

Out of the Box: The Photographs

Opportunities for genealogical research present themselves in many interesting ways. Recently the Society received a box of pictures from Jack McAdams of Kirksville, Missouri, accompanied by a note saying that the former owner no longer wanted them. There were about 200 photographs enclosed, only a few of them with handwritten information. Some were picnic or campsite snapshots, many obviously taken in the mountains. One of a man beside a large stream, drinking from a bucket, recalls the days when mountain water was clear and potable. The style of dress in many depicts the era of long skirts and long hair on women, dating them in the early 1900s. The majority were of family members, begging for identification. By walking the streets of Greeley the houses might still be identified because of porches, columns and other architectural elements.

After a cursory examination of the contents of the package we felt that there was potential for some historical and genealogical research relating to Weld County. To this end I was given temporary custody, based on my longevity in years and residence in the area. Twelve pictures from the collection represent the research; half are outdoor scenes, two are group photos and four are of individuals.

1. Carter Hall, the first library on the university campus, an architectural gem, razed in 1938 to make room for a new library, also called Carter Hall. The beautiful dome and imposing pillars were reflected in a lily pond at the intersection of Ninth Avenue and Seventeenth Street.¹
2. A snow scene of the campus adjacent to the library building, identified by the pool in the foreground.
3. One block to the east, and still standing, the entrance gate to the campus on Eighth Avenue. In former times this marked the driveway through the grounds, ending with a similar structure on Tenth Avenue, designated as the Horace Mann Gate.
4. A horse-drawn parade float in the foreground of the Sterling Hotel and Theater buildings, erected in 1911. The structures were replaced in 1968 with the Weld County Centennial Center at Ninth Avenue and Tenth Street.²
5. The second Weld County Court House in its first stage of demolition on the site of the present building, at Ninth Avenue and Ninth Street.³

¹John Dugan, *Greeley and Weld County: A Pictorial History* (Norfolk, Va: Donning Company, 1984), p. 100. Historically the institution has undergone several name changes and is now the University of Northern Colorado.

²*Ibid.*, pp. 107, 161. These first four photos are a part of my childhood and college life experience.

³Greeley Tribune and Greeley City Museums, *Greeley, Colorado: The Historical Picture Album* (Portland, Ore.: Pediment Publishing Co., 1997), p. 19.

6. Completed demolition of the above court house. In the background was the Elks Club on the right, and the round window of the old jail was in the building on the left. The visible cupola was atop the sheriff's office.⁴
7. Young man near stairway or fire escape. Penned on the back is "Augie 1919, Back of Mr. Couture's."
8. Young man in army uniform, World War I era.
9. Woman on sidewalk, "In Aunt Laura's front yard."
10. Small boy with two goats, identified as "Reginald Carl Rhiner age 6 years June 16th 1906. Taken Aug. 1906."
11. Group photo of eleven women, three small children and two infants. On the front: "Aug. 5–1920 Ladies Aid" and on the reverse "Standing: Mrs. Combs, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Robinson War widow, Mrs. Sanborn Sr., Mrs. Allred, Mrs. Kraut. Sitting: Mrs. Sanborn Jr & baby, Mrs. Johnson [ditto], Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Flat, Your kindness, Our Tige, 2 Sanborn boys, Edwina Mills." Background detail places the event in the mountains, quite possibly in those nearest Greeley, but incomplete research has failed to discover a local church with whom all the ladies were affiliated.⁵ Lack of given names complicated the search. The war widow conceivably lost her husband in the first World War. However, the 1920 census did not produce a likely Robinson widow of a draft registrant of that time.⁶ Issues of the *Greeley Daily Tribune* were consulted for mention of an outing, both before and after the given date, with no results.⁷ It may be a group photo with no Weld County association.
12. Group photo of young people, at the Central School building⁸ at Eleventh Avenue and Eighth Street, next to the Union Colony Civic Center. There are thirty persons in the picture but only eighteen signatures on the back. In a lower corner is written "Miss Rhiner." Of the eighteen names, thirteen were identified in the 1920 census of the city,

⁴Compared with Dugan, pp. 56, 160.

⁵Dorothy S. Forman, ed., *First Congregational Church: 100 Years of Service, 1870–1970* (Greeley, Colo.: n.p., 1969); *First United Presbyterian Church, 1321 9th Avenue, Centennial, 1870–1970* (n.p., 1970); and Esther Lotz, *History of a Pioneer Church: The First United Methodist Church, Greeley, Colorado 1870–1970* (Greeley: Wilkinson Printery, 1970), pp. 80, 87.

⁶"1920 U.S. Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 March 2007), entries for all Robinsons, Weld County, Colorado.

⁷*Greeley Daily Tribune*, 1–15 August 1920, microfilm #38, Centennial Park Library, Greeley, Colo.

