

Johnson, Malmquist Family

Gustaf “Gus” Reuben Johnson was born on November 3, 1858 in Järbo, Alvsborg Götaland, Sweden. At the time his father, Johannes Andersson was 25 and his mother, Lena Larsdotter, was 31. He married Helena “Lena” Anderson on August 14, 1883 in Duluth, Minnesota. Helena “Lena” Anderson was born on November 15, 1846 in Gunnarsnäs Västra Götaland, Sweden and was the daughter of Maria Larsdotter and Anders Bryngelson. Gustaf and Helena immigrated from Sweden to Duluth, Minnesota in the year 1883. They may have met on the ship coming to America

because they married shortly after arriving in Duluth, Minnesota. Both arrived with their brothers and sisters and lived in the Saint Louis County, Minnesota and Douglas County, Wisconsin areas. In 1885 Gustaf moved his new wife to the Poplar settlement in Wisconsin and built the first house in Poplar. It was a comfortable log cabin with dirt floors built on land one mile southwest of the settlement of Poplar. Lilacs and hollyhocks were planted around the house. This entire area was in the Town of Superior at this time.

Gustaf & Helena had two children, Beda born on May 27, 1884 and Gus Jr. born on April 30, 1886. They were just starting to farm their land when Gustaf died in a hunting accident on September 14, 1885 at the age of 26, leaving his wife Helena and a one year old daughter Beda



Beda & Gus Johnson Malmquist . Photo taken about the year 1893 or 1894 at the Poplar School



The first house built in Poplar, Wisconsin by Gustaf Johnson (Beda “Johnson” Woodhull & Gust “Johnson” Malmquist’s father) in 1885. Helena & Charles Malmquist (Beda & Gust’s step-father) standing in front of log house.

and a son, Gus Jr., not yet born. Gustaf had been at the station helping a newcomer to get settled in his house, and in the evening started for his home, two miles distant. He had brought his gun with him and left it hid in a brush heap near by and in taking it out of its hiding took hold of the muzzle and pulled it towards him. The gun was discharged and the charge of duck shot penetrated Mr. Johnson's body just above the right hip bone. The report of the gun was heard by those whom he had just left and his condition was soon discovered, and he was carried to one of the houses at the station, and a messenger sent by a railroad handcar to town (Superior, Wisconsin) for medical aid. Dr. Gauvreau went out as soon as possible after being called, but could do nothing for him more than to make him as comfortable as possible until the end should ensue. Gus was an honest, upright citi-



LEFT Standing - Selma 'Edlund' Malmquist
 LEFT Sitting - Christine 'Nelson' Edlund (Selma's Mother)
 RIGHT Standing - Beda 'Johnson' Woodhull
 RIGHT Sitting - Helena 'Anderson' Johnson-Malmquist (Beda's Mother)



on April 29, 1929 and is buried next to her first husband Gustaf Johnson in the Poplar Cemetery, Lena was 82 years old. Carl Malmquist continued to run the dairy farm until he died from pneumonia September 24, 1932. Carl Malmquist is also buried in the Poplar Cemetery. Lena is buried in the middle with her first and second husband on each side. All three are buried on the opposite side of the road from the cemetery.

Gustaf and Helena's daughter, Beda Wilhelmina Johnson-Malmquist, married Charles Ford Woodhull on April 8, 1905. Charles Ford and Beda Woodhull were given a 40 acre section of land from Gustaf's original homestead. Charles Ford build a house and they farmed and raised their family here.

The Johnson-Malmquist homestead was placed in son Gust Johnson-Malmquist's name. Gust married Selma Edlund. The Edlund family lived across the road from the Malmquists. Later the homestead was placed in Gust Jr.'s son Elwood Malmquist's name and next went to Elwood's brother Leslie Malmquist. The old Johnson Homestead, where the original log cabin was built, is still in the family and now belongs to Danny and Peggy Woodhull.

zen. He was buried in Poplar on Cemetery Hill. He was the 2nd person to be buried there, before it became a cemetery.

Helena "Anderson" Johnson married second on December 7, 1889 in the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church on Cemetery Hill to Charles 'Carl' Peter Malmquist. Carl was the son of Anders Månsson & Aneka Persdotter and was born April 8, 1856 in Onum, Västra Götaland, Sweden. Helena's children, Gust Jr. and Beda Johnson, went by the Malmquist surname, their step-father's name. Grand-daughter, Frances Woodhull said Carl Malmquist was a very kind grand-father and she spoke very highly of him. He was the only Grand-father they ever knew and all the family loved him. Carl and Helena operated a dairy farm and had large vegetable and strawberry gardens.

Carl & Helena Malmquist lived on the Gustaf Johnson homestead. Helena died



Gustaf 'Gus' Johnson Malmquist and sister Beda Wilhelmina "Johnson" Malmquist Woodhull