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THE CHERNOCHAN MACHINE SHED

A LAND USE AND STRUCTURAL HISTORY

Occasional Paper
No. 12

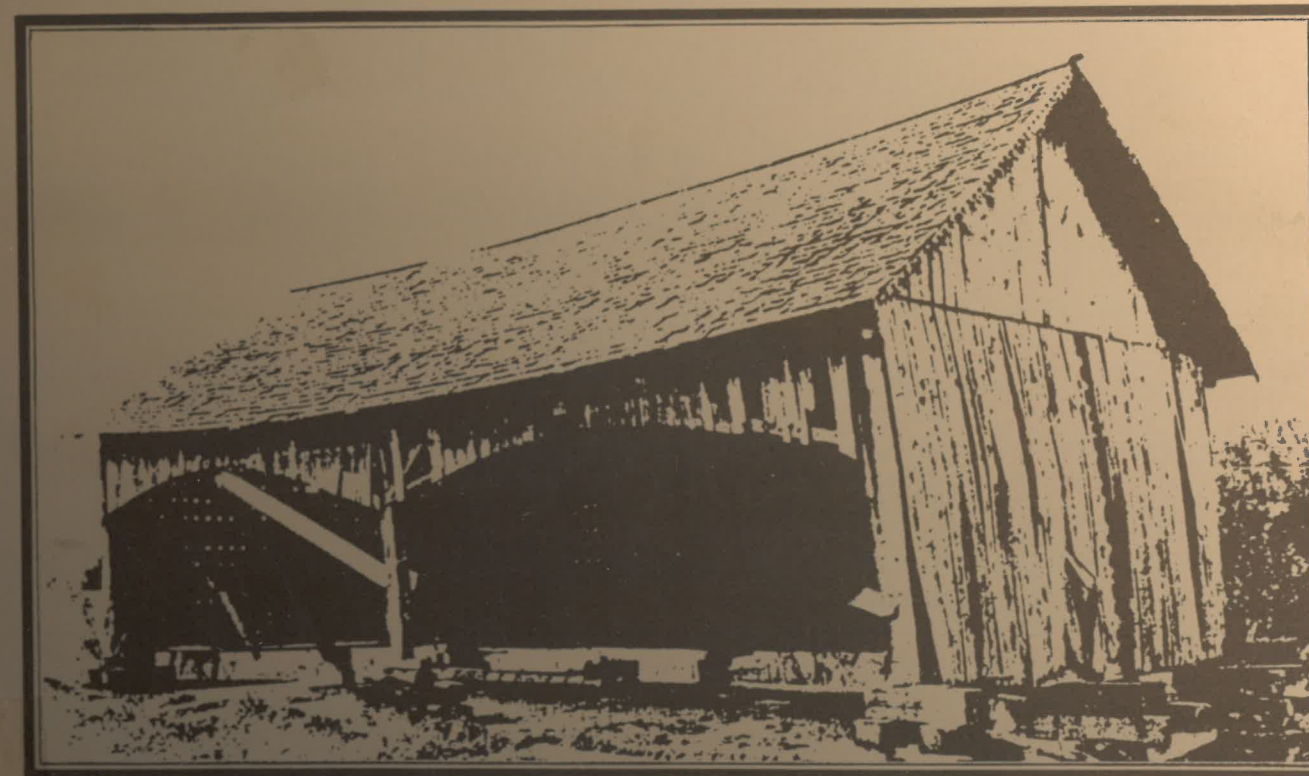
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Sonia Maryn

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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Occasional Paper No. 12
March 1985

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OCCASIONAL PAPERS

These Occasional Papers are designed to permit the rapid dissemination of information resulting from Historical Resources programmes. They are intended primarily for interested specialists, rather than as popular publications for general readers. In the interests of making information available quickly to these specialists, normal production procedures have been abbreviated.



ABSTRACT

Intolerable economic conditions led to massive emigration from Western Ukraine in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Kosma Chernochan, a young lad of 16, was among these emigrants. Kosma settled in the Smoky Lake area where he homesteaded on SE 33-59-17 W4. A man of exceptional qualities - personable, resourceful, politic, enterprising - his achievements demonstrate business acumen and judicious choice of action.

The evolution of the Chernochan farm site progressed in tandem with the development of Smoky Lake itself. The farmstead moved through several growth stages that paralleled agricultural development in the province: early homesteading, intensive grain farming, mixed farming and mass-produced farming.

The Chernochan machine shed, built in 1917, was one of the first machine sheds built in the region. Its design and construction are related to elements of Ukrainian vernacular architecture, as well as to Canadian farm architecture.

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PREFACE

The following is the land use and structural history report of the Chernochan machine shed. It has been organized according to era designation and includes an introductory chapter dealing with historical, geneological and personal circumstances surrounding the family which built the machine shed - the Chernochans.

Turabian's manual for writers has been used to determine stylistic points in the text and the Modified Library of Congress System of Transliteration has been employed in the transliteration of Ukrainian terms (see Appendix A: Glossary of Ukrainian Terms), place names and geographical entities. This also applies to Ukrainian proper names, i.e., personal names, of persons contemporaneous to Ukraine and Eastern Europe within the context of the topic. (Exceptions to this rule are those place names that are internationally recognized by an alternate spelling, such as Kiev, and well-known figures [authors, dignitaries] whose names commonly appear in a certain form, such as Joseph Oleskow and M. Sopoliga.) All other personal names are presented as favoured by the individuals concerned or as cited in primary research material. This applies to Kosma Chernochan himself whose actual Ukrainian name was Kozma Chernivchan.

An attempt has been made to introduce Ukrainian terms into the report where germane, and all of these are listed in Appendix A. Various Ukrainian terms appear throughout the text denoting some variety of farm inventory storage shed. The nomenclature for a machine shop is quite diversified in Ukrainian and includes the following: halereia, koshnytsia, nakryttia, pelevnyk, pidsobiika, prychilok, povitka, prychyna, prytula, shipka, shopa, vozovnia, and vynos. Each of these terms represents a specific form or usage of inventory storage and is defined in the text. However, the only term used by local informants was shopa, which is a Bukovynian term and reflects the origins of these informants.

The Extant Drawings are referred to extensively in the structural history section of the report in order to illustrate points

made in the text. Additionally, iconographic material is interspersed throughout the report to elucidate the discussion at hand.

The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village is referred to as U.C.H.V. in the report. Uncommon abbreviations are spelled out in full when first mentioned and abbreviated as acronyms thereafter.