⁸Dugan, p. 69.

during which time their ages ranged from nine to eleven.⁹

The names and ages, parents, and addresses from the enumeration are:

Elberta English, 9, daughter of E. G. and Ethel, 912 Fourth Street
 Edward G. Lauck, 9, son of John and Anna, a farm on Fifth Street
 Grace Robb, 9, daughter of Orval and Nina, 1027 Thirteenth Street
 Ruby Son, 9, daughter of J. H. and Cabelle, Gibson Precinct
 Donald Neal, 9, son of Clifford and Selina, 1013 Fifth Street
 Helen Anderson, 9, daughter of Joseph and Anna, farm on Fourteenth Avenue
 Katherine Cater, 9, daughter of Claude and Florence, 1544 Thirteenth Avenue
 Clara Grossnickle, 9, daughter of John and Nellie, 208 Twelfth Street
 Orphia Robinson, 10, daughter of Charles and Duella, 523 Ninth Street
 Edwina Kihn, 11, daughter of George and Maggie, 503 Tenth Street
 Gordon Howard, 10, son of Herman and Eleanor, 301 Thirteenth Street
 Reuben Herbst, 11, son of Jacob and Annie, 228 Tenth Street
 Lloyd Carr, 9, son of J. Arthur and Blanche, 918 Fourth Street
 Margaret Chater's signature, but she was not found in the 1920 Weld County census

The children in the photo are obviously a class of students who are older than those in the census. By comparing the names with lists of classes in several high school annuals of the 1920s it is quite evident that they are ninth grade pupils in the 1923/24 school year. All eighteen names appear in the roll of the 10B class in the 1925 annual but they are posed on the steps of the Ninth Avenue building. In *The Spud* annual of 1926, G. E. Brown, school superintendent, wrote a chronology of high school buildings.¹⁰ According to him, the first Meeker School was erected in 1873, followed by Central School in 1895. In 1912 high school students moved into a new building located further north, on Ninth Avenue and Fourteenth Street and Central became the housing for junior high schoolers. However the new school was so overcome with pupils that in his words, "In 1921 we sent the ninth grade down to the junior high building" where that grade would still have been housed in 1924.¹¹ A new high school opened in 1927 and is in present use as Greeley Central.¹² In its early years the Weld County Genealogical Society met for several months in a classroom of the old Central School until it was condemned and underwent extensive renovation before it became the modern office building adjacent to the Civic Center.¹³

This collection of photographs will be offered to the City of Greeley Museums when the research is completed. A study of the Rhiner family who originally owned them follows.

⁹"1920 U.S. Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com*.

¹⁰*The Spud*, vol. 18, published by the senior class, 1926, p. 6. Copies for this study were examined for the years 1924–1927, and are found at Centennial Park branch of Weld Library District in Greeley.

¹¹*Ibid.*, vol. 17, 1925.

¹²Dugan, p. 120.

¹³Arliss Shaffer Monk, co-founder of the Society and Weld County resident for 71 years..

The Rhiner Family

Most genealogists will find themselves caught up in the joys and rewards of researching the family ties of lineages other than their own. Such was the case with the very few clues found in the box of photographs. These clues lie in handwritten notes on three of the four pictures selected:

- ◆ Young man near stairway or fire escape—"Augie 1919, Back of Mr. Couture's."
- ◆ Young man in uniform, World War I era, no inscription.
- ◆ Woman on sidewalk, "In Aunt Laura's front yard."
- ◆ Small boy with two goats—"Reginald Carl Rhiner age 6 years June 16th 1906. Taken Aug. 1906."

In his book, *Psychic Roots*¹⁴, Hank Jones explores his belief that "our ancestors want us to find them" and suggests that we go with our intuition in the search for information. The name Rhiner would be familiar to long-time Greeley residents who would remember Ethelyne Rhiner whose career as a Greeley public school teacher was widely known.

The readily available federal decennial census records in many public libraries are an ideal tool for launching a search on a family's history. It is advisable to begin with the one most recently released and work backward in time to find information that will lead to other sources. A look at the 1930 census shows the following:

Name	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplaces of Person and Parents		
Rhiner, Thomas P.	Head	57	Plumber	Minn	Wis	Germany
_____ Mary J.	Wife	57	none	Kan	Eng	Eng
_____ Ethelyn	Daughter	34	Teacher	Colo	Minn	Kan

Source: 1930 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Greeley, ED 62-101, sheet 12A, dw. 268, fam. 306, National Archives microfilm T626, roll 252.

The same family is found in 1920 with the addition of a son, August, age 22, photographer.¹⁵ The 1910 enumeration adds that Thomas and Mary had been married 16 years and had only two children, named as before; however Thomas's birthplace is given as Wisconsin rather

¹⁴Henry Z. Jones, *Psychic Roots: Serendipity and Intuition in Genealogy* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993).

¹⁵1920 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Ward 3, Greeley, ED 270, sheet 6B, dw. 119, fam. 160; digital image by subscription, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 3 March 2007); from National Archives (hereafter NA) microfilm T625, roll 173. All census citations hereafter are from this website.

than Minnesota.¹⁶ In 1900 the family lived in Denver, Thomas is again noted as born in Minnesota, and months and years of birth, found only in this enumeration, are as recorded in subsequent records of each family member.¹⁷ From these readings it becomes clear that the photo of the “Augie” of 1919 is the August in the Rhiner family.

