



Collection Name:

America letters collection, 1800-1956

Collection Number:

P0435

Extent:

5.8 cubic feet (14 archives boxes and 1 half archives box)

Abstract:

Original, typescript, and photocopies of letters written by Norwegian immigrants to relatives, friends, and newspapers in Norway, including letters and articles treating emigration to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Queensland. for a selection of letters independently described, see nos. 239, 289, 332, 361, 365, 429, 430, 474, 653, 669, 725, 743, 768, 814, 835, 1211, 1380, 1432, 1463, 1468. A large portion of the letters were collected by Theodore C. Blegen. Some 300 letters have been collected by Norsk Historisk Kjeldeskrift Institutt in Oslo, Norway. The collection contains an index and is arranged chronologically.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Letters, 1800-1835 Letter from James Lassen to his brother N.C. Lassen; letter from the O.M. Norlie Collection, photostatic copy of letter received by Mauritz Halvorsen from Cleng Peerson (dated Dec. 20, 1824/original held by MHS) via Thormod Madland.Copy of Rjukan Dagblad, June 1937.
1	2	Letters, 1836-1839 Copy of Aslak Torkilsen Holven; Sivert Paulsen Vasenden; letters printed in Den Constitutionelle. Copy of a letter from Massachusetts, Statsborgeren: En Tidende for Norges Vel. Copy of Lars Larsen to His Countrymen, Stavanger Adresseavis. Copy of letter Helje Larsen to a Friend, Den Bergenske Merkur.
1	3	Letters, 1840-1843 Photostatic copy of a letter written by Sebjørnsen (Overdalen) Lars (1843) to relatives, November 30, 1843 From Koshkonong Prairie, Wisconsin, in which Sebjørnsen gives specific information regarding wages, prices, money economy, topography, religious freedom, weather, health, and reputation of the Norwegians in the area. Reference is made to Claus L. Clausen, and J.O. Smith. Published in Christianssand Posten August 2, 1844. Sebjørnsen enlisted with Company K of the 15th Wisconsin Regiment of Infantry January 18, 1862, and served until March 11, 1863. He later lived in Freeborn County, Minnesota; letters from Wisconsin



- [several are not America letters] (Bjørn Holta, Oslo, owner. 1842-1850).
- 1 4 Letters, 1844-1845
Copy of letter from Guttorm Rolandsen Thistel to friends.
- 1 5 Letters, 1846-1849
Copy of letter from Søren Aanensen to friends. Also includes a copy of Ole Larsen Bjørge letter; Letters from Elise Waerenskjold (Dallas, TX, Historical Society, owner. 1846-1852).
- 1 6 Arranged chronologically, December 1846-1847,
Original letter included; Bjarne Bratås, Flesberg (owner). Some letters from Ottertail County, MN, 1847-1937; Letters from the Daaseth and Forlie (Førle) families which emigrated from Flesberg 1842-1854--mainly from Lasalle County, Illinois and Fillmore County, Minnesota. (Anne Huslende, Lampeland, owner. 1846-1909). (Missing from box)
- 1 7 Norsk Historisk Kjeldeskrift-Institutt transmitted letter from Hans Streng, 1850
- 1 8 Photostatic copies of letters by Gustav Fredrik Dietrichson, 1851
A Lutheran clergyman in Luther Valley, Wisconsin. The first one is a letter of gratitude for a comfortable and safe passage to America and appeared in Stavanger Amstidende og Adresseavis. The second letter announces a new parish at Wiota, Wisconsin, and includes a historical sketch of the congregation. Published in Christiania-posten. Se "America Letters and Articles" in card catalogue. Wisconsin, Black Earth, Fond de Lac, and Madison. Letters (1851-1866). Photostatic copies of letters by anonymous writers that appeared in Adressebladet, Christiania-posten, and Morgenbladet. The Madison letters contain descriptions of the journey and of Madison, procedures to use in dealing with immigration agents, and life in Pleasant Springs Township with reference to land and tax systems and Americanization. Other topics discussed are Yankee respect for all honorable work, the Westward movement, politics, the common school controversy, and the slavery questions. Reference is made to Claus L. Clausen, Marcus Thrane, Emigranten, Faedrenelandet, and Skandinaven. The Black Earth letter gives an account of a pleasant journey on a steamship and makes reference to Pastor John N. Fjeld. The Fond du Lac letters deal with cultural life as well as living conditions in rural areas.
- 1 9 Photostatic copy of a letter by T. Andreas Gjestvang, 1852
Postmaster in Løiten, Hedemark, reprinted in Arbeiderforeningernes blad July 3, 1852, from Hamars budstikke.



