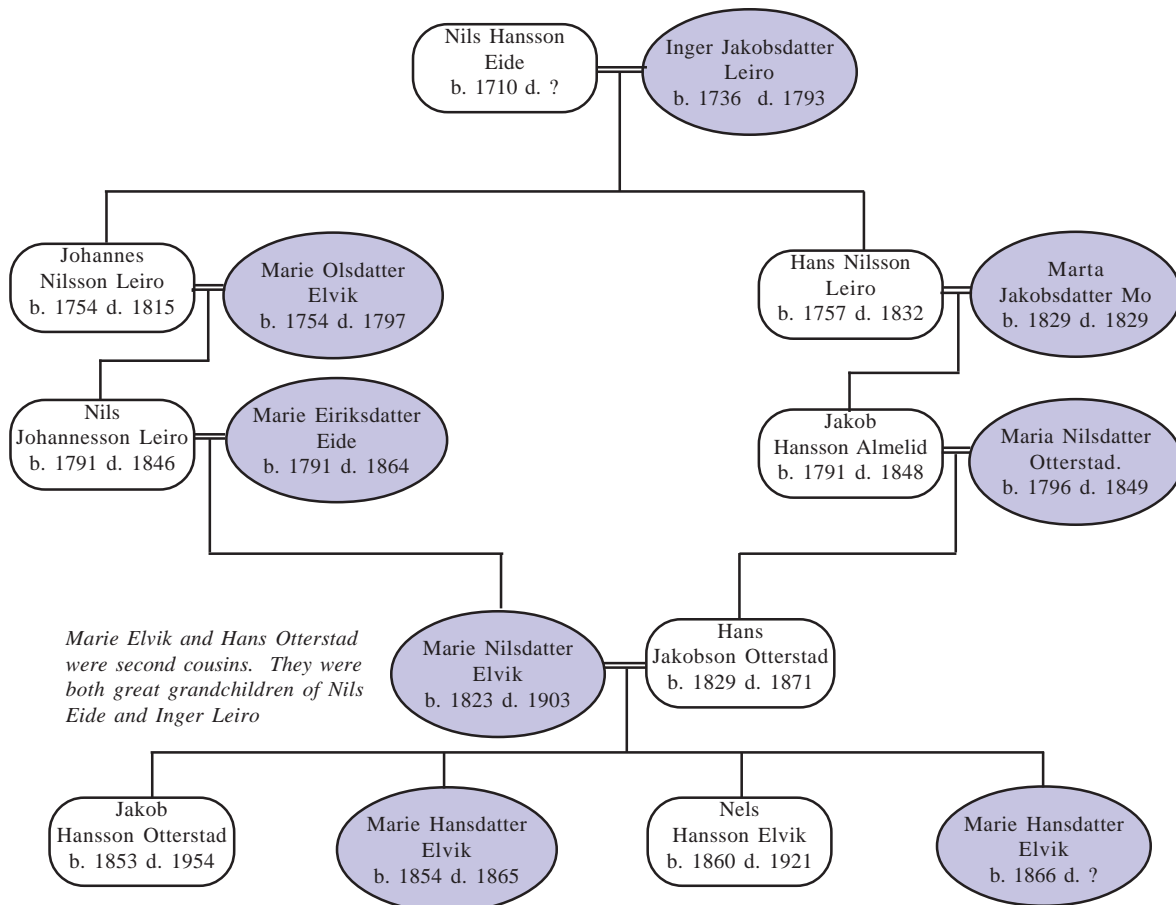


# Nels Elvick's ancestral chart

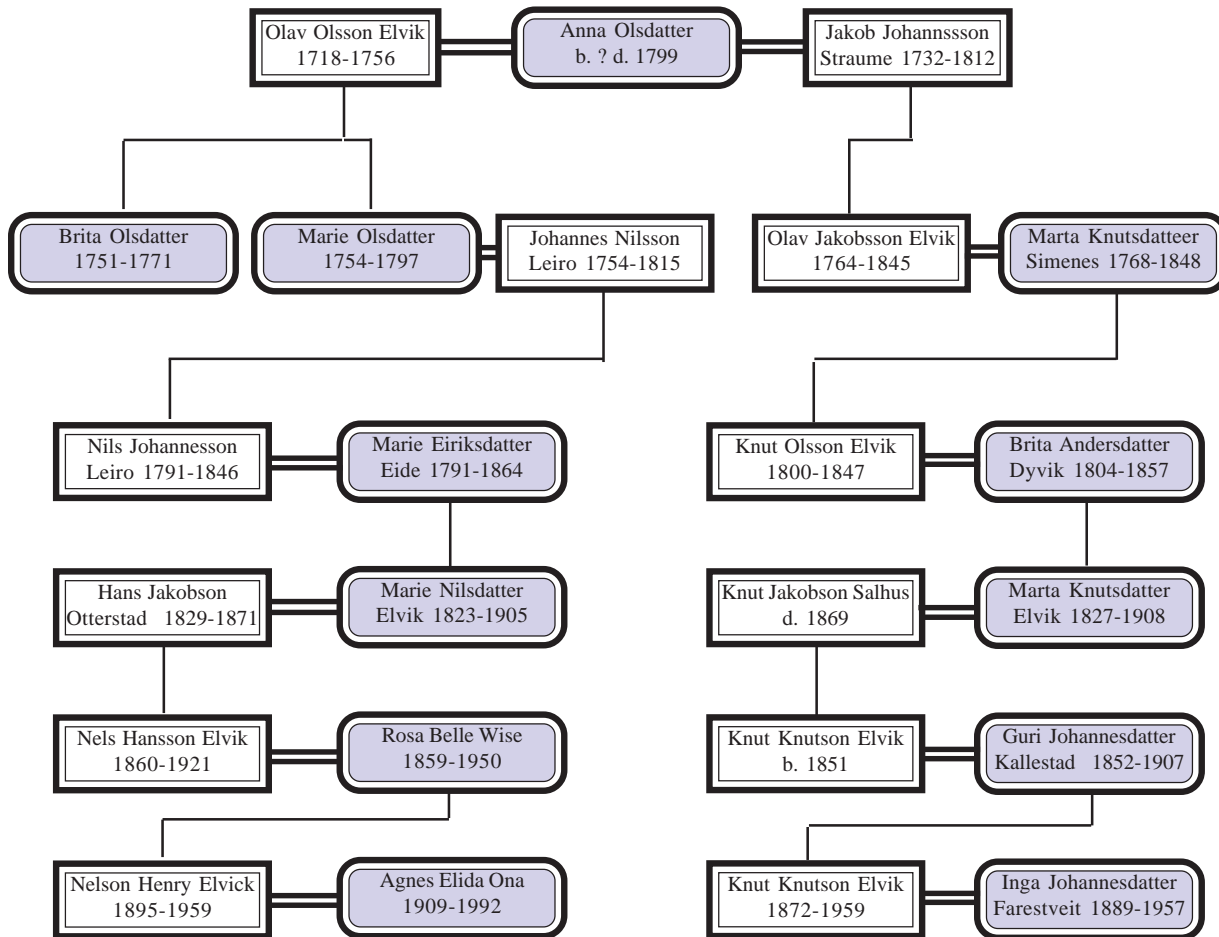


*The Marie Elvik born in 1854 died about 1865. When a child died, it was common to give a subsequent child the same name.*

Both the Elvik and Otterstad names were handed down from the maternal side of the family. In the rural areas of Norway it was common for people to take their surname from the name of the farm where they lived. Sometimes when a couple married they would settle on the farm where the wife was from, and then the surname would come from the wife. This occurred several times in the above family. Nils Eide apparently became Nils Leiro when he married Inger Leiro. The children carried the Leiro name. When Jakob Almelid married Maria Otterstad, they settled at Otterstad and he took the Otterstad surname. When Hans Otterstad married Marie Elvik, they settled at Elvik and he took the Elvik surname. His son, Jakob, was Jakob Elvik at birth, but he inherited the Otterstad farm and took the name Otterstad when he moved there. His widowed mother Marie Elvik was apparently living in his household when she died, and she is buried in the Mo cemetery as Marie Otterstad. If our present day practice of always taking the paternal surname had been followed in every generation, my last name would have been Eide instead of Elvick.

When Hans Leiro married Marta Mo they settled at Almelid in the county of Modalen, so Nels Elvick's ancestry extended into both counties. Otterstad, Almelid and Mo are in Modalen, while Eide, Leiro and Elvik are in Vaksdal. The separation of counties here is significant. A high mountain