He also bears a strong resemblance, in that picture, to the uniformed young man in the other picture. This was confirmed by reference to the World War I draft registration record in which August Lyle Rhiner, Greeley, Weld County, Colorado, born 25 May 1897 in Denver, was at the time of registration employed by J. Henry Couture. The document further states that his father was born in Redwing, Minnesota.¹⁸ A search of Greeley city directories informs us that Couture had a photography studio in Fezer’s Drug Store building at 807 Eighth Street at that time.¹⁹ All four members of the Rhiner family are listed in the roster of the American Legion Auxiliary, no doubt due to the war service of the son.²⁰

Three of the Rhiner family are buried in Linn Grove, the city cemetery. Inscriptions on tombstones in block 9, with added information from office records are found for:

Mary Jane Rhiner 1872–1958 (d. 4 Dec. 1958, 86 y)
Thomas P. Rhiner 1872–1945 (d. 30 Apr. 1945, 72y 11m 24d).²¹

Ethelyne died many years later at the age of 100 and was interred there as well. Her obituary gives the date of death as 9 January 1996 at Bonell Good Samaritan Center. She was born 1 June 1895 in Loveland, Colorado, to Thomas P. and Mary Jane (Morris) Rhiner. She taught mathematics at the secondary school level from 1918–48 and was a high school counselor from 1948–60. Survivors were “a niece, Ruth Cameron of Greeley and a nephew, Roger M. Rhiner of Menlo Park, Calif.”²² The family were members of the First United Methodist Church during their years in Greeley.²³

¹⁶1910 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Greeley, ED 272, sheet 11B, dw. 260, fam. 272; from NA microfilm T624, roll 126.

¹⁷1900 U.S. census, Arapahoe County, Colorado, Ward 14 Denver, ED 114, sheet 5B, dw. 116, fam. 117, from NA microfilm T623, roll 120.

¹⁸National Archives and Records Administration, “World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918,” subscription database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 10 March 2007), for August Rhiner.

¹⁹Telephone conversation with Greeley City Museum archives personnel, 6 April 2007.

²⁰“Weld County Master Index,” *Weld County Genealogical Society*, <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~cowcgs>>, Jacquelyn Glavinick, webmaster, accessed 7 March 2007.

²¹Genealogical Society of Weld County, *Weld County, Colorado Tombstone Inscriptions*, vol. II (Greeley, Colo.: by the Society, 1988), p. 118.

²²Obituary, *Greeley Daily Tribune*, 10 April 1996, courtesy of Linda Peters.

²³Esther Lotz, *History of a Pioneer Church: The First United Methodist Church, Greeley, Colorado 1870–1970* (Greeley: Wilkinson Printery, 1970), pp. 80, 87.

The Rhiners were living at 1018 Fourteenth Street, Greeley, when Thomas Paine Rhiner died on 30 April 1945 from a stroke. Said to be born in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, 6 May 1872, he was survived by his immediate family as well as a grandson, Roger Rhiner and a sister, Mrs. N. M. Batis of Bellflower, California.²⁴ It is not known what brought Thomas to Colorado, but his marriage to Mary Jane Morris occurred in Denver on 14 October 1894.²⁵ Her funeral was held 5 December 1958 in Greeley following her death at the Fourteenth Street address. She was born 14 April 1872 at Wyandotte, Kansas, coming to Colorado that same year. In addition to her son and daughter she was survived by a grandson, Roger Rhiner of Redwood City, California, two great-grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Gertrude Cameron of Greeley.²⁶

Addressing the question of where Thomas Rhiner was born and using the clue in his obituary for LaCrosse, Wisconsin, we located him in the 1880 census of Wisconsin:

Name	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplaces of person and parents		
Rhiner, August		34	Bookkeeper	Wis	Switzerland	Switzerland
“ Mena	Wife	29	keeping house	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
“ Thomas	Son	8	at school	Minn	Wis	Pruss
“ Laura	Daughter	5	at home	“	”	“
“ Carl	Son	3	at home	“	”	“

Source: 1880 U.S. census, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, La Crosse, ED 56, p. 524, dw. 267, fam. 300, NA microfilm T9, roll 1432.

This agrees with previous information—Thomas is of the correct age, he named his son for his father, he has a sister (perhaps “Aunt Laura”), already referenced in his obituary, and a brother, both of whom might account for other unplaced relatives in the photo collection. The weight of evidence falls more on Minnesota rather than Wisconsin as places of birth for the children, as this 1880 census is closer in time to their births.

Thomas Rhiner’s parents, Augustus and Mina (Groth) Rhiner, married 23 August 1871 in La Crosse, Wisconsin.²⁷ Augustus may also be the child, age 10, in an 1860 census reading of Jefferson County, Wisconsin—born in Wisconsin with parents born in Switzerland, the same as recorded in 1880.²⁸

²⁴Obituary, *Greeley Daily Tribune*, 30 April 1945, p. 1, courtesy of Linda Peters.

²⁵Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages, 1858–1939: An Index*, CD-ROM (Denver: 2004). Thomas Rhiner entry.

²⁶Obituary, *Greeley Daily Tribune*, 5 December 1958.

²⁷“Wisconsin Marriages pre-1907,” subscription database, (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 9 May 2007), for Augustus Rhiner and Mina Sisette Groth.

²⁸Augustin Rhiner household, 1860 U.S. census, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, population schedule, Ward 2 Watertown, p. 31, dw. 249, fam. 243, NA microfilm M653, roll 1413.

