

The Granly News

A Publication of the Danish Historical Foundation, Inc., Hurley, Mississippi



Early Granly History

The following collection of news articles and advertisements from 1926 to 1931 describe how the cut-over timber land in northeast Jackson County would eventually become the Granly Danish-American colony. The first article is from page 1 of the *Daily Herald (Biloxi)*, published on July 17, 1926.—Editor

Large Land Transaction

Tract Involving 19,368 Acres in Jackson and George Counties Brought by Stratton Interests

The largest transaction which has taken place in recent months in South Mississippi real estate was closed today when the final transfer of the Lampton Realty Company lands in Jackson and George counties was made to S.H. Stratton, president of the Gulfport Farm and Pasture Company.

The total acreage involved is 19,368 acres and the consideration was reported to be approximately \$250,000.

W.P. Bridges, prominent realtor of Jackson, Miss., and President of the Mississippi Association of Real Estate Boards, represented the Lampton Realty Company in the transaction, and John L. Smith, also a well known realty dealer of Jackson, represented the purchasers.

The Gulfport Farm and Pasture Company is composed largely of Kansas City Capital and has as its head S.H. Stratton, who has been operating on a large scale in South Mississippi land for some time.

It is understood that Mr. Stratton plans to begin immediately to subdivide this tract into forty and eighty acre farms for coloniza-

tion purposes. He already is said to have plans under way for clearing the lands of stumps and placing it in condition for cultivation.

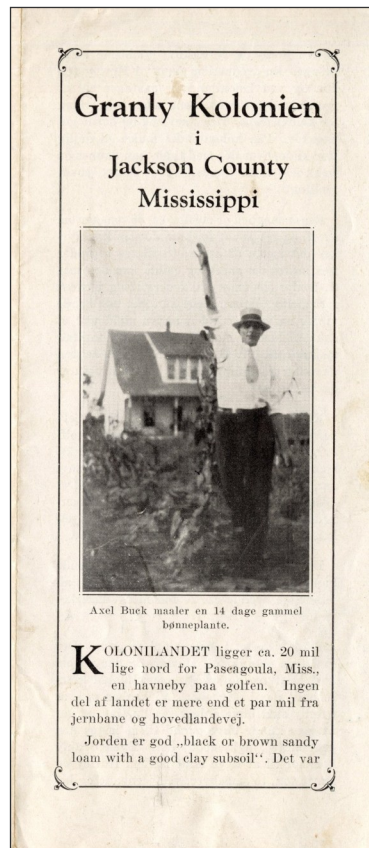
This tract of land includes what is known as the Lucedale Ridge, extending from Lucedale to within twelve of Pascagoula, and lies along the G.M.&N, and the Pascagoula

Northern railroads. The acquisition of this tract for colonization purposes is another indication of the interest being manifested in the southern section of the state by capital from the North and West.

E.W. Reed, secretary and active manager of the Lampton Realty Company in discussing the sale said: "This tract was purchased several years ago after the timber had been removed by the late L.L. Lampton on account of the unusual fertility of the land, and its great possibilities as a colonization project, and it is indeed gratifying to us that we have disposed of it to people who will make every effort to colonize it with the best class of farmers."



Advertisements such as the one below from the *Chicago Tribune* from April 1928 must have piqued the interest of Granly founders Hans Madsen and Alma Holst.

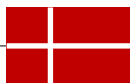


This brochure from the summer of 1930 emphasizes Granly's potential for farming. The caption reads: "Axel Buck measures a 14-day-old bean plant." Full brochure with translation on page 6. Images provided by the Museum of Danish America.

Mississippi Gulf Coast

Ready for immediate development and settlement colonization tract four thousand acres only eighteen miles from coast: traversed by federal highway and railroad with two townsites on land: we are prepared to make attractive price to Farm & Pasture Company. Owners. Suite 313-15 Illinois Central Building. Gulfport, Miss.

Continued on page 3 ...



Granly Officials

PRESIDENT

Jerold Sheperd
4612 Griffin St. Moss Point, MS 39563
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228-623-3847
Son-in-law of Ejner & Marie Mortensen
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Son of Else Nygaard Martin

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Daughter of Davis Mortensen

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19 Meadow Wood Trail, Fletcher, NC 28732
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301-340-2563
Granddaughter of Ejner & Marie Mortensen
Daughter of Joy Mortensen Ask

Future Events

Granly Christmas
December 26, 2026 at 6pm

Annual Work Days
October 2, 2026 (All Day)

Annual Meeting
October 3, 2026 at 9:00 am
Breakfast will be provided

Visit Our Facebook Page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/GranlyDanish/>

Share your Family Photos and Memories with us to be posted online and in the Newsletter.

Send to Else Martin
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*A Publication of the Danish
Historical Foundation, Inc.,
Hurley, Mississippi*

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We want to hear from you!
Send your family photos, current news,
comments and suggestions to the editor.

Publishing Dates & Deadlines:

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Deadline: Nov 1, 2026
Mailed: Nov 15, 2026



Early Granly History cont.

This brief item from the November 20, 1929 issue of *Dannevirke* is the first mention of Alma Holst's involvement and her first visit to the tract of land that would form the heart of the Granly community.

Mrs. Alma Holst traveled yesterday to Gulfport, Mississippi, to look at a large tract of land owned by the Gulfport Farm & Pasture Comp.

