

CLAN McLEOD

HELENSVILLE

In the following pages it is my pleasure to record a condensed Genealogy to my updated addition of the McLeod Family Tree.

For those who are of the Helensville McLeod bloodline I have tried to piece together your part in the maze of names that descend from our forefathers Isaac and Janet also John and Helen in their venture to New Zealand to pioneer the settlement of Helensville.

Jock McLeod
South Head
Helensville
September 1995

CLAN McLEOD

EARLY HISTORY

The History of the McLeod descends from the Norsemen who around the eighth century ventured to the western isles of Scotland first to raid and plunder then slowly to settle these islands and shores.

Around the thirteenth century among these people was a flourishing chief by the name of Leod who became the founder of the Clan. According to tradition he was the son of Olave the Black, the King of Man and through him descended from the Royal House of Norway.

Leod ruled over the Outer Hebrides and Skye and by his marriage to a daughter of the Norse Governor of Skye obtained Dunvegan. From his two sons descended the two branches of the Clan, Siol Tormod which held Dunvegan, Skye, Harris, Uist and Glenelg and Siol Torquil which held Lewis, Waternish, Raasay and districts of Gairloch and Assynt on the mainland.

By the fourteenth century both branches of the McLeods were at their strongest and entirely independent of each other. But feuding with other Highland Clans through the next two centuries had a weakening effect upon them both.

At the end of the sixteenth century a new factor came into Highland history. In 1585 James VI of England took over the Government of Scotland and was determined to bring order to the feuding highlanders. However, there was a strong profit motive behind his eagerness for control through a system of fines, forfeiture of land and fishing rights and having Western Chiefs report yearly to the Scots Privy Council thus partially depriving them of their wealth and heritage. Also the children of all Clan Chiefs from the outer isles were required to attend a landward school to learn English.

With these Clans subdued by the James Government the Clans of Siol Tormod and Siol Torquil lost substantial parts of their realm. Following this setback fighting still existed through the years against the English until around the seventeenth century when many clans were deprived of their old powers as Chiefs and Landowners and in these latter times had to sell land to meet the increased burden of taxation. So it was no wonder that many Scots were saddened and frustrated by this change of life. With the Americas opening up for settlement, people of the Hebrides and Western mainland began to venture forth to this land of opportunity.

Included in these migrants of 1817 were two Isle of Skye Scots, William McLeod and his wife Janet (nee McDonald) and a family of six, Duncan, Isaac, Susy, Catherine, Donald and Grace who at this period lived in the district of Lairg in Sutherlandshire.

Unsatisfied with their existing conditions in Scotland they joined Reverend Norman McLeod and his followers in his migration from Lock Broom to Nova Scotia on the sailing ship "Frances Ann".

After arriving at their destination William, Janet and Family were allocated land in 1820 at Pleasant Valley, Pictou County, Nova Scotia where they increased their family to nine with the addition of Alexander, Janet and John.

Isaac McLeod the second son of William and Janet ventured from Nova Scotia to Newcastle New Brunswick to farm and develop 400 acres of land on the banks of the Mirimichi river region where in 1825 Isaac lost his home, hay sheds and wintering barn to a great forest fire.

After this disastrous 'set back' he married Janet Brimner of Chatham in 1834 and with courage and determination they both became secure once more with a new homestead and wintering barns.

John McLeod in 1844 arrived in New Brunswick from Nova Scotia to live with his brother Isaac where he learned the skills of operating a business of bush craft and timber milling.

In 1846 when John was 21 years old, he wed Helen Alexander aged 16 years and began married life under the roof of the Alexander Home. Soon the young couple were parents to Andrew and William and about this time John departed for the California goldfields. The bursting of the Sacramento Dam in 1849 washed away any hopes of John winning a golden fortune, he then moved on through the Australian gold fields to Coromandel New Zealand where he met Thomas Henderson who asked him to build and manage a larger timber mill in the Henderson Settlement near Auckland.

By 1855 John rented the new timber mill from Thomas Henderson where he was able to apply his skills in bush craft that he had learned in New Brunswick. This venture lasted until the early 1860's when John returned home to his wife and family and older brother Isaac pursuing him, his wife and family of nine to emigrate to New Zealand to mill the King Kauri at Te Awaroa, South Kaipara.

No time was wasted in purchasing the Schooner "Sea Gull" 81½ ft. x 24¾ ft. in beam and 126 tons. With the plans for emigration completed : "Sea Gull" bade

farewell to Pictou Nova Scotia with a crew of 30 souls aboard, among them close relatives of the McLeod's, the Andersons, McPhersons, Porters and Alexanders.

After six months at sea the tired crew of "Sea Gull" arrived in Auckland on the 24th May 1862. Resting in Auckland until September Isaac and John were invited by an influential Ngati Whatua Chief to travel through Riverhead to Waikoukou then on to Te Awaroa, later named Helensville after John's wife Helen to set up a home timber mill and a transit camp for migrants travelling north on the Kaipara Harbour by boat to Albertland. Later in the year Helen, Janet and their children followed the path of their menfolk, their destination a tiny frontier settlement with two Nikau whares awaiting these two brave women, after their two day long walk.

With the birth of Helensville so ended the voyaging of our Scottish Forefathers.

Notes to Clan McLeod Family Tree

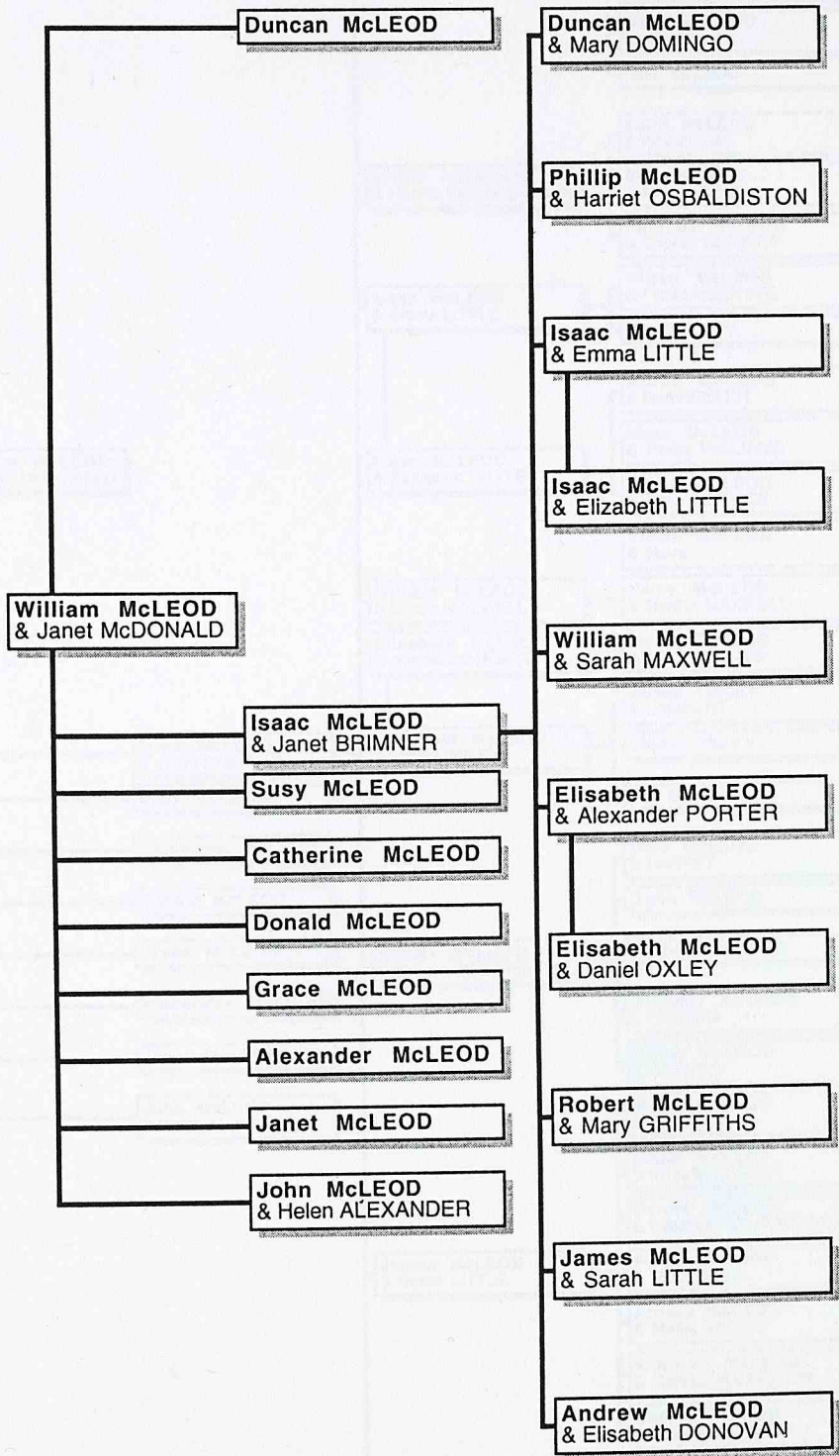
The tree layout has been created on a Power Macintosh computer using "REUNION" a programme specifically designed for creating genealogical records. The file can be converted to IBM compatible DOS.

