



# ROOTS & BRANCHES

**WETASKIWIN BRANCH**

**Alberta Genealogical Society**

*BRINGING THE PAST .....  
TO THE PRESENT .....  
FOR THE FUTURE! ©*

**Website:** [www.abgenealogy.ca/wetaskiwin-branch](http://www.abgenealogy.ca/wetaskiwin-branch)

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**APRIL, 2024**

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## **EXECUTIVE**

**President:** Alice Hoyle  
**Vice President:** Nelda Layton  
**Secretary:** Pam Cooke  
**Treasurer:** Leroy Koop

## **BRANCH MEETINGS**

Third Tuesday of the Month.  
Except July, August, December

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## **ROOTS & BRANCHES**

is published three times a year by and for the members of Wetaskiwin Branch of AGS. It is emailed to members and posted on our website.

## **COMMITTEES**

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- **Webmaster**

Leroy Koop

- **Volunteer Research**

Alice Hoyle  
Leroy Koop

- **Membership**

Leroy Koop

- **Programs**

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- **Publicity**

Alice Hoyle

- **Historian**

Rosella Plaquin

## **BRANCH LIBRARY**

Located at City Archives!  
For access call 780-352-0227  
(Heritage Museum)

If a local researcher is required contact  
[wetaskiwin@abgenealogy.ca](mailto:wetaskiwin@abgenealogy.ca)

## **PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS** Alice Hoyle

The Letter "C": Lately, I've noticed in my 'ponderings' that the letter 'C' at the start of a word keeps *coming* up time and time again. Is this *coincidence*? Oops, another "C" word!

So, some of the "C" words that have been rolling around in my brain are: *cooperation, collaboration, conference, classes, choices, challenges, concerns*, and the big one – *change*!

For most of us of a *certain age*, *change* is difficult. We all like to embrace the familiar and for most of us, *challenges* such as *changing* our thoughts, *contemplating* a different path for our future, and *certainly* trying to learn new *computer* skills and *concepts* can be *complicated*.

Attending a Genealogy *Conference* can be *cause* for *celebration: classes, consultations* with others, *collecting* information provided by *consultants* and *conference* presenters allows us to add to our knowledge as well as *celebrating* the opportunity to be in the *company* of like-minded individuals.

Are you the *custodian* of your family's genealogical records? Do you *cherish* the time you get to spend on your research or are you *challenged* to find the time to *continue* with your research? Have you *contemplated* what will happen to your research if you are no longer able to be the *custodian* of your *collection*? We all have *challenges, choices* and *concerns* we need to make decisions about.

In the midst of *complicated* events, *crises*, situations that we can't *change*, remember to take a deep breath, keep *calm* and *carry* on.

Members of our branch  
extend our condolences  
to Lorraine McKay  
on the passing  
of her husband  
George McKay  
December 28, 2023

## EDITOR'S CORNER

Sharon Aney

I apologize that this issue is late. I wanted to be able to report on significant April events: our Collectibles Market & the AGS AGM

~~~~~

"Community"

What is it? What / who makes make one?

Is it just the location of houses in close proximity to each other?

I think it is the *people* who live in an area, or who have a common outlook on a particular subject, like a "community of genealogists".

By gathering together, sharing our talents and resources, progress is made. By acting as community our ancestors built their schools, churches, and local governments.

Today those aspects of our lives are taken care of by institutions. But we still need community:

- to establish and support such things as social, recreational and cultural events,
- to advocate to institutions in order to establish, improve or retain what is beneficial to an area or group of people.
- to work together to accomplish goals
- for comfort and safety
- to share common beliefs and interests
- and most importantly... to nurture relationships and friendships

What community / communities are you part of?

~~~~~

PS. It is a total *coincidence* that my thoughts about *community* also begin with "C" ☺ SEA.



## MEETING PROGRAMS

### JANUARY 2024

#### **OKAY, I "GOT THE NEIGHBOURS" NOW WHAT DO I DO WITH THEM?**

##### **A Presentation from Elizabeth Shown Mills**

This detailed, American focused presentation emphasized that strategies and what we do with what we find are as important as sources. Friends, associates and neighbours, using census records and land deeds were identified as sources to prove identity.

