

Research Report
Bjelker Lineage
February 1992

Efforts during this last portion of the current project have focused on the ancestry of Gustav Renhart Bjelke. Gustav was born in 1869, in Nord Odal, Hedmark, Norway, though emmigrated to Sweden before marrying in 1903. His parents were already known, as were his paternal grandparents and one set of great-grandparents. Research was first directed at verifying the birth of his parents and then working back from there.

Since the family had previously been noted in the farm books for Nord Odal, research continued in these books to help establish as much ancestry as possible. Once the family is involved with land, there is usually numerous generations also involved, though they may be involved in one of the surrounding areas. In order to cover the possibilities thoroughly, a study of the parishes of both Nord Odal and Sor Odal was made, involving twelve volumes which included various farms and localities from each area. These provided only an outline, although they needed to be searched for productivity sake.

The first document researched was the section for the farm of Bjelker, already in possession of the family. The records showed some additional ancestry that had not been previously noted in family records. Ingeborg Gulbrandsdatter, sister to Ragnhild was added to the family group through this farm record. The mother of Ingeborg and Ragnhild, Mari Knutsdatter, was also found to have additional lineage in the farm book of Bjelker. Her father, mother and siblings were recorded as follows, (doc.#1)¹.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Knut Eriksen	1742	1814	Vik
Ragnhild Embretsdatter	1747	1790	Nord Ekornhol
Mari *ancestor	1775	1856	Bjelker
Berte	1777		"
Erik	1778		"
Marte	1779		"
Eli	1782		"
Ei Marte		1777 age 1	"

A notation states that the last entry, for Ei Marte, could have been written in error and may have been meant for Berte. Knut Eriksen was married for a second time in 1793, to Kari Jacobsdatter. She married after he died, in 1815, to widower Tosten Olsen Hoernes.

Two additional generations for the ancestry of Thore Andrea Gundersdatter were also noted in the records. Though these may have been noted previously, they were not yet apart of the family

¹Client Material, Farm Books for Bjelker, Nord Odal, Hedmark, Norway p. 131,132.

(2)

records, (doc.#2)².

The farms of Stumoen and Skjulstad were not involved in the books of Sor Odal and Nord Odal, being of a select few that were simply not covered at the time of the publications, and have not been covered since. These are the areas where Isak Olsen was from, and dictates that efforts be directed to other lines until this particular source has been exhausted.

The farm of Kroksrud was found in volume one of the books for Nord Odal. This is the farm where Gulbrand Knutsen was recorded to have been from. Gulbrand was shown being apart of the following family unit, (doc.#3)³.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Knut Hansen	1733	1797	Seim, Oppstad
Ingeborg Gudbrands	1740	1817	Helgedagsrud
Marit	1761		Seim, Oppstad
Ingrid	1763		Kroksrud
Hans	1765	1825	
(datter)	1768	1773	
Gulbrand	1771	1842	*ancestor
Anders	1774		
Tjostel	1777		
Anne	1781		

The father of Knut Hansen, Hans Knutsen, was also shown in the farm book, having the following family, (doc.#3i)⁴.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Hans Knutsen			Seim, Oppstad
Marit Tjostels			Svenneby
Knut *ancestor	1733	1797	Seim, Oppstad
Mari	1717		
Ingrid	1720		
Kari			
Ronnaug	1723		
Marte			

Hans Knutsens father, Knut Larsen, was also shown with his family as follows, (doc.#3e)⁵.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>
Knut Larsen	1641	1717

²Client Material Farm Book Svarverud, Nord Odal, Hedmark, Norway p.13.

³Nord Odal Parish, Birger Kirkeby Nord Odal Bygdebok, (1969), Volume 1, p. 138-148.

⁴ibid. p. 141.

⁵ibid. p. 141.

Mari Otters		
Lars		
Hans	*ancestor	
Otter	1690	
Anders	1692	
Berger	1695	1696
Barbara	1697	1699
Berger	1700	
Ronnaug	1703	
Kristoffer	1708	1708

Knut Larsen inherited the land from his father-in-law. He had married Mari Ottersdatter, who was shown with her family as follows, (doc.#3e)⁶.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>
Otter Hansen	1628	1688
Ronnaug Bergers	1629	1714
Kristoffer		

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>
Randi		
Mari	*ancestor	
Ronnaug		
Gudbjorg		

Otter was the only child listed for Hans Kristoffersen. No mother was mentioned. Hans Kristoffersen was listed as the nephew of Hans Gislesen, he being his mothers brother. In a unique tracing of ownership, the farm book continues to record that Hans Gislesen was the son of Gisle Geirlaugsen, who was in turn the son of Geirlaug Gislesen. At this point the ancestry is well back into the 1400's, something truly unusual for a scandinavian pedigree.