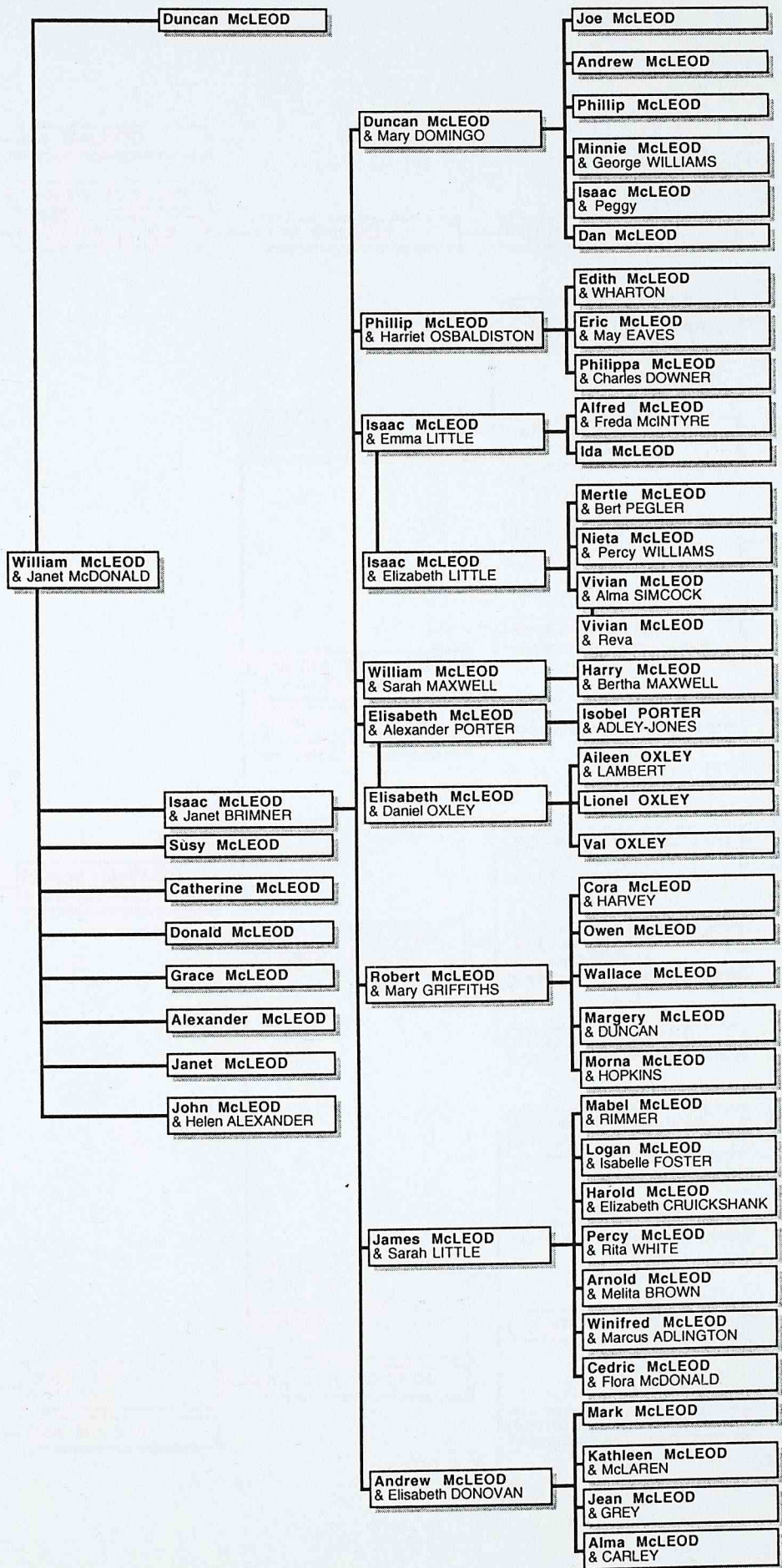
To keep the readability reasonable, each of the pages printed cover only a few generations and overlap. The whole tree is however fully connected in the programme and any portion of the tree or a pedigree line can be printed separately. As can be seen from P1. of the tree (to 2 descendants) and P2. (to 3 descendants) the readability reduces quickly if a complete family branch is required on one page.

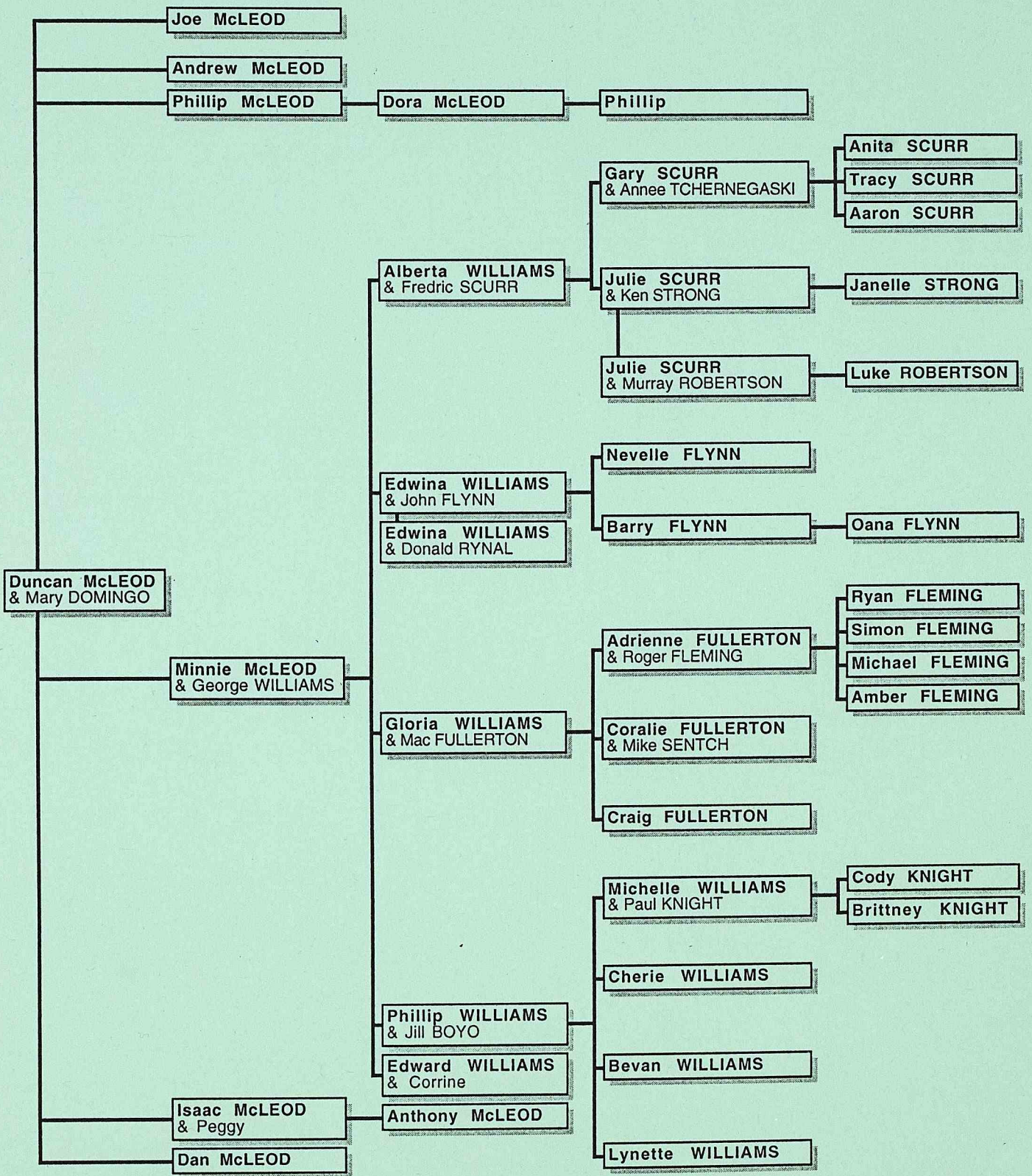
At present the file is 1.1Mb in size which can easily be supplied on a single floppy disk.

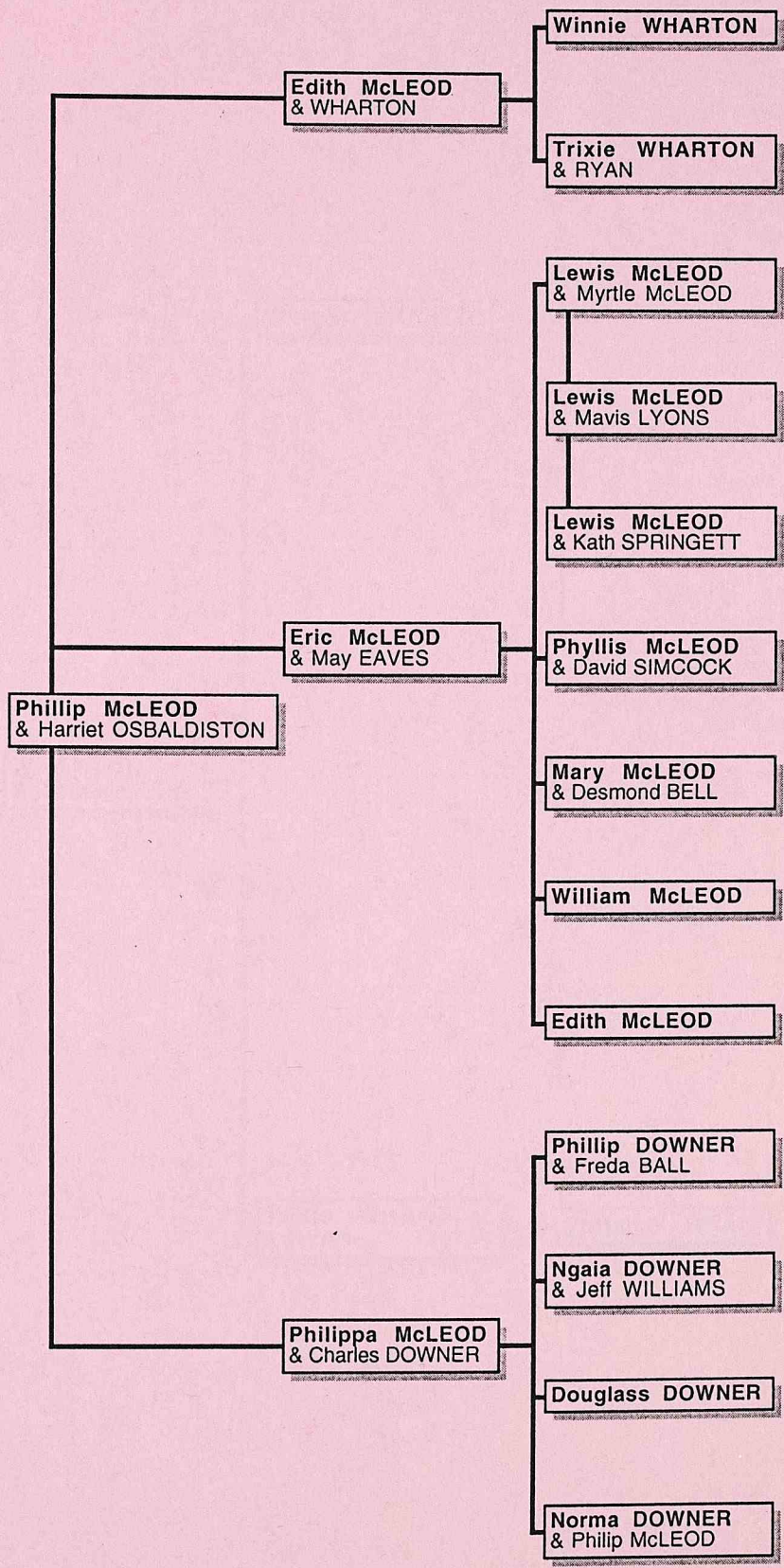
Reunion has the capability of adding photos and written notes regarding individual members of the family and these can either be added on the current file in the originating computer or by purchasing the programme and installing the information.

It is easy to alter most of the data in the file including spelling of names, addition of event dates etc.







