

June 11, 1985

Dear Ragnhild,

Not knowing the customs in Denmark, I hope it is all right if we call each other by our first names.

Thank you for your letter of May 15th and for letting me know how we would have met. I can't begin to tell you how sad I still feel about having to miss our trip to Denmark and the chance to meet you and Jane.

My husband has had several tests since we returned home but the doctors still haven't determined what is causing the pain and weakness in his legs. If all goes well, ^{with} him we are hoping we can get to Denmark next summer and we hope we can get together with you then.

As well as seeing Copenhagen we had planned to go to all the little towns where my four grand-parents had been born - among them Ryde where my father's mother (our common relative) came from.

The information that has been passed down to me about her is that she ^{was} ^{one Margrethe Madsen} the daughter of Karen Jensdatter or Jensen 1826-1892 of Ujsgaard House, Ryde and (John) Niels Madsen or Mads Nielsen 1832-1900 of Jeskow Ryde (Mölbe) whose family can be traced back to 1650.

She had two brothers who went to the United States and two sisters Ellen and Karen who is your grandmother. Am I correct with all this? And would you or your relatives know if the houses in or near Ryde are still in existence and if the gravestones are still there.

I had hoped to check on all this when I saw you, but my curiosity won't allow me to wait another year.

I'm hoping this finds you well.

With love,

Joy