All measurements are given according to the British Imperial System except in discussions of nineteenth century Ukraine where their conversion is not easily rendered (i.e., hectares, quintals). The exception to this is in presenting the structural history of the machine shed, where measurements of the architectural features are given in the Metric System so as to be consistent with the Extant Drawings. Throughout the report, numbers one to nine are written out in full, and numbers 10 and over appear as arabic numerals.

Three appendixes accompany the report. The first, as mentioned above, is a glossary of Ukrainian terms used in the text, the second contains maps of Western Ukraine and the Smoky Lake region, and the third is comprised of miscellaneous materials concerning Kosma Chernochan from 1910-1926.

CHAPTER I: Introduction

Chapter I:

Introduction

A. Orientation, Organization and Report Structure

The Chernochan machine shed falls into the category of miscellaneous structures required on farms to serve a specialized purpose. Comprising this category are various farm outbuildings (hospodarski budivli) that are defined according to their function. Essentially, outbuildings can be grouped into five areas of use: (i) the storage of grains and other food products; (ii) the shelter of livestock; (iii) the stowage of farm inventory; (iv) sundry additional buildings; and, (v) small, architectural forms.¹ The number and variety of outbuildings is contingent upon the farmer's socio-economic standing. Thus, the mere existence of a structure - viewed in total isolation of its unique architectural features - makes a distinct statement about the landowner.

This point is especially pertinent in regard to machine sheds. The main purpose of the machine shed is to afford a means of concentrating farm machinery and equipment in one place while providing space for care and repair and protection against loss, theft or damage.² The very use of machinery on the homestead, however, was a sign of progress and relative prosperity and, as such, was a somewhat later phenomenon among Ukrainian pioneers. The priority of settlers was to clear and cultivate the land, thereby fulfilling the requirements of the Homestead Act. This obligation, coupled with the fact that separate structures for the storage of implements and vehicles were not common in Ukraine at the turn of the century,³ served as deterrents toward the eventual appearance of the machine shed in Ukrainian settlements of east central Alberta.

It was in the 1920s that proto-mechanized farming became common among Ukrainian farmers. It was in this decade that the economic returns of farming made the purchase of machinery possible while,

concurrently, the influence of the Canadian agricultural tradition began to make its mark on the Ukrainian farmstead.⁴ One example of this process was the increasingly visible machine shed.

The Chernochan machine shed predates this period of heightened development. Built in 1917,⁵ its appearance said as much about Kosma Chernochan as it did about the approaching decade. As one of the first machine sheds built in the Smoky Lake region,⁶ it stood as a harbinger of things to come.

The organization of this report is intended to reflect the immediate and external factors affecting the construction and use of the Chernochan machine shed. As Samoilovych points out, the form and character of all structures are dependent on historical, socio-economic, and cultural considerations.⁷ It is these concerns that form the conceptual framework for discussion of the machine shed. The content of the report pivots on the dynamic of change. The Chernochans are examined in terms of their background and development, as is the Smoky Lake settlement, the original site location of the shed. Definable eras of evolution have emerged in reference to the latter and they, in turn, form the basis for discussion of the farmstead land use and structural history of the shed. Contextual information regarding the construction and use of machine sheds in east central Alberta and in Ukraine throughout the early 1900s, has been inserted into the body of the text at appropriate junctures. In this manner cross-cultural data and information pertaining to Ukrainian folk architecture are effectively incorporated into the report.

The report structure itself proceeds in actuality from the abstract to the concrete. The first chapter deals with a brief analysis of the circumstances leading up to Kosma and Maria Chernochan's respective emigrations. The subsequent settlement and homesteading of Kosma and Maria are summarized independently culminating in an outline of their courtship, marriage and family life. Kosma's community participation forms an integral segment of this chapter as it provides a valuable insight into the character and integrity of the man.

The second chapter examines, in detail, the various aspects of land use relating to the machine shed. It progresses, once again, from a general discussion of the development of the Smoky Lake region to a specific examination of the Chernochan farmstead, SE 33-59-17. The former section includes a segment on prevailing land use in Alberta in the early part of the century, as well as a brief account of the Victoria settlement. Since Victoria's early history is very closely linked to that of Smoky Lake, and since Maria Chernochan's family, the Mihalchans, was one of the first to settle in this area, an overview of the Victoria settlement is both pertinent and elucidating.

The summary of the development of Smoky Lake is arranged chronologically, beginning with the pre-settlement era and working through several generations to the present day. This summary has been divided into eras which correspond to significant, pivotal events occurring in Smoky Lake's history. The designation of eras has been arbitrary, but every attempt has been made to distinguish eras by a watershed event or timely occurrence. This was not difficult to determine in the early decades of Smoky Lake's development when such monumental occasions as the influx of immigrants, the coming of the railway, and the beginning of the Great Depression afford obvious boundaries between eras. However, in latter years no comparably salient events have transpired. Nonetheless, the eras as defined in this report form the backdrop for discussion of the actual farmstead land use and for the structural history of the Chernochan machine shed. To facilitate discussion, these eras have been numbered and all land use and structural data has been organized under each respective rubric.

It should be noted that the structural history of the machine shed does not, however, begin with Era I but rather with Era III. This is due to the fact that Era I and II predate the shed, since it was within the chronological constraints of Era III that it was constructed. Additionally, it is important to point out that the third era in the structural history of the machine shed is the most extensive because it is this section that examines the shed's construction and

architectural features. Subsequent eras deal with the deterioration of and structural changes made to the Chernochan machine shed.

The final chapter forms a conclusion to the report. It attempts to synthesize all of the data provided in earlier chapters and comment, meaningfully, on this storehouse of information.

B. The Path to Canada

(i) The Homeland

(a) Socio-economic conditions.

The practice of corvee or serfdom was abolished in Eastern Ukraine in 1861 but in Bukovyna, the birthplace of both Kosma and Maria Chernochan, corvee (panshchyna) was abrogated in 1848.¹ In that year a number of reforms were introduced by the Austro-Hungarian Empire to the Ukrainian western territories; namely Galicia, Sub-Carpathia and Bukovyna. A new mood of optimism was injected into the lives of ordinary citizens for it was believed that the 1848 reforms would bring about true progressive change.

This buoyancy of spirit, however, was soon quashed. Although the burden of serfdom was lifted from the shoulders of the peasant it was quickly replaced with equally weighty obligations. Peasants were forced to make heavy redemptive payments to the lord for the lands he had forfeited, as well as for the fees and services no longer required of them. Yet, in effect, the lord retained the greater part of his massive landholdings, while the peasant merely received the small plot of land his family had been farming for generations.² In addition, the forests and pastures had been appropriated by the nobles. Whereas the corvee system had allowed the peasant unlimited access to them, as a "free man" under the new system he was forced to pay for their use. These extra costs were more than prohibitive - they consumed some 70 per cent of a peasant's earnings³ for they were in addition to state,

regional, local and road taxes. It is estimated that to the 1880s peasants in Galicia were paying supplemental taxes which constituted 50 per cent of regular state taxes, yet elsewhere in Austria (Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia) the peasant's share of taxes totalled three to seven per cent of those collected by the state.

