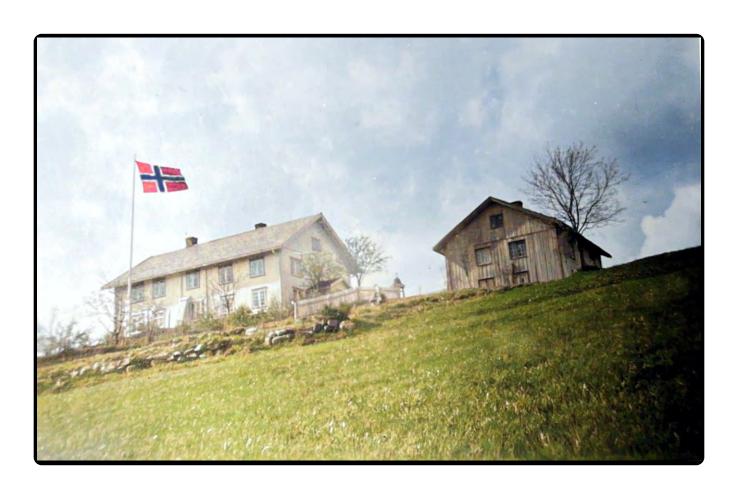
# The History of **Skonnord**

## The Emigration Years 1850-1920 Part 2 of 4







# The Hegge Emigration 1850

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



**Anne Marie** 

(born Berg)

#### First emigration of a Skonnord family member

**Note:** A red dot in the bottom left corner of a portrait indicates it is a created portrait and is not a picture of the actual person.

In **1850** a widow, named **Anne Marie Hegge (born Berg)**, emigrated to America with most of her children and grandchildren. She settled in **Coon Prairie**, **Wisconsin**. She was the first person related to the Skonnords (Erik's III sister-in-law) to leave Norway.

Her oldest daughter **Marie** (Erik's III neice) was married to **Peder Gullord** and because they had lived on the Hegge farm at the beginning of their marriage, the family took the name Hegge. (A common practice at the time).

Peder's brother, **Even Gullord**, had gone to America in **1846** and was the first person to settle in **Coon Prairie**, a place he chose because of its resemblance to Biri. Even convinced his parents and all his siblings (except Peder) to immigrate in **1849**.

Peder was the last sibling to come in **1850**.

Marie Hegge



Peder Gullord Hegge

**Erik III** 

Skonnord

Anne Marie

(Born Hegge)

lver

Hegge

Siblings



**Even Gullord** 













# The Hegge Emigration 1850

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



#### First emigration of a Skonnord family member (continued)

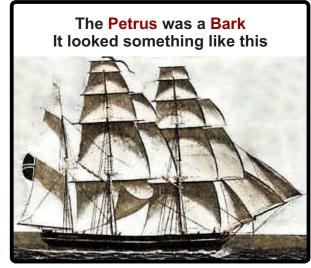
It is hard to find anyone who has anything positive to say about sailing across the Atlantic in **1850**. Ship conditions were horrific and sickness was ubiquitous.

They left Oslo on **July 5<sup>th</sup>**, **1850** aboard the sailing ship **Petrus** and did not arrive in New York until **September 9<sup>th</sup>**, over **two months** later. Unfortunately, Peder's and Marie's 3 month old boy, **Iver**, died part way through the journey. It must have been heart wrenching to throw the little boy's dead body overboard into the cold Atlantic.

Most of the **159** people onboard, came from the Biri / Snertingdal / Vardal area and it is likely the Hegges knew most of their fellow passengers. A lot of them were persuaded to go by the testimony of Even Gullord who envisioned a Norwegian community in Coon Prairie.

Most of the ship passengers settled in **Coon Prairie** or **Coon Valley**.

This type of mass emigration, from one spot in Norway to another spot in America, was common in the early days (1825 to 1860).











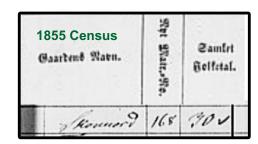
#### 8<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Eriksen

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



#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords

In 1855 their were 30 people living at Skonnord.



In **1856** the **Skibladner** began service on **Lake Mjøsa**. It took passengers from various cities, including Gjøvik, to Eidsvoll. From Eidsvol emigrants took the train to Oslo where they could board a ship to America. Today, (2022), it is the world's oldest paddle steamer still in regular service (although it is now run as a tourist attraction out of Gjøvik). Most Skonnords who left for America between **1856** and **1903** used this boat, as Gjøvik did not have railway service until late **1902**.

In **1860** Ole Eriksen(43) bought a part of **Landåsen** (Hovslettet & Bergslettet of Olamyr).

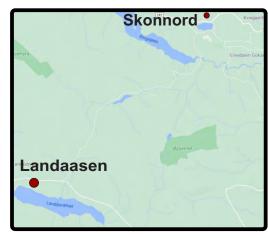
Landaåsen had been previously owned by **Peder Eriksen Skonnord** (brother to Ole Eriksen's grandfather), but after his death it had been divided up into many small farms and hay fields.

The land was likely purchased for the sole purpose of growing hay for the animals at Skonnord. It remained part of the Skonnord land holdings up until 1932. Many of the neighbouring gårds to Skonnord also bought hay fields at Landåsen.

Skonnord has had many connections to Landåsen throughout its history.







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

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#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords

By **1865** at least **4** houses on Skonnord where leased to husmenn, which are often referred to in Norway as homesteads. At Skonnord each husmann received a small plot of land to grow food for his family. The husmenn worked for the Skonnords in order to reduce their rent. This worked well for the gård owner since he did not need to employ the husmenn all year long, only in the busy planting and harvesting seasons. (In the 1900s, some of these properties were bought and separated from Skonnord, becoming their own small farms).

In **1865** there were **43** people living in **5** houses on Skonnord:

Skonnord (Main house), Skonnordstuen Øvre and Nedre, Haugstadsveen and Skomakerstuen (Hansstuen).

It is very likely that those living at Skonnord øvre and Skonnord nedre helped run the sawmill and grain mill since they lived in close proximity to the mills.

The husmenn helped with planting and harvesting in the spring and summer, and in forestry and milling in the winter.









#### Generation Ole Eriksen

1600 1650 1950 2000 1700 1750 1800 1850



## The 1865 Norway Census - The 43 People

#### The Main House and Karbygning

The entrance to the main house is on the north side. One might expect the entrance to face the lake, but the north side opened up to a courtyard that led to the other buildings on the gard.

Quite a few years earlier, a new building called **Kårbygning** was built. The name (Kår) implies that one of its main functions was to house the retired family members (bygning means building). Both of Ole's III parents were dead in 1865 but it is likely Kårbygning was built around 1841 for their retirement.

