Saskatoon Branch of SGS

ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday November 19, 2009 regular meeting: Topic: Showcasing Our Branch Library, 'Everything You Want to Know About the Branch Library and Would Like to Ask' presented by Georgiana Chartier, Elsie Henry & Mary Hudson, our Branch Library team

Thursday December 10th, 2009 - Christmas Pot Luck Supper, 6:00 PM. Albert Community Centre

This Edition's Coordinating Editor is Terri Chappell

MEETING INFORMATION

Place: Albert Community Centre, 610 Clarence Avenue S. **Dates:** Third Thursday of each month, except July & August. Time: The Library is open from 5:30 - 7:00 PM. The Meeting runs from 7:15 - 9:30 PM. Meetings start with the Presidents' report, followed by member interest discussions, guest speakers or genealogical workshops. Website: http://www.rootsweb.com/~sksgs Library Website: http://www.sbsgs.org **Mailing Address:** Saskatoon Genealogy Society Box 32004 3 - 402 Ludlow Street Saskatoon, SK S7S 1M7

MEMBERSHIP & NEWSLETTER INFO

Branch membership fees are \$20.00/ year. There is a \$15.00 charge for all NSF cheques. Joining the Saskatoon Branch (SBSGS) requires that you also join the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (SGS) which has an annual fee of \$40.00 (regular rate) or \$50.00 (value-added rate). Branch membership also includes 10 branch meetings, access to our Saskatoon Branch Library, access to the SGS Library and a copy of this newsletter 5 times during the year.

This newsletter will be published near the beginning of January, March, May, September & November, and it is available in either printed form or as a Portable Document Format file (pdf) version via Email. For those members of our local branch who wish to have a printed version of the newsletter mailed out, please bring a self addressed, stamped large (9x12) envelope to a general meeting or mail them to the branch or newsletter editor. The number of self-addressed envelopes determines how many times a year the newsletter is mailed out to you.

SBSGS 2009 BRANCH EXECUTIVE

Articles are always required for the next issue and future issues of the Newsletter. Please submit by the third Wednesday of the month prior to publication month.

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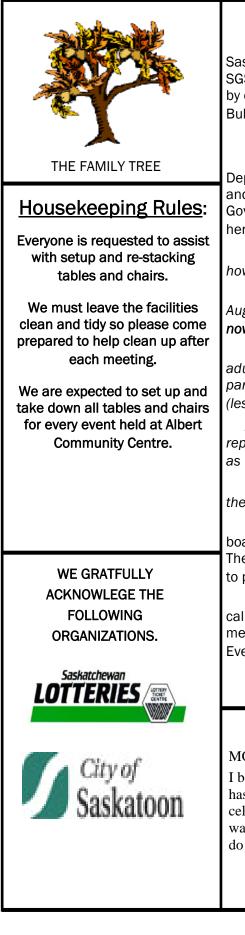
FUNDRAISING: VACANT

CEMETERY COORDINATORS: Merle Ward merleward@shaw.ca Phone: 306-652-0664 Susan Leitch

FACILITY COORDINATOR: VACANT

Our branch will only remain viable if volunteers step forward with fresh new ideas to assist in the running of our society. If you have some ideas on the direction the branch should take and are up to an interesting & rewarding challenge.

Please VOLUNTEER!



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November is the month to think about renewing your membership in the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society and the Saskatoon Branch. This year the SGS is offering two types of membership plus an option to receive the Bulletin by e-mail. All the details are outlined in the September issue of the SGS Bulletin, pages ii-iii. The Branch annual membership is now \$20.00.

Membership renewal can be done at the November 19/09 general meeting.

There have been some recent changes to obtaining Record of Birth from the Dept of vital Statistics as well as some proposed changes to obtaining marriage and death records. To clarify these changes I contacted Alyssa Daku, Mgr. Governance and Privacy Policy, Information Services Corporation. I quote from her reply:

"The subject individual will be able to obtain access to their own records, however, other individuals will be restricted as follows:

With the proclamation of certain sections of the Vital Statistics Act as of August 31, 2009, access to copies of birth records (less than 100 years) has now been limited to the subject individual or a parent.

