

Paul Cotter
Rockvale, TN 37153

Gilbert Lee Anderson
Clinton, TN 37716

My written Interview is compiled with a personal Interview with Paul Cotter, adopted son and via e-mail interview with Paul's cousin, Gilbert Lee Anderson, both grandsons of Henry Albert Anderson, 2nd Assistant, 17 September 1910 –7 March 1912 and 1st Assistant, 8 March 1912–1 January 1915 (End date unsure), Thomas A. Tag book.

My personal Interview with Paul Cotter was held on September 20, 2008 at Big Sable Point Lighthouse while I was helping during the last bus day for season 2008.

Paul has visited the BSPL several times and told of his relationship to his grandfather, Henry Albert Anderson but it was never documented.



Henry Albert Anderson

Gilbert Lee Anderson sent the following information via e-mail.



Grandma Grandpa Anderson
Daughter Alice Cotter in the
middle circa 1935

Several years ago, I was amazed of all the history I found while searching many agencies. I have a copy of this search and will try to locate it soon and send the documentations on to Big Sable Point Lighthouse.

Our grandfather, Henry Albert Anderson, was born, 21 October 1878 in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin,

With his Norwegian blood, he soon gained a great love for the sea. He became a sailor first and served on a Tug boat in Lake Erie. His first year in the lighthouse service was on the light-ships stationed at the Ile Aux Galets Light on the Chicago to Mackinac channel. Leaving that position he became the Keeper of the Light at Big Point Sable in 1910.

"Lighthouse Keeper" and/or "Keeper of the Light" are different terms that Grandpa Anderson enjoyed as the title changed during his tenure.

While living in the Lighthouse, near Ludington, he met Ida Marie Greenwald, of German descent, and they were married in Ludington on February 28, 1911.

Barely nine months later, they had their first child. The doctor from Ludington could not make the trip to the Lighthouse for the delivery, therefore, grandpa delivered my father, Gilbert Henry Anderson 1 January 1912. The Doctor finally arrived three days after the birth. Gilbert Lee Anderson was able to retrieve a copy of the birth certificate from Michigan State Bureau of

PLACE OF BIRTH **CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH**
 Delayed Registration State office number
 158 4639

County Mason
 Township
 Village or City Ludington **MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**
 Bureau of Records and Statistics

FULL NAME OF CHILD Gilbert Henry Anderson

Sex <u>Male</u>	If plural births <u>single birth</u>	Legitimate? <u>YES</u>	Date of birth <u>Jan 1st 1912</u>
FATHER Full name <u>Henry Albert Anderson</u>		MOTHER Full maiden name <u>Ide Marie Greenwald</u>	
Residence and post office address <u>Ludington, Mich.</u>			
Color <u>white</u>	Age at last birthday <u>33</u> (Years)	Color <u>white</u>	Age at last birthday <u>30</u> (Years)
Birthplace <u>Wisconsin</u>	Birthplace <u>Michigan</u>		
Summary of supporting evidence: <u>Baptismal record</u>			
Number of child of this mother <u>1</u>		Number of children, of this mother, living <u>1</u>	
(Including this birth) (At the time of this birth)			
In the probate court: County of <u>Mason</u>			
Satisfactory evidence establishing the facts of the above birth has been presented, and the State Commissioner of Health is hereby directed to record the same.			
Given under my hand and seal this <u>20th</u> day of <u>January</u> 19 <u>42</u>			
<i>Orville Ferguson</i> Judge of Probate.			
Recorded and filed in Michigan Department of Health, <u>1-21</u> , 19 <u>42</u>			

Statistics, it does not state that Gilbert Henry Anderson was born at the Big Sable Point Lighthouse but reads, Ludington, MI. It is framed and displayed in the Gift Shop at Big Sable Point Lighthouse.

This will be our first actual birth certificate of a child being born at Big Sable Point Lighthouse. I am sure there were others born at the Lighthouse, but as of this date, we have no proof other than this of Gilbert Henry Anderson.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct representation of the birth facts on file with the Division for Vital Records, Michigan Department of Community Health. The person named on this record is now **DECEASED**.