Another item from *Dannevirke*, published on February 5, 1930, is the first mention of Harald Holst's involvement. Harald was the nephew of *Dannevirke* publisher Martin Holst and the first cousin of Martin Holst's son Axel, who was the husband of Alma Madsen Holst. Harald Holst appears to have spent a month or more in Mississippi but did not settle in Granly. Instead, Harald moved to Solvang, California. After the visit mentioned below, he wrote the *Dannevirke* article titled "New Land" (published April 9, 1930). That article was reprinted in the Fall-Winter 2025 issue of *Granly News*.

Harald M. Holst, Waterloo, traveled to Mississippi last night to see the land and possibly find work there for the time being with the idea of later buying land.



The next two articles by Hans Madsen — published in *Dannevirke* in the summer of 1930 — build on the "New Land" article and further describe the group's vision for the new colony. This first one from June 25 contains the initial reference in *Dannevirke* to "Granly" as the name of the colony. Madsen and daughter Alma Holst had the know-how and connections required to pull off their dream of establishing a new Danish colony. He was an established banker and realtor in Cedar Falls, Iowa. She was a realtor as well with the family connection to *Dannevirke*.

The Granly Colony

(Excerpts from Madsen's June 25, 1930 *Dannevirke* article)

As mentioned in a previous issue of "Dannevirke", we have in recent years turned our attention to southern Mississippi with the goal of establishing a glorious Danish-American

colony on the Gulf Coast.

"The Land of Opportunity" it is called, and it is undoubtedly true. The land can still be had cheaply, about \$15, \$20 per acre, and can yield all year round, as the rainfall is large and evenly distributed. One can take two crops from the land each year and even sow a third, which is plowed under for the improvement and nourishment of the soil. The soil is "sandy loam" with good "subsoil." The climate is healthy and pleasant all year round. Southern

Continued on page 4 ...

Granly Open House Scheduled for Sunday, August 16

Velkommen til Granly!

The forsamlingshus will open its doors to the public for an open house on Sunday, August 16, 2026 from 2 pm to 6 pm. Bring your friends and family and help us spread the word as we take this opportunity to celebrate Granly and its unique history.

Else Martin will lead a brief program about the community's history and preservation efforts, including updates on the Granly Danish Historical Foundation's partnership with the University of Southern Mississippi to digitize and archive colony history. Photos and other items of interest will be on display for viewing.





Early Granly History cont.

Mississippi is known for its unusually good health.

The land was originally covered with spruce and pine forests and is owned by large sawmill companies (one company owns 180,000 acres). The time of the sawmills is over, as the best timber has been cut up. The land must therefore be cleared, but large reduction plants in the area buy up the rights to the stumps and remove them from the land at no cost to the owner.

The area we have in mind is about 20 miles from the coast. (The land along the coast costs \$100 to \$800 per running foot. The entire coast is built up – large, beautiful villas, winter and summer “resorts,” sanatoriums, schools, etc. (which testify to the excellence of the climate better than many words).

For the time being we can “contract” for 4,200 acres with \$1 down payment per acre and ten years to pay off the land; no taxes or interest when the land is sold to colonists. An option on adjacent areas can be obtained as the colony grows. These are extraordinarily good terms, and as far as is known, it has not been possible for others to complete such an arrangement, but there is nothing that Mississippi needs so much as enterprising and capable farmers, and the Danes are known to be such.

Opportunities are therefore offered here that are found in few places in the U. S. Families who are struggling for existence here in the Middle States can become freeholders and come to be debt-free in a comparatively short time. Living conditions will be as bright and good as people can make them. The schools are excellent, and if all goes well, there will soon be a priest and congregation on the place. (To be continued)

More detailed information can be obtained privately by writing to Hans Madsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa.



Excerpts from this follow up article by Madsen, published two weeks later, describe the investment and settlement options and plans for an organized town. *Dannevirke*, July 9, 1930.

The Granly Colony

(Continued)

The schools are good; Mississippi is putting a lot into the school cause. In one of the small towns in the Granly Colony area there is a “consolidated” school, and this year a “consolidated high school” will be built in the same place. Later, when we get the town of Granly laid out, we can no doubt have our own school there. No part of the Colony is more than two miles from the highway or railroad. The land along the highway (which will be hard-surfaced in the near future) will of course be taken up first.

It will not be a settler’s land, as our parents and grandparents had to go through. To them it would not be considered settler life at all, since there are all the conveniences that are found here in the Middle States - medical care, school, market, railroad, country roads, towns, agricultural schools and County Agents; despite that we hope that there can still be some of the freshness and unity of settler life in Granly. The fact that life will not be so strict should not make the spiritual life any less.

And it is beautiful down there. Tall fir and pine trees stand singly with patches of young forest. In between stand the stumps that once offered useful timber to the sawmills. Along the creeks and small rivers there is a lively forest. Game - wild turkeys, quail, ducks, and the like are found in abundance. Fish can be had in large quantities, and seafoods of all

kinds can be had at the coast any time, “fresh from the Gulf of Mexico!”

We have thought that from the young forest that remains we could cut enough for a temporary meeting house. Some of the large hotels are built of this material and look beautiful in the landscape. In Granly it would have a double



Granly founder Hans Madsen was a banker and realtor in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Photo circa 1931.

“Game - wild turkeys, quail, ducks, and the like are found in abundance. Fish can be had in large quantities, and seafoods of all kinds can be had at the coast any time, “fresh from the Gulf of Mexico!”



meaning. But all of this will depend on the wishes and decisions of the colonists. We will only draw attention to the possibilities down there and help prepare the colony.