The Rhiner family moved to Colorado soon after 1882 as evidenced by entries in Denver city directories:

- ◆ August Rhiner, clerk, resident at 234 9th in 1883²⁹
- ◆ August Rhiner, bkkpr, Geo. Mayer & Bro., at 198 S 11th in 1885³⁰
- ◆ Mrs. Minnie Rhiner, 1437 Lawrence in 1887³¹
- ◆ Mrs. Minnie A. Rhiner and Thomas P. Rhiner, plumber, 804 14th St. in 1892³²
- ◆ Carl, Mrs. Minnie and Thomas P. Rhiner, 1020 13th in 1895³³

Minnie Rhiner is probably the person of the same name in the 1900 Denver census where her birth is recorded as February 1851, immigration from Germany in 1859, and a marriage of 25 years.³⁴ One Minnie A. Rhiner died in Denver 31 September 1903, very likely the same person, there being no other Rhiners in the city directories.³⁵

August Lyle Rhiner, son of Thomas, married Emma Loa Meredith 2 October 1920 in Denver.³⁶ Brought up and educated in Greeley, he was employed by United Air Lines in Cheyenne after his wartime service. In 1949 he transferred to San Francisco, retiring in 1962. He died on 7 September 1977 in San Mateo, California, survived by his wife, son Roger of Menlo Park, two grandchildren and his sister, Ethelyne Rhiner of Greeley.³⁷

Emma Loa (Meredith) Rhiner was born in May 1898, probably in Newcastle, Fulton County, Indiana, where she was living in 1900 with her parents, Enos and Ferry Meredith.³⁸ By 1910 they had moved to their own farm in the Greeley area.³⁹ Ferry died in 1921 and Enos then

²⁹*Corbett & Ballenger's Eleventh Annual Denver City Directory for 1883* (Denver, Colo.: Corbett and Ballenger, 1883), p. 549. Rhiners were not mentioned in directories prior to 1883.

³⁰*Ibid.*, 1885, p. 546.

³¹Charles O. Brantigan, ed., *The 1887 Denver Directory*, v. 1 (Denver: Canzona Publications, 2002), p. 205.

³²*Ballenger & Richards Denver city directory, 1892* (Denver, Colo.: Ballenger & Richards, 1892).

³³*Corbett & Ballenger's*, 1895.

³⁴Minnie Rhiner household, 1900 U.S. census, Arapahoe County, Colorado, Denver, ED 11, sheet 3, dw. 23, fam. 30, NA microfilm T623, roll 117.

³⁵Colorado State Archives, Colorado Historical Records Index Search, online database <<http://kiwi.state-co.us/archive/publicrecordselect.do>> accessed 6 April 2006.

³⁶Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages, 1858–1939: An Index*, CD-ROM (Denver: 2004). August L. Rhiner entry.

³⁷Obituary from *Greeley Daily Tribune*, 9 September 1977, from Greeley Museum Scrapbook #28, p.80.

³⁸1900 U.S. census, Fulton County, Indiana, Newcastle, ED 28, sheet 3B, dw. and fam. 61, accessed 10 March 2007 from NA microfilm T623, roll 372.

³⁹1910 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Gipson, ED 279, sheet 7B, dw. 141, fam. 152, accessed 10 March 2007 from NA microfilm T 624, roll 126.

married Mrs. Martha Weisner 11 March 1923. All three are buried in Linn Grove.⁴⁰ Emma died in San Mateo 19 December 1977.⁴¹

Their son Roger, apparently an only child, was born 3 December 1922 and died in Menlo Park, California, 25 March 2001.⁴² He married Virginia Ann Browne, daughter of C. Herbert and Helen (Picken) Browne of Cheyenne, Wyoming.⁴³ In 1942 Roger enlisted in the Army Air Corps and later worked for United Air Lines in San Francisco.⁴⁴ Two children were born to them in San Mateo, California: a daughter, Rogene Raye, 10 July 1954 and a son, Gerald W., 10 July 1958.⁴⁵

On the assumption that “Aunt Laura” is the sister, Mrs. N. M. Batis, of Thomas Rhiner’s obituary account, the same pattern of census searching was followed. In 1930 Noah M. Batis was living in Bellflower, California, with his wife, Loretta K., whose places of birth for herself and parents coincide with those of Thomas Rhiner.⁴⁶ In 1920 the couple was in Cocolalla, Idaho, where he was farming, and in 1910 they were in Raton, New Mexico, where his occupation was machinist.⁴⁷ They were married 10 August 1908 in Las Animas County, Colorado, which is just north of Raton.⁴⁸

Sometimes escaping notice, the 1910 census usually includes a number with the “M” for marital condition, denoting number of marriages for husband and wife. According to that record, Loretta had been previously married, and she and Noah had been married to each other for about two years.⁴⁹ She apparently had not borne children of either union.⁵⁰

All cited census readings report that Noah was born in Missouri. The index of 1880 for the

⁴⁰Genealogical Society of Weld County, *Tombstone Inscriptions*, p. 78; Denver Public Library, *Colorado Marriages*, Enos Meredith entry.

⁴¹Obituary, *Greeley Daily Tribune*, 20 December 1977.

⁴²Ancestry.com., U.S. Social Security Administration, “Social Security Death Index,” for Roger M. Rhiner.