The letter is a reply to a series of letters entitled "Billeder fra Nordamerika i 1849 of A. Tolmer," addressed to the editor of the French Journal des Debats, and published in Budstikken during 1850-1851. Gjestvang criticizes the dark picture the French captain painted of Texas after his trip through parts of the United States. He admires the love of country which Norwegians display but believes that emigration, not a rare feature of human society, can be defended in Norway on the basis of poverty and unemployment. See Norwegian-American Studies and Records, 20:32-45 and Blegen Land of Their Choice, 355-368. Photostatic copy of letter written (New York - 1852) on July 22 containing an account of writer's interview with Mr. Schlytter, Norwegian engineer, regarding cloric machinery being installed in a ship. A translation of an item concerning that machine which appeared in The Evening Mirror is also included. Published in Morgenbladet August 27.

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| 1 | 10 | Photostatic copy of a letter from Anne M. and J.J. Hansen, 1853
To a relative commending American wages, climate, crops, machinery and tools, food, and work opportunities. Written from Janesville, Rock County, Wisconsin. Published in Arbeider Foreningers blad November 6, 1853. Photostatic copy of letter from Koffstad, Niels C.. and Skrabelsrud, Johannes Chr., written from Beseel, (Marseilles?) Illinois, published in Arbeider-foreningers blad, which details writers' modes of travel from Quebec to Chicago and lauds the good living and ample work opportunities. There is a reference to the Ole Bull colony; letters from Westby, Wis., Willmar, MN (Tønnes Mygland, Bekkestua, owner. 1853-1922). |
| 1 | 11 | Photostatic copy of letter by G. Christophersen, 1854
Norwegian-born railroad worker in Illinois, encouraging immigration. Reference to Ole Bull. Published in Det norske Arbeiderblad. Photostatic copy of a letter by Johnsen, Ole, (1854), published in Arbeider-foreningernesblad, quoting commodity prices and wages for construction workers, ship-builders, and fishermen, and encouraging emigration. Photostatic copy of letter by Ramberg, A. Eriksen (1854), published in Arbeider-foreningernesblad, encouraging emigration and giving instructions for the trip. |
| 1 | 12 | Photostatic copies of excerpts from two letters by Norwegian immigrants in Aftenbladet, 1855-1857
In one the writer describes the early growth of a village on an American frontier. The other expresses an appreciation of the |



- values and the services of the American public school. Added: 1 report for Sir George Simpson, June 24, 1858. Added May 2, 2012: Knud Fleischer letter to wife, Matilda, Rock County, Wisc.
- 1 13 Arranged chronologically, 1856-1857
Includes photostatic copies of Immigrant Letter, Morgenbladet, May 5, 1856. Elling J. Haaland to his Brother, January 6, 1857. Elias Hansen Narjord to Relatives, January 26, 1857. John Halvorsen Windlør to Lars Anderson Hagerland, May 26, 1857; Primrose, Wis. (1857); Pleasant Spring (1857)
- 1 14 Arranged chronologically, 1858-1859
Includes copy & translation of missive dated (January 8, 1858) by Gulbrand/Gunvold T. Johnsrud (published in Morgenbladet, March 9, 1858). Additional research material added Feb. 8, 2013, including biographical sketch, Worker's Movement Case/Hatmaker War, and family pedigree; Photostatic copy of letter written by Ole Gaasedalm, dated 1859 (letter was received from Rev. Schneider, Dennison, Minnesota).
- 2 1 Arranged chronologically, 1860-1861
Includes photostatic copies re Ole Anundsen Jamsgaard to Anund Olson Jamsgaard.; Jens Gamkind, owner (1860-1879). Added thirteen translated typescript courting letters (donor unknown) between Ole Pederson Aune, Grantsburg, Burnett Co., Wisconsin & Martha Dohl, Trondheim, Norway (1867-1870). Aune worked as a carpenter, mentions: Indians (May 10, 1868), threshing (Feb. 28, 1869), homesteading (Aug. 15, 1869 & Nov. 5, 1869)
- 2 2 Letters, 1862-1863
Photostatic copy of a letter by Lars Lee, 1863. Postmaster at South Bend, Minnesota, giving an account of an Indian outbreak in the Norwegian settlement at the South Branch of Watonwan River and including names of those killed and injured. Photostatic copy of a letter from Liberg, O.P. (1863), reprinted in Morgenbladet from Emigranten, dealing with the Indian attack on the Norwegians at Watonwan River, Minnesota. Photostatic copy of a letter from Tøllefsdn, Rønning (1863), included in an article reprinted in Aftenbladet January 22, 1864, from Trøms ø Stiftstidende. Written at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, to parents and relatives, the letter makes reference to the Civil War and the Indian uprising in Minnesota and discourages emigration. Photostatic copy of a letter (1862) from Rasmussen, Peter Andreas (1829-1898) published in Morgenbladet and addressed to Rasmussen's brother. In this letter he sets forth the reasons for his parting company with Elling Eielsen. See Gerhard Rasmussen file and