In **1865** there were **18** people living in the farmhouse area.







**Nikoline** 























**Edward** 

Marte Marie Kristian

Hans 15

Ole

Mathea

**Martinius** 

**Oline** 

**Bernt** 

**Anne** 

Margrethe

Likely slept in Kårbygning







Ole's Aunt Johanne Skonnord Staff





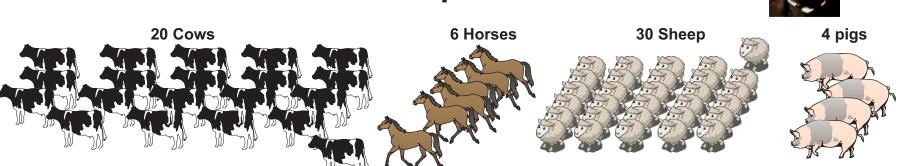


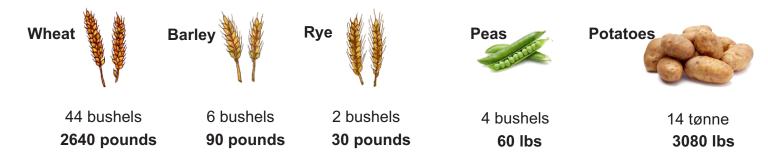


#### 8<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Eriksen

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

## 1865 - The Livestock and Crop





In 1865, Skonnord had 40 acres of grain, 13 acres of pasture, 466 acres of forest and 40 acres of "other"

This was the apex of Skonnord. Over the next 150 years the farm would steadily decrease in people, animals and food production. This was due to the workers becoming more independent. With less workers you did not need to grow as much food nor keep as many animals.

In **1865**, the American Civil War ended, which opened the floodgates for Norwegian Immigration to the US and Canada.







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

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



The picture to the right is a cupboard/desk/ chest of drawers, that once belonged to Ole Erikson. There is an inscription on the top of " 18 Oct. 1817" (which is Ole Eriksen's birthday). This was likely given to Ole as a present later in life and was still at Skonnond in 2022.



**Skonnord Cradle From the late 1700s** 



Skonnord Saddle Date not known









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

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

## The 1865 Norway Census - The 43 People

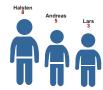
In addition to the main house, there were four other houses at Skonnord.



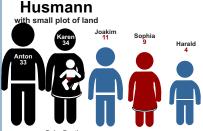




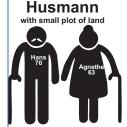




#### Skonnordstuen Nodre (Skonnord Lower House) - 6 People



#### Haugstadsveen - 5 People





Johannes was a shoemaker





Skomakerstuen - 6 People (Shoemakers House) (Hansstuen)





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

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords

#### **Edward's Military Record 1867**

#### Son Edward (Edvard)



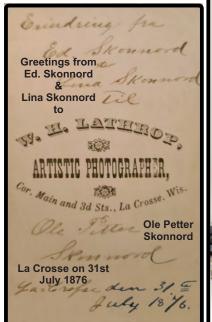
In **March** of **1867** Ole Eriksen's(50) son, **Edward**(20), left for America. He was the first person to use the name Skonnord in America. (He usually went by Ed). Edward was about to be drafted into the Norwegian military and this may have been one of the reasons he decided to leave. Ed's departure ended the tradition of the first son inheriting the Skonnord gård.

After working as a farm hand in Wisconsin, Ed eventually opened a hotel in **La Crosse** called **Pearl Street House**. Ed(30) married **Nikoline Selbo**(27) in **1876** and had two children. (Olga and Norman).

After selling the hotel he worked at sawmills in La Crosse. Late in life he moved to Minneapolis.



## Back side of the picture to the right











# **The First Skonnord Emigration 1867**

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



#### The Seventh Generation Skonnord

#### **Sister Martha (Mathea)**

Ole Eriksen's (49) sister, Mathea Skonnord (43) also left for America in 1867. (She went by Martha in the USA). She was married to Hans Christensen Hegge (47) and they immigrated with their 10 children to Coon Valley, Wisconsin. A husmann from Hegge (and his family) also travelled with them.

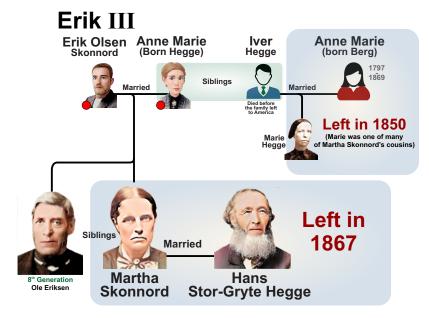
Hans Hegge was born at Stor-Gryte in Vardal. After they married, the couple lived a few years at Stor-Gryte but later moved to Martha's maternal grandparent's gard called Hegge.

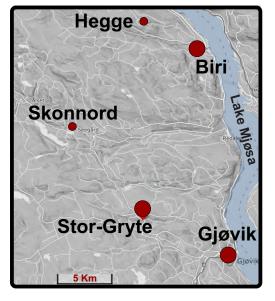
The widow, Anne Marie Hegge (born Berg), who had left 17 years earlier, was **Martha's aunt**. (see the family tree to the right). So Martha had Aunt Anne Marie, and many cousins to greet her when she arrived in Wisconsin. Hans' brother, **Johan Gryte**, also was in Coon Valley, having immigrated two years earlier.

By **1867** Coon Prairie and Coon Valley had grown significantly since Even Gullord had first farmed there in **1848**. It was, as he envisioned, mostly a Norwegian community.

They faced an uncomfortable journey, but once they arrived they received free land and were close to family.

An added bonus was that the Coon Valley community all spoke their dialect of Norwegian.











# **The First Skonnord Emigration 1867**

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



#### The Seventh Generation Skonnord (Continued)

#### **Sister Martha (Mathea)**

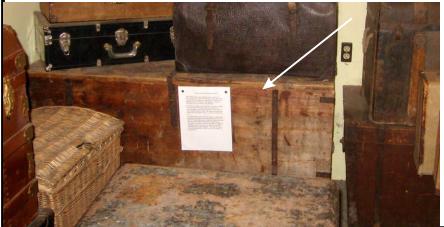
Hans and Martha, with their 10 children, left Oslo on **April 26**, arriving in **Quebec City** 35 days later, on **May 31, 1867**.

After farming their homestead in Coon Valley, the Hegges retired to North La Crosse. Many of their children were living their as well as Martha's nephew Edward Skonnord and niece Margaret Skonnord.



