usual in Norwegian society, Torger likely lent his inheritance to his older brother. Once his brother was able to Bjørn Simen pay back the money then Torger was able to purchase land for

Skonnord

Torger farmed Skonnord for 24 years, from 1661 until 1685 (43 to 67 years old).

It's not known whom he married, but the experts that compiled the **Biri-Snertingdal Bygdebok** (Village book for the area), think he may have married one of **Ole Klette's daughters**, as Ole had owned Skonnord for a time. It's possible Ole bought back the property when Simon left and gave it as a dowry when Torger married his daughter.

If Torger married a Klette daughter, it was likely Mari, because the name is used often in later generations, and is usually the first born daughter. Torger and his wife had 3 three daughters:



In 1661 Torger (43) owned Skonnord and the gard's tax value was 1 fjerding.

Schonnor Torger's yearly tax rate is 1 fj grain Thorgier skylder Aarlig-1 fr: Malt Inged to with mortgage Bunden bruger og besidder mod bøxel Bound farmer and owner. Der af Scattis Of which taxed **1661 Tax List** Some measurement Visøre

Ole

Klette

Torger

at Skonnord 43 vears old

Of course it is not possible to know all of Torger's descendants, but research in 2022 has identified 18,335 known descendants.







In **1664** a census was commissioned to evaluate taxes and the number of eligible men who could serve in the Norwegian military. In the census, gårds are, as usual, listed as: **Full Gård, Half Gård** or **Ødegård**. (Spellings often differ in these old documents because of grammar changes over the years. For example: Fuldegård (i.e. Full gård) is written as Fuldegaarder)

In **1664**, Skonnord is still listed as an ødegård and is being farmed by **Torger** (46) along with and younger man named **Christopher** (28).

It is known that Torger fully owned Skonnord in 1661, but it appears that he had Christopher join him sometime before 1664. Even though the census indicates each used part of Skonnord, it is not likely that Christopher actually owned part of Skonnord. It is not known if Christopher was in anyway related to Torger.

By **1664** the gård's tax rate had increased to **1** ½ **fjerding**.







Generation









1850

1900

1950 2000

A bit is known about Christopher as he died a year later in **1665**. His probate indicates his father was **Erik Sollium** and was married to **Rønnov Olsdatter**. (Sollium or Sollia, in Aust Torpa, was about 25 km northeast of Skonnord). He had no children and very few possessions (a cow, 20 goats and his clothes, valued at a little over 6 riksdalers) He was a soldier and died when he was 29 years old.

1650

1700

1750

1600

There were five censuses done over a period of three years (two in 1664, two in 1665 and one in 1666). This was very unusual and was likely done because of the ongoing conflict with Sweden, as the taxes didn't change throughout those years. These censuses helped the military know what men were available should men be required urgently.

This is fortunate as it gives a good snapshot of the conditions of the time. In **1664**, for all of Biri, there were **91** gårds (a little over 1/3 of them were in Snertingdal):

Full gards	Half gards	Ødegards	Rødningsmen	Husmenn	
25	23	43	16	19	

Hoff was a full gård, Klette was a half gård, while Skonnord was an ødegård.

**Rødningsmen** were individuals starting a farm but not deemed big enough to be considered a farm. (The name implies "seedling").

**Husmenn** were individuals renting a very small portion of land from an established gård. They often had their own modest house and grew their own food. Part of their rent required them to work for the gård owner during the planting and harvest seasons. Skonnord did not have any husmenn at this time but would have many later on in its history.



Generation











1<sup>st</sup> Generation Torger



1600 **1650 1700** 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

In the **1665** census, called a **Mantell** (i.e. a tally of men), **Torger** (47) is listed as the sole user.





In the **1666** census, **Torger**(47) is again listed as the sole user.









The **1665 Matrikkel** (an evaluation of the conditions at each gård) indicates Torger was the sole owner and had a horse and 12 cows.

The value of the gård was **1** ½ **fjerding** and taxes were **2 daler** each year. (About US \$1600.00 in 2022)

He planted about 3 tonner (660 lbs or 300 kg) of seed that year.







1<sup>st</sup> Generation

Torger





#### Drama next door at Klette



In **1657**, **Ole Klette** (about 70) passed away leaving the gård Klette to his wife Karen and son Amund. Widow Karen was fined **2 ort** (about US \$400.00 in 2022) for refusing to provide an escort for a government official to Gubrandsdalen.

This was part of the responsibilities of all gård owners at the time. If any government official or clergyman needed to travel, they could call upon any gård owner to provide horses, carts, sleds or buggies for their journey. Sometimes it simply meant loaning a horse, but often it required more. If it was a one way trip, then someone from the gård had to go along in order to bring back the horses and other paraphernalia. This lasted until about 1800 when an official shuttle service was introduced in Snertingdal. The gård owners were also responsible for keeping the country roads around their gårds in good condition.

Because Skonnord was off the main road they likely did not have to provide transportation very often. However, other gårds could ask Skonnord to help with horses or buggies if they did not have enough to supply the travelling party.

In **1663**, Karen's son **Amund Klette** was also fined when he refused to shuttle the Vardal sheriff.

**Amund** was 3 years older than **Torger** and they were likely close friends. (If the Bygdebok authors are correct, and Torger did marry one of Ole Klette's daughters, then Amund would have been Torger's brother-in-law).

In **1670**, neighbour **Sergeant Amund Hoff** (36) (b. Skumsrud) was visiting **Amund Klette** (55). Some dispute occurred and Hoff struck Klette below the ear. Sergeant Hoff then went home and returned with a sword. (Possibly for a duel?). He found that Klette had locked his door and so in anger broke two of Klette's windows.