- "America Letters and Articles" in card catalogue; letters owned by Lars Kinsarviks arkiv, Lofthus (1863-1932)
- 2 3 Letters, 1864-1866
- Photostatic copy of letter (Illinois, Tiskiwo) published in Adressebladet May 31 and June 7, 1864. An account of travels in various parts of America: Gaspé fishing banks, northern Michigan, Milwaukee, and Illinois. References are made to the Civil War and to the land sale system. Photostatic copy of letter (Illinois, Traverse City, 1864), published in Adressebladet December 31, dealing with work and wages in lumber yard, construction work, and sawmill. Writer regrets leaving Norway. Photostatic copy of letter (translated by Elaine Nordlie, Oct. 6, 2014) from Niels Jacobsen and Sjur D. Wilson (1864), to the editor of Emigranten and reprinted in Aftenbladet December 2, 1864, by members of Company D of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry Regiment. The letter, written at Fort Rice, Dakota, September 27, describes the two month march against the Indians from Fort Sully to Fort Rice. Jacobsen was a Civil War veteran and later lived at Hills, Minnesota. (see Ulvestad Nordmaend ene i Amerika, Iste del, pp. 294,340). Photostatic copy of letter (Minnesota, Zumbrota - 1864), published in Adressebladet April 9. References are made to the Civil War and a gold mine in Idaho. Photostatic copy of a letter from Nilsen, Andr. M., (1865), written at Stillwater, Minnesota, admonishing his countrymen not to emigrate to America because of health, economic, and religious conditions. The letter was published in Adressebladet. Photostatic copy of a letter written by Mikkelsen, Nils, (1866), and published in Emigranten and reprinted in Hamars budstikke. An appeal for settlers, this letter written at Holmes City by the first Norwegian in Douglas County, Minnesota, describes the topography, vegetation, and wildlife and gives the names of the Norwegians already in the county. Photostatic copy of a letter (Minnesota, Dodge County - 1866), published in Adressebladet February 6, 1867, giving an account of the journey from Christiania to the Town of Canestic. Photostatic copy of a letter from Øihaugen, Ole T. (1866), signed by Øihaugen and others and published in Adressebladet October 17, 1866. Writing from the quarantine ship "Illinois", the authors make complaints of treatment and conditions on ship passage to America.
- 2 4 Includes copies of information re Elling J. Haaland to relatives, 1867