Here is a chest that Hans and Martha brought with them when they came to America in 1867

Hans Hegge's name is inscribed on it.
It now resides at the
Pioneer Village Museum
Cameron, Wisconsin



#### The Johannes Rød's Passenger list













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

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



In **1875** only two of the husmenn houses were occupied (Skonnordstuen and Hanstuen), with a total of **28** people living at Skonnord. Ole Petter, Martinius and Oline Skonnord where down in **Søndre Land** at the time of the census (December 1875. - possibly at Landåsen).

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



1600 1800 1950 2000 1650 1700 1750 1850 1900

#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords (Continued) **Daughter Marte Marie**

In **1874** Ole Eriksen's (56) daughter **Marte Marie** (27), married tanner **Halvor Olsen** (31).

It is believed that Marte Marie was disowned by her parents for marrying a tanner. But there is evidence that she maintained contact with them and had good relationships with her siblings. Marte Marie had 10 children: Olaf, Olga, Lina, Agnete, Olaf, Morten, Anna, Emma, Ole and Agnes.







Halvor

Marte Marie's(54) husband(58) died in **1901** and Marte Marie returned to Snertingdal. She lived at No known picture of Marte Marie exists Kletthagen on the southwest side of Skonnord Lake. (Brother Martin bought it for her to use).

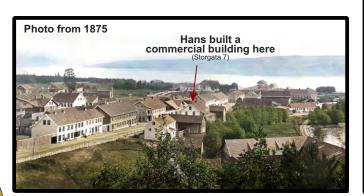
#### **Son Hans**

In **1876** Ole Eriksen's(58) son, **Hans**(25), moved to **Gjøvik** where he first worked as an iron trader. Later he built a commercial building were he lived upstairs and managed a hardware store below.

In 1879 Hans(28) married Emma Maelem(26). Emma came from a well-to-do family. Her grandfather was Casper Kauffeldt. Casper started the Gjøvik Glassworks which employed many people and was the catalyst for the town of Gjøvik. Emma's sister, Ida, was married to Haagan Skattum, who became one of the wealthiest men in Gjøvik.

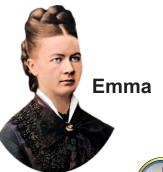
They had 7 children: Ole, Eivind, Louise, Bergilot, Frifthjof, Thor and Reidar.

Hans died at 46 years old, from a fractured skull.













Generation Ole Eriksen

1600 1650 1800 1950 2000 1700 1750 1850 1900



#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### **Son Martin (Martinius)**

In 1877 Ole Eriksen's (59) son, Martin (21), immigrated to America. Martin first stayed with his brother Edward (31) in La Crosse but eventually homesteaded just south of Valley City in North Dakota. Martin's farm was later called Meadow Creek and was often the first place new Skonnord immigrants stayed when first arriving in America.

In 1882 Martin(27) married Martha Selbo(28). Martha was sister to Nikoline Selbo, who was married to Martin's oldest brother, Edward.

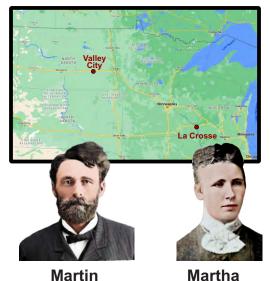
They had 4 boys: Olaf, George, Richard and Arthur. Martin was know for his strong work ethic, his generosity and his strong faith.

#### Son Bernt

In 1878 Ole Eriksen's (60) son, Bernt (19), left for America. Bernt first clerked at brother Edward's(32) hotel in La Crosse but eventually went west, where he became a mining executive in Wallace, Idaho.

In **1904** Bernt(43) married **Alida Lindgren**(32). He had only one son live to adulthood. (His son, John, changed the spelling of his last name to **Skonnard**).





Martin



**Bernt** 



Alida







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



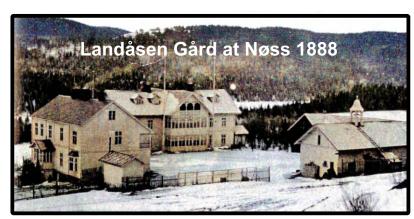
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#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### **Daughter Oline**

In **1878** Ole Eriksen's (60) daughter, **Oline**(20), married **Caesar Landåsen**(24). Caesar later became one of the wealthiest land owners in Snertingdal. He was a farmer, a lumberman, a hotel owner as well as the local dentist. (He even forged his own tools for pulling teeth).

They had 3 boys but only Olaf lived to adulthood.







**Oline** 



Caesar

#### **Daughter Margaret (Margrethe)**

In **1881** Ole Eriksen's (63) son Edward (36) returned from America for a visit. When Ed returned to America, his sister **Margaret** (17) went with him.

In 1888 Margaret(24) married Luthern minister Kristopher Ytrehus(32).

Margaret lived in **La Crosse**, (where brother Ed lived) but died shortly after the birth of her third child when she was only 29. She had 3 children: Oscar, Christine and Sigurd.



Margaret



Kristopher





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



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

#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### Son Kristian

In **1881**, Ole Eriksen's (63) second son, **Kristian** (32), married **Martha Lingjerde** (18). Martha was the daughter of the well known Haugian lay preacher, **Hans Pedersen Lingjerde**. In the same year, Kristian bought **Søndre Fruset**, a farm in Vardal for **6000 Kr.** They had 7 Children: Olaf, Hans, Karl, Bernhard, Axel, John and Borghild. (Two died young).



In **1882**, Ole Eriksen's(64) daughter **Mathea** (27) married **Bernt Kvisgård** (36). They farmed at nearby Kvisgård and had 12 children: Even, Oluf, Lina, Inga, Emil, Bernhard, Sina, Oskar, Morten, Borghild, Palla and Hjalmar.



Mathea

**Kristian** 

Martha



#### Son Ole Petter

In **1882**, Ole Eriksen (64) sold **Skonnord** to his fourth son **Ole Petter** (30) for **8780 Kr**. (Using the Norge Bank inflation converter this works out to **618,684** Kr or about \$75,000 US dollars.

This was a break in tradition. Usually the eldest son took over the gård. Since Ole Eriksen's first son, Edward, had long ago left for America, the most likely person to take over would have been Ole's second son, Kristian. But Kristian (32) had a bad knee, after an accident with an axe, and could not work with the vigour of his younger brother Ole Petter, so their father decided to pass the farm to Ole Petter. (The third son, Hans, was running a successful hardware store in Gjøvik and likely had no interest in farming).

In **1883**, Ole Petter (30) married **Beate Austdal** (19). They had 12 children: Helene, Lina, Bergine, Ole, Adolph, Martinius, John, Olaf, Margrethe, Olga (x2) and Eilif.



Ole Petter



Beate





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

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



#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### **Daughter Anne**

In **1890** Ole Eriksen's (65) daughter **Anne**(28) married **Gustav Skundberg**(26). They farmed in Vestre Toten. Later, Gustav became a police sergeant in Gjøvik.