⁴³*Greeley Daily Tribune*, 7 July 1952; Obituary for Helen P. Browne, *Alliance (Nebr.) Times Herald*, 6 August 2004, <<http://www.ancestry.com/search/obit/viewbody.aspx>>.

⁴⁴Ancestry.com., *U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records 1938–1946*.

⁴⁵California Department of Health Services, “California Birth Index, 1905-1995,” subscription database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 15 March 2007).

⁴⁶1930 U.S. census, Bellflower, Los Angeles County, California, ED 19-969, sheet 7A, dw.182, fam.183, NA microfilm T626, roll 126. This form of her given name was used consistently after her marriage.

⁴⁷1920 U.S. census, Bonner County, Idaho, Cocolalla, ED 23, sheet 1B, dw. and fam. 29, NA microfilm T625, roll 289 and 1910 U.S. census, Colfax County, New Mexico, ED 37, sheet 2A, dw. 181, fam. 183, NA microfilm T624, roll 913.

⁴⁸*Colorado Marriages, 1858–1939*, Noah M. Bates and Loretta H. Rhymer entry.

⁴⁹1910 U.S. census, Colfax County, New Mexico.

⁵⁰1900 and 1910 U.S. census recorders ask women the number of children born and the number living.

name produces two such persons, but the probable candidate is the two year-old son in the home of John and Katie Batis. They are found in Denton County, Texas, with children: Noah, age two and John, age three months.⁵¹ In 1900 the parents are still in that place, with two more children but absent Noah and John [Jr]., acknowledged by the mother of four children, all living.⁵²

Noah Morgan Batis registered for the draft of World War I servicemen on 12 September 1918 while living in Cocolalla, Idaho. The record gives his birthdate of 21 July 1878, but not the place of birth; Loretta is his wife and next of kin.⁵³ He was probably deferred on account of age. Both died in Los Angeles, Noah on 14 April 1941 and Loretta, born 27 December 1874 and died 20 April 1960.⁵⁴ A feature of the California record is the maiden name of the mother of the deceased. Noah's mother was a Vaughn and Loretta's mother was given as Gross.

Intuition played a part in the investigation of Reginald Carl Rhiner of the fourth picture in the collection. Birth information on the back of the photo places him as a contemporary of Ethelyne Rhiner, but she had only one brother, therefore he must be her cousin, the son of her uncle Carl S. Rhiner. Here, too, there is a not-so-common combination of surname and given name, affording success in index searches. If Reginald were born in June of 1900 as the inscription suggests, he would have been too late to be included in that census. However, all efforts to locate Carl Rhiner via census indexes for 1900 have met with failure. Reginald was first found as a registrant for the draft board of World War I, living in Denver. In that document his birth date is given as 16 June 1899. Mrs. Dora Reed, his grandmother, is listed as next of kin.⁵⁵

Carl S. Rhiner was married to Ada M. Reed on 8 June 1898 in Denver.⁵⁶ His movements in the city were traced in city directories for 1895, 1898 and 1900.⁵⁷ No record has surfaced in which Reginald lived with both parents, probably because a decree of divorce was granted to his mother in Denver on 24 June 1903.⁵⁸ Subsequent census enumerations found Carl in Utah from 1910 to 1930.⁵⁹

⁵¹1880 U.S. census, Denton County, Texas, population schedule, ED 101, sheet 13, dw. and fam. 93, NA microfilm T9, roll 1300.

⁵²1900 U.S. census, Denton County, Texas, ED 44, sheet 18A, dw. 300, fam. 318, NA microfilm T 623, roll 1627.

⁵³National Archives and Records Administration, "World War I Draft Registration Cards."

⁵⁴California Department of Health Services, "California Death Index, 1940-1997," subscription database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 15 March 2007).

⁵⁵National Archives and Records Administration, "World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," subscription database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 10 March 2007), for Reginald Carl Rhiner.

⁵⁶Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages, 1858-1939: An Index*, CD-ROM (Denver: 2004), Carl S. Rhiner entry.

⁵⁷*Ballenger & Richards, Denver Directories*, 1895, 1898, 1900.

⁵⁸Rhiner v. Rhiner <<http://www.sctc.state.co.us/marriages.divorces.aspx>>.

⁵⁹1910 U.S. census, Weber County, Utah, Ward 1 Ogden, ED 223, sheet 5B, dw. and fam. 127, NA microfilm T624, roll 1611; 1920 U.S. census, Salt Lake County, Utah, ED 40, dw. 158, fam, 175, NA microfilm

- ◆ In Ogden in 1910, Carl S. age 32, second marriage of two years, born in Minnesota, salesman, with wife Ethel, also born in Minnesota.
- ◆ In Salt Lake City in 1920, C. S. age 42, clerk, born in Wisconsin; wife Ethel and son Seth, age 1½.
- ◆ In 1930, Salt Lake City, Carl age 52, born in Wisconsin, wife Sarah E. and son Seth.

Carl Schutz Rhiner died in Salt Lake County, Utah, 19 March 1933 at the age of 55 and was buried in the city cemetery.⁶⁰ Nothing further has been found for the Utah family.