- Transcript of 1867 letter from Jens Grøbech, transmitted by Mrs. Semingsen; Per Jølstad, Furuset i Romedal, owner ("Furuseth-letters" Bosque, County, Texas. 1867-1882)
- 2 5 Letters, 1868
Photostatic copy of a letter from Martin F. Sørensen, 1847. Published in Stavanger Amtstidende og Adresseavis October 23, 26, 1847. Sørensen, a Dane, writing at Nashotah College, Wisconsin, to his father, Rasmus Sørensen, a school teacher, gives instructions concerning emigration procedures and is very favorably disposed toward America; Letters owned by Anne Vaeraas, Aslefet, Flesberg (from Boone County, Nebraska. 1868-)
- 2 6 Letter from Nils G., 1869
Included also a copy of a letter from Berit S. Bakken to parents and family, 1869.; letter from Syver Christophersen; Walworth County, Wis. (1869-1871).
- 2 7 Letters, 1870-1871
- 2 8 Photostatic copy of letter from Andr. Hauge, 1872
Published September 25 and October 2 in Adressebladet. Writing from Leland, Illinois, Hauge deals with farm operations, religious freedom including sects and informal Lutheran worship, leisure activities, and homesickness of Norwegian immigrants. Photostatic copy of letter from (Iowa, Estherville, 1873), by an immigrant, published in Dagbladet July 14, containing data about crops, pests, machinery agents, railroad prices, preachers, religious beliefs, and American social conditions; Berit Guddal, Fiansvingen, owner (1872-1919).
- 2 9 Letters owned by Elesius Vatnaland, Føresvik (1875-1912), 1875-1876
- 2 10 Letters owned by Eivind Tundlid, Høylandsmo (many from Callender, Iowa. 1879-1946), 1877-1879
- 2 11 Letters from Christopher Erickson et al.; Rothsay, Minnesota; Elkwood, North Dakota (Wrling Flatstrand, Flesberg, owner. 1880-1928); letters from Ottertail, County, Minnesota and Montana (Orm Øverland, owner. 1881-1893), 1880-1881
- 2 12 Letters from Stange Historielag, 1882-1883
Espa, owner (Minnesota letters, 1882-1890); Watson, Minn. (1883); Stillwater, Montana (1882); Sigurd Aas, Oslo, owner (from Eau Claire, Wis.: Erling, Elling, Gurianna Sende; Anders Lian (1883-1890)
- 2 13 Includes single letters owned (1884-1957) by Lester Kjos (USA), 1884 Liv K. Strandby, Hamar; Peder Ljøsdal, Tonstad; Ferdinand Naeshagen, Oslo; Anna Engedal, Kristiansand; Letters from Iowa,



		Wisconsin and Minnesota (Rasmus Sandvik, Sandnes, owner. 1884-1893)
3	1	Letters, 1885-1887
3	2	Letters, 1888-1889
3	3	Letters from Andrew Lee (Anders Lian), 1890 Mostly from Wisc. lumber camps; also letters from Ane Moenget, Anne Flyum (Sigurd Aas, Oslo, owner. 1890-1899)
3	4	Letters, 1891-1892
3	5	Letters from Grand Forks, North Dakota (Kari Solvang, Drammen, owner. 1894-1910), 1893-1894
3	6	"Amerikareisen" (1896); from Carlos R. Ross (1897-1907), 1895-1897
3	7	Letters chiefly from Carl Haltug, Velva, North Dakota (Jon-Ingar Haltug, donor. 1899-1932), 1898-1899
3	8	Letters from Christian Lökke, Washington and Alaska (Kristian Didriksen, Bodø, owner. 1900-1906), 1900-1904
3	9	Single letter from "Søvik", 1906
3	10	Letters from Jakob N. Seland, Southampton (England) and Tacoma, Washington (Per Seland, Oslo. Owner. 1909), 1907-1909
3	11	Letters from John Steen, Nebraska (owned by Aagot Steen, 1910-1921), 1910-1911
3	12	Letters, 1912-1914
4	1	Letters, 1915-1917
4	2	Letters, 1918-1920
4	3	Letters, circa 1940-circa 1950
4	4	Letters, circa 1930
4	5	Articles, undated
4	6	Letter from G.S. Mogen, Hayfield, MN (1929), 1921-1929
4	7-12	Letters included in Fra Amerika til Norge, volume 1
5		T.C. Blegen card index, undated
6		3 tin containers of film, 1836 1869 1) Oslo University Tidnings material concerning emigration collected by Blegen, May 28, 1836; 2) Amerika-bren; 3) Amerika-bren, Cambridge, May 28, 1869, July 21, 1869.
7	1	Articles and clippings; Blegen's Collecting; 1928-1931
7	2	Articles, letters, and notes, 1929-1936
7	3	Articles; Den Constitutionelle, June 12, 1837 Photostatic copy of an article dealing with the emigration movement as to motives, districts involved, legal aspects, and government's concern about conditions in America where emigrants have settled. Published June 1 and 2.
7	4	Articles; Includes Stavanger Amtstidende og Adresseavis Article, January 5, 8, 1843



