

The  
Hare, Preston,  
Fuller & Decker  
Families

Long Time Residences Of America

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My name is Lawrence Reinhold. Carl Oliver and Josephine Mary (Van Laarhoven) Reinhold are my parents.

I wrote this Book, and I would like to thank Linnea B. Foster, CGRS, Janet Bornhoeft, Peg Ellis, Bette (Innes) Bradways, CG, Lylia Hare, and Paula Castaldo for their help in analyzing and researching material for this Book. An extra special thanks to Carrie Lucille (Reinhold) Kerns and Josephine (Van Laarhoven) Reinhold for sending those very old and one of kind pictures of family members. Without their trust and willingness to help me in this endeavor, the photo history simply would not be in this Book.

## PREFACE

My journey into my family history occurred by chance. It started with my mother's Book, *Tears & Joy*. Her Book is an autobiography. *Tears & Joy* tells my mother's story about growing up on a Wisconsin dairy farm, marrying, raising her twelve children on a Wisconsin dairy farm, and then retiring.

Mom bought a computer and printer, and starting typing. I say typing because from my mother's point of view, a computer was nothing more than a fancy typewriter. At the time, she did not know anything about computers or software, and for some reason her computer overwrote part of her data files. The overwritten data files caused Mom to lose part of her Book. Mom printed all the pages as she wrote, so she had her Book in its entirety. One day, Mom called me and asked if I would help straighten out her Book. I was in my early 30s at the time and had no idea the work I was in for when I agreed to help, nor did I realize I was about to embark on a fifteen-year journey, which culminated in me writing five non-fiction family history books, including *Made In My Likeness* which is an autobiography.

Mom gave me her hard copy, the electronic files that survived, and the pictures and documents that she wanted included in her Book. I burned through hundreds of hours trying to reorganize her electronic data to match her hard copy. I finally gave up. In the end, I bought a scanner and software. I scanned her entire hard copy into a word processing format.

At the time, scanners were relatively new and expensive, and the scanning software was not too reliable. It was not easy connecting the scanner to my office computer network, and it was expensive. I learned to run scanning software for pictures and text. I scanned her photos and documents, which of course I scanned incorrectly, so later I had to rescan almost every item because I scanned them in too low a resolution, or the size was too small, or the color was wrong, or I scanned the item in the wrong format. Also, due to the scanning software's inaccuracies, it took hundreds of hours to match Mom's hard copy to the electronic file for her scanned book.

In all, Mom's Book was a mess. At best, her Book was a rough, first draft. There were large gaps between the times when she wrote. Mom did not go back and read what she wrote before starting to write again. She simply started writing. So, there was a lot of duplicative commentary covering the same event or period.

As I worked on her Book, I would call Mom and asked about the chronology of events and wording. Every time I called, Mom would immediately start with, "Don't you change what I wrote!" I always assured Mom that I did not change what she wrote. I explained that the text did not read right, or did not make sense, or the chronology was wrong, and so on. I did not "change what Mom wrote." I eliminated duplicative text. I move extraneous text to footnotes. I corrected the chronological order, sentence structure, word order, grammar, and tense. I slowly combined paragraphs. Then, I started inserting her photos and documents into word processing files. I soon realized I had huge files that crashed the software and corrupted the files. In the end, I hired a graphics and computer person to help me.

The graphics person recommended that I start over using very expensive, professional grade layout and graphics software to process the graphic files. She told me what the graphic files parameters should be for printing and the computer person taught me how to scan the items within those parameters. Once I upgrade my software and hardware, I did the entire layout for Mom's Book. I converted her text from word processing software to layout software and added the graphic files. Once I completed my work, I gave the graphic and layout files to my graphic's person to professionalize.

Mom's Book did not have any information about Dad prior to Dad marrying Mom, or certainly not much. I told Mom she should add information about Dad. She did and a good portion of that information came from my family research. I became interested in researching the Reinhold family history primarily because the Reinhold side of the family was supposed to have a different last name and no one seemed to know what it was.