Harald M. Holst, who wrote the first article here in *Dannevirke* about Mississippi, will be ready to take up the matter down there after a trip to Denmark. The intention is that he will clear and farm as much of the colony land as possible, so that the settlers can immediately get to work if they need it, until they get their own land ready to cultivate. In this way, people with little means can also have an opportunity to be involved. With that in mind, we are in the process of collecting a small amount of capital, about \$15,000, with which we will take over the 4,200 acres and pay \$1 per acre as a down payment. We intend to build some small homes for the use of the first colonists and to establish a "model farm", where various types of agriculture will be tried, so that the farmers from the Middle States can get good and reliable information when they come down there. Harald Holst, although a very conservative young man, has no doubt that even if none of the land were sold to colonists, it could be paid for simply by farming it on a large scale. That is not the intention (not to sell the land) but is mentioned only as a security for those people who might want to be part of the Granly Colony, but who cannot move down there.

The shares of the Granly Mississippi Investment Association are \$500.00 a piece; no one is allowed to hold more than two shares. The entire dividend of the unsold Colony land will accrue to the Association, together with the dividend from building the town of Granly. We calculate that the capital can be repaid in five years and will in that time have given good and ample exchange to the stockholders. By forming this association, we can make the roads so much better for the builders and can get the land from \$5 to \$15 cheaper per acre, so that the colonists will also benefit from it. The land lying at the Granly Colony is being sold for \$25 and \$30 per acre in small lots at the present time.

Now we would like to hear from all those who have wanted to be involved in either way. We were very pleased to hear from a small group of people in Danevang who are thinking of taking a look at the lands in the near future, as soon as we can arrange an excursion.

There will be an excursion from here at the end of July. The trip from Cedar Falls there and back will cost \$42 each at their own expense. Everyone is invited. Excursions can be arranged from any city when there are at least five in the group. You will travel on a "Home-seekers" ticket. We will see to it that the board and lodging will be as good and cheap as possible.

There will be a need for a "home" in Granly, not to call it a hotel, so that people who come to see the lands can get good food at a reasonable price. Who wants to start with that?

Where there are one or two families who feel attracted by the idea of moving to Granly, we will be happy to come and talk to them about it and later arrange an excursion if desired. There will also be room and a great need for a "farmer priest" before long. Before there are a number of new settlers, a fixed salary cannot be offered, but free land and an opportunity for hard work for a priestly family who has the desire, courage, and strength to help build and prepare the colony.

We have some beautiful circulars from Mississippi. The information is truthful and almost conservative. Those who are interested in the Granly Colony, please write for a copy. They will be sent free of charge.

It is our hope that the Granly Colony will be a joy and a blessing to many who are now struggling hard for a living, and that it may become a haven for a rich spiritual life as well. We think it can be a little Eden, but the serpent will probably find his way there too. In any case, the

cause has now been given a hearing. In order for us to continue working with it, it is necessary that we hear from all of you who might like to be involved, so that we know what we have to accommodate.

With kind regards, Hans Madsen, Cedar Falls, Iowa



Hans and wife Johanne Madsen



Certificate for two shares in the Granly Mississippi Investment Association from February 19, 1931 owned by Elin Holst, daughter of Alma and Axel Holst. Association officers Axel Buck and Axel Pedersen signed the document.



Granly History: Brochure from 1930

Granly Kolonien i Jackson County Mississippi

The colony land is located about 20 miles due north of Pascagoula, Miss., a port city on the Gulf. No part of the country is more than a few miles from a railroad or highway.

The soil is good "black or brown sandy loam with a good clay subsoil". It was formerly spruce and pine forest; the stumps remain. A "reduction plant" in Hurley (a small town on the colony land) undertakes to clear the land of stumps at no cost to the colonists. There is some young forest here and there. Near the colony land there is a lovely large spring, which in time could form a beautiful party ground. The landscape is beautiful, evenly "rolling".

The rainfall is abundant, about 56 inches per year, and fairly evenly distributed. The land can be cultivated most of the year; two to three crops can be harvested per year, and even a third (legumes) can be sown for fodder and soil improvement. The cattle can be kept out both winter and summer without any other stable than a shed to protect them from the rain and a sanitary milking parlor. T. B. is therefore almost unknown in Mississippi among both cattle and man.

The climate is temperate on the coast. Even in the hottest time of summer the Gulf breeze is cool. Winter frost is almost unknown, but in some years it may occur, as this year, for example, when it took the orange crop.

Southern Mississippi is known for its excellent health and pleasant coastal climate. "Mosquitos" are a rarity.