This was not the first time Amund Hoff was in trouble. A few years earlier he was in court because he had spoke ill of the Biri parish. While this was likely not common behaviour, much is learned about life in 1670 in Snertingdal:

- 1. People did not always get along and there were courts to handle disputes.
- 2. Houses had locks or at least bolts on the inside of their door.
- 3. At least some houses, if not most, had glass windows.

After Amund Hoff's first wife died in **1680**, Amund Hoff married **Seborg**, who was a daughter of **Torger** Skonnord.









#### **The Saeter**

In **1671**, Torger (52) built a **saeter**. (He must have used the pasture without buildings before this as the 1665 Matrikkel indicates there was a summer pasture in 1665). This was a pasture, high up the mountain, where the livestock were taken in late spring to graze for the summer. This was done because they needed all the hay grown in the valley for winter feed. It also provided cooler conditions for the animals.

The saeter had a dairying house called a **bu** where a dairymaid, called a **saeterjente**, milked the cows and goats. A **saetergutt** (gutt = boy), also stayed the summer to look after the herds during the day while the dairymaid made cheese and butter from the milk. It was quite lonely at the saeter so it was customary for each of the gård's daughters to spend at least part of their summer helping at the saeter. Periodically the family would come to visit and collect the cheese and butter.

The neighbouring gård, **Tømmeråsen**, built their bu right next to the one at Skonnord. This was done for friendship and protection. It is possible that a third gård also shared the same space as old maps show three buildings at the site. There were many other saeters within a few kilometres of the Skonnord saeter and they too shared their saeters with multiple gårds.





1<sup>st</sup> Generation

Torger





## Skonnord

There was a lot of interaction between the gårds in the area and over time many marriages took place between them. The Mantell from 1664 is shown for each gård.











#### The Second Generation Skonnords

Sometime around **1675**, Torger's (56) daughter (her name is not known) married **Tor Eriksen** (26) from **Austdal**.

Austdal (old spelling was Ousdall) is just southeast of Skonnord and was listed in 1666 as a half gård.

#### 1666 Norway Male Census (Mantell)









2<sup>nd</sup> Generation







2<sup>™</sup> Generation Tor

1600 **1650 1700** 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

#### **The Second Generation Skonnords**

Sometime around **1685** Torger's son-in-law **Tor** (37) took over Skonnord. (Torger had no sons). Tor and his wife had three children:





3<sup>rd</sup>

A document from **1669** states that Skonnord had fishing rights to **Lake Mjøsa**, which was unusual as it was about 20 km (12 miles) away. Most of the gårds around Skonnord had rights to Lake Ringsø. This may be because Skonnord also had rights to Lake Skonnord. (See map below).

Norway used the Julian calendar up until **February 18, 1700**. The following day (now using the new Gregorian calendar) became **March 1, 1700**, losing 11 days in the process.

#### **The Third Generation Skonnords**

**Erik** I (26) married **Maria Lønnum** (26) in **1703**. A few years later, **Tor** (57) retired and **Erik** I (28) took over farming at Skonnord. Erik I (27) and Maria (27) had a son named **Ole I** in **1706**. (Maria's grandfather was named Ole).





Generation

Erik I

Living at Skonnord

**Note:** From the early **1700's**, even up to the present day (2022), all of the owners of Skonnord were named either **Erik** or **Ole**. It is easy to get confused about who one is talking about, so labels have been added for better clarity.









3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Erik I

1600 1650 **1700** 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

In **1709**, Erik's I (31) young wife, **Maria** (31) died. Shortly after her death, Erik I and his son, Ole I (3), left Skonnord and moved to **Søndre Hoff.** When Erik I moved, his younger brother, **Christoffer** (27), took over farming at Skonnord.

Hoff was one of the few gårds in Snertingdal that was, at this time, still owned by the crown. It was a "**Full Gård**" but was broken up into various pieces which the crown leased out. Erik's I uncle (by marriage) Amund had previous leased Søndre Hoff. (Amund's second wife was Seborg Torgersdatter, sister to Erik's mother). Amund and Seborg were quite old and had recently retired to Lille Brynstad, close to the city of Biri.

The crown decided to sell Hoff and it is possible Eric I thought that with his uncle leaving Hoff, it would be a good opportunity for him to secure a bigger and more prestigious gård. Erik I could own and farm at Søndre Hoff (South Hoff), and Erik's I brother, **Christoffer**, could farm Skonnord. His father, Tor, was close to 60 years old, so retirement was close at hand for him. Norwegian society was very class orientated at this time and being the owner of a full gård significantly raised your status in society.









Maria dies





### 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Erik I

1600 1650 **1700** 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

In **1709**, Erik I (32) married a second time to the much younger, **Anne Gaarder** (20). Maria's mother (Erik's I first wife's mother) had also died young. Maria's father, Erik Lønnum, remarried **Marte Gaarder**. Anne was a niece of Marte.

In 1710, Erik I (33) and Anne (21) had a son named Johannes Hoff.

Because there were a lot of marriages between gårds in the Snertingdal area, **Erik I** had relatives at most of the surrounding gårds in **1710**.



Anne

Gaarder



At Søndre Hoff



At Skonnord











## Skonnord

In addition to Skonnord, most Skonnord descendants today can trace their linage back to Søndre Hoff. The intermarriages between gårds usually happened generations apart, and this resulted in some unusual relationships.

One example is for the children of Kristian Olsen Skonnord:

Erik's I two sons, **Ole I Skonnord** and his half brother, **Johannes Hoff**, are both **4**<sup>th</sup> great grandfathers to them. **Mari Tømmeråsen** is both their **4**<sup>th</sup> great grandmother and their **3**<sup>rd</sup> great grandmother.