Eventually, I compiled the last three chapters of Mom's Book from her letters, email, and cards that she sent me over the years, and from conversation I had with Mom. I first collected and sorted a huge volume of documents before I started scanning her letters and email. I typed in the text from her cards. I sent Mom drafts of the last three chapters for her review. I asked her to place quotes at the beginning of each chapter as she had done throughout her Book. That entire process took almost a year and did not include editing the text. Then I added pictures. It took several years to complete those three chapters.

Over the years, I sent Mom various drafts of her Book for her review. The work took thousands of hours; actually, it took years to complete.

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The family photo history was as difficult to amass as my families' factual history, and was more expensive. Family members had old family pictures and negatives. I collected their pictures, documents and hundreds of negatives. I could not keep all the items. Most of the photos were one of a kind, which included family photos in Mom and my sibling's possession. I took selected prints to a professional photo company and had high quality copy negatives made. I had prints made from the copy negatives and I scanned the original pictures. Then I returned the original pictures to their owners. I bought a light box and looked through hundreds of old negatives. I selected negatives to make individual prints and to make group images on proof sheets. I scanned and individualized all the images in a layout program so I could add captions for the photos. Then I sent the layouts to family members and asked if they could identify the individuals and locations shown in the pictures, and I asked them to write captions. This project took months up to probably two years to complete. I inserted captions on all the pictures using the information from family members and from information written on the backs of photos. Most of the people who helped identify the individuals and places in the pictures have passed away. I am very lucky to have started the project when I did, and to have obtained their assistance in recording their knowledge. Much if not most of the family's photo history would have been lost without their help.

Still, the biggest challenge lay in handling the graphic files. There are about 2,000 graphic files. They consist of photos and documents. At the time I was amassing the photos, hard drives were not large enough to hold all the graphic files, and larger hard drives were very expensive. Also, mobile data storage devices could not hold large graphic files, or not many, so it was very difficult to move files from one computer to another, and to back up my data. The computers also lacked the power and memory to process the material effectively. The network cards were slow, which made transferring large files and large amounts of data very time consuming. I continually upgraded my computers, including my network hardware and software, so they processed the work, or processed it faster.

I bought a used Apple external hard drive for my graphic's person so she had a bigger hard drive to hold files. At the time, it cost me \$500, a huge sum of money. She cleaned, sized, and included about 1,500 graphics files in the Books' layouts. At some point, the hard drive died causing all the files to be lost. I finally completed all the pictures to be included in the family books after some considerable effort using backed up files stored on cds and five years later. I inserted the lost files into the layouts, which meant most of the layouts had to be resized and some aspects had to be reconstructed. I also inserted additional pictures and documents. I could not complete the Books until all the historical documents were discovered, scanned, cleaned, and included in the Books. Processing the graphics files, even with professional help, was a huge project separate and distinct from the research portion, the writing portion, and obtaining the pictures.

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Working on the family photos, including the captions for the photos, moved my interest away from Mom's Book and toward doing family research. I now knew who my ancestors were. I just did not know anything about them. It took many years to compile the research. I worked with many different people to collect and compile the information in the Books. Just managing a project of that size was an experience in itself.

Tanya Tan is my wife. She is Chinese and immigrated from Malaysia. We I travelled to parts of the United States looking for family graves to collect information on those identified by their markers. We took photos of grave-stones. We met with and collected photos from family members. I learned a lot about my family history from those folks.

I hired many researchers from around the United States, and in Sweden and Norway to research family members. I spent hundreds of hours talking with extended family members and researchers by phone. I conversed by email and regular mail with them.

I have piles of documents and email from researchers. Some research only arrived recently, mostly because it took time to realize that research was missing from the Books and to find a researcher who would look for the missing material, and for the data to become available on the Internet. I read all the research, organized it, made sense of it, and wrote it up in several Books, including the pictures and documents, and hopefully in a fashion that is interesting, and so others can find the same historical information. That process took over fifteen years of continual effort.

