

Gulbrand O. and Anne J. Hough, Charter Members of East Norway Lake Lutheran Church

Different spellings have appeared for this family's name, namely: Gjelhaug, Haug, Hough.

A tombstone¹ at East Norway Lake has: Gulbrand O. Hough, Jul 1, 1839 – Jul 25, 1901. A neighboring marker has Anne Hough, 1839-1926.

Gulbrand's obituary² reads, in part:

...In 1863 he was married to Miss Anne Johansen. He came to the United States in the spring of '66, and settled on a farm in Goodhue County. His wife and family joined him there the following year. In 1871 he moved to Kandiyohi County and settled on a homestead in the town of Arctander where he resided until his death. He was the father of 10 children, eight of whom, and his wife, survive. The surviving children are: Miss Inga, of Barnard, N.C., who is doing mission work; O.G., the well-known Kerkhoven merchant; Albert, who is farming in the town of St. Johns, Kandiyohi County; Mrs. J.F. Millard, of this place; Cornelia, Henry, Algine and Tina, who are at home...

Speculation: O.G. Hough is the same person earlier called Gulbrand O. Hough, the son of our charter members. Indeed, by the naming convention the eldest son should be Ole Gulbrandsen.

The Norwegian baptism record³ has: Gulbrand born July 1, 1838 to parents Ole Torgersen and Guri Gulbrandsdatter Gjelhaug.

A Norwegian history book⁴ has the following:

Gudbrand Olsen Gjelhaug. He emigrated in 1866. His wife Anne Johannesdatter, b. 1840, emigrated in 1867 with the children Ingeborg (1864), and Gulbrand (1866). They lived first in Zumbrota, then in Kandiyohi County.

A church history book⁵ has: Gulbrand O. Haug, born in Land. Married with Anna Johannesson, born in Land. To Goodhue County 1865.

In a 1886 plat map⁶ of Arctander Township, the name G.O. Hough is attached to 160 acres split between sections 30 and 31.

Anne's obituary⁷ reads, in part:

...Mrs. Anne (Sven) Hough was born in Torpen, Nordre Land, Norway, December 25, 1839, and was at the time of death eighty-six years, eight months and twenty-one days of age. In 1863 she was united in marriage to Gulbrand O. Hough. In the year 1867 the family came to this country and located at Zumbrota, Goodhue County, Minn. In 1871 they came to Arctander Township, Kandiyohi County. Here she had lived continuously for the past fifty-five years. Mrs. Hough was the mother of ten children, three of whom are dead. Her husband passed away July 25, 1901. The children who now mourn the loss of a good mother are: Mrs. Inga Wallgren of St. Paul. O. G. Hough of Kerkhoven, Albert Hough of Sioux Falls, S. D., Mrs. J. F. Millard of Minneapolis, Mrs. J. H. Henjum and Henry Hough of Arctander and Mrs. Tina Fjeld of Minot, N. D. ...

A baptism record⁸ shows that Anne' parents were Johan Hansen and Agnete Gudbrandsdatter. The domicile was the Erstad farm in Torpa Nordre Land, Oppland County, Norway. The birthdate is confirmed and the baptism date was January 19, 1840 at a church called Hougner.

The 1865 census of Norway has Gudbrand Olsen, his wife Anne Johannesdatter and their daughter Ingeborg Gudbrandsdatter living at a domicile called Hougner, in Søndre Land. Gudbrand is listed as a lodger and is a blacksmith. Their listed birth years are 1838, 1839 and 1864, respectively.

The family appears in the 1875 Minnesota census and the 1880 US census, but could not be found in the other censuses.

Report assembled by Earl O. Knutson, August 2017.

1 Viewed at FindAGrave.com.

2 Willmar Tribune, August 6, 1901. Viewed at chroniclingamerica.com

3 Ministerial Bok for Land Prestegjeld, Oppland County, Norway. Viewed at media.arkivverket.no

4 *Boka Om Land, IV. The Immigration to America from Nordre and Søndre Land, 1839-1915* by Arvid Sandaker, Translation by Sandra Hendrickson (2010). page 173

5 "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%20Lake%20Lutheran%20Churches%201862-1916.htm).

6 Viewed at <http://cdm16022.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p15160coll5/id/42>

7 Willmar Tribune, September 29, 1926. Page 9. Viewed on microfilm at the Kandiyohi County Historical Society.

8 Ministerial Bok for Land Prestegjeld, Oppland County, Norway. Viewed at media.arkivverket.no