Skonnord

1850

Tor & Wife

Erik's aging Parents

1950

Possibly other

workers:

1900

2000

#### The Third Generation Skonnords (Continued)

Skonnord in

1711

In 1711 Skonnord (run by Erik's brother Christoffer) had a horse and 12 cows, (the same as Torger had in 1665, At Søndre Hoff nearly 50 years earlier).

Erik's Brother Christoffer

In 1719, nine years after son Johannes was born, Erik I (42) and Anne (30) had a daughter named Mari.

(Its quite likely they had other children in between, but if they did, those children died young).

1750

In that year, besides their regular taxes, they paid **5** shoe tax. This tax was unpopular and did not last long.

1700

At Søndre Hoff



Erik I Anne











3<sup>rd</sup> Generation







1850

1950

1900

2000

Young Ole i der

Johannes

3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Erik I @ Søndre Hoff Christoffer @ Skonnord

#### The Third Generation Skonnords (Continued)

1600

In **1721**, **Erik I** (44) died at Søndre Hoff. His son **Ole I** was 14 & son **Johannes** was 11, hardly old enough to take over a gård the size of Hoff. (His daughter Mari was only 2).

1700

1750

Within a year of Eric's I death, his wife **Anne** (b. Gaarder) married **Jacob Olsen Gryte.** Jacob was listed as user in **1723**. (Jacob for South Hoff and Tor Erlandsen for North Hoff).

#### 1723 Matrikkel for Skonnord (Evaluation)

1650



#### 1723 Matrikkel for Hoff (Evaluation)



The **1723 Matrikkel** shows how Skonnord was growing but not quite the size of a full gård. Skonnord had about half the number of animals but only planted about 1/4 the amount of grain as Hoff.







1850

3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Erik I @ Søndre Hoff Christoffer @ Skonnord

In 1723, Skonnord had 2 horses, 10 cows 12 sheep and 9 goats.

1600

1650

1700

1750

Erik's brother **Christoffer** (38) sowed 3 barrels of grain.

While not shown on the **1723** Matrikkel, **a sawmill** was built on Skonnord creek later that year.

Taking care of this many animals required more than just a small family. At first, farmhands and housemaids lived with the family (a few lived in the main house and some likely lived in the barn), but as time progressed, bakers, blacksmiths, shoemakers and lumberjacks began to live at Skonnord in dedicated houses.

In the 1700s, workers were considered servants and worked for their room and board. They did not receive any form of pay but received compensation in goods such as clothes and foorwear. They lived onsite and even took their name from the gård. (If they lived in a house separate from the main house, they used Skonnordseie).

#### 1723 Matrikkel for Skonnord (Presentation of taxes)







1900

1950

2000







**1750** 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Erik I @ Søndre Hoff Christoffer @ Skonnord

#### The Third Generation Skonnords (Continued)

1600

1650

1700

#### Husmenn

Getting in the harvest required reliable labour and the gård owner could not afford to lose his hired men part way through the harvest. He also could not afford to pay them all year long.

This dilemma was solved by building houses on the gård and letting a worker and his family use it in exchange for labour. Strict laws (from 1687) were enacted to protect both parties. The **husmann** (the person leasing the house) could only leave on two days of the year: the start of summer (April 14); or the start of winter (October 14). These "moving" days were called **faredag**. If the husmann intended to leave, he had to give 8 weeks notice.

At Skonnord, every husmann was given a small plot of land to grow food and he was only required to work for the Skonnords when he was needed, according to a signed contract. This allowed the worker to enjoy a limited amount of freedom. However, there were very distinct classes in Norwegian society at that time and a husmann ranked quite a bit below a gard owner.

The first husmann at Skonnord arrived shortly after the sawmill was installed in 1723.

In early times, Norwegians divided the year into only two seasons. Summer started on **April 14** and Winter on **October 14**.

Most farms had a wooden calender (like the one to the right). This showed when to plant, when to harvest and all special days.

April 14

October 14 One side showed Summer

The other side showed Winter









Sidsel **Kirkerud** 

#### The Fourth Generation Skonnords

In 1726, Erik's I son, Ole I (20), married Sidsel Kirkerud (27).

Ole's I wife, **Sidsel**, came from Kirkerud (in Norwegian, kirke = church, rud = clearing). It is believed that a church has existed at Kirkerud since the middle ages and was the first church in Snertingdal. Around 1700, a petition was made to build a replacement church, which was completed in 1703.

In the 1700s, social life centred around the church and it is likely that Ole I met Sidsel at some sort of church function. However, marriages in these early days were often arranged, with the young couple usually having little say in the matter.

The farmland at Kirkerud was owned by the church and the church leased the land to Sidsel's father.







4<sup>th</sup> Generation









4<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole I

#### 1600 1650 **1700 1750** 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

#### **The Fourth Generation Skonnords**

At the time of Ole's I marriage to Sidsel in **1726**, Ole's I uncle, Christoffer (43), was farming at Skonnord and Ole's I step dad, Jacob, was farming at Søndre Hoff.

When **Tor** (79) died in **1728**, Ole I (22) returned to Skonnord. Although Ole I did not inherit the gard outright, it was tradition that the eldest son should take over after his father.

Uncle Christoffer remained at Skonnord. Ole's I half brother, **Johannes Hoff** (18), remained at **Søndre Hoff** which was farmed by his step dad, Jacob.



