

A little black 3 ring spiral book of Jacob/Jack Ruohonen is in the possession of Ted and Irene Ruohonen. Ted is Jack's son. Contents: History of Oskar Michigan and its residents. Typed from 1953 to 1958.

Typed in Finnish. Translated by Joe Kalliokoski. Typed by Barb Koski. Fall of 2008.

I have been collecting on paper happenings of this settlement, starting from the earliest days when the first settlers came and began to live permanently.

It has been rather difficult to write about the permanent settlers because I haven't wanted to write anything before I have had proof of it being correct. This I have had to leave out some matters which I would have liked to have included.

With friendship.

Jack Ruohonen

Rt. 1

Houghton Michigan

(Typist note.. the numbers below correspond with Jack's pages as taken from the book that Ted loaned me to copy to have translated.)

2A. Translator's note: The above is repeated in expanded form in column / page 3

2B. and 3. 4. 4B. (Translator's note: duplication on pages taken out)

The history of a settlement named Oskar, written in 1953.

The above mentioned settlement is located 6 miles north from the city of Houghton right on the shore of Portage Lake and along Schlotz Creek that runs southwest, and in places is wide and also rich in fish.

It was on a nice summery day in early May 1875 when three young Finnish men named Jacob Ojanpera, Oskar Eljasson (typist's note.. Oskar signed a document in possession of Deric Garnell signing his name Oscar Eliassen, so typist will use Oscar Eliassen) and Sakari Hendrickson sailed in a small boat from Hancock to the mouth of Schlotz Creek. Here they landed and walked some 1/4 mile along the creek bank and marked the place for the first house where Jacob Ojanpera would live and where Nils Burkman lived at a later time. (Typist note: Betty Ruohonen's property and home now)

On a little bit farther up the creek, Eliassen and Hendrickson were to build their houses.

And so the men with youthful enthusiasm to build their houses so that they would have protection from the rain because the fist days they lived in the boat where they also had their food supplies until the first house was completed. The wives and children lived in town until the rooms were built.

The place was a dark forest of which they purchased 510 acres and started wood harvesting for firewood, logs, and railroad ties for the mining company etc.

In the beginning the operation was small, only a few men, a team of horses, and a yoke of oxen. (See also Barb Koski's gathered information on Land Patents)

## **MAIL**

At the start when there were fewer workers, the mail came only to Houghton from where it was picked up. But when the operation grew, they got a post office with Oskar Eliassen as Postmaster. Now mail was delivered twice a week, and later daily.

When the first started to build the community, it had no name. It was called by the name of the first inhabitant (Jacob Ojanpera). (Jack says that Ojanpera means creek bottom). The post office needed an official name which became Oskar Michigan. The Ojanpera part which was only temporary was left off even though the older people still used it in later times. Now it is not used very often.

In 1883 (after eight years) Ojanpera sold his share in the business to Eliassen who got the whole. Hendrickson had left earlier so that Eliassen got the whole outfit. He started to expand the business taking on several hundred workers for whom he built camps around the forest.

When we got lumbering started right at the lakeshore so that it was easy to load the lumber onto the boat and transfer them to Lake Linden and by railroad up to the mine. At that time boilers were fired by wood and only later by coal.

## **SCHOOLS**

When the operation grew so did the population of people with children the question arose about a school for the settlement where the children could learn to read and write etc. But because the settlement still belonged to the city of Hancock (Hancock Township) residents met with Hancock city officials and in this way the matter progressed so that a school was started in 1881. In a Weber family home there were only twelve children who were taught by Miss Donna Hoe, the first teacher in the community. By the next year (1882) a school room had been built which started operating in 1882.

5. The first teacher (in the new school building) was Mr. J. Salven, a man with one arm. The school (known as Oskar School, see Barb Koski's compilation of stories on schools) has operated ever since, sometime enlarged or refurbished, and which has been used for other meeting purposes as well, both religious and \_\_ (Barb can't read typewriter ink). Also there was built a lower meeting room that was used for such things as voting.

## **LUMBERING CHARCOAL**

5B. 6. As I have mentioned earlier Ojanpera sold his portion of the business to Eliassen who enlarged it, added manpower, also families recently arrived from Finland for whom he built dwelling around the lumbering area. (See Barb Koski's stories on Immigration and names in Oskar Polk Directories and census records)

At one time he had 40 horses, also a railroad into the woods from which an engine hauled a load of firewood directly to the ship that took it to Lake Linden and by rail up to the mine where at that time the steam boilers were still fired by wood, but later by coal.

Then a big sawmill was built right on Portage Lake near the community (the delta of the creek where Nona Ruohonen lives today).

There also were 3 large charcoal kilns.

7. 8. Between 1890 and 1895 the operation was the largest because they had a contract for several tens of thousands of cords of wood as well there was the large sawmill which produced all the lumber needed in construction. They had the necessary equipment - planes etc. At the edge of the settlement were a large dock and a 100 foot long warehouse for the supplies that Eliassen bought in to supply his store. It had everything from pocket watches to men's suits. And there were other shops as well such as a tannery for

preparing skins, and two shoemaker's shops that prepared a variety of footwear but mostly shoe packs.

### **DECLINE OF LOGGING, BEGINNING OF COMMUNITIES AND FARMS.**

Thus the lumber business was busy and more forests were cut, a section after section and when the forest started to disappear so did the level of business. A lot of Finnish families remained in their houses in which they had lived for years. Some purchased 40 acres, others 80 and started to clear the land (tree stumps) and began planting potatoes and other grains (strawberries, dairy too). As the tree stumps rotted and disappeared new settlements appeared - Liminga, Heinola, North Superior and North Entry. All these communities have emerged from Eliassen's woodlands where there are now large herds of cattle and big potato and strawberry fields

### **NORTH CANAL BRICK COMPANY**

8A. Brickworks. Brickyard.

At the beginning of this century 1902-03 a brick kiln was established that produced brick for sale for construction. Several tens of men worked there. At first the business seemed progressing and the product was accepted in the market, but then the quality decreased. The fault was with management because the labor force was transient who took no care in their work. The manager was John Joonas, the engineer (?) Herman Hermanson and the kiln operator Timoteus Uusitalo.

(Page 14 continues with more on the brick factory). The brick works started in 1902 was right on the shore of the lake. It produced bricks for the building trade. Several 10 of men worked there. At first the enterprise was small and the machinery simple, driven by horses. But as demand grew they obtained larger equipment and got power from a steam boiler. (Repetition).. people did not care and finally the enterprise closed. The first manager was Emil Majjala, the second were Jaakko Ojala and Alex Onkka, the third who was the last was John Joonas. Now the entire factory area is full of cottages for city folk.

9. Oskar Eliassen built housing scattered in the forest for families and single men. There were over 60 horses in the enterprise at one time, and as many hired horses as he could get.

A railroad went into the woods where large fields were full of firewood. These (railroad cars) were set in motion by horse power by a big roan named "Engine Tom" but then they went by themselves down the long downgrade. As the firewood demand increased an engine was installed that brought the wood to the ship - Lake Linden... (Translator's note: same as earlier story).