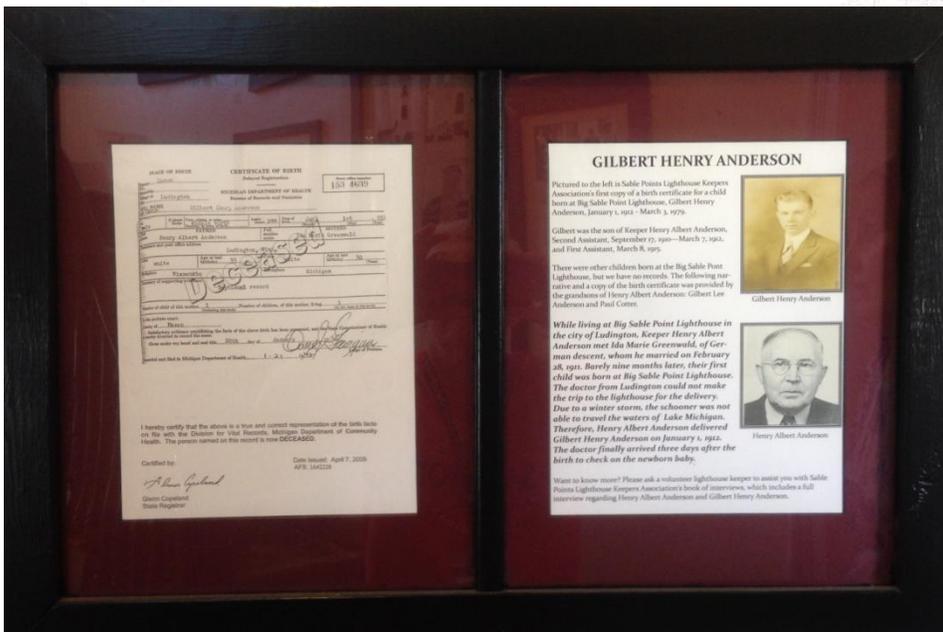
Certified by:

Date Issued: April 7, 2009
 AFS: 1642228

Glenn Copeland

Glenn Copeland
 State Registrar

Their second child, Alice Amanda Anderson, Paul Cotter's mother was born 30 October 1914 at Ludington Hospital just a week after Grandpa's birthday. Alice became a nurse and married Dr. Edward Cotter. Having no children themselves, they adopted 2 boys, one being Paul Cotter and the other child named John, who is deceased.





Henry Albert Anderson



They spent seven years at the Big Sable Lighthouse before being transferred to the Menominee Light in 1918.

The lighthouse was equipped with kerosene fueled lamps and had a steam fog signals. Everyday Grandpa had to lug those containers of kerosene from the pier up all 130 steps to the top of the tower in order to keep the light burning to guide the mariners safely. Commercial power was established sometime in the 50's.

Henry Anderson left BSPL in 1915 (End date unsure), and moved to Menominee, MI, North Pier Light Station taking the ferry from Ludington to Wisconsin.

The U.S. Government had a brick duplex in Menominee, fairly close to the lighthouse. Henry and Ida lived there as there was not any living quarters in the Menominee lighthouse. I'm not certain whether the Coast Guard or the Lighthouse Service claimed ownership of the duplex. Grandpa Anderson retired in 1942, and he and Ida purchased their very first home at 4129 North Shore Drive. Grandpa Henry was born 21 October 1878 in Sturgeon Bay, WI. He passed away 18 September 1956 in Menominee, MI.

Henry Albert Anderson is buried in the Riverside Cemetery in Menominee, Michigan, as is his wife Ida and their son Gilbert Henry Anderson.

I so enjoyed my brief Interview with Paul Cotter and the information via from Gilbert Lee Anderson and am excited to put this on display in the Archival files and 3 notebooks on display for reading material.

Henry Anderson Dies Today At 77

Henry Albert Anderson, 77, of 4129 North Shore Drive, Menominee, who served with the U.S. Lighthouse Service and as U.S. Coast Guard lightkeeper from 1918 until his retirement in 1942, died at 9:20 a.m. today in his home following a long illness.

Mr. Anderson was born October 21, 1878, in Sturgeon Bay and took to the water early in life, shipping aboard a Lake Erie tug before he entered the lighthouse service in 1910. His first job was on lightships stationed at Ile Aux Galets Light on the Chicago to Mackinac channel. A year later he took over as the keeper of the light at Big Sable Point, 12 miles north of Ludington.

On February 28, 1911, he married the former Ida Greenwald in Ludington, and the couple spent seven years at Big Sable before coming to Menominee in 1918. At that time he took over the Menominee light upon the retirement of Eugene Kimball and manned the kerosene lamps and steam fog signals until the station was rebuilt and electrified in 1927, and continued until his retirement in 1942.

Survivors include his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Edward Cotter of Hammond, Ind., who has been here caring for her father for the past week; a son, Gilbert, of Menominee; four grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Louise Sanders of Green Bay and Mrs. Ella Rowe of Milwaukee.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Cadieux Funeral Home with Rev. Alfred Hunter officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home from 2 p.m. Wednesday until the funeral hour.



Gilbert Henry Anderson, son
of Henry Albert Anderson



Paul Coter, grandson of Henry Albert
Anderson



Gilbert Lee Anderson,
grandson of Henry Albert
Anderson