My investment in learning and the money spent on Mom's Book was spread across those other Books. I used many of the same pictures in the other Books, the computer hardware and software remained, and once I learned how to scan and use the appropriate layout and graphics software for Mom's Book, it did not take as long to work on the additional Books.

I admit; I had to learn a lot about writing and printing a book.

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The Books would not have been possible without the burst of computer technology and the arrival of the Internet that occurred during that fifteen-year period. The Internet and email allowed me to access people and data that were otherwise unavailable to me, for example, all the Swedish and Norwegian researchers, and the federal homestead database. The advances in computer technology allowed me to do work I would have had to pay professionals to do. Originally, I planned to print all the Books in hard copy using a professional printer and graphics person. I planned to write the text, but I expected the graphics person to process all the pictures and handle the layout. I also expected the graphics person to work with the printer in printing the final Books. I obtained several bids over a 5-10 year period. The quotes were always high, actually too high to make printing a small number of the books realistic. By the time I was finally ready to print the Books, technology had progressed to the point where I could prepare the Books (text, graphics, & layout) in an electronic format myself. Printing them in an electronic format was realistic and perhaps preferred. Certainly, it was substantially less expensive. In the end, I prepared the Books in an electronic format compatible for commercial printing, printing using a home computer, or reading electronically. I burned the electronic files to DVDs and sent them to family members, and made them available through download from my website. None of this was possible when I started working on the Books.

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I believe my Aunt La Verne captured the essence of family research best when she said, “After all these years, I think the person who gains the most from the research is the person who did the research.”

I spoke with other people about family research. One person was the fellow who help me make copy negatives and prints of the old family photos. He had just finished compiling and printing old family photos for his family. He said in reference to family research, “No good deed goes unpunished” and then he proceeded to tell me of his ordeal.

My own thought is, never do work for free. Then, why did I do it, and for free? Well, it caught my interest, especially the old photos. I wondered about the people in those photos, and the trials and tribulations they endured. At the time, I was representing foreign nationals immigrating to the United States. I could see the burdens they endured. I listened to their reasons for immigrating. I wanted to understand, or at least, to try to understand my ancestors’ reasons, and to learn something about them. I spent a year or two reading numerous books on old European history, and considerable early American history for the areas where my ancestors lived. Learning the history helped me understand the time during which they lived, and why and how they moved to the United States from Europe, and why they moved across the United States. I also did the work for those who will come after me. I have no children, but there will be others like me who will wonder as I did.

Learning my family history was interesting particularly when read in conjunction with early European and early American history. Researching my ancestors’ lives (including their wealth, religiosity, and children) brought insight, particularly in the context of world events. It was easy to see how world events devastated individual and family lives, especially economic events. I could see a young man’s aspirations wiped out by events so beyond his control that he and his family appeared to be nothing more than leaves blown away by a hurricane. The historic information definitely changed how I view an individual’s life.

I cannot say that I regret the inquiry into my family history, or the work required to create the Books. I worked over fifteen years on the material and spent at least \$20,000, not to mention travel costs, or the number of software programs and the amount of computer hardware which I bought and had to learn, or the number of times the hardware and software changed over that fifteen-year period. Still, though it was interesting, exciting, challenging and informative, I would never do it again, not ever!

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In addition to, and while working on my mother’s Book, I wrote five books on my family’s history: *The Reinholds, A Family With A New Country And A New Name; The Cornelius Van Laarhoven Family Homestead In Montana; The Hare, Preston, Fuller & Decker Families, Long Time Residences Of America; The Reinhold Genealogical Photo History;* and *Made In My Likeness*.

***The Reinhold Genealogical Photo History*** is an extensive history of the collective Reinhold Genealogy through pictures. It includes a compilation of family photos and historic documents with captions for numerous families across numerous generations.