In **1731**, **Ole's I** Uncle Christoffer's (46) son, **Tor**(2), died at Skonnord, when he was only 2 years old. Sadly, many babies and children died in the 1700s.

granfah yn honforn Buried Onristopher	Schmoen	1 bam	Gon af 2	eas
Buried Christopher	Schonoer's	Child	Tor 2 y	ears

Ole I and Sidsel had 8 children.







4<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole I

1600 1650 **1700 1750** 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

#### The Fourth Generation Skonnords

Late in **1731**, **Ole's I** Uncle **Christopher** (46), died at 46 years old.

Christopher had farmed Skonnord for over 20 years while Ole I grew up at Søndre Hoff. His contribution should not be overlooked as Skonnord grew extensively during his time at Skonnord

Christopher left behind his wife **Marit** (39) and the following children: **Ole** (5), **Gunhild** (4), **Kari** (3) and **Tor** (baby). After his death, it is likely that Christopher's children continued to live at Skonnord until his widow remarried.

			urch Book 1731			600
28	granke 1	Christopher Christopher	Thorsen	Schonaer Honser	46 years old	Christopher

The extant church books from Biri/Smertingdal begin in 1730.

Baptisms were a community event and sponsors were usually a combination of family and good friends. **Mari** was Ole's I third child, but the first to be entered into the surviving church books:













<sup>a</sup> Generation Ole I

#### 1600 1650 **1700 1750** 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



granfat Ole Olsen Shonows Gin g: 10 000

Buried : Ole Olsen Schonoers

Year 1732

#### **The Fourth Generation Skonnords**

Church book entries also show that an extended community began living at Skonnord around this time. The entry, to the right, is the burial of Ole Olsen Skonnord (ending with **s eier**). This ending indicates he was a worker or **husmann** who died at Skonnord.

Ole's I and Sidsel's 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter, **Mari**, died at 2 years old (see her baptism in the church book entry on the previous page). When the next girl was born, she was named Mari after the one that had just died.

Re-namming the next child after one who had just died was a common practice in Norway. This was because there was a great importance tied to a name. There was a sense that the essence of the first child would live on in the next child with the same name. The same thought process is why there are so many Oles and Eriks in the Skonnord family. The first son inherits his father's name as his second name and so he usually doesn't have the same first name as his father. In order to prevent the loss of the name, the first grandson was usually named after his grandfather. To a lesser extent, this often happened with the grandmother's name as well.

The second **Mari** was baptised in **1733** on the same day that they buried the first. (Note that the church book used Martha for the first Mari. It is unclear why this is so, as the first Mari was unquestionably baptised using the name Mari).











1850 1900 1950 2000

#### **The Fourth Generation Skonnords**

1600

#### **Drama at Skonnord**

**Henrik Johannesen Nøss** died at Skonnord in **1733**. He was attending a wedding there and was hit over the head by someone with a walking cane. Now that was a wedding not easily forgotten.

1750

#### Pseudo Skonnords

There were many who came and went from Skonnord besides the actual family. Most were unrelated and were workers or husmenn. Sometimes they were distant relatives.

1650

1700

In **1734**, **Ole Jacobsen** and **Eli Iversdatter** were married and came to live at Skonnord. Eli's brother-in-law was Ole Eriksen Lønnum. So Eli was, by marriage of her sister, related to the Skonnords (Ole's I mother was a Lønnum).

Eli must have been quite good friends with Sidsel as she was often one of the sponsors when Sidsel's children were baptised. They were also pregnant together at the same time. Eli may have been hired as a kitchen girl or as a nanny.

The church record, shown to the right, identifies the couple as Ole and Eli Schonaer. The close relationship and the lack of **s eier** on the end of Skonnord, likely means they lived in the main house at Skonnord.

Both did not last long at Skonnord. They had a son, Jacob, who died very young and not long after Ole Jacobsen also died. There were many who came to live temporarily at Skonnord. Most, other than the main family members, did not stay long.





4<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole I

Married Ole Jacobsen and El	
charlough Ola Pacoliny og fer	i Promps Halling
B. D1 & Prealow	
Ola Concum	Der Schonaer
Ole Lønnum	Ole Schonaer

Baptised Ole Schonaer's child called Mari
Roll, Ola Vitionoers bagu nom: Manj Kans Gingaas, This Eight Kiping Rome Japen anun Ofgen Mar ug Eli Vitionace
Can's Cingaago, this Eight Charles Reven & 6.
anna from now eg Les vehanaco
Eli Schonaer







#### **The Fourth Generation Skonnords**

1600

#### The Good Times

Surviving records from Snertingdal indicate that the early **1700s** were very prosperous and this is reflected in the growth that occurred at Skonnord. During this era, the residents of Snertingdal began wearing finer clothes and purchased luxury items like carved furniture and travel cases. They also had duvets, tablecloths, sheets and towels. Every farm is said to have had its own distillery. Some even had silverware and brass lamps.

When Ole's I dad, Eric I, died at Hoff (1721), the probate listed some glass cups decorated with blue trim among Eric's I possessions. (Likely produced in the glassworks factory in Biri).

He also owned a silver cup. The silver cup was valued at over 3 riksdalers (his cows were valued at about 2 riksdalers each). Taking inflation into account, the cup would be worth about \$3000 US in 2022. The Biri/Snertingdal Bygdebok 3 mentions that there were silver cups at Lønnum in the early 1700s. One of those cups may have been given as a wedding present when Erik married Maria Lønnum.

Among Erik's I possessions were various wooden toys for children.

Erik had a still at Hoff, but it is not known if one existed at Skonnord. The still was valued at about 4 riksdalers or \$4000 US, but was used to pay off debts listed in Erik's probate.

