

**Across Oceans, Across Time<sup>®</sup> ...**  
**Stories from the Family History & Genealogy Center ...**



**A Tidbit of History on a Bakery Bag** - Many Danes come to America intending to stay for only a few years. Sometimes they change their minds, but many others return and continue their lives in Denmark. Finding references to these short-term visitors is often quite challenging. The history of one such individual, Niels Chr. Jensen, is captured on the back of this typical Danish bakery bag. The bag is from Nørgaard's Bakery & Café in Saltum, which is owned by the fifth generation of bakers in the same family. Back when the railroad was laid through Jutland in 1869 some of the railroad laborers complained to a brother who lived in Rynkeby parish on Funen that there were no decent bakeries in the stretch between Hobro and Aalborg. After much thought the baker, a man named Jensen, decided to move to northern Jutland and start a bakery in Støvring. In 1878 he sent his son, Niels Chr. Jensen, to apprentice with a master baker named Larsen in Aalborg. After receiving his journeyman's papers in 1882, Niels Chr. "wandered" for some years and came to America, where he perfected his skills for an unknown period. He then returned to the bakery in Støvring, where he was in business until 1932. In turn Niels Christian's three sons all became bakers. One of them, Aage Nørgaard Jensen, moved further north to Saltum in 1937, where he ran a bakery with the help of his wife Ella, a daughter and a son-in-law until 1961, when the latter couple, Inga and Søren, took over the business. They were later joined by their son, Niels Aage, who received his papers as a journeyman baker in 1977. He took over ownership of the bakery in 1987, carrying on a craft tradition that has endured for at least 135 years. The bag communicating this family history in a nontraditional source is part of the files at the FHGC.