



Collection Name:

Norway-America letters, 1874-1993

Collection Number:

P1685

Extent:

0.8 cubic feet (2 archives boxes)

Abstract:

Original, typescript, and photocopies of letters written by Norwegians to relatives and friends in America.

Box	Folder	Description	Date	Range
1	1	Includes: Letters collected by Tommy Fossum (copied 1995) from Sunndal to America: From Gunder O. Hjelle to L.O. Hjelle (1877, 1883), From Ingrid & Ole G. Jenstad to L.O. Hjelle (1882), from Eli G. Hjelle to L.O. Hjelle (1883), from Ole E.G. GjØra to L.O. Hjelle, from Ingrid Hjelle to L.O. Hjelle (1884), from Margit K. Svoronøyen (I.G.) to Kristoffer Svisdal (1895), from Margit K. Svoronøyen (I.G.) to Anders Larsen (1895), from John L. BjØrbekk to L.O. Hjelle (1916), from Ole Solheim to L.O. Hjelle (1916), from Erik Jenstad to Laura Wennevold (1946, 1948)	1877	1948
1	2	Includes: Letters from Hans Engen, Frank Hansen of Duluth, MN, Belle Strangeland, and [great grandfather S. Strangeland] (1881-1907);	1881	1907
1	3	Includes: letter from Myrvold farm to Mrs. E.J. Erickson of Eau Claire, Wis. (ca. 1919)	1919	1919

1	4	Gloria Vatne Collection. Includes letter to Severin Vatne, Ihlen, MN from brother, Sven in Stavanger, Norway; Letter to S. Vatne from father, Simund (Simon) Vatne. The family farmed at Foss-Vatne near Sandnes.; letter to S. Vatne from his brother, Martin who lived at Foss-Vatne, Sandnes, Norway; letter to Henry Wilson (Weltzin) from his father, Joachim Frederick Weltzin. Joachim, his wife and children immigrated to Iowa in 1870 but he could not adjust to life in America and returned to Etne, Norway, a few years later. Letters sent to Henry Wilson were shared with his siblings (Betsey Wilson Teig, Jacob Wilson, and Julia Wilson Vatne.); letter to Henry Wilson (Weltzin) to inform him of the death of his father,	1901	1905
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		Joachim Frederick Weltzin; letter to S. Vatne from a friend in Norway.		
1	5	Molly Aasten Collection. Letters from family members (father's family) in Telemarken, Boden, Oslo and Dramen.	1939	1993
1	6	Molly Aasten Collection. Letters from family members (mother's side) in Nesttun, Norway and Canada	1945	1946
1	7	Molly Aasten Collection. Letters from family members (general correspondence)	1945	1992

1	8	Newman Nelson collected letter (1910); Annette M. Petersen collected letters of Christian Christofersen Opsahl (1874-1899)	1874	1910
1	9	Dorothy Sohn collected letters (72 letters). The letters were written to Dorothy's grandmother (Tella Haugen) after she immigrated to America in 1900.	1900	1919
1	10	Ole R. Haaland (Clarkfield, Minnesota) letters.	1896	1936
1	11	Ethel Olson Dahler collected letters. Letters sent to family member in Idaho Territory.	1898	1899

1	12	(Sella, Seselja, Cecilia) Haugen Brekke collected letters (70 letters). Parents Marita Haugen & Ivar Auro. She left Granvin, Norway and immigrated to America in 1899. Cecelia lived and worked in Minneapolis until her marriage to Severt Brekee (Oct. 15, 1904). She spent the rest of her life on a farm near Hartland, Minnesota where she and her husband reared 8 children. Letters, dating from 1900-1919, were written to her from Norway by family and friends. She died from cancer on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, 1931. Letters translated. Copied photographs included.	1900	1919
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1	12	(added Dec. 18, 2008) from Johan P. Sunde, Christiania, Norway to parents (Dec. 8, 1875), translated by Karl J.B. Schultz, edited by Rolf Erickson (1981); and letter from Thorstein Bryne, Stavanger, to Johan P. Sunde (Jan. 26, 1893), translated by Karl J.B. Schultz, edited by Rolf Erickson (1981)	1875	1893
1	14	(added Dec. 18, 2008): 20+ letters written mainly by family members in Norway to Berit Easted of Orchard, Iowa.	1917	1952
1	13	(added Dec. 18, 2008): Photocopies of 19 letters, most of them sent from father in Mo i Rana, Norway to son, John Rufsvold (1897-1949) of Buffalo, Harding County, South Dakota.	1938	1947