Once the rest of the Act is proclaimed in spring 2010, a spouse, parent or adult child will be able to obtain a death certificate (less than 70 years), and a party to the marriage or a child will be able to obtain a marriage certificate (less than 75 years).

A legal custodian, a personal or property guardian or other legally appointed representative of the person will also be able to access copies of the records as will an individual authorized in writing by the subject of the record."

... risk of identity theft and other privacy issues were the primary drivers for these legislative changes. (Wed. Oct 14, 2009 e-mail)

November is also the month that the Branch elects the President and other board members whose 2 year term has expired and fills all other vacancies. The Nominating Committee is diligently at work determining a list of candidates to present at the November general meeting.

Please give some thought to what position you can fill when the nominators call you. I hope that this year we can fill all the positions at the November meeting. It is difficult for the board to operate when there are unfilled positions. Everyone has a talent to share.

Eleanor Ritchie

Websites of Interest

MODERN GENEALOGY GRAPHICS IMAGES

I became aware of this site through Eastman's Genealogy Blog. MyTree and Me has modern genealogy graphics images for sale that can be used for gifts, birthday celebrations etc. These non-traditional family tree charts are printed on watercolour paper ready for framing. They will do the printing for you or you can do it yourself. Go to <u>www.mytreeandme.com</u> and see the lovely images.

Members Queries

We are doing family research on our Wilkinson family from England and are trying to piece together this puzzle of which we have only a few clues.

Ann Wilkinson nee Brown was our Great Grandmother who immigrated to Canada and this story is about her family. This is the story that has been handed down through the generations.

About 1858 when Anne Brown was a girl of 13 she remembers saying goodbye to an Aunt who sailed away from England. She could be from the Brown family or the Cash family or married to a member of either family.

Ann Brown stood on the dockside (presumably in London) waving goodbye to her Aunt and her 25 children. Her aunt stood with a three week old baby in her arms, the eldest boy 25 years old beside her and the rest along in a row which included three pairs of twins and two sets of triplets among them. They were sailing to New Zealand or Australia where her husband was a Governor of a Penal Colony.

The eldest boy became a butler in a big home in New Zealand or Australia and was found one morning in the Butlers Pantry strangled with a dish cloth. Apparently he surprised thieves at work as all the plate was stolen.

The large family was sailing off to New Zealand where the husband was said to be taking up a post as a "Governor" in a Penal Colony.

As far as we know there were no Penal Colonies in New Zealand, therefore we think that the only similar destination could have been Australia where some Penal Colonies did still exist at that time.

The family with 25 children seems to be remarkably large and they may have made an imprint where they landed and lived that hopefully we can find some traces of.

I am giving the family line as we have it because we don't know who the aunt was or which family she could have belonged to. The family lineage as we have it is:

John Rushton married in 1789 to Frances Robinson.

Their children: William Rushton b 1790, Thomas Rushton born 1791, Frances Rushton born 1795.

Frances Rushton married in 1814 at Redbourne, Lincolnshire, England to William Cash Their children born at Kirton In Lindsey, Lincoln, England: Mary Cash b 1815, Martin Cash b 1817, Sarah Cash b 1819, William Cash b 1822

Mary Cash married Abraham Crawford in 1831 in Redbourne. We have not located marriages for Martin & William.

Sarah Cash b 1819 at Redbourne, Lincolnshire, England. married Thomas Brown Their children: Ann Brown b 1843, Frances Brown b 1845

Thomas Brown's parents were Thomas Brown and Jane Blow Their children born at Redbourne, Lincolnshire, England: Sarah Brown, William Brown, John Brown, Thomas Brown b 1817, Joseph Brown, George Brown.

Contact: Elsie Henry, e.henry@shaw.ca

Fundraising Report

I am pleased to report on the success of our October Steak Night fundraising effort. Thank you to all who volunteered, to those who donated auction items and to those who attended and bid profusely on them, and a particular Thank You to Gerald and Natalie Threlfall, who undertook the organization tasks with such enthusiasm and vigour!

The combined Beginner and Advanced Genealogy Classes, organized by Eleanor Ritchie and Terri Chappell and presented by Beverley Gutenberg, were well attended and well received, and thanks in part to the sales efforts of Trudy Fisher and Gina Reid, also resulted in a tidy profit.

The two events combined netted approximately a year's rent of our meeting place.

