

William Otto Westgard

Family History

Prepared for: [redacted]

Prepared by: Lisa Buckner, Roam Your Roots

Date: July 2021

Introduction

This report will begin by detailing the research conducted to find William Otto Westgard in public record, the thought process behind such research, and subsequent findings.

Information Provided by Client

The following documentation was provided by Client regarding William Otto Westgard:

- A copy of his marriage license, dated 14 September 1920, to Anna Lindquist
- A copy of his son's (Anne's father) birth certificate, which states William Otto's birthplace as Princeton, Minnesota.
- A copy of William Otto's death certificate, which reaffirms his birthplace as Princeton, Minnesota, and names his parents as "John Westgard" and "Emma", and their places of birth as Sweden
- A copy of his obituary, which names three surviving siblings: "Emil Westgard" of Minneapolis, "Roy Westgard" of Oregon, and "Mrs. Allen Stone" of North Dakota.

Research Goal

Client would like to know more about William's family; specifically, if William truly had a brother Emil as family memories and his obituary suggest, and if there were any other family members who may have descendants.

Research Restrictions

U.S. research was largely limited to pre-1940 records and no effort was made to trace the descendants of William Otto's siblings. Swedish research was limited to Household Examination Books, birth registrations, and Moving Out Records; Genealogist's knowledge of the Swedish language is limited and further research should be conducted by a genealogist fluent in Swedish and who specializes in Swedish records.

Beginning Research

The Westgard family (William Otto, Anna, and their son William Russell) were found easily in the 1930¹ and 1940² Federal Censuses. The earliest record of "William Otto Westgard" that could be found was his 1920 marriage certificate to Anna Lindquist. Broad searches were conducted to find any earlier record of the Westgard family in Minnesota, and although there were other Westgard families, there were no families headed by a John and Emma Westgard - the names of William's parents as specified on his death certificate and within the Social Security Applications and Claims Index, which states his parents as "John Westgard" and "Emma Peterson".³

It seemed coincidental that the earliest record of him was his marriage certificate, which is typically the first record taken of any given person's adulthood, and that no record of William as a minor could be found in earlier census data. In addition, efforts to search for brothers "Emil Westgard" of Minneapolis and "Roy Westgard" of Oregon, as stated in William's obituary, proved fruitless. This begged the question: did William change his surname upon reaching adulthood? If his family did not use the surname "Westgard" when William was a child, this would explain why he could not be located in earlier census records; in addition, if his brothers had different surnames, this would explain why they could not be located.

A broad search was then conducted for a "William Otto" - surname excluded - born in Minnesota between the years 1884 and 1888. One result stood out in particular, of a nine year old "Otto W Westberg" living with a brother "Emel Westberg" in the 1895 Minnesota State Census.⁴ This census indicated that their parents' names were John and Emma, matching the names on both William's death certificate and in the Social Security Applications Claims Index. In addition, the family was living in Orrock Township, Sherburne County, Minnesota: just south of Princeton, William's supposed place of birth as indicated on his son's birth and death certificates.

To confirm this family was indeed that of William Otto Westgard, one of the brothers - Roy - should be found living in Oregon at the time of William's death, per William's obituary. This was found to be true. A "Roy Elvin Westberg" was found on a WWII Draft Registration Card in Boring, Oregon, his birth details indicating he was born in 1892 in Elk River, Minnesota.⁵ Elk River is a town in Orrock Township where the family was found in the 1895 Minnesota State Census, and the birthdate of 1892 matches that of Elvin Westberg enumerated in that census.

¹ William Westgard. Year: 1930; Census Place: Duluth, St Louis, Minnesota; Page: 26B; Enumeration District: 0063; FHL microfilm: 2340861

² William Westgard. Year: 1940; Census Place: Duluth, St Louis, Minnesota; Roll: m-t0627-01973; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 88-56B

³ William Otto Westgard. U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

⁴ Otto W. Westberg. "Minnesota State Census, 1895," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-6FD7-HC?cc=1503031&wc=M6GC-3MQ%3A65734201%2C65824901> : 1 April 2016), Sherburne County > Orrock township > image 13 of 14; State Library and Records Service, St. Paul.

⁵ Roy Elvin Westberg. The National Archives at St. Louis; St. Louis, Missouri; Record Group Title: Records of the Selective Service System; Record Group Number: 147; Box or Roll Number: 134

Thus, it would appear that William Otto Westgard was born William Otto Westberg. This is the story of the Westberg family.

