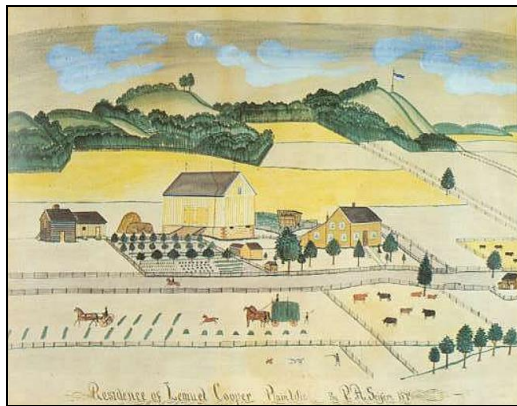


Land Record Research

by Marian Ruhland Burmester

Have you ever researched or even thought about tracing your ancestor's farm? My interest started while attending a Plain History Genealogy Group meeting presented by Gary Haas at the Kraemer Library in Plain, WI in 2004. Tim Cooper happened to be at this meeting with a print of his ancestor Lemuel Cooper's farm, a watercolor, oil, and tempera by Paul A. Seifert. After learning of the location, my sister, Karen Beth, and I looked at each other in surprise. This was the location of what we knew as the farm of our great-grandfather, Alois Brickl, and in later years our great uncle Anton Brickl. Alois Brickl was born on March 10, 1855, in Waldmünchen, Germany, and married on October 5, 1855, to Justina Bindl who was born on December 2, 1856, in Treffelstein, Germany. From there we decided to trace the history of this farm.



Paul A. Seifert. *Residence of Lemuel Cooper*, 1879.
Watercolor, oil, and tempera on paper, 21 1/2 x 28 inches.



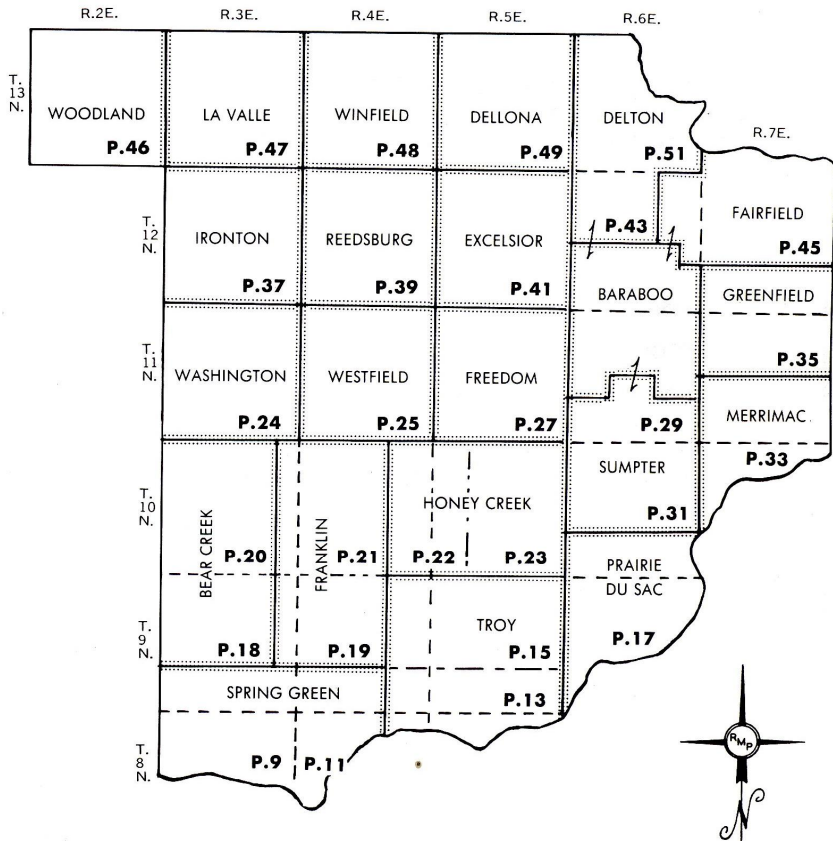
Alois Brickl family farm (photo taken about 1906 or 1907).
In 1927 Anton Brickl Sr. (son of Alois Brickl built a new house). The
view of this photo is from the back or opposite the Seifert print.

The address of this land is S9960 Valley View Rd, Plain WI 53577. At the time my sister and I researched the land, Greg and Tami Alt were living on the farm. Just down the road is Cedar Grove Cheese, E5904 Mill Rd, Plain, WI 53577.