Reginald Rhiner first appears in the 1910 census as the ten year old member of a very interesting family in Lincoln, Nebraska. One Peter Kern is the head of household of five other persons, none of whom is his blood relative:

Name	Relationship	Age	Information	Birthplaces of person and parents		
Kern, Peter	head (M ²) 1 yr	38	Contractor	Iowa	Ger	Ger
____, Myrtel	wife (M ²) 1 yr	36	2ch, 1 liv	Missouri	Ky	Ky
Downy, Vivian	step-son	17	driver, grocery	Colorado	Utah	Missouri
Reed, Dora	mother-in-law	54	widow 4ch,2 liv	Ky	US	US
Rhyner, Eda	sister-in-law	30	widow 1ch liv	Colorado	Ky	Ky
____, Reginald	step-nephew	10		Colorado	US	Colorado

Source: 1910 U.S. census, Lancaster County, Nebraska, Ward 1 Lincoln, ED 52, sheet 4B, dw. 69, fam. 83, NA microfilm T624, roll 850.

This text box is a condensed version of the census reading which shows Peter and Myrtel in second marriages for each in the past year. Myrtel is the daughter of Dora Reed and Vivian is one of the children by her first husband. Dora is also the mother of Eda [Ada] and grandmother of Vivian and Reginald, probably claiming widowhood as divorced persons often did. The reason for these several relatives appearing in Nebraska in that year is a matter of speculation, perhaps due to the business of Peter Kern.

The Reed family was living in Denver at the time of the 1880 census recording. Dora and her husband, William B, were natives of Kentucky. Their four children were Myrtle, Alice, Ada and William; Myrtle was born in Missouri and the other children in Colorado. Dora and Alice were still in Denver in 1900 as evidenced from the census and city directories, but further study of those

T625, roll 1864; 1930 U.S. census, Salt Lake County, Utah, ED 18-207, dw. and fam. 431, NA microfilm T626, roll 2417.

⁶⁰Utah Department of Health, "Utah Death Index, 1905-1951," subscription database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>> : 15 March 2007); Utah State Historical Society, comp., *Utah Cemetery Inventory*, [database online], 2000, ancestry.com, 15 March 2007.

records are only marginally pertinent to the Rhiner family.⁶¹

By 1920 Dora Reed and Reginald Rhiner had removed to San Francisco.⁶² He had married Neva Mae Marquot in Denver on 8 June 1919; she has not been found thus far in any records after the 1920 census enumeration.⁶³ The census of 1930 traces Dora and Reginald to Los Angeles where the latter was engaged in the sale of real estate. It is commendable that Dora was apparently often called upon to care for her grandchildren, as in the case of Reginald Rhiner for many years, and perhaps for Vivian Downey who shared the household in 1910.

In 1930 Reginald Downey, age 3½, is also in the household; he very likely was her great-grandchild and the son of Vivian. His relationship is noted as “cousin” to Reginald Rhiner.⁶⁴ Reginald died in Napa, California, at the rather young age of 51, on 16 February 1950. The California death index does not register the death of his grandmother Dora, which must have occurred between 1930 and 1940 when that index begins.⁶⁵ Reginald Downey is probably the father of two children born in San Francisco: Reginald Earle Downey on 15 June 1926 and Norman Vivian Downey, 24 November 1927. The mother’s maiden surname is Churruca.⁶⁶ Reginald Earle died in November 1962 in New Orleans; the same record shows that Vivian Downey, almost certainly his grandfather, was born 28 September 1893 and died November 1965 in the same city.⁶⁷

The gift of photographs from Mr. McAdams was followed by another box containing letters exchanged between the Rhiner parents and sister and the son, August, during his wartime service here and abroad. The material is of such fragile nature that one hesitates to explore the contents. Archivists are better equipped to handle and evaluate its worth.

⁶¹Wm. B. Reed household, 1880 U.S. census, Arapahoe County, Colorado, Denver, ED 5, p. 109 [stamped], dw. and fam. not given, NA microfilm T9, roll 88; Dora Reed household, 1900 U.S. census, Arapahoe County, Colorado, city of Denver, ED 2, sheet 9B, dw. 162., fam 147, NA microfilm T623, roll 117. Also *Ballenger & Richards*, Denver directories 1895, 1898, 1900.

⁶²Margaret Eaton household, 1920 U.S. census, San Francisco County and City, California, ED 97, sheet 3B, dw. 45, fam. 70, NA microfilm T 625, roll 135.

⁶³Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages*, Reginald Rhiner entry.

⁶⁴Reginald Rhiner household, 1930 U.S. census, Los Angeles County and City, California, ED 19-362, sheet not given, dw. 84, fam. 176, NA microfilm T626, roll 146.

⁶⁵“California Death Index, 1940-1997”, Reginald C. Rhiner entry.

⁶⁶“California Birth Index, 1905–1995”.

⁶⁷Social Security Death Index.

The Rhiners—Extended Families

Cameron

Ethelyne Rhiner was said to be survived by her “niece,” Ruth Cameron, and her mother was survived by a sister, Gertrude Cameron. By allowing for the generation gap, this should mean that Ruth was the unmarried daughter of Gertrude at the time of Ethelyne’s death in 1996. To be more accurate, the relationship of Ruth to Ethelyne would thus be first cousin.