In the United States

John and Emma Westberg immigrated to the United States from Sweden in 1880.⁶ By the time they arrived to the United States, they had five children: Charles, Frank, Hulda, Nannie, and Ellen.⁷ The family are first enumerated in the 1885 Minnesota State Census, where they live in Orrock Township, Sherburne, Minnesota.⁸ At this time, John had not yet Anglicized his name - he is enumerated as Jonas - and the census lists their surname as "Westerberg" rather than Westberg - this will be discussed later in the report. The census also shows two additional children that had been born in the US since the family arrived: "Elmer" (Axel Hjalmar) and "Harmon" (Oscar Herman).

Name	Age	Sex	Birthplace
19. Westerberg, Jonas	40	M	Sweden
Emma	35	F	Sweden
Hulda	7	M	Sweden
Frank	17	M	Sweden
Hulda	7	F	Sweden
Harmon	X	F	Sweden
Ellen	X	F	Sweden
Elmer	2	M	Minnesota
Harmon	1	M	Sweden

The 1885 Minnesota State Census showing Jonas and Emma Westerberg and 7 children

By the time the 1895 Minnesota State Census⁹ was taken, the rest of John and Emma's children were born, totaling their children at 11. They were as follows:

- Charles (b. 1871, Sweden)
- Frank (b. 1873, Sweden)
- Hulda Sofia (b. 1875, Sweden)
- Nannie Viktoria (b. 1877, Sweden)

⁶ This date is provided in the 1900 and 1910 Federal Censuses (see citations 12 and 13), as well as Swedish records that will be discussed later in this report.

⁷ Census data shows these children were born in Sweden

⁸ Jonas Westerberg. "Minnesota State Census, 1885," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6LW9-DJC?cc=1503044> : 21 May 2014), > image 1 of 1; State Library and Records Service, St. Paul.

⁹ John Westberg. "Minnesota State Census, 1895," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-6FD7-HC?cc=1503031&wc=M6GC-3MQ%3A65734201%2C65824901> : 1 April 2016), Sherburne County > Orrock township > image 13 of 14; State Library and Records Service, St. Paul.

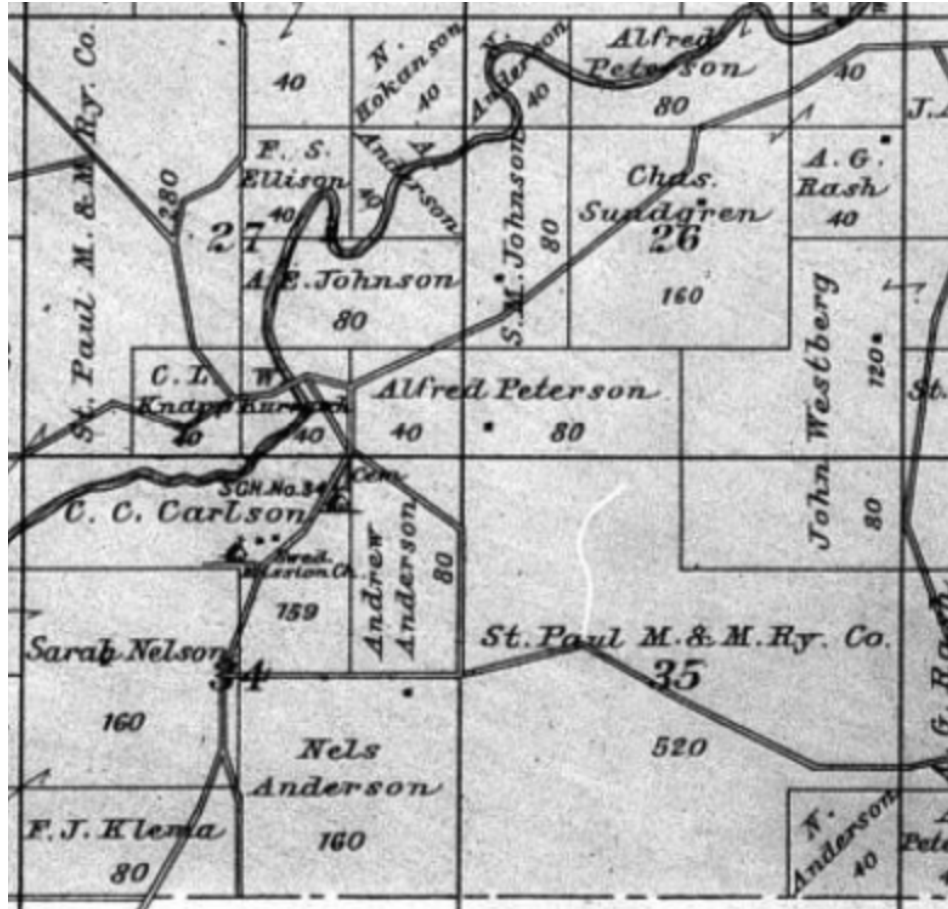
- Ellen Johanna (b. 1879, Sweden)
- Axel Hjalmar (b. 1882, Minnesota)
- Oscar Herman (b. 1884, Minnesota)
- William Otto (b. 1886, Minnesota)
- John Emil (b. 1887, Minnesota)
- Anna (b. 1889, Minnesota)
- Roy Elvin (b. 1892, Minnesota)