They had 3 children: Karl, Anna and Gustav. The couple would later divorce.

#### Son Oluf

In **1898** Ole Eriksen's(73) son, **Oluf**(32), married **Klara Snartum**(21). They lived at **Elvedalen** where they had a large dairy business and a country store.

They had 12 children: Odleif, Even, Sverre, Even, Solveig, Rolf, Normann, Ineborg, Evinda, Borghild, Bergjlot and Kjell.

Oluf's son, **Rolf**, started a clothing store (called Skonnord) in Ski, Norway, that is still run by his descendants today (2022).

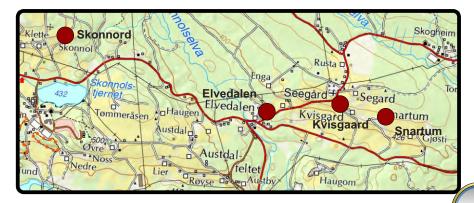




Anne Gustav







Page **18** of 41



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



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

#### The Eighth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### Son John (Johannes)

In **1892** Ole Eriksen's(67) youngest son, **John**(20) left for America.

John was one of the few Skonnords (prior to 1900) to attend high school in Norway. After his schooling, he worked as a sales clerk in Norway.

In Minneapolis he attended seminary (for nearly 10 years, earning the equivalent of a Th.D.) and became a Luthern pastor.

John(32) married **Clara Clayburgh**(23) in **1904**. John was pastor for many congregations in Canada and the US but eventually ended up in Valley City where brother Martin lived. (Martin paid for John's education at Augsburg Seminary).

They had 3 children: Theo, Cecilia and Clem.



John







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

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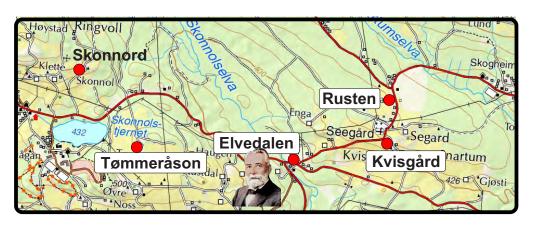


#### **Country stores**

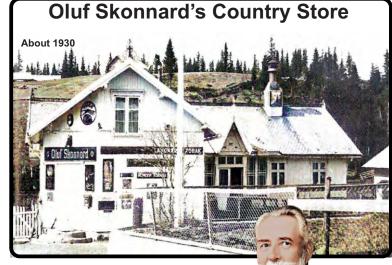
The first country merchants in Snertingdal were at Kvisgård and Tømmeråsen. This occured in **1875**. Soon after, stores opened at Seegård and Rusten.

In addition to running his store, **Even Seegård** was a timber merchant and through him went most of the timber sales from Snertingdal. The store at Rusten was run by **Andreas Landåsen** and would eventuality be turned into the first old age home in Snertingdal.

**Oluf Skonnord** bought the country store in Elvedalen in **1894**. Oluf's store included a Post Office as well as a large dairy facility.













9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords

In **1883** Ole Petter(30) began farming at Skonnord and was married to **Beate Austdal**(19). They had 11 children.



1852 1937

186 192

**Ole Petter** 

Beate Austdal



By **1883** Norway had changed dramatically. The town of Gjøvik, while not large, was growing and offered goods and luxuries that previous generations could not even conceive of. Travel was much easier (railway service to Gjøvik did not occur until 1902 but one could catch a steamboat from Gjøvik to a train depot). Many gårds offered horse and carriage "Taxi service". Beate's father, Andreas, ran one at Austdal.

But the greatest change of all, was the attitude of the people. No longer were people destined to be servants of landowners. Now there were real options to better yourself in life. (If not in Norway, then in North America).

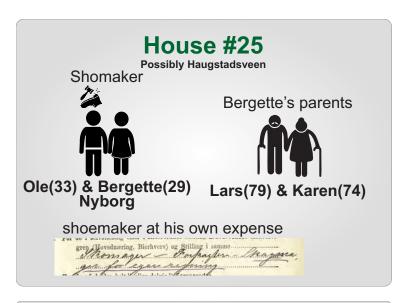






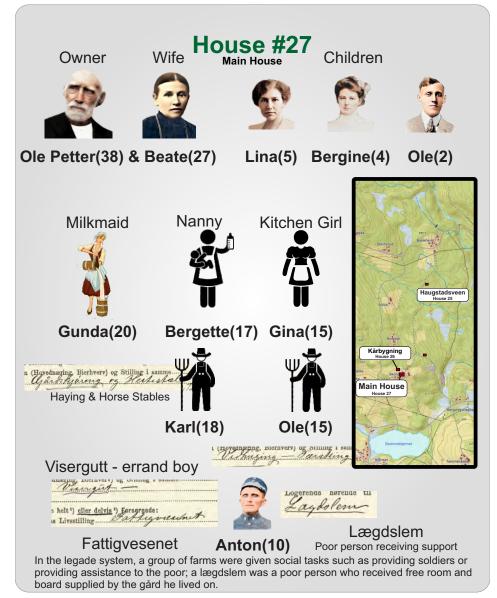
## **1891 Norway Census**

In **1891** there were **35** people living at Skonnord in **5** different houses.





It's unclear why Emma is the only one of her 10 siblings living at her grandparents. It is significant, as it shows Ole still had contact with his daughter, Marte Marie, even though she had married a tanner.









## **1891 Norway Census**

#### **House #29** 10. For de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervs Anne Mathia Larsdat. Skonnordeie(55) Widow shoemaker at his own expense Lars Pedersen Skonnordeie(20) Skonnordstuen Nedre 10. For de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervsgren (Hovednæring, Bierhverv) og Stilling i samme. In 1891, Lars went to Minneapolis where he ran a dairy farm and repaired shoes. Later he moved to Montana. 11. For de af Andre helt') eller delvis Forserg Middle user of the place In America he went by Lars Skonnord. Forsørgerens Livsstilling Maskeringerske is He was not genetically related to the Skonnords. 12. Sindssvag, Døvstum eller Blind 1). Skomakerstuer 10. For de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervs-Nels Antonsen Smestad(21) Visitor gren (Hovednæring, Bierhverv) og Stilling i samme .... Hummand an Heringende Main House Idda Pedersdr. Smestad(23) Visitor 0. For de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervsgren (Hovednæring, Bierhverv), og Stilling i samme-Anton Nilsen Smestad(2) Visitor 1. For de af Andre helt 1) eller delvis 1) Forsørgede:

#### House #30

Possibly Skonnordstuen Nedre

Johan Østensen Skonnordeie(33)

Hellene Edvardsdr. Skonnordeie(24 Wife

Bernt Johansen Skonnordeie(6)

Olaf Johansen Skonnardeie(3)

Tilla Johansdr. Skonnard(2)

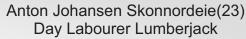


de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervengern (Hovednæring, Bierhverv) og Stilling i samme Amelikal Emmundurg, gang — Landburg — E

11. For de af Andre helt') eller delvis ') Forsergeda:

Forsergerens Livsstilling (Banananana)

12. Sindssvag, Devstum eller Blind 1).



gren (Hovedneying, Bierhvery) og Stilling i samme Indensif Dagaste uder lannamer brugging ved brugging glænds tylning at f

Lisa Andreasdr Skonnnardeie(21) Wife







Forsørgerens Livsstilling... Husman



9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### Profile of a worker at Skonnord

**Anton** was born and raised at nearby **Berg**, the son of a poor farm worker. He began working at Skonnord in **1890**, when he was only **10** years old to help earn money for the family. As a child he worked as an errand boy.

