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Medicine Hat and District Branch

Alberta Genealogical Society

SAAMIS SEEKER

MARCH 1989

1989 Executive

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Past President:
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First Vice President:
Mary Kundert 527-6442
Second Vice President:
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Terry Drefs 526-1760
Library:
Brian Klein 527-2874
Membership:
Edie Pinder 548-3770
Program:
Adele Johnson 526-6611
Queries:
Patti Forbes 548-7292

Address all correspondence to: Medicine Hat & District Branch AGS, Box 971, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7G8.

The purpose of SAAMIS SEEKER is to inform members regarding AGS and Medicine Hat & District Branch affairs; to print material to further members' research; to publish local sources and research.

SAAMIS - Indian word for Medicine Man's Hat

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have been actively involved with your Branch of the A.G.S. since becoming President, attending an A.G.S. meeting in Red Deer and holding two executive meetings. Working with these fellow members made me more aware of the excitement generated while searching the many resources looking for our roots. When you become more involved in the operations of your Society the more you begin to realize why you joined and the involvement motivates you to get working on your "Tree". The tips and resources available make your research easier.

With this message I would like to ask you to become more involved. Let the executive know on what committee you would like to work.

Yours for abundant resources,
John Dowler
President

FROM THE SECRETARY

Our Branch elections were held at the December meeting and the new 1989 executive members are as follows:

President - John Dowler
1st Vice President - Mary Kundert
2nd Vice President - Eva Dyck
Secretary - Patti Forbes
Treasurer - Hugh Pringle

Since then, we have had one general meeting in which the annual reports were given. The reins were passed to the new executive at that time. John Dowler announced the heads of the various committees. This was followed by a discussion of what members would like to see take place at meetings ie. programs, etc., and how to make the meetings more informative.

We have also had two executive meetings, January 18 and February 15 in which ideas for the coming year were discussed. If you have any ideas that you would like to see implemented, let your executive know. After all, it is YOUR Society.

Patti Forbes
Secretary

COMING EVENTS

AGS Conference '89 is in Red Deer on April 14 & 15 at the Black Knight Inn and Red Deer District Archives. The keynote speaker is Terry Punch, genealogist and historian from Halifax, N.S. A wide variety of sessions are planned. Plan to attend. Register before March 14 - $35.00 and $40.00 after that date. Contact: Conference '89, P.O. Box 922, Red Deer AB T4N 5H3.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Submission deadline for the next issue of SAAMIS SEEKER is May 15.

SAAMIS SEEKER is distributed at the regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month except July and August.

Next meeting: April 5, 1989. Time: 7:30 pm.

Place: Allan Room, Westminster United Church

Back issues of SAAMIS SEEKER 1980-1987 are available for 25 cents an issue. 1988+ for $1.50. See Terry Drefs if interested.

PROGRAM NOTES

March 1 - Meeting
- Mini workshops 1) Beginners I - Betty Cannady
  2) Ontario Sources - Betty Padfield
  3) Computers in Genealogy - George McWilliams

April 5 - Meeting
- Preservation of Photos & Documents - Donny White, Curator of Cultural History at Med. Hat Museum.

May 3 - Meeting
- Mini workshops held in March to be continued

June 7 - Meeting
- Mini workshops 1) LDS sources - Janice Condon & Adele Johnson
  2) Beginners II - Betty Cannady
  3) Not confirmed

LIBRARY NEWS

New at our Branch Library

ON	OGS WHITBY-OSHAWA "KINDRED SPIRITS"	VOL 7 #4	P-61
MB	MGS "GENERATIONS"	VOL 13 #3	P-169
SK	SGS BULLETIN	VOL 19 #3	P-170
SK	SGS PRINCE ALBERT BRANCH	NOV-DEC 1988	
AB	AGS "RELATIVELY SPEAKING"	VOL 16 #4	R-16
AB	ALBERTA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY	VOL 9 #2	P-162A
AB	AGS B & D "HEIR LINES"	VOL 1 #2	P-176
AB	AGS MEDICINE HAT SAAMIS SEEKER	VOL 9 #4	P-125
AB	AGS FORT MCMURRAY "LINES OF DESCENT"	VOL 6 #4	P-164
CAN	NAT'L ARCHIVES OF CAN. "THE ARCHIVIST"	VOL 15 #5-6	P-177

RULES OF THE LIBRARY

1. Library holdings must be returned or renewed in ONE month
2. Late charge made if not returned or renewed.
3. If books are available in Public Library for loan, the branch library will not obtain same.
4. ONLY MEMBERS are allowed to loan out library holdings.

