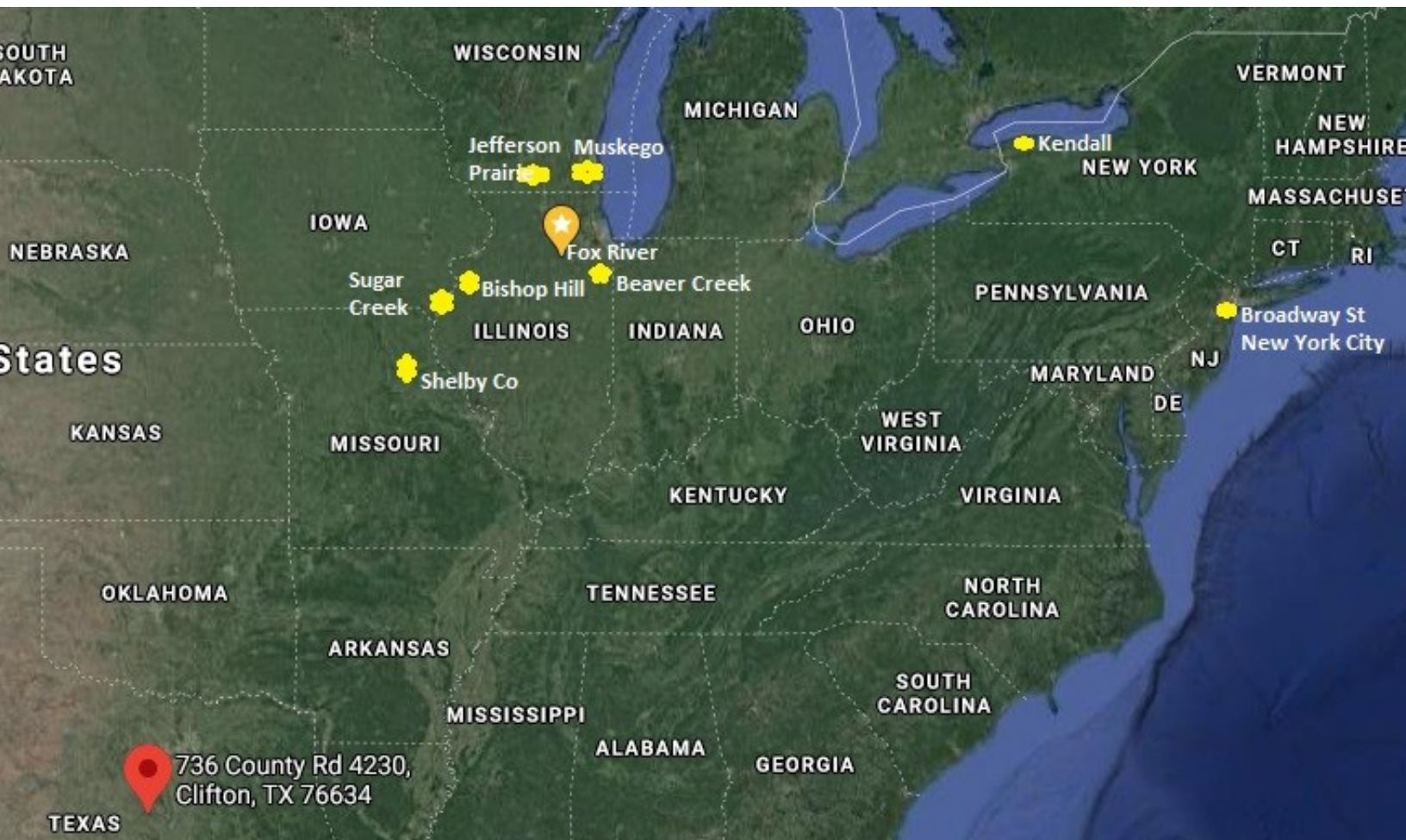


Cleng Peerson

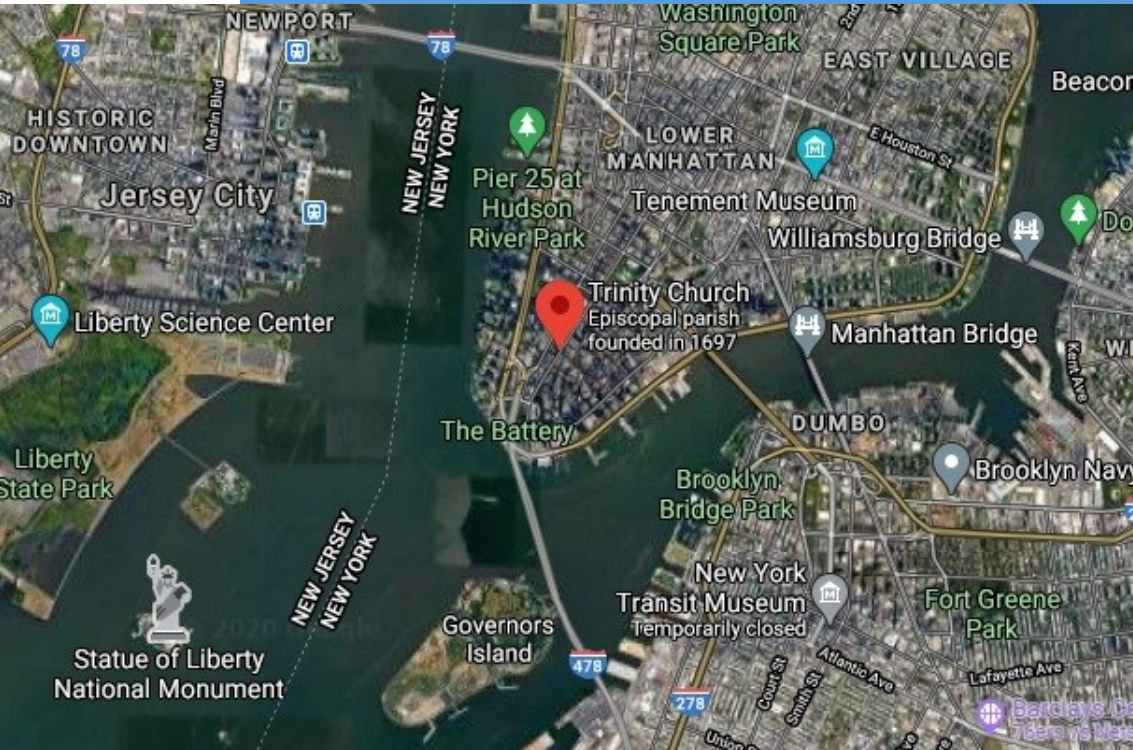
Father of Norwegian Immigration
and his settlements