What had occurred as a result of the 1848 reforms then was hardly "full emancipation" for the peasants of Western Ukraine. It was, in reality, a new form of panshchyna - an "economic bondage" to the lord.⁴

In an attempt to lessen their financial burdens many peasants sought seasonal work in Moravia, Hungary, Prussia or Russia. In Prussia alone some 100,000 Galician peasants worked as seasonal labour in the 1880s and 1890s.⁵ Often peasants were forced to borrow money and were subjected to enormous interest rates. In some regions of Galicia in the 1870s close to 90 per cent of the population was in debt.⁶ Added to their financial woes was an even greater problem - the severe shortage of land. As Table 1 illustrates, at the turn of the century the majority of Bukovynian peasants held less than two hectares of land. Land was difficult to purchase even if one could afford the price. Moreover, because of primitive farming techniques and poor fertilizing methods the level of production per hectare of land was lower in Bukovyna and Galicia than it was in other countries (see Table 2).⁷

TABLE 1
THE SIZE OF AGRICULTURAL LANDHOLDINGS IN
GALICIA (1902) AND BUKOVYNA (1900)

Size of holding in hectares	GALICIA		BUKOVYNA	
	Percent of holdings	Percent of area	Percent of holdings	Percent of area
Up to 2	49.0	9.2	56.6	-
2-5	30.7	19.8	28.6	39
5-10	14.9	15.7	9.4	-
10-20	3.8	8.1	3.1	-
Over 20	1.6	47.2	2.2	61

TABLE 2

GRAIN PRODUCTION (IN QUINTALS)
PER HECTARE OF ARABLE LAND, 1907

	<u>Eastern Galicia</u>	<u>Bukovyna</u>	<u>Lower Austria</u>	<u>Denmark</u>
Wheat	10.8	13.6	15.5	31.0
Rye	8.6	11.4	13.8	19.0
Barley	8.0	12.8	14.7	-
Oats	6.5	10.9	11.6	-

In conclusion, the factors mentioned above combined to create a situation which was economically intolerable for peasants in late-nineteenth century Bukovyna as a whole. How they affected the villages of Orshivtsi and Boiany, Kosma and Maria's respective birthplaces, remains to be seen.

(b) Village data

1) Orshivtsi

The village of Orshivtsi is located in the district of Kitsman, Chernivtsi province. Lying on the left-bank of the Prut River, it is located eight miles from the district centre of Kitsman and some 15 miles from the provincial capital of Chernivtsi (see Appendix B). Traces of the Trypilian culture dating from the third century B.C. have been found here, as were remains of the Cherniakhiv culture (second-sixth centuries A.D.), and the early Slavic culture of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries A.D. The first mention of Orshivtsi in historical chronicles was made in 1638.⁸ The village is noted in its modern history for the farmworkers' strike which took place here in 1905, in the wake of the first Russian revolution.

The strike of 1905 occurred one year after Kosma Chernochan's departure for Canada but at a time when his parents, Teodosi and Maria, and his sister Paraskytsia, were still living in Orshivtsi. However, these three were soon to follow in Kosma's footsteps.

2) Boiany

The village of Boiany, in the Novoselytsia district, Chernivtsi province is also located on the left-bank of the Prut River. Some seven miles west of the district centre of Novoselytsia and about 24 miles southeast of Orshivtsi, it lies on the Chernivtsi-Novoselytsia rail line (see Appendix B).

Traces of Trypilian, Cherniakhiv and early Slavic cultures have also been found in Boiany, as have the remains of the iron age from the first century B.C. It is believed that the present site of Boiany was founded as early as the twelfth century A.D. at a time when a trade route passed through the village leading from Galicia to Moldavia. The records of the voievod Shtefanitsky first mention Boiany in 1523.⁹

Because of its strategic location, Boiany was often used as a temporary garrison by armies, if not as a battleground itself. In 1673, the Polish-Lithuanian army under the command of Ian Sobesky stayed here while en route to battle with the Turks. In 1685, battles between the Polish and Turkish armies took place here, and between 1735-39 Russian troops passed through Boiany during their war with the Turks.¹⁰ The residents of Boiany were subjected to much pillaging and ravishment during these times - difficulties that continued into the next century.

Following the occupation of Bukovyna by the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Boiany's convenient location and its proximity to the border led to its becoming an important trade centre. By the end of the eighteenth century it was one of the largest villages in Bukovyna - in 1780 there were 429 families living in Boiany and the town boasted five flour mills, two taverns and a winery. By 1817, a weekly market was held in town and buyers from Galicia, Bessarabia and Moldavia converged regularly in the village to barter.¹¹

town and buyers from Galicia, Bessarabia and Moldavia converged regularly in the village to barter.¹¹



Figure 1: The village of Boiany at the end of the nineteenth century. (In V.M. Kurylo et al., eds., *Chernivetska Oblast, Istorii Mist i Sil Ukrainskoi SSR*, Kiev: Holovna Redaktsiia Ukrainskoi Radianskoi Entsyklopedii), p. 422.

It was, however, the increasing mercantilism of Boiany that led to greater exploitation of its populace. By the early nineteenth century villagers were forced to give up one-tenth of their earnings to the lord, over and above the land taxes and church tithes they were already forced to pay.¹² These financial burdens created unrest in the village and increased politicization among the disgruntled peasants. In 1848, one of the seven deputies chosen from Bukovyna to represent peasantry to the Austrian government was Vasyl Kyrytsia, a resident of Boiany. Yet, the hard-won reforms of 1848 alleviated few hardships for Boiany peasants, and in reality increased them.

Boiany peasants were forced to pay 57,000 florins for their freedom - a huge sum. In turn they received only 6,000 hectares of land to be distributed among 576 villagers. On the other hand, the landlord received 3,889 hectares of land for his own use. At this time 24.7 per

cent of the peasants of Boiany had less than two hectares of land, nine per cent had no land, and 32 per cent had no horses.¹³ There was, in other words, a severe shortage of land and horsepower among the peasant class.

In 1884, the railway line was built from Chernivtsi to Noveselytsia and the village economy vitalized as its population grew. But this turn of events worsened the situation for peasants because as the village grew more crowded land became more scarce. Many peasants sought seasonal labour as a partial solution, but many were left with no choice than to leave Boiany for another land and the promise of a better future.

