Swedish American Genealogist

Volume 29 | Number 1

Article 3

³⁻¹⁻²⁰⁰⁹ Final resting place of Warner Oland

Virginia M. Cumming

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag Part of the <u>Genealogy Commons</u>, and the <u>Scandinavian Studies Commons</u>

Recommended Citation

Cumming, Virginia M. (2009) "Final resting place of Warner Oland," *Swedish American Genealogist*: Vol. 29 : No. 1, Article 3. Available at: https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol29/iss1/3

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Swedish American Genealogist by an authorized editor of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@augustana.edu.

10. Bussman, p. 14.

- **11.** Bussman, pp. 11, 13.
- 12. Diary of Oliver Olson, a Norwegian immigrant who worked in a sawmill in Moline, 1870-72 (Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center), describes crushing a finger in the rollers in a sawmill and being out of work for several days. Hans Mattson, in his *Reminiscences* (St. Paul, Minnesota: D. D. Merrill, 1891), pp. 29-31, reports suffering from ague, or malaria, while working on a railroad bridge construction crew in the Rock River bottoms near

Moline. John Diehl, a John Deere employee of 1874, described the shop of earlier days, as quoted in Wayne G. Broehl, Jr., John Deere's Company: A History of Deere & Company and Its Times (New York: Doubleday, 1984), p. 230.

- 13. Bussman, p. 12.
- **14.** 1867 city directory of Moline, Rock Island County Historical Society collection.
- 15. Immigration records in Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, and 1867 city directory of Moline.
- 16. Bishop Hill: Norman and Runblom, *Transatlantic Connections*, pp. 50-51, 55-56, 150. Lindsborg: Cutler, *History of Kansas*, Mc-Pherson County. Swedish population of southeastern Kansas: Shortridge, *Peopling the Plains*, pp. 50-52.

17. Bussman.

The author is Steve Cox 5242 E. Alhambra Place Tucson, AZ 85711 (520) 795-0315 E-mail: <sfcoxaz@cox.net>

Final resting place of actor Warner Oland

Actor Warner Oland, born Johan Verner Ölund, 3 Oct. 1879 in Nyby, Bjurholm parish, Ång., Sweden, died suddenly of pneumonia on 6 Aug. 1938 in Stockholm, Sweden.

Warner Oland is best known for his role as the Chinese detective *Charlie Chan*.

He was married to a wealthy Bostonian, the artist Edith Gardener Shearn. Among their many houses was a historic farmhouse in the Southville section of Southborough.

Upon Oland's death in 1938, he

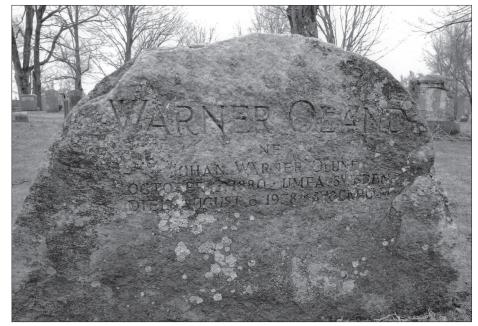
was buried in the town cemetery. The marker for his grave was originally the doorstep to the Oland's Smoke Tree Farm on Gilmore Road, which he and his wife bought in 1930.

Seeking an escape from the cacophony of California, Warner and Edith Oland had discovered Southboro, where they could spend their vacations painting and taking photographs.

The house they bought and renamed was known as the Mathews-Burnett house, as Joseph Burnett, an early flavor manufacturer was born there in 1820. He was a leading citizen in his home town where he was held in very high esteem by his fellow townsmen.

Information from *Fences of Stone*, *a history of Southboro*, *Mass.*, by Richard E. Noble (1990). Information on Oland's ancestors can be found in *24 Famous Swedish Americans*, edited by Bo Lindwall (1996).

Thanks to Virginia M. Cumming, Southboro, Mass, for the interesting information on Oland's grave!



Warner Oland is buried in Southboro Rural Cemetery in Southboro, Mass.



Warner Oland 1879–1938.