### FEBRUARY 2024

#### **AI AND GENEALOGY: TROUBLE AHEAD?**

##### **Presentation by Thomas MacEntee**

AI is already used by those doing genealogy research.

Future uses of AI include the good and bad. The good are analyzing vast amounts of data, including DNA, translation and transcription, timelines and mapping. The bad include lack of transparency, bias, copyright, false information, privacy and cost.

### MARCH 2024

#### **GENEALOGY SMART START. THINGS I WISH I'D KNOWN**

##### **BY ELIZABETH WILLIAMS GOMOLL, CG**

A Family Tree Webinar, handout included.

This program included many tips for organizing family research, and a reminder that every individual will have different methods. Cite your sources and include a date that it was created. She reminded us to keep writing our family stories as your family will want to read your stories, not flip through piles of papers.

### APRIL 2024

#### **"7 TIPS FOR USING AI AS YOUR GENEALOGY ASSISTANT BY DANA LEEDS"** (Legacy webinars)

A syllabus was sent out to all members.. The

following are 3 generative AI platforms for

genealogy. CHATGPT: <https://chat.openai.com/>

GEMINI ADVANCED:

<https://gemini.google/advanced>

CLAUDE 3 OPUS: <https://poe.com/Claude-3-Opus>

## COLLECTIBLES MARKET

Sharon Aney



Sharon, Carole, Lee, Pam, Brian, Alice, Bob

On April 19 and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we held a successful "Collectibles Market" at the Heritage Museum for the benefit of the Museum.

Our members had been advocating since 2016 that our City Council should not shut down the City Archives, or otherwise dispose of it. We were relieved that Council eventually contracted with the Heritage Museum to manage the Archives.

We conceived the idea of a sale to defray some of the management costs that the Museum now incurs. As Chair, I am pleased to compliment our members on

- Their generous contribution of "collectibles" ... a result of what one of our members fondly referred to as "Swedish Death Cleaning", a process of getting rid of extraneous things in our lives.
- Their generous sharing of time for set up, attending at the sale and clean up afterward.



Russ



Nelda & Mavis



Carole @ Seniors Ctr. Tea a week earlier

There were some interesting stories:

- A lady was excited to find 2 Wedgwood pottery items, as its founder, Josiah Wedgwood, was an ancestor
- A lady was able to find just the right birthday gift for her husband – a model train
- A former Wetaskiwin resident was able to connect with the Museum and donate several significant items to its collection.
- A lady formerly from Ireland will treasure the Belleek china dish that she found

I feel that The Collectibles Market was a success on several levels:

- Financially
- Assisting the Wetaskiwin Seniors Society by donating our unsold inventory to it.
- Raising the profile of genealogy / family history in the community.
- Fellowship enjoyed by our members was a major benefit

## Collectibles Market Wind-Up

The Wetaskiwin Genealogy Society is pleased with the community support which helped us raise over \$900.00 to the benefit of the Heritage Museum / City Archives.

Sharon Aney and Lee Koop presented a cheque to Leah Johns, Museum Archives Coordinator on May 1.



## AGS – AGM, April 27, 2004

Again this year, members of our branch received awards at the Annual General meeting of the Alberta Genealogical Society, which was held in Red Deer.

### *KENNETH YOUNG NEWSLETTER AWARDS:*

#### *LEROY KOOP*



#### *BEST LOCAL CONTENT:*

IN ROOTS AND BRANCHES, APRIL 2023 issue  
For his article:  
VOLUNTEER RESEARCH: LUTHER B. MCSHANE REPORT

Presented by Al Bromling, AGS president

*Congratulations on a well-deserved  
recognition of your research skills!*



#### *25 YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AWARDED TO*

#### *ALICE HOYLE*

Presented by Al Bromling, AGS president

#### *SHARON ANEY, in absentia*

*Both members have received  
Life Memberships in previous years*

## VOLUNTEER RESEARCH

### WHO IS R. J. DICK ?

Leroy Koop

On January 2, 2024 the Wetaskiwin Branch received the following request from Lorna A.:

*Trying to locate a grave for Richard Dick born 1868/69 - would like more information on R J Dick buried in the Old Wetaskiwin Plot info: E 06 38. Thank you.*

First thoughts: First name initials only for the interred? That's not common, is it? Is it male or female? R. J. Dick, are you real?