We were lucky with our research. We knew from Tim Cooper that Lemuel Cooper received the original land grant for the land. All we had to do was search using the name Lemuel Cooper on the Bureau of Land Management website: <https://gloreports.blm.gov/default.aspx>. See an example of the Karen Beth and Marian Burmester's Cooper/Brickl land research on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter.

In researching the land that my husband and I had purchased in Ironton Township, I had to get a current plat book from the county to find the Township, Range, Section and location description.

You can find plat books in the genealogy area of local libraries. It is very helpful to obtain as many series of years of plat maps as possible with the plot of land that you will be researching. Most of the Sauk County plat books have an index map in the front. I found the map very useful in getting the exact description of the land plot, which you will need at the Bureau of Land Management website. This was very important because Franklin Township is divided into two towns and ranges (T.10N. T.9N. 6 R.3E. R4E.). These divisions aren't very clear when looking at the plat map of the Franklin Township. See example at right.

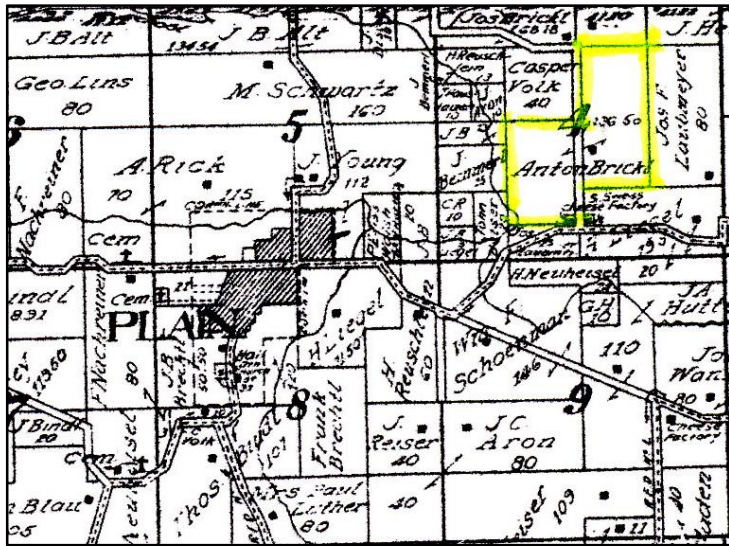


To obtain more information on the land, I went to the Register of Deeds at the courthouse, in Baraboo, WI. At that time, I first had to search through huge index books to find the exact huge book holding the document transaction. None of these books are tiny, so be prepared to do a lot of lifting and searching through the many books (see photos below). Now anyone doing this type of research in Sauk County, Wisconsin, is very lucky, because a few years back, the index books were placed online. Here is the link: <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/registerofdeeds/grantorgrantee-index-mid-1800s-late-1986>. It is free to view and download any of the indexes. For a fee you, can also download the original deeds from the website to your computer. The only disadvantage to downloading to your computer is that you cannot preview the document prior to paying the fee. Your ancestor may have owned other properties besides the farm or land that you are researching in that same township. For a very brief time, my great-grandfather, Alois Brickl, was in partnership with Cramer Brothers' two-story store on the corner of Main Street and Alma Avenue¹ in Plain, among other properties.

When searching at the Register of Deeds, it will be necessary to know the difference between the Grantor vs Grantee. A Google description is as follows: "Property **deeds** are used to convey real property from a **grantor** (seller) to a **grantee** (buyer). For a **deed** to be legally operative, it must include the identification of the **grantor and grantee** and the adequate description of the property." After an hour or so of searching through books, it becomes very confusing, so I kept

¹ "A History of Plain, Wisconsin" by Hildegard Thering, 1982, page 79.

this definition on the cover of my notebook. In those days, I didn't have a laptop or tablet to type notes in, and making copies of documents were very expensive, so I made use of a notebook.



After I arrived home, I would sort through my notes. For me, it made researching of the many different documents easier to understand the land descriptions if I used the method similar to my example of the "Cooper/Brickl land research" on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter. Since the readers of this newsletter may not be familiar with the names or people in Ironton Township where my husband and I live, I will continue to refer to the "Cooper/Brickl land research."

