
PRITCHARD NEWS

Spring 2007

Est. 1834

Free

Cemetery Cleanup

2007

Please come out on Saturday, May 26th, 2007 to the Pritchard Cemetery in beautiful Alcove, Quebec to help with this years edition of the cemetery clean up. New faces are always welcome (especially when accompanied by tools such as axes, pruning shears, etc). Clean up gets under way around 9.30 am – but usually lasts until near noon so don't be shy about coming out if you can't get there early, even if you miss the work it is a neat place to visit. If you need directions please contact Sondra Dillabaugh at (613) 821-2721.

2006

Thank you to those who came out and helped out with last years clean-up.

75th Annual Pritchard Reunion To Be Held at Cottage of Kevin and Joanne Easey



Sorry this isn't the Easey cottage where the reunion will be held this year – but it does have a connection. This is Hilton Park, Co. Monaghan Ireland (see www.hiltonpark.ie/) on the estate of the Madden family – where it appears James and Judith Pritchard were tenants (the estate, not the manor, otherwise they likely would have never left) before immigrating to Canada. (see story on back page)

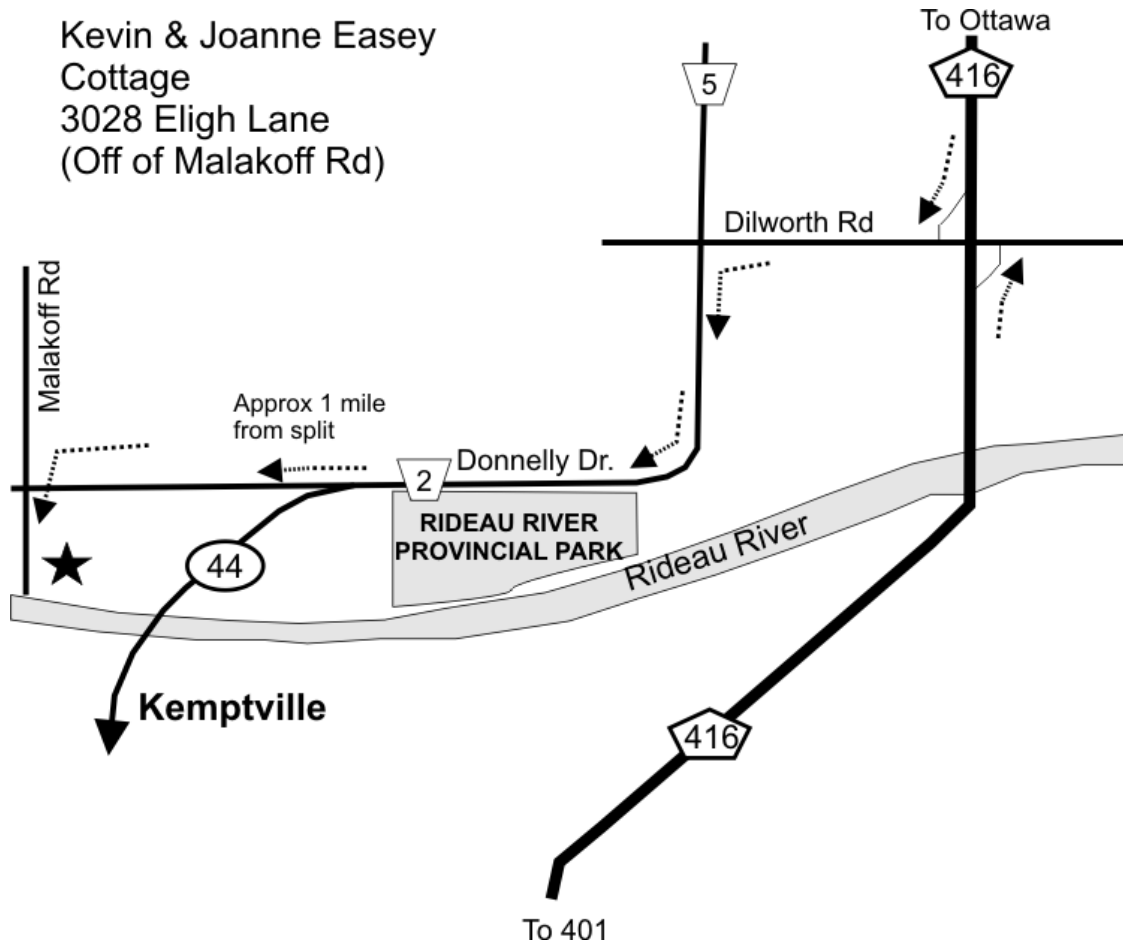
The 2007 Reunion will be held at cottage of Kevin and Joanne Easey on the Rideau River near Kemptville, Ontario (about 30 minutes south of Ottawa) on **Sunday, July 8th, 2007**. This is a new location for the reunion so please take a careful look at the map on the back before setting out!

This will be the 75th Annual Pritchard Reunion. At the 50th Reunion in 1982 we had 191 people in attendance, last year we only had about 50, so lets try and get as many folks out as possible. Hope to see you all there.

2006 REUNION

The home of Ruggles and Marika Pritchard in Greely Ontario has become a familiar stop on the Pritchard Reunion tour. Once again Ruggles and Marika kindly hosted another successful reunion in 2006. While the food and weather were wonderful there were not as many people in attendance as we would have liked to have seen. Unlike in past years we didn't have any visitors from far off places, but those who came had an enjoyable time.

There were games and as usual the family business meeting. Sadly the secretary (sorry!) lost the meeting notes so I haven't much to report – I promise to take better care this year!



NEW INFORMATION ON JAMES AND JUDITH PRITCHARD

The following are excerpts for a message from James Kenny that provide some new details on James and Judith Pritchard's:

In 1999 I visited Ireland and discovered at the National Library in Dublin that James and Judith Pritchard had been living as tenants on the estate of the Madden Family in the parish of Currin, townland Briscarnagh. This was about the same time that your genealogist was coming to the same conclusion. Incidentally to this I read in a survey description of the parish from the early nineteenth century that both spellings of Currin and Curran were in use with one spelling favoured by one end of the parish(I can dig up this reference if you wish) Anyway (back to my story) a couple of years later I saw a cover of a beautiful manorial house in Ireland on the cover of the English magazine Country Life. In the text I found that it was in the hands of the Madden Family in Co. Monaghan and on further research found that Briscarnagh townland had been a part of that estate until the estate was broken up probably in the 1920s. The estate is known as Hilton Park and since they accept guests and had a website I threw caution to the wind and emailed the Maddens to inquire about the estate papers. He said they were deposited with the Public Records Office in Belfast some years ago. On the net I have found that the Belfast PRO does give the details of that collection. If the Pritchard Family "kitty" can afford it perhaps a Belfast genealogist could be engaged to peruse the estate papers. If I was on the other side of the world I would be pleased to do it myself. I think a professional genealogist/researcher would know how to sort through estate papers, in this case starting at about 1830. These are a valuable source of information and might give more clues about the time of the departure of the Pritchards for Canada and perhaps even the reasons (by reading between the lines).

Contact Info

You may contact me at (819) 827-8215 or by email at cdillaba@connect.carleton.ca or my mother Sondra Dillabaugh (613) 821-2721, or Victor Dillabaugh (vic.dillabaugh@ottawa.ca) if you have any information for the newsletter. If you want to be really sure that your information is remembered you may want to contact all three :o)