Submitted by Branch Treasurer René Stock

Genealogy Pox

WARNING!

Genealogy Pox is very contagious to adults!

SYMPTOMS:

1) Continual complaint as to need for names, dates, and places

2) Patient has a blank expression and is sometimes deaf to spouse and children

3) Has no taste for work of any kind except feverishly looking through records at the library and courthouse

4) Has compulsion to write letters

5) Swears at the mail carrier when he does not leave mail

6) Frequents strange places, such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote desolate country areas

7) Makes secret calls at night

8) Hides telephone bills from spouse

9) The patient mumbles to himself and has a strange faraway look in his eyes

TREATMENT:

Medication is useless.

Disease is not fatal but grows progressively worse

Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogy magazines, and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can work alone.

REMARKS:

The unusual nature of this disease is the sicker the patient gets, the more he or she enjoys it THERE IS NO KNOWN CURE!

www.ancestryprinting.com

Watch for the American version of "Who Do You Think You Are" on NBC television in early 2010.

WOULD DNA SOLVE THIS ?

Eleanor Ritchie

I am considering resorting to yDNA testing to get beyond a brick wall. A friend of mine and I are researching the same surname but have been unable to find a common ancestor which raises the question Are We Related? According to the records available to us, our respective male surname lines have lived in the same town since the mid 18th century. Suitable subjects for testing are available. We now need to decide how many markers to test. We think yDNA would be a promising route to solution.

A second situation involves using the mtDNA to determine if two women are sisters. This summer I "found a family" which some family members believe are related to us through my great-great grandmother Anna. I have been searching parish records to find Victoria. I found Victoria in a marriage record of a neighboring town. Victoria's mother's maiden name is the same as Anna's. But she does not appear to be Anna's sister. Because of the strong family belief that there is a relationship, I'd like to try and use mtDNA to see if indeed there is a relationship. I still have some microfilmed parish records to research which may yield more definitive information. I have a feeling that mtDNA would add credibility to our findings one way or the other.

I 'd like to hear from anyone has used yDNA or mtDNA to explore or solve a genealogical mystery. Perhaps we could conduct a discussion forum on these pages about deciding to use DNA testing and sharing the successes or disappointments. Hope to hear from you.

Beatitudes of The Family Genealogist

Blessed are the great grandmothers, who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters, For they tell the story of their time.

Blessed are all the grandfathers who filed every legal document, For this provides proof.

Blessed are grandmothers who preserved family Bibles and diaries, For this is our heritage.

Blessed are fathers who elect officials that answer letters of inquiry, For some, this is their only link to the past

Blessed are mothers who relate family traditions and legends to the family, For one of her children will surely remember.

Blessed are the relatives who fill in family sheets with extra data. For them we owe the family history. Blessed is any family whose members strive for the preservation of records, For theirs is a labour of love. Blessed are the children who will never say, "Grandma, you have told that old story twice today."

By Wilma Mauk



heirloom clothing

Fold antique garments such as baptismal gowns and prom dresses with as few creases as possible. Pad sleeves, bodices and folds with acid-free tissue paper, muslin or clean cotton sheeting. Tuck into acid-free boxes and store them in a cool, dry dark place. Inspect the clothing once a year and refold it a different way to avoid creases.

NEW MATERIAL IN SASKATOON BRANCH SGS LIBRARY			
	Submitted by Georgiana Chartier		
GB F 114	FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE 2009 Vol. 25 No. 13		
BC S 8	SPLITTING HEIRS. Newsletter of Vernon & District Family History Society 2009 Vol. 25 ISSUE 3		
SAULT/STE/ON S 3	SAULT CHANNELS. Sault Ste. Marie & District Branch OGS Newsletter 2009 Vol. 27 No. 2		
SASKATOON SASK A 18	ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST Saskatoon Branch SGS Newsletter 2009 Issues 61 & 62		
CAN F .113	FAMILY CHRONICLE. The Magazine For Families Researching Their Roots.		
CAN D 6	DISCOVERING FAMILY HISTORY. A Guide to Exploring Your Genealogy 2009 Jan/Feb 2009 Nov/Dec		
GEN P 1819	PSYCHIC ROOTS. Serendipity @ Intuition in Genealogy. Henry Z Jones, Jr. c. 1993		

Murphy's Laws of Genealogy:

1. The significance of the source is inversely proportional to the time until the archives close.

2. The most recalcitrant relative is the one with all the family papers.

3. The sole document containing irrefutable proof to connect that missing link in one of your lines has been lost in a fire.