There are a number of library holdings that are currently outstanding and a large number of books that are

missing from the library. I would ask that any member with library holdings in their possession, please return them or contact the library committee for renewal. We will be conducting an inventory of the library holdings and we require all material returned. The library committee consists of Brian Klein, Betty Padfield and Ruby Engler.

Submitted by
Brian Klein #1720

A number of queries have been received over the past few months. A few have presented a real challenge. I have answered three letters to date. They are: Mr. Blair Barr - information on BERGET, KYLLO, DYVIG. The families were homesteaders at Alderson; Mrs. Irene Frelin - researching HENCHEL circa.1900; Mr. Gerald Gummo - burial place of EUNICE GUMMO.

One request that is giving me a bit of difficulty is from Amanda Wilcox regarding STOTT/ MCDONALD. I have sent information on Robert STOTT but have been unable to come up with anything on Mr. McDonald. The only information known about him is that he was a photographer in the Medicine Hat area and he was Mrs. Stott's brother. If any members can assist in solving this query, please contact me.

The other query requiring more research is from Margaret Welch regarding BALLANTYNE/SCOTT/BOYD/REID. The latter two apparently owned a wholesale company in Medicine Hat around 1910. It was located on South Railway Street.

My thanks to Mr. J.M. Sharp for his wonderful help with these letters. He is an unending source of information and is more than willing to share his knowledge.

Submitted by
Patti Forbes

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our branch membership, to date, includes 33 individual memberships and 1 family membership for a total of 35 members.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

AGS Individual: Regular $15.00 Senior: $13.00
For Family Add: Regular $ 3.00 or Senior: $ 2.00
(for each add'l person living in the same household)
Medicine Hat Branch: $5.00

The membership year is from January 1st to December 31. Memberships paid before September 30 will receive all issues of Relatively Speaking and Saamis Seeker for that year. Memberships paid after September 30 will be applied to the next year.

NOTE: When you mail your memberships directly to AGS in Edmonton it takes up to four months before I receive any confirmation. It would help me greatly if local members would please renew their memberships at our meetings or mail to the Medicine Hat address located inside the front cover of this issue.

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

2220	Bates, Carol	84 Cairney CR SE, Med Hat	T1B 1L4
	Baumback, Kate	422 1 St NW, Med Hat	T1A 6H7
868	Braun, Rosina	129 Burns Cres NW, Med Hat	T1A 6W2
	Bueckert, Greg	Box 1599 #C110, Med Hat	T1A 7Y5
	Craig, Patricia	424 Dundee St SE, Med Hat	T1A 0T5
1105	Deering, Joyce	867A 4 St SE, Med Hat	T1A 0L7
1884	Dowler, John	614 11 St SW, Med Hat	T1A 4T1
568	Dyck, Eva	#5 2248 Southview Dr SE M.H.	T1B 1R2
631	Engler, Ruby	145 Burns Cres NW, Med Hat	T1A 6W2
854	Ensminger, Marg	340 14 St NE, Med Hat	T1A 5V8
2078	Forbes, Patricia	Box 457, Medicine Hat	T1A 7G2
1103	Gill, Ray/Bertha	41 Binder Cres NW, Med Hat	T1A 7R2
	Gomke, Eunice	683 Lokier Ave NW, Med Hat	T1A 7A6
1388	Graham, Bev	76 5 St SE, Med Hat	T1A 0M3
	Guthmiller, E.	269 8 St SE, Med Hat	T1A 1L4
1234	Hilsendeger, Barb	Box 128, Redcliff	T0J 2P0
1819	Johnson, Adele	218 Muir Cres NW, Med Hat	T1A 6W5
1720	Klein, Brian	2532 McCaig Cr SE, Med Hat	T1B 1B4
1721	Kundert, Mary	614 8 St SW, Med Hat	T1A 4M4
1327	Laczkowski, Rita	Box 82, Seven Persons	T0K 1Z0
1853	Lonson, Dorothy	1886 19 Ave SE, Med Hat	T1A 3W9
	Lonson, Mary	1811 20 Ave SE, Med Hat	T1A 3X6
2066	Macaulay, Jocelyn	23 Chow Ave SE, Med Hat	T1B 2S9
1542	Padfield, Betty	Box 972, Redcliff	T0J 2P0
	Parasynchuk, Teresa	145 Markwick Dr SE, Med Hat	T1A 7V9
1824	Pinder, Edith	Box 508, Redcliff	T0J 2P0
1727	Pringle, Hugh	549 3 St NW, Med Hat	T1A 6L4
	Robins, Jim	316 Fleet St SW, Med Hat	T1A 7Z5
933	Roth, Grace	Box 112, Medicine hat	T1A 7E8
1729	Ruffett, Brenda	MOVED new address-next issue	
1394	Smith, Marlene	1634 3 Ave NE, Med Hat	T1C 1A3
1887	Sullivan, Lily	46 Lang Cr SW, Med Hat	T1A 4P7
1860	Tessman, Betty	Box 1105, Redcliff	T0J 2P0
1104	Tomlinson, Evelyn	#26 459 Carry Dr SE, M Hat	T1B 3W1
944	Wilson, Ethel	260 Muir Cr NW, Med Hat	T1A 6W5