The first step in the research project was to look at the AGS Cemetery Database.

DICK, R J	- buried 10 Mar 1945	E 06 38	Wetaskiwin	NW-14-046-24-W4	Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery	File No.: 1663 Record type: Cemetery
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R. J. Dick was buried on March 10, 1945 in plot E 06 38 of the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery. No remarks as to whether or not R. J. was male or female.

The Wetaskiwin Archives' obituaries showed six deceased with the Dick name. It was determined that four were from the Gerhard Dick family from Russia that emigrated in 1914 to the USA, then Saskatchewan & finally to Alberta after 1931. One obituary was for a descendant from a Ponoka area Dick family & the other from Edmonton. But no obituary for R. J. Dick.

The 2004 list of deceased in the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery showed five with the name Dick and in the Wetaskiwin Memorial Cemetery one. All six deceased were from the Gerhard Dick family. No R. J. Dick mentioned.

Here is what was found in the 2008 lists of deceased with the Dick name:

### Listing by Source/Cemetery

SURNAME, Given Name	Dates born-died	Plot No:
DICK, Gerhard K	19 May 1867 - 06 May 1944	E 19 1b
DICK, Katherina	1871 - 02 Feb 1967	E 19 1a
DICK, Marie Mary	1915 - 20 Jul 1995	E 63 3a
DICK, Peter	1896 - 15 Mar 1971	E 14 4a
DICK, R J	- Int 10 Mar 1945	E 06 38
DICK, Theodor Paul	21 Aug 1908 - 26 Sep 1945	E 14 4b
DICK, Carl Albert	22 May 1904 - 07 Nov 1979	L 09 52 A

Gerhard Dick family wasn't found.

The first six are in the Old Cemetery and Carl is in the Memorial Cemetery. All except R. J. Dick belong to the Gerhard Dick family. R. J. Dick? R. J. may be a child of one of this family's member. A bit weird considering he is shown in the same area as the others, but a link to the

The Alberta Death Registration Index, PEEL Newspapers online and local history books were searched. No R. J. Dick was found deceased in 1945. The only other place to search was the City of Wetaskiwin Archives for Burial Permits. The archivist emailed, that although Burial Permits were kept at the Archives, R. J. Dick was not among them.

**DEAD END**, pardon the pun.

Having had to wait for the Archives to reply to the Burial Permit request, it was decided to research Richard Dick, to see if he actually came to Alberta. Lorna provided information on Richard from three USA censuses. In all three, Richard is listed just above Henry in the James and Janet Dick family and both are the same age. Twins? Sometimes the numerator will indicate when two siblings are twins, but not in these three censuses.

The 1895 Minnesota, USA census shows something else peculiar:

<i>Naipor Richard</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Ontario</i>
<i>Dick Henry W</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Ontario</i>

Lorna wrote, "The biggest problem is the change of his name in the census - from Richard Dick to Richard Naipor (Napier),"

The reply to that comment was, "The fact that Henry & Richard are the same age on the early censuses made me think they were twins. What if Richard was a nephew of James & Janet Dick & Richard decided to go back to his original surname around 1895? Did you research Ontario records for the Dick family?"