4. The only ink blot in the census book covers your ancestor's birth place.

5. If you are given an old family photograph album, there will be no names on any of the pictures.

6. Travelling a long way to visit a cemetery in winter guarantees that the gravestone you seek will be under two feet of snow.

7. When at last you discover great-grandmother's maiden name your elderly aunt will say, "Oh, I knew that!"

8. The only published genealogy of one of your families will be a three volume, 1,200 page tome with no index.

9. If your hard disk crashes, the floppy disk on which you so conscientiously backed up your files will have found a new life as a doggie biscuit.

10. The notes and papers of a fellow researcher that you were anxious to contact were thrown out by his family following his recent demise.

-Can Fed Journal, Vol. 6, No. 2, October 1993

"This packrat has learned that what the next generation will value most is not what we owned, but the evidence of who we were and the tales of how we loved. In the end, it's the family stories that are worth the storage."

-Ellen Goodman, The Boston Globe

Genealogy As A Job

By Tammy Vallee

Once you start exploring your family tree you become a genealogist. From there the level to which one takes their work varies from person to person. A few of us get hooked in a big way and there is even a small number who make a career out of it. Some are considered self employed researchers, speakers, or teachers of genealogy. Others work for genealogical societies or can be found in archives, libraries, or museums around the world. Then there is my position, the only one in Saskatchewan and one of a very small handful in Canada. I am the Genealogist for the Métis-Nation of Saskatchewan Citizens Registry.

Unlike the traditional genealogist free to work from home and traveling from place to place most days find me making my way to 406 Jessop Avenue to start my 8:30 to 5 work day. Here I have two offices which occupy my day. The first office is where my desk, telephone, and computer are located. Here my day consists of Registry work, walking people through how to find information on their family tree, reviewing files, writing reports, taking phone calls, working with budgets, ordering supplies, writing articles, and making appointments to meet with groups of people. Giving presentations around the province has become a semi-regular event as well; tonight I am off to Big River and next week to Moose Jaw.

I am now registered as a Notary Public and a Commissioner of Oaths throughout Saskatchewan so that I may review and notarize documents for the application process and for court. Yep I said it—court. The other part of my job is working with people who are facing court proceedings for exercising their rights to hunt and fish or gather as a Métis in Saskatchewan; these are our Harvesters. I need to be sure that the documentation gathered on their family is completed and ready for court if need be.

It is office work far from what the average genealogist does but that is only part of the job. Now the second office once up and running again, is where I am most at home as a genealogist. It is our Archives/ Genealogical centre AKA the Resource Room. It doesn't have an official name but it is where I can work in ways no one else can from our office. Since the spring I have worked at gathering resources for the centre and to date I have the following items:

- 1000+ books: Local Histories for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, guides, indexes, atlas, informational, and rare books relating to the Aboriginal, Canada, Western Canada, and the United States.
- 1000+ microfilms: Métis Scrip records from the Library and Archives or Canada; Church records for Northern Saskatchewan, Newspapers for North Battleford, Prince Albert, and the Northern Pride (North West Saskatchewan). The microfilm can be read on digital microfilm reader. The images can be printed or saved to PDF.
- Maps, cemetery records, and historical records is also part of the collection.

The focus is on gathering records related to Métis history and is open for taking donations of books, maps, historical records, pictures, and family histories.

September 28th was the first day in our new office here in Sutherland and the unpacking and renovations began. The centre is still under construction and not set to reopen until December. Access to the centre is during regular office hours but calling ahead to schedule a time is recommended. For more information on the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan and the Citizen Registry visit: http://www.mn-s.ca/ or phone 306-343-8391 or 1-888-203-6959. I can be also be reached at tvallee@mn-s.ca



Volunteering –Helping Yourself While Helping Others

In today's busy society, it may be difficult to think about finding the time to volunteer. Some people think of volunteer work as a waste of time or something that the rich and retired do in their spare time. Isn't it something that those who are bored or don't need money do? Wrong. Volunteer work is not something that people with altruistic tendencies do to fill their time, but instead can be an excellent way to make you feel good about yourself.