Cleng Peerson

New York City

1821



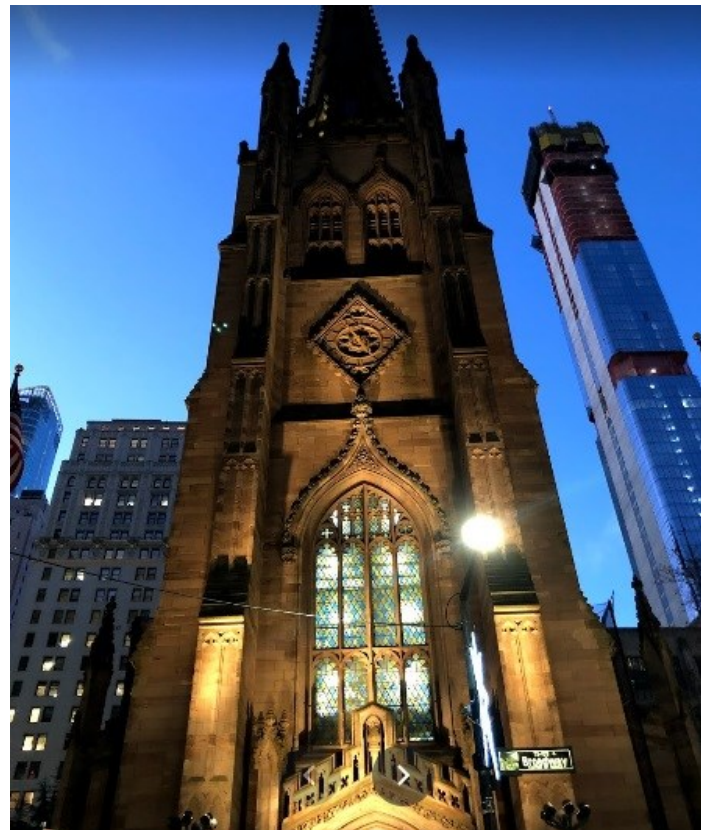
In 1821 Peerson is hired by Stavanger Quakers to investigate prospects in America. Knud Olson Eide was his traveling partner for this trip, but reportedly died in NYC. Cleng earned money building small houses on Broadway St. There was already an established Scandinavian community in the neighborhood, since 1617.

Broadway and Rector St.



Trinity Church
Episcopal Church
Founded 1697
Alexander Hamilton
buried here.

Formerly Danish-Norwegian Church
New Amsterdam



Cleng Pearson

Kendall Settlement

1825

Family Heads of Sloopers Restauration

- (1) Larson, Lars (1787-1845).
- (2) Larson, Martha Georgiana, nee Peerson (1803-1887).
- (3) Hersdal, Cornelius Nelson (1789-1833).
- (4) Hersdal, Caroline, nee Peerson (-1848).
- (5) Hersdal, Nels Nelson (1800-1886).
- (6) Hersdal, Bertha, nee Hervig (1804-1882).
- (7) Hervig, Henrick Christopherson (-1884).
- (8) Hervig (Harwick), Martha, nee — (-1868).
- (9) Lima, Simon.
- (10) Lima,
- (11) Madland, Thomas (1778-1826).
- (12) Madland, (1768-1829).
- (13) Rossadal, Daniel Stenson (1779-1854).
- (14) Rossadal, Bertha, nee StavOson (-1854).
- (15) Stene, Johannes (1779-)
- (16) Stene, Martha (nee Kindingstad) (1780-).
- (17) Thompson (Thorson), Oyen (1795-1826).
- (18) Thompson, Bertha Caroline, nee (1790-1844).

Children:

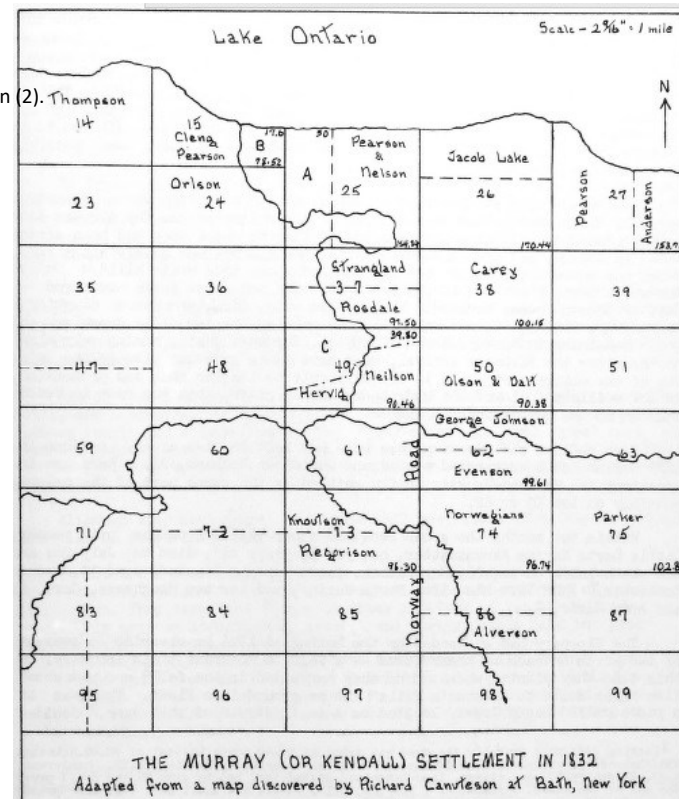
- (19) Larson, Margaret Allen (1825-1916). Mrs. John Atwater.
- (20) Nelson (Hersdal), Ann (1814-1858). Not married.
- (21) Nelson (Hersdal) Nels (1816-1893). Married Catherine Iverson.
- (22) Nelson (Hersdal), Inger (1819-1896). Married John S. Mitchell.
- (23) Nelson (Hersdal), Martha (1823-). Married Beach Fellows.
- (24) Lima,
- (25) Lima,
- (26) Lima,
- (27) Madland, Rachel (1807-). Mrs. Lars Olson Helland.
- (28) Madland, Julia (1810-1846). Mrs. Gudmund Haugaas.
- (29) Madland, Serena (1814-). Mrs. Jacob Anderson Slogvig.
- (30) Rosdail (Rossadal), Ellen (1807-1884). Mrs. Cornelius Cothren.
- (31) Rosdail (Rossadal), Aave (Ovee) (1809-1890). Married Gertrude Jacobs (1); Mrs. Martha Haagenson
- (32) Rosdail (Rossadal), Lars (1812-1837). Not married.
- (33) Rosdail (Rossadal), John (1821-1893). Married Quam (1) ; Caroline Peerson (2).
- (34) Rosdail (Rossadal), Helga Hulda (1825-1914). Mrs. Erasmus Olson.
- (35) Stene, Helene Cora (1812-).
- (36) Stene,
- (37) Thompson, Sara (1818-). Mrs. George Olmstead (1) ; Mrs. Wm. W. Richey (2).
- (38) Thompson, Anna Marie (1819-1842). Mrs. Wm. W. Richey.
- (39) Thompson, Caroline (1825-1826).