#### Examples of Carved Furniture

These were bought as antiques by Ole Olsen Skonnord in the 1930s. (They have been sandblasted and restored to look new).

Both objects come from Snertingdal but their exact age is not know.







4<sup>th</sup> Generation

(Based on Martinius Fremsta



Travel case from Lønnum Ole's mom came from Lønnum 1740



Silver Cup Produced in Trondheim 1726



Cradle used at Skonnord Late 1700s



Page 33 of 60











#### **The Fourth Generation Skonnords**

#### The Bad Times

As with all farming communities, there are good times and there are bad times.

The bad times began in **1739**. The summer of 1739 was so wet and cold that most of the grain did not ripen before winter set in. The winter that followed was extremely cold. This repeated itself for **3 years**.

The weather in the spring and summer of **1742** was good and there was great optimism that finally they would have a good crop. But as if cursed by God, insects devoured the crops before they could be harvested. This was very much like the great depression that occurred in America in the early 1930's.

The lack of grain caused great poverty and it is likely the Skonnords were no exception. (Potatoes were not yet grown in Snertingdal so the lose of grain was devastating). Grain had to be imported and gård owners had to trade their livestock in exchange for grain. The price of the grain was high and one had to transport it great distances. Many families had to resort to making **bark bread**. Bark bread was common among the very poor in Norway, especially in northern Norway. This was made by collecting pine bark and leaves from aspen and willow tress, which were dried and mixed into the grain flour. This helped feed more mouths but did not taste very good.

There were even some accounts of people in Snertingdal having to eat rats and other rodents.

To make matters worse, people started getting sick. With such poor nutrition, the sickness spread throughout the community. Many families lost loved ones, especially the young and the old.

Ole's cousin **Ole Lønnum** did not fair well during this time. Ole (22) took over Lønnum in **1731** when his father died. Soon after he began losing animals including a very valuable horse (presumably by theft). Then his wife broke her foot and was bedridden. In **1742**, Ole's (33) barn burned down and he himself became sick. He became poverty stricken and died in 1747 at the age of 39.











#### **The Fourth Generation Skonnords**

In **1740**, Ole's (34) I daughter **Berte** was born. Ole had a daughter by that name in 1737 and although the death of that daughter cannot be found in the church records, the first one must have passed away before she was 3 years old. The second Berte (born in 1740, died at age 10 in 1750).

Only four of Ole's I eight children lived a normal lifespan. This was at least partially due to the lack of nutrition during this great depression.

The spelling of Skonnord in the church record for Berte's burial is unusual, as it was spelled **Schonnol**. There are a couple of entries in the church book (in the same handwriting) that also used the same spelling. (It was also spelled this way in a probate from 1721). This is likely the priest writing down the name as it sounded to him, which makes a strong argument for name being pronounced with the thick L right from the beginning. This reinforces the suggestion from Professor Rygh that the original Viking name for Skonnord was **Skarnhøll** (see page 2).

Biri Church	Book	
1750	Berte Old: Schunnel, g E:	10 dar 4: maanind.
Buried	Berte Olsd(atter) Schunnol	10 years , 4 months old

In 1748, Ole's (42) I step mom, Anne Gaarder (56), died. She was still living at Hoff (Hov).

	Biri Church Book 1748
Anne Gaarder	Grachfaft Guess Diand Anne Forand: Hov, of: 56.200



4<sup>th</sup> Generation

Ole I



#### The Fourth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

In **1750**, there is mention of a house called **Rødningen**. It is likely that this was the husmann house that was later called Skomakerstuen, as this house was close to the three fields that are still referred to as Rødningen.

By 1750, rural Norway had dramatically increased its usage of money. With more money available, servants began receiving a stipend for their labour.

This would lead to significant changes to Norwegian society, as self-sustaining gards would slowly become more and more commercialised.

In 1752, Ole's (46) I half brother, Johannes Hoff (41) died.

Ole I, at age 46, had experienced the death of many of his closest family members. His mom died when he was 3, his dad when he was 15, his step mom when he was 42. Three of his daughters and one son had previously passed away, and now his only (half) brother.

In 1754, a law was passed in Norway that prohibited a farmer from having more than one adult son (over 18) and one adult daughter at home. This unusual law lasted until about 1850 (almost 100 years) and was designed to prevent idleness and to supply workers for other farms. Young people usually started working right after confirmation (typically aged 15-17) and guit when they married (typically 26 - 30). It was rare to have workers that were old unless they never married.

Like husmenn, servants signed a 6 month contract and could only leave on the first day of winter (October 14) or the first day of summer (April 14). Servants were required to give 8 weeks notice if they planned to leave.



1710

1752

Johannes

Hott












4<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole I

1600 1650 **1700 1750** 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

### **The Fifth Generation Skonnords**

## **Country Stores**

With the increased use of money in rural Norway, country stores began to open.

In **1750**, the first store near Skonnord opened at **Kremmeren**. In **1753**, one opened at **Stokke**. These country stores were operated at gårds who were fortunate enough to receive a license to run such a business.

Initially these stores provided the few commodities that could not be produced at the gård, mainly iron, glass, coffee, tobacco, salt and sugar. It is likely livestock was bought and sold at local markets in the community. These stores were a fair distance from Skonnord (about 20 km or 14 miles to Stokke) so they probably were not visited often. Over time these stores would carry more and more luxuries. Many of these stores also brokered the sale of timber. (Logs were floated down the Stokke river to Lake Mjøsa, then down to Oslo for export).















4<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole I



In 1757, Erik II (27) and Anne (25) had there first son Ole II.

