

Laura Oster-Aaland Collection

2011.16

The NDSU Libraries' Germans from Russia Heritage Collection received the following textiles in **2011** from **Laura Oster-Aaland**.

*Ancestral Village: Pfenning from Leipzig Colony in Bessarabia; Heihn from Bessarabia; Nikolaus from Rohrbach, Beresan District, Cherson, Black Sea Region.

Initial inventory prepared by GRHC staff on 2 August 2011. Inventory updated on 13 November 2013.

The following textiles were separated from the rest of the collection and are house at the Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection on the NDSU campus. Advanced notice is requested for the view of these items.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.09 & 2011.16.10]

“Grandma” Abbey made cloth dolls for neighbor girls Janice and Caroline Heihn. Cora Abbey, born in Wisconsin, was a neighbor and very special friend of the Ted and Martha Heihn Family in Beulah, ND.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.11]

Emilia Pfenning, Martha Heihn’s mother made a summer quilt from remnants of a home-sewing fabrics. [Summer quilts have no batting layer.] Resembling an aerial view of the countryside, you can see a landscape of patches decorated with herringbone, cross stitch and blanket stitches.

Emilia (Koehler) Pfenning (1895-1981) was born in Beulah, ND. The Pfenning came from the Leipzig Colony in Bessarabia. Martha’s father Michael was born in South Russia. Laura Oster-Aaland is Martha’s granddaughter.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.04b & 2011.16.04c]

Angora goat/rabbit yarn makes a simple crocheted collar very special.

A pair of crocheted woolen mittens for an infant or toddler has no thumbs. Each one has a single crocheted cord, which, when run up through each sleeve, will prevent accidental loss.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.06]

German-Russian women gave special attention to their babies' bonnets. This lovely knitted baby bonnet has a twisted star bordered by openwork with ribbon flowers and ties.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.12]

The name Irish crochet does describe the raised work found in this crocheted collar. Worked in cotton thread around 1900, the heavy, three-dimensional motifs were attached on a background of single crochet with picots.

The heavy, open motifs and raised work is in imitation of Venetian needle lace. Irish crochet is particularly good at replicating those designs and motifs.

The Germans from Russia women often edged their handwork in crocheted lace.

A note says "collars were handmade in the 1800s and worn mostly on black dresses." The history of this collar is not known.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.05]

Caroline Heihn's coat was probably purchased in a local store. The accompanying note gives the date 1939 the year Caroline was born.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Laura Oster-Aaland

[2011.16.04a]

A toddler's coat has pink silk inside and out with a soft layer of wool fibers inside. Unfortunately, the silk has split into small rows over the years. It is embellished with perle cotton flowers in satin and running stitches on the front. The coat looks good with the Angora collar shown elsewhere.



Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

[2011.16.07 & 2011.16.08]

Laura Oster-Aaland

These sheep skin slippers themselves do not show much wear. However, three of the blue eyes and one ear are missing on the bunny-faces decorating the front. The surfaces of the red patent leather heel and toe strips are only a bit worn, but the piping of the same material used between the sole and the upper only fragments and pink stain remain.

A pair of tiny shoes were worn by Janice or Caroline Heihn. Janice was born in 1937; Caroline in 1939; another daughter Mary Lou was born in 1948.



**No images available for 2011.16.13, 2011.16.14, and 2011.16.15.