The above image (1922 Plat Map) shows the farm at the time that Anton Brickl family owned it. The description to use when searching the Bureau of Land Management website is: Township 9 North, Range 4 East, Section 4. *Below is a screen shot of searching the BLM.*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT General Land Office Records

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Search Documents By Type | Search Documents By Location | Search Documents By Identifier

Patents | Surveys | LSR | CDI | Tract Books

Search [Clear Form]

Location
 State: WISCONSIN
 County: Any County

Names
 Last Name: _____
 First Name: _____
 Middle Name: _____
 search patentees search warrantees

Land Description
 Township: 9 North
 Range: 4 East
 Meridian: Any Meridian
 Section #: 4

Miscellaneous
 Land Office: Any Land Office
 Document #: _____
 Indian Allot #: _____
 Survey #: _____
 Authority: Any Authority
 Issue Date: _____ to _____
 Militia: _____
 Tribe: Any Tribe
 Geo. Name/Mining Claim: _____

To search for land patents:
 1. Start by selecting the State.
 2. You do not have to fill in all fields, but provide at least one additional field.
 3. Click the Search Patents button.

Search Tips:
 • Hover your mouse over a field to get a brief description.
 • Get detailed information by checking the [Glossary](#) in the Reference Center.
 • For more tips and help, check out our [Patent Search Overview](#).

Search Patents

Note: This site does not cover every state, but we do have [resource links](#) for most states.

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Here is a screen shot of the search results.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT PRIVATE CLAIMS
 General Land Office Records

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Search Documents Results List

Printer Friendly

Image	Accession	Names	Date	Doc #	State	Meridian	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #	County
	WI2450 .201	COOPER, LEMUEL	6/1/1858	32299	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	NE 1/4 SE 1/4	4	Sauk
	WI2450 .221	COOPER, LEMUEL	6/1/1858	32322	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	SE 1/4 NE 1/4	4	Sauk
	WI2450 .330	COOPER, MATILDA	6/1/1858	32453	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	SW 1/4 NE 1/4	4	Sauk
	WI2380 .108	COX, JAMES	6/1/1858	28450	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	SE 1/4 NW 1/4	4	Sauk
	MW-0903-030	CRAMER, SOLOMON, SHAW, HILLIARD	6/3/1856	37148	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	NW 1/4 NE 1/4	4	Sauk
	MW-0177-383	HEAD, DANIEL, ALLEN, SUSAN H, ALLEN, CHARLES C	6/15/1860	28220	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	NW 1/4 NW 1/4	3	Sauk
	MW-1028-019	SMITH, JOHN, GOULD, WASHINGTON	1/10/1851	53173	WI	4th PM - 1831 MN/WI	009N - 004E	NE 1/4 NE 1/4	4	Sauk
							010N - 004E	SE 1/4 SE 1/4	32	Sauk
							010N - 004E	SW 1/4 SW 1/4	33	Sauk

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Below are some photos of the Sauk County Register of Deeds Land Record shelves. As you can see, these books are very huge. You can save yourself a lot of lifting exercise if you search the indexes online. Here is the link: <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/registerofdeeds/grantorgrantee-index-mid-1800s-late-1986>



LAND RECORDS DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE COOPER/BRICKL FARM

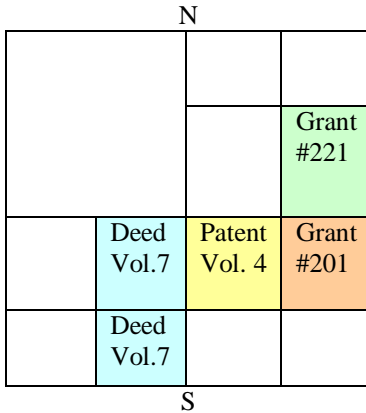
by Karen Beth and Marian Burmester

Lemuel Cooper Land Grant #201 – 24th of April 1820

The North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section four in Township Nine North of Range four East in the District of lands Subject to Sale at Mineral Point Wisconsin Containing forty acres.

Lemuel Cooper Land Grant #221 – 24th of April 1820

The South East quarter of the North East quarter of Section four in Township Nine North of Range four East in the District of lands Subject to sale at Mineral Point Wisconsin Containing forty acres.



Patent: Vol. 4 – P. 485-486

July 7, 1863

Grantee: **Cooper, Lemuel**

Grantor: State of Wisconsin

NOTE: East of Road (House on it).

The North West quarter of the South East quarter of section No. Four (4) in Township No. Nine (9), North of Range No. Four (4) East, containing forty (40) acres, more or less, according to Government Survey and situated in the County of Sauk.

Deed: Vol.7, Pages 535-536

Date of Reception: March 11, 1865

Grantee: **Cooper, Lemuel** -\$400

Grantor: Conger S. Stowell, Admr.