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1	15	(added Dec. 19, 2008): Three letters donated and translated by Alice Toebaas (1) letter dated 1878: Barbro Halvorsen writing to brother-in-law, Cornelius Halvorson, to say that his mother has died.; (2) letter dated 1887: written in Chicago, probably to Malena Torbjornsen Nygaard (who had recently immigrated) and was probably living either in Calamus, Iowa or Chicago; (3) letter dated 1896 sent to Malena from Stavanger (author's relationship unknown).	1878	1896
1	16	(added Dec. 19, 2008): 20+ photocopied letters and documents donated and translated by Alice A. Trask. Collection of letters written from (Trondheim) Trondjem, Norway to America from 1889-1905. Letters sent to Pedar Ludvig Pedersen and Olga Therese Pedersen in Chicago, Illinois.	1889	1905
1	17	(added Dec. 19, 2008): 70+ letters donated by Arthur F. and Delma Peterson, Elmhurst, Illinois.	1947	1992
1	18	Lindblad family letters. Two letters: From Olaf and Ruth Lindblad, Larvik, Norway to Karen and Ole Benestad, Chicago, Illinois (1945); from Anders H. Lindland, Tvedestrand, Norway to Karen Benestad, Chicago, Illinois (1952).	1945	1952
1	19	Morterude Letter Collection. Forty-nine letters (dating from 1930-1945) sent to Bernt and Ida B. Morterude, Chicago, Illinois.	1930	1945
1	20	Added Dec. 10, 2014: 100 original letters (1905-1950s) sent to Martha Elena Johannessen Hoversten (1886-1984) from family and friends in the Bjorhiem, Norway. She immigrated in 1901 and later married Elias Hoversten (1879-1954) on June 29, 1904. The couple farmed in Emmetsburg, Iowa. In 1914, they moved to Island Lake Township near Lynd, Minnesota. Collection includes a number of vintage calling cards and several hair locks belonging to child, Chester Hoversten	1905	1950



2		Added Jan. 15, 2015: 143 original letters (1875-1927) sent to a Trail County, North Dakota, resident, Iver Nelson Strand (1856-1939), from family and friends in the Sparbu, Norway, area. See Janet M. Madson's 1994 book, <i>And There Were Eight: Story of the Strand Family</i> . Correspondents include: Anna Bergitte Kristofersen Strand, Iver Moen (friend), Lovise Nilsen (sister), Nicolai & Josef Nilsen (brothers), Anton Andreason Overstad, Iver Nilsen (cousin), Nils Jakobsen (father), Oline Vaalen, Teodor Vaalin, Teodor Røkke, Ingeborganna Aksnes, Andreas Overstad, Ole Overstad, Ole Edvard Heie, Andrew N. Overgaard, N.P. Lindstrøm, John Sætterstrum and Iver Nelsen Strand. Collection includes wooden box and a collection of bus tokens (Minneapolis St. Ry. Co., St Paul City RY Co., Northern Transit Co., Fargo, North Dakota and Duluth-Superior Transit Co.)	1875	1927
1	22	Added August 11, 2016: three letters (with translations) sent from Anna Berntsen, Kamperhaug, Telemark, Norway, to her cousin Mrs. O.A. Jacobsen (Anna), Willmar, Minnesota, ca. 1948.	1948	1948
1		(Loose, in front of box) Notebook, inventory on known / existing letters within NAHA collection. Starting with P0001, ending with P0574 Box 3 folder 7. (n.d.)	1948	1948
1	22	Added August 2, 2017: Two photocopied letters (with translations) sent from Karen Tobia Klausdatter Amdal, Stavanger, Norway, to her son, Olaf Amdal, Badger, Iowa. She asks for money to buy a pair of glasses and a cotton dress "because I get nothing from your father."	1929	1930