Submitted by Edie Pinder

If you are writing a family history, and need some help, read the article on "Recording Your Family History" in MGS "Generations." Vol. 13, No. 4, 1988 page 23

MEMBERS' PROFILES

JOYCE DEERING AGS #1105

I was born and raised in Medicine Hat - the third youngest of ten children of George and Harriet (Soal) Cannings. After finishing Medicine Hat High School, I attended Calgary Normal School. I subsequently taught in rural schools before my marriage to Jack Deering, a now retired C.P.R. engineer. We have three children (two daughters, a son) and seven grandchildren.

My parents emigrated from England to Canada in the early 1900's. My father worked for the C.P.R. and retired as a conductor after thirty seven years service.

In 1980 we visited my parents' birthplaces and met relatives (cousins) for the first time. They were as eager to meet their Canadian cousin, as we were to meet them. We have been corresponding since then.

Over the years my main interests and involvements were with our family and their activities as well as my participation in various choral groups. In the fall of 1980 I joined the A.G.S. and Medicine Hat Branch. Before long I became involved in the local branch with committee work, publicity, treasurer and then a two year term as president. It was a most enjoyable, informative and rewarding experience for me at both the local and provincial levels.

I belong to the Hampshire & Wiltshire F.H.S. in Britain. The families I'm researching are Soal, Payne, Harris, Waltham, Cannings, Collins, Ford, and Young.

BEV GRAHAM AGS #1388

I was born in Medicine Hat January 19, 1950 to Hilda Deg and Harold Raw. The youngest of three children, I remember always having an avid interest in our family's history.

In 1970 I married James Graham of London, Ontario. We have three sons. Jim's a descendent of one of ten original families which emmigrated to Lobo, Ontario from Knappdale, Scotland between 1825 - 1830. My paternal grandmother was a descendent of United Empire Loyalists, her family dating back to the late 1700's in Canada.

Genealogy means more to me than dates and names. Whether I'm searching the steppes of Russia or the dales of North Yorkshire, it's exciting to become a part of history.

Names and places I'm researching are:

Raw - North Yorkshire (Swaledale); Wisconsin, U.S.A.
Deg, Hepper - Colonies of Grosliebental and Borodina, Odessa District, Russia.
Graham - Lobo, Ontario; Knappdale, Scotland
Cosby - Ilford, Romford county, Essex, England
Weedmark, Dillabaugh - Marlborough County, Ontario; Sweden; Orkney Island.
Allenby - Hull, England.

TERESA PARASYNCHUK

My entry into this world made me the third and last child of Edward and Ellen (Waters) Maser. I guess it was enough for my poor mother when she sent the telegram to announce my birth and it somehow got to the Manyberries bar (and was read) before it got to my father.