Moving back to Mari Knutsdatter, wife of Gulbrand Knutsen. She was reported in the farm book of Bjelker to have been from Bjelker. Her parents had been found in the existing family information, shown earlier in the report as Knut Eriksen and Ragnhild Embretsdatter. Ragnhild was born in Nord Ekornhol, another farm there in Nord Odal, and also one that was included in the farm books for that parish. The information for Ekornhol showed her to be the daughter of Embret Amundsen and Mari Hansdatter, (doc.#4p)⁷.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>
Embret Amundsen	1772	1792

⁶Nord Odal Parish, Birger Kirkeby Nord Odal Bygdebok, (1969), Volume 1, p. 141.

⁷Nord Odal Parish, Birger Kirkeby Nord Odal Bygdebok, (1969), Volume 1 p. 249.

Mari Hansdatter	1718	1770
Hans		
Amund		
Finn	1755	1826
Aslak	1761	
Tjostel	1757	1773
Ragnhild	*ancestor	
Anne		

The genealogy continued to be recorded for this family in Ekornhol, showing Embret Amundsens father, Amund Finnsen, who had four children by his first wife, including Embret, (doc.#4o)⁸.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Death</u>	
Amund Finnsen	1694		
Ragnhild Tjostels			
Embret	1722	1792	*ancestor
Kari	1725		
Ingrid	1730		
Kirsti	1734		

Amund Finnsen was shown being the son of Finn Amundsen and Kari Gunnersdatter. Finn Amundsen was, in turn, the son of another Amund Finnsen. This is as far back as the farm books take this family, though it is still back into the early 1600's.

Ingeborg Gudbrandsdatter, the wife of Knut Hansen was listed in the farm books of Kroksrud as being from Helgedagsrud, which was another area included in the farm books. She is shown there as the daughter of Gudbrand Bergersen and Ingrid Tomasdatter, who had three children, (doc.#5h)⁹.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>	
Ingeborg	1740	*ancestor
Berger	1743	
Inger	1747	

The record states that Ingeborg was born in Skjulstad, just before the family came to Helgedagsrud. The father, Gudbrand, was also married once before in 1734. This wife died in childbirth in 1735. The record also goes on to explain that Gudbrand Bergersen was the son of Berger Olsen, and had brothers and sisters as follows, (doc.#5h)¹⁰.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth</u>
Berger Olsen (father)	
Lars	1699

⁸ Nord Odal Parish, Birger Kirkeby Nord Odal Bygdebok, (1969), Volume 1, p. 248.

⁹ Nord Odal Parish, Birger Kirkeby Nord Odal Bygdebok, (1969), Volume 1, p. 81.

¹⁰ *ibid.*

Ola	1701
Hans	1701
Ronnaug	1704
Gudbrand	*ancestor 1706
Marit	1709

The process of searching actual parish registers to support and fill in additional information for the families, and to help extend beyond the information provided in the farm books, enabled an additional child to be found for the family of Isak Olsen and Ragnhild Gulbrandsdatter. The parish registers showed more detailed information on each child, though they also showed a Knud Isaksen being born on the 6th of January, 1830. He was christened ten days later on the 16th. This particular child likely died young, as he is not mentioned in any other records, though his death has not yet been found during this research project.

The marriage for Isak and Ragnhild was also located, taking place on the 21st of January, 1824 in Nord Odal, Hedmark, Norway.

Research was next undertaken for the family of Gunder Andersen and Kari Torsdatter. The marriage for this couple was located in Sor Odal, Hedmark, Norway, recorded on the 19th of April, 1835. Only the first child, Anders, was born there, for afterward the family moved to the area included within Nord Odal. The farm books also failed to enumerate Anders with the family, just as it had with the child of Isak Olsen. The remaining children listed in the books, however, have all been accounted for in the registers.

At this point, the current project comes to a close. Much of the efforts have been directed toward assembling and organizing that which was most productive. In the process a lot has been added to the pedigree, though there are a lot of areas that were still left untouched. These areas offer excellent potential for continued research efforts and should yield good productive results as future research is undertaken.

- There was a Knud Isaksen mentioned later in Sweden. Could Gudbrand have left home to follow his uncle to Sweden -

~ Sandviken Records.