Single Men :

- (40) Bjaadland, Thorstein Olson (1795-1874). Married Guro Olson.
- (41) Dahl (Dall), Endre (Andrew). Married Mrs. Sven Aasen.
- (42) Erikson, Nels.
- (43) Haugaas (Hogas), Gudmund (1800- 1849). Married Julia Madland (1) ; Caroline Hervig (2).
- (44) Helland, Lars Olson. Married Rachel Madland.
- (45) Hettletvedt, Ole Olson (-1849). Married Chamberlain (1); (2).
- (46) Iverson, Halvor.
- (47) Johnson, George (-1849). Married Nordboe.
- (48) Johnson, Ole (1798-1879). Married Mrs. Malinda Frink (1) ; Ingeborg (2); ingeborg Iverson (3).
- (49) Slogvig, Jacob Anderson (1807-1864). Married Serena Madland.
- (50) Slogvig, Knud. Married Olson Hettletvedt.
- (51) Stangeland, Andrew. Married Susan Cary.
- (52) Thompson, Nels (-1863). Married Mrs. Bertha Caroline Thompson.

Single Woman :

- (53) Larson, Sara. Deaf and dumb sister of Lars Larson. Not married.



Cleng Peerson

Westward Scouting

1833

There is a remarkable record of a man by name **Ingebret Larson Narvig**, who came from Tysver, Stavanger Amt, in the year 1831. He was a Quaker and clung to his Quaker faith to his dying day. He arrived alone in Boston and then footed it from there to the Norwegian settlement in Kendall, N. Y. He remained there two years and then joined Kleng Peerson on his journey to Illinois in 1833. It is said that there was a third Norwegian in this company, but I have not been able to get any further trace of this third party.

On the way Ingebret Larson Narvig left Kleng at Erie, Monroe county, Mich., and went to work for a farmer six miles north of that place. Here he married an American woman and remained there about twenty-three years. His wife died and he married her sister, and moved to Wisconsin, settling in Green Lake county, where he resided until 1885, when he moved to Tyler, Minnesota, where he died January 21, 1892.

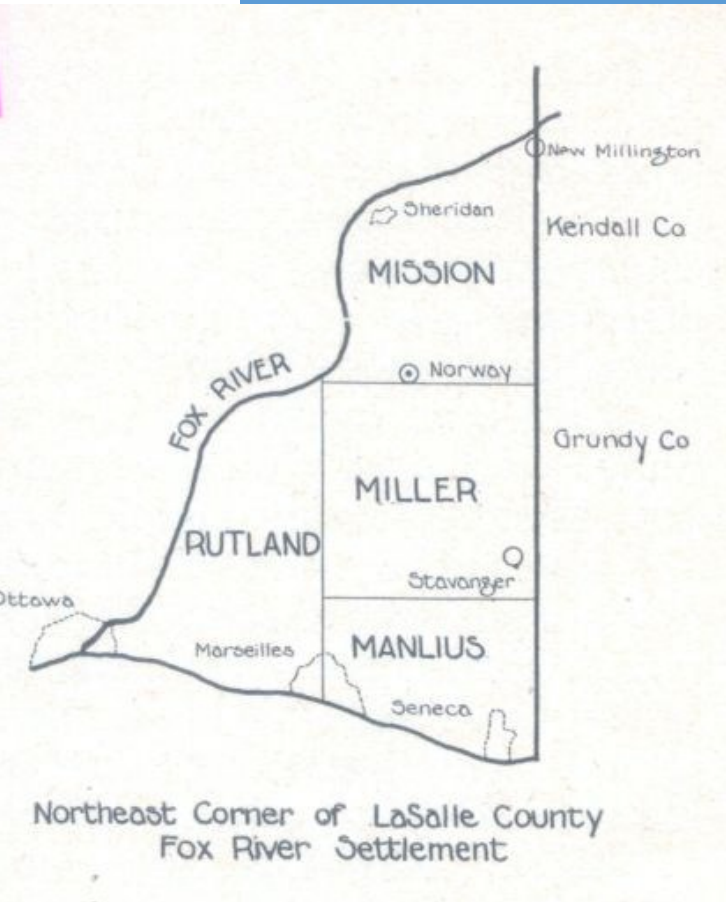
Cleng Peerson had another companion, possibly Gudmund Danielsen Haukaas Hougas. As Ingebret split off from Cleng to make his adventure in Michigan, Gudmund went to Placerville, Ohio to join the Mormons. Cleng Peerson, now alone, continues his walk to Milwaukee, Chicago, then finally traverses the Fox River to the tree, where he has that prophetic dream.