Westberg, John	50	M	W	Sweden	15	15	Farmer
Westberg, Emma	45	F	W	Sweden			
Westberg, Charly	23	M	W	Sweden	15	15	Works on the farm
Westberg, Frank	21	M	W	Sweden	15	15	Works on farm
Westberg, Hulda	19	F	W	Sweden			
Westberg, Minnie	18	F	W	Sweden			
Westberg, Ellen	16	F	W	Sweden			
Westberg, Axel, J	13	M	W	Minn			
Westberg, Oscar, H	11	M	W	Minn			
Westberg, Otto, W	9	M	W	Minn			
Westberg, Emel	7	M	W	Minn			
Westberg, Anna	5	F	W	Minn			
Westberg, Elvira	2	M	W	Minn			

The 1895 Minnesota State Census showing John and Emma Westberg with 11 children

The 1895 census indicates that John was a farmer, and his parcel of land is shown on the earliest plat of Orrock Township in Sherburne County, taken in 1903, where his name appears as John Westberg.¹⁰

¹⁰ Orrock, Eagle Lake, Lake Ann, Lake Josephine, Big Mud Lake. [Map]. Northwest Publishing Co.: 1903. Available at: <http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/474762/Orrock++Eagle+Lake++Lake+Ann++Lake+Josephine++Big+Mud+Lake/Sherburne+County+1903/Minnesota/>



Plat of Orrock Township showing John Westberg

John came into ownership of this land on 9 February 1891 via the Homestead Act of 1862, which allowed claimants to claim land so long as they “improved” the plot through cultivation. After five years of such “improvement”, the claimant was entitled to the property - for free - after paying a small registration fee. Under the name “Jonas Westerberg”, John filed his claim at the land office in Taylors Falls and proved up on the claim in 1891.¹¹

The 1900 Federal Census gives a bit more insight into John and Emma: they both could speak and read English, though it was Emma - not John - who could write.¹² By 1900 their eldest children Charles, Frank, Hulda, and Nannie had moved out of the family home, and by the time

¹¹ Bureau of Land Management, “Land Patent Search,” digital images, *General Land Office Records* (<http://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/PatentSearch> : accessed 8/3/2021), Jonas Westerberg, Sherburne, Minnesota, homestead patent no. 2274

¹² John Westberg. "United States Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DHR9-SSH?cc=1325221&wc=9BQF-RMD%3A1031098701%2C1034953701%2C1034959001> : 5 August 2014), Minnesota > Sherburne > ED 132 Livonia & Orrock Townships > image 9 of 21; citing NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

the next federal census was taken in 1910, only Emil and Elvin remained living with their parents.¹³

John Westberg died on 22 January 1924¹⁴ and is buried at Svea Hill Cemetery in Big Lake, Minnesota.¹⁵ He is buried with his wife Emma, who died on 27 September, 1927.¹⁶



John and Emma's gravestones in Svea Hill Cemetery

Roots in Algutsboda, Sweden

Prior to their immigration to the United States, the Westberg family appears in a number of Swedish records indicating the family was from Algutsboda parish in Kalmar, Sweden. The family uses the surname "Westerberg" rather than "Westberg"; a "Jonas Westerberg" and an "Emma Petersdotter" appear on a number of birth records for children that match the birth dates of John and Emma's children recorded in the United States, indicating that this is the same family:

¹³ John Westerberg. "United States Census, 1910," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GRKH-SYS?cc=1727033&wc=QZZH-M1P%3A133639401%2C140940001%2C140951201%2C1589089751> : 24 June 2017), Minnesota > Sherburne > Quick > ED 126 > image 3 of 10; citing NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

¹⁴ John Westberg. Minnesota Department of Health; St Paul, Minnesota, USA; *Minnesota, Death Index, 1908-2017*

¹⁵ *Find a Grave*, database and images (www.findagrave.com/memorial/53072812/john-westberg : accessed 9 August 2021), memorial page for John Westberg (24 Jan 1844–22 Jan 1924), Find a Grave Memorial ID 53072812, citing Svea Hill Cemetery, Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota, USA ; Maintained by Find a Grave (contributor 8) .

¹⁶ *Find a Grave*, database and images (www.findagrave.com/memorial/53072813/emma-lisa-westberg : accessed 9 August 2021), memorial page for Emma Lisa *Petersdotter* Westberg (22 Nov 1851–4 Oct 1927), Find a Grave Memorial ID 53072813, citing Svea Hill Cemetery, Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota, USA ; Maintained by Find a Grave (contributor 8) .

A child "Karl Uno" was born to Jonas Westerberg and Emma Lisa Petersdotter on 11 October, 1871.¹⁷ The date matches Charles' approximate birth year of 1872, and the middle name "Uno" matches Charles' middle initial "U", which appears with his name on the Minnesota Death Index.¹⁸

1871. års Födelse- och Dop-Bok									
Inskrifts-nummer.	Födelse-		Döpelse-		Kön.		Dopnamn.	Föräldrarnes	
	Månad.	dag.	Månad.	dag.	M.	Q.		Namn, stånd, embete, yrke, nationalitet och trosbekännelse (om främmande) samt stället för nedkomsten (om ej i hemorten).	Hemvist, jemte pag. i Husförhörboken.
115	Okt.	6	Okt.	13	1		Gustaf Wilhelm 1.	Larsson Johan Da. h. Lotta Gustafsdotter 84 år	Getasjö- gården 175.
116	okt.	7	okt.	14			Amanda Gustava 5	Magnusson Elias Komp Olga Aina Pettersdotter 18 år	Kuppöra måla 34.
117	okt.	4	okt.	13			Emili Charlotta 2	Gustafson Peter h. Ma Hilda Christina Petersdotter 4 år	Bygga- bo. 157.
118	okt.	11	okt.	13			Karl Uno 1.	Westerberg Jonas Emma Lisa Petersdotter 34 år	Bygga- mo 149
119	okt.	12	okt.	13			Karl Johan Petter 3	Westerberg Emma Lisa Petersdotter 34 år	Bygga- mo 149

Karl Uno appears in the Birth and Baptismal Register (Födelse och Dopbok) for Algutsboda in 1871

In addition, a "Frans Theander" was born to "Westerberg" and "Emma Lisa Petersdotter" on 16 August 1873.¹⁹ The birth date matches John and Emma's second eldest son Frank's

¹⁷ Karl Uno. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Födelse- och dopböcker, SE/VALA/00004/C/7 (1870-1894), bildid: A0006891_00028. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/A0006891_00028#?c=&m=&s=&cv=27&xywh=105%2C128%2C3537%2C2430

¹⁸ Charles U Westberg. Minnesota Department of Health; St Paul, Minnesota, USA; Minnesota, Death Index, 1908-2017

¹⁹ Frans Theander. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Födelse- och dopböcker, SE/VALA/00004/C/7 (1870-1894), bildid: A0006891_00053. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/A0006891_00053#?c=&m=&s=&cv=52&xywh=-2%2C-233%2C3323%2C2283

approximate birth year of 1874, and a middle initial of 'T' appears with his name in the Social Security Applications and Claims Index.²⁰

1879 års Födelse- och Dop-Bok

Inskrifts-nummer	Födelse-		Döpelse-		Kön.		Dopnamn.	Föräldrarnes	
	Månad.	dag.	Månad.	dag.	M.	Q.		Namn, stånd, embete, yrke, nationalitet och trosbekännelse (om främmande) samt stället för nedkomsten (om ej i hemorten).	Hemvist, jemte pag. i Husförhårboken.
86.	Aug.	16.	Aug.	24.	1	-	Frans Theander 2	Soldat Westberg H. Emma Lisa Petersd. 2	Goshatorp 116

Frans Theander appears in the Birth and Baptismal Register (Födelse och Dopbok) for Algutsboda in 1872

The same parents appear on the birth record of "Hulda Sofia" on 5 July 1875²¹, whose name and approximate birth date match with their daughter Hulda who appears with the family in the United States in the 1885, 1895, and 1905 Minnesota State Censuses.