(c) Emigration as a general phenomenon

The emigration of Ukrainians to Canada was launched in the 1890s when a small number of Galician peasants took up homesteads in the Edna-Star region. Large-scale emigration began in 1896 and was largely initiated by Joseph Oleskow, a professor of agriculture in Lviv, who through his publications *Pro Vilni Zemli* (1895) and *O Emigratsii* (1895) incited scores of disillusioned peasants to emigrate to Canada.¹⁴ The low material state of the peasant and his poor prospects for a better lot in the homeland could not compare with the tantalizing promise of free land and an auspicious future in the new country. They left in hordes. From Bukovyna alone between the years of 1891-1910, 48,000 people emigrated to Canada, the United States and Latin America.¹⁵ They travelled by train to the port cities of Trieste, Hamburg and Antwerp where they were kept in communal halls for up to two or more months. Living conditions in the halls were hampered and debilitating, but the passage itself was worse. Immigrants were carted onto crowded cattle ships for a tedious voyage of several days duration.¹⁶ For most, the toils of the passage was a price they were willing to exact as a downpayment on their future - but for all of them the trials of life in the new land were only beginning.

(d) Emigration as a solution

1) The Chernochans

The sorry lot of the peasant in late-nineteenth century Bukovyna was not spared the Chernochan household in Orshivtsi. Like the other residents of the small village, the Chernochans struggled to make ends meet. When tales of emigration began to circulate the prospect seemed fraught with hazards. But for the Chernochan's young son Kosma, the opportunity seemed replete with adventure and promise.¹⁷

Even at this early age Kosma displayed qualities which would one day fashion him into an enterpriser and community leader. His determination to improve his own situation, as well as that of his family, compelled him to emigrate. He was a mere 16 years of age when he left Orshivtsi, in the early spring of 1904.¹⁸ Unrest in the village was mounting, destined to overflow into open protest in the following year. Many villagers left for Canada that year and with them went Kosma. He departed from his parents and sister with the promise that he would send for them once he had earned sufficient funds.¹⁹

It was a promise Kosma kept. By 1908, he was able to sponsor his parents' passage to Canada. Together they inaugurated a new future. Within two more years the family sponsored Kosma's widowed sister, Paraskytsia, and her young son, Nykolai, to Canada.²⁰ Together, these generations of Chernochans joined forces to till the soil and weather the storms of homestead life.

2) The Mihalchans

The Mihalchans' reasons for emigration were the same as those of other peasants in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Boiany at the turn of the century was becoming increasingly crowded, there was little arable

land, and the situation showed every sign of worsening. Future prospects were dim for the village residents, as they were for their offspring. Although Boiany had been officially founded in the 1820s, half a century had passed before the first school was erected in 1873.²¹ Yet in every other way the village had been growing throughout this period. For years the cultural and educational level of the population remained very low, most children were unable to attend school and illiteracy was rampant.

Emigration from Boiany began in the late 1880s.²² In 1889, about 124 village residents left for Canada. In 1900, 58 people departed for the new land. The Mihalchans made their decision to leave that year. By the early spring of 1900, Boiany was already a part of their past.²³

(ii) Geneology, Immigration and Settlement

(a) Family history in Ukraine

1) The Chernochans

Kosma was born in Orshivtsi on October 28, 1888. The Chernochans' life in Orshivtsi was like that of other peasant families. Teodosi and Maria worked for the local lord (pan) earning subsistence wages and struggling to keep their family clothed and fed. They were allotted a small plot of land where they grew vegetables, and they had a little house in which they raised Kosma and his three older sisters: Paraskytsia, Raiefta, and Gafitsia.²⁴

Life was very difficult for the Chernochan family - full of hardships and deprivation. To supplement the family income Kosma, too, went to work for the pan. Despite his obvious youth, Kosma was thrifty and resourceful - willing to invest time, energy, and labour to a given task in order to reap later benefits. He worked for the pan planting and pruning fruit trees on the manoral estate and landholdings and the

money he earned was put toward educational costs. This would be the first stage in a life-long process of education for Kosma. He attended primary school in Chernivtsi completing four grades (hramatyka), which for a village boy living in late-nineteenth century Bukovyna was considered quite a substantial education. It provided him with the invaluable skills of reading and writing, and exposed him to the broad world of knowledge and experience which lay beyond the scope of the village gates. Kosma's hramatyka also taught him the importance of education in general, providing a valuable lesson for future years when he would have to apply himself time and time again to new challenges.

In 1904, at the age of 16 Kosma graduated from the hramatyka. That same year he left Orshivtsi for Canada and embraced a new world of opportunities.

2) The Mihalchans

The village of Boiany differed greatly from that of Orshivtsi. Because of its location there was avid trade in the village and, consequently, its population was more visibly heterogeneous. Although Boiany was a Western Ukrainian village, like all Bukovyna it had a mixed population. In the late nineteenth century 40 per cent of Bukovyna's population was composed of ethnic Ukrainians and 30 per cent of Romanians. The balance of the population was divided among Germans, Jews and other ethnic minorities.²⁵

Maria was born in Boiany on February 22, 1896. The Mihalchans were of Romanian extraction and although they understood and spoke Ukrainian, the language of the home was Romanian. Zaharii and Maria Mihalchan worked for the pan, as did the other peasants of the village. They had a small stretch of land (pole) they farmed for vegetables, and a little cottage in which they lived, but their life was difficult and full of want.²⁶ When the exodus of emigrants began in the late 1890s, the Mihalchans decided to sell everything they owned and leave as well. It was with these few florins that they purchased steam passages for

themselves and their two daughters, Dokitza and Maria, and left their ancestral village for Canada.

(b) Arrival in Canada

1) The Chernochans

In the spring of 1904, Kosma arrived in Halifax. That year some 130,330 newcomers came to Canada.²⁷ Together with scores of other European immigrants he travelled by rail to Winnipeg, where he was billeted at the immigration hall.²⁸ Soon after his arrival, Kosma set out to seek work. A mere boy of 16, he was nonetheless industrious and energetic and soon was working at a number of odd jobs in town.