Cleng Peerson

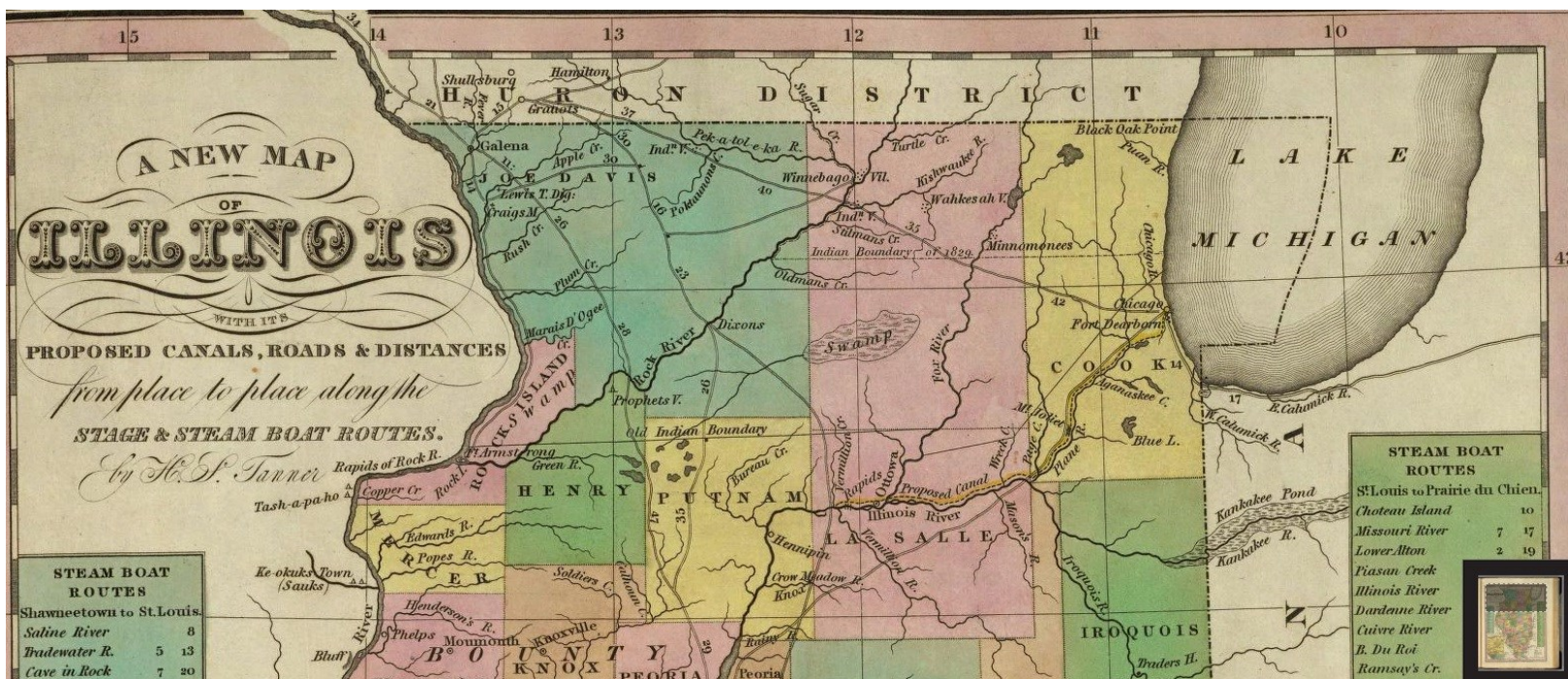
Fox River Settlement

1834



Sloopers who relocated:

- Cleng Peerson,
- Nelson,
- Hougas,
- Rosdail
- Olson Hetletveit
- Slovig Anderson



Cleng Peerson

Chicago Settlement

1836

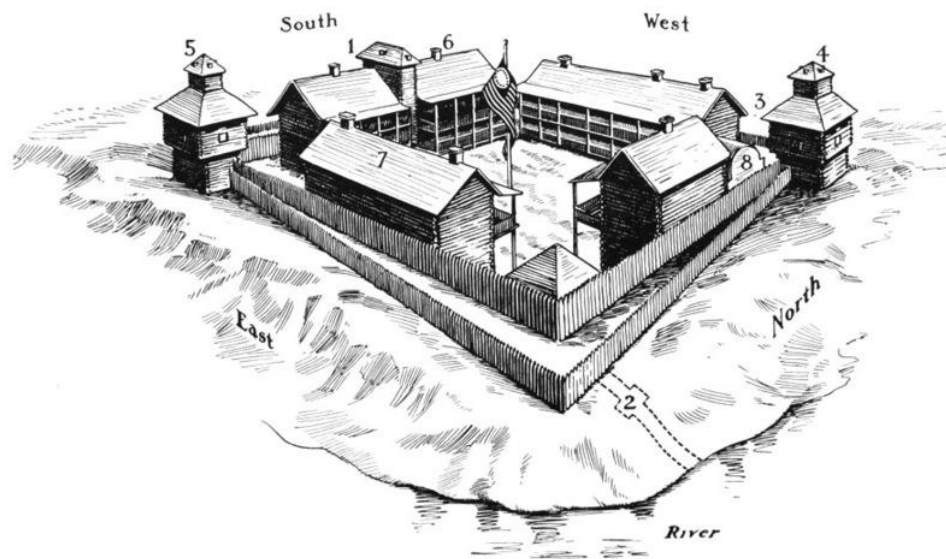


Chicago in 1833. A scene near Michigan Avenue and the river.

The first permanent Norwegian resident in the city was David Johnson, a sailor, who arrived in 1834. The Illinois & Michigan Canal opened in 1848, providing employment to Norwegians and other immigrants. Norwegians played a significant role in shipping on the Great Lakes as seamen, captains, and shipbuilders as long as sailing ships dominated, into the 1870s.

Fort Dearborn: A sign nailed to an aspen outside the budding town of half a dozen log cabins stated: "Sacred to the memory of the fallen soldiers of Fort Dearborn, 1812, the first martyrs of the West."

Frederick Peterson, a Norwegian who enlisted in 1808, had fallen here in a fight between the small garrison and 500 Potawatomi Indians.



Cleng Peerson

Shelby Co. MO Settlement

1837

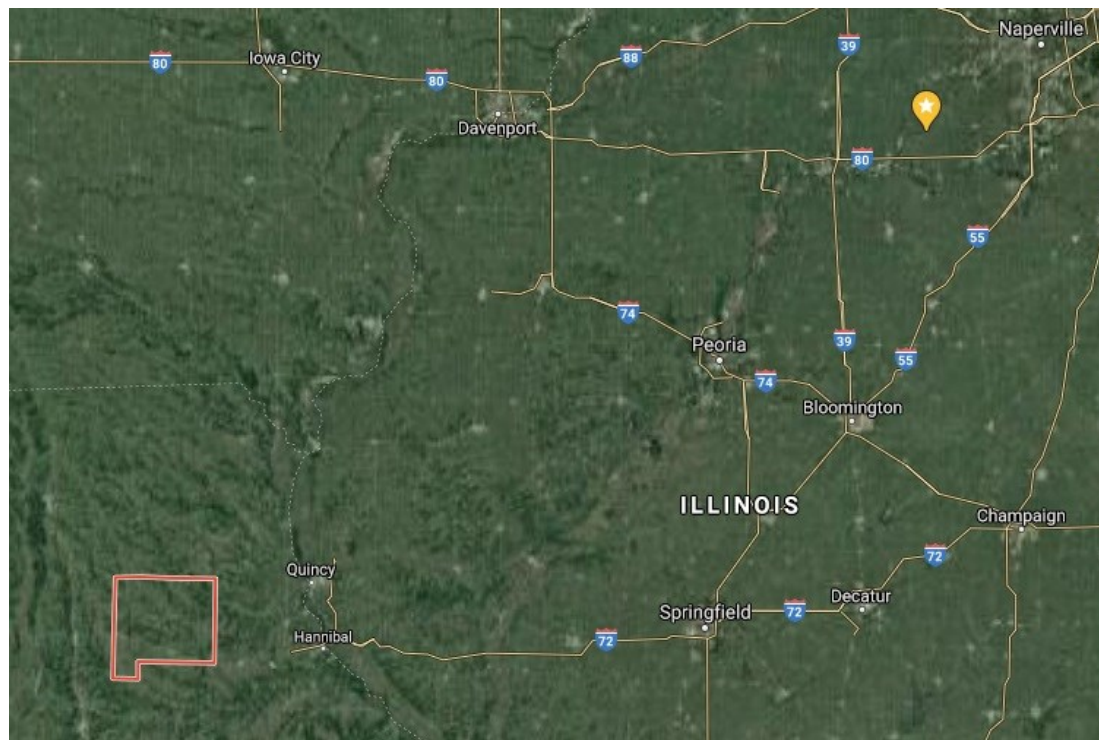
Early settlers:

- Anders Askeland
- Andrew Simonson
- Cleng Peerson
- Hans Barlien
- Jacob Slovig Anderson
- Johan Nordboe
- John Albert Thompson
- Knud Slogvig Anderson & wife
- Mrs. Thorsten T. Rue
- Nils Olson
- Ole Reierson, and his family, son

Johan Reinert Reierson

- three brothers, Peter, William and Hans Testman

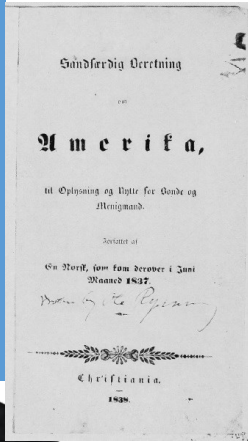
Cleng Peerson in 1837, in company with Jacob Anderson Slogvig, Anders Askeland and twelve others, he went from La Salle county, to Missouri, in March, 1837. Writers have complained that Shelby county was badly chosen, but Andrew Simonson, who was one of the party, and who in October, 1879, was still living, wrote in a Norwegian newspaper, that " no settlement ever founded by Norwegians, in America, had a better appearance or better location, than this very land in Shelby county, of which the Norwegians took possession at that time, and which they in part still own."



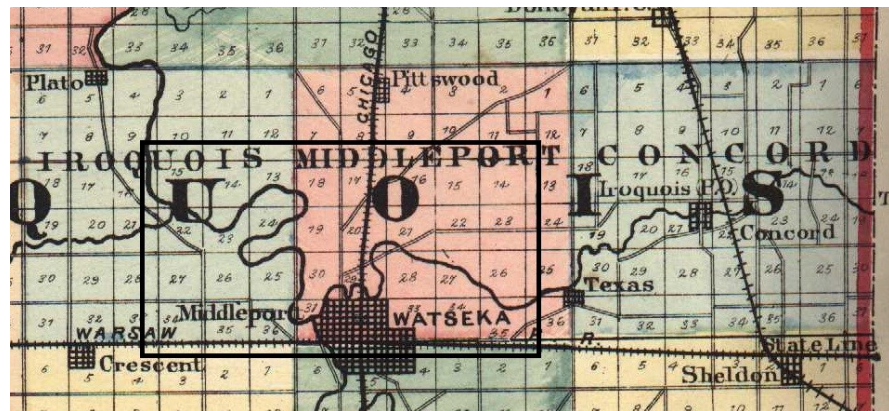
Cleng Peerson

Beaver Creek Settlement

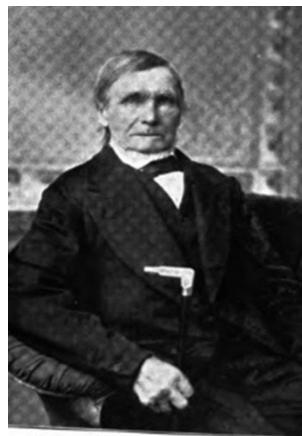
1837



Ole Rynning



- Ole Rynning [died Beaver Creek]
- Ingebrigt Brudvig [probably died Beaver Creek]
- Ole Nattestad [Jefferson Prairie Settlement WI]
- Ansten Nattestad [Rock Prairie]
- Mons Knud Adland (Aadland) [Racine Co. WI]
- Nels Fruland [Newark, Illinois]
- Erik Gauteson MidBöen [one of the Utah Pioneers in 1848]
- Mrs. Thorsten Thorson Rue [Blue Mounds, Dane, WI]
- Anders Nordvig [died Beaver Creek]
- Bjørn Anderson Kvelve (1801–1850) [never settled but recommended it to Rynning]
- Nels Halle Væte [died in Beaver Creek, as did his wife and grown-up daughter]
- Kolbein Saue [Koshkonong]
- Styрк Saue [Koshkonong]



OLE NATTESTAD.