My mother stayed with her parents just before I was born, therefore I was born in Lethbridge. I lived on a ranch in the Manyberries district though, until after my grade twelve when college took me to Medicine Hat. It was here that I met my future husband, Richard Parasynchuk. Before we were married I went to Germany to stay with an aunt and uncle who were stationed there. While there I visited some relatives and now wish that I had found out just a bit more of their background and in turn mine.

I married Richard in September of 1973. We now have two children, Jennifer and Keith. Just before my children were born, I quit my full time job working for Doram Smith International. I have kept in tune with my career by teaching Accounting at the Medicine Hat College, working for a C.A. and doing books from my home.

Genealogy became an interest of mine whin I did a talk about it to a group of ladies. Kit Spence and Patti Forbes got me interested in the Society where I hoped that by attending meetings I could learn how to record my history without going in circles. I have found some relatives who have done some searching and quizzed my remaining grandparent and now am at least on the way.

HUGH BROWN PRINGLE AGS # 1727

I was born 1917 at Neepawa, manitoba, second child of William and Etta (Brown) Pringle. My maternal grandmother, Amelia J. (Playfair) Brown was one of nine children of John (LIttle John) and Annette Playfair of Playfairville, Ontario. My paternal grandparents were Hugh and JAne (Hill) Pringle born in Stowe and Greenlaw, Scotland. I attended public and high school in Wilkie, Saskatchewan where my father had a blacksmith shop. In 1941 I married Olive Ellwook, whose maternal grandparents, JOhn and Rose (Cummings) Jeffery, were Barr Colonists homesteading in the Lloydminster district in 1903.

Olive and I have two children, Dawn (Knowles) and William (Bill) Pringle who are both residents of Medicine Hat. I have the Playfair and Hill family trees, compiled by cousins. I also have, reproduced from microfilm, a copy of the book "The Records of the Pringles or Hoppringills of the Scottish Border" by Alex Pringle,M.A., B.Sc., printed by Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, 1933.

I am interested in Ellwood, Jeffery, Pringle, Brown, Hill, as well as any suspected connections to same.

LDS RECORDS

At the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Medicine Hat, we do not have a Branch Family History Center but we do have some microfiche which can be searched.

The INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX (IGI) is a computerized index of names extracted from various records throughout the world. The 1988 edition (which we do not have) has over 80 million names of deceased persons. In Medicine Hat we have a 1984 edition for ENGLAND and WALES; a 1981 edition of USA and European countries eg. Germany, Prussia, France, Italy, and several other smaller places.

The GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY CATALOG (GLC) is where you would look to find what original documents have been filmed for a given locality, surname, subject and author/title.

If microfilm is available, you can order the film to be read here. For an appointment or information, phone Adele Johnson 526-6611 or Janice Condon 526-1168 after 4:00.

Submitted by
Adele Johnson

INFORMATION SHARING

Redcliff United Church records 1914-1980 have been deposited at the Provincial Archives in Edmonton. Reference number is 88-571.

When writing to individuals or societies for genealogical information, keep your request as brief as possible. Put it in the form of a questionnaire, leaving a space for the reply. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope in Canada; other countries include International Reply Coupons.

Use newsletters, journals, etc. from other societies to help with your research. Join a genealogical society in the area you are researching or borrow the newsletters from your local society. These newsletters contain good general "How to" information.

For example in the Manitoba Genealogical Society's publication "Generations" which is available on loan from AGS or our own library, you will find the following:

An Introduction to Genealogical Research	Vol I	#1	1976
Genealogical Sources in Ireland	Vol I	#2	1976
Genealogical Sources in Germany	Vol II	#1	1977
Genealogical Sources in Scotland	Vol III	#1	1978
Where Do I Begin?	Vol III	#3	1978
United Empire Loyalists	Vol III	#3	1978
Genealogical Resources in Poland	Vol IV	#1	1979
Canadian Mennonite Genealogical Resources	Vol VII	#1	1982
Care and Storage of Works on Paper	Vol IX	#2	1984
Micro Processers & Family Group Records	Vol IX	#3	1984

Submitted by
Adele Johnson

ANNUAL REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S 1988 REPORT

It's hard to believe it's been a year since the last annual meeting and becoming president for the year. It has been a great experience and I would like to thank all of the executive members and those who chaired the various committees and everyone who volunteered their time to help make each meeting of 1988 successful.