It was also interesting to see middle initials for names on the 1895 census. It was decided to research Henry S. first. Henry's obituary was found:

## Early Settler In Alberta, Henry S. Dick Dies At 97

<p>One of Alberta's early settlers, <b>Henry Stretch Dick</b>, 97, died Sunday in St. Joseph's Hospital.</p> <p>He had been a patient in the hospital for the past eight years.</p> <p>Mr. Dick is survived by six sons, Murdock, Dawson Creek; John, Edmonton; and James, Bruce, Angus and Donald, all of Vancouver; four daughters, Mrs.</p>	<p>Jessie Scragg, St. Albert; Mrs. Steve (Helen) Attrell, Calgary; Mrs. Leif (Marjorie) Verkland, Edmonton, and Mrs. William (Laura) Campbell, Atmore; 40 grandchildren and 70 great-grandchildren.</p> <p>Mr. Dick was born in Peterborough, Ont. and moved with his family to Minnesota in 1870. He came to Alberta in 1899, homesteading in the Ponoka</p>	<p>district. In 1929 he took out a homestead in the Bonanza area.</p> <p>He lived in Atmore for three years, then moved to Edmonton about 10 years ago.</p> <p>Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. from Howard and McBride's Chapel with Rev. W. Bidewell officiating. Burial will be in Westlawn Memorial Park.</p>
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"**Stretch**" for a middle name? This was probably a surname and kept in memory as such.

Richard Napier was married on November 10, 1897 in Redwood, Minnesota, USA to Amy Scott. Richard shows up in the 1900, 1910, 1920 USA censuses living in Minnesota and in 1925 in Sioux Rapids, Iowa.

This last census showed that Richard's father was Andrew Napier born in Scotland and his mother was Francis **Stretch**. Richard's death registration was further proof of who his family was. Richard died in 1927 in Iowa.

ORIGINAL  
**STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**  
DEPARTMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS  
STATE OF IOWA

11- 996

1 PLACE OF DEATH  
County Des Moines State Ia Registered No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Township \_\_\_\_\_ or Village \_\_\_\_\_  
City George Rapids No. \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_  
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)

2 FULL NAME Richard Napier  
(Usual place of abode) St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_  
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred 7 yrs. mos. ds. How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS				MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
3 SEX <u>Male</u>	4 COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	5 Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (write by which) <u>Married</u>	16 DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) <u>11 14 1927</u>		
5a If married, widowed, or divorced HUSBAND of (or WIFE of) <u>Anna Napier</u>			17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>1922</u> to <u>Nov 1927</u> that I last saw h <sup>e</sup> alive on <u>Nov 14 1927</u> and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <u>10 P</u> THE CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows: <u>Lobar Pneumonia</u> (1014)		
6 DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) <u>Nov 6 - 1868</u>			18 Where was disease contracted (duration) yrs. mos. ds. <u>4</u>		
7 AGE Years <u>59</u> Months _____ Days <u>8</u> If less than 1 day, hrs. or min.			CONTRIBUTORY (Secondary) <u>Chronic Myocarditis</u> (duration) ? yrs. mos. ds.		
8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work... <u>Retired</u> (b) General nature of Industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer). (c) Name of employer			19 PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION OR REMOVAL DATE OF BURIAL <u>Our Sons Burial</u> <u>Nov 19 1927</u>		
9 BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) <u>Canada</u>			20 UNDERTAKER ADDRESS <u>Robson Sons Rapids Ia</u>		
10 NAME OF FATHER <u>Andrew Napier</u>			11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (city or town) (State or country) <u>Scotland</u>		
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Francis Stretch</u>			13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (city or town) (State or Country) <u>Yorkshire</u>		
14 Informant <u>Anna J. Napier</u> (Address) <u>1014 George Rapids Ia</u>			15 Filed <u>Nov 16, 1927</u> Registrar <u>T. H. Hagan</u>		

\*Cause of death, if not on ordinary list, must be in preparation record. Every item of information should be checked for accuracy. Cause of death should be given in full. Exact statement of occupation is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

**BINGO!** Research now went to Ontario.

Since Ontario registrations weren't in effect yet, censuses were used to determine whether or not Janet, married to James Dick, and Frances Stretch, married to Andrew Napier, were in fact related.

The 1851 Canadian Census shows John and Mary Stretch with a family of 10 children, the oldest being 19 and including Jennet (Janet), a 13 year old daughter. They resided in the Enumeration District #19 of Lanark County.

Also in the same Enumeration District was Andrew Napier (Napier) with his 20 year old wife Fanny (Frances). Fanny was one year older than the oldest child listed in the family of John and Mary Stretch.