In **1890** his father died. Because Anton(10) was so poor, he was classed as a **laegdslem** which allowed him to receive partial funding from the **fattigvaesnet**. This was a community funded organization that helped out those who were extremely poor.

Around this time he became a full-time resident at Skonnord receiving free room and board and a small wage. His school fees were also payed for by Ole Petter.

Anton was known for his constant singing as he worked in the fields. (His family has a recording of him singing, that Anton made later in life). He was strong and a very hard worker.

Soon his widowed mother and siblings came to live at **Skomakerstuen** at Skonnord. His mother also received fattigvaesnet support. Anton soon went to live with his family at Skomakerstuen. Later in life, when asked what he ate while living there, he though for a moment, but refused to answer.

In the **1892** school registry, young Anton was registered as **Anton. P Skonnord.** The use of Skonnord, instead of Skonnordseie, was likely because he was fully dependent of the Skonnords for his support.

One of Anton's classmates was **Olaf C. Landåsen**. Olaf was son to the wealthy **Caesar Landåsen** (who was married to Oline Skonnord, Ole Petter's sister). In this era, class distinction was prevalent, but all classes were supposed to be together in schools. It's curious that Anton only missed 1 day from the 55 days he was supposed to be at school (most students missed only a couple of days), yet Olaf missed 28 days.

Birth	School start Year	Legal days missed	Illegal days missed
277	56	5	5
anseie #71	2 87	6	3
undie 37	89		
14 7	9 87	6	4
2 780	88	5	
n 38/8/	89	28	1
rd 37.80	88	4	1
- 381	89	1	le .
7 8.	2 91		4
28 7	86	13	6
	277 278 endie 277 endie 277 107 2 24 86 en 27 81 en 27 81 en 27 81 en 27 81 en 27 81	Birth ster vear vear vear vear vear vear vear ve	Birth start vois days missed 27 87 56 5  ansie 27 87 6  endie 27 87 6  endie 27 87 6  endie 28 29 87 6  29 80 88 5  20 88 88 89 28  20 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88 88



Anton 1905







Generation Ole Petter

1950 1600 1650 1700 1800 1850 1900 2000

#### **Profile of a worker at Skonnord (Continued)**

Anton(14) lived at Skonnord at least until 1894.

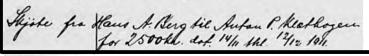
By 1897 Anton(17) and his family had moved to **Klettehagen**. (southwest corner of Skonnord Lake).

In February 1903 Anton(23) and a girl named **Stennethe**(19) had a baby girl. Anton & Stennethe likely met around 1900 when Stennethe(16) worked as a milkmaid for Oline Skonnord Landåsen at Nedre Nøss. They likely could not marry as they did not have the means to support a family.

In 1905 Anton(25) joined the Norwegian army and was stationed on the Norwegian/Swedish boarder. This was the year Norway gained independance from Sweden. After leaving the army, Anton worked on the railroad in Valdres.

In 1907 Anton(27) married Stennethe(23). Anton and Stennethe worked at Klettehagen which was then owned by Martin Skonnord(48) who had bought it in 1905 for his sister Marte Marie Skonnord Olsen(58). (Martin lived in South Dakota). Since Marte Marie(60) was widowed, and had no sons left at home, she needed help to run the farm. Anton and Stennethe worked at Klettehagen until at least 1911.

In 1911 Anton(31) and Stennethe(27) were able to buy a small portion of Berg which they called Bergli.



Deed from Hans A Berg to **Anton P. Klethagen** for 2500 kr Date: 14/11 - 12/12 1911

Even after they had their own farm, Stennethe sometimes returned to Skonnord to bake flatbread. Stennethe also used the Skonnord saeter after Ole Sr. Skonnord stopped using it.

Two of their children, **Helen** and **Ivar Bergli**, also worked at Skonnord when they were young adults.

In 1945 when a phone call was received, bringing news that WW2 had ended. Stennethe was at Skonnord baking flatbread. Stennethe wept tears of joy, along with the family, as Ole Sr. raised the Norwegian flag. The children found it funny because after Stennethe wiped her tears with her apron, her face was covered in flour and she looked like a ghost.



**Stennethe** 





Stennethe











1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



#### **Profile of a worker at Skonnord (Continued)**

While every journey was a bit different, it is easy to see how difficult it must have been for the poor. Yet through determination and a lot of hard work, they were able to better themselves and make a better life for their children.

#### The 1900 Norway Census

In 1900 there were 23 people living at Skonnord

#### Residents of the main house in 1900:



# 1900 Norway Census 1 Ole Sepher Olem Shanos on 4 9 Gardbruger - o'driene 1852 2 Beala Ambriao Lablen 4 9 Gardbruger - o'driene 1862 3 Nobeline Beala Ambriao Sak & reg Pather - biro haldmings = 1885 4 Bergein Bellers Sakher & reg Pather - biro haldmings = 1885 6 Ole Sepherson on reg Pather 1889 6 Abalf J- on reg Jan 1893 7 Marshimes J- on reg Jan 1893 8 Yohanes J- on reg James 1897 10 Maryula J- on reg Jameshpiger-balic - 1865 12 Birishine Hansen & reg Jameshpiger-balic - 1865

Lived in Kårbygning, the house next to the main house

Milkmaid Kitchen Girl Farm Worker







Kristine(19)

Marthinius(16)