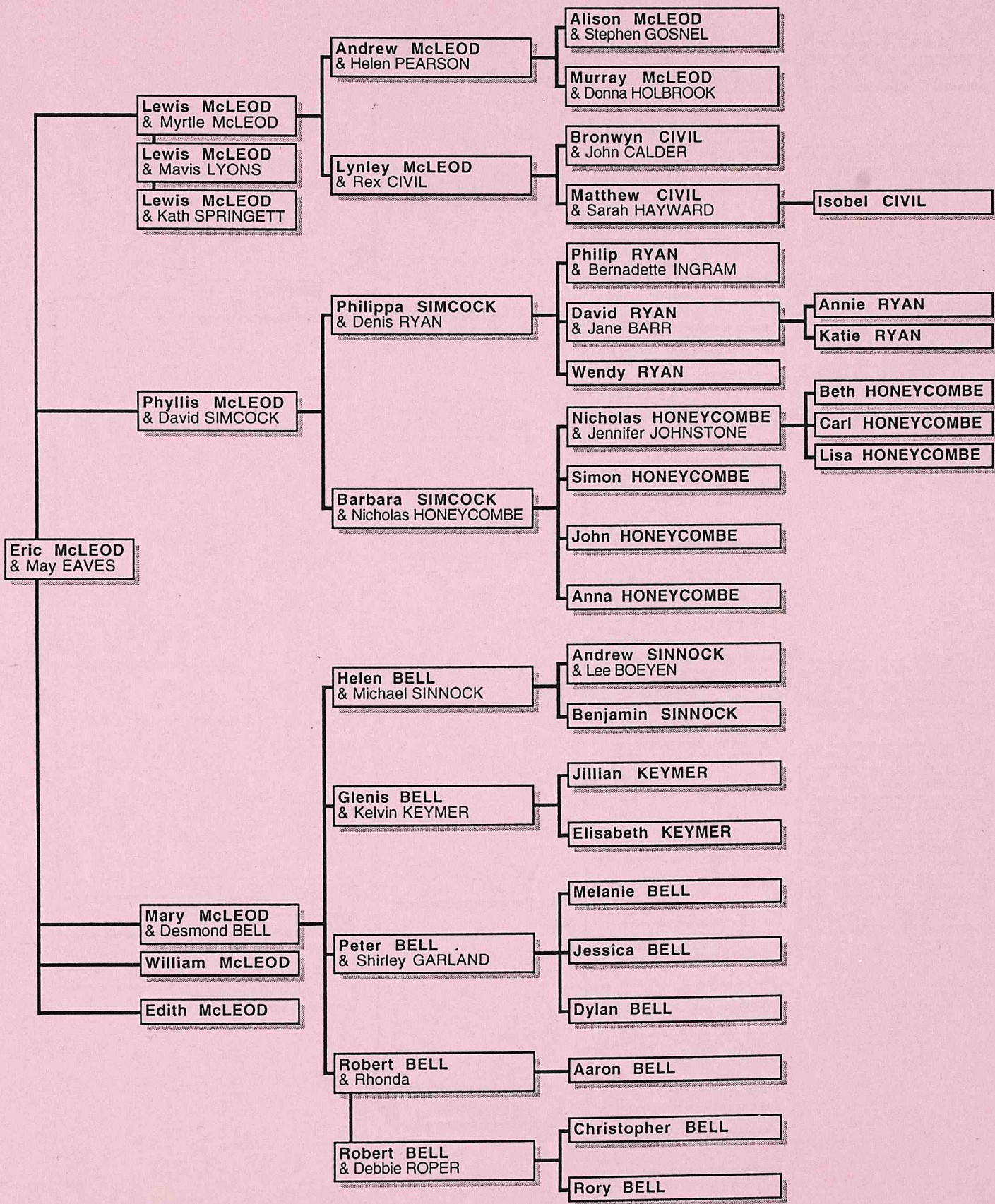


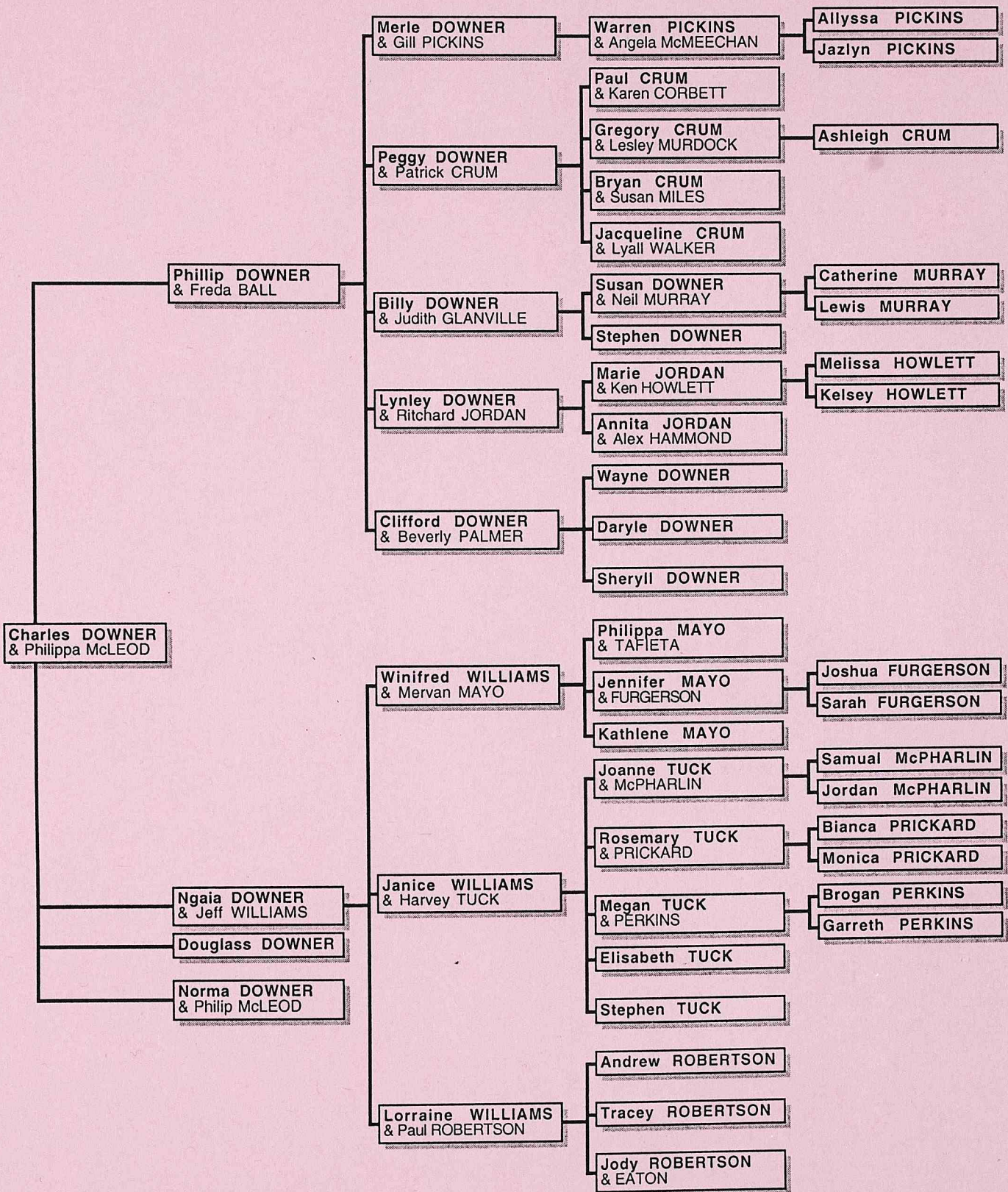
Winnie WHARTON

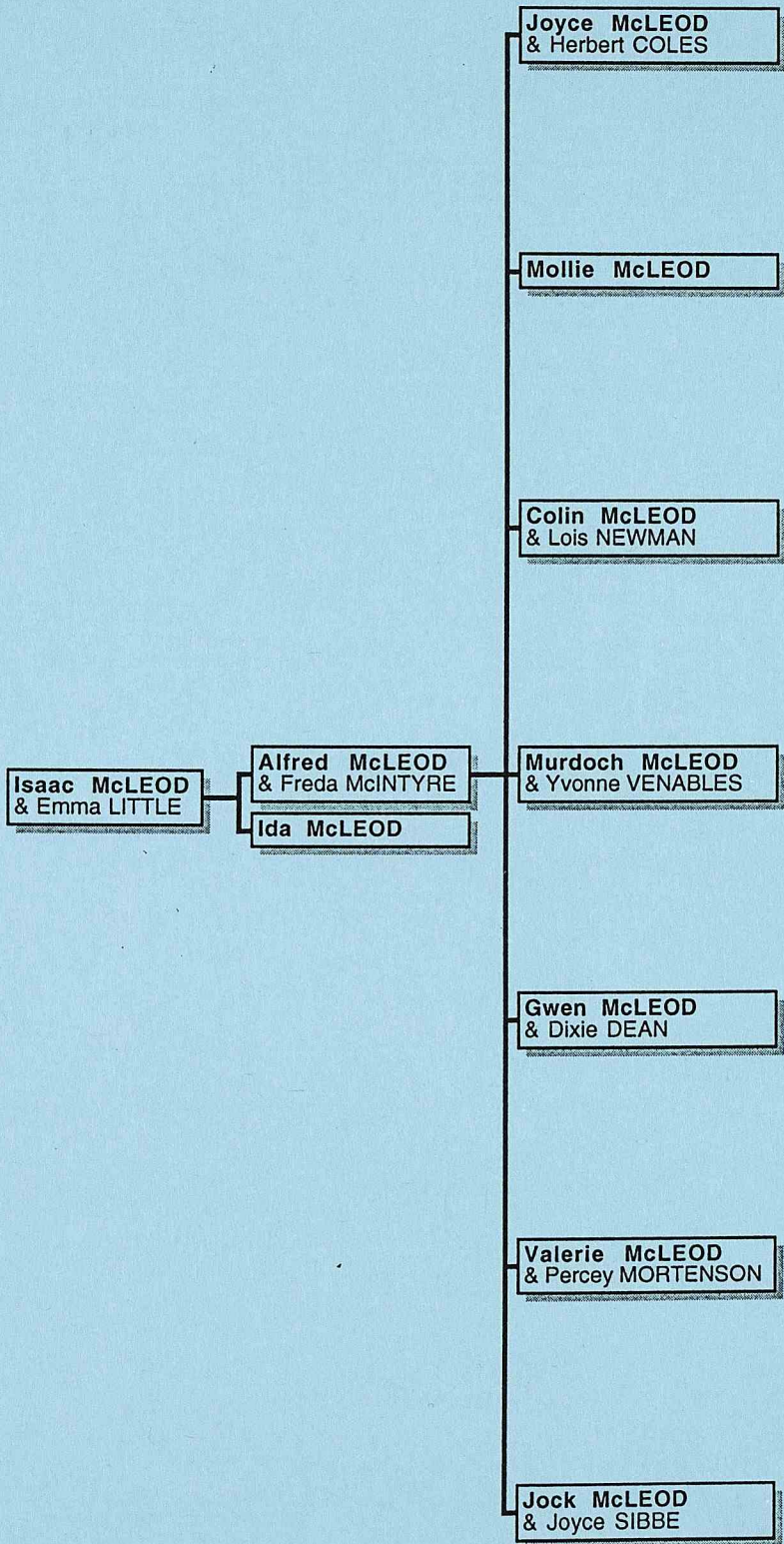
WHARTON
& Edith McLEOD

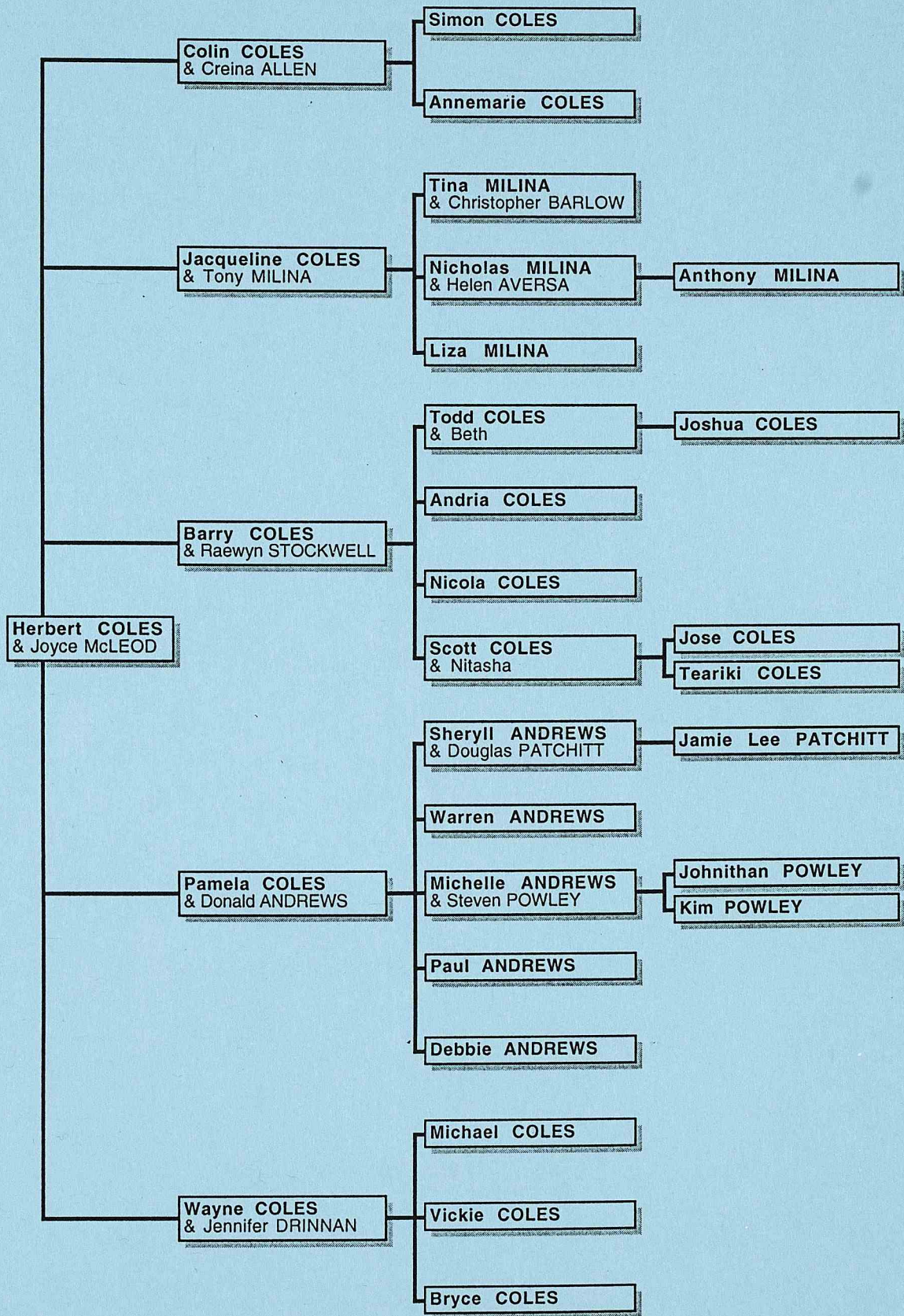
Trixie WHARTON
& RYAN