The 1861 Canadian Census shows Janet Stretch married to James Dick with a 4 year old daughter. Frances Stretch and Andrew Napier had 5 children already.

In the 1871 Canadian Census Andrew Napier is listed as a widower with 8 children, the oldest being 18 and the youngest born in about 1867. Andrew remarried in 1878 but what happened to Frances? Did she die during Richard's birth or shortly thereafter?

The 1870 Minnesota, USA Census shows James & Jennie (Janet) Dick with 4 children + Richard. Their son Henry is shown the same age as Richard, 2 years old.



Although no documents were found regarding the death of Frances, maybe after her death Andrew asked Janet, Frances' sister, to raise Richard. Or Janet, who gave birth to Henry around the same time as Richard was born, may have simply offered herself as a surrogate mother to Frances's son.

The conclusion to this research was that Richard never came back to Canada and was not the R. J. Dick supposedly buried in the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery in 1945.

Lorna's final words were, "I think that is him - since he is not the son of James I will not link him to them. Thank you very much for your help. Yes the search for Richard is over and the file is closed."

Although Lorna is satisfied with the outcome of the research, the original question remains:

**Who is R. J. Dick who was buried in the Wetaskiwin Old Cemetery on March 10, 1945?**

~~~~~

## **FACT OR FICTION?**

Submitted by Mavis Nelson

In January, 2024, Alice sent out a link to the Montana newspapers online. Neil's one family had lived there and owned a large ranch. I thought it would be fun to look and see if I could find them. After typing in a few words, I came up with this article. I don't know if these are the people I was looking for but it is a cute article.

You decide .... Is it Fact or Fiction?

Ismay, Montana paper 1911-08-04

*"Helena, Mont.---- The remarkable ability of Mrs. Charles V. Holmes of this city to play "seven up" the other night prevented the robbery of her residence by a bold burglar and showed the other side of a Black Knight's heart.*

*Mrs. Holmes was awakened shortly after midnight, while alone in the house, her husband being absent from the city, and went to the door in answer to the door bell, presumably to greet her returning spouse. Instead, she faced the blue barrel of a big revolver and was sternly told to throw up her hands and keep her mouth shut, both of which she did. The robber entered the reception room as the woman backed in and closed and latched the door behind him.*

*Then, keeping his unwelcome hostess still under cover of his weapon, he calmly removed his coat and got out a bag with which he intended to carry off the plunder.*

*At this juncture Mrs. Holmes, who was in her night dress and half dead with fright, regained her self-possession and in a voice which had but few traces of quiver in it asked her "robber guest" if he would not like a "bit of something" as an "eye opener" before beginning the ransacking of the house.*

*The robber accepted the invitation and entered the dining room, where he took two drinks from a decanter of bourbon. Mrs. Holmes then begged him not to rob her of her*

*silverware and prized trinkets, and offered to give him all the money in the house and remain quiet if he would leave.*

*"Do you know anything about 'Seven Up'?", the robber unexpectedly asked. She said she did and a little game was proposed. The woman won. Then, regaining her self-control, she offered to play four games with the bandit with the understanding that if she lost, the robber was to be permitted to ransack the house and carry away every valuable which it contained. If the woman won the robber was to leave the house without taking anything.*

*The woman won the first game, the Black Knight the second, and with trembling fingers the little woman won the third. The robber dealt the cards for the fourth game and Mrs. Holmes won again.*

*The robber put the gun in his pocket, swallowed another drink, this time as a nightcap, then, raising and kissing the hand which had extended the glass, he called his unwilling hostess one of the best card players he had ever known. He added that her voice was the cause of his loss of a midnight haul and that if she ever were in trouble her sole protector need only be a melodious bit of speech such as had charmed him that night. With that the Black Knight had passed the threshold to the porch, the hall light went out, and little Mrs. Holmes fell in a faint on the floor.*

*Next morning, she told the story. "*

I enjoyed this little story and thought you might enjoy it too. I do not know for sure if it was Neil's relative, but it could have been. They were spunky ladies back in the day.