1875 års Födelse- och Dop-Bok

Inskrifts-nummer	Födelse-		Döpelse-		Kön.		Dopnamn.	Föräldrarnes	
	Månad.	dag.	Månad.	dag.	M.	Q.		Namn, stånd, embete, yrke, nationalitet och trosbekännelse (om främmande) samt stället för nedkomsten (om ej i hemorten).	Hemvist, jemte pag. i Husförhårboken.
	Juli	4	—	—			Dödfödt goshubarn	Torpman Jonas Eriksson, Carolina Petersdotter	T. Carlström under Ängöl p. 122
70	"	9	Juli	17	1		Ida Serafia 1	Soldaten Alfred Ryd, Johanna Gustafsdotter	Yggensjö p. 110
77	"	5	"	11	1		Hulda Sofia 3	Soldaten Jonas Westberg, Emma Petersdotter 4	Goshatorp p. 116

Hulda Sofia appears in the Birth and Baptismal Register (Födelse och Dopbok) for Algutsboda in 1875

²⁰ Frank T. Westberg. U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

²¹ Hulda Sofia. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Födelse- och dopböcker, SE/VALA/00004/C/7 (1870-1894), bildid: A0006891_00085. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/A0006891_00085#c=&m=&s=&cv=84&xywh=169%2C224%2C3282%2C1975

Jonas Westerberg and Emma Petersdotter also appear as parents to a “Nanny Charlotta Victoria” born 29 April 1877 in Algutsboda.²² This birth date matches that of their daughter Nannie listed on the 1885 Minnesota State Census.²³

1877 års Födelse- och Dop-Bok									
Inskrivnings- nummer	Födelse-		Döpelse-		Kön.		Dopnamn.	Föräldrarnes	
	Månad.	dag.	Månad.	dag.	M.	Q.		Namn, stånd, embete, yrke, nationalitet och trosbekännelse (om främmande) samt stället för nedkomsten (om ej i hemorten).	Hemvist, jemte pag. i Husförhörboken.
28	Mars	8	Mars	11		1	Augusta oäkta 2	Pigan Anna Abrahamsdotter	Florra/ Stamphult 670
29	"	20	"	24		1	Ida Matilda 1	Hemmansögonen Aron Petersson, Johanna Carlsdotter 1	Slupend, hult Norrgr. 465
28	"	18	"	20		1	Jens Olof 7	Ärendatorn Johan Jönarson, Lena Johansdotter 16	Jungårds 235
30	"	25	"	31		1	Linnea 5	Kyrkoherden Johan Fredrik Hörberg, Augusta Josefina Lindgren 12	Algutsboda Profugeri 1
31	"	29	April	1		1	Carl Wilhelm 2	Undantagsman Johannes Petersson, Johanna Petersdotter 2	Ostra Månsmå 641
32	"	29	"	1		1	Hilda Christina 3		
33	"	29	"	7		1	Nanny Charlotta (Victoria) 4	Soldaten Jonas Westerberg, Emma Petersdotter 6	Piggano 210

Nanny Charlotta Viktoria appears in the Birth and Baptismal Register (Födelse och Dopbok) for Algutsboda in 1877

²² Nanny Charlotta Viktoria. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Födelse- och dopböcker, SE/VALA/00004/C/7 (1870-1894), bildid: A0006891_00117. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/A0006891_00117#?c=&m=&s=&cv=116&xywh=-778%2C1001%2C4563%2C2525&r=

²³ Her name is incorrectly transcribed on the 1895 Minnesota State Census as “Minnie;” beginning with the 1900 Federal Census she appears in records as “Charlotte” and in her 1901 marriage record to Andrew Peterson, the two names are written together as “Nanie Charlotte Westberg”.