Biri Church book 1757	Ole II 🔊
23 p: Trinid Bap: Erch Schinners have Ar Instit: Finds Bap: Erch Off, hat: Anne Peders dake the A: Forward: Down to Bar fornd of mare How, marke Stordal, Nov. Ward og Sed en Temerca fant. "	Baptized Erich Schunnor's son <b>Ole</b> Father: Erich Olsen, Mother Anne Pedersdat. Sponsors: Bersrend and Mari Hov, (Erik's II aunt and uncle). Marta Ousdal, Soren and Peder Tommeraasen (Anne's brothers).

In **1762**, a new personal tax was introduced of **one riksdaler** for each person above 12 years old. The tax triggered a storm of indignation, and after a series of complaints and regular riots, the tax was reduced and finally abolished in **1772**.







5<sup>th</sup> Generation Erik II

1600 1650 1700 <mark>1750 1800</mark> 1850 1900 1950 2000



## The Fifth Generation Skonnords

In **1767**, Ole I (61) retired and his son **Erik II** (38) took over farming at Skonnord (valued at **330 riksdaler**).



The **1767**, probate shows the distribution of Ole's I and Sidsel's assets (even though both were still alive) to their children. Each son received about **51 riksdalers** and each daughter received **26 riksdalers**. (Most of the value was given in actual goods like animals, grain, furniture, dishes, tools, etc.). The probate included arrangements for Ole I and Sidsel to be cared for by their son Erik II.



It is known that teachers, in this time era, were paid about 20 riksdalers/year. (About \$20,000 US. However this was a low wage and teacher's had free room and board).

Riksdaler could be paper money or coin. The coin had a designation of "Sp" (short for specidaler).







5<sup>th</sup> Generation Erik II



Skonnord

By the mid 1700's, Norwegian families were getting large. This continued for nearly 200 years and would eventually be one of the main reasons why so many Norwegians immigrated to America.

There are records showing that people from the gård **Berg** were confirmed at Skonnord in **1767**. Skonnord was also used for weddings and funerals. These activities suggest that the family were lay leaders amongst the community. Although the exact date is not known, a chapel was set up at Skonnord to accommodate devotions, baptisms, confirmations and small weddings.

By the mid 1700s, a person's education was considered complete when they were confirmed. In **1772**, **Ole II** (15) was confirmed. He was 15 years old, which was a typical confirmation age for both boys and girls.







Wife Sidsella Pedersd(atter) Schonnor 77 Years 15 Nov.



5<sup>th</sup> Generation Erik II

1600 1750 1950 2000 1650 1700 1800 1850 1900

Skonnord

## The Fifth Generation Skonnords

**Biri church Books 1775** 

At Seegard/Biri buried

to the community in an auction in 1723.

In July of **1776**, the USA gained independence and became a nation.

In November of **1775**, Erik's (54) II mom, **Sidsel** (77) passed away at Skonnord.

Delin, grube lati Que Jed felle Redersd: Schonor of: 77 Law. 11: 15 Nov.

In **1781**, a new church was built at **Seegard** with seating for **235** people. A church had stood there since Catholic times (1000 AD), but the land had been confiscated by the crown during the reformation. It was later sold back

The Seegard church and the Kirkerud church were about the same distance away from Skonnord, but after the new Seegard church was built, the Skonnords attended Seegard and is where the old Skonnord graves are located. The 1781 church burnt down on Palm Sunday in 1994 and a new modern church was built in its place. Ole Erik Skonnord (32) was one of the first persons on site and helped with the firefighting. Unfortunately the grave map was also lost in the fire.

















In **1785**, the gårds Klette, Skonnord, Nøss and Fåreng were summoned because the group failed to supply timber to a contractor on time. This was partly due to Erik's death. The gårds cooperated together, in the early years, to export timber. Even at this early date, there were strict rules for the type of trees one could cut. For example, in 1766, Ålset and Kirkerud (to the northwest of Skonnord) were fined for cutting undersized trees.

Ole I

Ole II

In 1786, Ole I (80) passed away, two years after his son Erik II died.

#### **Biri Church Book 1786**



Note: Ole was 80 when he died not 82. It is known from both his mom's and dad's probate that he was born in 1706.

In **1787**, **Anne** (55) passed ownership to her son **Ole II** (30).







6<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole II

1600 1650 1700 **1750** 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



## The Sixth Generation Skonnords

In **1790**, Ole **II** (32) married **Pernille Skonhovd** (27) at Pernille's home church in Vardal. (Weddings usually took place in the bride's home church).











6<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole II

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

## The Sixth Generation Skonnords



In **1801**, there were **11 people** living at Skonnord:

#### Skonnord Family in 1801 (Living in the Main House).

**Ole II** (44) and his wife **Pernille** (39), Sons: **Erik III** (11) and **Peder** (3), (Ole was not born yet) Daughters: **Anne** (7) and **Johanna** (5)

Ole's II unmarried brother Amund (34) and sister Anne Marie (28).

#### **Second Family**

Likely living at the house close to the sawmill. Ole Johansen(55) - he was a husmann. Marit Arnsdatter(38) - his wife. Niels Olsen(23) - his unmarried son.

Inderste means that Niels had his own household and rented space on a daily basis from his father, Ole Johansen.

Before 1800, Skonnord was typically spelled **Schonnor** or some close variant. After 1800, when naming people, it is consistently spelled **Skonnord**. This reflects the spelling changes in Norwegian from "ch" to "k" and "rd"(i.e. a thick "L"). However, whenever it is used as a gård name, it continues to be spelled Schonnor or Skonnor. Also, Erich is now usually spelled Erik.