~~~~~

## **THE KEYS TO MORE SUCCESS (AND LESS FRUSTRATION)**

Amy Johnson Crow

Blog Jan 25, 2024

In my experience, the family historians who have the most success and the least amount of frustration with their research are the ones who **develop their sense of curiosity**, not just about their ancestors, but about the records and the research process.

If you're new to genealogy – or even if you've been doing this for a while – don't get discouraged when you don't know something about a record or a certain research method. Very few people come into genealogy knowing all about these historical records and how to use them. Stay curious. When you're looking at a record you're unfamiliar with, take a minute and really look at it. If you're on a website, is there anything like an "about" page or a "frequently asked questions" page for that resource?

**Stay open to learning** about different kinds of records and how you can use them.

~~~~~

## VOLUNTEER RESEARCH

### NELS B. ANDERSON, 1854 – 1940

Lee Koop

On March 22, 2024 the branch received a request through our website from K. A., that stated:

*"I'm looking for the gravesite of my great-great grandfather Anderson.*

*He had a farm there somewhere. Unfortunately I don't know what his 1st name was or date of birth or death.*

*My mom would spend summers on that farm in the 1930's and he was alive then. Needle in haystack perhaps!*

*Thanks."*

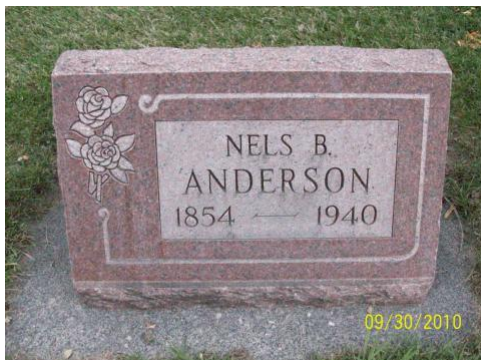
Oops! Not much to get started on.

An introduction email to identify the researcher was sent on March 25 and further stated; *"I'll need a bit more information from you. You say you know nothing about him, but what about your grandparents & your great grandparents. Any names, including maiden surnames, & dates of births, marriages & deaths for those generations would be a great help. I look forward to helping you."*

On Saturday of Easter weekend, March 30, K.A. was contacted by phone to find out if she had received the email. She had, and she was asked to forward any information she had to the return email address. That same day she sent the names of her grandfather & great grandmother, a bit of family info of both, and a snapshot of a Find-a-Grave web page of **Emily Matilda Anderson Whitlock**, her great grandmother. This page was linked to Emily's father **Nels B. Anderson**, K.A.'s great-great grandfather, and to **Archibald "Archie" Whitlock**, K.A.'s grandfather. K.A. further stated she would like to visit the farm site where her mother biked as a child to the railway line and back.

The research project had life.

It should be pointed out that Find-a-Grave information is not always correct. Apparently anyone can open an account with Find-a-Grave which allows one to edit the data. Although Find-a-Grave is good for clues and/or other family member names, the only data one should assume correct is the name and place of the cemetery. One should be able to assume that the photographer of the monuments would know the name of the cemetery.



In this case someone states that the Nels B. Anderson's monument death date of 1940 is incorrect and it should be 1939. Here was the first research project. The Death Registration for Nels B. Anderson was ordered from the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

Nels died on 16 April **1940** and it also states that interment will take place in Idaho Falls, Idaho, USA.

The Edmonton Journal, 20 April 1940 also implied that Nels died in **1940**.

**Nels Anderson, 85,  
Dies at Wetaskiwin**  
(Special to The Journal)  
WETASKIWIN, April 20. — A pioneer of the Wetaskiwin district, Nels Anderson, 85, died this week. Funeral service was held Friday, conducted by Rev. D. N. Ericson, at the Swedish Mission church. The body will be taken to Idaho Falls, Idaho, for interment in the family plot.  
Edmonton Journal - 20 Apr 1940 - Page 9

The article to the right from The Post-Register, 22 April 1940, Idaho Falls, Idaho, USA also addresses the death year as **1940**.

The U.S., Evangelical Covenant Church, Swedish American Church Records, 1868-1970 indicated the following:

|              |                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Name         | Mr. Nels B. Anderson                                |
| Record Type  | Burial                                              |
| Death Age    | 85                                                  |
| Birth Date   | 22 Dec 1854                                         |