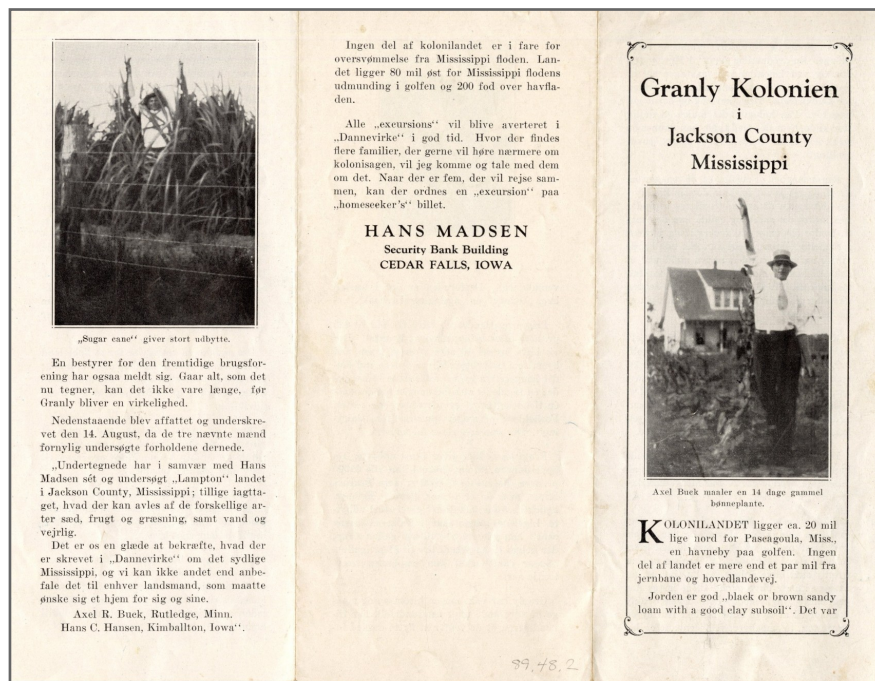
The drinking water is good. Artesian wells are available at a depth of 450 to 800 feet; ordinary wells about 20 feet with excellent water.

The school system in Mississippi is good. There is a good school at Hurley, and a "consolidated high school" will shortly be built near there. We hope that Granly will be laid out so soon that perhaps there will be grounds for locating the intended "high school" there. The town of Granly will be located midway between Hurley and

Harleston, two small towns, on the railroad and main road. In addition, there is an agricultural school in almost every county. The price of the land will be from \$12 to \$2 per acre, according to location and quality. They will be some 10-acre tracts near the city, which will naturally be more expensive than those farther from the city. The terms will be good: one-tenth of the purchase price to be paid, and one-

tenth each year thereafter. 6% interest. Conditions are very favorable for dairying. The same applies to poultry.

Fruit and nuts give the greatest returns. An orange grove 10 years old can yield \$100 per acre. Pecans up to \$600 per acre. Peaches bear when two years old. Melons, cucumbers, sweet potatoes give large yields. Likewise sugar cane. An acre of sugar cane can yield from 175 to 600 gallons of syrup, which sells at a price of 60c to \$1 per gallon. "Sugar cane" only needs to be replanted every three years.



The brochure includes a statement from Axel Buck and Hans Hansen confirming the claims made about the quality of the land for farming and grazing and recommending it to their fellow countrymen.



Granly has aroused much interest, and many of our good young people have indicated that they expect to move there in the future.

It will be quite a while. Some families are waiting to start there until November. By that time the Granly Mississippi Investment Association will also be up and running there. This association, which will take over the land and sell it back to the colonists, will consist, for the most part, of the colonists themselves. In this way they will get a share in any profit that the colonization of the land brings in. That is also true. If a colonist, for example, has \$2,000, it is desirable that he deposit \$500 in the association in order to

thereby get a share in the profit of the entire stretch of land. Several of the future colonists have already subscribed for their "units". (A "unit" costs \$500; for those of lesser means it is possible to have two or three for a "unit"). Only 30 "units" will be sold in all, and they will probably be repaid with an equal distribution of the profits in five years at the latest.

The construction of the town of Granly is the responsibility of this association.

Membership in the association is not a condition for purchasing land in the colony; but it is recommended to give the first colonists the opportunity to benefit from the development of the colony.

You can also buy a "unit" without wanting to settle in Granly, if you feel attracted by the Granly colony idea and would like to be involved in that way.

If all goes well, a youth home will be started, where visiting settlers and colonists can live well for a reasonable price until they get their own home.

We also hope that one of our well-known elderly priests will choose Granly as his future "retirement home", and he and his wife promise, as far as their strength allows, to serve the first colonists until the colony itself can call a priest.

A manager for the future cooperative has also signed up. If all goes as it now appears, it cannot be long before Granly becomes a reality.

The following was written and signed on August 14, when the three men mentioned recently examined the conditions there.

"The undersigned has, in association with Hans

Madsen, seen and examined

"Lampton" land in Jackson County, Mississippi; also observed what can be grown from the different kinds of seed, fruit and grazing, as well as water and weather.

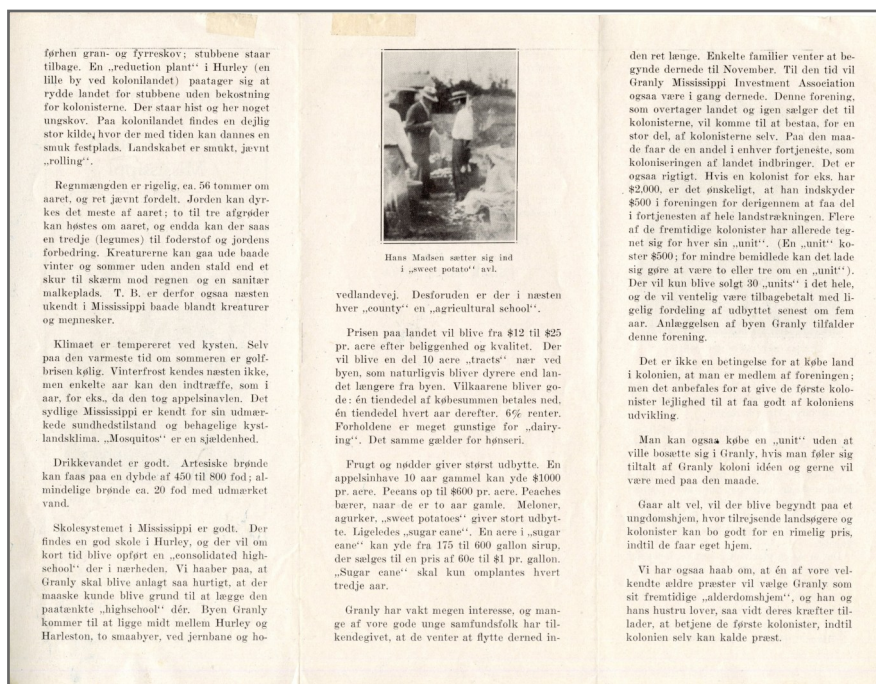
It is our pleasure to confirm what is written in "Dannevirke" about southern Mississippi, and we can do nothing but recommend it to every countryman who might wish to have a home for himself and his family.