- 7 5 Articles; Includes Lillehammers Tilskuer, June 21, 1844
Photostatic copies of an article "Reiseberetning" as it appeared in Stavanger Amtstidende og Adresseavis and Morgenbladet in 1846. Johnsøn, who wrote the article after his return to Norway, was much opposed to emigration.
- 7 6 Adam Løvenskjold Report, November 22, 1847
Photostatic copy of an excerpt from the report by the Norwegian-Swedish consul in New York to his government on the Norwegian settlements in the West dated October 15, 1847, and published in Morgenbladet November 22, 1847. The report contains data on housing, water supply, forests, soil, health, wages, prices, taxes, crops, farm stock, wild life, American freedom, church situation especially in Luther Valley and Koshkonong, and number of families in each settlement. A copy of this report is in the possession of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and an English translation of it by Knut Gjerset, appears under the title "An Account of the Norwegian Settlers in North America," in the Wisconsin Magazine of History, 8:77-88 (September 1924). (A photocopy of this article is included here.) Transf. from C.G.O. Hansen clipping collection: Mpls. Daglig Tidende article (July 7, 1910) reprinting letter to Norwegian newspaper claiming L. was the first Norwegian official to visit emigrants; articles by L--d on L. in Norwegian newspaper September 23 and November 4, 1922; Skandinavien article (Dec. 13, 1922) "Norske udvandrere i Amerika omkring 1848: et gjensvar til A.L. fra Vossinger i Chicago."
- 7 7 Letters from Australia, 1952-1958
- 7 8 Chicago, Illinois, article from Christiania-Posten, April 25, 1859
Photostatic copy of article published in Christiania-posten June 3, 1859, containing data on the religious situation, books and newspapers published by Norwegian Americans, and the common school controversy. References are made to Rasmus Sørensen, Danish school teacher; Nordstjernen; Emigranten; and Den skandinaviske presseforening.
- 7 9 A.N. Kiaer Articles, "Den norske udvandring til Amerika", 1864 November 24-1864 December 3
Photostatic copies of a series of articles "Aftenbladet (November - December 1864), entitled "Den norske udvandring til Amerika" that appeared in Aftenbladet during November and December, 1864. Based on reliable sources, the articles contain an analysis of emigration from Norway as to population, districts, ports of exit and entry,



- ocean travel, illness and deaths, sex, age, economic and social status, geographic location, wealth, causes, and results in Norway.
- 7 10 Hamars budstikke article, "Til en smule oplipning for Amerikfarere", 1866 October 5
Photostatic copy of an article reprinted from Skandinaven (August 16, 1866). Entitled "Til en smule oplysning for Amerikafarere", the article is a signed complaint against America emigration companies in their treatment of Norwegian passengers on board ship.
- 7 11 Articles from Adressebladet, February 13, 1867, and Hamar Stiftstidende, January 8, 11, 1867
Photostatic copies of notices of arrival in America and of appreciation to shipping lines for safe passage signed by passengers.
- 7 12 A. Sharpe and Company Articles, February 27, 1867
- 7 13 Articles from Adressebladet, March 6, 1867, May 8, 1867
Articles from Hamar Shiftstidende, May 14, 1867. Photostatis copy of a Christiania travel agency's announcement concerning the advantages of a trip to America via Quebec rather than New York. Published in Adressebladet February 27, 1867.
- 7 14 Articles from Hamar Stiftstidende. September 6, 1867
- 7 15 Articles from Adressebladet, January 8, 1868
Hamar Stiftstidende, July 14, 1868; Morgenbladet, April 22, 1869, and May 14, 1869.
- 7 16 Articles and letters; Kristiansund Paper, 1871
- 7 17 Articles from Adressebladet, 1870-1874
March 9, 1870; March 23, 30, 1870; January 1, 1873; January 8, 1873; Hamar Stiftstidende, August 5, 1870; June 30, 1874; Morgenbladet, September 2, 1870; Verdens Lang, October 4, 1871; December 23, 1871; Hamar Stiftstidende, December 1, 1871; Dagbladet, December 20, 1871; February 26, 1872; June 27, 1872; August 8, 13, 1872; Folkehidende (Mandal), December 31, 1873.
- 7 18 Jorgen Gjerdrum 1874 October 31-1875, April 10
Photostatic copies of letters sent to Dagbladet by Gjerdrum while on his trip to Norwegian settlements in America. He visited New York, Toronto, Detroit, Grand Haven, Milwaukee, Racine, Green Bay, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Red Wing, Rushford, LaCrosse, Decorah, Madison, and Chicago. He discusses life on board ship, the seamen in New York City, the position of the Norwegian servant girl in American society, the trustworthiness of most