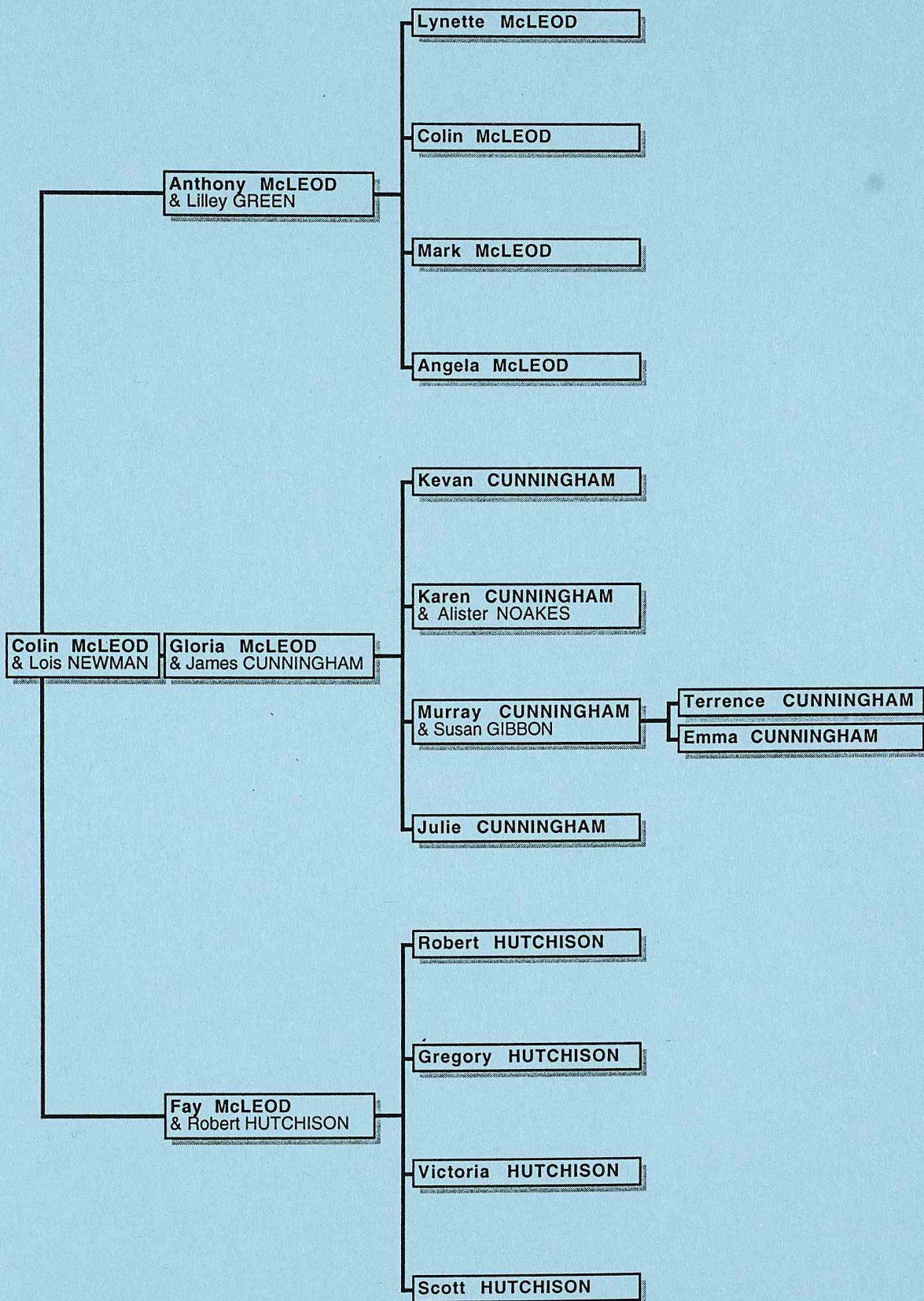
Bettrice RYAN

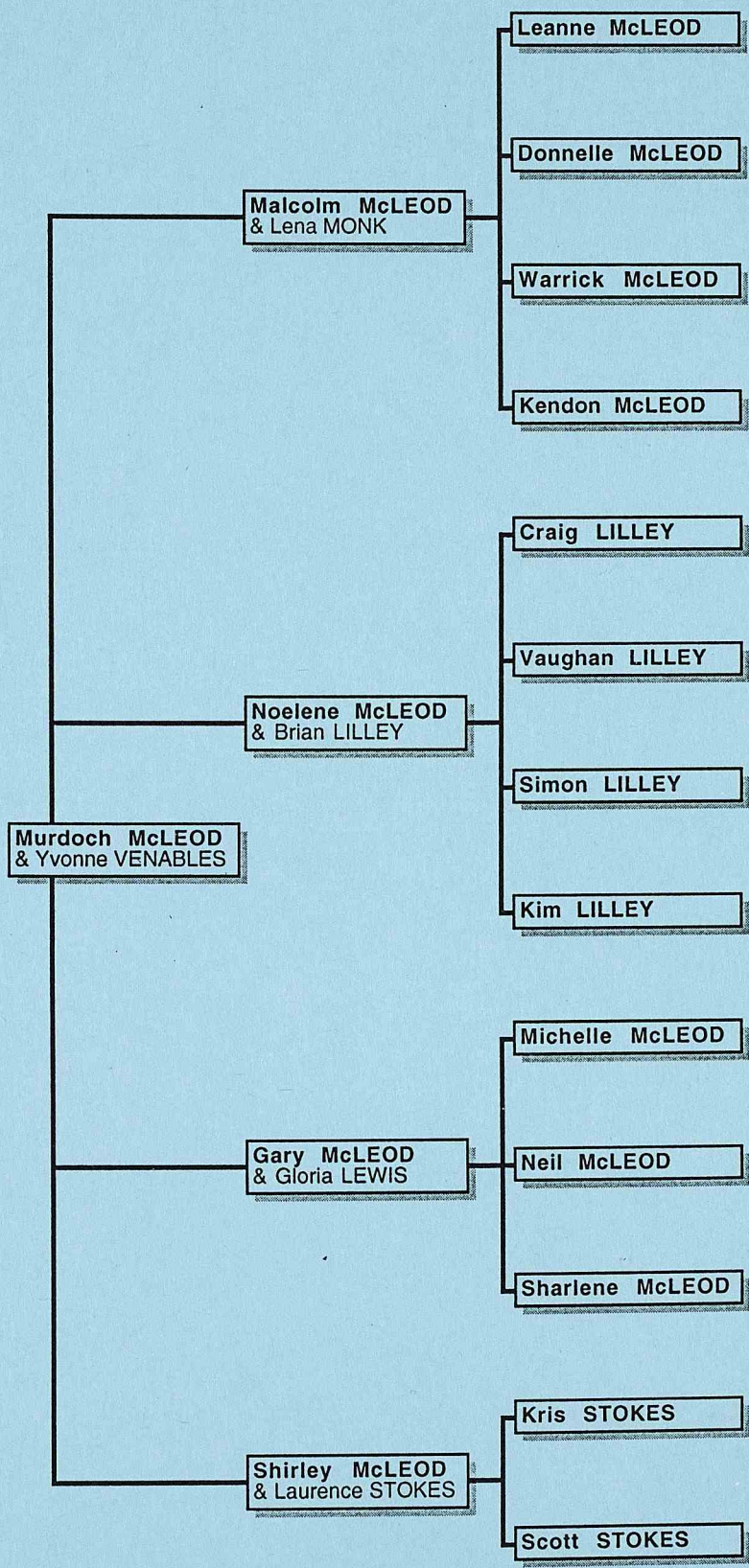


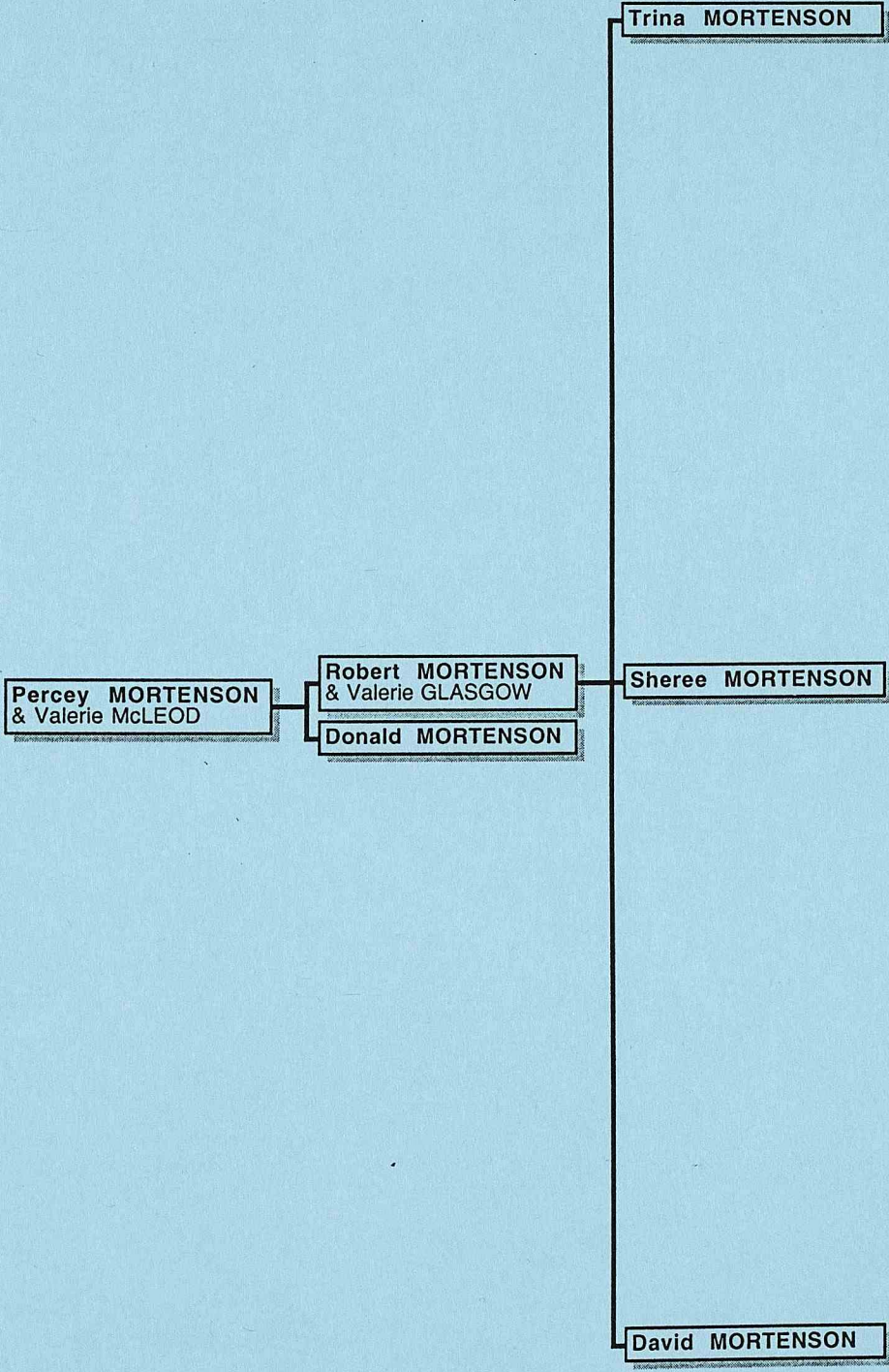


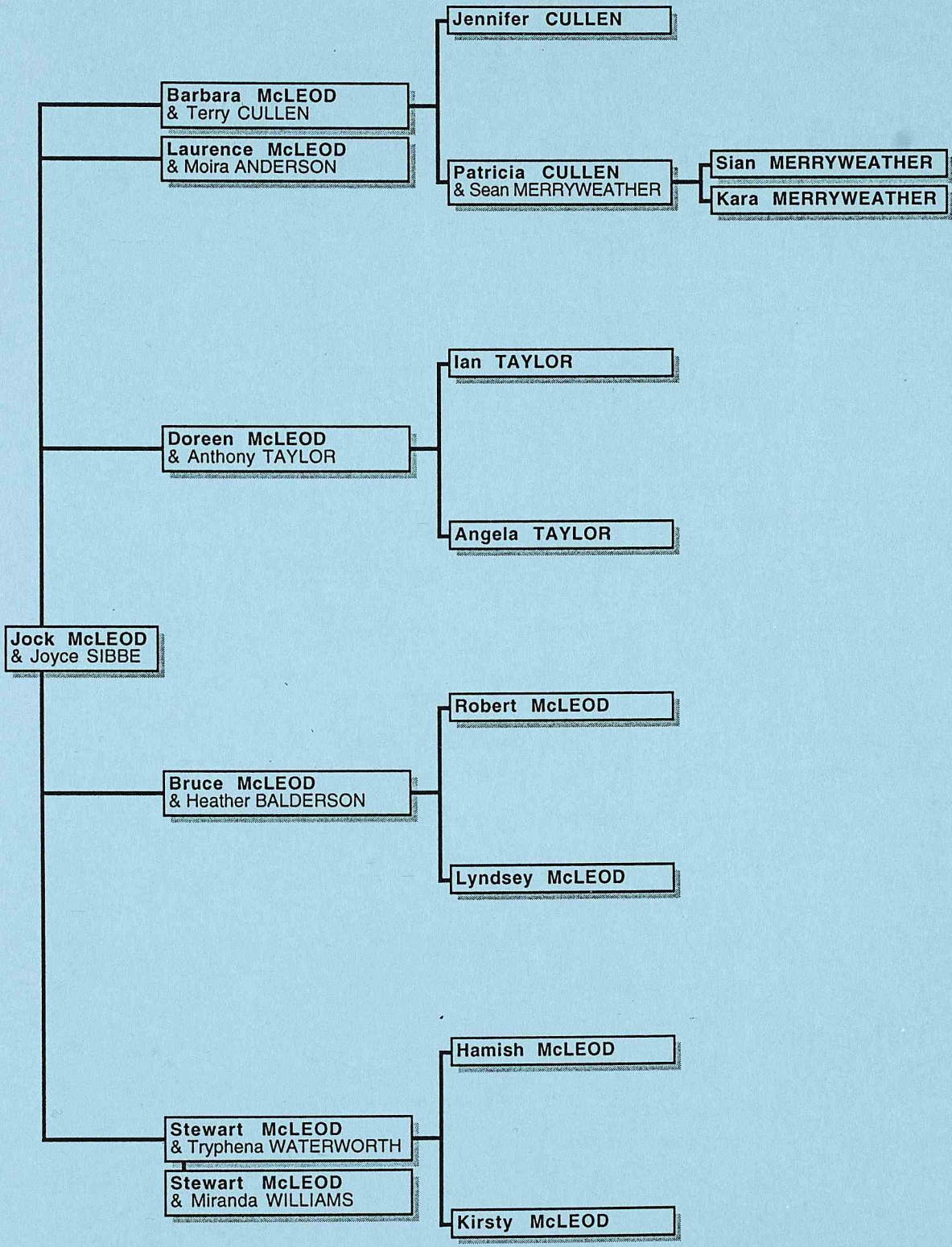


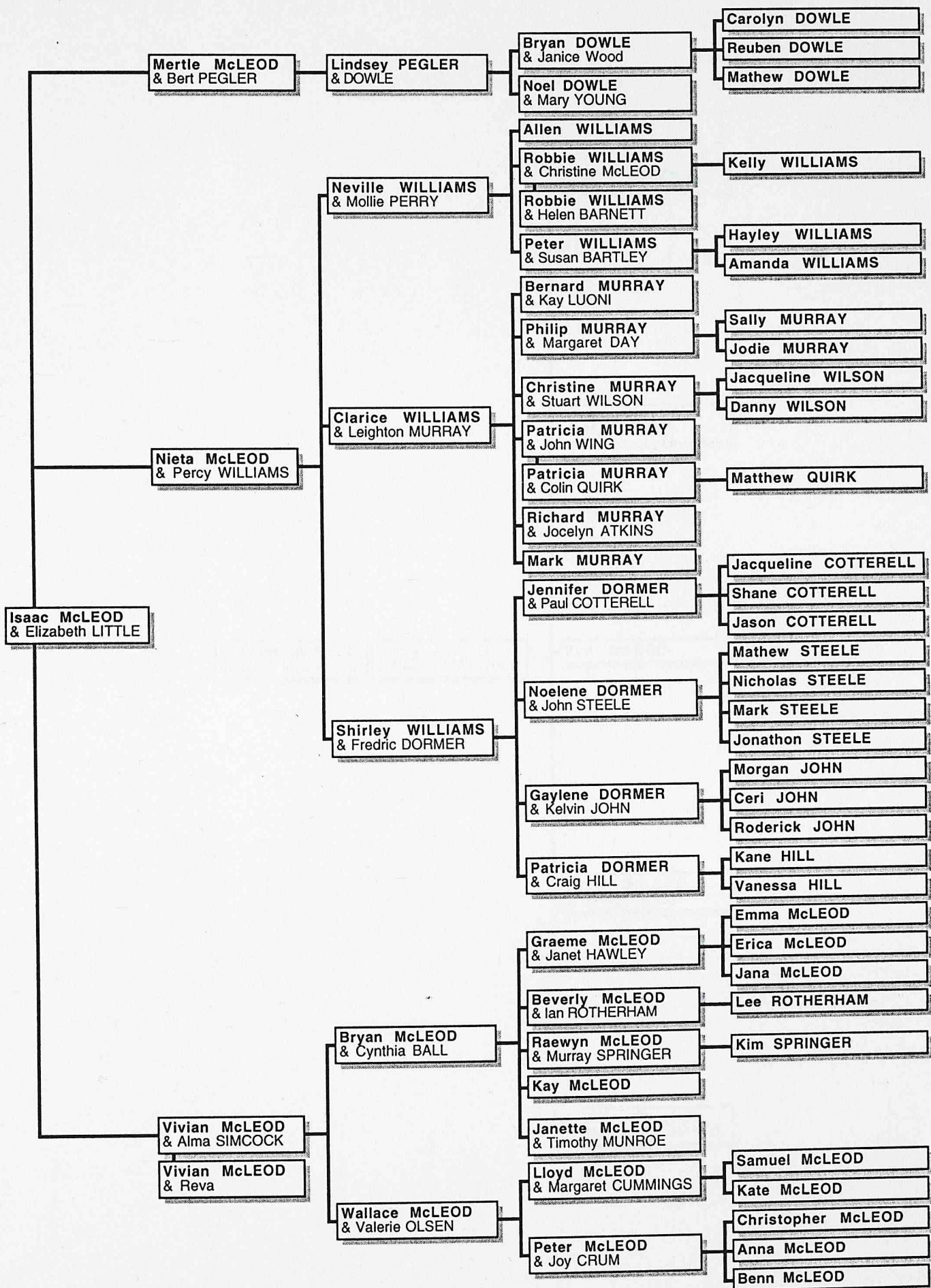












Gladys McLEOD

Marion McLEOD