6<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole II

1600 1650 1700 1750 <mark>1800 1850</mark> 1900 1950 2000

### The Sixth Generation Skonnords



In **1807**, a glass manufacturing company, **Gjøvik Glassworks**, was started by **Casper Kauffeldt**. This company would be the catalyst for a new town called **Gjøvik**. It produced mainly glass products for family table use. It specialised in blue glass and later in crystal ware.

However, not much growth happened at Gjøvik, other than the glass factory, until the mid 1800s. Casper's granddaughter was **Emma Maehlum**, who latter married **Hans Olsen Skonnord**.





In **1809**, **potatoes** were introduced to Snertingdal.

In **1819**, a grain mill was built next to the sawmill at Skonnord.



Carafe produced at Gjøvik Glasworks in the early 1800s









# Landåsen

## Landåsen connections to Skonnord

## Ole's II brother Peder Skonnord (Landåsen)

Ole's II (44) brother **Peder** (41), bought **Landåsen** in **1801**. He married **Mari Vea** and had 4 children.

In **1818**, Peder's (58) wife Mari died, and 3 years later Peder (61) married **Mari Schee** (58) (born Maria Christiansdatter Vestum, widow to Bjørn Pedersen Schee).

One of the conditions of the marriage was that Peder would pay for the education of Mari and Bjørn Skee's son Peder. This stepson later became the father of **Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson**.

Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson is one of Norway's most famous poets. He received the Noble Prize for literature in **1903** and wrote the lyrics to the **Norwegian National Anthem**.

The daughter of Mari and Bjorn Schee was **Petrine**. Petrine was the great grandmother of Hans Kristiansen Hoff who married Nikoline Olsen, the daughter of **Marte Marie Skonnord**.



Nikoline Olsen Hans Hoff

Take some time to examine the picture of the Bjørnsons to the right, as it contains some interesting processions of a wealthy Norwegian family in the late 1800's.











# Landåsen

## Landåsen connections to Skonnord (Continued)

Peder (Skonnord) Landåsen's second son Ole (b. 1796), took over Landåsen after his father.

Ole's son, Caesar Landåsen, married Oline Skonnord in 1878. They built a hotel at Landåsen which is now used as a rehabilitation centre.





Oline Skonnord

Caesar Landåsen



In 1932, Ole's son Andreas' daughter, Ruth, married Axel Kristiansen Skonnord.



















1600 1650 1700 1750 <mark>1800 1850</mark> 1900 1950 2000



### **The Seventh Generation Skonnords**

In **1815**, Ole II (58) retired and his son **Erik III** (25) took over Skonnord for **1000 riksdaler**. (48 years earlier it was 330 riksdaler) In the same year, Erik III (25) married **Anne Marie Hegge** (29) at Anne Marie's home church in **Biri**. They had **5** children.

(In 2022 there are 6,186 known descendants of Erik III and Anne Marie).



**Note:** *Portraits are no longer created and are now of the actual people.* 













1600 1650 1700 1750 <mark>1800 1850</mark> 1900 1950 2000

**The Seventh Generation Skonnords** 



**Erik Olsen Skonnord**, born on Skonnord Gaard in Snertinfdal 28th January, in the years after Christ's death 1791.

## Anne Maria Christoffersdatter Skonnord, born

in Gaard north Hegge in Biri on 11th September, 1786.













1600 1650 **1700** 1750 **1800 1850** 1900 1950 2000

000

## **The Seventh Generation Skonnords**

# Silver Tax of 1816

In **1814**, Norway's finances were in poor condition, partly because of Norway's forced union with Denmark which required Norway to fight in the Napoleonic wars.

To restore confidence in the economy, it was decided to establish a Norwegian National Bank (**Norges Bank**). This was accomplished by taxing the citizen's of Norway in what is know as "**Sølvskatten**" or the silver tax of **1816**.

, , , , ,	1	Del paas			SØLVSKATTEN 1816
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Nan	Name	Indstrud	and the second second		Christian amt
Schonnord	Ole Eriksen			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Toten fogderi
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Tømmeraasen	Order Jorensen Peder Sorensen	es .10.	Faderaddemand)	20483=20484 40 Sver Boes gran 100 Sp	
	Siri Vodersdatt.	22. 2	Inderste - Clator	elither No 19719 tie Meflye V. Son poar 1419	Sp -
Nothas in	Ole Olsen.	00.10.	Gaardinand		and the second

It appears that the taxes for Skonnord and Tømmeråsen were collected together. (There were strong ties to Tømmeråsen as Erik's III grandmother, **Anne**, was born there.

In 1817, Ole Eriksen III was born.













7<sup>th</sup> Generation Erik III

1600 1650 1700 1750 <mark>1800 1850</mark> 1900 1950 2000

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**The Seventh Generation Skonnords** 

In **1824**, Erik's **III** (33) youngest brother, **Ole Olsen** (21), drowned.

Both of Erik's **III** parents died in **1835**. His mother, **Pernille**, died at aged 72 of "**old age**". Three weeks later, his father, **Ole II**, fell into their well and was **drowned** at age 79.



In **1825**, there were **21 people** living at Skonnord. (Eight from the Skonnord family and thirteen others).

#### 1825 Census

e	Ine	rlis	ys	cla	len	<i>"</i> )	So	gn				1	3i	ù	P	ræft	egje	lð		
			Folfemangben indbeelt efter Aiber																	
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## 







1650 **1700** 1750 **1800 1850** 1900 1950

Skonnord

## The Seventh Generation Skonnords (Continued)

In 1831, Erik (40) bought part of Unset, close to the town of Biri.

