

The Children in Lewis Hine's Photographs

Census information about the children in the photographs.

Addie Card

Caption: *Addie Card, anemic little spinner in North Pownal Cotton Mill. Vermont, August 1910.*

Addie's census records are from 1910. She is 12 years old in the 1910 census. She was also 12 years old when Lewis Hine took her photograph.

Addie lives with her grandmother, Adalaid Harris, and her uncle, Trainor Harris. Her parents are not listed in the census.

Addie lives with her sister Annie. She has no brothers. Her four cousins also live in the house.

Addie was born in Vermont. Her grandmother was born in Massachusetts.

Addie and her sister work as spinners at the cotton factory. Her uncle also works at the cotton factory as a teamster (driver of teams of horses and wagons).

The 1910 census lists Addie both as working and going to school.

Addie probably works at the cotton factory because the family needs money. Her parents are not around and her grandmother does not work. There are also four younger children living in the house. (Other records show that her mother died before 1900. Her father was alive and worked as a house painter, but he did not live with his daughters.)

Alfred Higgs

Caption: *Group of newsies, youngest 10 years [Alfred Higgs on far right], selling Boston papers at noon. In Barre and Montpelier newsies are excused from school a little early at noon and at night in order to get to their papers earlier. Barre, Vermont, December 18, 1916.*

Alfred's census records are from 1920. He is 13 years old in 1920. Alfred was 10 years old when Lewis Hine took his photograph in 1916.

Alfred lives with his mother, Eva Higgs. His father is not listed in the census.

Alfred also lives with his seven sisters and one brother. Alfred is the oldest son.

Alfred was born in Vermont. His mother was born in England and moved to the United States in 1890. (Two of his sisters were born in other New England states.)

Alfred's two oldest sisters work, one as a stenographer at an insurance office and the other as a public school teacher.

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Alfred is listed as attending school but not working. The caption from the photograph suggests that Alfred works selling newspapers at lunch and after school.

Alfred probably works selling newspapers because the family needs extra money. There are many children in the family and his mother does not work. Selling newspapers lets him go to school and work at the same time. (Other records show that his father Charles was a granite cutter who died sometime between 1913 and 1920).

Anna Grenier

Caption: *Anna Grenier at her "speeder" Burlington, Vt. Has been here 2 years. Chace Cotton Mill. May 7, 1909. Burlington, Vermont.*

Anna's census records are from 1910. She is 18 years old in 1910. She was 17 years old when Lewis Hine took her photograph in 1909.

Anna's father, Ezra, and her mother, Emma, are listed in the census records.

Anna has two younger sisters and two younger brothers. There is also a roomer (boarder) living in the house with the family.

Anna was born in Vermont. Her parents were also born in Vermont, but her grandparents were French Canadian.

Anna's parents and younger brother work with her at the cotton mill. Their roomer, Lilian, works at the woolen mill.

Anna does not attend school. Her youngest brother and sisters go to school.

Anna is the oldest child in the family. The records show that her mother was out of work for 52 weeks in 1909, so she might be working to help her family earn money. She might also be working because her parents thought she was old enough to be working. Anna is the oldest of the children in this set of Lewis Hine photographs.

Carl Brown

Caption: *Carl Brown, eleven years old. He and his father run a farm of 160 acres in Southern Vermont. He is overgrown, sluggish, but he said: "I'd ruther go to school." Southern Vermont, August 1915.*

Carl's census records are from 1920. He is 15 in the 1920 census. The census was taken five years after Lewis Hine took his photograph.

Carl lives on a farm with his parents Robert and Laverna. His father's sister, his aunt Grace, also lives with them.

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Carl does not have any brothers or sisters.

Carl and his parents were all born in Vermont.

Only Carl's father is listed as working. He works as a farmer.

The census says that Carl has attended school in the past year.

Carl is the only child in his family and probably has to help his father on the farm. Lewis Hine took his photograph during the summer, a time when a farmer needs help with haying and other farm chores. Carl probably attends school during the winter when there is less to do on the farm. His parents might not consider helping on the farm to be the same as working in a factory.

