

Thomas Anderson Blom and Kari Larsdatter, Charter Members of East Norway lake Lutheran Church

Festskrift¹: has "T.A. Blom, born in Indre Aure. Married with Kari Aune. Came to Spring Prairie, Wisconsin 1871. The same to Norway Lake." As it turned out, "Aure" and "Aune" are misspellings of "Arne."

The baptism record² for Thomas states:

Thomas, born 9/10/1846, to Anders Anderson and Magdeli Thomasdatter Blom.
Blom is a farm on the southeast coast of Osterøy, a large island just north of Bergen, Norway.

Similarly, the baptism record³ for Kari states:

Kari, born Dec 11, 1846 to Lars Jensen and Britha Olsdatter Indre Arne.
Indre Arne is a village on the mainland, across the fjord from Blom

There is also a record⁴ of their marriage:

Ungkar Thomas Andersen Blom (age 19½) married Pige Kari Larsdatter Indre Arne (18) on April 9, 1866
Like the baptisms above, the marriage took place in the Haus Parish, probably in the church near Blom. (Their ages seem to be a bit off.)

A passenger ship listing⁵ has Thomas, 25, with Kari, 25, Madli, 4. and Anders, 3, sailing on the Frigate Bird, departing Bergen April 23, 1871 and arriving Quebec, June 4.

A county history book has⁶, under "Among the early settlers of Mamre Twp":

T. A. Blom, born Bergen N., settled on Sec 2 in 1872, moved to Sec 1 and later to N.D.

A Norway Lake list of ministerial acts⁷ has 13 Blom entries, probably all related to this family. Of these, the earliest baptism is that of Bertha Pernille Blom, born 22 Oct 1872.

In the 1885 Minnesota census⁸, T.A. Blom, 38, Cari, 38, Andrew, 17, Matlie, 18, Johanna, 10, Lars O., 7, Ole, 3 and Auna, 1, are living in Mamre Township, Kandiyohi County. In the 1895 Minnesota census, Thomas and Cary are still in Mamre, with children L. Olai, 17, Ola, 13, a. Maria, 11, and G. Teodor, 8.

In the 1900 US census, Thomas and "Carry," both 46, live in the household of son Lewis O., age 22, another son, Gilbert T., age 13, and 2 servants. (Evidently, "Lewis O." is an Americanized name for Lars O. and "Gilbert T." refers to G. Teodor. Oddly, the birth years for the parents are listed as 1853, incorrect by 7 years.) There were 9 children born to the marriage, 8 were living.

Thomas and Kari ended their days in Arletta, WA⁹. Grave markers¹⁰ at the Parkland Lutheran Cemetery in Tacoma, WA have:

Thomas Anderson Bloom, September 10, 1846 - September 30, 1928

Kari Larsdatter Bloom, December 11, 1846 - October 17, 1932

Report by Earl O. Knutson, November 2017

1 "Festskrift - En Fremstilling at det Kirkelige Arbeide Norway Lake fra 1862-1916." Ved Pastorerne Mons Sotendahl og N.J. Njus. Partial translation by Debbie Boe at [http://www.debbiesgenealogy.com/Norway Lake Lutheran Churches 1862-1916.htm](http://www.debbiesgenealogy.com/Norway_Lake_Lutheran_Churches_1862-1916.htm).

2 media.digitalarkivet.no/view/8280/126?indexing=; Haus Sokneprestembete, H/Haa: Ministerialbok nr. A 15, 1838-1847, s. 123, line 132

3 *Ibid.*, s. 126, line 171

4 media.digitalarkivet.no/view/8281/300; Haus Sokneprestembete, H/Haa: Ministerialbok nr. A 17, 1858-1870, s. 294, line 8

5 Norwayheritage.com

6 *Illustrated History of Kandiyohi County 1905*, page 314. Viewed at <http://cdm16022.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p15160coll5/id/944>

7 *Keeping the Faith, Sharing the Faith*, the centennial book of the First Lutheran Church of Norway Lake, published in 1992.

8 Census records were viewed via Ancestry.com.

9 The Anderson/Hobson Family Tree, accessed by searching for Thomas Bloom on Ancestry.com.

10 Findagrave.com; the entries include photographs and information about their children.