Kosma was not, however, satisfied with the few dollars he earned. He realized quickly that it would only be by furthering his education that he would advance himself in the new land. In Canada, it was the man who applied intelligence and thrift to his transactions who got ahead, and the first step in that battle was to learn the English language:

[Kosma] had great hopes of building a better life for himself and his future family, so he continued his education for many years to come.²⁹

To achieve his goal Kosma worked in the daytime and went to school at night, gradually acquiring a speaking and writing proficiency in English. Nor did he forget his obligation to his parents in Orshivtsi. The money he earned he frugally economized until his savings were sufficient to sponsor (sprovadyty) their voyage to Canada. Reunited in the new land, Kosma, Teodosi and Maria decided on the Smoky Lake region as good homesteading territory. In 1908, they filed claims on adjacent quarter sections SE 33-59-17 and SW 34-59-17.³⁰

2) The Mihalchans

When the Mihalchan family disembarked in Halifax in 1900, they had little idea of what the new century held in store for them. Maria was only three years old; her sister Dokitza was five. The family was ushered into traincars headed for the prairies and a few long days later arrived in Winnipeg, a city teeming with immigrants at the turn of the century. At the immigration hall they were given food and accommodation. For years Maria was able to recall the welcome taste of the salt pork the family ate those first days in Winnipeg.³¹

From Winnipeg the family travelled on to Edmonton. Here they learned of a bustling little settlement to the east called Pakan. To reach Pakan it was necessary to travel along the north Victoria Trail which crossed some six or seven creeks in the 60 miles between Pakan and Fort Saskatchewan.³²

Zaharii and Maria had some modest savings and decided to equip themselves as best they could for the journey and the life that lay ahead. They bought a wagon (viz) and two horses, some flour, salted meat, and other essential supplies.³³ Even these meagre contingents compared favourably with those other settlers had to start on. A 1917 survey of 832 immigrant families revealed that 50 per cent of them had had no money upon arrival in Canada, even though it took at least \$250 to begin a homestead.³⁴ The fact that the Mihalchans were able to purchase a wagon and two horses in addition to food supplies was indicative of their relative goodstanding and gave them a definite advantage in the struggle to establish themselves. When they arrived in Pakan, following a hard and trying trip, the family was ready to face the trials of life on the homestead.

(c) The homestead

1) The Chernochans

The first influx of immigrants into the Smoky Lake region took place from 1899-1902.³⁵ It was in 1902 that the region was initially surveyed and opened to settlement.³⁶ However, it was the years 1904-1905 which saw widescale settlement around Smoky Lake and the White Earth Creek. In these two years alone some 276,600 settlers came to Canada, many of whom were soon to homestead in the eastern townships of Alberta.³⁷

Among these newcomers was Kosma. By 1908, the year he and Teodosi filed claims in the Smoky Lake region, much of the land surrounding the present-day town site was already taken. Thus, they filed on homesteads about two miles to the north - Kosma on SE 33-59-17 and Teodosi on SW 34-59-17.

As mentioned above, hundreds of dollars were needed to establish and maintain a homestead, while most settlers had few liquid assets. A common solution to this problem was to engage in seasonal work.³⁸ Harry Piniuta's collection of personal accounts, Land of Pain Land of Promise (1978), and William Czumer's book, Recollections About the Life of the First Ukrainian Settlers in Canada (1981), both provide vivid recountings of early settlers' experiences including those involving seasonal labour. The accounts of seasonal labour depict work on the railway as section hands, labourers on extra and bridge gangs, and steam shovel operators, and other temporary work such as jobs in the bush, at sawmills and in the mines.³⁹

It was coal mine labour that Kosma chose to undertake. Although the work was dangerous, the pay was good. In 1908, barely 20 years of age, he set out for Hosmer, B.C. in order to earn the money his family required to make a beginning in the new land:

He started out on foot, hitched several rides by horse and wagon until he got to a train station which took him to Hosmer, B.C.⁴⁰

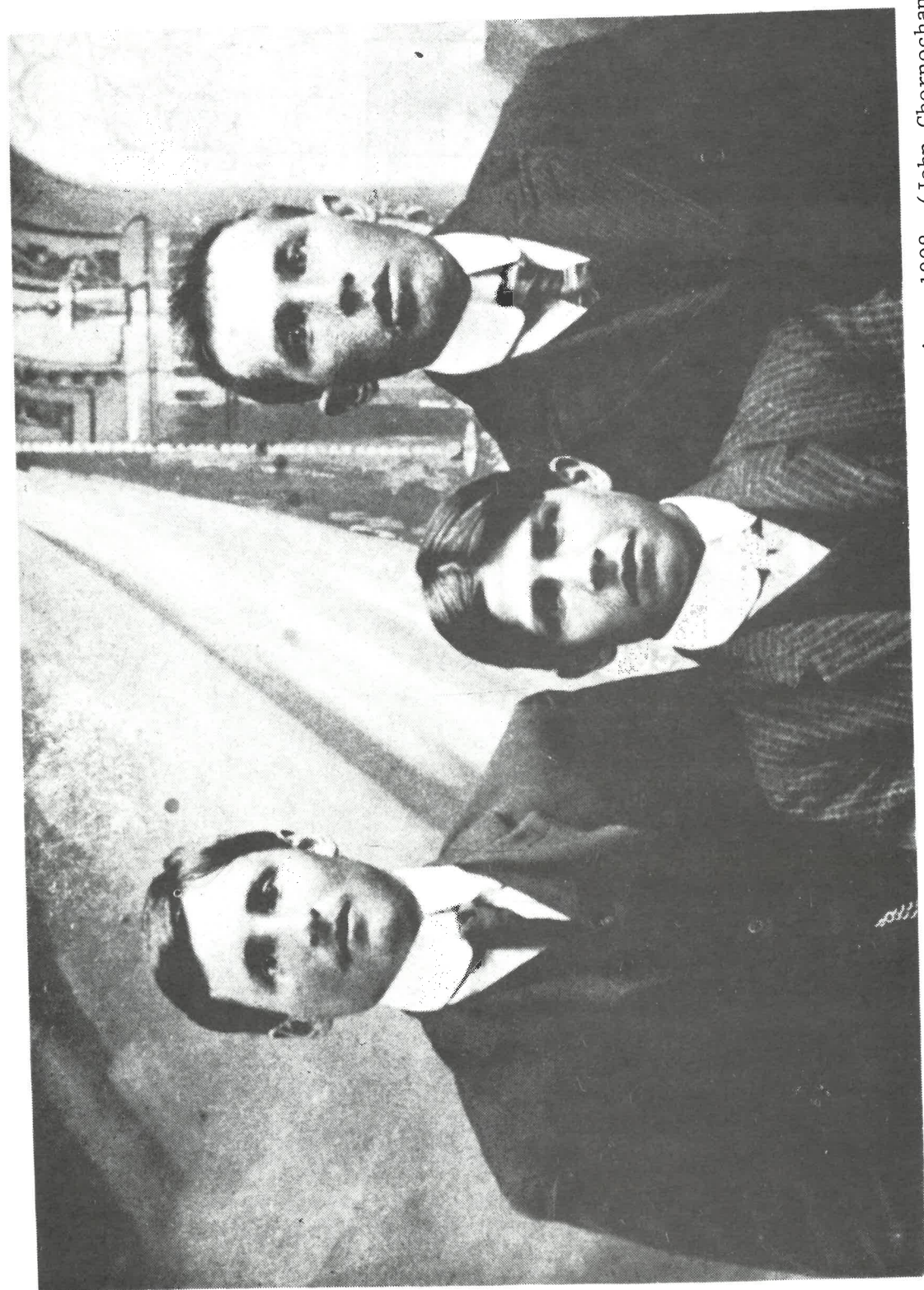


Figure 2: Kosma Chernochan (centre) and two friends at Hosmer, B.C., circa 1908. (John Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