- immigration agents, comforts of the American hotel, American postal service, social life of LaCrosse Norwegians, and confusion among the Lutheran churches. He refers to Marcus Thrane, R.B. Andersn, the Hekla insurance company, and Luther College, and is kindly disposed toward Norwegian emigration.
- 7 19 Articles from Dagbladet, July 3, 1875; September 9, 12, 20,22, 1876
- 7 20 Amerikabrev, Sogndalseminaret 2000
- 7 21 Letter from Gulbrand T. Johnsruf, 1858 January 8
- 8 1 Aust-Agder-Arkivet, owner; letters found at Grimstad, Norway, 1894-1983
See SEMMINGSEN, INGRID, "A Unique Collection of America Letters in Norway." Swedish-American Historical Quarterly, 35:316-321 (July, 1984).
- 8 2 Letters from Sunndal, collected by Tommy Fossum, 1877-1973
- 8 3 "Amerika-brev til Nordhagen", 1891-1895
- 8 4 Letters; (originals) Haagen & Ole Eggen, McGregor, Iowa, 1870-1913
- 8 5 A.A. Rød vik, 1907-1910
- 8 6 Ødegaard-Solem. Some letters are from South Dakota, 1874-1924
- 8 7 Bjarne Rabben, Moldustranda lender; Africa letters, 1854-1885
- 8 8 Arne Olsen (A.N. Arneson, owner), 1878-1879
- 8 9 E. Elsrud, owner., 1857-1909
- 8 10 Elling Elsrud, owner, 1887-1879
From Iver E. Elsrud; Fingar G. Enger; John T. Fosholdt; Ole T. Haugen; Lauro O.; Ole O. Haugerud; Bendix Holdal; Torine Iversen; Joh. Johansen; Jonsruds; Ole T. Kvenbraaden; Jens and Syver Nordby; E.T. Nordhagen; Roggine Ohnstad; Peder Olson; Christi Rinnaes; Gulbrand and T.O. Rundhaug; Ole H. Rustand; Live Rustebakke; and Anne J. Sivesind.
- 8 11 A.P. Hanson Letters, Albert Lea, MN., 1868-1926
- 9 1 Bjaaland, Knute Saamundson letters, 1889-1997
- 9 2 Rev. O.M. Jorgenson letters, 1919-1958
- 9 3 Storsteen correspondence, 1941-1991
- 9 4 Jacob Jurgenson letter collection, 1854-1904
- 9 5 Kristi Helgen letter collection regarding her grandfather, Henry M. Helgen, Sr., 1858-1933
- 9 6 Letters, 1858-1909
Includes a copy of letter to G.B. Clancy and Family, 1885; original letter from Carl Hanson, 1908; original letter to Martha M. Follingstad, 1858; original letters to John Haugseth and his wife Anne Sofie; original letter to Oskar Bekkedahl, 1947; original letter from Jacob Jakobsson Roise, 1881; original letter from Pete Rothe, 1909.
- 9 7 Coleman Gronseth letter collection, 1855-1855