Between 1890-1895 the operation was at its peak. They had a contract for 30,000 cords which had to be gotten out that year. There were 500 log cutters in addition to laborers, teamsters (men with horses hauling).

9B Eliassen also had a large Lake Schooner that took the logs to Lake Linden but then when they started to use coal at the mine, he built a large sawmill right at the shore (translator's note: repetition about store etc)

One fall when a ship brought in 500 barrels of salt, and by the next summer everything including meat was gone.

## **MORE ON BUSINESSES.**

10. (translator's note: duplication from above information)

10B. (As families bought land and raised cattle etc) .. there are good roads along which have appeared all kinds of businesses such as stores, garages, and gasoline stations. Also there is a liquor store worthy of mention

## **FIRES**

The following pages speak of large forest fires that came right for the village at the center of which was 30,000 cords of wood ready for shipment to the mine. This would have burned up had four fire trucks not arrived from Calumet, Lake Linden, Hancock and Houghton. Water was readily available so the logs were saved.

11. The depression started in 1895 and also great oppressions.

In 1896 came the huge forest fire which was blown by a strong west wind toward the village. The residents collected their clothing and buried them. There was no chance for escape except to go across the lake. But when hundreds of men fought night and day they were barely able to save the village. A half mile south from there were the enormous log piles right on the lake shore containing one and a half thousand cords of wood and they would have been destroyed had there been no help forthcoming and so they were saved at the last moment. The logs belonged to Nils Burkman.

11B. Then the same year (1896) there was another big fire at Eliassen's farm (BK note: Dave Jukari property and Eilola Road area) where his large stable went with 21 of his own horses and a team owned by Kusti Makela He had just purchased these. There was no insurance in those days to cover horses.

One would think that this was the end of these misfortunes, but not yet as we shall find presently. As soon as the signs of the fire had been cleared up, work was started on a new barn. It had fewer horses because lumber operation was carried on, on a smaller scale due to the fact that the demand for fire wood was down because of the greater use of coal. Still the sawmill kept operating as well as supplying firewood for city dwellers.

12. 12B. The third large fire occurred June 4, 1900 when the sawmill was in operation. Suddenly a fire sprang up in the oil room and spread to the attached sawmill. The mill was full of flammable material so the fire spread quickly and the workers had to run out and try to save the lumber stored nearby. After a couple of hours nothing was left other than a pile of ashes and a large block boiler.

Because the lumber business ended and all that was left was the selling of firewood, they built 3 large kilns that took from 23 -30 cords of wood at a time and that could use any kind of wood. This was then burned and the man in charge had to be knowledgeable so that the wood would not burn to ash. It turned into charcoal that was used in the copper smelters. A burn lasted 6-7 days and then another day for cooling because the kilns had a strong odor of wood alcohol. The last charcoal burners were Timotus Uusitalo and Matti Piilikangas.

Fires continued. On the railway the Engine House burned in short order. Then there was a big hay barn that was also used for thrashing. One night there was a severe

thunderstorm and lightning stuck the barn and its contents of hay. Again there was no insurance and loss was great.

### 13. Bankruptcy.

In 1901 Eliassen's business went bankrupt. Creditors came and sold whatever they could find in the house, as well as the farm and equipment. The farm was large - almost 2 sections in area. Everything went except the laborers. But still he did not give in with Finnish grit (Sisu). The farm on which the mortgage was held by the First National Bank in Hancock was leased for 5 years, and again horses were bought as well as forests and continued the same firewood and charcoal business. It was run under the name of his wife Mrs. Elsa Eliassen. In 1907 the bank sold the farm to Frank Eilola from Hancock who moved to the farm and lived there until his death. But Mrs. Eilola is still alive and lives at home with her two daughters. As I was writing this Mrs. Eilola died and was buried beside her husband in the Oskar Cemetery.

### 15. New businessmen.

In 1885 Nils O. Burkman started a lumber business which employed about a hundred men in the best years, mostly Finns. The main business was charcoal production, the product shipped to Lake Linden to the C and H refinery. At one time the enterprise had 7 kilns but later the business folded up. Burkman sold it to Ulseth from Calumet. Burkman retired and in 1919 and died of a stroke while being outside.

15 B. Before we start on biographies let us think back to the Eliassen farm. When he first arrived, Eliassen built a log house with 2 rooms and a low attic. But when the business improved he enlarged the house to six rooms with a stone cellar containing a furnace. There was also indoor plumbing, running water and a sauna. The water came from an artesian spring through pipes from the hills a mile away. It was constructed with manual labor using a shovel and a pick. Labor was cheap because Democrats were in power. On the farm was also a store (See picture today) a stable for about 30 horses, a large cow barn, a warehouse, blacksmith shop where several men worked, also a large weight /scale room. A flowing river (Schlotz creek) went thru the farm. There was also an old fashioned threshing building where the grain was separated from the straw with flails. Then came thrashing machines operated by horsepower. The grain was not ground but was fed to the horses whole. Eliassen had only a couple of cows, and workers also had cows.

17. 17B. A sad event happened on the last Sunday of June 1900. John Bollard was a farmer and when everyone was away from his house a neighbor saw flames. They rushed to put it out but it had advanced too far and gotten out of hand. Thus the people went inside to carry out what they could. They did not know that in an upstairs room there was not only dynamite but also fused caps in the same box. When the box exploded there happened to be two men in the room at the time. The explosion blew the room apart. Custi Jankala from the canal and Erkki Kalliainen from Calumet were the two men in the room. The former died after two hours and the latter after four. A third man Hans Tapio was nearby and the explosion broke many of his ribs. It took him several weeks to recover. The room did not burn because the explosion blew it apart. The logs were not

badly damaged. If the explosion had occurred even five minutes later, it would have injured many more because more people were rushing to the scene.

#### 18. 18B. Killing a horse.

Those closest to the event say that at the farm there was a horse who was Elsa Eliassen's pet. She drove it where ever she had to go, but the little trotter accumulated years and the mistress began to feel sorry for it. Consequently the master (Oskar?) got a hold of a couple of young guys Victor and Esa to kill the horse but in such a way that the wife would not know and at night so that no one could see them. Thus Victor and Esa came carrying a big blacksmith sledge. They walked with the horse to the end of a long dock that extended into the lake. Once there Victor held the horse steady and Esa hit the horse with the sledge. The horse fell into the lake, and satisfied they walked back to the farm. When they got to the stable there they saw the horse sneckering to get inside!! It had been too dark for Esa's sledge to have found its mark. And Victor felt so sorry that he began to cry. The horse survived for the moment.

#### 19 19B. 23. Deaths. Cemetery.

The cemetery. In the early years burials were in the Hancock Cemetery. Then some children were buried near the Canal School on the land owned by Gustav Olson. These remains were then moved to the current cemetery, which has been used for over 50 years. It was consecrated in 1897 by Pastor Elonheimo from Calumet. The sextons were Gustav Olson and John Puuri. Then the cemetery was made larger. On July 21, 1950 the consecration was performed by P A Heideman. The sexton was Alex Olson, Meil Palo and William Jaakkola. It was a rainy day so the sky wept as the sacred rites were performed.

The first to be buried was Nocolai Mattson from (Kuortane?) Finland, who suffered fatal injuries when a tree fell on him working for Eliassen. The location of his grave is uncertain but is thought to be near the entrance at the foot of the large pine tree.

