



Who were the grandparents of **MILO ANDRUS** OUR GREAT PIONEER ANCESTOR?

*Isn't it time to find out?
Let's all pitch in!*

I promise this: if you will learn more about the people who share with you a common ancestry, your life will be richer, and more satisfying.

23 February, 2004

Dear Fellow Descendant,

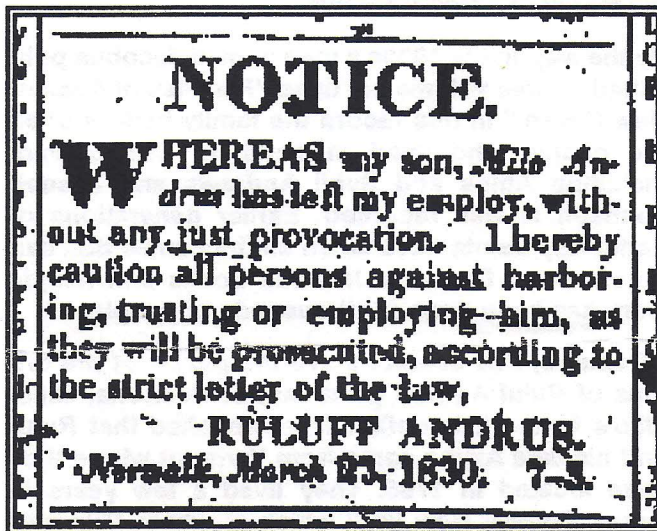
Here it is 171 years since Milo Andrus joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and neither he nor his descendants have proved the identity of even one of his grandparents. A lot of credible work has been done and a lot of theories have been explored, but we have some hard problems. Are we just going to forget about those problems or are we going to solve them?

One descendant NOT willing to forget about it is **Laura Anderson** {The daughter-in-law of Beth (the sister of Hyrum) Andrus, the daughter of Leslie Andrus, the son of Newton Andrus, who was the son of Milo Andrus and Jane Munday}. Laura is a professional genealogist with over 15 years experience.

Laura has come to this conclusion: **THE WAY TO BE SURE IS TO EXAMINE THOROUGHLY ALL OF THE SOLID LEADS! So what is solid?**

Milo Andrus, born 6 March 1814 in New York State. He moved to Brownhelm (changed to Henrietta in 1827), in Huron (changed to Lorain in 1824) County, Ohio, near Lake Erie. The teenage Milo and his father, Ruluff Andrus had a stormy winter in 1830, as you can see from the NOTICE that appeared in the Huron (Ohio) Reflector newspaper in March of that year. His mother, Azuba (maiden name Smith), died 1 January 1832 when Milo was nearly 18.

Milo married Abigail Jane Daley 14 February 1833 (Did he notice it was Valentine's Day?) and joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints about month later on 12 March 1833. The Daleys were already members of the Church, and Milo was friendly with Abigail's brothers, and to say the least, with Abigail.



Milo's father, Ruluff (or Ruluf) spelled his last name several ways: Andrus, Address, Andres Andrews. Ruluff and Azuba went from Vermont to New York State after 1800 and from New York to Ohio in the fall of 1817.

Those are the major solid details!

Milo thought that his mother's parents were named John and Sarah Smith.

A ha! Here we are getting away from the solid. We are getting already into what is supposed. More of the supposed details will appear in the rest of this letter. We need to match the supposed with the solid to get more solid information about those grandparents.

was Milo's grandmother SYBIL ANDREWS?

Millo Andrus wrote that his father, Ruluf (Rulus) came from Hartford, Connecticut. Diligent search of the records of Hartford and the towns near Hartford have given no trace of a Ruluf Andrus, or Andrews or Andress or Andres.

Diligent search years ago established that a boy, Ruluf Andrews was assigned to a guardian, Joseph Johnson who lived in Hamden, Connecticut. Joseph Johnson was related by marriage to the family of Amos Andrews of Hamden, near Cheshire in southern Connecticut, part of the area previously called the New Haven Colony. Parentage of this Ruluf for whom Joseph Johnson became a guardian was obliterated in the documentation.

Amos Andrews had a daughter named Sybil for whom there is no record of marriage. However, when she died at age 38, her tombstone read, "Mrs. Sybil Andrews." She died just four months before the assignment of this Ruluf to the guardianship of Joseph Johnson.

Oh yes, one more piece of circumstantial evidence. Ruluf in Vermont named his first daughter Sybil.

None, or even all of this proves that Milo's father, Ruluf, came from Connecticut or that he was from the family of Amos Andrews.

