

The GADE Story

as related to Edward (Ted) George GADE (10.10.1943)

Dear Ted,

It would appear that your grandfather's mother and my grandfather's mother were sisters - Caroline and Marie GADE - making us third cousins. There was one other sister, Louisa Bertha GADE and they all shared one brother, Ernst GADE. As far as I know this made up the family of Wilhelm and Eleonore GADE (nee KLAEBE).

Although this is the general consensus of opinion as to the extent of Wilhelm and Eleonore GADE's family, there is some conjecture, as the passenger list of the ISERBROOK states that the family consisted of Wilhelm (32), Eleonore (34), Maria (6), Wilhelm (3) and Carl (baby) of Sandow, Prussia. If this is correct then I cannot find any future reference to either young Wilhelm (3) or the baby, Carl. I can only assume that they died early, perhaps in the early days of Saddleworth, and that their deaths were not registered.

Marie, the eldest, was born in Germany and came to SA with her mother and father on the ship ISERBROOK when she was 6yrs old. Ernst, Louisa and Caroline were born in Saddleworth, where the family owned/leased section #243 - a 30-acre plot of land about 5 klms East of the town.

There is also a Christian GADE that apparently came out on the ship ISERBROOK as well. The information I have states that he had two children, Wilhelm and Johanne Eleonore HAMDORF (nee GADE). So I have concluded that Christian GADE was our Wilhelm's father. I have recently found reference at the SA State Archive Library to a letter from a C.GADE in Saddleworth regarding land maps and fees, and I am presently waiting for a copy of that letter to arrive. Hopefully it will contain information that definitely links Christian with our GADE line. Anything you can add here would be grateful, as there is some confusion here throughout my research.

In 1876 the GADE family left Saddleworth and moved to Willowie, purchasing section 79n - 296 acres.

While living in Willowie Marie GADE had a child out of wedlock - my grandfather. He was originally named Johann Wilhelm GADE, but took on the name of his stepfather when Walter EAMER married Marie GADE, 3 yrs later in Melrose. They subsequently had another four children, 2 boys and 2 girls. The father of my grandfather was a Samuel INGLIS who owned and farmed a neighbouring section to the GADE clan in Willowie. Around the time of the birth of my grandfather Samuel INGLIS married an Elizabeth FOOTE and together they had 5 children between 1880 and 1890, all of whom were born in Willowie. I can imagine it must have been a difficult time for Marie all those years ago, being left single and pregnant while the father of the child went off

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and married his betrothed. And then to rub salt into the wound lived virtually alongside Marie while he and his wife begat 5 children.

I have a redirection notice from records at the Willowie Post Office redirecting the mail of C & W GADE to Arden Vale via Quorn on Feb 10th 1886. (This small piece of information supports my earlier theory that Christian GADE was related in some way, most probably the father of Wilhelm.) The GADE family sold their Willowie section 79n to their neighbour, the GREIG family. When I was in Willowie Jan 2005 I met a direct descendant of the GREIG family who owns the original GADE section, and he still refers to the land as "GADEE's paddock". So around 1886 the family, which would have included Wilhelm his wife Eleonore, their son Ernst and two daughters Louisa and Carolina, moved to Arden Vale in the Hundred of YARRAH via Quorn.

As far as the eldest daughter goes (my grandfathers' mother - Marie), she married Walter EAMER in 1882 in Melrose before the GADE clan moved from Willowie, and I deduce from the birth of their first child (Marie's second however, Sarah Anne EAMER, my grandfathers half sister) that Marie EAMER (nee GADE) had moved from Willowie to Wilmington sometime earlier, as Sarah Anne was born Feb 1883 in the Hundred of Gregory (Wilmington).

It would appear though that the EAMER family (Marie GADE) rejoined with the GADE Clan when they moved to Arden Vale early in 1886, as both the second and third EAMER children (Alfred James EAMER and Louisa Bertha Mary EAMER) where both born in Arden Vale between 1886 and 1889.

So the way I see it, when the GADE clan settled in Arden Vale in 1886 they consisted of two families - the GADE clan made up of Wilhelm (53), wife Eleonore (55) - known I believe as Laura - their son Ernst (18) and daughters, Louisa (16) and Caroline (13); and the EAMER family, made up of Marie (27), husband Walter (25), my grandfather (7) - now known as John William EAMER - and their daughter Sarah Anne EAMER (3).