Son of Mrs. Thorsten Thorson Rue
Snowshoe Thompson

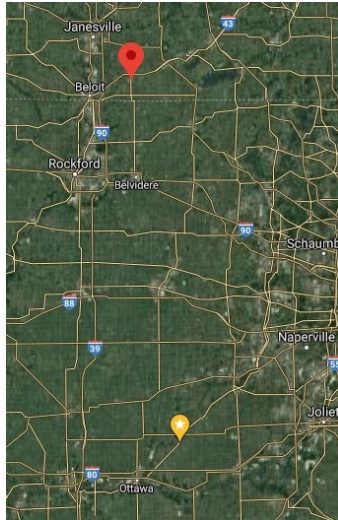


Cleng Peerson

Other Settlements

1837-1839

Jefferson Prairie Settlement
1838
Rock Co. WI



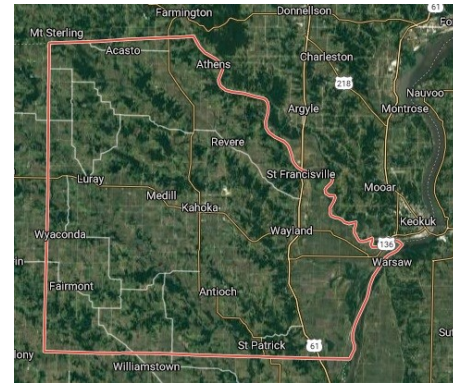
White Co. Settlement
1837

White Co. IN

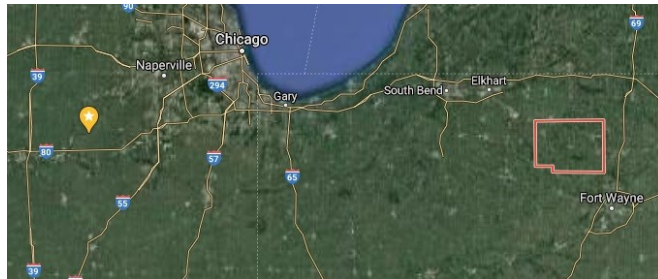


Tallakson Settlement
1838

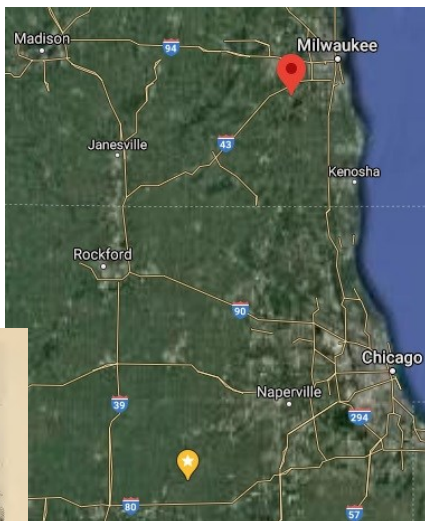
Clark Co. MO



Stangland Settlement
1838
Noble Co. IN

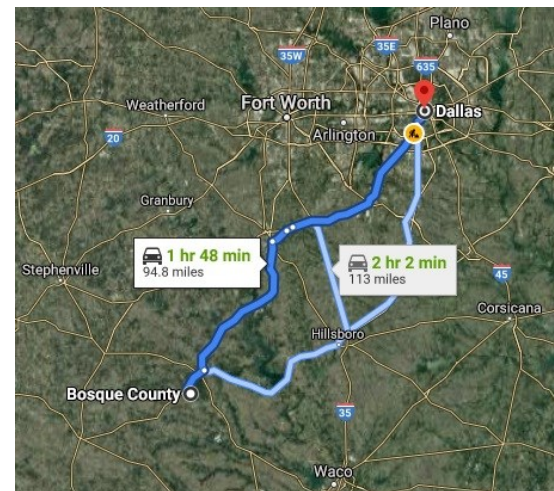


Muskego Settlement
1839
Racine Co. WI



Dallas Settlement
1838

Dallas Co. TX

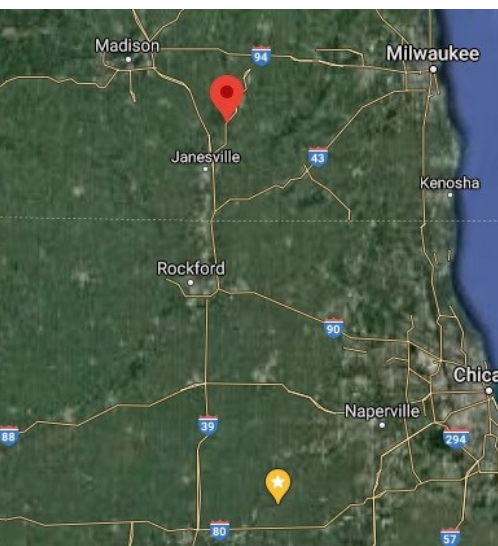
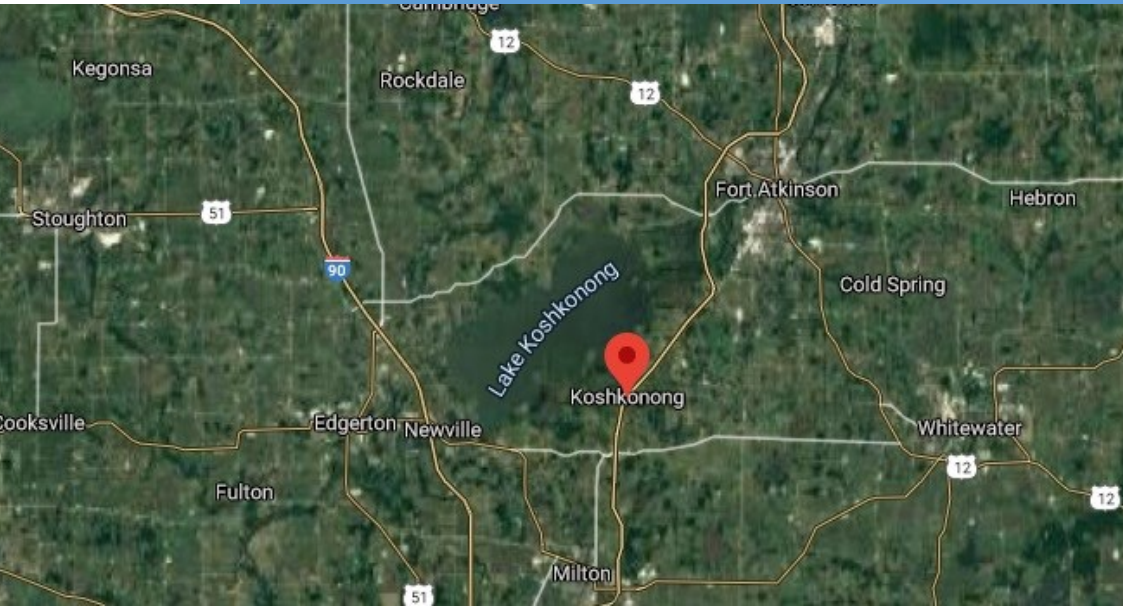


Where the First Norwegian Newspaper in America Was Printed

Cleng Peerson

Koshkonong Settlement

1840

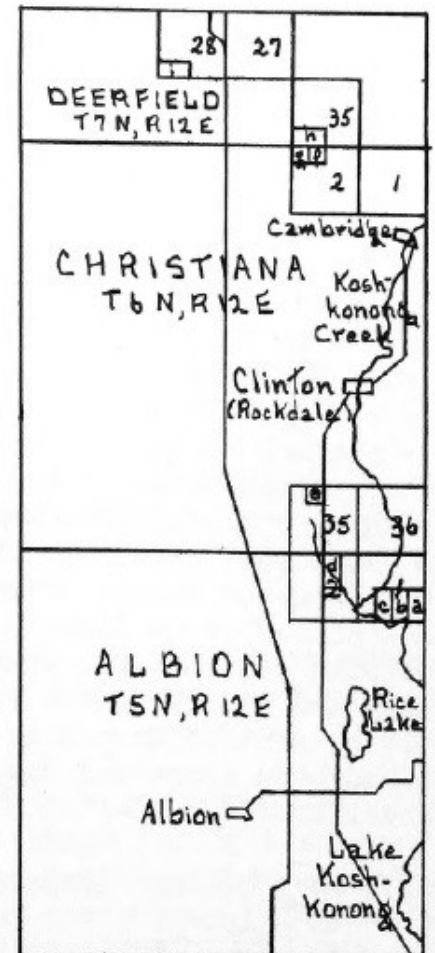


At right:

THE KOSHKONONG NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT

(1840 - Oriented to later-day towns and roads)

- a - Amund Anderson Hornefjeld
- b - Björn Anderson Kvelve
- c - Lars Olson Dugstad
- d - Thorstein Olson Björland (Slooper)
- e - Gunnul Olson Vindet
- f - Nils Larson Bolstad
- g - Magne Bottkolfson Bystölen
- h - Nils Siverson Gilderhus
- i - Lars Davidson Rekke



