

94 Duringan Street,
Currumbin,
Queensland 4223,
Australia.

May 27th., 1981.

The Librarian,
Red Hook Public Library,
37 South Broadway,
Red Hook, NY 12571,
U.S.A.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am engaged on research for a biography of the Anglo-American concert and opera singer Anna Bishop (1810-1884) who, I believe enjoyed a long and close association with your town.

In December 1858, in London, Bishop married a mining speculator named Martin Schultz who was a native of Red Hook and who's family had long resided in the district. Bishop and Schultz spent the next twenty-four years dividing their time between New York and tours of North America, Australia, Asia and Africa. It was their practice, when in the United States, to spend the summer months at Red Hook, usually as guests of Schultz's family and friends. Such was Bishop's fame that I am certain she would have taken an active part in the social life of the district probably singing occasionally for private or charity functions.

In 1877 Anna Bishop's son Augustus Henry Bishop died in New York and was buried in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in Red Hook. Augustus Henry's father (Anna's first husband) was the noted English composer Sir Henry Rowley Bishop.

Seven years later Anna Bishop herself was buried beside her son on March 18th., 1884.

I am most anxious to do justice to Bishop's association with your town in the biography and I would be sincerely grateful if you could assist me with some information. I am particularly anxious to ascertain any facts about Martin Schultz and his family. Despite the enormous amount of material published about Bishop during her career very little is recorded about Schultz.

I would also be most grateful for any information that may be available from St. Paul's cemetery. I understand that Bishop's grave is marked with a substantial memorial stone.....a photograph or description of this would be most welcome. I would also expect Augustus Henry's grave to be marked with some form of memorial.

I would be most sincerely grateful for any assistance your library may be able to provide. Due acknowledgement would be given in the publication and, should any expenses be incurred in providing me with this service I will be pleased to re-imburse you.

Should this prove to be beyond the resources of your library I would be most grateful for the name and address of any institution or individual in the district whom you feel may be able to assist.

Please accept my most sincere thanks in anticipation of your valued collaboration.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Davis.