Axel R. Buck,

Rutledge, Minn. Hans C. Hansen, Kimballton, Iowa".

No part of the colony is in danger of flooding from the Mississippi River. The land is 80 miles east of the mouth of the Mississippi River into the Gulf and 200 feet above sea level.

All excursions will be advertised in "Dannevirke" well in advance. Where there are several families who would like to hear more about the colony matter, I will come and talk to them about it. When there are five who want to travel together, an "excursion" can be arranged on a "homeseeker's" ticket.



forhen gran- og fyrreskov; stubbene staar tilbage. En „reduction plant“ i Hurley (en lille by ved kolonilandet) paatager sig at rydde landet for stubbene uden bekostning for kolonisterne. Der staar hist og her noget ungskov. Paa kolonilandet findes en dejlig stor kilde, hvor der med tiden kan dannes en smuk festplads. Landskabet er smukt, jævnt „rolling“.

Regnmængden er rigelig, ca. 56 tommer om aaret, og ret jævnt fordelt. Jorden kan dyrkes det meste af aaret; to til tre afgrøder kan høstes om aaret, og endda kan der saas en tredje (legumes) til foderstof og jordens forbedring. Kreaturerne kan gaa ude haade vinter og sommer uden anden stald end et skur til skærm mod regnen og en sanitær malkeplads. T. B. er derfor ogsaa næsten ukendt i Mississippi haade blandt kreaturer og mennesker.

Klimaet er tempereret ved kysten. Selv paa den varmeste tid om sommeren er golfbrisen kølig. Vinterfrosten kendes næsten ikke, men enkelte aar kan den indtræffe, som i aar, for eksempel, da den tog appelsinavl. Det sydlige Mississippi er kendt for sin udmærkede sundhedsstilstand og behagelige kystlandsklima. „Mosquitos“ er en sjældenhed.

Drikkevandet er godt. Artesiske brønde kan faas paa en dybde af 450 til 800 fod; almindelige brønde ca. 20 fod med udmærket vand.

Skolesystemet i Mississippi er godt. Der findes en god skole i Hurley, og der vil om kort tid blive opført en „consolidated high school“ der i nærheden. Vi haaber paa, at Granly skal blive anlagt saa hurtigt, at der maaske kunde blive grund til at lægge den paatænkte „high school“ der. Byen Granly kommer til at ligge midt mellem Hurley og Harleston, to smaa byer, ved jernbane og hø-



Hans Madsen, sætter sig ind i „sweet potato“ avl.

vedlandevej. Derfor er der i næsten hver „county“ en „agricultural school“.

Prisen paa landet vil blive fra \$12 til \$25 pr. acre efter beliggenhed og kvalitet. Der vil blive en del 10 acre „tracts“ nær ved byen, som naturligvis bliver dyrere end landet længere fra byen. Vilkaarene bliver gode: en tiendedel af købssummen betales ned, én tiendedel hvert aar derefter, 6% renter. Forholdene er meget gunstige for „dairy-ing“. Det samme gælder for hønseri.

Frugt og nødder giver støvst udbytte. En appelsinhave 10 aar gammel kan yde \$1000 pr. acre. Peasans op til \$600 pr. acre. Peaches bærer, naar de er to aar gamle. Meloner, agurker, „sweet potatoes“ giver stort udbytte. Ligeledes „sugar cane“. En acre i „sugar cane“ kan yde fra 175 til 600 gallon sirup, der sælges til en pris af 60¢ til 81 pr. gallon. „Sugar cane“ skal kun omplantes hvert tredje aar.

Granly har vakt megen interesse, og mange af vore gode unge samfundfolk har tilkendegivet, at de ventur at flytte derned in-

den ret længe. Enkelte familier ventur at begynde dernede til November. Til den tid vil Granly Mississippi Investment Association ogsaa være i gang dernede. Denne forening, som overtager landet og igen sælger det til kolonisterne, vil komme til at bestaa, for en stor del, af kolonisterne selv. Paa den maade faar de en andel i enhver fortjeneste, som koloniseringen af landet indbringer. Det er ogsaa rigtigt. Hvis en kolonist for eksempel har \$2,000, er det ønskeligt, at han indskyder \$500 i foreningen for derigennem at faa del i fortjenesten af hele landstrækningen. Flere af de frentidige kolonister har allerede tegnet sig for hver sin „unit“. (En „unit“ koster \$500; for mindre bemisjlede kan det lade sig gøre at være to eller tre om en „unit“). Der vil kun blive solgt 30 „units“ i det hele, og de vil ventelig være tilbagebetalt med liggelig fordeling af udbyttet senest om fem aar. Anlæggelsen af byen Granly tilfalder denne forening.