Volunteering is something you can do no matter who you are. You've heard the idea before that as a volunteer, you *can* make a difference.

In the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS), 180 older adults between the ages of 55 to 85 years of age were interviewed. These adults were volunteering in three school programs in New York, Los Angeles and Pittsburgh. Sixty-five percent reported improved life satisfaction; seventy-six percent reported feeling better about themselves and thirty-two percent reported improved mental health. The WLS questioned if there was "evidence that doing work that serves others had mood-enhancing, social-integrating, health promoting, or even death-delaying power? Based on a review of the literature... the basic answer is essentially 'yes'. One does well by doing good."

A 2000 study by the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating found that seventy-nine percent of volunteers said "that their volunteer activities helped them with interpersonal skills, such as understanding people better, motivating others and dealing with difficult situations. Just over two thirds (68%) said that volunteering helped them to develop better communication skills." It can be said that non-profit and voluntary organizations (such as your local genealogy branch), individuals and society in general benefit from those who volunteer.

Volunteering connects you to others. It is a way to make new friends and contacts, especially with those who share common interests. Some volunteers are naturally outgoing while others have a difficult time meeting new people, but both types can use their volunteerism to develop and practice social skills.

Volunteering has a beneficial effect on your mind and body. It can give a good boost to your selfesteem, self-confidence and satisfaction with your life. It can be said that the better you feel about yourself, the more positive your view on life will be. The literature about those who volunteer finds that it combats depression. Social isolation contributes to depression and being in contact with others, plus a sense of pride in what you are doing, can relieve depression and stress.

Volunteering benefits your health at all ages, but is especially good for older adults. Studies show that those who volunteer have a lower mortality rate than those who do not.

You may have heard a volunteer who is praised for their altruism say, "Oh, no, what I do really is selfish. I get so much more out of it than I give."

Winston Churchill had the right idea when he said, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

Submitted by Terri Chappell

"Not to know what happened before we were born is to remain perpetually a child. For what is the worth of a human life unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the record of history."

-Cicero (106-43 BC)

Cemeteries : Dundurn Military Camp

Submitted by Gerry Threlfall

At our May, 2009, Executive meeting, Natalie and I learned that there were, located within the boundaries of the Dundurn Military Range, some cemeteries that had not previously been recorded. The unique location, combined with the anticipated age of the cemeteries took our interest and subsequently we volunteered to search them out to record what information we might find.

Our request to the Range Control Officer to proceed with our cemetery search was very well received but, due to summer range activities, had to be deferred to the fall.

On September 18, we arrived at the Range Control Office with a 4x4 loaded with tow rope, jack, shovel, toolkit, notebook and lunch. We were briefed at the office as to the rules of the range and given a topographical map on which the officer plotted the location of the five different cemeteries. We were requested to stay on the trails and warned not to get stuck as it was an approximate \$400 tow bill to get rescued. Thus equipped and advised we set off. Our progress was quite slow as the trail was a series of ups and downs, curves and corners travelling at approximately 10 kph through light sandy soil.

The key to finding the five cemeteries was the advice from the Range Control staff to watch for white painted post enclosures - we finally clued in that we almost needed eyes in the back of our heads!!!



The first cemetery we came to was named CAMP PETERS (15 graves). It is the largest of the cemeteries and is enclosed by a barbed wire fence with the white painted posts. A plaque on the fence had the following inscription:

"CAMP PETERS CEMETERY THE UPGRADE TO THIS CEMETERY IS DEDICATED WITH GREAT RESPECT TO THOSE PIONEERS WHOM CAME BEFORE US AND TO THOSE WHOM REMAIN FOREVER IN OUR CARE OPERATION RENEW

2003 - 2004"

This plaque was placed by a group of citizens and Forces Personnel who had undertaken the responsibility of the care of this and the other four cemeteries located on the range.

We understood from the Range Control Office that ground radar technology was used to locate the 15 graves and consequently marked with wooden stakes. Since there are no headstones, there are no records of names or dates to record. Further research needs to be done.