At the Hosmer mine, Kosma was among the youngest men seeking work. The first job he was given was to lead horses which dragged bucket cars through the shaft and collected coal from the miners. Once full, these cars were brought out of the mine to the loading docks for transportation.⁴¹ Kosma spent three winters in the mines, returning to Smoky Lake each spring to work the homesteads. On February 4, 1910 he was issued a Certificate of Competency under the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Amendment Act (1901) which entitled him to follow the occupation of a coal miner anywhere in British Columbia.⁴² That year, the Chernochans sponsored Kosma's sister, Paraskytsia, and her four-year-old son, Nykolai, to Canada. Kosma returned to work at the Hosmer mine from September 30, 1911 until March 28, 1912 before settling down on his own homestead and filing an application for patent on September 11, 1912.⁴³

2) The Mihalchans

In the townsite of Pakan there were four Romanian families homesteading at the turn of the century. They had settled here because the topography of the territory closely resembled that of their villages in Bukovyna. By 1902, more than 100 immigrant families would settle in these fertile lands,⁴⁴ but as early as 1900 these four Bukovynian families were joined by the Mihalchans. Thus, the Mihalchans were an integral part of the early immigrant settlement of Pakan, and are singled out as having numbered among these first settlers in Frank E. Mitchell's A History of Pioneering in the Pakan District (1937).⁴⁵

The Mihalchans filed on a homestead about two miles immediately northeast of the townsite. Their family soon grew until there were eight girls and one boy in all. Maria and the other older girls had to work in the fields performing the same tasks as their father - work usually reserved for male members of the family.

Vera Lysenko depicts the onerous farm work carried out by a young immigrant girl in her book, Yellow Boots (1954).⁴⁶ Gender was

rarely an excuse from back-breaking work on the homestead, even for very young girls like Lily Landash, the heroine of Yellow Boots. Similarly, Maria and her sisters helped their father cultivate the land. Nor was their labour lessened by farm machinery. They worked with a walking plough, harrowed and stoked.⁴⁷

But Maria's girlhood was not all work. She was able to attend school in Pakan as a child and accumulated as much knowledge as the family's circumstances permitted. There were also the joy-filled get-togethers to look forward to which individual families held for the district young people. The Mihalchan children were great enthusiasts in these lively parties and spent many cheerful hours recounting their exploits while anticipating the next week's social. It was at one such gathering that Kosma and Maria met, inaugurating a new phase in their respective lives.⁴⁸

(iii) Kosma and Maria Chernochan

(a) Courtship and marriage

The year 1913 was a turning point for Kosma and Maria. Kosma was 25 years old. He was an eligible bachelor (parubok) and a popular one at that. Kosma attended social functions with the other young men of the region, frequently travelling the extra miles to Pakan. Compared to Smoky Lake, Pakan was a bustling community at this time and attracted immigrant settlers for miles around.⁴⁹

The dances were a special occasion since they afforded young people the opportunity of meeting and courting. They were held outside, under the open sky or in the shade of trees.⁵⁰ Music was provided by local residents and the merriment often continued well into the night. At one of these dances Kosma met Maria Mihalchan. She was only 17 years old but it was not long before the couple was courting.

Kosma and Maria were married in Smoky Lake on August 10, 1913 by Rev. John Puchalsky. Their marriage certificate was witnessed by