A few years after settling in Arden Vale it would appear that Ernst GADE fathered a child to Ricke Annie BAIER, out of wedlock. Annie Edith GADE, also registered as Annie Edith BAIER, was born 26.01.1891 at North Quorn. The records show that Ricke Hannah Louise BAIER had had a previous child to an Alfred HUDSON, also out of wedlock. The child was born as Alfred James HUDSON at Quorn on 03.08.1888. However, Ernst GADE and Rickie BAIER did not marry, and I have no further reference to the fate of Rickie BAIER and her two children. Can you shed any light on their fate?

To jump ahead a bit, only a month ago I made a trip to the Arden Vale region to do some poking around. I had a 'mud map' that indicated where two properties had been leased/owned by the GADE clan in the area, and I

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wanted to see if I could find them. I had been further up in the Flinders and came down the back road from Hawker to Quorn, passing through Arden Vale on the way. The first place I managed to locate was just south of Proby's Grave. I walked on the property and found a lot of ruins on the ground indicating that there had been a dwelling and, what looked like some sheep pens or the like. I have not been able to research this any further as yet but have included a couple of photos for you. Maybe you know some thing of it?

On continuing on towards Quorn we found the second property that was marked on the 'mud map'. It was just prior to the Argadell's farm. The original buildings had been added to and we found the owner was home, a Mr Dennis DARR. Dennis explained that the homestead was not that of Wilhelm GADE but that the next paddock down had belonged to GADE, and that he was now the owner of it. So he took us around every inch of Wilhelm's section 152, eventually showing us what he believed to be the ruins of the GADE homestead. I have included some pics of it for you in the hope you may be able to throw some additional information my way.

Mr DARR then showed us the deeds for the GADE section and it had Wilhelm's signature on it - quite a moment in my life. I have included a photograph of the document for you.

I can hardly begin to describe the condition under which they all existed - which is supported by anecdotal stories handed down by Marie EAMER (nee GADE), through her child Louisa Bertha Mary EAMER and her line. I have been lucky enough to trace a living member of that clan through the daughter of Louisa Bertha Mary EAMER (who became a PRATT) - her daughter Maud Mary PRATT (who became a THOMAS) is now in her mid eighties but has a great memory. Apparently Maud THOMAS met your father back in 1988 while on a visit to SA from the West. She records that your father remembered Wilhelm GADE (his great-grandfather) as a very old man with a white beard and that his father (your grandfather) remembers the GADE family living in Arden Vale and consisting of Wilhelm, his wife Eleonore, son Ernst and a daughter.

That daughter must have been the youngest, your grandfather's mother, Caroline, as her sister Louisa Bertha GADE married Adolphus William FRANELL in Nov 1889 and would have moved away from the family in Arden Vale, as her first child Emily Clara FRANNELL was born in Beltana, up North of the Ranges, in Oct 1890. Louisa and Adolphus FRANELL had a second child, William John FRANELL, but he was born in Adelaide. Adolphus could possibly have died around this time as I have found that Louisa Bertha FRANELL (widow) married a Henry Charles LEHMAN in July 1897 in Port Augusta. They apparently lived in Nectar Brook as that is where Louisa Bertha LEHMANN (nee GADE) had her third child, William Charles LEHMAN, who was born in Nectar Brook in Jan 1897.

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Although Caroline lived at the homestead with her mother, father and brother, she fell pregnant while still single and gave birth to your grandfather on 26.11.1894, a couple of months after Caroline's 21st birthday. The birth of Albert Harry GADE is also registered as Albert Harry Gade HALL, his father being recorded as Ernest HALL. Why they did not marry I cannot find out. Maybe he was already married or just a drifter. Perhaps he was a farm worker helping out on the GADE farm? I can find no further on him. If you can provide any information on Ernest HALL I would be most grateful.

Wilhelm GADE became an Australian on 16th Sept. 1896, at the age of 61, and at that time his family consisted of; Wilhelm (61) and his wife Eleanor (63) living on their property in Arden Vale with their son Ernst (28) and unmarried daughter, Carolina (23) and her son, your grandfather, Albert Harry GADE aged 2yrs.

By this time their eldest daughter Marie EAMER (nee GADE) (37) and family had moved away from Arden Vale, as their fourth child Walter Ernest Rollens EAMER was born in the Mt Brown area in 1891. Anecdotal stories support the fact that the EAMER family (Walter specifically) became involved with the camel trains and moved into a nomadic type of life.

