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Augustana Seniors Fall 1884 : Anders Carlsson

Danielle Carroll and Alexis Karon

February 7, 2017

Augustana College is a very special college where many people from all around the world wish to attend. When it first opened, many of these people came from Sweden to either become pastors or to go on to graduate schools. One special student of Augustana College, a graduate of the class of 1885, is named Anders Carlsson. Anders Carlsson was born October 5, 1860, in Leksand, Dalarna, Sweden¹. He immigrated to the United States from Upsala, Sweden in 1883², which is also the same year he began his studies at Augustana.

During our research, it took a while for us to actually find information about him. He was nowhere to be found on *FamilySearch* or on the *Augustana Observer*. This was hard because we only knew his name and birthdate from the Augustana College Catalogs. It became a lot easier once we made an appointment to Special Collections in the library because we were able to find the catalogs of his attendance. He began Augustana College in 1883 and graduated in 1885, but then attended the Theological Seminary from 1885 to 1887³. In his junior year catalog, there was enough information in a small paragraph to help us find out more information when we would go to the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center. It gave us his birth year and place, and when he came to the United States, so we took that to Swenson to find out more.

At Swenson, we were able to find out more about not only Anders, but his immediate family. There was a possibility of finding more of his ancestors but we did not have enough time to do so, but we will make another appointment and try to uncover more information. When we searched for Anders Carlsson in *The Augustana Ministerium*, we found a paragraph that

¹ *Augustana College Catalog 1884-1885*, p. 16-17, volume bound in *Augustana College Catalogue 1871-1891*, Aug. Inst., LD 271, A6651, C3, 1871-1891; Augustana College, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois. All the students in the senior class are listed with the year they began at Augustana.

² *Augustana College Catalog 1884-1885*, MSS A6651.

³ *Augustana College Catalog 1884-1885*, MSS A6651.

summarized his entire life. We learned that Anders Carlsson was ordained 26 June 1887 in Chicago, Illinois⁴. After graduation, Anders moved to work in a church in Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, from 1887 to 1890⁵. He then transferred to a different church and worked in a church in Emanuel, a small town near Minneapolis, from 1890 to 1894⁶. After living in Minnesota for a decade, he moved across the country to work in Manchester, New Hampshire, from 1894 to 1901⁷. Anders then decided to move back home to Sweden, and worked in the Church of Sweden in 1902⁸. It is unknown how long he worked there, but he passed away in Husby, Sweden, on 9 January, 1935⁹. We then discovered that he died an unmarried man from the *Swedish Death Index of 1901-2013*¹⁰.

At the Swenson Center, we were also able to find his birth certificate, which gave us more information about his immediate family and the name of the parish his family belonged to. Using his birth certificate, we were able to find the birth records of his parents, and information about their immediate families. Anders was born to Brita Andersdotter, who was born on 19 February 1827¹¹ and father Carl Andersson, who was born on 1 Jan 1785 in Ostrabjorken, Leksand, Sweden¹². Anders' parents were married in 1859¹³.

⁴ Anders Carlsson, *The Augustana Ministerium* (Rock Island, Illinois: Augustana Historical Society, 1980), page 90.

⁵ Carlsson, *Augustana Ministerium*, 39.

⁶ Carlsson, *Augustana Ministerium*, 39.

⁷ Carlsson, *Augustana Ministerium*, 39.

⁸ Carlsson, *Augustana Ministerium*, 39.

⁹ Carlsson, *Augustana Ministerium*, 39.

¹⁰ Carlsson, Anders. *Swedish Death Index 1901-2013*. The Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies & DIGDATA 2014. Rock Island, Illinois: Augustana Historical Society, 1980.

¹¹ "Leksand C:12 (1826-1838)", database of images, *ArkivDigital*, (<http://arkivdigital.net> : accessed 12 January 2017), image 29 / page 26, AID : v130819.b29.s26, NAD SE/ULA/10826, Brita Andersdotter and siblings, born Leksand Parish in OstraBjorken, Leksand; Swenson Sweidsh Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The image is a photograph of the original parish register and shows the birth date of Brita Andersdotter.

¹² "Leksand AI:13b (1826-1835)", database of images, *ArkivDigital*, (<http://arkivdigital.net> : accessed 12 January 2017), image 23 / page 17, AID : v130760.b23.s17, NAD: SE/ULA/10826), Anders Andersson and sfamily, born Leksand Parish in OstraBjorken, Leksand; Swenson Sweidsh Immigration Research Center, Augustana College,

After returning to the Swedish Center, we were able to uncover more information about Anders's grandparents, on both sides. We found that Anders Andersson, Carl Andersson's father, was born 1 January 1785 in Ostrabjorken, Leksand, Sweden and died on 14 November 1828¹⁴. Anders married Carin Persdotter on an unknown date, but we discovered that she was born in 1784 in Ostrabjorken, Leksand, Sweden¹⁵. We were also able to find Anders's maternal grandparents. We discovered that Anders Olsson, Anders's grandfather, was born 16 January 1803 in Ostrabjorken, Leksand, Sweden¹⁶. He married Brita Matsdotter at an unknown date, but we know that she was born 22 February 1794 in Ostrabjorken, Leksand, Sweden¹⁷.

Using the information we got from the Swedish Center, we attempted to find his family tree on FamilySearch, but to no avail. We searched for Anders, his parents, and grandparents, yet there were no matches. As students, we have exhausted all of our resources to find as much information about Anders as possible. Maybe one day, someone will find his family tree and we can find out more information about him.

