

Chicago Reunion, August, 1995

*L-R standing on
brick sidewalk:*

Steve Close
Leigh Williams
Marion Anderson
Scharlott Rus
Harriet
Lionberger

*L-R standing on
Steps:*

Leona Close
Maureen (Close)
Williams
Rev. Grant
Haskell
Aileen Vincett
George Vincett

*Photo provided by
Scharlott Rus*



Research in the Newberry Library, Chicago

Tom Haskell

Richard A. Haskell

Joe Wellborn

August 5, 1995

Lunch at Newberry Library

Chris Haskell

Tom Haskell

Richard A. Haskell

Liz Haskell

Scharlott Rus

August 5, 1995



REUNION 1995

report by

Mrs. Marion S. Anderson, Secretary

The Haskell Family Association reunion held in Chicago August 4-6, 1995 is now just a pleasant memory. We are greatly indebted to Diana Haskell and her sister Anita, co-chairpersons, for planning, coordinating, and orchestrating this very successful event.

Members and guests who had arrived at the Hotel Bismarck by Friday afternoon met in the hospitality suite reserved for our use. Here we renewed friendships made at earlier reunions, made new friends, and socialized while enjoying soft drinks or coffee and snacks. We each received a special reunion folder containing maps of the city along with information and descriptions of various museums and other places of interest in Chicago, as well as maps showing the rates of travel within the United States from 1790-1930 and density of population in the country 1790-1870.

After dinner at a local restaurant, where Stevie Wonder was sighted entering as we were leaving, the group dispersed, some back to the hotel others for an evening architectural walking tour of the area. HFA member Tom Sliwa of Aurora, IL was our very knowledgeable guide. Everyone seemed to enjoy the tour and we are very grateful to Tom for volunteering to spend an evening with us on a "walk about."

During the day on Saturday the group again split up, some choosing to sightsee and/or shop, others to spend a day doing research at the Newberry Library. Diana Haskell who is Curator of Modern Manuscripts at the Newberry arranged for us to use the resources in the family and local history collections at this famous institution. David Thackery, head of the genealogy section, introduced us to the holdings after which we were on our own. Diana Haskell and Karen Knudstrup were available to assist if needed. After a busy morning we enjoyed a box lunch in the very impressive "Board Room" of the library and then it was back to work/research.

Saturday evening the whole group, members and guests, met for the banquet. It was our first opportunity to gather everyone together in one place. Following pre-dinner festivities and lots of

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socializing we sat down to a delicious dinner. The invocation was given by Rev. Grant Haskell of Leesburg, FL. For those who do not know Rev. Haskell, it was his grandfather Ulysses G. Haskell who wrote, *A Short Account of the Descendants of William Haskell of Gloucester, Massachusetts*, which appeared in the *Historic Collections of the Essex Institute*, Vol XXXII, 1896. After dessert and coffee, Chairman Richard E. Haskell introduced our speaker Dr. Theodore Karamanski of Loyola University's American History Department.

Dr. Karamanski holds the bachelor's and master's degree and a doctorate in history from Loyola, where he is Assistant Professor of History and Research and Director of the Mid-America Research Center. He is also the author of three books. Dr. Karamanski gave a very interesting and informative talk on the second migration of our ancestors from the East coast West. He illustrated his talk with a number of pertinent slides. It was a wonderful evening, but over too soon.

Sunday August 6th those of us who were able to stay on, accompanied by Anita Haskell as tour director, with Karen Knudstrup assisting, and Diana Haskell who made sure we kept to our rather tight schedule, we boarded a small bus for a four hour tour of selected areas of Chicago. As we started out Anita pointed out the boundaries of the great Chicago fire of 1871. We went through many interesting ethnic neighborhoods, as well as Lincoln Park, we passed Jane Adams' Hull House, and the University of Chicago among many other places of interest. We drove through Graceland Cemetery where many of Chicago's wealthy and famous are buried. There was an astounding array of grandiose monuments and mausoleums. We understand that at least one Haskell is buried in the cemetery. Anita proved to be a very knowledgeable guide and Diana and Karen provided additional valuable commentary.