9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



Skonnordstuen Øvre

Haugstadsveen

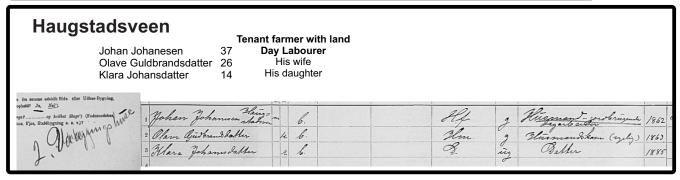
Skomakerstuen

Skonnordstuen Nedre

Skonnord

#### The 1900 Norway Census (Continued)

Skonnordstuen Øvre  Tenant farmer with land Day Labourer - Lumberjack									
Anton Johanesen Anna Elise Andriasdatter Johan Adolf Antonsen Ludvig Antonsen Jimmy Gustava Antonsdtr Gunilias Antonsen Emil Antonsen	34 His wife 29 His daughter 9 His son 7 His son 5 His Daughter 3 His son 1 His son								
1 (Se Ben. 4)		,,	(or consider sometimes of						
1 anhan Johansen Shenner "		34. 1	Kiromant- jort bring	myk - 1865					
2 anna Elise and riss Lather 1/2 6		3lm 2	Hisman's have	1870					
3 Johan attalf antensen on b		g in	Van.	1890					
4 Lutving - Je on b		I in	1	1892					
5 Jenny Gustava - de R &		B. xig	Takker .	1894					
6 Gunlins JE m 6		I ny	Van	1896					
7 Emil anskar - 1 - m 6.		y ing.	San	1900					



It appears that in **1900** there were only two husmenn at Skonnord. (The census notes that there are two houses at Haugstadsveen).







9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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

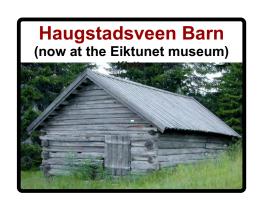


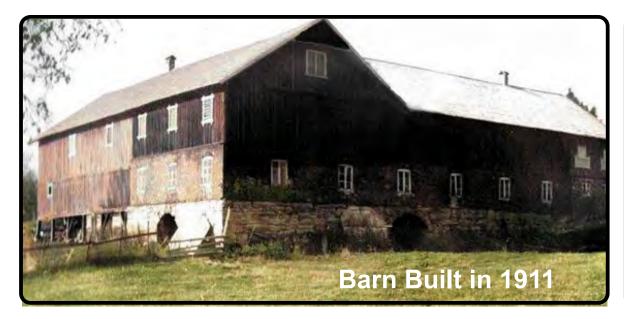
#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords

#### A New Barn

In **1911** Ole Petter decided to build a new barn, which was very modern for its time. The animals were housed on the second floor so that their manure could be easily shovelled though holes in the floor to a manure pit below. The top floor was for hay storage.

Even though the new barn was large, it still could not accommodate the large amount of hay needed for the winter. Several other buildings were used for hay storage. (Jengsmyra, Skonnordtjernet, Rønningen and Haugstadsveen). When the hay was depleted from the barn, more was brought to the barn by sleigh.













9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

1600 1750 1650 1700 1800 1850 1900 1950 2000



#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords

#### **Telephones**

Sometime around 1912 Ole Petter installed a telephone.

This was quite expensive as Petter had to pay for the telephone poles.

Interestingly, the telephone line consisted of only one wire. The earth was used in place of a neutral wire. It was a party line, so one had to be careful what was said as it was possible that the neighbours might be listening in on a conversation (and they often did).

The telephone exchange that connected to Skonnord was installed at Seegard.

#### Telephone at Skonnord)



#### **Telephone exchange from Snertingdal** (Not Seegard)



#### Snertingdalens central.

- Aalseth, Bernt, gaardbruker.
- Ambjer, Gunnar, gaardbruker.
- Andenstad, Chr., gdbr, Nøss.
- Andenstad, Hans, gaardbruker.
- Austdal, Bernt, gdb. & skyss st.
- Drogset, Lars, gdbr., Austdal.
- Enger, A., gaardbruker
- Fladlien, Peder, gaardbruker.
- Gjosti, Anna, gaardbruker.
- Granum, Sevald, gaardbruker.
- Gratli, Hanna, jordmor.
- Haslid, A., gdbr , Storsveen.
- Hangen, Anton, gaardbruker.
- Hangen, Peter, gaardbr., Klette.
- Jackwitz, Sina, føderaadskone.
- Kalbakken, Lars, landh.
- Kirkerud, Johs., gaardbr.
- Kvisgaard, B., gaardbruker.
- Landansen, Andr., lasteh., Kusten.
- Landansen, Casar, lasteh., Nøss.
- Lund, Kr., læge.
- 18º Lunden, Andr., gbr &herredskass.
- 181 Lunden, Jens, gaardbruker.
- 21 Leanum, Erik, foderaadsm.
- 21 Lonnom, Peder, gaardbr.
- Presteguarden (Storen).
- Rnud. J., gaardbruker.
- Segaard Landhandleri (Olga
  - Landaasen).

#### Skonnord, O. P., gaardbruker.

- Skonnord, Oluf, landh. (Elvedalens Meieri).
- Skundberg, Lars, gdbr., Segaard.
- Snartam. Ingeborg, gaardbruker.
- Snertingdalens Handelslag.
- Spertingdalens talestation.
- Sveen, Peder, gaardbruker.
- Tomter, Peder, kredssykekass.
- 30° Vikland, J., gaardbr., Bratlien.
- Wold, landh., Tomtbakken.







Generation Ole Petter

**Anton** 

1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 2000 1850 1900 1950

#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords

#### **AC Power to Skonnord**

The first power plant in Snertingdal was set up in 1910 on Snartum Creek and supplied electricity to light the house at Drogseth. In 1912, a much larger turbine was installed at the sawmill at Øvre Nøss (the sawmill owned by Caesar Landåsen).

In 1914 the municipal council in Snertingdal decided that they should provide the area with electricity. The work was started in 1917 and power was switched on before Christmas in 1919.

Among the many who worked on the power grid was **Anton Bergli**. He was the one who first switched on the mains breaker to supply power to Snertingdal. In 1925 when Anton was working at the top of a power pole, power was accidentally switched on. The shock sent him to the ground which broke his femur. The doctor who put the bone back into place told others "It was like handling a horse".

Anton's sons Petter, Alf and Ivar were also later employed in the project. The power company VOKKS (Vest Oppland Kommunale Kraft Selskap) was owned by several municipalities, including Snertingdal from the beginning and still provides power to the area.

Anton's son **Sverre** also later found employement at VOKKS.

It is likely power was supplied to Skonnord before Christmas in 1919.





Alf Petter







9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### **Modern Times**

Modern times brought new opportunities for traditional farmers like Ole Petter. While sawmills had been in use at Skonnord for over 180 years, they mainly cut lumber for the needs of the farm (housing, fencing and firewood) with very limited exporting of logs. But now, the emerging economy required lots of lumber, so forestry became much more predominant at Skonnord and many lumberjacks were employed. (Logs were floated down the Stokke River to Lake Mjøsa, then on to Oslo by rail).