| Birth Place  | Skoge, Sweden                                       |
| Death Date   | 16 Apr 1940                                         |
| Burial Date  | 24 Apr 1940                                         |
| Burial Place | Mission Church, Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho, USA |

The burial took place in **1940**.

The thing to remember? Always try to find as many sources as possible in proving an event date.

All four sources implied the year 1940 and that interment would take place in Idaho Falls.

Nels final resting place was Rose Hill Cemetery, Idaho Falls, Bonneville County, Idaho, USA.

Newspaper articles are important in reporting not only dates but also in filling in life between those dates.

## Services Set for Nels Anderson, Early I.F. Resident

Funeral services for Nels B. Anderson, 85, Idaho Falls pioneer who died April 16 at his ranch home in Wetaskiwin, Alberta province, Canada, will be held Wednesday at 2 p. m., in the McHan funeral home here.

Interment will take place in Rose Hill cemetery.

A native of Sweden, born December 22, 1854, Mr. Anderson came to Idaho with his family in 1894 and settled in the New Sweden district.

He made the trip across the plains in a covered wagon with his family and a brother, A. B. Anderson, who still resides here.

Mr. Anderson left here in 1903 to take up residence in Canada. Mrs. Anderson died in 1897.

Survivors in addition to his brother here include the following sons and daughters:

Mrs. Hilda Cutter, Los Angeles; Mrs. Dora Terrill, Stanley Basin, Idaho; Mrs. Minnie Salter, Mrs. Maude Baker, A. W. Anderson and Elmer Anderson, all of Alberta province.

He also leaves another brother, C. W. Anderson, Oshkosh, Neb., and a sister, Mrs. Olive Rosene, Moline, Ill.

The body will arrive here Tuesday night.

The Post-Register - 22 Apr 1940  
Idaho Falls, Idaho, USA

The second part of this research project was to locate Nels' farm's actual location. Nels arrived in Alberta in 1903. In the 1906 Alberta Census, Nels lived on the SW 1/4 Sec 4 Twp 46 Rge 23 Mer W4. With him were three single children, his mom and dad and his sister-in-law. The 1911 census still shows his residence as this section but doesn't stipulate which quarter. At this time Nels had with him two single children, one divorced daughter with three sons and the sister-in-law.

Using the 2018 Wetaskiwin County Ownership Map the two sections that Nels was involved with are highlighted with a green boundary.



The "X" marks the SW 1/4 Sec 4 Twp 46 Rge 23 Mer W4 where Nels resided from 1903 for approximately ten years.

The "Y" marks the NW 1/4 Sec 33 Twp 45 Rge 23 Mer W4. Nels lived on this yard until his death on 16 April 1940.

Using the **Legal Land Description Converter** at <https://legallandconverter.com/>, The legal land description was converted to Latitude 52.923391 and Longitude 113.281394.

Entering these numbers into **GOOGLE EarthPro**, an overhead view of Sec 33 Twp 45 Range 23 Meridian W4 was obtained.

The yellow tack is in the centre of the section. Once again the "X" and "Y" indicate the two quarters that Nels resided on. The road markers were placed on this image to help identify where the Nels' farm was located.

After forwarding this research to K. A., she replied, *"Wow this is fantastic!!!"*

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## THE WOMEN OF ASPENLAND

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### MARJORIE PAINE TANNE



Marjorie Paine was born on November 27, 1912, in Rowledge, Surrey, England to Arthur and Alice Paine. Surrey was home to many large country houses with extensive gardens whose owners employed fulltime gardeners. Marjorie's father was an estate gardener and the Paine family home always boasted a beautiful garden. Her mother stayed at home and raised five children, of whom Marjorie was the oldest. She had two sisters, Dorothy and Elsie, and a brother, James. Her youngest brother, Fred was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1938.

After school and prior to WWII, Marjorie was living in London and working as a secretary for the London County Council. When the bombing of Britain started, Marjorie was working for a large department store in London. One morning, she went to work and discovered that the store had been bombed the night before; nothing was left.