Thank you to all those members who came faithfully and participated in the activities of the Branch. An executive can't do much without good active members.

Thank you to those who contributed help even though they were unable to attend meetings because of the change of night.

Interesting and informative programs were held covering various topics, such as:

February - Start of Indexing Obituaries collected from Newspapers

March - Compiling a Family History by Grace Roth

April - History of Germans from Russia by Dr. E. Eberhardt

May - Planning & Holding a Family Reunion by Cathy Schnell and Sandra Prosser

June - 10th Anniversary Special - 10 year Long Service Certificates were presented to the four charter members who still belong. Certificates were given to the past presidents who could be located. Very good displays were set up by members showing their research efforts. Carol Anderson, Brooks, represented AGS. Hope Michael was the guest speaker. Brenda Ruffett gave excerpts from the book "Collecting Dead Relatives". Several door prizes were given and a fine lunch was served featuring a cake decorated with our logo on it.

July & August - no meetings

Sept - Oral Recordings of Family History by B. Ruffett

Oct - Mini Workshops were held covering Great Britain, Ontario, Ukraine sources.

Nov - Med Hat College Sources by Librarian Keith Walker

Dec - Election Night; Treasures from the Trunk. Several members brought treasures to share. Library night followed.

A feature at meetings this year has been "Show & Tell". One member sharing a genealogy success or frustration. We also held two bake sales.

Thank you again to all for the willing help which has made our Branch run smoothly and my job as president easier and very rewarding.

Every good wish for continued success to the new president, John Dowler and the Executive and Committee chairmen.

Respectfully submitted,
Adele M. Johnson, Past President

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 1988

Our membership for 1988 was very good. We had 48 individual and 4 family memberships for a total of 56 members. Ten "New Members Kits" were made.

Membership Secretary
Edith Pinder

CEMETERY REPORT 1988

Nothing new was done of the cemetery recording this year but quite a few cemeteries have already been transcribed and are ready for the final work before being published.

Judy Wasylenko had sent updated transcriptions for Hillside Cemetery.

Hopefully 1989 will see a lot of cemeteries being published.

Cemetery Chairman
Betty Padfield

SAAMIS SEEKER ANNUAL REPORT 1988

Some changes were made in 1988. The new branch logo appeared on a colored front page. To keep members informed of AGS and branch happenings, reports from the executive and from the committee chairman were included in each issue. Attempts were made to print Medicine Hat & area research for the benefit of both local and out of town researchers.

An average of 65 issues were printed four times during the year. Twenty were mailed to out of town addresses, of which ten were to exchanges, two to the National Library and eight to members. Forty local members either picked up their issues at the regular meetings, had a friend or neighbor pick up their copies or had to have them delivered by the editor and others at the end of the year. One copy went to the branch library and one stayed in the editor's files.

Submissions received from members were excellent, though only from a few individuals.

In 1988 the cost of printing was $4.42 per person for the four issues. If the cost of mailing the twenty copies is added, the total cost is $5.17 per person per year.

It has been an enjoyable learning experience to be the editor of Saamis Seeker.

Respectfully submitted,
Eva Dyck

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

John Dowler reported that there were ten meetings held this past year. A number of interesting programs were presented. For a listing of them see Adele's report.

BRANCH LIBRARY REPORT 1988

John Dowler took over from Barbara Janecke in April. Hugh Pringle agreed to assist. Brian Klein has accepted the library position for the coming year.

The library acquired the usual periodicals as well as having purchased reference material - Inventories of Cemeteries in Ontario, Assiniboia West Index to Census of Canada 1891, and the Genealogical Research Directory 1988.

Books were also donated by Grace Roth, John Dowler, Eva Dyck, Adele Johnson, Benjamin Bonnel and Graham Community Library - Ralston.