***Made In My Likeness*** is an autobiography. I wrote *Made In My Likeness* when I was 53-54 years old, give or take a year or two. I was the same age as my mother when she wrote *Tears & Joy*. In many respects, I wish I had written *Made In My Likeness* when I was 25. I am sure my pencil would have been sharper and the imagery would have been clearer. But, possibly, the additional 30 years allowed for more context, insight and understanding. I am not sure how I scored in those categories, so I recommend reading *Tears & Joy* in conjunction with *Made In My Likeness*. They are companion Books. I don’t think it matters which is read first. In a nutshell,

*Tears & Joy* is written from my mother's perspective while *Made In My Likeness* is written from her children's perspective as children growing up, through age 18, on my parent's farm in Medford, Wisconsin. I also included my brothers and sisters' perspectives to the extent they gave one. Even my mother's perspective appears now and again.

When I was in the Marine Corp and later in undergraduate, graduate and law school, I would tell people about my life on our family farm. They listened, although I doubted they believed my stories. They always said, "You should write a book." I always laughed, thinking their comments contained more sarcasm than a genuine belief that my story was of interest to others.

My brothers, sisters and I often discussed growing up over the years, mostly laughing at the experience, but not always. At a point just before Dad died, we were telling stories by email and having a good laugh. There was some concern that people reading about our activities might get the wrong impression since each story was individualized without a frame of reference. Also, at one point, I tried to get my brothers and sisters to write a biography about growing up. Some did. Some didn't. One day it dawned on me that I could write about growing up. I realized I had a large amount of material, already. I had all the family pictures and related documents, too. I only needed to write a frame of reference and add some additional thoughts. Still, it took a year to write this Book.

I wrote this Book to supplement Mom's book, *Tears & Joy*. Her Book is written from her point of view. Us kids grew up on that farm and we have a point of view, too. Hopefully future family members will become acquainted with Mom and Dad, and their twelve children by reading both Books. I would like them to know our thoughts, see our life, feel our happiness, anger and passion, and experience our achievements through our own words. Once the twelve of us pass, our family will be so disintegrated that future family members will have great difficulty trying to reconstitute our family — Mom and Dad, and their twelve kids. And even if they put Humpty-Dumpty back together again, they will have no understanding of our life on the farm. I want to keep Mom, Dad and us twelve kids' spirit alive and together long after we are all dead, and our ashes are blowing in the wind.

*The Reinholds, A Family With A New Country And A New Name* is an extensive history of Carl Oliver Reinhold's genealogy. The Book contains pictures and documents with captions, and covers a number of families across numerous generations.

While growing up, we heard very little about the Reinhold family (Dad's father's side of the family). According to Mom, the Reinhold family did not discuss family history with their children, and neither did they keep many records, nor did they write down much family history.

The Reinhold and Malm family histories, which are discussed in *The Reinholds, A Family With A New Country And A New Name*, are a compilation of information that Mom wrote down over the years, recent genealogical research that I did, and recollections from Mom, Dad, Carrie Lucille (Reinhold) Kerns, Hazel (Reinhold) Moore, Dorothy (Reinhold) Nicholas, Gladisy Fuller, Evelyn (Reinhold) Peterson, and Sandra (Lundquist) Combs. I worked with those folks to compile their recollections of what was said in the past regarding the Reinhold and Malm families.

I used many genealogical researchers, including Lylia Hare, to look for information regarding Dad's ancestors. I personally did a lot of research, too. After I wrote up the material, I realized that I did not have references for the Swedish research. I sent my work back to the Swedish researcher and asked him to give me the microfilm references for the material. He did. I added the references to what I had written. Then some months later, I realized I had not set him all the research. Consequently, some of my writing does not contain references to the microfilm from which the information came.

*The Cornelius Van Laarhoven Family Homestead In Montana* is an extensive history of Josphine Van Laarhoven's genealogy. The Book contains pictures and documents with captions, and covers a number of families across numerous generations, including while homesteading in Montana.

My mother's sister, La Verne (Van Laarhoven) Zastrow did a lot of research on the Van Laarhoven family, (Mom's father's side of the family) but her work was not written up until I included the information in *The Cornelius Van Laarhoven Family Homestead In Montana*.

