

Across Oceans, Across Time® ...

Stories from the Family History & Genealogy Center ...



A Genealogical Mystery - In the 1890s three sisters in their teens and early 20s left Denmark for the United States from the Lindeball area in Vejle County. Maren Kirstine Christiansen (born Sept. 2, 1873) and Agathe Christine Christiansen (born 26 March 1876) purchased tickets to New York City in 1890 and 1891, respectively. In 1896 their older sister Karen (born April 25 1871) emigrated, purchasing her ticket as far as Chicago, suggesting that perhaps one or both of the sisters had moved to the Midwest. Unfortunately, arrival records for this period do not indicate passengers' ultimate destinations. Over the years the sisters' relatives in Denmark lost contact with them, and any correspondence that would provide information on their marital status and residence was lost, leaving only the story of the three sisters who left and who *just maybe* had good fortune in their adopted country. Searching standard genealogical sources has been unproductive or inconclusive, complicated by the many alternate spellings or possible Americanizations of their given names and surname, and by not knowing precisely where they settled. Recently a photograph from America came to light among a deceased family member's papers in Denmark. Taken in Portland, Oregon, around 1910 or so, the unidentified image of a youngish couple and their daughter is thought to perhaps be that of one of the sisters. But if so, which one? Should any readers have a copy of this photograph in their family albums we would certainly like to know about it, and thereby perhaps be able to reunite the Danish and American branches of a family.

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