& Albert READ

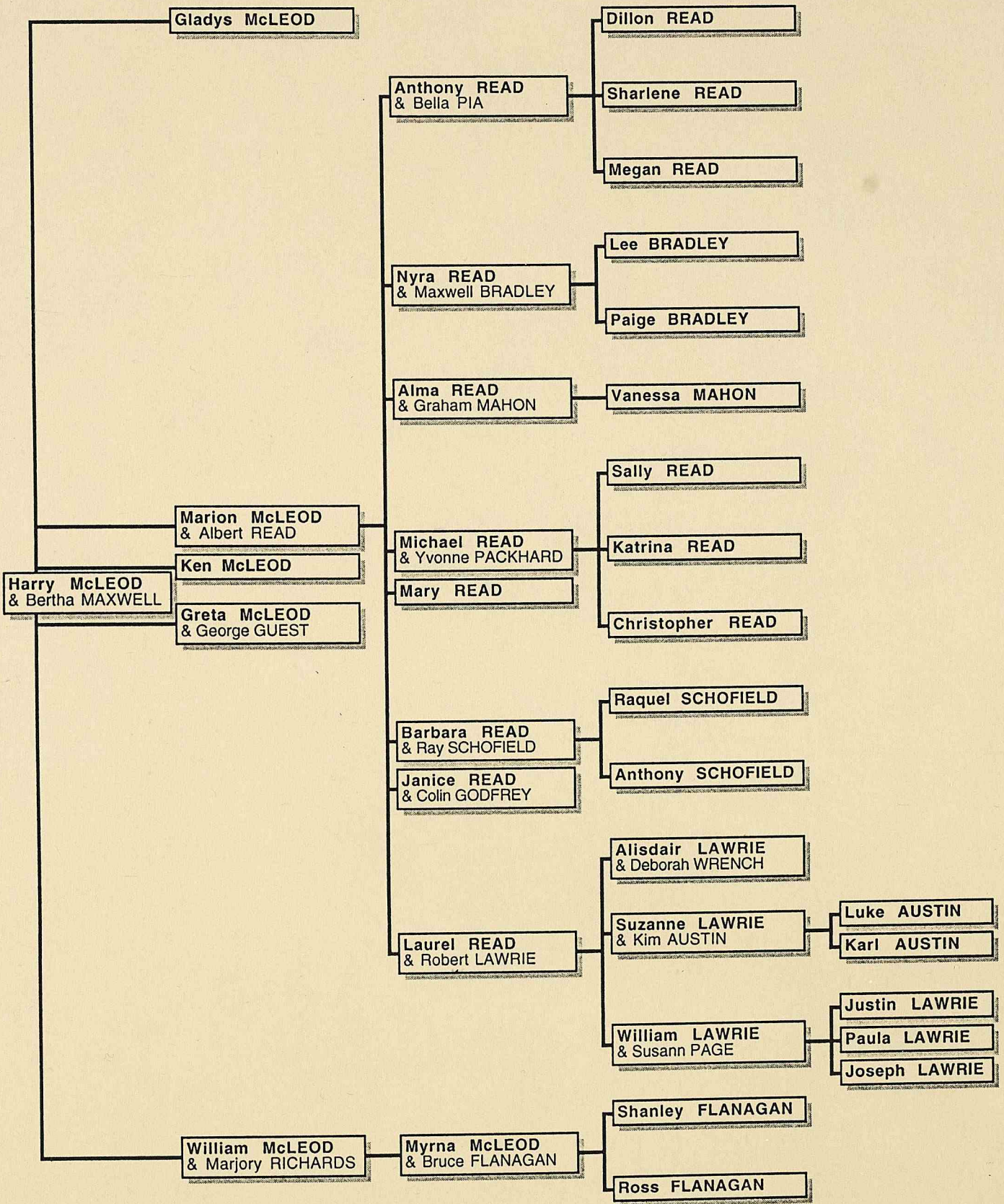
William McLEOD
& Sarah MAXWELL

Harry McLEOD
& Bertha MAXWELL

Ken McLEOD

Greta McLEOD
& George GUEST

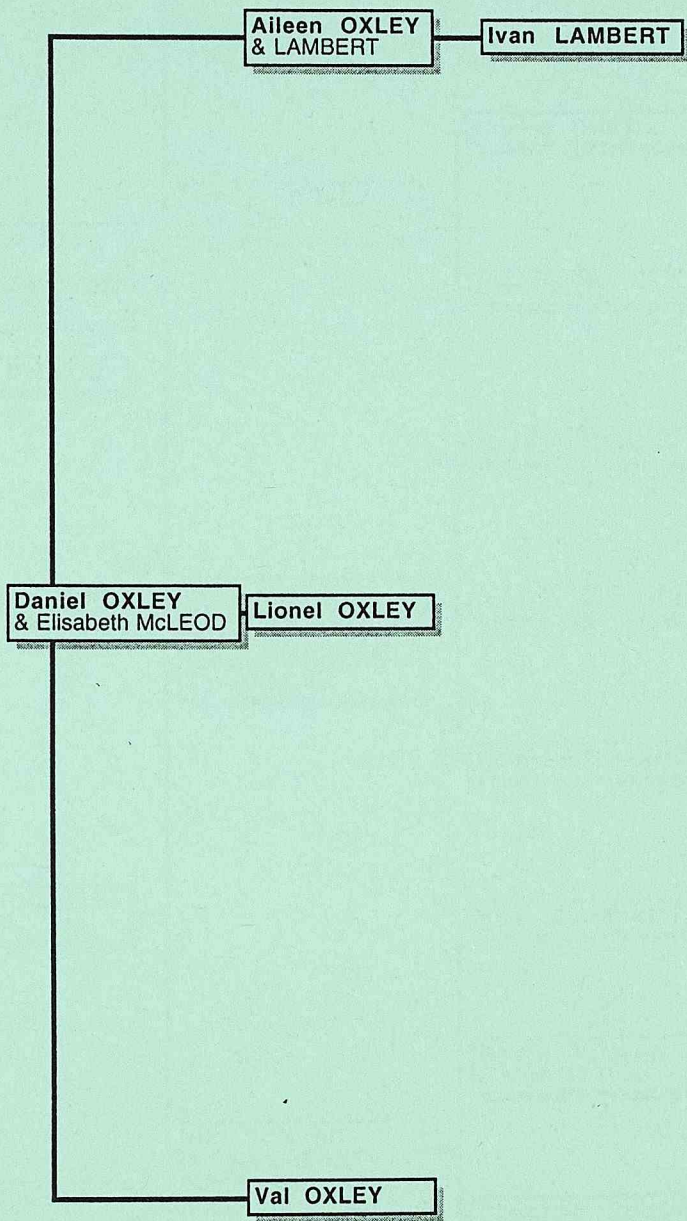
William McLEOD
& Marjory RICHARDS