Finally, a “Jonas Westerberg” and “Emma Petersdotter” also appear on a birth record in Algutsboda for an “Ellen Johanna Elisa” born 21 June 1879.²⁴ This birth date matches their daughter Ellen’s approximate birth year of 1880.

1879 års Födelse- och Dop-Bok

Inskrivnings- nummer.	Födelse-		Döpnings-		Kön.	Dopnamn.	Föräldrarnes	
	Månad.	dag.	Månad.	dag.			M.	Q.
53	Maj	28	Juni	2	1	Lifen Augusta 4	Bäckstuguhjort Otto Nilsson, Lotta Gustafsdotter 7	Vander Algutsboda Sönders nr 20
54	Juni	1	-	8	1	Johan Alfrid 3	Hemmansegaren Otto Israelsson, Emma Gustafsdotter 16	Vällebo 230
55	"	10	-	15	1	Maria Eulalia 3	Hemmansegaren Frans Gustafsson Lovisa Svendsdotter 4	Lindholm 86
56	"	29	-	15	1	Alma 5	Bäckstuguhjort Lakarias Osk Johanna Wall 12	Grönkulla under Grönabod 571
57	"	21	"	26	1	Ellen Johanna Elisa 5	Soldaten Jonas Westerberg, Emma Petersdotter	Ryggarna 210

Ellen Johanna Elisa appears in the Birth and Baptismal Register (Födelse och Dopbok) for Algutsboda in 1879

Any speculation as to whether these children were born to different sets of parents with the same names by coincidence is overruled as the family appears together in the Swedish Household Examination Books (*Husförhörslängder*). These books were a type of census that were kept by the Lutheran Church from the late 1600s. Every year the parish priest would visit each home and test the family members’ knowledge of the catechisms, in addition to recording birth and death information. Priests would also record the dates families or family members

²⁴ Ellen Johanna Elisa. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Födelse- och dopböcker, SE/VALA/00004/C/7 (1870-1894), bildid: A0006891_00153. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/A0006891_00153#c=&m=&s=&cv=152&xywh=-813%2C0%2C4565%2C2525&r=

would arrive and leave the parish, making tracing family movements through Sweden a relatively easy task.

At the time of Karl's birth in 1871, Jonas and Emma lived in Ryggamo in the parish of Algutsboda in Kalmar, a county in southeast Sweden.²⁵

149.

Personernas namn, stånd, embete, yrke och näringsfång, (backstuga-, inhyses- och fattighjon), nationalitet (om främmande), lyten, (svagsinta, blinda, döfstamma).	Födelse-		Ort, (Socken i Län, Stad).	Äktenskap.		Kopior.	Flyttad		Husförhörslängdsnummer.	Död.
	År.	Mån och dag.		Gift.	Enkl. eller Enka.		från (Socken i Län, Stad, eller pagina i Husförhörslängden).	År, månad och dag.		
32 Ryggmo. Soldat Jonas Westberg										
Soldat Jonas Jonasson Westerberg	44	27	Gillberg					Gockatorp		
Hustru Emma Lisa Westberg	40	22								
S. Carl West	71	11/10								

Jonas, Emma, and Karl in Ryggamo. Names in the Husförhörslängder are crossed off once the family departs the parish.

The book indicates that on 30 October 1872, the family departed Ryggamo for Gockatorp. This location is not locatable on Google Maps, but was likely nearby. The page for Gockatorp²⁶ also shows their next two children, Frans Theander (Frank) and Hulda Sofia, indicating they were born during the time the family lived there.²⁷

Soldat Jonas Jonasson Westerberg	44	27	Gillberg					14072 ²⁰		
Hustru Emma Lisa Westberg	40	22	allg.							
S. Carl West	71	11/10								
S. Frans Theander	73	16								
D. Hulda Sofia	75	5/7								

Jonas, Emma, Carl, Frans, and Hulda in Gockatorp.

²⁵ Jonas Jonasson Westerberg. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Husförhörslängder, SE/VALA/00004/A I/20 (1870-1875), bildid: C0023970_00147, sida 149. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/C0023970_00147?c=&m=&s=&cv=146&xywh=4657%2C400%2C2656%2C1557

²⁶ Jonas Jonasson Westerberg. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Husförhörslängder, SE/VALA/00004/A I/20 (1870-1875), bildid: C0023970_00117, sida 116. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/C0023970_00117?c=&m=&s=&cv=116&xywh=4264%2C251%2C3440%2C1852

²⁷ This is also indicated on the birth records for Frans and Hulda.