John M. and Olivia Cameron came to Greeley about 1902 with a large family including a son, John Maynard, who was born in Lansing, Michigan, 12 July 1895. The latter was married to Gertrude Irene Morris in Greeley on 22 August 1916 and died 26 June 1943. He was survived by a daughter, Dorothy R., and a son, Edwin Maynard.⁶⁸ Could Dorothy’s middle name be Ruth?

Further investigation revealed that Edwin married Ruth Swan in Akron, Washington County, Colorado, 10 September 1938.⁶⁹ Date of death from his tombstone in Linn Grove furnished the clue for the Social Security Death Index—he was born 17 July 1918 and died 1 July 1972. The same index listed three Ruth Camerons, only one of whom survived Ethelyne Rhiner, and using that date of death led to her obituary. Ruth, widow of Edwin, was born to Oscar and Lulu (Olsen) Swan on 1 April 1917 in Sumner, Nebraska, and died in Greeley 20 April 2001.⁷⁰ Similar tracing was used to discover the obituary of Dorothy R. Cameron. She was born 13 July 1917 in Greeley and died, unmarried, in Boulder on 14 November 1997, survived by her brother’s two daughters.⁷¹ Ruth (Swan) Cameron was Ethelyne Rhiner’s cousin by marriage, no doubt mentioned in the obituary because she also lived in Greeley.

Morris

Gertrude Irene (Morris) Cameron was born 7 January 1894 in Loveland, Colorado, died 17 June 1963 and was buried with her husband in Linn Grove Cemetery.⁷² Her parents were John and Mary Morris who came from England in 1870, probably as husband and wife. They had three

⁶⁸John M. Cameron household, 1910 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Greeley, ED 270, sheet 11B, dw. 876, fam. 891, NA microfilm T624, roll126; John Cameron obituary, *Greeley Tribune*, 28 June 1943; Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages, 1858–1939: An Index*, CD-ROM (Denver: 2004). John Cameron entry.

⁶⁹Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages, 1858–1939*, Edwin Cameron entry.

⁷⁰Genealogical Society of Weld County, *Weld County, Colorado Tombstone Inscriptions*, vol. II (Greeley, Colo.: by the Society, 1988), p. 240; U.S. Social Security Administration, “Social Security Death Index,” for Edwin and Ruth Cameron; also her obituary in *Greeley Tribune*, 22 April 2001.

⁷¹Greeley City Museum, MSB #46, p. 161. This source represents a collection of scrapbooks, primarily of newspaper clippings from the *Greeley Tribune*. Also “Burial Permits” from Weld County Master Index, an ongoing project of the Weld County Genealogical Society <www.rootsweb.com/~cowcgs>.

⁷²Obituary, *Greeley Tribune*, 18 June 1963. The cemetery book, previously cited, reports her death on 20 June, but the *Tribune* of Tuesday, 18 June, reports her death on Monday, which would have been 17 June.

daughters: Mary Jane, wife of Thomas P. Rhiner; Ethelyne (Morris) Burbridge, and Gertrude. In 1880 the Morrises resided at Bailey in Park County, Colorado, but twenty years later were farming east of Loveland in Larimer County.⁷³ Published records extracted from Loveland's Lakeside Cemetery reveal that John Morris was born 15 November 1840 and died 22 November 1903, and his wife Mary was born 22 February 1849 and died 6 March 1936.⁷⁴ In 1910 she was living with Gertrude in Loveland, with Ethelyne's family in 1920 and again with Gertrude and family in 1930.⁷⁵

Burbridge

The second daughter of John and Mary Morris was Ethelyne, for whom Ethelyne Rhiner was a namesake. She was born 24 June 1877 in Colorado, perhaps in Park County; she died in Greeley 6 February 1951.⁷⁶ She and Alfred Thomas Burbridge were married 1 January 1903 in Larimer County.⁷⁷ He died 11 December 1961 and they are buried in Linn Grove. They were survived by two sons and two daughters.⁷⁸

The Burbridges were a family that had been in Weld County for over one hundred years.⁷⁹ The grandfather, Thomas Burbridge, who came from Illinois with his son, Charles, was a member of the grand jury in 1863.⁸⁰ Both pioneers appeared in an 1866 Weld census, but were apparently missed in 1860, perhaps in transit.⁸¹ Thomas was born 1 September 1804 and died 16 May 1875; he was buried on his homestead west of the present town of Platteville.⁸² Four members of the family had U.S. land patents: Charles in 1866 and 1874, Thomas in 1870 all in the same area; later Ella, daughter of Charles in 1908, and his son George in 1910, obtained quarter-sections east of

⁷³1880 U.S. census, Park County, Colorado, Bailey district, ED 96, p. 214 [stamped], line 15, dw. and fam. not recorded, NA microfilm T9, roll 92 and 1900 U.S. census, Larimer County, Colorado, Northeast Loveland, ED 214, dw. 556, fam. 566, NA microfilm T623, roll 126.

⁷⁴Larimer County Genealogical Society, *Cemeteries of Larimer County*, vol. 4 (Ft. Collins, Colo.: by the Society, n.d.), p. 57.

