

## News from Nan

### NAN'S WRITINGS

# NAN'S REMINISCENCES: L. H. RIEDEL LUMBER COMPANY

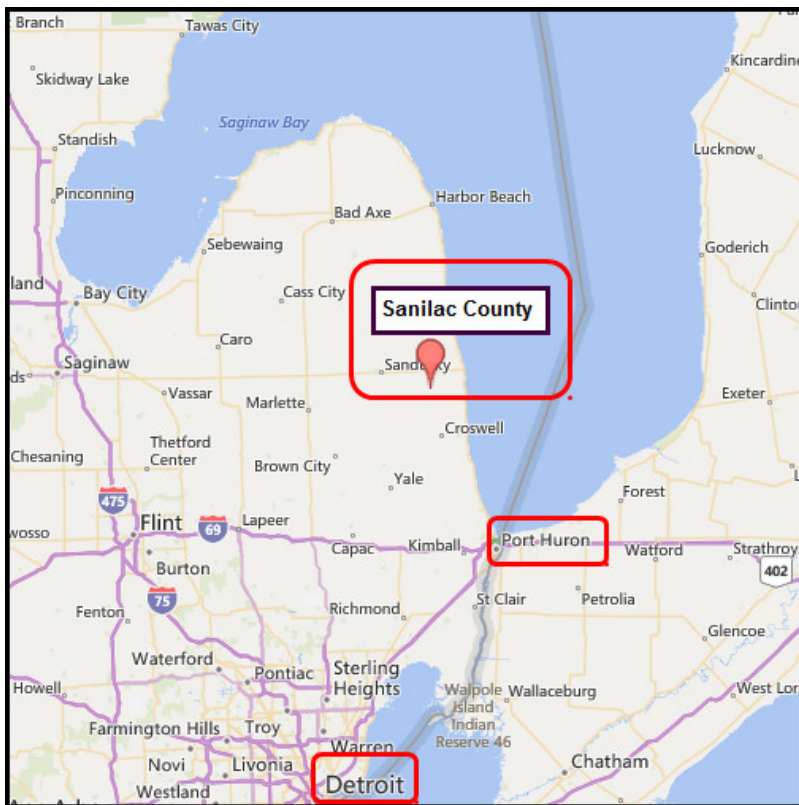
AUGUST 1, 2022 | NAN

*This post is part of a series of reminiscences that Nan (born 1906) wrote about her childhood in Minden City, Michigan. Most of the pieces were written sometime between 1990 and 1995.*

*This post (ghost-written by Anna) describes Nan's father's [Louis Hermann Riedel] business, the L. H. Riedel Lumber Company.*

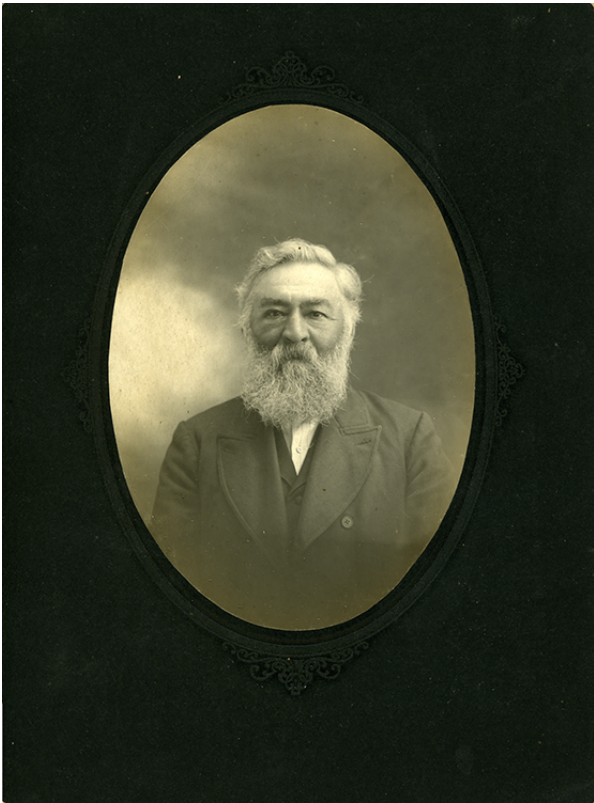


*L. H. Riedel lumber yard in Minden City, Michigan*



*The Riedel family business was always located in Sanilac County, Michigan*

Louis Riedel and his father, Heinrich Adolph, were first in the hotel business in Forestville, Michigan, the town where they had migrated from Germany in 1873. Between 1899 and 1901, Louis moved the business to Minden City, 10 miles west of Forestville, so as to be strategically located along the rail line that was being put in to connect agricultural Sanilac County with Port Huron and Detroit. The Riedel business was first a trading center for grain shipment, and later a lumber yard.



*Heinrich Adolph Riedel*

Five of Louis and Anna's six children worked in the business at one time or another. Paul, the youngest Riedel child, was co-owner when the lumber yard was sold in 1946 to Peacock Lumber Company of Port Huron, Michigan.



*Office of the L. H. Riedel Lumber Company. Louis (better known as "Louie," is seated in the foreground. Oldest son, Albert ("Al") is standing on the right. The other two men are apparently customers.*



*Louis Hermann Riedel*

After the lumber company was sold, Louis retired, and Paul Riedel continued to operate a wood manufacturing plant he had purchased during World War II. That enterprise was located in Marlette, Michigan, which was closer to Port Huron and Detroit. During the war that business had manufactured boxes for use by the U.S. Armed Forces, and after the war it changed focus to modular homes, which were in great demand nation-wide.



*Paul Riedel and his parents, Anna and Louis*

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