The second to be buried was Little Henry/Little Heikki. He was digging a well which collapsed on him, suffocating him. Later his wife discovered him there.

The third burial was John Karppa, an itinerant worker who traveled wherever he could find work and lodging. Little is known of him, as he never discussed his past, present or future. Tired of roving and not having any definite goal in life, he hanged himself from the seat of a carriage.

Fourth to be buried was Antti Honkala who suffered a leg injury in the woods and walked with a limp. He had built a cabin and was burning brush when he slipped and fell into the fire. Help arrived too late and he died in the fire. To memorialize him, the valley is today called Konkalan Kuru or Honkala's Valley or Honkala gulch.

20 20B. **Strange foreigners..** those who spoke another language.. moved into the area. The earliest years I may mention. Mr. Henry Muff, Mr. Grose who lived on the Shore of Portage Lake at a place till called Grose Shore (Grose Point Shores). There is also Grose's hill where there is now our village cemetery.

Then there was Mr. Frank Romanfin and Mr. Fred Billmore. Mr. Lowie Hauswith was born in New York City but moved back to Germany with his parents when

he was two. He was full grown when he returned to the States and came to Oskar and married Miss Muff. They lived their whole life here.

All the above were German.

There was also a person from France named Krutri who had a large farm. (Possibly became Emil Johnson/ Wesley Johnson/McClellan). He sold it and retired to the old country.

There was another Frenchman named Pobi who lived in gulch still called Poi's gulch. He also cultivated lands. One day he left to take a load of hay into the city along a road that runs along Coles Creek. On the opposite side was a steep bank that caved in on him as he was crossing. The load was tipped and Popi died under it. This took place near the Michigan Smelter.

21 21 B.

**Camp with men from Kyro Finland.** In those days one of Eliassen's camps was called the Kyrola camp. There is no mention of a cook so each man must have cooked for himself. One of the men was Jaakko Peltonen and whenever he was in town and someone asked him where he worked, he would reply "I am in Ojanpera's outfit where we get a dollar per cord and I lose a half of it for board".

If there was any matter whatsoever that required speaking to the higher ups, Jaakko was there to make the presentation.

When Jaakko left for America there were many going with him and a crowd had gathered on the platform calling their goodbyes. As the trail pulled out he was standing on the train steps and called out "Good bye to flour gruel". The above men from Kyro are: Jaakko Peltonen, Tuomas Waltari, Mikko Solkela, John Jukkara, Saarinen, Laurila Rahikka.

22. 22B **Spiritual Activities in 1875.** There had been an active congregation as soon as the first settlers got here. It was directed from Calumet where there was a Laestadian congregation under preacher J. Takkinen who came once a month.

Then on July 13, 1894 the A.P. Lutheran congregation was funded whose preacher was A. C. Heideman, leading it until his death. The first church council consisted of Nils O. Burkman, Jacob Abramson, John o. Kauppi, John Koller, Gusti Olson, Daniel Ojala, Henry Bohjanen, and Andrew Riecki. They elected leadership of Nils Burkman leader; Jacob Abramson secretary and treasurer and John Kauppi sexton. The church was joined by more than 70 members all of them whom belonged to the Laestadian faith.

The children's Sunday School started right away. It had only classes in Finnish. If anyone came who could not speak it, they had to learn Finnish. Now everything is in English.

After the death of Heideman, the congregation was led by his son P. A. Heideman and his assistants.

(The school was used for church activities for awhile)

Then there is the Finnish Synod congregation also in operation for a long time whose first preacher was Pastor Juho Nikander, who founded the congregation.

Then there is a congregation belonging to the AP Lutheran branch whose pastor is Andrew Mickelsen. In the above mentioned congregation is not large but yet the pastors

visit them regularly.

24. 24 B. **Temperance Society.** The temperance society named The Rose of the Shore in 1890. It belonged to the SKR Fraternal organization, formed in 1904 by J. Lukkarilla of Hancock. The last meeting was held on Sept 7, 1920.

Many joined the society initially but this did not last long because there also came people whose ideas were Red. They intended to put their ideals to use and take the building and its contents for their own use. However the constitution of the society prevented this, so these people left the organization and the membership went down. Finally ending the activities. The first officers were: J. N. Pelto, secretary; Andrew Riekk Chair; Alex Garnell Vice Chair; John Olson recording secretary; Alex Olson treasurer/bookkeeper; Hjalmer Dorvinen. Elina Dorvinen, cleaner; Jacob Ruohonen, disciplinarian. The society was founded by J. Lukkarilla of Hancock.

Then among the farmers there was the **fire insurance company** founded in 1904 and insures properties in 15 U.P. counties.

25. When I write the biographies I will not mention any who have just visited here but not stayed. Only the permanent residents. I have tried to keep notes on various people so that I do not have to guess about some things. I have been here already when many came so I have seen them from the start.

26 26B. Duplication.

27 27B. More about Burkman. His farm was run in a big way and because the family was large, they lived the same way requiring much sum and substance. When income from the lumbering business decreased some time the men were not paid and finally the business collapsed. He sold his business to Mr. Ulseth who did not buy it for income but for relaxation. The house was large and with many floors, and it was modified for a vacation home. But it didn't really get to be used before one fine June day while the carpenters were there working the place caught on fire. The whole farm burned down except for the cow barn. There are a variety of opinions as to how the fire started, and I could write more, but will leave it at this.

28, 28B. Duplication of mail and school.

#### BIOGRAPHIES.

59. Jaakko Abramson

Jaakko is known in Finland as Blacksmith Jack or Jack the Blacksmith. Born in Rantsila on July 29, 1857, he came to America in October 1882 and married Anna Itkonen in June 1894. They settled then in Oskar where he worked for Eliassen as a boss. He also built himself a house, but when the business started to go down he moved right away to Hancock where he served as a store clerk until old age. He died in Hancock on Jan. 4 1940.

39. Luusua Abramson

Tuomas Abraham's son Luusua was born in Sodankyla on the Shore of Luusua Lake in 1854 from where as a youngster he had moved with his parents to Norway. In



Norway he married first to Kaisa Aho from which there is a son Anton Luusua who lives in Chassell. After Kaisa died he married Matilda Pelt arriving with his family in Hancock in 1882. He later moved to Oskar and then after a few years back to Hancock. For most of his life he worked as a miner. And later as a merchant with his son Anton. He was known for his good sense of humor and friendliness. He passed away just before Christmas in 1935 at age 82. His wife Matilda was born in Kemi and lived to the age of 75.

63. John Ahola

Died suddenly on May 6, 1957 in Hancock at age 84. He was born in Kuusamo on July 27, 1872 and came to America in 1889 living first in Osceola and later in Oskar. After working for Eliassen for a few years he moved to Hancock and worked in sales for several decades. He belonged to the first Ap Lutheran congregation and was buried on May 9 with Walter Torola officiating.