Good workhorses were always important, but in the late 1880s, the upper class discovered the new sport of horse racing (Trotters). Ole Petter had a good breeding program and produced many good work and race horses. The frozen **Skonnordstjernet** (Skonnord Lake) was used, for many years, as a winter training ground for the trotting horses.

For gård owners like Ole Petter, things were good. He and his family worked hard and lived well. But only one child out of his eleven could inherit the farm. The same scenario played out for family after family across Norway. Although there were new opportunities for employment in Gjøvik, there just wasn't enough work for everyone. With the promise of free land in North America, a very large percentage of the population decided to leave.

Ole Petter (who usually went by Petter), had 5 siblings immigrate to America. Four of his children would do likewise. (Although one would later return). The mass exodus out of Norway occurred between **1880** and **1915**. After 1915 free land in America was no longer available and Norway's economy had progressed enough that jobs were easier to find. So for Ole Petter, most of his older children went to America but the younger ones stayed.

#### **Daughter Helene**

In **1884** Ole Petter's(31) first child, **Helene**, died four hours after being born and is buried at Seegård.









9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### **Daughter Bergine**

In **1907** Ole Petter's(54) daughter Bergine(20) left for America. She travelled with cousins from Kvisgård. Bergine was voted the prettiest girl onboard the ship.

She first stayed with Uncle Edward in Minneapolis, but later went to Uncle Martin's farm in N.D. called **Meadow Creek**. In **1909**, Bergine(22) married Uncle Martin's son **Olaf B. Skonnord**(26). (Olaf was her first cousin). She and Olaf farmed at Meadow Creek.

Bergine and Olaf had 3 children (Mildred, Melville and Charlotte).

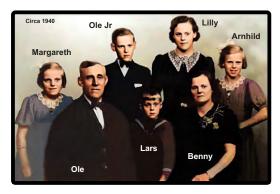
#### Son Ole

Later in **1907** Ole Petter's(54) son **Ole Sr.**(19) also left for America. Ole Sr. ventured all over America and even western Canada. In **1918**, Ole Sr.(28) was drafted and served, for the US Army, in **WW1**. After the war Ole Sr. returned to Norway and took over farming at Skonnord.

In **1925** Ole Sr.(36) married Benny Seegård(27). They had 5 children (Lilly, Ole Jr., Arnhild, Margareth and Lars).







#### **Daughter Lina**

In **1908** Ole Petter's(55) daughter, **Lina**, left for America. She spent time with her uncles: Edward (in Minneapolis); Martin (at Meadow Creek Farm) and Bernt (in Wallace ID).

In **1913** Lina(28) married **John Newquist**(30) and had 3 boys (Clifford, Raymond and Edward, who died young). They first lived in Burke, ID, where John worked as a blacksmith in a mine. They later moved to Burbank, CA, where John worked as a carpenter in the movie industry. He likely help build some of the early MGM sets.









9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### Son Adolf

In **1914** Ole Petter's(61) son, **Adolf**(22), married **Oline Neilsen**(37).

He worked in Oslo as a customs officer and had 2 boys (Ole and Odd).







#### **Son Martinus**

In **1918** Ole Petter's(65) son, **Martinus**(24), married **Anne Gronholt**(27). They farmed at Lille Hubred and had one son named Ole.

Anne died young and Martinus later married **Karen Prestgard**, who was one of the Norway's most talented art weavers.





**Martinus** 

#### Son John (Johannes)

In **1924** Ole Petter's(72) son, **John**(31), immigrated to Canada. It was very unusual for Norwegians to leave in 1924. John's cousin, Olaf K. Skonnord, had farmed in Viceroy, Saskatchewan for many years and in 1924 Olaf return to Norway for a visit. When Olaf(41) went back to Canada, John(31) went with him and bought property very close to Olaf.

In **1946 John**(50) married **Myrtle Clark**(30). They had two boys (Rik and Les).









9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

Son Bernt Olav

In **1928** Ole Petter's(76) son, **Bernt Olaf**(28) married **Bergljot Lyshaug** (23). They had two sons (Petter and Even).

He went by Olaf and was the Snertingdal district forest manager,





#### **Daughter Hilda Margrethe**

In **1924** Ole Petter's(77) daughter, **Margrethe**(24) married farmer **Even Lunden** (22). (The Lunden gård was about 15 km (9 miles) northwest of Skonnord). They had 3 children (Beate, Mary and Jens). She went by Grethe.

#### **Daughter Olga**

In **1936** Petter's(77) daughter, **Olga**(28) married **Trygve Naper** (23). Trygve Naper worked as a carpenter. He later worked in a factory that produced windows, doors and stairs. He also owned a country store. They lived at **Skreosen**, Fyresdal, Telemark. They had 3 children (Dordi, Ådne and Harald). Note: Olga was the second child in her family named Olga, as the first one died as a baby.

#### Son Eilif

Eilif had polio as a child which left him very weak physically and with a humpback in later years. He lived at Skonnord all his life and had his own apartment on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the main house. He liked to talk to people as he drove to the shops on his moped. He worked a little in the carpenter's shop at Skonnord. He liked to joke with the children and convinced many of them that Santa Claus lived in the Skonnord barn.



Eilif





Grethe and Even







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



#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

Before **1910**, Skonnord was in the municipality of **Biri**, but on **January 1**, **1910**, Biri was divided up and Skonnord found itself in the municipality of Snertingdal. (although Snertingdal was an annex of the Biri Parish at least by 1664). In **1910** Snertingdal had a population of **2,028**.

By the early **1900s**, the old gård owner/servant model in Norway was obsolete. Those who chose to work at Skonnord were now employees, not servants. Those that lived in the other houses at Skonnord looked after their own needs. They either payed a lease or worked for Ole Petter in return for living there.

Ole Petter, like all the gård owners around him, began selling off the husmann houses which included a small portion of land.

A husmann plot was sold to Julius J Ostvold in May of 1915.



Reidar

Ole Sr. in his U.S. Army

**Note:** Ole Petter's son Ole, will be referred to as **Ole Sr**. (this is how the family has always distinguished him from Ole Sr.'s son who was called Ole Jr.).

In **1918** Reidar Skonnord(28) died in Gjøvik from the Spanish flu. He was a son of Hans Olsen Skonnord. Ole Peter's son, **Olaf**, also contracted the Spanish flu and while he did not die from it, he had severe memory problems for about one year.

In the summer of **1919 Ole Sr.** (30) returned to Norway after spending almost **11 years** in America. He had been drafted by the US army and served in France the final year. After the war he was no longer interested in adventure and poured his energies into farming at Skonnord.