Mom always spoke about her father's family, the Van Laarhoven family. We knew a lot about that family and our relatives in Holland. Mom's father, his parents, and his brothers immigrated from Holland in 1911. We also heard a lot about the Rothamer family, my mother's maternal side of the family. They immigrated from Germany in 1891. Of course, when Mom spoke of these families, there was nothing but praise both in the tone of her voice and the words she used to describe the families—hard workers, no drinking, good Catholics, endured hardships, and so on.

I would like to thank Florence Strange for meeting with me. Florence gave me the Rothamer book. She told me about the Rothamer families and helped me with pictures for the Van Laarhoven book. Chapter Four contains references from Florence's work which are relevant to the Martin and Ludmilla (Rothamer) Van Laarhoven family.

I would also like to thank Ad Laarhoven. The information in Chapter One came from Ad's research unless otherwise indicated, and more specifically, from his eleventh book which he prepared for the Van Laarhoven families in Canada and the United States. Ad prepared nine books representing genealogy for nine branches of the Van Laarhoven family. He also prepared a tenth book containing Van Laarhoven family history. Book number eleven contains information regarding the Oirschot branch. The Oirschot branch is the fourth branch and is a compilation of material from the previous ten books.

Ad learned his family history from his great grandfather who died in 1940. Ad's great grandfather was born in Breda in 1852, so Ad's great grandfather's knowledge of the Van Laarhoven family went quite far back. Ad's great grandfather told him that his great grandfather's father's last name was Van Laarhoven, and when his great grandfather was born, his last name was recorded as Van Laarhoven in the Town of Breda's records of administration.

Ad's great grandfather joined the army when he was eighteen. He served in the Grenadier regiment. The Grenadier regiment protected the Netherlands' royal family and the Regiment's headquarters was in The Hague. Ad's great grandfather went to The Hague where his personal information was recorded. Apparently, his great grandfather's information was incorrectly recorded in that the "van" portion of Ad's great grandfather's family name was not recorded in the City's records.

Ad's great grandfather married in The Hague and his children received their father's last name, but without the "van." In about 1952, Ad reviewed the Town of Breda's records of administration. He found that his great grandfather's paternal family name really was Van Laarhoven. He wanted to reacquire the "van" as part of his family name, but at the time, he did not have the money to hire a lawyer and later, he realized that it wasn't important to reacquire the "van" as part of his family because Ad knew he belonged to the same Van Laarhoven family.

Ad's research on the Van Laarhoven families covered more than a millennium. The character, nature, and difficulty in ascertaining the content of source material varied greatly. He encountered difficulty in conducting his research due to his inability to read handwriting in the old language, which changed over time to what is now the present way the Dutch language is written. The Dutch language originated from the "Old-Saksisch" language (the language of the old Germans / Teutons) from which evolved several languages including German, Danish,



Norwegian and Swedish. The Dutch language arose approximately during the 11th Century in the environ north-west of Flandria, southwest Brabant and Holland. Ad learned to read the "Old Saxon Dutch Language," which enabled him to read documents covering the period from 1000-1400. This was necessary in order to obtain information about the Van Laarhoven families' forefathers. Ad had to know the historical background for each area where the various people lived and the landscape's topography during the periods in question. The landscape changed over time. For example, the western part of the "Lowlands" was below sea-level during the period from 300 through 800 and it was not possible to live there. The former inhabitants withdrew to the eastern part of the "Lowlands."

Ad's research indicates the Van Laarhoven families' ancestors were Vikings who established themselves first in Breda at about the end of the Viking and Carolingian era. According to Ad, history in the Netherlands confirms this point. Now people know that the Van Laarhoven family tree is the oldest family tree in the Netherlands, even old noble families cannot go back in history to the 13th and 14th Centuries.

One of the most interesting aspects of *The Cornelius Van Laarhoven Family Homestead In Montana* was obtaining the information from Montana. Mom and her sister, La Verne, spoke of their father's activities as a cowboy in Montana. They spoke of their father and grandfather (Cornelius) living in Montana, but not where or why. They also spoke of the Van Laarhoven brothers running a herd of horses through Medford's down town area, which the Van Laarhoven brothers brought by train from Montana.