97. Jacob Alanen

Born in Vimpeli came at 57 years of age to Oskar where he worked for Nils Burkman for awhile operating kilns for producing charcoal. Later his wife and children came and presently they moved to the edge of Liminga, right to the shore of Lake Superior where they had bought land and built a house. He was calm and kind and after the death of his wife and the maturing of his children he couldn't live alone but moved to the Houghton County Hospital where he lived the rest of his life. He died on Jan 4, 1958 at age 94. He left behind three sons and 2 daughters.

65. Piiter Aska

Known in Finland as Peter from Aska a son from famous Aska Hill farm. He lived there until his parents died. The farm was divided and Peter received his portion in cash. He began to lead a wild life traveling from fair to fair spending his fortune down. Then he left for America and in 1878 arrived in Oskar where he continued to live. He remained single but inclining to liquor and he died in the County Poor House. His remains were sent to doctors in Ann Arbor for study.

110. John Henrick Piilikangas and Maria and son 112. John Billikangas

John Henrick Piilikangas/Billikangas (one and the same?) Born in Alajarvella in 1865 and came to America directly to Oskar in 1888. He lived continuously here. First he did lumbering and then bought a farm that he ran for several decades. He also operated the charcoal oven for Eliassen and Burkman. He was also highway overseer for Stanton Township. Mrs. Maria Pillikangas nee Lysinmaa, born on March 5, 1858 in Vimpeli and came to America in 1891 directly to Oskar. She married Henrick in 1888 in Vimpeli. Both are dead.

John H. Billikangas the son of the aforementioned Heikki Billikangas was born in Oskar on July 4, 1883. He lived all his life in Oskar until he was taken to the Veterans Hospital in Battle Creek where he resided for 13 years. He died at age 60. He was a veteran of WW1.

## 43 Bohjanen. Henry

Jacob/Jack Ruohonen typed up Oskar history and shares this:

Toward the end of the last century Henry Bohjanen Sr. moved directly to the area of Painset (sp?) in South Dakota and began work as both a farmer and a preacher, looking after the loved congregation. In 1891 he moved to the Copper district and settled in Oskar where he purchased 160 acres and lived on it the rest of his life. He died during the big influenza epidemic of 1918. His son had died a few days earlier so they were buried at the same time. His wife and daughter had died a few years earlier. There remained two sons - Henry Jr. And Adolph North (Pohjanen) living at first at their home. (Also 5 other children)

## 44. Bohjanen. Adolph North.

Jack Ruohonen document: Adolph's brother had lost his childhood faith and had gone wandering like a prodigal but later was bless with repentance. He began to speak to others about it. Thus Christians requested that he speak at gatherings so he preached bravely in Finnish and English. He served as a teacher for 12 years in the Cokato and Minneapolis congregations. He died suddenly of heart failure in his home in Cokato.

Adolph also served as a pastor and was called to the Cokato MN Ap Lutheran Church where he served until his death. He left behind a wife and 7 boys. He was buried in Cokato but all the other members of the Bohjanen family in the Oskar Cemetery in the family plot.

## 77. 93 is duplicate John Bousu. 77. Mrs. Wilhelmina Bousu

John was born in 1866 in Putasjarvi. He came to America with his parents first to Hancock in 1873, and then to Oskar, then to Delaware mine and back to Oskar in 1899. (Another of Jack's write ups says 1889) He worked for Eliassen as a bookkeeper and store clerk for almost 20 years. He then moved to Hancock and worked in business of Henry Sakari where he stayed for several decades. Retired. He died July 17, 1956 in Hancock.

His wife Wilhelmina (Minnie) nee Herrala was born April 14, 1869 in Pihtipudas and came to Oskar in 1890 where she married John around 1892. They then moved to Hancock where she died two months before her husband in 1956.

They had 9 children.

## 45. Nels Olaf Burkman

Nels Olaf Burkman was a Swede on his father's die. He was born in 1845 at Kaavuonnolla. He learned to speak Finnish and Norwegian at the local public school and in a way became a Finn. In 1868 her arrived in Hancock and worked for over 10 years as a miner.

In 1885 Nels O. Burkman started a lumber business in Oskar which employed about 100 men in the best years, mostly Finns. He built his home on land that once housed the dwelling of Jacob Ojanpera, one of the first of 3 men to "found" the settlement. (According to the book History of Finns: About 1883 Ojanpera sold his home and business to Oskar Eliassen and moved to Cokato MN.) (Later William Ruohonen had the home who sold to Nels. Wm. moved to the green home today across

Ruohonen Road from Betty Ruohonen.)

Burkman died in 1919. (BK note: he sold his home to Ulseth. While remodeling for a vacation home it burned.)

His wife Ingri died leaving behind 6 boys and 6 girls.

For several years Burkman was also involved in both Township and School Board matters.

By nature he was peace loving.

### 53. John Burkman

He was a Swede who came to Oskar at the end of the last century and joined the Nels Burkman family who were related to him. He worked for Eliassen as an engineer on his railroad. He moved to Canada to Whilewood Sask as a farmer. From there he moved to Port Arthur Ont. and after that I have no further information on him.

### 55. Esaias Dorvinen

He was born June 26, 1858 in the district of Puolangan, the village of Jouko and came in 1879 to Copper Island and Oskar where he lived most of his life (California for 3 years). He married Elizabeth Uusitalo in 1880 in Calumet and they had 12 children. Elizabeth was born in 1860 in the village of Saarenpaa and came to Oskar in 1879 to the Jaakko Ojanpera family where she was their first maid. She died on July 6, 1927.

### 56. Hjalmar Dorvinen

He was born in Oskar in 1881. He went with his mother to Finland at age 2 for 1 year. He went to California for 2 years at age 8. At age 10 he worked for Eliassen as a helper. In 1907 he married Hanna Waara and moved to Hancock where he worked in merchandizing for many years. He was the manager of the Hancock and Houghton potato warehouses for 20 years. He left that job and returned to Oskar where he grew chickens until the time of his death June 7, 1955 at age 71. He died suddenly in his sleep at his home. He had been in town and lay down on sofa for a rest.

### 89. Frank Eilola 90. Klara Eilola

Merchant and farmer, was born on March 21, 1868 in Merijarvella. Came to Ishpeming in 1886 and worked at the mines for a year. Moved to Oskar where he worked for Eliassen as grocery deliveryman to the lumber camps.

Then he moved to Hancock/Ripley with commerce for 24 years until 1907. History of Finns in Michigan. By Armas Holmio says: Frank Eilola b. 1864 (Oskar Cemetery has 1868) had business in Hancock Frank Eilola and Company. It had food, clothing, and lumber, charcoal. Partner was John Olson).

Then he moved to the Eliassen farm in Oskar that he had purchased and lived there until his death in 1950.

He took part in community endeavors serving on Stanton Township Board and the School Board in various capacities. He was well known by the Finnish community across America.

His wife, Mrs. Klaara Eilola nee Takaharju was born in Putasjarvi district of Oulu, on January 14, 1870. Arrived in Oskar in 1891 and married Frank Eilola in 1891.

She lived on the farm until her death in 1953.

There are five daughters and 4 sons who are alive.  
She was humble and loved peace.

30. 30B. And 31. 31B. are duplications. Oskar Eliassen.