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| 9 | 8 | L.Y. Gronseth letter collection, Suttons Bay, Michigan, 1924-1926 |
| 9 | 9 | L.Y. Gronseth letter collection, Suttons Bay, Michigan, 1926-1928 |
| 9 | 10 | L.Y. Gronseth letter collection, Suttons Bay, Michigan, 1928-1936 |
| 9 | 11 | Prof. Theodore Huggenvik letter collection; submitted by Jon Roar Bjøkvold, 1958-1967 |
| 9 | 12 | Photostatic copies of Iver Johnson correspondence, 1889-1914 |
| 9 | 13 | Lloyd P. Jorgenson letter collection; contains original letters written by his father, Olaf M. Jorgenson, 1903-1918 |
| 9 | 14 | Letters, 1865-1866
Includes copy of letter to Henry O. Lysne, Goodhue County, 1866; also includes translated letter to Johannes Askjelsen, Venter huus, from Askel Ingemonsen, Winterhus. |
| 9 | 15 | Norwegian Stamp, 1964-2005
Includes newspaper articles re "Centenary of Norwegian Independence and 150th Anniversary of First Norwegian Stamp. Also includes newspaper articles re "Norway's Postage Stamps - 1855 - 1963." |
| 9 | 16 | Newburger Collection, 1930
Rølvaag letter collection; includes original letter to B.J. Newburger, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from Dr. O.E. Rølvaag. Also includes a letter to Dorothy Newburger and a letter to Joan Newburger from "Uncle Ole". |
| 9 | 17 | Translated letters by Rolf Erickson, 1858-1871
Anders An. Aasterud from Ingri Andersdatter, Steele Co., MN (1858); a translated copy of a letter from H.J. Rustand to his sister, Prairie Farm, Barron Co, Wis, (1871). |
| 10 | | Hitchens-Steele collection, 1881-1888
Includes photos. Letter from G.L. Baker (Evansville, WI) to S.L. Birkeland (Hardanger, Norway), 1881; letter from St. Ansgar, Iowa (1883?), Letters from Jacob Bryngelsen Fladebö to Sjur Larsen Bjerkeland, (1884), Letter from Knut Larson, Paw Paw Lee Ave., Illinois to Sjur L. Berkeland (1888). Photos identified: Nora Gilbertson, Nelly Gilbertson, Iver Gilbertson, Hans Gilbertson, Laura Gullbransen |
| 11 | 1-10 | Tom Erdahl collected family papers and photographs, 1837-1920
Aagot and Nils Miland family who first settled in Rake, Iowa area and then in Mower County, Minnesota. The letters were found in two calf skin wallets. Collection Includes (folder 1): Tov Nilsson Miland and Aagot Olsdtr Svadde Miland Miland family photographs. One image from Grand Forks, Dakota Territory; (folder 2); tax receipts for Miland family, Bennington Township, Mower County, MN.; voting recommendations (in Norwegian) for |



- Mower County elections (1890); (folder 3): cowpox vaccinations certificates for Miland Family 1837-1863, contract for ship's passage when the Miland family emigrated. Ship "Rjukon". Sailed April 7, 1870; (folder 4): scraps fo letters for Aagot Olsdatter Miland, mother of the family; (folder 5): family correspondence; (folder 6): correspondence including letter from Torger O. Miland to daughter-in-law Aagot Olsdatter Miland (1843/73/93?); (folder 7): Three 1870s letters from the Miland farm in Norway, receipt of mortgage of Feb. 8, 1876, three letters, 1878-79, from Ola P. Hadland at Luther College to Nils Miland?; (folder 8): correspondence including letter from P.H. Nettet (sp?) to Nils T. Miland, M. Narveson to Nils Miland; (folder 9): correspondence form Tinna Erickson, Margit H. Nesseth.
- 11 11 Ole S. Bohn "Uncle Ole" (1859-1941) collected family letters and photographs, 1900-1940
(Donated by Owen Anderson, June 2010. Accessioned November 15, 2010. All items found on a CD). Notes from Owen Anderson: Simon T Bohn's uncle, born 18 October 1859 and immigrated to the US in 1869. He probably came to Bear Creek, but by the time I knew him he lived in a little place in Grand Meadow. He died there in 1941 and Grandpa Bohn was the executor of his estate. His estate of several thousand dollars was distributed to his brothers and sisters and/or their descendents; those in the US promptly in 1941, and those in Norway in 1942 and after the end of the war in 1946. I have the thank you letters sent to Simon after the receipt of the money. Of course, the ones from people in the U.S. are in English and those from Norway in Norwegian. I also have the collection of letters Ole received from Norway starting in 1900 and continuing until about 1940. They are mostly from Guri his youngest sister but a few from other family members. He owned a lot with house in Grand Meadow where he died. At one time he owned a farm in Clayton township, Mower county, Minnesota. That was the farm in Clayton township which Thronnd owned and sold to Simon and is the one where I remember my grandparents living. Ole frequently helped Grandpa Bohn on the farm and did the chores when Grandpa was away.
- 11 12 Keith Pladsen collected family letters (Ontario, Canada), 1899-1980
Collection includes fourteen letters composed by Ole Jogenson, Oddny Hofvind, Tollef Odegard, Joger Olson, Karen Odegard, Martha Pladsen, and Minnie Hibbard. Also, some family charts are included. Added Oct. 30, 2017: one letter dated 11 Feb 1940