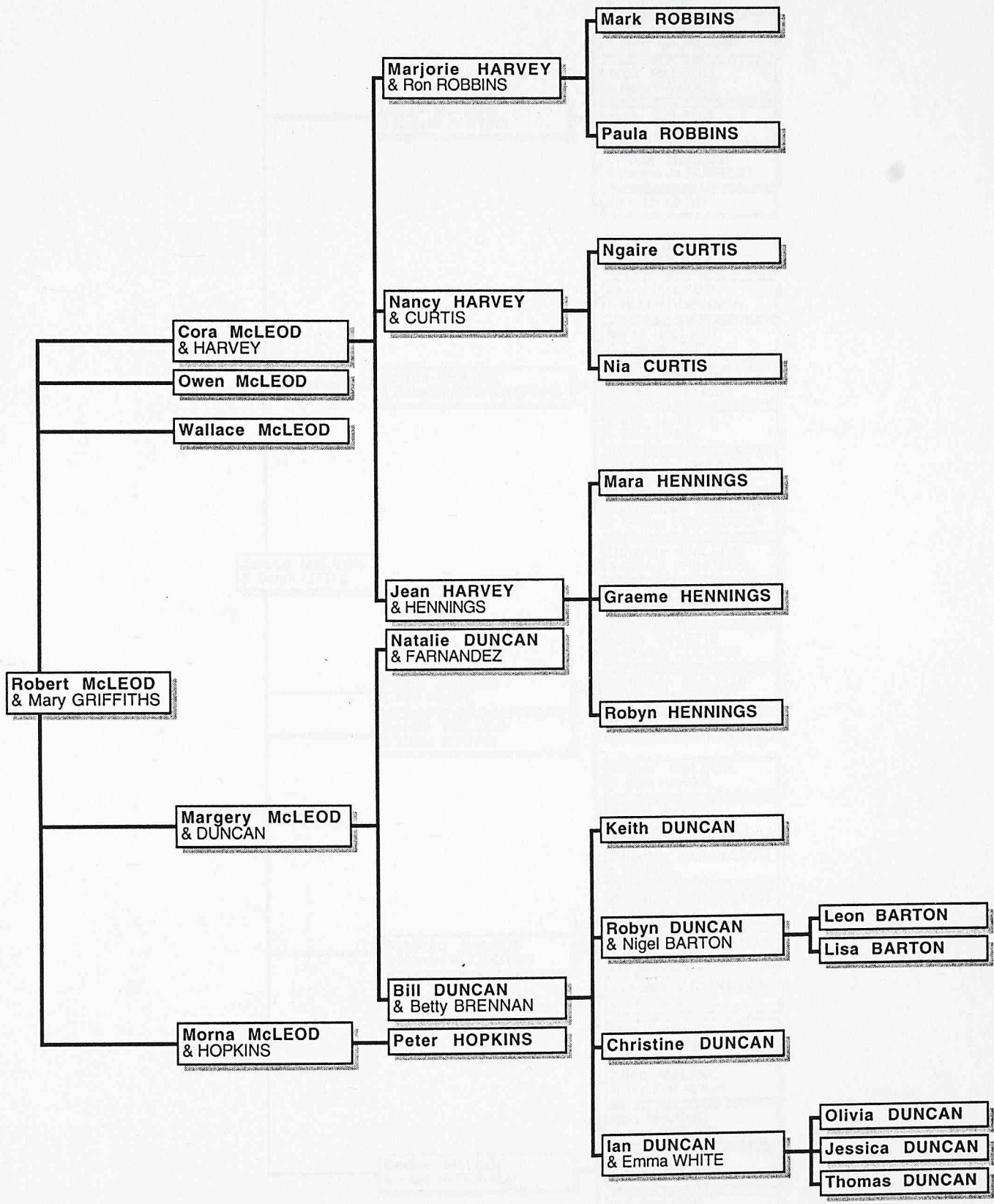


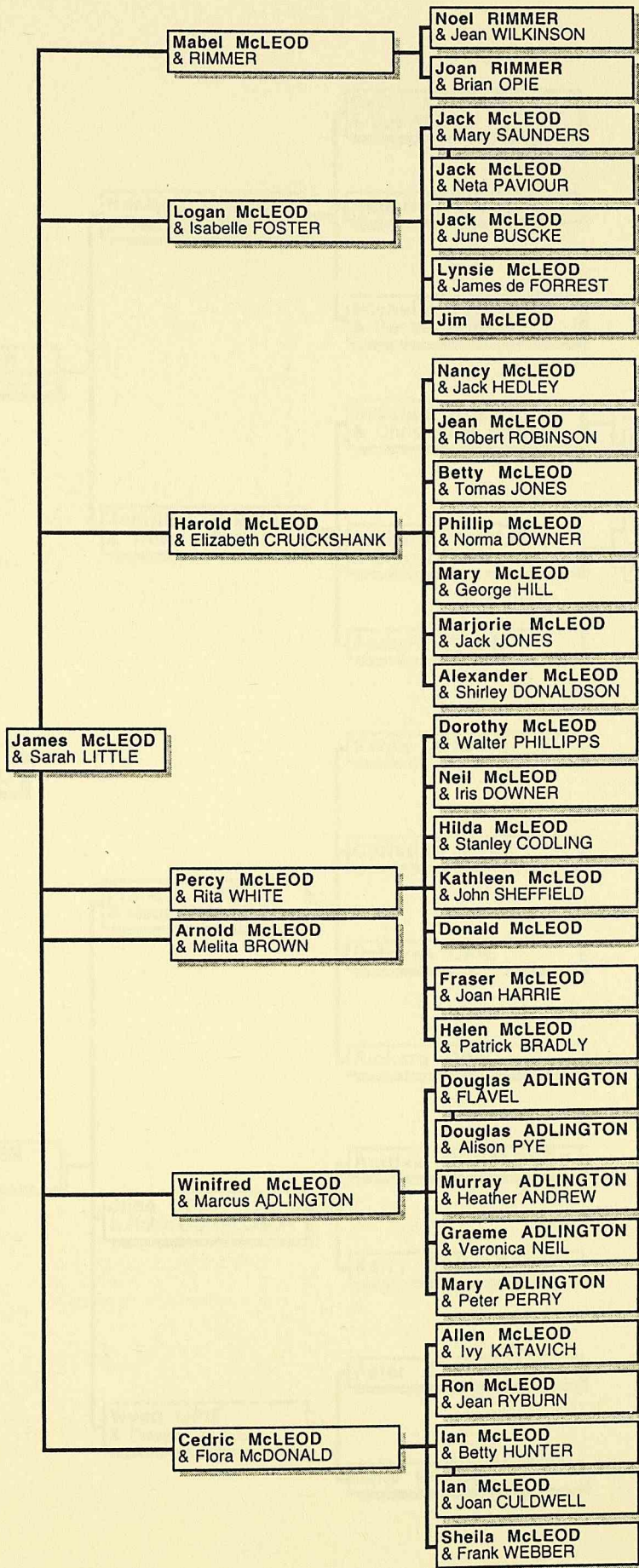
Alexander PORTER
& Elisabeth McLEOD

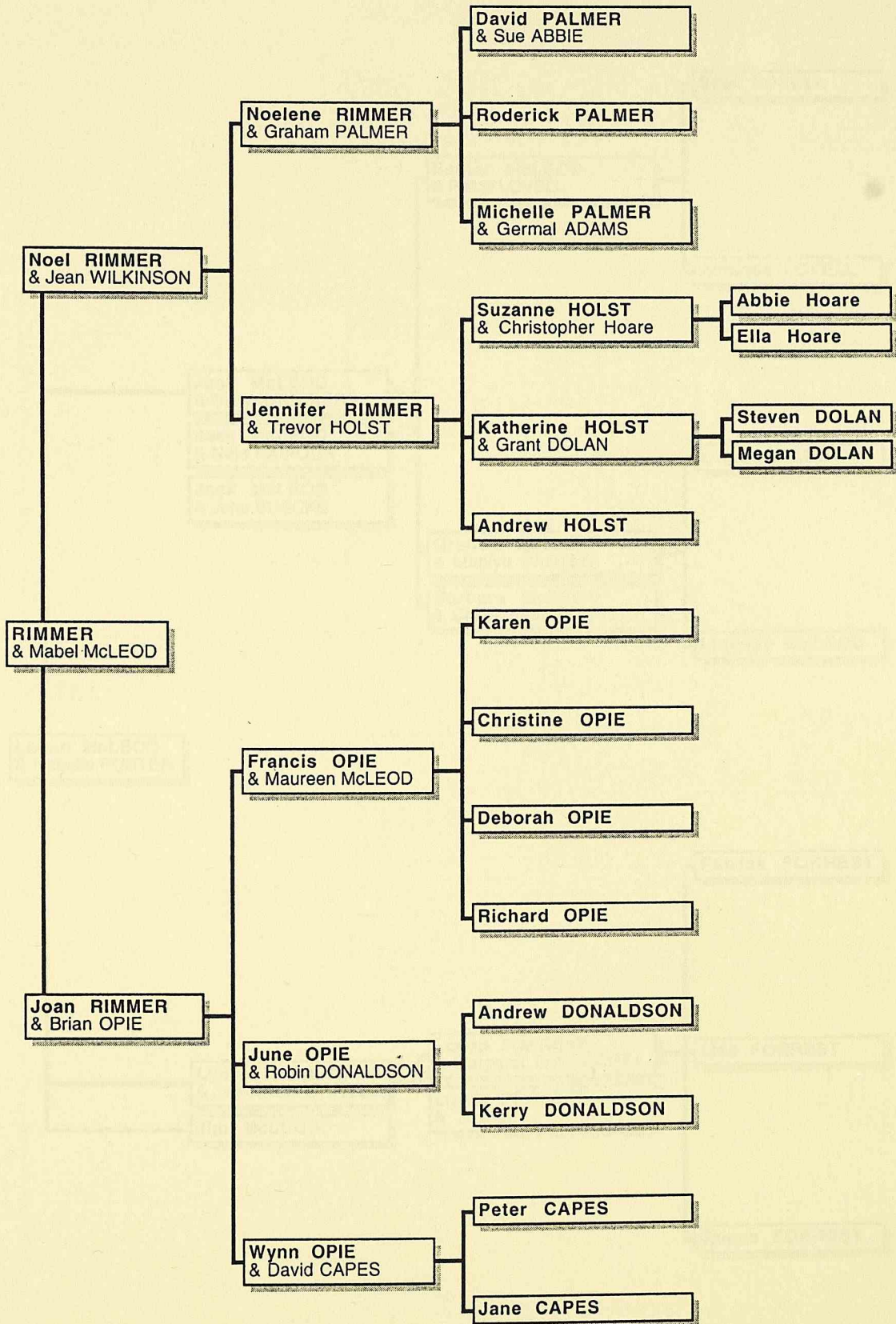
Isobel PORTER
& ADLEY-JONES

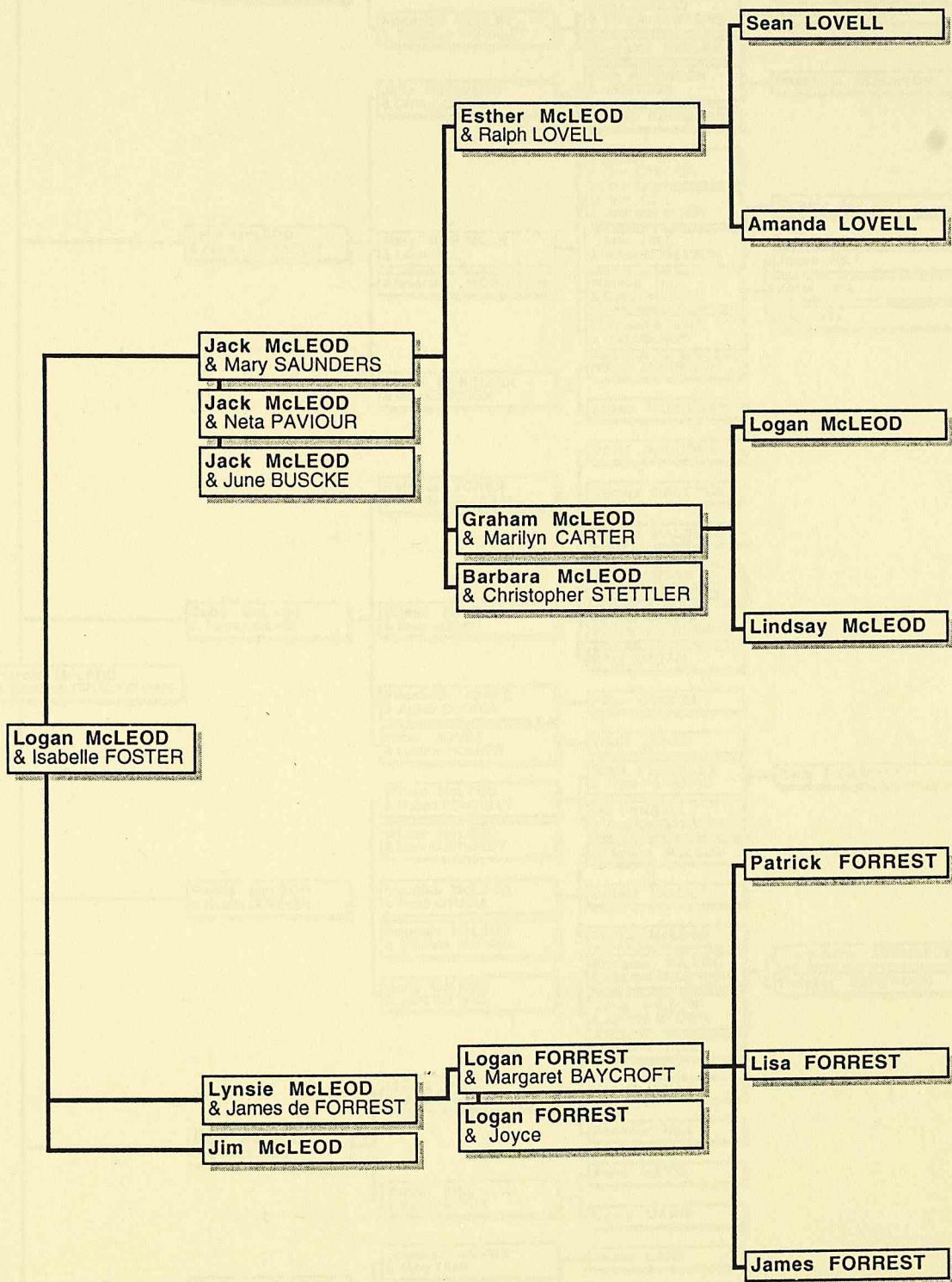
UNNAMED
& BOWBYES

