

## Andreas Halvorson and Agnete Hansdatter, Charter Members of East Norway Lake Lutheran Church

A local church history book<sup>1</sup> tells us “Andreas Halvorson, from Landstorpen. Married with Agnete Hanson, from Lysne. Came to America in 1866; to Norway Lake 1868.”

Other key dates can be seen on tombstones at the First Lutheran Church of Norway Lake<sup>2</sup>:

- One tombstone is inscribed “Andrenas Halvorson, 8 Jun 1829 – 2 Aug 1894.
- The adjacent tombstone is inscribed “Agnette Halvorson, 15 Sep 1823 – 21 Feb 1915.”

In the Lands Parish baptism records<sup>3</sup>, it is confirmed that Andreas was born June 8, 1829. The farm name Frösland is mentioned. In the Land, Torpa, Nordsinni, Østsinni marriage records<sup>4</sup> it is found that the couple was married on 1 Oct 1854.

The passenger list from the ship *Tordenskiold* include Andeas and Agnete’s family<sup>5</sup>:

### *A snip from the passenger list for the 1866 sailing of the ship Tordenskiold*

15	<u>Andreas Hovelsen</u>	37	m	
16	<u>Agnete Hansdatter*</u>	42	f	wife
17	<u>Hans Andreasen</u>	11	m	son
18	<u>Johan Andreasen</u>	9	m	son
19	<u>Halvor Andreasen</u>	7	m	son
20	<u>Berthe Andreasdatter*</u>	2	f	daughter

Andreas’ parents and six of his siblings had emigrated 9 years earlier.

An index to the 1875 Minnesota State Census has “Ardress” Halvorson, with Agnete, Johan, Halvor and Berta residing in Lake Andrew Township of Kandiyohi County. The family with all four children also appeared in the 1880 census.

No obituary was found for Andreas Halvorson.

The 1915 obituary for “Agnette” Halvorson states that her husband had died 20 years earlier. Three of their children had pre-deceased her, the only surviving child being John A. Halvorson. There were 14 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren – a rich flock of descendants.

Further information on Andreas’ life in Norway, as well as that of his his parents and his siblings,<sup>7</sup> can be seen in a biographical sketch<sup>6</sup> of the family. As stated there, Andreas and Agnete’s children were:

1. Hans, 1855-1903;
2. Johan, 1857-1936;
3. Halvor, 1859-1910;
4. Berte, 1866-1882.

1 The information cited here is from <http://www.debbiesgenealogy.com/Norway%20Lake%20Lutheran%20Churches%201862-1916.htm>, which is Debbie Boe’s transcription of key information from *Festskrift, En fremstilling af det kirkelige arbeide i Norway Lake fra 1862-1916*.

2 Findagrave.com

3 <https://media.digitalarkivet.no/view/9356/159>

4 <https://media.digitalarkivet.no/view/8980/121>

5 Note the spelling of Andreas’ last name, Hovelsen. This is as expected, since his father’s name was Haavel, sometimes written Hovel. Also, the oldest son in this family was given the name of the *maternal* grandfather – an exception to the usual rule.

6 <http://www.nllha.org/HalvorsonsofLakeAndrew.pdf>