By the way, in the 1930s a man named Jacobus published a three volume set titled "Families of Ancient New Haven." In this record the family history of all the people who lived in southern Connecticut, including Amos and Sybil Andrews and Joseph Johnson is well recorded. Earlier generations of Latter-day Saints have taken all the names that can be extracted from the Jacobus books and temple work has been done for thousands of people.

Of course, this doesn't solve the puzzle of the origins of Ruluf Andrus (Andress) of Henrietta, Ohio, Milo's father. It is definitely established that Ruluf and his wife Azuba came from Vermont where they were located in 1795. They lived a few years in Essex County, New York which is where Milo was born as one of the younger children.

There were Andrus families living in Massachusetts in the 1700s. Many of the settlers in Vermont came from the other New England states. Was Ruluf born in Vermont? In Massachusetts? In Connecticut? In the 1880 census two of Ruluff's children reported that their father was born in Vermont.

The only way to find out for sure who Ruluf was and where he came from is through thorough research. There's a plan for that research.

ARE YOU STILL WITH US?

Ray B. Andrus, the Family Organization's Research Coordinator, wants you to know about an American family, the Ruluff and Azuba Andrus Family, which was formed in Vermont, although we have no record of the marriage. They had children in Vermont, and then in Essex County, New York. You see, Essex County, New York is adjacent to Lake Champlain, which forms part of the border between New York and Vermont, not far from Fort Ticonderoga, Vt.

MORE SOLID? INFORMATION

Milo said that the family came from Vermont and moved to Essex County, New York. Ruluf and Azuba's oldest child, Sybil was born in Vermont 23 April 1796. Their second child, Oran, was born on 10 April 1797. A third child, Almon, was born in Poultney, Vermont 10 April 1800, while a fourth child, Sarah Minerva was born in Essex County, New York 22 September 1802.

Six more children, Carlo, Erasmus, Harwin, Emily, Milo #1 and Milo #2 were born to Azuba and Ruluf in Essex County, New York. Erasmus, Harwin and Milo #1 died in childhood and the name Milo was given to a second child, the one from whom we descend. Milo #2 was born on 6 March 1814. During the next three years the family moved, first to Dunkirk, New York where Lucinda was born and then to Brownshelm, Ohio where Evaline Charlottie was born 1 October 1817. Azuba bore another daughter, Harriet, in Ohio.

More details about this family and how they were part of the Henrietta, Ohio community can be communicated later. In any event, the family grew up and were successful in Ohio. They were part of a group who likewise came from Vermont and Northern New York State. Substantial information about this community as they lived in Ohio is becoming available through Laura's research.

WHAT HAS BEEN SUPPOSED?

The background of Ruluf Andrus before the time of his marriage in Vermont is blank! The side bar about Sybil Andrews gives details that might still be the story, but there is absolutely no proof.

The background of Azuba Smith is full of supposition, as you can see in the side bar on the next page of this letter. The Ancestral File states the connection with the Samuel and Azuba June Smith family of Stamford, Connecticut, but that is based on the supposition that somehow Azuba and Polly (or Mary) Smith of Vermont somehow fit into this Connecticut family. It's a very long stretch.

WHAT HAS BEEN DISCREDITED?

Azuba, Milo's mother WAS NOT the daughter of Samuel Smith and Azuba June Smith of Stamford, Connecticut.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

One sensible path of study is to go to Henrietta, Ohio and learn all that is available about the Andrus (Andress, Andres) family that settled there about 1817. The people who came as a group from Vermont and New York with the Andrus Family to the settlement of Henrietta, Ohio may have in their records some enlightening information.

Elena Goodworth some years ago and Laura Anderson more recently have been to Henrietta and this line of research is beginning to shed more light on the subject. Ruluff owned a hotel there in Henrietta. The building is still standing. Apparently the community was close and they worked together. Three of the Andrus daughters married three of the sons of Squire Abbott who were part of the group.

Of course, the time required to follow the families of this group back to Vermont will be extensive. Getting all the information available in Ohio will be a necessary prelude to digging in Vermont.

Many of the Vermont records from tiny villages that existed in the 1790s have never been microfilmed. It will be necessary to have as many solid leads as possible from Ohio before extensive Vermont research is done.

the credentials of LAURA ANDERSON

Laura Anderson has been doing genealogy since she was 13. In 1986 Laura was working on some of her German ancestry and she hired Karla Nurnburg to help her. Karla had a BS in History from BYU with emphasis on genealogy. Within six months Karla hired Laura to help with some of her research projects. They brought in Suzanne Scott whose day job was at the Salt Lake City Family History Center. Suzanne spoke—and read—6 languages and at one time she oversaw 40 countries at the Family History Center. The three of them worked together for some time on many projects.