One day, on a whim, I searched the federal homestead database. The government data base had only recently become available through the Internet. I had no expectation of finding anything. But to my absolute shock, three of the Van Laarhoven names showed up as having homestead filings. Mom and her sister, La Verne, never spoke of the Van Laarhovens' homesteading in Montana, so I could not believe what I saw. I thought the homestead information was associated with other individuals, but I requested the documents anyway. There was no mistaking who the documents related to once I read through them. All the documents I requested are contained in Chapter Two of *The Cornelius Van Laarhoven Family Homestead In Montana*. Finding this material was the highlight of all my Van Laarhoven family research.

***The Hare, Preston, Fuller & Decker Families, Long Time Residences Of America*** is an extensive history of the William Henry Decker's genealogy. The Book contains pictures and documents with captions, and covers numerous families across numerous generation, and their journey West.

While growing up, we heard very little about the Decker family (Dad's mother's side of the family). What we did hear was about how Carl Oscar Reinhold (Dad's father) moved his family from Iowa to Wisconsin to get away from the Deckers. We heard there was supposed to be American Indian mixed in our blood that came from the Decker side, but not who, how, where or why. Usually the commentary revolved around the Decker side's drinking and their shiftless ways.

I and my siblings (all twelve of us) grew up on a dairy farm in central Wisconsin. When I worked with Dad in the barn, (from age 10-18) he told me many times that we had  $\frac{1}{4}$  Indian blood in us, so I always thought that made me  $\frac{1}{8}$  Indian. Later, I found the math could never be as Dad said. When talking to Carrie Lucille (Reinhold) Kerns (Dad's sister), she also told me that we had Indian blood, and that Great Grandpa William Henry Decker [Grandma Nora (Decker) Reinhold's father] called his kids little Indians.

Dad, Mom and Dad's sisters, Hazel and Carrie Lucille, have all said they were told as children, and as adults, that William Henry Decker was part Indian. According to Mom, Nora (Decker) Reinhold told her that Nora's father's father (William Decker, Sr.) was married to a Sioux, although Mom doubted there are any records which substantiate the Indian lineage. Still, Mom said she always heard that Nora (Decker) Reinhold was  $\frac{9}{10}$  of everything, plus  $\frac{1}{10}$  Sioux.

According to Carrie Lucille (Reinhold) Kerns, she always heard that her grandfather, William Henry Decker, had Indian blood in him, possibly Sioux, but she never heard any more information about where the Indian blood came from. In addition, according to Carrie Lucille, her mother [Nora (Decker) Reinhold] said, William Decker did not tell his wife, Eliza Jane, about the Indian blood until after they were married. As a result, Eliza Jane would not let her children meet William Decker's other relatives who lived around the Independence area. Carrie Lucille said she never found out who those relatives were.

Anyway, it was my understanding that Grandma Nora (Decker) Reinhold was supposed to be  $\frac{1}{4}$  Indian. I was interested in finding the Indian. I had my DNA run. It came back with nothing because running my DNA follows Maternal (Mother's DNA). So I ask my female cousin [Phyllis (Moore) Faber] if I could run her DNA because it followed [Hazel (Reinhold) Moore] her Mother's DNA, that would be Grandma Nora (Decker) Reinhold—came back nothing. So I asked the DNA company how to find the Indian. They said find a Decker male and run his DNA in order to find the Indian markers on the father's side of the DNA. Well, that never happened.

Undeterred, I and a number of other people, primarily Hares and Deckers, worked for years researching the Hare and Decker family lines. The Hares are Grandma Nora (Decker) Reinhold's maternal line and the Deckers are her paternal line. We accounted for all the women on Grandma Nora (Decker) Reinhold's side going back to almost the Nina, the Pinta, the Santa Marie. All those women were on good behavior as we did not find any stray kids.