Det er ikke en betingelse for at købe land i kolonien, at man er medlem af foreningen; men det anbefales for at give de første kolonister lejlighed til at faa godt af koloniens udvikling.

Man kan ogsaa købe en „unit“ uden at ville bosætte sig i Granly, hvis man føler sig tiltalt af Granly koloni ideen og gerne vil være med paa den maade.

Gaar alt vel, vil der blive begyndt paa et ungdomshjem, hvor tilreisende landsøgere og kolonister kan bo godt for en rimelig pris, indtil de faar eget hjem.

Vi har ogsaa haab om, at én af vore velkendte ældre præster vil vælge Granly som sit frentidige „alderdomshjem“, og han og hans hustru, hvor, saa vidt deres kræfter tillader, at betjene de første kolonister, indtil kolonien selv kan kalde præst.

Inner panels of the Granly brochure. The photo is of Hans Madsen working with sweet potatoes.



Early Granly History cont.

Beginning in the July 23, 1930 edition of *Dannevirke*, ads promoted scheduled excursions for prospective colonists to travel to Granly with Alma Holst and/or Hans Madsen. The one below is the first of this kind and includes a follow-up to Madsen's previous articles showing the growing interest from various parts of the US and even Canada.

Although it is not clear which families are among those referenced in the states and cities mentioned in the advertisement, the Louisiana reference was likely Anna Nygaard, a nurse at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. She and brother Hans (living in Chicago at this time) together purchased one of the first 40-acre plots in the colony. They later sold that land and Hans rented a larger farm and house on the highway in Harleston. He was known to host travelers at his home as they first arrived to the area, either to settle or as prospective colonists, so he may be one of the young people from Chicago referenced by Madsen in the article for the welcoming "home". - Editor

Granly Colony in Mississippi

I am pleased to report that the idea of the Granly Colony has struck a chord with many, both old and young. From Dagmar, Montana, Askov, Minnesota, from Chicago, Minneapolis, from Santa Barbara, Calif., from Nebraska, Louisiana, and Canada inquiries have been received; in each place there are two or three families who would like to be there, if circumstances will permit.

One of our pioneer ministers would like to see Granly as his future home, and he offers to minister to the first colonists until a congregation can be formed and a minister

Granly Kolonien i Mississippi

Det glæder mig at kunne meddele, at tanken om Granly kolonien har vakt genklang hos mange, baade ældre og yngre. Fra Dagmar, Montana, Askov, Minnesota, fra Chicago, Minneapolis, fra Santa Barbara, Calif., fra Nebraska, Louisiana og Canada er der indløbet forespørgsler; hvert sted er der en to-tre familier, som kunde tænke sig at være med, hvis forholdene vil tillade det.

En af vore pionér-præster kunde tænke sig Granly som sit fremtidige hjem, og han tilbyder at betjene de første kolonister indtil der eventuelt kan dannes menighed og kaldes præst. Det var os en stor opmuntring. For „Hjemmet“ vil der ogsaa blive sørget af nogle prægtige unge folk fra Chicago, saa snart vi kan begynde.

Den første excursion vil blive den 9de Avgust. Vi indbyder alle, som kan og vil være med, til at tage derned og hjælpe at tage de endelige bestemmelser kolonien vedrørende. Billetterne vil koste „one way fare plus 10%“, dertil kost og logi. Turen vil blive anlagt saa godt og billigt som muligt. Alle, der vil være med, bedes melde sig til mig saa snart som muligt.

HANS MADSEN, Security Bank Build., Cedar Falls, Iowa.

called. This was a great encouragement to us. For the "home" there will also be some fine young people from Chicago, as soon as we can begin.

The first excursion will be on the 9th of August. We invite all who can and will go there to help make the final arrangements for the colony. Tickets will cost "one-way fare plus 10%", plus board and lodging. The trip will be organized as well and cheaply as possible. Anyone who wants to join, please contact me as soon as possible.



The first local article about the new colony appeared in the *Pascagoula Chronicle-Star* on December 26, 1930.

New Settlement in Jackson County

Company of Iowa Citizens Forming A Colony Near Hurley in This County

The Chronicle-Star has recently received a call from Messrs Axel Buck and Axel Pedersen, recently of Cedar Falls, Iowa, but now of Hurley, this county. These gentlemen are part of a company that was organized this fall at Cedar Falls. Alma Holst being the president for the purpose of colonizing a tract of land in this county known as the Lampton lands, of which they have purchased four thousand acres, and are bringing settlers from the West to improve same.

The name of the company is the Granly Mississippi Investment Association, and the two gentlemen named

above are part of the vanguard of settlers on the tract. It is proposed to sell the land off to actual settlers in 5, 10, 20, 40- or 80-acre tracts. Already some 1,000 acres have thus been disposed of, and three families and seven single men have settled on the land. Several houses and barns have been constructed and more are under way, and other settlers are expected to arrive during the winter and be ready



Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Gibson and family of Hurley. The Gibsons hosted early colonists and assisted them in the selection of land.



for planting in the spring.

Some of the newcomers are already co-operating with the county agent, and will plant English peas for the early market. They will engage in general farming, poultry and dairying.

These colonists are Danes, members of the Lutheran church, and seem to be high types of citizens. They expect to have a village, church, school and post office of their own, to be called Granly. They were assisted largely in the selection purchase of their lands by Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Gibson of Hurley, who gave the newcomers use of some of their buildings, pending construction of new buildings. With Mr. and Mrs. Gibson and the citizens of Hurley the Chronicle-Star joins in a hearty welcome to these new citizens, and it is hoped the climate, soil and opportunities here will not disappoint them, but they will prosper in their new homes.