- 11 13 Esther Ruud Stradling, "American Fever: A biography of Ole Ruud, Pioneer of the Washington Territory. "Additional Letters from Norway: 1880-1897" (2012, translated by Bjarne Breilid, 2012
- 11 14 Engebret A. Lie letter, 1867-1869
(A Washington Prairie, Decorah, Iowa congregation member) letter to Rev. Johannes Belsheim, Sør-Varanger, Sydvaranger, Norway (July 30, 1869). Lie comments on the current state of Norwegian-American Lutheran Church and issue of whether slavery is a sin or not; mentions Rev. C.L. Clausen (file includes donated Kirkelig Maanedstidende for den Norsk-Evangelical Lutheran kirke i Amerika. (Church Monthly, January 1867).
- 12 1 Hanshus family letters, 1888-1906
Added April 24, 2009: 20-25 letters to family in Soknedalen, Norway (all letters translated). Jens Hanshus, who immigrated at age 17 to Washburn, Wisconsin, is the main contributor. Trained as a tailor, initially he could only find work in a sawmill (carried water to 180 men in the mill). His letters detail the hardships faced by immigrants. One particular letter provides his understanding of the 1884 Presidential election. Jens writes, "As far as the times in America, it is very bad. It is not America any longer now, and this I write for the most from the new president-elect." Other authors include Even J. Dragseth (Washburn, Wis., 1888); Jens Nilsen (Menomonie, Wis., 1899); Kjersti Anshus (North Menomonie, 1899); Oline Hanshus (Eau Claire, Wis., 1899); Ingeber Solenes (Chippewa Falls, Wis., 1903); John Anshus; Carrie Anshus.
- 13 Roar L. Irgens correspondence, 1951-2008
Correspondence with his mother and sister in Norway, some translated. He emigrated from Trondheim in 1950, served in the U.S. Army (1952-54), and later obtained a Ph.D. in microbiology (1963). Irgens taught at the University of Illinois and later at Missouri State University. His experiences involved field work in Antarctica, first at Palmer Station, and the following year at McMurdo Station.
- 14 Tor Valle collected immigrant letters, 1902-1961
Three distinct subsets, including: (5) family correspondence (18 letters written between 1947 and 1961 from locations Colorado, Illinois, and Minnesota) from Oline Skylstad Kvistad, born in 1869 at Hjørundfjord (present-day Ørsta) to Synnøve Nordang, Stettevik, Ålesund, Norway; (6) purchased family correspondence (22 letters written between 1906 and 1911 from locations in North Dakota, mostly Buffalo and Walcott) to Louise Lahren, Ft.



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Ransom, North Dakota; and (7) one 1902 letter from Robert Norheim, Secretary of the People's Party County Committee, Fergus Falls, MN, to his brother in Nordre Trondhjems Amt (present-day Nord-Trøndelag fylke/county).

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Skagseth-Iverson-Carlson letters, 1951-2017

Correspondence from 1956 to 1988: The Skagseths of Norway, the Iversons of Minnesota, and the Carlsons of Canada. A two volume set of original letters between cousins in Norway and Waseca, Minnesota with transcriptions by Bonnie Walter, postcards, black & white and color photographs, a USB flash drive for all materials in digital format. Compiled by Bonnie Walter and Roger Kozan. Also, Gullers, K.W. and Hoel, S. (1951). Norge; Glimt fra et stort lite land [Norway; where yesterday meets tomorrow]. Oslo: Tiden norsk forlag. Approximately 105 unnumbered pages publication. Black & white illustrations.