Rock Island, Illinois. The image is a photograph of the original parish register and shows the birth date of Anders Andersson.

¹³ "Leksand A:16a (1858-1867)", database of images, *ArkivDigital*, (<http://arkivdigital.net> : accessed 12 January 2017), image 19 / page 13, AID : v130771.b19.s13, NAD: SE/ULA/10826), Brita Andersdotter and siblings, Anders and his parents in Leksand Parish in OstraBjorkan, Leksand; Swenson Sweidsh Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The image is a photograph of the original parish register and shows the birth dates of the Andersson family and the marriage date of Brita Andersdotter and Anders Andersson.

¹⁴ "Leksand C:11 (1810-1825)", database of images, *ArkivDigital*, (<http://arkivdigital.net> : accessed 12 January 2017), image 324, page 317 (AID: v130818.b234.s317, NAD: SE/ULA/10826), Anders Andersson and family, born Leksand Parish in OstraBjorkan, Leksand; Swenson Sweidsh Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The image is a photograph of the original parish register and shows the birth and death date of Carl Andersson.

¹⁵ "Leksand C:11 (1810-1825)", *ArkivDigital*, page 26, database image of birth record for Anders Andersson.

¹⁶ "Leksand C:12 (1826-1838)", *ArkivDigital*, page 27, database image of birth record for Brita Andersdotter.

¹⁷ "Leksand C:12 (1826-1838)", *ArkivDigital*, page 27, database image of birth record for Brita Andersdotter.

Ahnentafel of Anders Carlsson

Generation 1

1. Anders Carlsson. Anders was born 5 October 1860 in Ostrabjorcken, Leskand, Sweden¹⁸.

Generation 2

2. Carl Andersson. Father of Anders Carlsson. Carl was born 16 August 1825 in Ostrabjorcken, Leksand, Sweden¹⁹. Carl married Brita Andersdotter (3) in 1859²⁰.
3. Brita Andersdotter. Mother of Anders Carlsson. Brita was born 19 February 1827 in Ostrabjorcken, Leksand, Sweden²¹.

Generation 3

4. Anders Andersson. Father of Carl Andersson (2). Anders was born 1 January 1785 in Ostrabjorcken, Leksand, Sweden. Anders died on 14 November 1828 in Ostrabjorcken, Leksand, Sweden²².
5. Carin Persdotter. Mother of Carl Andersson (2). Carin was born in 1784²³.
6. Anders Olsson. Father of Brita Andersdotter (3). Anders was born 16 January 1803 in Ostrabjorcken, Leksand, Sweden²⁴.
7. Brita Matsdotter. Mother of Brita Andersdotter (3). Brita was born 22 February 1794 in Ostrabjorcken, Leksand, Sweden²⁵.

¹⁸ *Augustana College Catalog 1884-1885*, MSS A6651.

¹⁹ "Leksand AI:13b (1826-1835)", *ArkivDigital*, page 17, database image of birth record for Carl Andersson.

²⁰ "Leksand A:16a (1858-1867)", *ArkivDigital*, page 13, database image of the household of Carl Andersson.

²¹ "Leksand C:12 (1826-1838)", *ArkivDigital*, page 27, database image of birth record for Brita Andersdotter.

²² "Leksand C:11 (1810-1825)", *ArkivDigital*, page 26, database image of birth record for Anders Andersson.

²³ "Leksand AI:13b (1826-1835)", *ArkivDigital*, page 17, database image of birth record for Carl Andersson.

²⁴ "Leksand AI:13b (1826-1835)", *ArkivDigital*, page 17, database image of birth record for Carl Andersson.

²⁵ "Leksand AI:13b (1826-1835)", *ArkivDigital*, page 17, database image of birth record for Carl Andersson.

Descendants Register of Anders Carlsson

Generation 1

1. Anders Carlsson. Anders never married nor had children²⁶.

²⁶ Carlsson, *Augustana Ministerium*, 39.

Questions for Further Research

The first question we want to ask for further research is: what did Anders Carlsson look like? We were not able to find any pictures of him or related to him, so it would be really cool to go back to Swenson and maybe find that out.

The next question for further research is: can we go farther back in his ancestor list? We tried to at Swenson but had no luck and we also ran out of time, so maybe we could go back and try harder. Maybe going back to Special Collections and finding his record card would help us a ton.

Another question we have is: did his sister possibly have a husband and children? Since Anders did not have a wife or children, we could possibly find descendants of his family through her.

We have created a record for Anders Carlsson in the Family Tree on *FamilySearch*. The record locator is LRZG-KR4.

Source List

Augustana College Catalog 1883-1884, p. 12-13.

Augustana College Catalog 1884-1885, p. 16-17.

Bergendoff, Conrad. *The Augustana Ministerium: A Study of the Careers of the 2,504 Pastors of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod/Church 1850-1962*. Rock Island, Illinois, Augustana Historical Society, 1980. Image copy. *Augustana Heritage Association*.

Carlsson, Anders. *Swedish Death Index 1901-2013*. The Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies & DIGDATA 2014.

“Leksand AI: 13b (1826-1838)”, *ArkivDigital*, page 17, database image of Anders Andersson’s family record.

“Leksand C:11 (1810-1825)”, *ArkivDigital*, page 317, database image of Brita Andersdotter’s birth record.

“Leksand C:12 (1826-1838)”, *ArkivDigital*, page 26, database image of Brita Andersdotter’s birth record.

“Leksand AI: 16a (1857-1867)”, *ArkivDigital*, page 26, database image of Brita Andersdotter’s birth record.