Library chairman
John Dowler

ANCESTOR INDEX REPORT

To date 33 current members have submitted their ancestor indexes. These have been typed and filed alphabetically in the Ancestor Index drawer. There are, however, four members indexes included in this file: Helen Fowlie #1675, Marie Banman #1616, Anne M. Kuhn #1391, and Alice Stegan #1696. Guidelines need to be established as to whether these non-member entries should be retained. On file, but not typed or included in the Index, are submissions from three other former members: Shelley Bootland #1848, Doris Grant #679, and Catherine Maser #1707. If these are to be kept, the addresses should be checked before they are typed for the Index.

Faithfully Submitted,
Brenda Ruffett
AGS #1729

BAKE SALES

Two Bake Sales were held during 1988. The first sale, on March 26th, was at the Southview Mall. $197.00 was made from the sale of baked goods and donations from members. Although there was a poor crowd that Saturday at the MAll, most items were sold.

It was decided to hold our fall bake sale at the Medicine Hat Mall on Friday, November 18th. The change to a Friday was not convenient for most members to either help by sitting at the table or to contribute baked goods and crafts. But those who did participate were very generous. A total of $256.00 was raised through donations and the sale of baking and crafts. The crowds were good and the table sold out completely.

Faithfully Submitted,
Brenda Ruffett
AGS #1729

Query Report

It has been a busy time for the queries committee this past year. Five letters were researched and replies were sent off, with all information requested. There are four letters remaining which I will get to in the new year.

One of the most rewarding queries handled was from Mrs. Maren Laguire of Indiana who was searching for Adsit relations in Medicine Hat. Mrs. LaGuire was put in touch with a missing member of her family in Edmonton and they were able to get together at a family reunion in Wisconsin this past August.

This year, it was also necessary to develop a policy for handling queries as well as a filing system for our incoming letters. The filing system is very straightforward and can be easily followed by anyone taking over this position. It makes it easy to see which files have been closed and which still require further research. I have also been preparing a list of people willing to share information on their particular rural area. I found this extremely helpful in a number of the letters I handled.

You were kept up to date on the majority of this information through the "Query Corner" column in our SAAMIS SEEKER which I hope to continue in the coming year.

Submitted by
Patti Forbes

Historian Report

The 1988 History Book has almost been completed. My thanks to all members who submitted articles, pictures, etc. for this book.

The past year saw our branch celebrate its tenth anniversary on June 1, 1988. A number of past and present members were in attendance as well as a number of guests. Scrolls were presented to founding members and a lunch and social followed.

This year also saw a member of our branch, Margery Ensminger, honored as Medicine Hat's "Woman of Achievement". It was also the year Hargrave Ranch celebrated it's 100 anniversary. Hargrave Ranch is the family home of member, Hope Michael. Hope did a tremendous amount of work researching the ranch's history.

At our last meeting of 1988, our new executive was elected for the up coming year. Congratulations and best of luck to them.

Submitted by
Patti Forbes

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was given by Hugh Pringle. An income and expense analysis (ordinary operating only) was presented. It showed the division of expenses over the past four years. The audit was prepared by Mr. A.G. Craig and a copy of that report follows.

SOMEBODY ELSE

The club was saddened to learn of the sudden death of one of it's most valuable members....."Somebody Else".

Somebody Else's passing created a vacancy that will be difficult to fill.

Else has been in the club for many years. He did more for the club than a normal person's share of work. Whenever there was a job to be done, one name was on everybody's lips. - "Let Somebody Else do it".

It was common knowledge that Somebody Else was among the largest contributors of his time to the club; whenever there was a need for volunteers, everyone just assumed Somebody Else would volunteer.

Somebody Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing superhuman: but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Somebody Else.

Now Somebody Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do!

Somebody Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to do the things that Somebody Else did?

When you are asked to help, remember we cannot depend on Somebody Else anymore.

- Author Unknown

From the Regina Branch SGS Vol. 2 #8

*Records for this county in process of being obtained.

The percentages refer to copies available at the Genealogical Library of pre-1813 parish registers, bishop's transcripts, parish transcripts, and parish printouts containing at least christenings for no less than a 50-year time period, as of March 1987.

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