Oskar Eliassen (Tynin Oskar) was born in Haaparanta Finland Sept 14, 1842. His father was Swedish his mother from the Heikkari farm from Vieijakka. As a boy he learned to read and write Finnish, moved to Norway in 1864 where he married. He arrived in America in 1872 to "Copper Island", worked in the mine for about 3 years.

Mrs. Elsa Karolina Eliassen nee Ollila from Tervola Finland was born 1847. She died Sept 21, 1910 and is buried in the Oskar Cemetery. They had no children but brought up one of her sister's daughters from an early age.

Oskar began a lumber business with Sakari Hendrickson in the new settlement of Ojanpera/Oskar. (See beginning of Oskar chapter)

He moved from Oskar to Hancock where his wife died. (Buried in Oskar Cemetery). He then moved to Detroit to his relatives and from there to Cokato MN where he died in 1931.

41. Alex Garnell

Aleksi/Alex Sr. He was born in Viipuri in 1857 and his wife Sanna nee Simi was born in 1858 in Kalojoki in the Tynka village. They married in Viipuri in 1881 where then son Alex Jr. was born in 1882. They came to Oskar in 1888 where he worked as a carpenter and painter in Eliassen's paint shop. He also ran a boarding house and in the end he became a farmer. They had two more sons. Kasper born in 1893 and died in 1896, and Henry born in 1899 and still alive (1953). Alex Sr. died in 1934 and Sanna in 1919.

42. Haakeri

Erick Haakeri 1871- 1955. Came to work in 1897 worked for Eliasson and Burkman.

116. Hausmaan

A few beginning lines were not copied correctly and are missing from top of page.

In the spring will be buried in the Hausmaan family plot where her husband lies. She was the mother of a large family and gave them a Christian upbringing. Pastor Paul A Heideman conducted the burial service.

122. Isak Hannula

Born in 1854 in Kittla where he married Maria Ala. Came to Calumet in 1889 and after a while moved to Oskar where he worked in lumbering for several years for Eliassen. They then moved to Redridge where they lived until they died. The wife in 1924 and he in 1926. Their son Alex was born in Finland and lives in Redridge with his family working as a school caretaker.

37. Mrs. Madilta Helttunen.

Mrs. Madilta Helttunen nee Tyni 1873 -1945. Came to Oskar in 1888 and worked in Eliassen's lumber camp. She married Abeli for 52 years. She had 18 children.

## 63. Henry Hendrickson

Henry Hendrickson (Tihinen) was born in Mukos in the district of Oulu came to America ?? to Oskar where he worked as blacksmith for several years. He married in 1892 after which he moved to Hancock where he started his own smithy that he operated until his death.

## 61. Matt Hendrickson and Anna.

Was born in Putas Jarvi in 1860. Came to America in 1878. Married in 1890 to Anna Resdanan. By profession a smith that he practiced until he died. He liked his liquor and because of it he froze outside and wasn't found until morning.

Anna born in 1855 in Taivalkoski. Came to America in 1883. Died in 1904. She had 4 boys and one girl all of whom were sent to the orphanage on mother's death. From there they were placed into families. The father was of no use to the family because he was so helplessly a drunkard.

## 119. Oscar Hermanson

Oskar Hermanson. The well known resident of Oskar was born there on July 11 1891. As a youth he lived in Hancock but when he grew up and married he moved to the canal village in 1911 where he started to practice commercial fishing and kept at it until his death. He worked with his sons and son in law. He died April 6, 1956 and left behind 2 sons and a daughter as well as other relatives. For the last few years he lived in the village of Oskar in the former house of Herman Hermanson.

## 127. Mrs. Katri Hyttinen

Katri Hyttinen nee Juntunen. Came to Oskar in 1895. In her later years she lived in Liminga. She had 6 sons and 2 daughters with Esseri Hyttinen. They rest in Liminga Cemetery.

## 81.82. Matti Jaakkola Mrs. Greeta Johanna Jaakkola

Born in Kuusamossa May 8, 1868. Came to America in 1889 and during the Eliassen boom days settled in as a logger. Matti was one of the early settlers in Liminga when everything was a dark forest. He was in the first group of loggers when they began building the first logging camp and first well. He settled on that very site and his broad fields opened in the middle of the Finnish village. When he became attached to the area he sent for his wife, mother and sister.

When they arrived at the logging house or houses, where the present village now sets, they settled in. The family consisted of nine family members. Later Matti's blind sister Vapper came and Matti took care of her as well. Matti raises his family and then his journey ended. He died on Feb. 4, 1949 at the age of 80 years 9 months, and 26 days.

Mrs. Greeta Johanna Jaakkola nee Tavela born in Taivalkoski on November 13, 1866 died 1939. Buried in the Liminga family plot.

## 84. Herman Jaakkola

Born in Kuusamossa 1883 came to Liminga in 1888 with family of Matti Jaakkola. Was married some 32 years ago to Katie Hante, had 8 children of whom 6 are

alive. As a young man he first worked for Eliassen later worked for several years at the Copper Range mill at Redridge. He moved to Detroit and worked for the city. He died due to an accident in Detroit on June 20, 1938 and was buried there.

114. Mrs. (Emil) Hilda A. Johnson

nee Wahlstrom. Died on March 13, 1954 in the home of her children in Detroit. Age 83. She was born in Kukkola Norbotten district Sweden on Jun 4, 1870 and came to this country 67 years ago living first in Hancock. She was married to Emil August Johnson in 1889 by Rev. A. L. Heideman in Calumet. They lived in Laurium until 190? when they moved to Oskar as farmers. They moved back to Laurium in 1932. Her husband died in 1943 and she moved to the home farm and lived with her son Wesley for a couple of years. She then moved to Detroit to live with her son Herbert where she lived to her death. The funeral was held on Feb. 17, 1954 at the Hancock Ap Luth. Church. Burial in Lakeside Cemetery.

74. John Jukkari and Maria

Born in 1868 in Vahankyro. Came to America in 1886 to work for Eliassen as long as there was lumbering. He then moved to a farm near Lake Linden where he worked for the railroad. He married Maria Holm (born in Vahakyro). Died in bed on June 24, 1951 in the home of his daughter Mrs. Heikkila in Ripley. His wife died earlier. Children 3 girls and 1 boy.

Mrs. Maria Jukkari nee Holm born in Vahakyro on July 2, 1866. Came to America in 1886. Married John in 1889 by Pastor Nikander. Died 1944.

125. Greeta Stiina Juotunen

nee Wayrynen was born in Puolanja. Came to America in 1895 and at death was 58 years, 10 months, 28 days old. Grieving are a husband and a daughter. The deceased had lived all her life in Oskar when she died on Sept 26, 1929.

117. Nils Karvonen

Nils Abel Karvonen. 1887. Got his education in Oskar. Went to night school at Suomi and got bookkeeping in 1918. He then served as accountant in various - communities.

70. Heikki Kellokoski

Born in 1836 in Perho. Came to America in 1877 and settled in Oskar working in lumbering for Eliassen. Died in 1910.

73. Mrs. Briita Kaisa Kellinsalmi (John) nee Raattamaa born in 1863 in Sweden in the congregation of Kaaresewaqnto. Came here in 1891. She was the daughter of the both of the old Johan Raattama and the cousin of the preacher Pekka Laattawaa (sp?). In Minnesota she belonged to the AP congregation.