In the May 20, 1931 issue of *Dannevirke* Madsen mentions the first harvest and Pastor Evald Kristensen's involvement in establishing the congregation and his plans for a Danish folk high school.

Granly Colony in Jackson Co., Mississippi

All is well in Granly, and Granly is a good place to live. Pastor Kristensen writes: I was there for 4 days, and I became more and more happy about it the longer I was there.

Granly Kolonien i Jackson Co., Mississippi

Alt vel i Granly, og i Granly er godt at bo. Pastor Kristensen skriver: Jeg var der i 4 dage, og jeg blev mere og mere glad ved det, jo længere, jeg var der.

Der er nu solgt 32 „contracts“, og en fjerdedel har bosat sig der og har allerede høstet den første afgrøde, som var ret god efter omstændighederne. En hel del af de øvrige som har købt land ventes dertil i Sommerens løb. Man er ved at gøre sig færdig til at plante anden gang, hvoraf der ventes et endnu bedre resultat, da jorden er bedre tilberedt. Dog var den første ingen ringe af, da der som før meddelt blev plukket 143 bushels „English peas“ paa én acre.

Der er nu stiftet menighed, og menigheden har kaldet Pastor Evald Kristensen som dens præst, og tilmed agter Pastor Kristensen at opføre en dansk folkehøjskole igennem sommerens løb, færdig til at tage imod elever til 1ste December.

Den 30te Maj afgaar der ekskursjon syd paa over de fleste baner. Tur og retur er „one fare plus 10%“. Om der er nogen, der ønsker at benytte lejligheden og vil underrette mig derom, da vil jeg sørge for, at der er befording i Pascagoula til at tage Eder til Granly.

HANS MADSEN, Cedar Falls, Ia.,

There have now been 32 contracts sold, and a quarter have settled there and have already harvested their first crop, which was quite good under the circumstances. A good many of the others who have bought land are expected there during the summer. They are getting ready to plant a second time, from which an even better result is expected, as the soil is better prepared. However, the first was not bad, as previously announced, 143 bushels of „English peas“ were picked on one acre.

A congregation has now been formed, and the congregation has called Pastor Evald Kristensen as its pastor, and Pastor Kristensen also intends to build a Danish folk high school during the summer, ready to receive students by December 1st.

On May 30th, an excursion will depart south over most of the tracks. Round trip is „one fare plus 10%.“ If anyone wishes to take advantage of the opportunity and will inform me of it, I will arrange for transportation in Pascagoula to take you to Granly.



Granly—Granly—Granly

The July 1, 1931 issue of *Dannevirke* included the prominent notice from the Granly Mississippi Investment Association (shown below) detailing the names of the early land purchasers. Many of the names have been confirmed in the Jackson County land records from that time.

As the land records on the next page help demonstrate, some moved to Granly and stayed — often acquiring more land along the way — while others never moved to the area or left after a short time. We have limited information on these people beyond this notice.

GRANLY - GRANLY - GRANLY Jackson County, Miss.

Naar Du tænker paa engang at danne Dig et lille, hyggeligt hjem, saa tænk paa Granly. Der tror vi betingelserne er bedst i dag. Vi tillader os at opgive navnene paa dem, der saavidt har købt land i kolonien:

Axel C. Pedersen, Folmer Christensen, Jakob Petersen, Christian Petersen, Arne Iversen, Osvald Iversen, Albert Mikkelsen, Pastor Evald Kristensen, Mrs. Mary Hansen, Vilhelm Voss, Pastor K. Knudsen, Chris Hejberg, Albert Clausen, Axel Christensen, Pastor A. E. Frost, A. R. Buck, Chris Hansen, N. B. Paulsen, P. B. Johansen, Marius Larsen, C. A. Jensen, Anna Nygaard, Richard Buck, Evald Buck, Emil Andersen, Julius Karby, Jens Andersen, Arne Madsen, Søren L. Nielsen, Pastor H. Juhl, Alvin Buck, Johannes Ludvigsen, Morten Jacobsen.

Illinois Central System udgiver et blad, som hedder „Farm and Factory“, der behandler forholdene for farmerne i syden. Dette kan faas gratis ved at skrive direkte til H. J. Schweitert, General Agricultural Agent, Illinois Central System, Chicago, Ill.

Granly Mississippi Investment Association, Cedar Falls, Iowa.



Property Purchases and Transfers. Early land records from the community through 1934 confirm some of the early interest in Granly as described in *Dannevirke*. Records were transcribed from the Jackson County courthouse books by Else Martin. Note: List may not include all Granly-related land records.