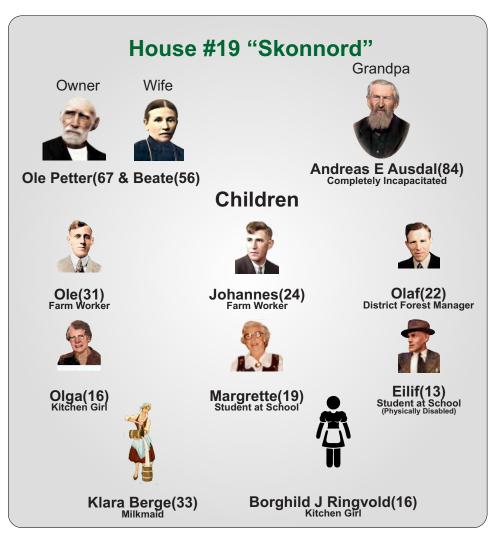
9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### The 1920 Norway Census

In 1920 another census of Norway was taken. At that time there were 5 houses at Skonnord:





There were **11** people living in the main house area. Beate's dad, **Andreas**, was now bedridden. He sold his farm in Austdal in **1915** and lived his final years at Skonnord. The employees likely slept at Kårbygning next to the main house.







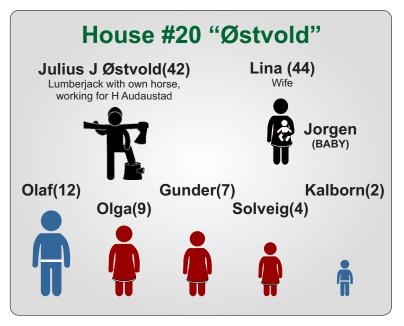


9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

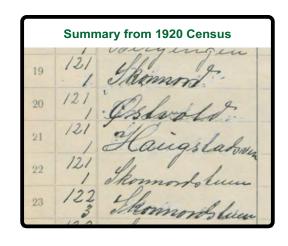
1600 1650 1700 1750 1800 1850 **1900 1950** 2000



#### The 1920 Norway Census









There was a family of **8** living at Østvold. This house had been bought by Julius in 1915. Although in 1920 it was still technically part of Skonnord, it eventually become completely independent. It was later bought by Julius Ringvold and is just north of the Skonnord farmhouse today.

There was a family of **3** living at Haughstadsveen. Hans was likely the son of Julius Østvold but worked for Ole Petter.





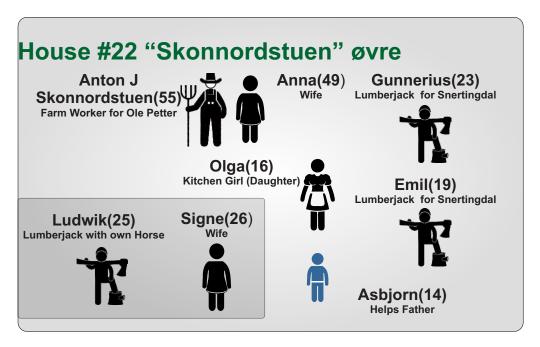


9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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



#### The 1920 Norway Census



There was a family of **8** living at Skonnordstuen øvre. Anton worked for Ole Petter. All of the older sons were working as lumberjacks, the oldest one being married. This small house was about 1 km north of the main house at Skonnord surrounded by forest and a small clearing.

Skonnordstuen Nedre

Skonnord

Haugstadsve



There was a family of **4** living at Skonnordstuen nedre. This house was just south of Skonnordstuen øvre. Even though Laurits lived at Skonnord, he worked as a lumberjack for **Caesar Landåsen**. (Caesar was married to Ole Petter's Aunt Oline, who lived a few kilometres south at Nøss).





9<sup>th</sup> Generation Ole Petter

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

#### The Ninth Generation Skonnords (Continued)

#### **Ole Petter**

Ole Petter Skonnord was known for his honesty. He had his circle of friends and in his time it was common to sign for those friends when they borrowed money from a bank. This meant that he would be financial responsible when someone fell on difficult times. Four times he had to go to Gjøvik and take over apartment buildings. (Visgårdsgården, Røstadgården among others). Fortunately he never went bankrupt and was able to later sell the apartment buildings.

From today's point of view, Ole Petter was not very far-sighted. He refused to let his son Ole Sr. go to high school, insisting that a farmer did not need schooling. This led to Ole Sr. going to America. Only his son, Bernt Olav (Olaf), went to high school. However, some of his children attended Bible school, which Ole Petter regarded as being very important.

#### **Emmigration**

Of the 7<sup>th</sup> generation Skonnords only 2 left for America.

Of the 8<sup>th</sup> generation Skonnords, 5 left for America.

Of the 9<sup>th</sup> generation Skonnords, 22 Left for America but 6 later returned to Norway.



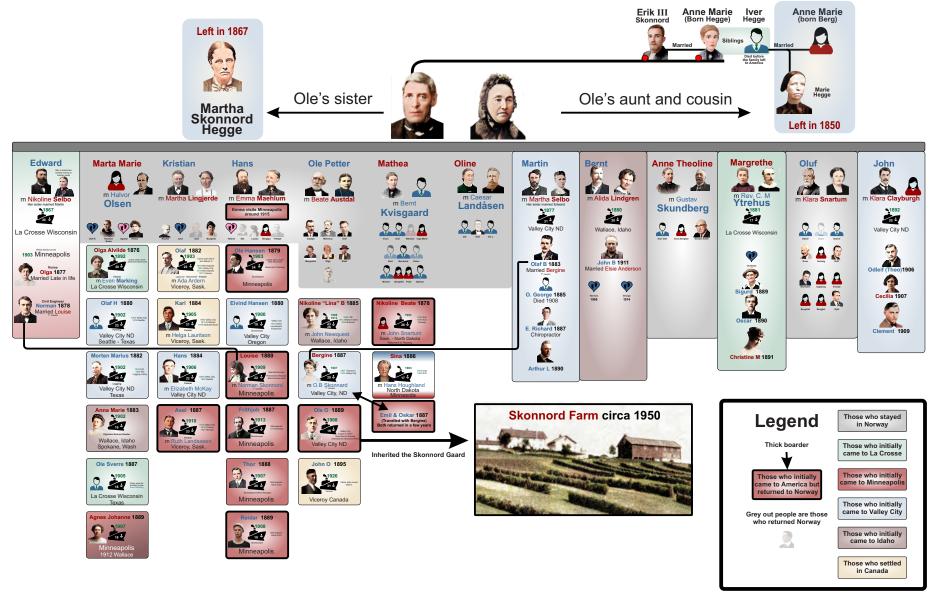






#### Ole Eriksen Skonnord & Nikoline Beathe Hoff

#### **Family that went to North America**











**End of Part 2. Please see:** 

## **The History of Skonnord**

The Modern Era

1920 - 2022

Part 3 of 4

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