

Biography of Martin O. Wallum
--Bernice Wallum

My parents names were Ole Wallum and Marie Wallum. My name is Martin Ole Wallum. I was born in Ringsaker, Norway, May 29, 1861. I immigreated to America with my parents in 1868 at the age of seven. We settled in Holmen, LaCrosse County, Wisconsin.

In 1882 I came to North Dakota to work for Mulstad. I came in an immigrant train or which was usually called a stock car as far as Valley City and drove up to what is about a mile from Hannaford in a lumber wagon and two horses.

I worked for Mulstad that summer. I built his first house and helped herd his cattle up from Valley City.

The following fall I went back to Wisconsin to work in the woods but the following spring I came back and started to help build the railroad from Sanborn to what is Cooperstown now, in 1883. This was very hard work because we had to use wheelbarrows to make the grade higher. Then I began to work for another farmer. I worked there three years and the farmer was unable to pay me so he gave me a quarter section of land for \$1600 in Greenfield township 144, range 59, southeast quarter of section 20.

My first home was built of lumber. It was not very large, being only 16 by 20 feet which was divided into three rooms.

In the year of 1887 I married Clara Christianson Norume of Toten, Norway.

I used to drive to Cooperstown for provisions in a lumber wagon and two horses, and took my wheat to Valley City to have it ground into flour which took me about three days. Many times I helped haul groceries from Sanborn to the stores in Cooperstown with oxen.

My nearest neighbors were Gunderson, John Melray, Mulstad, and Charlie Nelson.

My first machinery was a walking plow, hoe drill, two horses. The only crops I had were oats and wheat. My fuel was hauled from the Sheyenne river.

At this time storms and fires were dangerous. One day we had a hail storm and we didn't have any screens so it knocked out all the windows and we had to open the cellar trap to let the water go down the basement.

The descendants are Mrs. Mable Anson of New England, N. Dak. Mrs. Olga Evenson of Hannaford, N. Dak., Mrs. Dena Williams of Madison, Wis., Mrs. Thresa Trangsrud of Wimbledon, N. Dak. Justin Wallum of Wallum, N. Dak., Marvin Wallum, of Hannaford, N. Dak., Johnnie Wallum, of Wallum, N. Dak., Edna Wallum of Wallum, N. Dak.

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Bernice Wallum of Wallum, N. Dak.

The grandchildren are Oliver, Melvin, Agnes, Ethel, and Marion Anson of New England, N. Dak., Vernon, Ralf, Bernice, Dorothy Trangsrud of Wimbledon, N. Dak.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

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