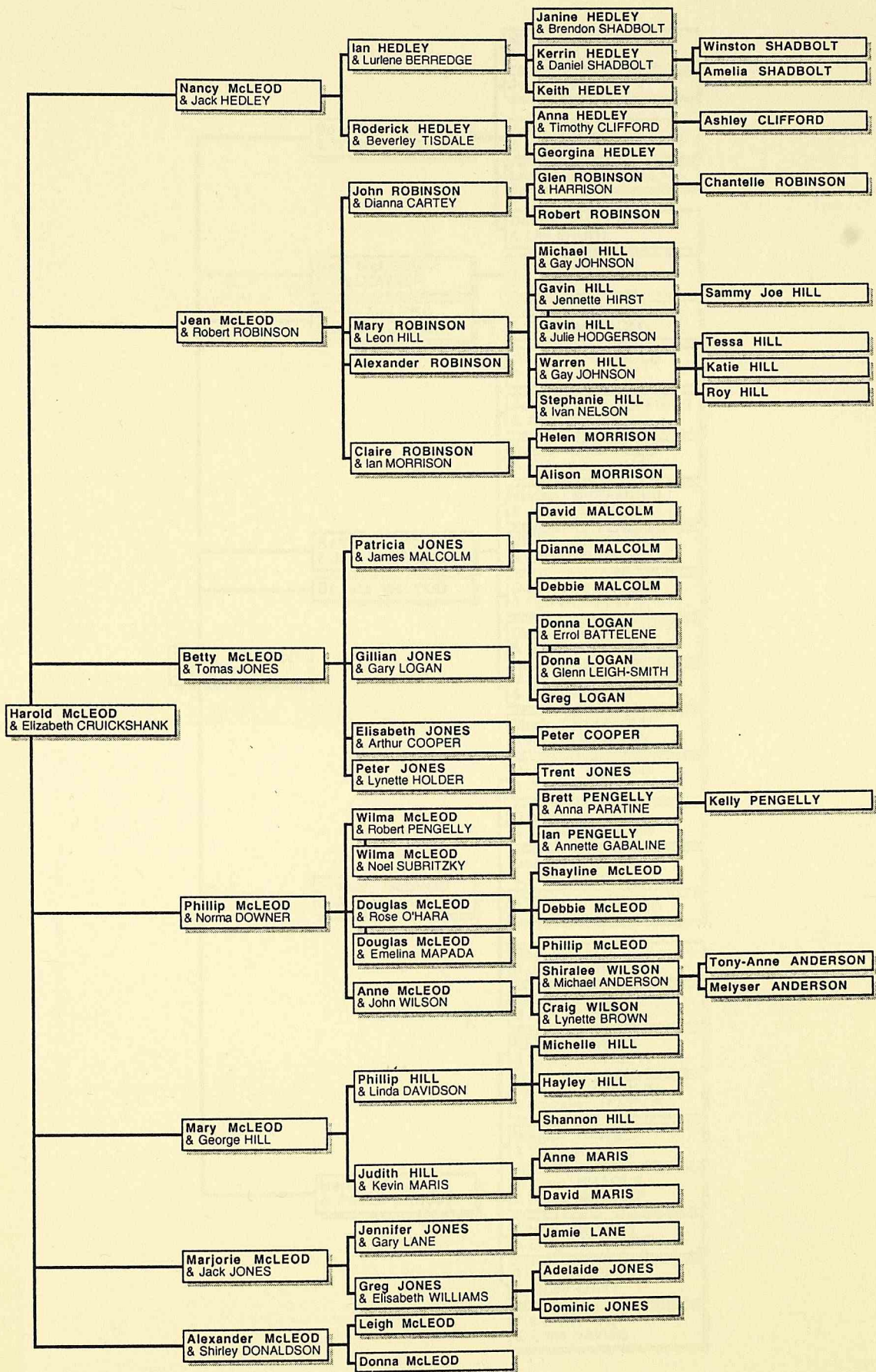


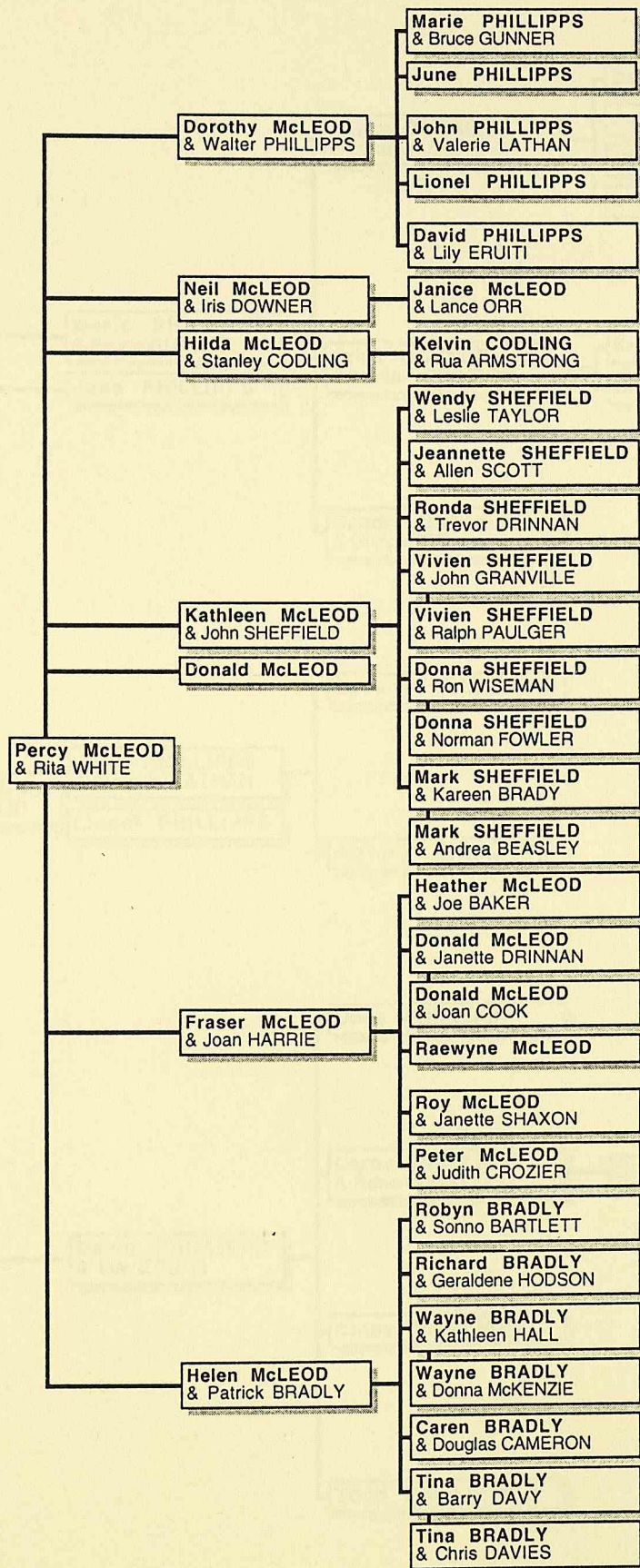


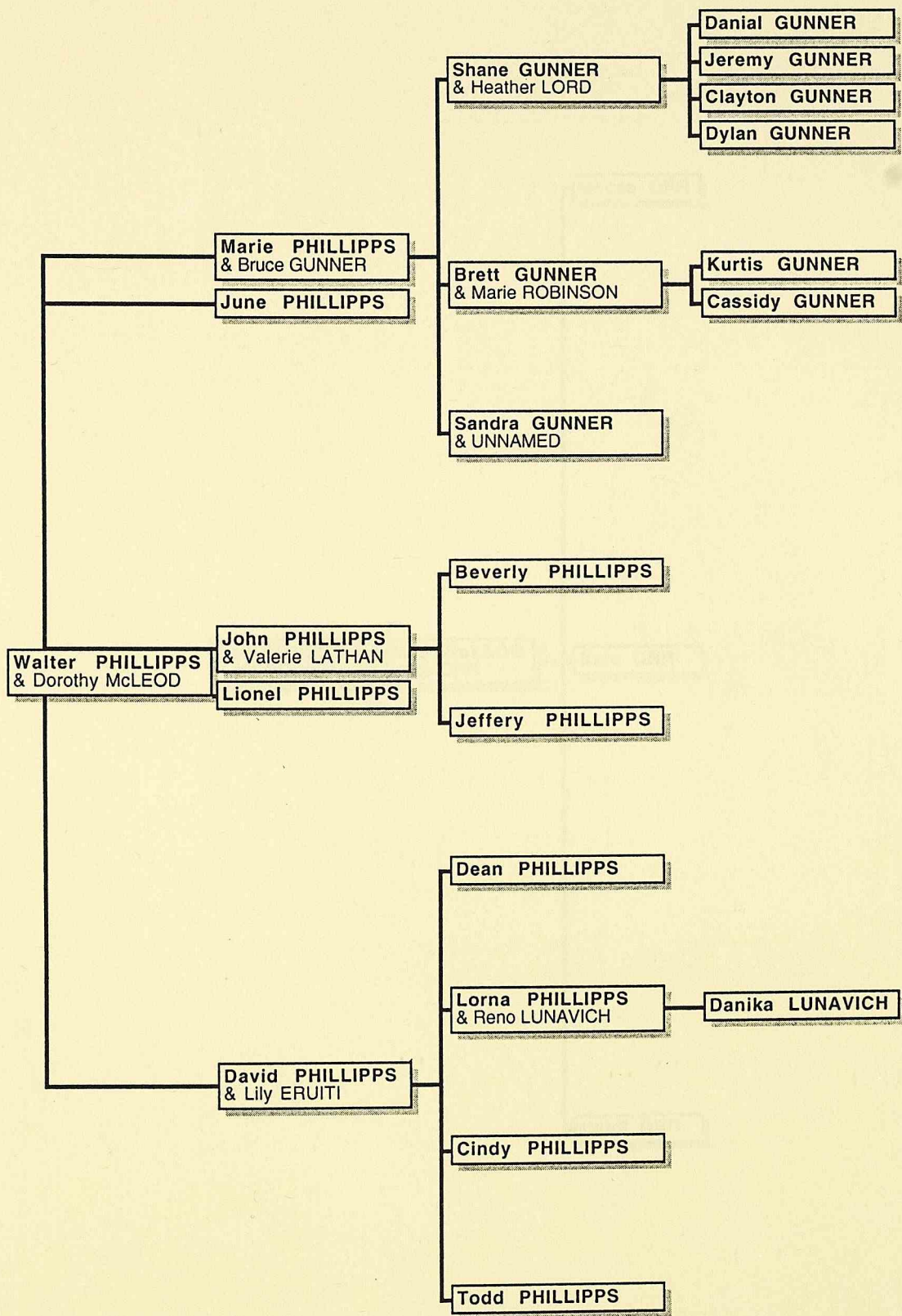












Neil McLEOD
& Iris DOWNER

Janice McLEOD
& Lance ORR

Kate ORR

Megan ORR

Heidi ORR

Garry CODLING
& Joy TAYLOR

Miah CODLING

Nicola CODLING
& Frederick MULLER

Stanley CODLING
& Hilda McLEOD

Kelvin CODLING
& Rua ARMSTRONG

Lana CODLING
& Moses SAMSON

Alana SAMSON

Jeremy SAMSON

Jenny CODLING
& Brett MONK

Andrew MONK

Amber MONK

Rodney CODLING

