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Else Andersdotter

– one of the models for Kristina?

BY ELISABETH THORSELL

In SAG 2/08 we told the story of Andrew Peterson, who left Sweden as Anders Pettersson in 1850 and became a farmer in Minnesota. He wrote diaries for many years, and author Vilhelm Moberg used those as part of the sources that described Karl Oskar Nilsson's life in Minnesota.

Andrew's wife *Else Andersdotter* is seldom mentioned. Still she was an important part of the pioneering life.

She was born in 8 Oct. 1835 at Brunslöv #8 in the parish of Östraby in Malmöhus county, the eighth child of the *rusthållare* and shoemaker Anders Ingemansson and his wife Elna Olsdotter. Anders died 3 May 1851 in Brunslöv (of a long-lasting illness), and his widow had to care for all the children.

In the later 1850s Elna immigrated to the U.S., and so did at least six of her children, and they all seem to have settled in Minnesota. Most of the children seem to have used variations of their father's patronymic as surnames; Ingeman, Ingemanson and Engman).

Else soon (15 Sep. 1858 in Waconia, MN) married Andrew Peterson and started her life as a pioneer wife.

Andrew and Else (called Ellen and Elsie in the various censuses) lived the rest of their lives on a farm in Laketown, Carver County, Minnesota. Andrew died 31 March 1898. They had nine children but none of them had any children in their turn.

In the 1920 census Elsie Peterson is still the "head" of household, and with her lived son John (56), son Charlie (54), son Frank J. (52), daughter Emma R. (49), and son Oscar B. (41). Elsie died 8 March 1922 in Carver County, MN.



Picture of Else Andersdotter Peterson around 1890–1900.

Else Andersdotter's ancestors

1 *Else Andersdotter*, born 8 Oct 1835 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [C]. Died 8 Mar 1922 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, USA. To the U.S. in 1858. (Father 2, Mother 3)

Married 15 Sep 1858 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, U.S.A. to *Andrew (Anders) Peterson*, born 20 Oct 1818 in Sjöarp, Västra Ryd E. Died 31 Mar 1898 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, U.S.A.

Children:

Ida Peterson, born 5 Aug 1859. Died 2 Nov 1900.

George "Sture" Peterson, born 19 Feb 1861. Died 21 Dec 1928.

John "Axel" Peterson, born 16 Dec 1862. Died 6 Mar 1930.

Charles Peterson, born 8 Apr 1865. Died 30 Oct 1941.

Frank Peterson, born 29 Oct 1867. Died 22 Jun 1921.

Emma Peterson, born 11 Apr 1870. Died 17 May 1943.

Anna Peterson, born 14 May 1872. Died 19 Sep 1889.

Josephine Peterson, born 13 Aug 1875. Died 18 Oct 1908.

Oscar Peterson, born 3 Dec 1878. Died 24 Jul 1941.

Generation I

2 f *Anders Ingemansson*, born 31 Aug 1788 in Bjelkhults hus, Fränninge, M [C]. Died 3 May 1851 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [Östraby Death records]. He was a *rusthållare* and shoemaker, first at Tulsåkra in Östra Sallerup, Malmöhus län, and moved with his family in 1825 to Östraby, also Malmöhus län, where he lived the rest of his life. Ref: Östraby AI:3:254. (Child 1, Father 4, Mother 5)

Married 16 April 1820 in Östraby to the following ancestor.

Children:

Nils Andersson, born 17 Feb 1821 in Tulsåkra, Östra Sallerup, M [C].

He moved to Skartofta in 1842, not followed.

Margareta Andersdotter, born 20 Feb 1823 in Tulsåkra, Östra Sallerup, M. She probably stayed in Sweden.

Elna Andersdotter. Born 2 Mar 1825 in Tulsåkra, Östra Sallerup, M.

To America in 1856 with her husband Hans Olsson Ringius and their children. They evidently soon came back, as they emigrated again 1868 from Västerstad parish, also in Malmöhus län (*Emibas*).

Hanna Andersdotter, born 2 Mar 1827 in Brunslöv, Östraby M. To America in 1858 with her husband Ola Johansson and their five children.

Bengta /Bertha Andersdotter, born 14 May 1829 in Brunslöv, Östraby M. She might have emigrated too, but is not found in *Emibas*.

Anna Andersdotter, born 12 Apr 1831 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M. To America in 1858, probably in the company of her mother and sister Else.

Ola Andersson, born 27 Nov 1833 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M, not followed.

Else Andersdotter, born 8 Oct 1835 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [C]. Died 8 Mar 1922 in Scandia/Waconia, MN, U.S.A. (See 1).

Elisabet Andersdotter, born (twin) 21 Jun 1840 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M. To America in 1858. Lived at Brunslöv nr 8. (*Emigranten Populär, Emipass*)

Johannes Andersson, born (twin) 21 Jun 1840. Died 6 Apr 1841 in Brunslöv, Östraby, M.

3 m *Elna Olsdotter*, born 13 Sep 1798 in Sniberup, Östraby, M. To America in 1858. (Child 1, Father 6, Mother 7)

Married 16 April 1820 in Östraby to the previous ancestor.

Generation II

4 ff *Ingeman Mårtensson*. Lodger (*husman*) at Bjelkhults hus in Fränninge, M. (Child 2)

Married 30 Sep 1781 in Öved, M [E] to the following ancestor.

Children:

Anna Ingemansdotter, born 23 Jan 1785 in Bjelkhults hus, Fränninge, M [C].

Anders Ingemansson, born 31 Aug 1788 in Bjelkhults hus, Fränninge, M [C]. Died 3 May 1851 in Brunslöv 8, Östraby, M [Östraby F]. (See 2).

5 fm *Elna Persdotter*. (Child 2)

Married 30 Sep 1781 in Öved, M [E] to the previous ancestor.

6 mf *Ola Larsson*, born 17 Feb 1752 in Östraby, Östraby M. Died 30 Oct in Sniberup 10 in Östraby. Farmer at Sniberup 10, Östraby. (Child 3). Married 1st 21 May 1779 in Östraby [E] to Truen Nilsson, born 4 Dec 1749 in Östraby. Died 18 May 1793 (in childbed) in Sniberup, Östraby. Married 2nd to the following ancestor.

Children:

1. *Ingar Olsdotter*, born 4 Apr 1780 in Sniberup, Östraby M.

1. *Bolla Olsdotter*, born 5 Mar 1783 in Sniberup, Östraby M.

2. *Elna Olsdotter*. Born 13 Sep 1798 in Sniberup, Östraby M. (See 3).

7 mm *Margareta Svensdotter?* born 1753 in Östraby, M (Child 3) Married to the previous ancestor.

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[C] = date from birth records

[E] = date from marriage records

[F] = date from death records

M = code letter for Malmöhus län

(Research by Birgitta Rääf, Lena Kindstedt, and Elisabeth Thorsell)