Their other daughter, Louisa Bertha FRANNELL (nee GADE) (26) was married to Adolphus FRANNELL at this time, and had two children, the youngest just 15mths old. Their whereabouts at that time is not known, but all their lives where about to change at rapid rate.

Also the time Wilhelm was naturalized, perhaps within a month or so, the EAMER family booked a passage by sea to Western Australia and took off to settle in the Goldfields of the Murchison in WA. From anecdotal stories their passage through the Bight was an extremely rough one with waves being as high as two story buildings. It was too much for the women folk and they were off loaded at Albany and finished their journey to Perth via coach, the men folk continuing by ship to Fremantle before rejoining the women in Perth.

Again, around this time, Adolphus FRANNELL died leaving Louisa Bertha FRANNELL (nee GADE) a widow at the age of 26 yrs old with two children under the age of 6, the youngest being just 1 yrs old. Fortunately Louisa found a new husband and father for her children and married Henry Charles LEHMAN (29) in July 1897 before giving birth to her third child, William Charles LEHMAN in Jan of 1898 at their residence in Nectar Creek, south of Port Augusta.

Tragedy then struck. Only four months later Louisa Bertha LEHMANN (nee GADE) died on 01.05.1898 in the Port Augusta Hospital at the age of 28yrs. This left her newly wed husband with her two young children of her previous

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marriage to FRANNELL, together with the newly born baby only 4 mths old. One can only imagine just how he managed. I have no further information on the FRANELL/LEHMANN children or their plight. I assume that they were farmed out on the LEHMANN side of the family as there is no mention of them through the GADE line. If you have any information that will give me a lead on those children I would be most grateful.

Another tragedy! Just four months later and Carolina GADE (your grandfathers mother) died on 23.09.1898, also in the Port Augusta Hospital at the age of 24yrs, leaving her 4 yrs old child without parents, who was probably cared for by his grandparents, Wilhelm and Eleonore GADE, now 63 yrs and 65 yrs respectively. Their son Ernst married Martha KUHN on 15.10.1898, one month after Carolina's death and I have information indicating that they raised Carolina's child as their eldest. They went on to have 15 more children of their own. Your grandfather of course being treated as the eldest, when really he was his peer's cousin.

A letter from one of Ernst's children, Lena GIFFEN (nee GADE), much later on when in her twilight (1973), indicates that her father (Ernst) left the land when he was 29 yrs old, which would make the year 1897-1898. I am only assuming that Ernst had the property up near Proby's Grave, as it would appear Wilhelm stayed on his land until he subdivided it in 1905 - splitting the 1000 acres up into three parcels - 287 acres of which ended up with Mr DARR, mentioned earlier, who showed us around the GADE property and the location of the ruins of their homestead.

If this is true, then Wilhelm and Eleonore were left all by themselves, on their Arden Vale property at the age of 63yrs and 65yrs.

The letter from Lena GIFFEN also states she can remember her grandfather (Wilhelm GADE) living with her family in Wilmington before he moved to Adelaide, where he died. Information given to Maud THOMAS when she visited your father indicates that Wilhelm GADE went to live with Carolina's son, your grandfather, now grown up and married to Edith EDWARDS.

Although these two pieces of information at first appear to contradict, it is clear that Wilhelm would not have gone to your grandfather's residence until after Albert and Edith were married - April 1916. So assuming Wilhelm left the Arden Vale property around the time it was subdivided in 1905. Actually he mortgaged the final 287 acres in Feb 1907 and his wife Eleonore died on 24th August of that year - she is buried in the Quorn cemetery as a pauper in an unmarked grave. An inglorious end to a couple that had the strength and determination to make something out of this country. I would say that following the death of his wife Wilhelm would have moved in with his son's family in Wilmington, who were caring for your grandfather as their eldest. It would appear he then moved in with your grandfather after Albert and Edith

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married and moved out of Wilmington, in 1916. By this time Ernst and Martha had 9 children, with Lena GIFFEN (nee GADE), the author of the letter referred to above, was just 5 yrs old.

Wilhelm was now 81yrs old. He would not have stayed very long with Albert and Edith, as he moved into the Magill Old Folks Home in Adelaide shortly after it was built in 1917.

He died a few years after. His death certificate informs that Wilhelm GADE died 5 Sept 1921 at Magill Home for the aged, Adelaide SA having 1 male and 1 female alive, usual residence Wilmington, a farmer. Buried 7 Sept 1921 West Tce Cemetery.