Cleng Peerson

Sugar Creek Settlement

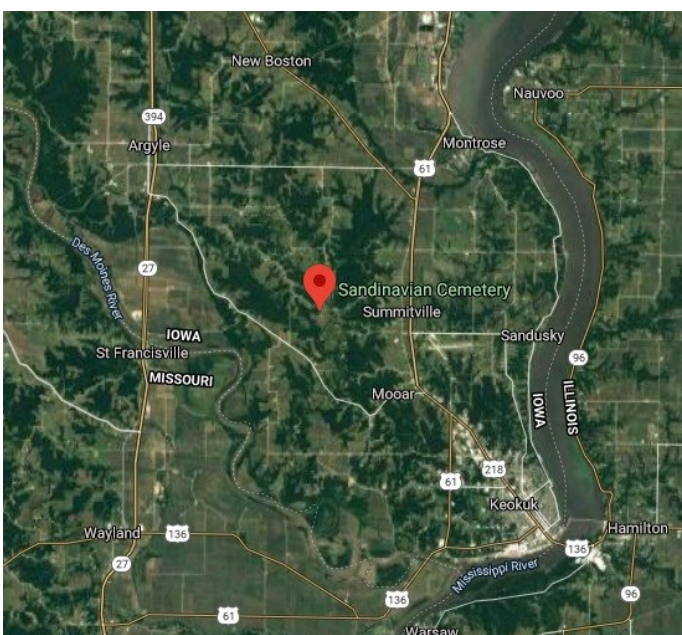
1841

Early settlers

- Andrew Simonsen
- Cleng Peerson
- Erik Öie
- Gjermund Helgeson
- Hans Barlien
- Hans William
- Jacob O. Hetletvedt
- Jacob Slogvig
- Knud Slogvig
- Lars Tallakson
- Mrs. Thorstein T. Rue and her sons, Thorstein and John
- Nils and Christ Nelson
- Ole Öiesöen
- Ole Soppeland
- Omund Olson
- Peter Omundson Gjilje
- three Testman brothers



The leading spirit in the colony was undoubtedly Hans Barlien. He was a man of great natural endowment, and he had a fair education. There are many reasons why the Sugar Creek Settlement did not grow as did the later settlements north and west. First of all, land was not of the best in Lee County. And then, the locality was rather too far south, Norwegians have everywhere in America thriven best in the more northerly localities.