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The next cemetery we found was identified as "HOMESTEAD CEMETERY'. The fence plaque, other than name, was identical to the Camp Peters plaque. There were 2 wooden stakes indicating the 2 graves (no further information).

CAMP PETERS CEMETERY and HOMESTEAD CEMETERY were located in and shaded by poplar trees on the north bank of Brightwater Creek and only a few hundred meters apart. This leads to the speculation that they were members of 2 different pioneer families struck by tragedy.

The third cemetery of the day was SAINT MARY'S CEMETERY. It also is surrounded by a fence and white posts and rails and was established in 1905 as indicated by the plaque. There are 4 graves with stones or markers containing names and information, one grave with a cast iron marker, no information. The remaining 5 graves are marked with small white wooden crosses, no information. The size of this cemetery is approximately 64'x72' and is located on a flat area overlooking the Brightwater Creek valley. We decided the other 2 cemeteries would have to wait for another day.



On September 25 we reloaded our 4x4 and proceeded to find the remaining cemeteries. With the help of the map and a GPS we were able to quickly locate the 'OHIO LUTHERAN CEMETERY' established in 1914 as indicated by the plaque attached. There were no gravestones but 3 markers in the form of stakes. This cemetery measured approximately 45'x60' and was in an open area surrounded by a barbed wire fence with white posts.

The last cemetery we needed to visit was WHITE CAP which is located on the western edge of the range. We stopped in at the Range Control office for some specific directions and were advised to travel along the fireguard which parallels the western boundary of the range. This fireguard consisted of ploughed up sand and therefore presented a challenge, however we travelled on it for approximately 4.5 km and found the' WHITE CAP CEMETERY' located on the top of a slope overlooking the South Saskatchewan River valley. The date on the cemetery was indicated as 1903-1913, there were no markers or gravestones. We understood that ground radar did not show any graves there.

This initial recording of gravesites has raised our interest further, knowing that the cemeteries were established prior to the acquisition of the land by the Department of National Defence.

We express our sincere appreciation to the staff at Dundurn Military Camp who were most accommodating and informative.

The plaques on the five cemeteries as initiated by OPERATION RENEW have spurred further interest in pursuing gravesite information at Dundurn Military Camp. This will be the subject of a future article.

Book Reviews

Serendipity & Intuition in Genealogy by Henry Z Jones, Jr.

Mr. Jones is a Genealogist whose passion has been research into the Palatines.

During his research, he has had many experiences of serendipity, intuition or hunches that have led to some genealogical solutions. He has been in touch with other Genealogists. They also tell stories about having many similar things happening to them. It almost seems as if our ancestors are leaving clues for us to find. When you read this book, I think that you will find that you have had similar experiences when you were doing your own research that have led to the discovery of information that you have been looking for. This book really makes you think about your genealogy and how you get your information. Enjoy this book and let us know about your experiences.

Review submitted by Georgiana Chartier

GENEALOGICAL CODICIL to my LAST WILL and TESTAMENT

The following was circulated in The Maritime on the internet. The implication is that our genealogical materials will be in some order so that someone can do something with them.

To my spouse, children, guardian, administrator and/or executor:

Upon my demise it is requested that you DO NOT dispose of any or all of my genealogical records, both those prepared personally by me and those records prepared by others which may be in my possession including but not limited to books, files, notebooks or computer programs for a period of two years.

During this time period. please attempt to identify one or more persons who would be willing to take custody of the said materials and the responsibility of maintaining and continuing the family histories. [If you know whom, within your family or friends, are likely candidates to accept these materials, please add the following at this point: "I suggest that the persons contacted regarding the assumption of the custody of these items include but not limited to" and then list the names of those individuals at this point, with their addresses and telephone numbers if known.]

In the event you do not find anyone to accept these materials, please contact the various genealogical organizations that I have been a member of and determine if they will accept some parts or all of my genealogical materials. [List of organizations, addresses and phone numbers at bottom; include local chapters, branches, with their addresses, phone numbers and contact persons if available as well as state/provincial/national contact information and addresses.]

Please remember that my genealogical endeavors consumed a great deal of time, travel, and money. Therefore it is my desire that the products of these endeavors be allowed to continue in a manner that will make them available to others in the future.

Signature	_Date	_Witness		
Signature	_Date	_Witness		
Perth County Profiles Volume 23 No.2				