The page for Gockatorp does not indicate when the family left, but they are next found on another page from Gorkatorp²⁸ before moving to Ryggamo on 12 October 1876.²⁹ Nanny and Ellen, the last two children to be born in Sweden, are recorded in this book, indicating that this is where the family was living at the times of their births.³⁰

210 1872 Ryggamo

Personernas namn, stånd, embete, yrke och näringsfång, (backstuga-, inhyses- och fattighjon), nationalitet (om främmande), lyten (svagsinta, blinda, döfstumma).	Födelse-			Äktenskap.		Kopior.	Flyttad		Indflyttnings- attestens nummer.	Död.
	År.	Mån. och dag.	Ort, (Socken i Län, Stad.)	Gift.	Enkl. eller Enka.		från (Socken i Län, Stad, eller pagina i Husförhör-boken.)	År, månad och dag.		
B. Tallodal	20	4/7	A			✓				
Enk. Maria Petersdotter	46	10/10	A			✓	207	8027/10		
S. Johannes Johanson	43	5/6	A			✓	"	"		
R. Emma Johansdotter	43	5/6	A			✓	"	"		
Sold. Fred Uppvid. Komp.	44	22/7	Helleberga			✓	162	12/10		
N. 128 Jonas Westerberg	49	22/11	A			✓				
H. Emma Lisa Petersdotter	71	11/10	"			✓				
S. Carl Uno	73	16/8	"			✓				
S. Frans Svanda	75	3/7	"			✓				
R. Hilda Sofia	77	29/3	"			✓				
R. Nanny Victoria Charlotta	79	21/6	A			✓				
R. Ellen Johanna Lisa	79	21/6	A			✓				

The family lived in Ryggamo until 8 June 1880, when the family is recorded as leaving for North America. When leaving a parish, individuals and families were listed in the *Utflyttningslängder*, or Moving Out books, indicating what parish they were leaving and where they were leaving to. The following image shows the family listed in the *Utflyttningslängd*, or Moving Out Book, for the parish of Algutsboda indicating they were leaving the parish for North America.

²⁸ Jonas Westerberg. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Husförhörslängder, SE/VALA/00004/A I/22 (1875-1880), bildid: C0023972_00152, sida 162. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/C0023972_00152?c=&m=&s=&cv=151&xywh=2498%2C2392%2C2917%2C1710

²⁹ Jonas Westerberg. Algutsboda kyrkoarkiv, Husförhörslängder, SE/VALA/00004/A I/22 (1875-1880), Image ID: C0023972_00195, page 210. Available at: https://sok.riksarkivet.se/bildvisning/C0023972_00195?c=&m=&s=&cv=194&xywh=-601%2C-139%2C4706%2C2755

³⁰ This is also indicated on their birth records

1880

Utflyttnings - Längd

Asnummer.	Årrens datum.	Folio uti Hus- förhållsboken.	De utflyttades namn, stånd, embete, yrke.	Ställe, hvarifrån utflyttad.	Ort, hvarthän utflyttad. (Socken i Län, Stad.)	Män	
						77	72
57	²⁴ / ₅	212	Pigan Emma Carlsdöter, f. 57	Humböjke	N. Amerika		1
58	"	256	Pig. Johanna Petersöter, f. 62	Gringårde	"		1
59	"	43	Dr. Abraham Johansson, f. 62	Herrmansöpe	"		1
60	"	-	Flickan Ulrika Johansöter, f. 67	"	"		1
61	² / ₆	416	Dr. Conrad Fredriksson	Grismåla	Stockholm	1	
62	"	311	Glasblåsaren Carl W. Svartzson	Sutarshälla	Kalmar		1
63	⁷ / ₆	255	Dr. Frans Johansson	Gringårde	Söderhamn	1	
64	⁵ / ₆	423	Enstman Sida Thelander	Actornäs	Carlskrona Amiralöfen		1
65	⁸ / ₆	184	Pig. Emilia Berndöter, f. 64	Wikköja	N. Amerika		1
66	"	210	Soldat Jonas Westerberg, f. 44	Orrocks	"		1
"	"	"	h. Emma Petersöter, f. 49	"	"		1
"	"	"	S. Carl, f. 71	"	"		1
"	"	"	S. Frans, f. 73	"	"		1
"	"	"	P. Hulda, f. 75	"	"		1
"	"	"	P. Marry, f. 77	"	"		1
"	"	"	P. Ellen, f. 77	"	"		1

The family arrived in the United States that same year, making their way to Minnesota and settling in Sherburne County. Jonas would Americanize his name to John, Carl/Karl to Charles, and Frans to Frank. John and Emma would go on to have six more children in the United States. Although appearing on early records with the surname Westerberg, the family would eventually shorten their surname to Westberg, which each child would adopt for their families except for William, who chose Westgard.