Clarence Noel

Caption: *Youngsters making bands, cotton mill, North Pownal, Vt. Clarence Noel, 11 years old. August 1910.*

Clarence's census records are from 1910. He is 11 years old in the 1910 census. The census is from the same year as Lewis Hine's photograph of him.

Clarence lives with his father, Philix, and his mother, Rosa.

Clarence has two sisters and three brothers.

Clarence was born in Massachusetts, as were all of his siblings and his father. (Pownal, Vermont is close to the Massachusetts border). Clarence's mother is French Canadian. She came to the United States in 1879. All of his grandparents are also French Canadian.

Clarence's father, older sister and older brother are listed as working at the cotton factory. His father is a foreman, suggesting that he was in charge of other workers.

The census says that Clarence has attended school in the past year and does not work.

Clarence might be working to help earn money for his family. Since his father is a foreman at the factory, he might have Clarence work when the factory needs extra help. (His brothers David and Arthur also appear in Lewis Hine's photographs.)

John Friedman

Caption: *Three of the youngest boys working in Holden, Leonard Co., Bennington, Vt. Said they would continue to work after summer vacation. Louis Godbout (right hand end) 132 Lincoln Street. John Friedman, (Tallest) 120 Lincoln St., Joe Lacroix, (Second in height) 110 Lincoln St. Bennington, Vermont, August 1910.*

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John appears in the 1910 census records. He is 14 years old in 1910, the same year that Lewis Hine took his photograph.

John lives with his father, William, and his mother, Mary.

John has a younger sister and a younger brother.

John was born in Vermont. His parents were born in Germany and speak German. They came to the United States in 1890.

Both of John's parents are weavers at the woolen mill.

John is listed as attending school in the past year, but the caption indicates that he will continue working at the mill after summer vacation.

John is working at the factory where his parents work. He might be working during summer vacation to earn more money for his family.

Morris Levine

Caption: Morris Levine, 212 Park Street. 11 years old and sells papers every day--been selling five years. Makes 50 cents Sundays and 30 cents other days. Burlington, Vermont, December 17, 1916.

Morris is listed in the 1920 census records. He is 14 years old in 1920. This is four years after Lewis Hine took his photograph in 1916.

Morris lives with his father, Louis, and his mother, Fanny.

Morris has four sisters and five brothers. Morris is the second son.

Morris was born in New York, as was his older brother. His older sister and his parents were born in Russia. They speak Hebrew, which indicates that they are Jewish. They came to the United States in 1903. Morris' younger brothers and sisters were born in Vermont, suggesting that the family moved to Vermont in 1908.

Morris' father works as a tailor at Fort Ethan Allen. His older brother Frank works at a lumber mill. None of the other family members are listed as working outside the home.

According to the census, Morris attends school. Morris probably sells newspapers on the weekend and when he is not in school.

There are ten children in Morris' family. He probably works to earn extra money for his family. According to caption, Morris earns \$2.30 every week. That's enough money to buy a new pair of shoes.

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Sadie Finnigan

*Caption: Noon hour in drawing-in room of American Woolen Co., Winooski, Vermont. (Not the youngest girls.)
Right hand: Tessie McGrath, next Sadie Finnigan, next Bernice Bedard. Two of them look to be under 14. I
counted 20 girls like these and younger going in at 7 a.m. Winooski, Vermont, May 1909.*

Sadie is listed as Sarah in the 1910 census records. Sadie is a nickname for Sarah. Sadie is 14 in the 1910 census. When Lewis Hine took her photograph the year earlier, she was 13 years old.

Sadie lives with her parents. Her father is named Hugh (as is her older brother). Sadie's mother is also named Sarah.

Sadie has two sisters and four brothers.

Sadie was born in Vermont. Her father was born in Massachusetts, but his parents were from Ireland. Her mother was born in England and came to the United States in 1870.

Four people in Sadie's family are listed as having jobs. Sadie's father works as a laborer at a saw shop (perhaps a lumber yard or saw mill). Sadie's oldest brother and sister work at the woolen mill. Another of Sadie's brothers works as a brakeman on the railroad.

The census records show that Sadie has attended school in the past year.

Sadie might be working to help her family earn money. Lewis Hine took her photograph in the American Woolen Company, which is probably where her older siblings work.