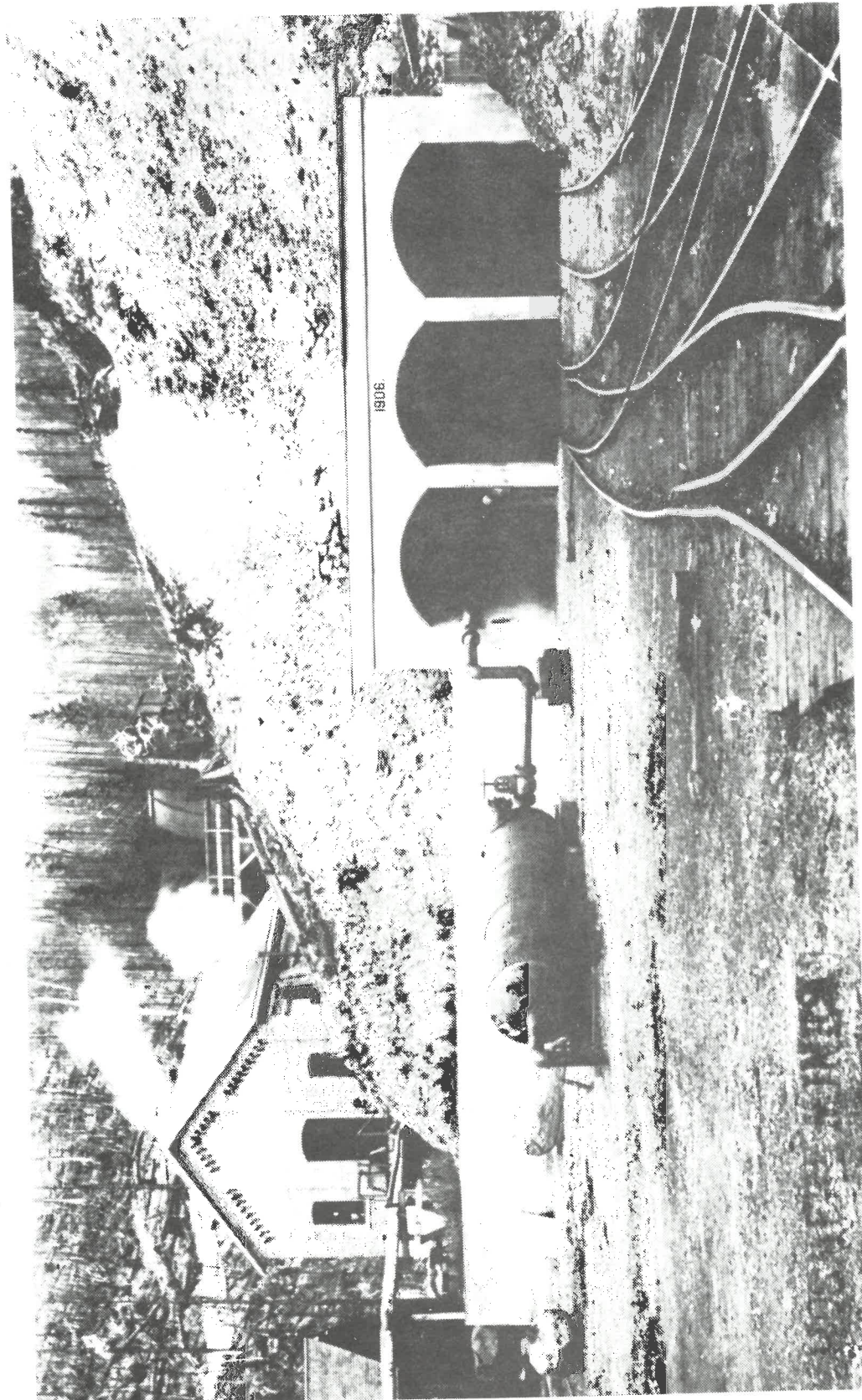


Figure 3: The coal mine at Hosmer, B.C., circa 1908. (John Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)



Figure 4: Kosma and Maria with the Mihalchan family, circa 1925. Back row, from left: Dokitza, Kosma, Zaharii. Front row, from left: Dokitza's two children, Maria and her mother, Sanhira with her two children. (Donald Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

Peter and Anna Dubetz, their neighbours.⁵¹ The wedding reception took place on Kosma's farmstead where some 30 guests joined in celebrating the happy event.⁵² Tables were set up in the yard outside of the house (na podviri), food was baked in the outdoor oven (pich), and a fiddler played gay tunes for the enjoyment of all.⁵³

(b) Family life

Following their wedding the young couple settled down to life on the homestead. Since Kosma had already built a house they were able to arrange their domestic life without delay. There was, however, more than enough to keep them busy on the farm. Land had to be grubbed, cleared and ploughed, and additional farm buildings were soon to be built.

Kosma and Maria's first child was born on July 14, 1914. She was named Evakhiia but lived only three months. Two years later their second child, Anna, was born on September 23, 1916. Four more children were born to the Chernochans, one more of whom, Sanda, died in infancy. Their surviving children were named Katrina, born in 1918, Metro, born in 1921, and John, born in 1926 when the Chernochans were already living in the village of Smoky Lake.⁵⁴ The children were raised in the Romanian language since Maria was not fluent in Ukrainian. In time, however, she acquired a facility in the language from Kosma, her in-laws and the neighbours, and the children were taught to speak Ukrainian as well as Romanian.⁵⁵

The Chernochans were a close-knit clan and there was much interaction between Kosma's parents and his own family. This interaction took many forms. Aside from aiding his parents in ploughing and seeding their land, Kosma helped them to develop their farmstead, as well as assisting them financially.⁵⁶ At the same time Teodosi and Maria helped their children as best they could. Teodosi worked in the field with the young couple while Maria tended to her grandchildren and prepared meals for the family.⁵⁷ By banding together, the extended

family of Chernochans gradually established themselves on the road to prosperity.

In addition to the work the Chernochans gathered together to accomplish, they also assembled to commemorate other more festive occasions. Among these was the celebration of Christmas (Rizdvo) and Easter (Velykden), as well as other holy feast days, such as St. Peter's (Petra). On the occasion of these holy feasts the family would attend Church in the morning and hold a celebration (khram) in the afternoon. They would invite their friends and neighbours and make a special festivity out of the entire day.⁵⁸ The celebration of khram was a common event among Ukrainian pioneers and is described in detail in Illya Kiriak's Sons of the Soil.⁵⁹

One particularly memorable khram held by the Chernochans took place in 1920 on the feast of Whitsuntide (Zeleni Sviata). Guests from as far as Boian and Hairy Hill took part in the event, some of them arriving in shiny new Model T Fords. The sight of these automobiles parked in the Chernochans' farmyard made a lasting impression on many of the guests - for some it was to be their first glimpse of the approaching modern era.⁶⁰

(c) Farm expansion

The practice among pioneers was for neighbours and friends to assemble both for social and practical purposes. An integral part of their daily lives was the ongoing improvement and expansion of their farmsteads. To speed development of this kind among all members of the community, individual farmers would hold working "bees" (klaky) in order to accomplish a certain objective:

During the hard times, there was the spirit of the pioneers. They were happy, they had their own land. They helped one another to raise the roofs on their barns, to mud plaster walls, and to assist where help was needed.⁶¹



Figure 5: Maria (second from left) with her son, Donald, and friends, circa 1921. (Donald Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

The Chernochans held several of these klaky during the course of their farm expansion. And while the men were at work, the women would prepare meals of wild rabbit, prairie chicken, salt port, beet soup (borsch), beans, wild mushrooms and fresh bread. They also served sour milk (kislak), and red and blueberry jam (povedlo). They made beer by burning yeast cakes on top of the stove, letting them ferment in crocks filled with water and sugar and then straining the solution into bottles. At the end of a hardworking day, they would set up tables in the yard, feast, and sing songs from the old country.⁶²

Although Kosma devoted more than 13 years to the development of his farm, by 1921 he believed a future in town would hold better prospects for him and his family. Nonetheless, he did not sell his land. For close to 40 years Kosma rented out SE 33-59-17, together with his father's property, SW 34-59-17. To facilitate this business arrangement, Kosma purchased Teodosi's quarter section in August of 1923.⁶³ By this time his parents were getting on in their years and were no longer able to perform the heavy farm work. Although they continued to live on the quarter for many years, the land itself was farmed by tenants, while Kosma and Maria saw to the health and welfare of the elder Chernochans.

(d) The move to Smoky Lake

The coming of the railway in 1918 altered the face of Smoky Lake forever. Over the next few years the townsite grew in leaps and bounds as new businesses and shops sprouted on a regular basis. Among the first of these new businesses was one established in 1919 - the Smoky Lake United Farmers Co. Ltd. (later known as the U.F.A. store). There were four partners in the store: Wasyl Romanchuk, Andrew Shymko, Peter Dubetz and Kosma Chernochan. The store itself was managed by Wasyl Romanchuk who sold his farm in 1919 in order to do so.⁶⁴

By 1921, the U.F.A. store was doing so well that Kosma decided to move his family into town where he could play a more direct role in



Figure 6: The shareholders in the U.F.A. store. Kosma is third from the left. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. UV525.)

its future.⁶⁵ Kosma had a knack for business and under his guidance the store continued to prosper. It was soon decided to increase the number of shareholders in the U.F.A. store, expanding the list to include such community notables as Konstantyn Romaniuk, Wasyl Ternoway, Sam Kostyniuk, and Mike McKew.