The Westberg Children: William Otto Westgard's Siblings

Charles (Carl/Karl Uno) Westberg married Ida Anderson and had eight children. They remained in Orrock Township. Charles died in 1950.

Frank Westberg married Bessie Danielson in 1909 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Barrett, Minnesota and together they had three children. The family lived in Blaine, Anoka County, Minnesota until Frank's death in 1945.

Hulda Sofia was living as a single woman in the 1905 Minnesota State Census. Efforts to locate her after this census returned fruitless.³¹

Nannie Charlotta, who went by Charlotte in the U.S., married Andrew Peterson with whom she had four children. They lived in Golden Glen, North Dakota.

Ellen Johanna Westberg was 20 at the time the 1900 federal census was taken, and living with her parents and younger siblings in Orrock Township. Efforts to locate her after this census returned fruitless.

Axel Hjalmar Westberg married Minnie, surname unknown. They settled in Minneapolis and had no children.

Oscar Herman Westberg moved between North Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa.

Emil Westberg remained in Minnesota and never married. During WWI he served as a Private in the U.S. Army, and later lived in the Minnesota Soldiers' Home in Minneapolis. He died 7 January 1962 and is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Anna Westberg married Herbert Rasmusson with whom she had three children. They lived in Minneapolis, where Herbert died in 1926. Anna became a single mother to her three children, one of whom was born a few months after Herbert's death, and they remained in Minneapolis. Anna married Adam Fink in 1942; a few years later Adam was granted a divorce from Anna on grounds of mental cruelty. She died in 1961 in Minneapolis.

Roy Elvin Westberg married Henrietta Erickson. They had five children and remained in Minnesota until about 1940, by which time they had moved to Clackamas County, Oregon.

³¹ Searches were conducted under the following names on FamilySearch.org in Minnesota: "Hulda Sofia Westberg"; "Hulda Westberg"; "Sofia Westberg"; "Sophie Westberg" in addition to searches of the aforementioned forenames with "West*" as a surname to return more options in case she changed her surname or it was improperly transcribed on records. Similar searches were also conducted on the Minnesota Historical Society's "Minnesota People Records Search" which returned nothing. Further research is needed.

Continuing Research

There are a number of avenues to continue research on the family. In Sweden, further research may be conducted on Jonas' family using information from the Household Examination Books. Each of the *Husförhörsländer* record Jonas' birthplace as "Helleberga", likely Hälleberga, about 20 miles north of Ryggamo, and his birthdate is continuously recorded as 1 January 1844. In addition, two of the books indicate his patronymic surname as "Jonasson", indicating that his father's name was also Jonas.³² No effort was made to find Jonas' birth record or record of his life in Hälleberga prior to adulthood; future researchers should utilize the aforementioned details to search for Jonas in earlier records.

There are a number of U.S. records relevant to the family that were not included in this report. No immigration or naturalization records were searched for. Future researchers may find a naturalization record for John/Jonas at the Gale Family Library of the Minnesota History Center. This naturalization record may indicate the date and port of arrival, leading future researchers to the family's passenger list.

Research on the lives of John and Emma's children and descendents was limited and, in the cases of Hulda and Ellen, fruitless. More research may be conducted to trace John and Emma's children into adulthood.

According to William Otto Westgard's obituary, he was survived by a sister, "Mrs. Allen Stone" in North Dakota. An Allen Stone could not be located, and it is unclear which of John and Emma's daughters married this man. It is possible that it was Hulda or Ellen - one of the daughters who could not be traced. Further research is needed in this area.

³² See citations 25 and 26. While many Swedish immigrants decided to drop their patronymic surnames upon settling in the U.S., after the 1860s some families had already stopped the practice in Sweden and adopted family names.