We were able to spend several hours touring two historic homes in the Prairie Avenue Historic District. The first, the Henry B. Clarke house is Chicago's oldest surviving residence. It was built in 1836 in the Greek Revival style. The house was moved from its original site to the Prairie Ave. Historic District in 1977. It was restored to the period 1836-1860 and opened to the public as a

house museum in 1982. The Clarke house is adjacent to the John J. Glessner mansion, which was designed by the noted architect Henry Hobson Richardson. Construction was begun in 1886 and completed in 1887. The house is now restored to its 1890 appearance and is open to the public. The Glessner house is important as it is the only remaining structure of four that Richardson designed for Chicago. Prairie Avenue was home to some of Chicago's most prosperous citizens including the Pullmans, Armours, Fields, and Kimballs. Haskells apparently lived on Prairie Avenue too, somewhere south of the Glessners. Does anyone know which Haskell family this was? We really enjoyed the house tour and the docents who led our two groups were excellent.

While returning to the hotel we enjoyed a bag lunch and soft drinks prepared by our leaders. On the way back we did more sightseeing, we traveled along Lake Shore Drive past the Adler Planetarium and the John G. Shedd Aquarium and Lake Michigan and craned our necks to look up at the Sears Tower. All in all it was an interesting all too brief glimpse of the city, particularly for those of us who had never been to Chicago before.

Our thanks to Diana, Anita, and Karen and Tom for making our weekend such a wonderful, rewarding, and fun time.



Seated in foreground, Marion S. Anderson, seated directly behind her is Diana Haskell, standing left to right, backs to camera are Karen Knudstrup and Harriet Lionberger.



Top: Banquet 5 August 1995
 Left, Tom Sliwa, Illinois
 Right, William "Bill" Haskell, Illinois

Middle: Banquet 5 August 1995
 Left, Diana Haskell
 Right, Ted Karamanski, our speaker

Bottom: Hospitality Suite 4 August 1995
 Left to right, George Vincett, Aileen Vincett,
 Elizabeth Haskell

Top: Hospitality Suite, 4 August 1995
 Clockwise: back to camera Diana Haskell, profile Anita
 Haskell, hidden Lynn Haskell, Rev. Grant Haskell, pro-
 file Richard E. Haskell.

Middle: Newberry Library, 5 August 1995
 Lunch: Left to right, Harriett Lionberger, Karen Knud-
 strup, Diana Haskell, Neal Haskell, Bernard Haskell

Bottom: Banquet, 5 August 1995
 Left, Joe Wellborn, Texas
 Right, Tom Haskell, Nebraska



Top: Banquet, 5 August 1995

Left to right, partially hidden Lynn Haskell, Richard E. Haskell, Aric Rysdahl, Holli (Haskell) Rysdahl, standing Avril Rysdahl, Amie Rysdahl

Middle: Newberry Library, 5 August 1995
Seated, Richard A. Haskell, Massachusetts
Standing, Tom Haskell, Nebraska

Not shown: Very, very busy gal who was everywhere, doing everything all at once as co-chairperson and doesn't appear in any of the photos - Anita Haskell!

Top: Banquet, 5 August 1995

Left, Harriett Lionberger, California
Right, Scharlott Rus, California

Middle: Banquet, 5 August 1995

Left: Richard E. Haskell of Arkansas greets Richard E. Haskell of Pennsylvania right

Bottom: Henry B. Clark House, 6 August 1995

L-R standing on brick sidewalk Steve Close, Leigh Williams, Marion Anderson, Scharlott Rus and Harriett Lionberger

L-R standing on steps Leona Close, Maureen (Close) Williams, Rev. Grant Haskell, Aileen Vincett, George Vincett Photo Courtesy of Scharlott Rus