73. John Kelly

I found this in his bible "I was born on what is now Kandalaksha bay off the White Sea (in Northern Karelia now in the Russian republic). Came to America in 1890,

received the Grace of conversion from God. Married Briita Kaisa Raattamaa, and have lived in Oskar all my life, first as a logger and later as a farmer, and once in a while as a fisherman". He died June 8, 1944. His wife died in 1938. Three children are living.

85. Ella Kettunen

nee Tervonen. Born in the Vahasaarenpaa village in 1877. Came to America with her husband in 1899. He was killed in an accident in the Mass Mine in 1915 so she became a widow with a large family. She did not remarry and in later years lived with a son until her death Jan. 12 (?) 1955.

67. Edward Kitti

He was born in Alkkulassa 1859, came to America in 1878, settling first in the city then moved to Oskar where he worked for Elijasson and Burkman until old age. He died in 1929. His wife Hanna was born in Alajarvella from where she came directly to Oskar in 1890 permanently. Married Edward/Edvart in 1893. She died in 1933. Two children still alive (1953 or so) Eino who lives at home and Hilma who is married living in Detroit.

67. Eli Kitti

Born in Oskar Nov. 7, 1894. Died single in 1949. Was in WW1. (Son of Edward)

68. Eino Kitti

He was born in 1900 in Oskar. He lived in Oskar his whole life working for Copper Range Copper Mill. He had been ill for some time. He died on Wednesday (1959) on the way to St. Joseph Hospital. He was 58. He left behind his wife Helen nee Wayrynen, a daughter Dorothy, and sister Mrs. Edward (Milia) Lassila.

107. Isakki Knuuttila

Was born in Sievin. Married Emelia Saylynojan in 1876. He came to America in 1888 and his wife 5 years later. They settled in a lumber camp of Eliassen working as a logger but later he got farm land where he lived the rest of his life.

His wife Emelia was born in the district of Sievi in 1857. She was the mother of a large family and died in 1925.

107. Matti Knuuttila

Isaac and Emelia's son was born in Sievi in 1888 and came to America in 1893 with his mother. He lived on the farm single. Died in 1923 and was buried in the family plot in Oskar.

75. Jacob Kolehmainen 75. Mrs. Marie Kolehmainen 76. Jacob Kolehmainen Jr.

76. William Kolehmainen

Jacob Kolehmainen was born in Ylivieska in 1851 and settled in Oskar in 1882 where he worked at Eliassen's for many years. He then moved to Hancock, worked at the Quincy smelter in Ripley for the remainder of his life. He died in Hancock in 1928 and buried in the family plot in Oskar.

Mrs. Maria Kolehmainen nee Pyorre married Jacob Kolehmainen in 1870. She was born in 1851 in Kalajoki. They raised 3 boys and 3 girls. She died at home in 1922 and is buried in Oskar.

Jacob Kolehmainen Jr. was born in 1875 in Kalajoki. He came to America with his parents in 1882. He went to the Oskar School. As he grew up he worked for Eliassen for many years. He moved to Hancock. He married in 1901. His wife died in 1941. He remarried in 1942. He left behind his wife and 2 boys.

William Kolehmainen born in Kalajoki, came to America with his parents to Oskar. Moved to Hancock where he died.

#### 51. 52. Koller.

John Koller. He was born in 1847 in the district of Sjawaa in Norway but the family is from Kolari Finland. He moved in 1873 to Calumet where he worked at the mine for a year. He returned to Norway for four years and came back to Oskar. There he served as postmaster for several years. He was a carpenter and a blacksmith.

His wife Beret Anna Nelson as a Norwegian Finn born Sept 15, 1858 came to America in 1881 and they were married in Calumet. They had 9 children. Beret died in 1918 and John in 1928.

Son Levi was born in Oskar on March 10, 1888 where he lived his entire life. He died on July 28, 1954 in St. Joseph hospital after a brief illness at the age of 66. His funeral was on Labor Day with pastor Heideman. He is buried in the Oskar Cemetery.

He was a veteran of World War 1 and member of Alfred Erickson post of American Legion.

#### 57. Aili Kopman

Aili Edith Kopman nee Dorvinen was born in Oskar in 1895 and died in Frednia N. Dakota in 1923. She left behind no children but husband, mother, father, brothers and sisters.

#### 33. John Koski

He encountered many perilous adventures in his life. Once he left with his sister (Maria)'s son Vernor with a row boat to gather wood on Lake Superior. Unfortunately a big storm came up before they could return and in the waves their boat tipped over. They scrambled on top of the overturned boat. Evening came and it got dark. Many ships went by but they were not spotted. They were in despair when the passenger steamer Tonista (sp?) went by. They shouted as loud as they could and finally the captain thought that he had heard something, turned the ship around, and so saved the men.

#### 106. John Koski

John Koski. Born in Isojoki in 1877 (Barb has 1876). He arrived in America in 1896 (age 9) first to Oskar where he worked for Oskar Eliassen's sawmill. Then for some years in the mine. Then he moved west where he worked at a national shipyard. There he was badly injured that he had to convalesce for several years before he was able to do any work. He returned to Oskar to his parent's farm where he lived the rest of his life. He had heart trouble and on a stormy day he went to visit his neighbor (Alex Garnell). He fell down on the way, where his family member found him on January 6, 1942.



## 105. Miss Josephiina Koski

Miss Josephina. A former resident of Oskar died Tuesday morning in the state hospital in Newberry after a long illness. She was 78. She had been born in Isojoki, V.L. (Finland) (Information Barb has says she was born in 1874) and came to America in 1893 (at age of 19), living in the canal area. She had been a patient in the state hospital for 30 years. (Went to hospital in 1923 according to his data). She died in 1953 and was buried in Oskar in her family plot.

## 105. Miss Hilda Koski

Miss Hilda Koski, sister of the above (Josephine) was born in Isojoki in 1886, living in Oskar since 1901 (at age 14); except for 3 years in the old peoples home in Laurium as cook. She died at age 68 in 1954 and is buried in Oskar.

## 65. John Kouri

John was from Kittila, arrived her toward the last century settled in Oskar, returned to Finland where he died in 1913.

## 130. Victor Kuru

Victor Kuru. Was born in Oskar on July 1, 1892 where he has worked all his life on the farm until he married Miss Lisa Alanen who has died earlier and left behind 4 daughters and 2 sons. Died in 1956 and was buried in the Oskar Cemetery. The above mentioned also worked as a carpenter.

## 72. August Lahnala and wife Mattilda.

August was born in Sievi in 1864. Came to America as a young boy. Went through confirmation here in America. Worked as a lumberman and a farmer. Married and raised a large family. Died in 1914. Wife Matilda nee Cuukas (sp?) born in Finland came to America in 1876. Married August in 1883. Died in 1932.

## 72. Antti Lahnala

The brother August came to America in 1905 worked for C and H died Dec. 30, 1956.

## 59. Kalle Lahnala

Kalle Lahnala. Born in 1866. Came to Liminga to farm grain in Liminga until his death in 1938. Buried in Liminga Cemetery. Had 3 daughters and 4 sons.