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description - Section</u>
1912			
Lampton Realty	Harleston Townsite	Jun 22	Pt NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Pt NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$
1930			
Lampton Realty	Wilhelm Voss	Oct 14	pt NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 18
Lampton Realty	Axel Christensen	Oct 28	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
S. H. Stratton	Lampton Realty	Oct. 30	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 8
			SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 8
			NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 8
			NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 8
Lampton Realty	A. E. Frost	Nov 5	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt N $\frac{1}{2}$, Section 17
Lampton Realty	Thorvald T. Jacobsen	Nov 5	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt E $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
P. B. Johansen	Lampton Realty	Dec 3	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
B. N. Poulson	Lampton Realty	Dec. 4	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Anna H. Nygaard	Lampton Realty	Dec. 8	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 8
Lampton Realty	Albert Clausen	Dec 8	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Evald Kristensen & wife	Lampton Realty	Dec 15	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 18
C. A. Jensen	Lampton Realty	Dec. 15	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Marius Larsen	Lampton Realty	Dec. 19	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Axel Christensen	Lampton Realty	Dec 31	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
1931			
Axel C. Pedersen	Lampton Realty	Jan 8	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ pt NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 18
Mary Hansen	Lampton Realty	Jan 8	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ pt S $\frac{1}{2}$, Section 18
Axel R. Buck	Lampton Realty	Jan 8	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Heirs Wm. E. Jones	Granly Investment	Jan 14	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 8
Heirs Wm. E. Jones	Andrew Outzen	Jan 14	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 8
Albert Clausen	Lampton Realty	Feb 18	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 18
Rev. H. Juhl	Lampton Realty	Mar 9	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$; pt E $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Jens Anderson	Lampton Realty	May 2	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 8
Julius Karby	Lampton Realty	May 8	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ pt N $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 8
Chris Hiberg	Lampton Realty	May 21	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 18
S. C. Hays	Chris Hansen	May 30	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt 6 ac of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Oswald Iverson et al	Lampton Realty	Aug 31	--- property in Section 17
Oswald Iverson et al	Lampton Realty	Aug 31	---
Chris Hansen	Hans D. Nygaard	Oct 12	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17, 6 acres
1933			
A. C. Pedersen	Miss Tax Sale	Apr 3	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 18
A. C. Christensen	Miss Tax Sale	Apr 3	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ pt, Section 17
1934			
Roland G. Lane	Jens C. Brinkman	Apr 2	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Lampton Realty	A. R. Buck	Apr 18	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
Axel R. Buck & wf	Feb Land Bank	May 26	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17
A. R. Clausen & wf	Fed Land Bank	Jun 29	pt SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 18
Marius Larsen	A. R. Buck	Jul 17	... in Section 17
A. C. Pedersen	Miss. Tax Sale	Sep 19	pt NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, pt SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 18



Obituaries

Helen M. Wallace

March 28, 1929 - November 5, 2025

Helen M. Wallace, 96, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at Oakley Place in Topeka, KS. Helen was born on March 28, 1929, in Marysville, California, to Gunnar Knudsen and Margarethe Katharine (Madsen) Knudsen. The family moved to New York and then to Hurley, Mississippi, where Helen resided on a small farm until she was 19.

Helen graduated from Moss Point School in 1946, worked a year in the woolen mill and then attended Grandview College in Des Moines, Iowa. She moved to Kansas with her friend, Joy Rasmussen Jacobsen, and began her career as a teacher. She taught in the Bethany School for 2 years and then at Barnard School for 5 years.

Helen met and married Frank Wallace in 1953. To their union was born 3 children: Leesa, Lynnette and Max. In 1957, she and Frank moved to their current farm outside Barnard. This was her home for the next 60 years. After the birth of her first child, she was a stay-at-home mom. She spent her time running the household, supporting her husband on the farm, teaching Sunday School, becoming a 4-H leader, and participating in other community activities.

Helen was a member of First Baptist Church in Barnard and was actively involved in the church. She taught the junior high and senior high Sunday School classes for over 20 years. She was involved with the women's group and served in all the offices as requested. She also served on several church committees over the years.

In the community, Helen was involved with Salt Creek 4-H Club for 15 years, serving as cooking leader, sewing leader and community leader. She was room mother and served as a PTA officer during the years her

children were in grade school. When someone in the community passed away, she always fixed a dish of food and took it to the family. At Christmas, she made loaves of quick bread (different variety each year) and delivered them to friends and neighbors.

Helen was known to drive a hay wagon, a grain truck, and take care of pigs when needed. In addition to her family, she fixed many meals for harvest crews and hired men. Helen loved to "dig in the dirt." Her almost weed-free yard and perennial flowers were beautiful. She had volunteer petunias, tulip bulbs, hardy mums, day lilies, tiger lilies and a few other random plants. Harvesting her asparagus patch was anticipated each spring.

Helen was a good cook and could make a pie crust that came out flaky and tender every time. And her gravy was rarely lumpy. She put up field corn each year in the freezer, usually 100 pints! Nieces and nephews looked forward to having Aunt Helen's corn at all the family dinners. She was an expert seamstress and sewed most of the clothing for herself and her children and their Barbies.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents Gunnar & Grete Knudsen, husband Frank Wallace, and sister Elsie Webb.

Helen is survived by her children, Leesa (Ray) Harshaw, Lynnette (Mack) Larrison, and Max (Tammy) Wallace; grandchildren Chelsea (Matt Stephens) Wallace, Paige (Chance) Cranston, and Tanner Wallace; step grandchildren Steve (Debbie) Harshaw, Jeff Harshaw, Ryan (Regina) Harshaw, and Aaron Larrison. She is survived also by 7 great grandchildren, 5 step great grandchildren, 4 step great great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Helen was a deeply committed Christian and spent her life loving the Lord, her family and community. She will be greatly missed by many.





Velkommen til Granly!
Granly Open House
Sunday, August 16 from 2pm to 6pm

*Help us spread
the word!*



*Bring your friends
and neighbors!*

THE GRANLY NEWS
The Danish Historical Foundation, Inc.
C/O Larry Martin
1012 Breeden Place
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520