range defines the boundary, and travel and communication between the two counties was possible only by a roundabout route by boat, and this was before the days of outboard motors. Elvik, Otterstad, Eide and Mo were right on the fjord and were directly accessible by boat. Almelid and Leiro were inland and therefore more remote. All of these farms except Leiro are still currently inhabited. Elvik, though, since last year, has been inhabited only during the summer months.

# The Descendants of Anna Olsdatter



*The Elvik farm was actually inherited by Marie Nilsdatter Elvik's older brother, Johannes Nilson. Hans Otterstad farmed there as a tenant. Nels Hansson Elvik emigrated in 1879. In America he changed the spelling to Elvick. He married Rosa Wise in Nelson County, North Dakota in 1888.*

*Knut Elvik and Inga Farestveit immigrated to America and eventually settled in Nelson County, North Dakota, which is the same county where his half 4th cousin, Nels Hansson Elvik settled.*

When Olav Olavsson Elvik and Marie Olsdatter were married, the Elvik farm was a single unit. After she was widowed, she remarried to Jakob Johannesson Straume and the farm was split into two units, and was passed down as such to the children of the respective husbands. Today the farm is essentially a single unit again, and in the possession of Jakob Holme who is a descendant of Anna Olsdatter and Jakob Johannesson Straume. The house where Nels Elvick was born is still in use as a summer home for Jakob Holme's brother. As of the year 2003 the farm is no longer inhabited during the winter months. The Holme family still spends time there during the summer months.