### **[Insert Lylia Hare's Book]**

It was different on the Decker side. In all the research into William and Margarete (Preston) Decker's background, we did not find any reference to any Indian heritage in either William Decker or Margarete (Preston) Decker's background. In addition to Ms. Foster's research, I and Lylia Hare did extensive research on William and Margarete (Preston) Decker's families backgrounds. There are no records of William Henry Decker's birth, or at least none have been found, but that does not mean that William and Margarete Decker were not his parents. There is no marriage record for William Henry Decker's parents, [William and Margarete (Preston) Decker] or at least it has not been found; and there are no records regarding William Henry Decker's father, William Henry Decker, or they have not been found. Since no records of William Henry Decker's birth exist, or at least none have been found; no marriage record for William Henry Decker's parents, William and Margarete (Preston) Decker, exist or have not been found; and no records regarding his father, William Henry Decker, exist or have not been found, there is always the possibility that William Henry Decker could have Indian heritage derived from either William Henry Decker's involvement with an Indian women or Margarete (Preston) Decker's involvement with an Indian man. There is such a lack of information regarding William Henry Decker and Margarete (Preston) Decker's family histories that anything is possible.

I think my Aunt Lucille said it best. She told me that if anyone was playing with the Indians, they were not advertising it. Carrie Lucille (Reinhold) Kerns said, There were a lot of Indians around at the time. If William Henry Decker was part Indian, he most likely was not broadcasting the information to the World, especially given the times.

## INTRODUCTION

The primary focus of this Book is to follow the direct line of decedents from William Hare down through Carl Oliver Reinhold as follows:

Generation	Name	Family Relationship	Spouse's Name
1st	William Hare	First Known Hare	Unknown
2nd	William Hare	Son of William Hare	Mary Mott
3rd	Jonathan Hare	Son of William Hare	Hannah Hunt
4th	Samuel A. Hare	Son of Jonathan Hare	Sarah (Sally) Humphrey
5th	Henry Hare	Son of Samuel A. Hare	Eliza Patrick
6th	George A. Hare	Son of Henry Hare	Lucinda S. Campbell
7th	Eliza Jane (Hare) Decker	Daughter of George A. Hare	William Henry Decker
8th	Nora (Decker) Reinhold	Daughter of Eliza Jane (Hare) Decker	Carl Oscar Reinhold
9th	Carl Oliver Reinhold	Son of Nora (Decker) Reinhold	Josephine Van Laarhoven

Before proceeding with a discussion of the Hare, Preston, Decker and Fuller families, it is necessary to give a brief introduction into how the research was conducted and the general outcome of that research. I commissioned Linnea B. Foster, CGRS to research the Hare, Preston and Decker families' genealogical history in New Jersey. Ms. Foster conducted an exhaustive search for family members including related families which culminated in a series of reports and photo-copied documents pertaining to the various families. Despite Ms. Foster's best efforts, there is little or no information on key family members. In some cases, there is very little evidence supporting, or only evidence suggesting that family members are related or married. Just as important as the information which Ms. Foster found is the information that she did not find. In many cases, Ms. Foster checked various records, but did not find family members. Knowing that Ms. Foster check various records, but did not find family members, suggests that the family members may have left the county or the state. It also suggests that the records do not exist, or that the event did not occur. In any case, as you read this Book, please keep in mind how much or how little evidence supports the family relationships discussed in this Book.

In addition, various operating theories were developed to help in researching the families and individuals discussed in this Book. As you read, you will see these theories discussed either in the body of the text or in the footnotes. The theories are just that—theories. They were devised as a research tool to help find families and individuals due to the lack of evidence supporting certain family relationships; the lack of information regarding certain individuals; and evidence which only suggests certain relationships or outcomes. In most cases, there is no evidence, or limited evidence to support the theories. Still, the various theories helped guide the research and may be proven valid or invalid in the future.

Finally, the research on the Decker families has been severally hampered by the number of Deckers in the United States. There are literally thousands of Deckers and thousands of William Deckers, both of which span an enormous period of time and probably all of the United States. As a result, you will see references to Deckers which are not related to Carl Oliver Reinhold. They are mentioned in order to provide clarity by indicating they were checked and found not to be related to Carl Oliver Reinhold.