## 109. Alex Lahti

Alexander Lahti a farmer along the Oskar Canal Road was born in 1867 in Kittila and moved to America in 1890 first to Calumet where he worked in the mine for 12 years. He moved to Oskar where he had bought a place and farmed it.

When old age caught him, he gave the farm to one son (Waino) and moved to live with the other who lived in Klingville MI. the remainder of his life.

## 86. Lassi Manninen

Born in 1854 in Taivalkoski arrived in Copper Island in 1887 and went to the Cliff Mine as miner. After a few years he moved to Oskar and worked for Eliassen and Burkman for about 10 years. He lived 6 years in Hancock and then moved to Liminga and lived there until death. Mrs. Anna Manninen nee Kurtti was born in Putasjarvi and came to Dollar Bay in 1883. She lived there a year and then moved to Oskar where she married Lassi Manninen in 1889. They had 4 sons, 2 daughters.

## 38. Olaf Matoniemi

1848 to? Came to Oskar with family in 1873 and lived in Oskar for several years as a fisherman and also as pastor in the Old AP Lutheran congregation. He moved to Dakota in 1899. First wife Elsa Uusisalo 1842-1916. 2nd wife Edla Maria 1856 with 2 adopted children.

## 60. Mrs. Anna Oja

nee Tavela born in Jokijarvi in Taivalkoski in 1877. Came to America and lived first in Liminga and then Osceola and the last 45 years in Mason Mi. Died May 21 1860 and buried in Liminga Cemetery. Her husband John died in 1949.

## 35. Jacob Ojanpera. 36. Mrs. Emilia Ojanpera and son John Jalmar Ojanpera.

Jacob Ojanpera. He was born July 6, 1838 in Kalajoki. A Farmer's son. He learned to read and write in the elementary school. He moved to Norway in 1867 to fish, and from there to America in 1870 to Cokato. After a year he moved to Copper Island. He worked for awhile in the mine. With Oskar Eliassen and Sakari Hendrickson he bought some land along the canal. (On today's Betty Ruohonen's property).

They started an extensive operation to get logs and ties for the mining company.

In 1883 he sold his share to Eliassen and moved to Cokato as a farmer purchasing a 300 acres plot which his care and skill developed into a model cattle and dairy operation. He died August 21, 1919.

Mrs. Emil nee Halonen, born 1842 in Finland. Came to America in 1871. Married in Calumet. Died Nov. 17, 1918. Had 4 children. One, John Jalmer Ojanpera was born in 1884 in Oskar moved with his parents as an infant to Cokato, living there the rest of his life.

## 124. John Erik Ollila

Who after a short illness with stomach cancer fell into the sleep of death in living faith in the Finnish Hospital in Hancock Nov. 8. 1923. He was born in Lappajarvi in 1888 and at death was thus 43 years, 9 months and 6 days of age. By profession was a woodworker. Married Hilda Olin in Oskar by Pastor J. Bakki. In their union was born 3 sons and 6 daughters. The deceased was buried in the Oskar Cemetery with A.L. Heideman officiating.

## 71. Gusti Olson

Gusti/Gustov was born in 1856 in Sodankyle sp? , Kittila district where he was married and left for America in 1889. He worked at the Franklin Mine and moved to Oskar in 1891 to become a farmer. He also ran a small store for the inhabitants. He died

in 1912. His wife Santra in 193?, born in 1856 in Kittila, coming to the states in 1889. Several children. One is Alex Olson. Born in 1884 in Kittila, came to America with his parents. Worked at home until marrying Hilda Lahnala in 1905. They then moved to Hancock where he worked in a store. After his father's death he moved back to the farm where they raised 17 children. His wife Hilda, nee Lahnala was born in 1884 at Boston Location.

95. John Olson

John Olson. He was born on July 21, 1885 in Kittula. He came to Minnesota with his parents in 1889 and moved after a year to Oskar. After going to school he came to work at the Henry Sakari store until 1906 he then served as manager and owner of Eilola and Company.

103. Jalmar Patana

Was born in Yliveteli in 1875. Came directly to Oskar in 1892. He lived there most of his life but near the end he moved to Hancock where he died in 1945. At first he worked for Burkman and for Eliassen as a teamster. He married in 1898 and moved to Hancock but returned to Oskar and began operating his parent's farm. Was open natured and a good citizen.

104. Juusefiina Patana

nee Mantynen born in 1874 in Vahakyro settled in Oskar in 1896 where she worked for the Burkman family. She married Jalmer Patana in 1898 and had 4 sons and 5 daughters.

103 John Henrik Patana

He was Jalmer's father. He died in 1921 at age 71. He was born in the Yliveteli district. He came directly to Oskar lumbering for Eliassen and farming. He left behind a son and 2 daughters.

49. Perala.

Victor Perala. Born in Teualla. Came to America on September 29, 1881 to Oskar where he served as a manager in Eliassen's enterprise until 1901. He moved to Calumet, worked with J. Salo for a few years, and then to Hancock where with Jaakko Putala they began lumbering in Pelkie. After a couple of years he lumbered with William Ruohonen near Toivola. He then went into retirement on his farm in Liminga where he died in 1932 and was buried in Oskar Cemetery. He was a Laestadian by faith and belonged to the "first born" congregation. Page 50. Mrs. Karolina Perala nee Ollila was born in 1868 in Wesisaaressa Norway. Came directly to Oskar in 1873 to her Aunt Elsa Eliassen. (Oskar Eliassen's wife!). Elsa died in 1930. Their daughters: Miss Serafia Perola, born in Oskar 1885 died in 1899 having been sick for a while. Miss Hilda Ravi. Born in 1883 in Teuan. Came to Calumet in 1902 where she worked steadily. Died unmarried in 1945 and was buried in the family plot in Oskar.

64. John Pispä

Was born in Oskar in 1892 and his home was on the former Dorvinen farm. A creek flows through it and so got the name of Pispän Oja.. Bishop Creek which is still

called by that name even though the namesakes are dead. Even the son died in 1952 so the family is gone.

A little above the place lived a family named Markkula. Their house was on a stream/gulch which got the name of Markkula (stream). It is still called by that name even though the family who lived there 60 years ago moved to California and died there. However the Markkala family still lives in Fort Bragg CA.

69. John Porkka

78, one of the older residents of Liminga born in 1881. Came to America with his parents at age one and settled in Central and from there to Liminga where he was a farmer for 67 years. He died on July 17, 1960 He left behind 6 sons and 4 daughters. He married Hannah Lustin (sp?) in 1909.

47. John Puuri

70. John Puuri

The preacher John Puuri was born in the Pihtiputta district in 1858. Came to Oskar in 1891 and worked for Eliassen for a while as foreman. As a young man he was a good fiddler and played at dances. One day he was playing at a lumber camp where the Mikkosen family lived. Suddenly in the middle of the dance he stopped, ran out and hit the fiddle on a stump. He did save the strings and put them on a kantele on which he played hymns. He received the grace of repentance and by faith he belonged to the First (?) AP Lutheran. Church where he served as a pastor until his death.

