INSTRUCTIONS FOR CompleTING A FIVE-GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART

Approach researching and documenting your family’s history systematically. Transcribe information about your family on the “five-generation” pedigree chart. This chart will help you organize any available information into a standardized format that will serve as a guide throughout your research. In addition, a pedigree chart will enable WRHS staff and volunteers to evaluate your data and to answer your questions more effectively.

**Working in pencil,** begin with your name at #1, your father’s at #2, your mother’s at #3, etc. Continue with this pattern (outlined on the chart) to the best of your ability. Please observe the following instructions as you do so:

1. The information gathered on each person includes:
   - b. = date of birth
   - w. = where/location of birth
   - m. = date of marriage
   - w. = where/location of marriage
   - d. = date of death
   - w. = where/location of death

2. Women should be listed by their maiden names. If the maiden name is unknown, leave a blank.

3. Dates should be written as follows: **21 June 1958** (rather than 6/21/58 or 6-21-58). If the exact date is unknown, try to approximate: ca. 1850 (ca. = “circa”, Latin for “around” or “about”).

4. Locations (w.) are as significant as dates. They can include a city, county, State and/or country.

5. Add other pertinent information concerning date of immigration and place of burial, etc., if significant.

Once you have listed all the available vital statistics on your “five-generation chart” to the best of your ability, feel free to return to the Reference Desk. Discuss any questions you might have concerning your family history and develop a research strategy with a WRHS staff member or volunteer.

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FIVE GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART

Chart No. ____________
No. ____________ on this chart is No. ____________
on chart No. ____________

1 (your name)
b. w. m.
w. d. w.

(spouse)
b. w.

2 Father
b. w. m.
w. d. w.

3 Mother
b. w. d. w.

b = date of birth
w = where/location of birth
m = date of marriage
w = where/location of marriage
d = date of death
w = where/location of death

4 Grandfather
b. w. m.
w. d. w.

5 Great Grandfather
b. m.
d. g.

6 Great Grandmother
b. d.

7 Great Grandmother
b. d.

8 Great Grandfather
b. m.
d.

9 Great Grandmother
b. d.

10 Great Grandfather
b. m.
d.

11 Great Grandmother
b. d.

12 Great Grandfather
b. m.
d.

13 Great Grandmother
b. d.

14 Great Grandfather
b. m.
d.

15 Great Grandmother
b. d.

16