Laura acknowledges that in the course of 5 years she learned a great deal from Karla and Suzanne. Through this intense on-the-job experience she learned advanced research techniques and she gained an appreciation for the value of accuracy over guesswork. She believes that if one digs through known, proven information, one will be led into the unknown, as a true reward for diligence. Their business partnership discontinued because Karla developed health problems and Suzanne died from a tragic auto-pedestrian accident.

Laura started working in earnest on the Milo's grandparents problems 3 years ago. She does not bill the Family Organization for the time she puts in. She has been to Ohio twice in 2003. If we help with expenses, she will be able to spend a lot more time in Ohio and Vermont.

who were the parents of AZUBA SMITH?

Milo knew that his mother was named Azuba (or Azubah) Smith. He thought her parents were John and Sarah Smith and he was baptized for them in Nauvoo at a time when men were baptized for women. Milo knew that his mother came from Vermont, along with his father as they moved to Essex County, New York, where Milo was born, and then to Brownhelm, Ohio. When Milo was 10 they moved to East Norwalk, Ohio. Milo's mother died in 1832. Milo married and joined the Church in 1833.

While Azubah might seem uncommon to you, it is a Bible name (I Kings 22:42), and who wouldn't want to have at least one Azubah in the family? Well, the Smiths in Vermont didn't seem to name many babies Azuba in 1777, the year our ancestor was born. Ten John and Sarah Smith couples were in Vermont about that time. Not one Azubah or Azuba was mentioned in records that have been examined.

In Stamford, Connecticut, on Long Island Sound at this time there was a Samuel Smith and Azuba June Smith Family. The names of their children are to be found in the Stamford, Connecticut records. However, it has been proved that the Azuba daughter of that family IS NOT the mother of our Milo!

Lacking an Azuba-containing Smith family in Vermont, some enterprising researcher in the past has decided that Azuba, Milo's mother, came from this Smith family in Connecticut, even though there is no record for that family ever being in Vermont. So, if you look on the internet Ancestry File for Milo, you will be led to believe that you are descended from Samuel Smith and Azuba June Smith and their ancestors. Temple work has been done for them.

It is also known that Milo's mother had a sister named Mary (sometimes called Polly, a common thing in those days) who married Uriah Hancock. This family was known by Milo and he was baptized for a cousin, Smith Hancock who had been killed in a farming accident. The Hancock family also were residents of Brownhelm, Ohio, having come from Vermont, via New York. Here again, there was no Mary or Polly in the Samuel and Azuba June Smith family of Stamford Connecticut, but the researcher of the past tried to squeeze her in.

Our practicing Family genealogists are sure that Azuba, Milo's mother, did not come from the Connecticut family, but rather from some Smith family in Vermont. The planned research is expected to be the best way to establish the ancestry of Azuba Smith Andress, Milo's mother.

What is planned? Find out all about the family in (Brownhelm) Henrietta, Ohio where they were absolutely known to have lived. Find out about their friends and neighbors there who came from Vermont. With all that information, go to Vermont and try to put the puzzle together there. More detail in the body of this letter.

why should you care?

In the end that's up to you!

For the present, we think it is important for you to know the situation. That's why Laura Anderson and Ray B. Andrus, our Milo Andrus Family Research Coordinator, have worked with us to produce this detailed letter for your information. You may want to keep the letter for future reference.

Laura has spent her own time and a substantial amount of her own money during the past three years. She has made three trips to Henrietta, Ohio where she has taken pictures and accumulated information about the early days of that community. Only recently has the Milo Andrus Family Organization extended to her any financial support.

We would like to extend more. That is why we are writing to you.

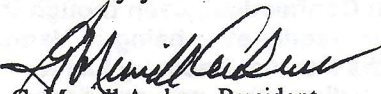
We can provide financial support for Laura, and perhaps others to go, first to Ohio to finish up the research on the Dennisons, the Abbotts, the Durands, the Harris and the other families who moved into Brownhelm from New York and Vermont along with the Ruluff and Azubah Andrus Family.

With the information reaped in Ohio, it will be possible to go back to Vermont to explore the records of villages which existed there in the 1790s, when Vermont was a very young state in the brand new United States.

All this can be done, if YOU and the other recipients of this letter will make your tax-exempt donations to the Milo Andrus Family Organization.

Will you be able to do this? EVEN A SMALL AMOUNT WILL BE HELPFUL. Please use the enclosed form **OR** use our web site, www.miloandrus.org

Sincerely your brother,



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P. S. Those who respond to this appeal will receive special recognition on the Milo Andrus Family Organization web site.

P. P. S. If this appeal is successful, the Milo Andrus Family Organization will proceed to do Family History on the wives of Milo Andrus in 2005.