1600

Erik never lived there, but his son, **Kristian**, bought part of it. Later Kristian sold it to **Christian Amble** (who married to Kristian's sister **Pernille**). When the Ambles moved, it was sold to Kristian's youngest brother, **Martinius**. The section of Unset was called **Fremstad**.

The rest was sold off in parts.

Pernille







2000

















1600 1650 1700 1750 <mark>1800 1850</mark> 1900 1950 2000



## The Seventh Generation Skonnords (Continued)

In **1835**, there were **27** people living at Skonnord.

## 1835 Census













#### 1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 <mark>1850 1900</mark> 1950 2000



## The Seventh Generation Skonnords (Continued)

In **1838**, the tax system in Norway was radically changed. By this time, more and more purchases were made with currency and government officials felt taxes should now be exclusively collected in money, not grain or hides. All taxes were now to be payed in riksdalers. A schedule was printed showing the old taxes and the new accessed value of every gård.

1838 Tax schedule Christians (Best-Dylandenes) Umt, Thotens Fogderi, Birid Thinglag, Birid Præstegjeld.								
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34 Plotte	167a Rlætte	Cars Ellingfen	11 17					
		Erik Olsen 1 7 ½ 9 217						

The old tax for Skonnord was **1 hud** and **7** ½ **skinn**. The new value was **9 Skylddaler**, **2 ort** and **17 skilling**. However, this was not actually the tax, it was an evaluation of the property. A Skylddaler (skyld means tax) was never a currency in Norway, it was a pseudo value from which taxes could be calculated.









## The Eighth Generation Skonnords

In 1841, Erik III (51) retired and his son Ole Eriksen (24) took over Skonnord.

2 Stejode fre Erits Olsen to Ole Eritsen 27 February ar. Mrs. 1 mai 1841 1st May 1841

In 1844, Ole Eriksen (26) married Nikoline Hoff (18).















1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 <mark>1850 1900</mark> 1950 2000



## The Eighth Generation Skonnords

The marriage entry for Ole and Nikoline also includes a column indicating when smallpox vaccination occurred (usually at 1 to 2 years old). This was done by inoculating the child with the pus from a person infected with cowpox virus. This resulted in mild sickness to the young child, but gave the child smallpox immunity. This began in Norway in the early 1800s.

Ole Eriksen and Nikoline had 13 children.







8<sup>th</sup> Generation **Ole Eriksen** 

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

## The Eighth Generation Skonnords

## **Skonnord (1845 Census)**

In 1845, 28 people lived at Skonnord.











## The Seventh Generation Skonnords (Continued)

1600

In **1800**, the Skonnords became associated with the **Haugian movement**.

1650

A law was passed in **1741** that prohibited any religious meetings in Norway that were not authorized by the state church. The pastor was deemed to be the only person who could interpret Christian teachings.

Hans Hauge (1771–1824) worked as a lay preacher at a time when such activity was forbidden. He believed it was the duty of all Christians to spread the Word of God. He was imprisoned many times for his preaching and became the most well known lay preacher in Norway.

Hans lived close to Oslo but travelled, holding revivals throughout Norway. He had a route that started in Oslo, went north to Hamar, looped through Snertingdal, then on to Oppdal, and finally to Trondheim. Everywhere he went he travelled by foot. This trip took well over 100 hrs (500 km) of walking each way. This was considered more "Christ like" as it was as "Jesus delivered his message".

In **1800**, Hans (29) came to Snertingdal and became friends with the much younger Erik III (10). When Hans died at aged 52, Erik III was 33. According to a book on Hans Haugen, written in the early 1900s, Erik III held devotions at Skonnord every Saturday night and multiple times on Sunday.

Hans inspired many young people to follow in his footsteps and those that followed usually kept the traditions he started. This included travelling by foot and walking the same route that Hans had done in previous years.



## Hans Hauge





7<sup>th</sup> Generation

Erik III











<sup>th</sup> Generation Erik III

1600 1650 **1700** 1750 **1800 1850 1900** 1950 2000



## The Seventh Generation Skonnords (Continued)

Besides Hans Hauge, there were two other well known "Haugians" who were closely associated with the Skonnords.

**Christian Amble** (32) arrived in the area around **1849** and shortly thereafter **Hans Pederson Lingjerde** (30). Both were in their early 30's and single. As young men, they followed the traditions of Hans Hauge. By **1850** both were looking to marry and have a family.

In **1850**, **Christian Amble** (32) married Erik's **III** (59) daughter **Pernille Skonnord** (23). He worked initially as a leather dyer (farver). Christian bought **Fremstad** (part of Unset) in **1850** and then Unsethagen from Kristian Eriksen Skonnord in **1852**.

In **1853**, **Hans Lingjerde** (34) married **Kari Ålset** (22) and farmed at **Engelia**, in Vardal. **Ole Eriksen Skonnord** and Christian Amble (Fremstad) were witnesses at Hans and Kari's marriage.

Both Hans and Christian worked their farms during the busy farming season and then held revival meetings during the winter.

In **1857**, Erik's **III** son **Martinius Skonnord** (27), who was a school teacher, married **Karen Halsi** (24). In **1862**, he bought Fremstad from his brother-in-law, Christian Amble.

Like Christian Amble and Hans Lingjerde, Martinius became a Haugian lay preacher, taking the winter off to travel and preach. He was known as a good orator and singer.





Hans Pedersen Lingjerde



#### Erik's and Anne Marie Hegge's Children





Martinius Pernille Skonnord Skonnord Fremstad Amble



Christian Amble







# Skonnord



End of Part 1. Please see: **The History of Skonnord** The Emigration Years 1850 - 1920

Part 2 of 4

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