She found work elsewhere until 1941 when she was called up for the war effort. She had a choice to work near her hometown and so she moved home and began employment as a shorthand typist for the British military on the base at Aldershot. Marjorie worked as a civilian in the claims department of the British Army, where truck accidents involving the British and Canadian military were investigated. She bicycled to work every day until 1944, when she found a job as an office manager in an engineering factory that was closer to home. The factory made parts for supersonic planes-very secretive work at that time, and Marjorie stayed there until the war ended in 1945.

The town of Aldershot would regularly organize recreational events, such as dances, for the soldiers. Marjorie met her future husband, Lorne Tanne from Mundare, Alberta at a dance after the war had ended in 1945. "He wasn't very tall, an inch taller than me. He must have picked me because he thought that I would make a good dance partner." Their paths would cross two or three times and the young couple soon became better acquainted.

Lorne joined the Canadian military in approximately 1941 and served first as a Private in the artillery department, and then later as a Clerk in the Pay Corp. He remained in England after the war ended and worked for the Canadian Wives Bureau in London until 1947. Fifty years after the war, Marjorie was waiting for a bus in Edmonton and started to chat with a woman next to her who had an English accent. During the course of their conversation, the two women discovered that their husbands had worked in the same office together in England during the war.

Because there were so many women leaving England to join their foreign husbands, it was inevitable that Marjorie would know several young girls who had left home after marrying foreign soldiers. Her cousin Violet had married a Canadian soldier and had moved to Grande Prairie, Alberta during the war.

Marjorie's decision to immigrate to Canada was not a unique happening in the Paine family. Her father, Arthur, had two sisters who had left home at seventeen and nineteen years of age and immigrated to Canada in the 1890's. One married a farmer and settled in Saskatchewan and the other lived in Toronto. Correspondence between Arthur and Marjorie's aunts meant that the Paine family in England learned about life in Canada.

Marjorie married Lorne in Surrey in 1947 at the registrar's office. They had a small ceremony, and Lorne left England in the spring of that year and returned to Canada. He stayed for a short time with his sister in Edmonton before finding work in Wetaskiwin at Brody's Department Store. Marjorie flew to New York in June 1947 and then traveled by train, first to Montreal and then on to Wetaskiwin, where Lorne met her at the railroad station. He was living in an apartment on Main Street, above the Sterling's "Five Cents to a Dollar" Store (currently Centaurs Restaurant).

Lorne's sister and her husband enjoyed traveling and they took Marjorie on a trip to Banff and Jasper shortly after she arrived in Canada. "The size of Canada didn't bother me. I can remember one trip we took Jasper and Banff, in the summer of 1947...we slept in the car and we traveled on gravel roads," Marjorie recalls.



Marjorie and Lorne had one daughter, Carole, who was born on October 5, 1947. One year later, the Tannes bought a wartime house at 5513 48 Avenue, where they lived for the next fifty years.

Marjorie and Lorne were very active in the community. Lorne served as a Wetaskiwin City Councilman from 1960 to 1971. He became manager of Brody's and stayed with the firm until he retired at age sixty-five.

Marjorie belonged to and worked with the Anglican Church, and she was a member of the IODE in Wetaskiwin. Marjorie is a lifetime member of the Legion Auxiliary, an honour bestowed on her for her work as secretary treasurer and president for the organization. Marjorie met many of the local business people when she began temporary office work, and for seventeen years she worked as a secretary-treasurer for the Battle River Planning Commission. The Commission, whose head office was in Wetaskiwin, was responsible for all of the subdividing and planning for local Alberta communities.

Lorne and Marjorie enjoyed the warmth and sunshine of Hawaii, traveling to the islands numerous times because Marjorie disliked the snow and the cold weather. Lorne passed away in 1998 and Marjorie left Wetaskiwin in 1999. She presently lives in Edmonton.

Based on audio-taped interviews with Marjorie Tanne, July 2003.

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