Cleng Peerson

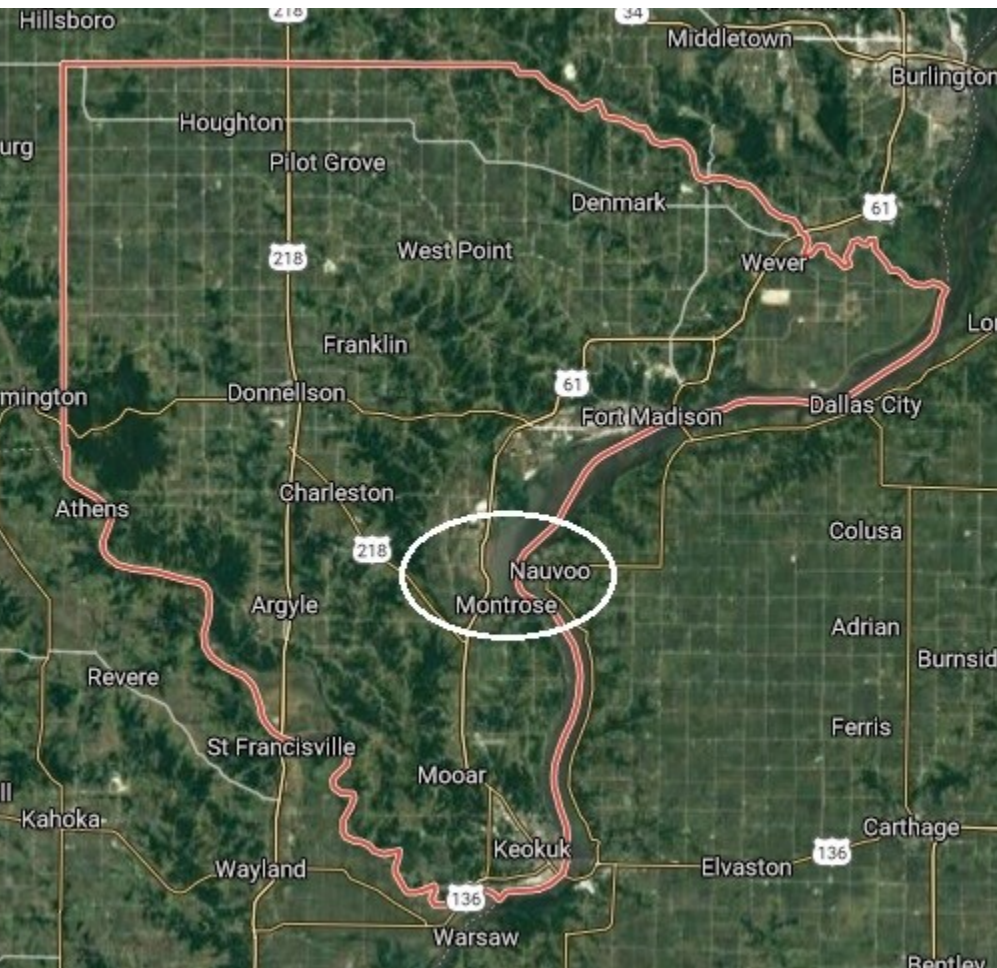
Mormon Settlement

1843



Joseph Smith III

Plano Stone Church



Kirkland, Oh

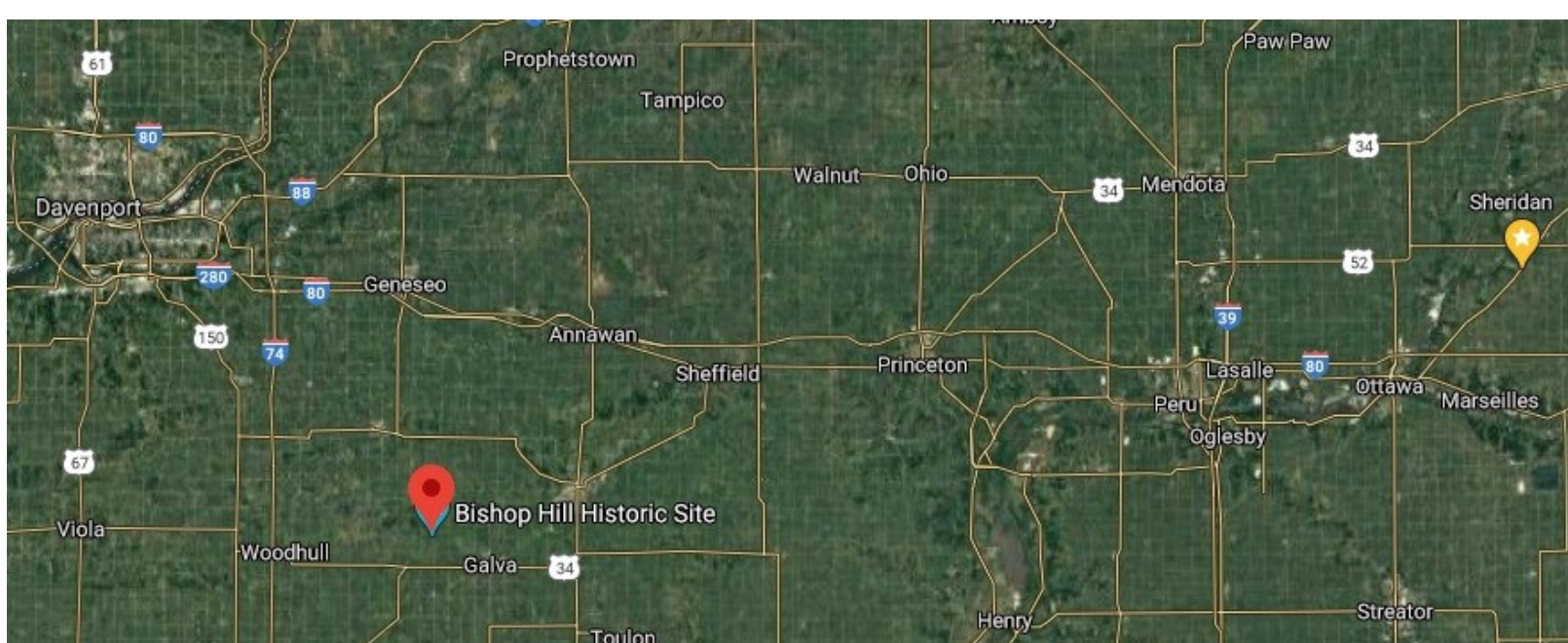
Cleng Peerson

Bishop Hill Settlement

1847

In 1847 he sold his land in Shelby County and put the proceeds in the Bishop Hill communistic society in Henry County, Illinois. Erik Janson's Bishop Hill colony. Cleng was then 65. His wife was a young Swedish woman named Charlotte Marie, but she died with the cholera within two years.

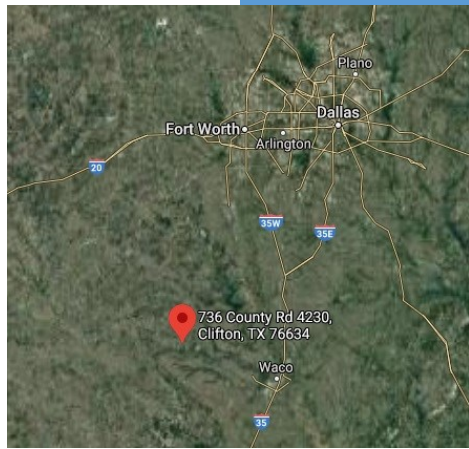
Not long afterward became disillusioned and abandoned both wife and colony. He said he was "robbed of all he possessed and sick in body and mind," and went back to his Fox River Settlement and finally to Texas.



Kleng Peerson

Bosque Texas Settlement

1853



The third Norwegian settlement in Texas was in Bosque County. It was founded by Ole Canuteson in the fall of 1853, and it soon became the largest in the state. When Kleng Peerson visited Norway in 1842, he brought with him many letters from America to Ole Canuteson's father and to others. In 1850 his parents resolved to go to America, and he took passage in the Kohler brig. Cholera committed great depredations on Koshkonnong in 1850, and claimed my father and brother as its victims. When the rest of the immigrants landed in Chicago all were apparently well, but on board the canal-boat which carried them to Ottawa, the dreadful disease made its appearance, and among those who died was Ole Canuteson's mother. When the people in the Fox River settlement heard of the cholera, they were panic-stricken and did not dare to receive the new-comers. Finally, the Canutesons received shelter in a school-house, and fortunately cholera did not make its appearance again. Land was at that time selling in LaSalle County for ten dollars an acre. Kleng Peerson came to him one day, just returned from a journey to Texas, and he was chock full of stories of that wonderland. He said land could be bought in Dallas county, Texas, with as deep and as black soil as that of Illinois for fifty cents per acre, and he told the truth. The result was that they resolved to take Kleng Peerson's advice, and he agreed to go with them. John, one of Johan Nordboe's sons, had also returned from Texas to bring to their grandparents three children left by a daughter of Johan Nordboe. The mother had died in the Fox River settlement or in Lee County near Leland. The result was that Kleng Peerson, Ole Canuteson and his young wife and his father, and John Nordboe and his sister's children, formed a party and set out for Texas. They went by canal-boat from Ottawa to LaSalle, thence by steamer to St. Louis, thence by another steamer to New Orleans, and then by still another steamer to Shreveport. In New Orleans they were joined by two other Norwegians from Trondheim. They got a wagon to haul the children and the baggage to a little town called Greenwood, sixteen miles on the way to Dallas. There they rented a house, and in it they left Mrs. Canuteson and the Nordboe children, and the rest of the party footed it to Dallas. Ole Canuteson, John Nordboe and the two men from Thronhjem took the shortest route, while Kleng Peerson and Ole Canuteson's father took a longer route as they desired to visit the Norwegian settlements in east Texas. Ole Canuteson and his comrades camped out at night, though it was the month of December, and after eight days travel they reached Johan Nordboe's home, having gone a distance of 200 miles. Kleng Peerson had instructed them not to locate in the Norwegian settlements east of Trinity river under any circumstances, and they obeyed him. Then John Nordboe hitched a yoke of large oxen to a light wagon and went after Ole Canuteson's wife and the three children that he was to bring to their grandparents. The Canutesons bought 320 acres of land from a man who had received 640 acres from the state for living on it. The price was fifty cents per acre, and it was located ten miles south of Dallas. In Dallas there were then only a few houses along the river. They broke twenty acres, and hauled rails six miles to fence them in with. They built a tolerably good house, sawing the planks for it themselves with a whipsaw. In 1852 the Texas legislature again resolved to donate land to actual settlers who had not already received land in that way. Now it was the Canutesons turn to get land without paying for it, and this opportunity must not be neglected. In August, 1853, Ole Canuteson and one of his American neighbors left Dallas to look for land. The county was afterwards organized as Bosque County. This land suited them, and Ole Canuteson selected about 300 acres for himself and a similar amount for his father. Later many families came there from the other Norwegian settlements, all getting land for nothing or buying it for a small price from those who had homesteads. The Canutesons sold their land in Dallas and moved to Bosque, and Kleng Peerson went with them as he was now, so to speak, one of the family.