NOTE: West of Road (Marsh).

The South East quarter of the South West quarter of section No. Four in Township No. Nine (9) North of Range No. Four (4) East; and--the North East quarter of the South West quarter of said section Four and Range.

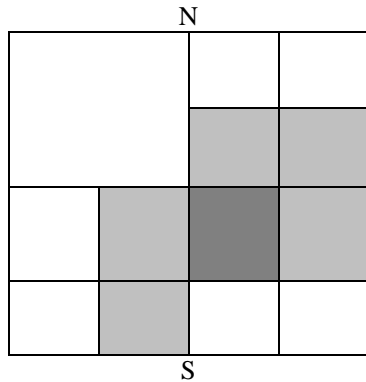
WC Pbt (Will & Probate) #82891 Misc. D – P. 623

Grantee: Lemuel Cooper

Grantor: Matilda Cooper et al

24th of February 1884

6th of May 1884



Deed: Vol. 55 – P. 477 # 106904C

February 6, 1894

Sealed 29th of November 1893

Grantee (buyer): **William Jenewin** - \$4,500

Grantor (seller): Thomas J. Cooper, et al

The South Half of the North East quarter and the North Half of the South East quarter and the East half of the South West quarter all in section Four (4) Town (9) Range (4) containing 240 acres more or less except that portion taken for public road.....

Everything in gray in the diagram at left is from the area described in the above document. The darker gray block indicates where the buildings sat.

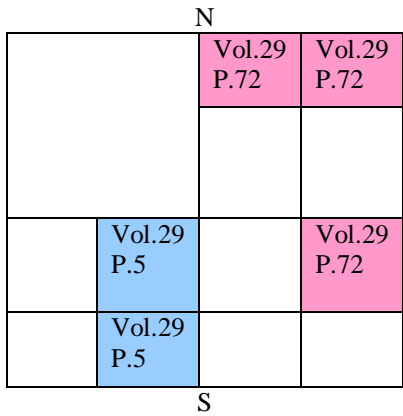
Mortgage: Vol. 29 – P. 5 - #107124A

March 3, 1894

Grantee: J. N. Magli - \$1,000

Grantor: William Jenewin

The South East quarter (1/4) of the South West quarter (1/4) and the North East of South West quarter (1/4) in Section no. four (4) Town. (9) Range four (4) East containing Eighty acres more or less.



Mortgage: Vol. 29 – P. 72 # 107385A

April 3, 1894

Grantee: Henry Scholl - \$1,200

Grantor: William Jenewin

The North one half of the North East quarter and the North East quarter of the South East quarter all of Section four (4) Township Nine (9) Range Four (4) East 120 acres more or less according to Government Survey.

DEED: Vol. 86 - Page 145

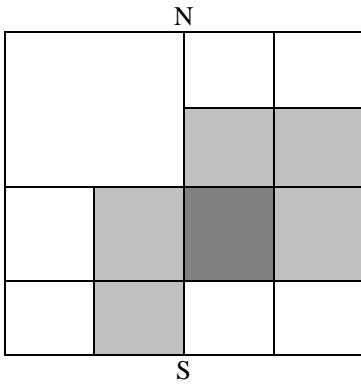
Date of Reception: March 25, 1904

Grantee: **Alois Brickl** - \$13,500

Grantor: Wm. Jenewin et ux

The south half (1/2) of the North East quarter (1/4): the north half (1/2) of the South East quarter (1/4) and the east half (1/2) of the South West quarter (1/4) and a strip described as follows:all in Section No. four (4) Township No. Nine (9) North and Range No. four (4) East... .. containing in all 239 1/2 acres more or less.

Everything in gray in the diagram at left is from the area described in the above document. The darker gray block indicates where the buildings sat.



W. DEED: Vol. 106 - Page 578 # 169983

Date of Reception: Jan. 12, 1916

Grantee: **Anton Brickl** - \$10,000

Grantor: Alois Brickl and Justina Brickl, his wife

... .. The South west quarter (1/4) of the North East quarter (1/4); the North West quarter (1/4) of the South East quarter (1/4); the North East quarter (1/4) of the South West quarter (1/4) and that part of the South East quarter (1/4) of the South West quarter (1/4) laying North of the highway running in an easterly direction through the forty except one half (1/2) acre off the East side of the last named parcel hereto for deeded to W.B. Constantine, all in section Four (4) Town Nine (9) North and Range Four (4) East

Everything in gray in the diagram at left is from the area described in the above document. The darker gray block indicates where the buildings sat.