⁷⁵Mary Morris household, 1910 U.S. census, Larimer County, Colorado, Loveland, ED 230, sheet 8A, dw. 183, fam. 187, NA microfilm T 624, roll 121; Alfred Burbridge household, 1920 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Ward 2 Greeley, ED 268, sheet 4A, NA microfilm T625, roll 173; John M. Cameron household, 1930 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, ED 67-101, sheet 18B, dw. 425, fam. 474, NA microfilm T626, roll 252.

⁷⁶Weld County Genealogical Society, *Tombstone Inscriptions*, vol. 2, p. 120.

⁷⁷Denver Public Library, comp., *Colorado Marriages, 1858-1939*.

⁷⁸Obituary, *Greeley Tribune*, 11 December 1961.

⁷⁹Ibid.

⁸⁰Thomas Berbridge [sic] household, 1850 U.S. census, Jo Daviess County, Illinois, Millville, p. 124 [stamped], dw. 609, fam. 611, NA microfilm M432, roll 111; Genealogical Society of Weld County, *Quarterly*, vol. 4 (May 1978), p. 11.

⁸¹Arliss Shaffer Monk, *Index to a Weld County Census, Colorado Territory- 1866* (Greeley, CO: n. pub., 1978).

⁸²Weld County Genealogical Society, *Tombstone Inscriptions*, vol. 1, p. 1.

Nunn.⁸³

Charles Burbridge was born in Illinois 19 March 1843 and died 31 July 1936. His wife, Harriet *nee* Thatcher, was also born there 29 January 1849; she died 31 May 1938.⁸⁴ Their children were: Minnie, Ella, Alfred, George, Charles, and Edgar, all presumably born in Weld County.⁸⁵ Minnie was born 28 August 1871, died 24 March 1878 and was buried in the family cemetery.⁸⁶ Ella/Eleanor was born 2 April 1874 and died 1 January 1920.⁸⁷ She married Albert Weingarh 8 May 1914 in Denver and he remarried after her death.⁸⁸ George Edwin was born 3 July 1882, was still unmarried and living with his parents in 1930; he died 12 October 1963. Charles, Harriet, Eleanor and George were all buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Longmont.⁸⁹

Charles [Jr.] was born June 1885 as noted in the 1900 census. He is almost certainly the Charles Burbridge who married Ida Wilson in Otero County, Colorado, on 9 November 1908.⁹⁰ This likely connection to the Weld County Burbridges is based on similar family names among the thirteen children of Charles and Ida (Wilson) Burbridge, e.g. George, Harriet and Edgar. That family was in Otero County in 1910, in Delta County in 1920 and Montrose County in 1930.⁹¹ There are a few discrepancies in the comparative census readings, but the weight of evidence is supportive.

Edgar Burbridge, the youngest child of Charles and Harriet, was born 20 July 1887 and died 16 October 1943.⁹² He married Leva Gress on 23 December 1912 in Littleton. In 1920 he was principal of Milliken schools and may have had that position in Strasburg as well, before retiring to

⁸³U.S. Bureau of Land Management, "Patent Search," digital images, *General Land Office Records* (<<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch> : accessed 20 March 2007).

⁸⁴Charles Burbridge household, 1880 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, ED 110, p. 497 (stamped), dw. & fam. 7, NA microfilm T9, roll 93; Also, Patricia Ostwald e-mail to author, 27 March 2007, photocopy from an index of Longmont cemetery burials by the Longmont Genealogical Society.

⁸⁵1900 U.S. census, cited above and 1900 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, ED 200, sheet 10A, dw. 182, fam. 184, NA microfilm T623, roll 130.

⁸⁶Weld County Genealogical Society, *Tombstone Inscriptions*, vol. 1, p. 1.

⁸⁷Ostwald e-mail to author, 29 April 2007.

⁸⁸Denver Public Library, *Colorado Marriages*, Albert Weingarh entries.

⁸⁹Ostwald to author; George Burbridge household, 1930 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Mead, ED 28, sheet 13B, dw. 246, fam. 261, NA microfilm T 626, roll 251.

⁹⁰Denver Public Library, *Colorado Marriages*, Charles Burbridge entry.

⁹¹Charles Burbridge households, 1910 Otero County, Colorado, Manzanola, ED 133, sheet 9A, dw 156, fam. 161, NA microfilm T624, roll 123; 1920 U.S. census, Delta County, Colorado, Garnet Mesa, ED 24, sheet 4B, dw. 94, fam. 98, NA microfilm T 625, roll 157; and 1930 U.S. census, Montrose County, Colorado, Nucla, ED 23, sheet 2B, dw. 40, fam. 41, NA microfilm T626, roll 247.

⁹²Ostwald to author, 27 April 2007.

Greeley in 1942.⁹³ Leva was born 11 October 1884 and died in Greeley on 17 October 1954; both are interred in Mountain View Cemetery in Longmont.⁹⁴ They were the parents of four daughters and two sons.⁹⁵

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Arliss Shaffer Monk
14 May 2007

⁹³Denver Public Library, *Colorado Marriages*, Edgar Burbridge entry; Leva Burbridge obituary, *Greeley Tribune*, 18 October 1954.

⁹⁴1920 U.S. census, Weld County, Colorado, Milliken, ED 229, sheet 7B, dw. and fam. 53, NA microfilm T625, roll 172; Leva Burbridge obituary.

⁹⁵Ibid.