133. Mrs. Ida Rondy

Mrs. Ida Rondy (wife of Richard) nee Uusitalo died suddenly in her home in Oskar at age 63. She was born in Oskar on Nov. 2, 1894. She went through elementary school in Oskar and graduated from Houghton High School and from Suomi College. She lived for awhile in Calumet and moved to Flint in 1923, then Detroit, and then back to Oskar. She married Richard Rondy in Flint in 1923. Left behind to mourn are the husband, 3 sons, 4 sisters, and 4 brothers. She had been at home alone and when Richard came home from work found her in the rocking chair dead Saturday 1958.

29. Jacob Ruohonen

Born 1882 in Vahakyro Finland. He came to Calumet in 1900. He worked for the mining company on the surface. He moved the same year to Oskar where he worked for several years for Eliassen. Married Edna Dorvinen in 1906. Had 12 children and was a grain farmer.

80. William Ruohonen

Born in Vahakyro Saarenpaa Village on Sept 15, 1885. Came to Oskar in 1903, living on his farm and doing lumbering. He worked also as a smith. For years he was on the board of the Fire Insurance Association. He also raised a large family of 8 daughters and 4 sons.

After the death of his wife Wilhelmina nee Saatio in 1937 he married Mrs. Sanna Hokkasen.

Wilhelmina was born in Oskar on Feb 17, 1888 and lived her life there. She died

on January 20, 1937. She is survived by her husband and 7 daughter and 5 sons.

John Ruohonen their son died a month after his father in 1917 at age 41. He left behind a daughter.

58. Paavo Ruottinen

Paavo Ruottinen. Came to America in 1874 was in many communities mining and lumbering. Died in Toivola in 1912. Wife was Kaisa Priita.. 4 children.

83. Matt Saari

Known as Saarenpaa in Finland, died at the age of 86. He was born in Himinka on Nov. 9, 1867 and came here 65 years ago living first in Oskar where he married Heta Brown in Hancock June 12, 1891 with the Rev. A.L. Heideman officiating. The young couple first lived in Oskar for a while and then moved to Hancock and after a few years to the village of St. Mary where he lived until death. They had 8 children and belonged to the First Ap. Lutheran Congregation. Burial on Nov. 28, 1953. His wife is still living.

46. Mrs. Sandra Saatio

nee Mannilin born 1870 in Isojoki. Came to Oskar as a young girl. Worked for a couple of years for the Burkman family then married Arvid J. Saatio in 1892. Arvid Saatio died sometime after 1892 and left her a widow with children. She later moved to Calumet where she lived for 43 years and then last in Hancock where she died on January 28 (of this year)

79 Fred Saatio and Karolina 91. Is duplicate.

Fred Saatio was born in Taranto Sweden in 1854. (Another narration of his says born 1843) His wife Karoliina Saatio nee Vintza (or Winsa) was born in 1853 at Kainulais Jarvi, in Sweden where they married and where their children Arvid and Manta were born. (Oskar Cemetery says Karolina 1864 to 1906)

They arrived in Oskar in 1882. They worked for Oskar Eliassen and also practiced cobblery when they got older. The mother died in 1906 and the father in 1914. There were 5 children:

Arvid b. in Taranto in 1873.

Manta born in Taranto in 1880.

Rudolph born in Oskar in 1883 died 1938,

Miina (Wilhelminia) in 1888 died 1937,

and Norman in Oskar in 1890. In 1953 only Norman is still alive.

92. Wilhelmina Saatio, daughter of Fred.

Wilhelmina Ruohonen nee Saatio, was born in Oskar February 17, 1888 and lived all her life in the Copper Country. She married William Ruohonen in 1907. They had 7 girls and 5 boys. She died Jan. 20. 1937.

113. Mrs. Jennie Sinko

nee Uusitalo born on July 26, 1903 in Oskar. Graduated from public school in Oskar and High School in Houghton in 1921. Student at Northern State Normal School in Marquette. Married Hjalmar R. Sinko in 1923 in Los Angeles.

## 135. Mrs. Eli Strong.

nee Korpinen died in the St. Joseph Hospital in Hancock in 1958 after being ill for a week at age 76. She was born in Alavieska on Jan. 19, 1882 and came to this country 70 years ago living first in Oskar and later in Hancock and her first 50 years in Ripley. She married Eli Strong on Nov. 4 1899. Mourning are her husband, 4 sons and 4 daughters.

## 87. Emil Tikkanen

One of the best known building superintendents in the Copper Country and the entire Upper Peninsula died in St. Joseph Hospital in 1958 on Sunday morning at the age of 79. He was also a well known resident of Oskar. He had worked for the late Herman Gundlach Construction. Emil was born in Oskar on Sept. 20, 1878 and came to Hancock in 1900 and later to Oskar. He was married to Edith Niemi in 1926 by John Wargelin. He left behind his wife, a brother her and a brother in and sister in Finland. He was buried in the Hancock Cemetery with Rev. Stadius and John Wargelin officiating.

## 32. John Tuisku.

Lived in Oskar as a big shot. Died in 1907 poor.

## 121. Matti Uusikoski.

Preacher. Born in 1863 in Perho. Came to America in 1887 settling in Oskar. Moved in 1904 to Cackle (?) where he died.

## 99. Timoteus Uusitalo and Maria Uusitalo

Tim born in Taranno, Sweden in 1863. Came to Oskar toward the end of the last century where he worked for Eliassen.

Married Maria Takaharju in 1893 who was born in Pudasjarvi in 1873. She came to Oskar in 1890.

They raised 5 daughters and 7 sons.

Tim died in 1928.

## 121. Hjalmar Vanttaja.

Born in Oskar on Feb. 28, 1894. A preacher.

## 62. Johan Vehka

Born in 1872 in Lappajarvi. Came to America in 1898 to Oskar where he worked in the woods and on the farm. He died in the Houghton County Poor Farm and was buried in Oskar.

## 62. Erkki Wehka

The father of the above came to America in the latter half of the last century to Oskar where he was a foreman for Burkman. Was buried in the Oskar Cemetery.

## 85. Maggie Walz

She was born in Ylitornio, attended elementary school in Matarin (sp?). Came to America in 1881 and worked on the Jacob Ojanpera farm in Oskar as housekeeper. She then worked in the business field in various Copper Country cities and participated in

various mutual enterprises. Died single.

(Barb Koski adds: She went to Drummond Island to start a colony. Barb's friend Kathy Kelso as summer place on the island and she says. The Finnish school sat on the corner where you turn to go to the cabin. It was once a restaurant. It is now gone and there is a log house there. I am not familiar with the road but Bill probably knows where it is.)

101. Andred Wanttaja

Andred was born in the district of Kuusamo in 1872 and came in the latter part of the last century to Oskar. He worked for Eliassen and later as a carpenter working in the building trade in Hancock. From there he moved to Baraga to farm. He left behind many children. Those born in Oskar are Saima b. 1896, Philip b. 1897 and John b. 1898.

131. Mrs. Selma Zimmerman

Nee Hermanson (wife of Carl Zimmerman) was born in Oskar on Jan. 10, 1893. Lived most of her life near Hancock and her later years in Bruce Crossing. Died Dec. 10 1953 and was buried in the Bruce Crossing cemetery. Left behind were a husband and three sons.

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123. 126. 128. 129 132. 134.