As the success of the store continued to thrive Kosma was offered a position with the Sawyer Massey Company selling farm and other equipment. For the next six years Kosma worked as a sales agent for Sawyer Massey and he soon demonstrated that, as with his other ventures, he was equally adroit in selling equipment such as wood-fired steamers, threshing machines, road graders, etc.⁶⁶ By 1928, Kosma had managed to save a substantial amount of money, and when he learned of a hotel for sale in Hairy Hill he decided to set upon a new enterprise. That year he moved his family to Hairy Hill and initiated a new phase in his life.

(e) Kosma Chernochan: community service

1) Pillar of the community

In many respects, Kosma Chernochan was a man of exceptional talents. As a young lad in Bukovyna he had displayed a strong-willed determination to better himself, first by earning money to see him through the hramatyka, and then by making the decision to emigrate - alone and with very few means. In the new land he continued his education, learning to speak and write English while working hard to establish himself economically. Once he had set his family onto a stable path, Kosma turned to public service, for he wished to benefit the community at large as well as to take an active role in the direction of its future.

Kosma was a natural-born leader. He was an articulate spokesperson with a keen sense of fair play, good judgement, and an outgoing personality. These were all qualities that kept him in good stead over the years. As early as 1916, Kosma served in his community

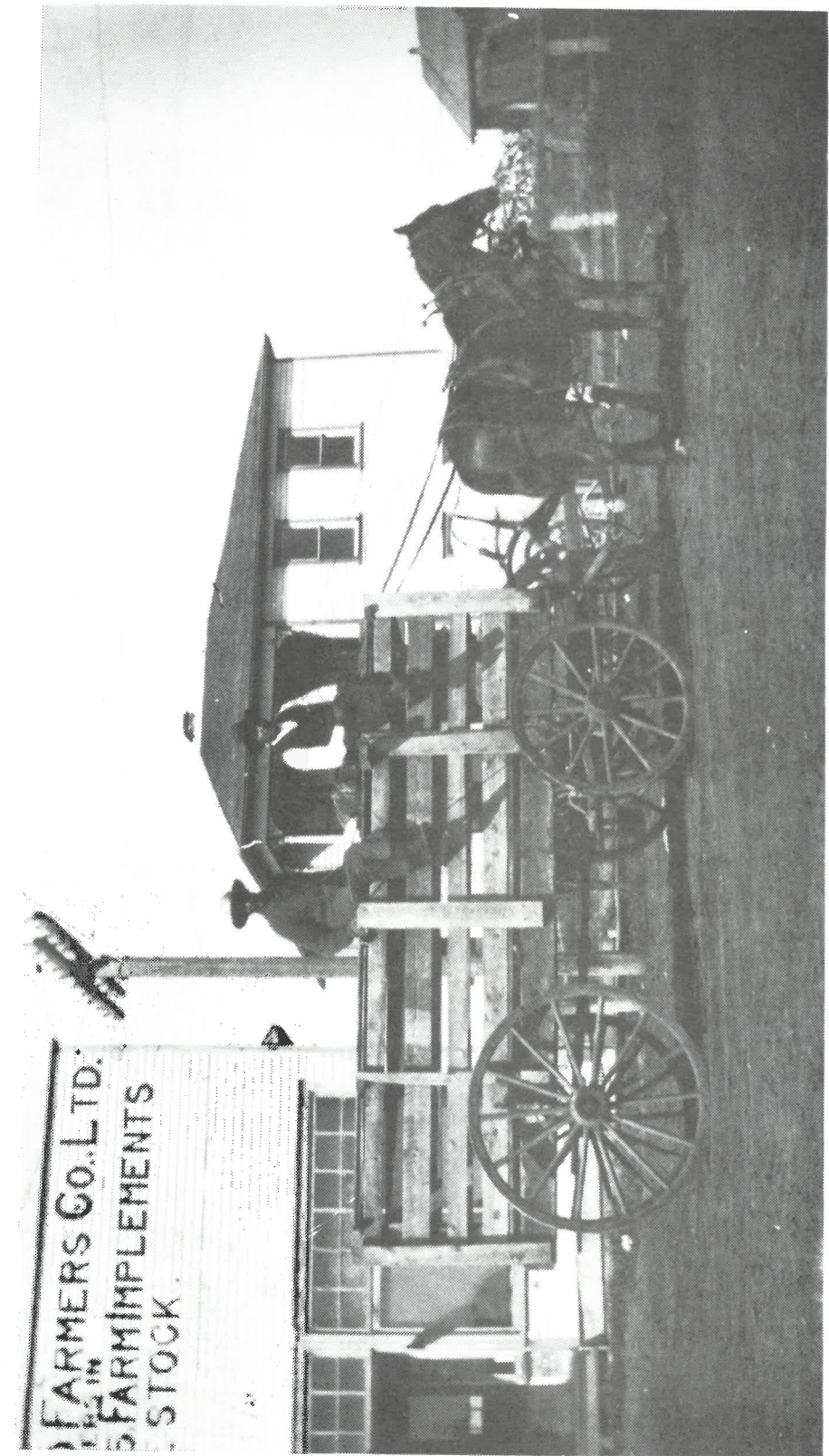


Figure 7: Teodosi (left) and Kosma by the U.F.A. store, circa 1921. (John Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

as Commissioner for Oaths. This was at a time when many of his fellow settlers were still struggling with the basics of the English language.⁶⁷ Then in 1918, Kosma was asked by N.A. Kilburn of Edmonton to lead a Victory Loan campaign in the Smoky Lake region. The campaign was intended to raise relief funds to compensate the enormous material and human costs of the First World War, and was being conducted across Canada. The Lamont newspaper, The Gazette, an important weekly in these years, reported in October 1918 on Kosma's appointment:

For Smoky Lake District including townships 59 and 17 and the balance of Rural Municipal District No. 576, Kosma Chernochan will act chairman. Mr. Chernochan too has undertaken his work with commendable zeal.⁶⁸

Kosma's efforts did not go unnoticed. The following year he was asked to serve as Justice of the Peace for the Smoky Lake region. In addition to this service, Kosma was made secretary-treasurer for the municipality of Smoky Lake for a term of two years.⁶⁹ His term began in 1919 and bridged two significant phases of his life: the homestead and farming years, and the years in Smoky Lake itself.

2) Justice of the Peace

On August 9, 1919 Kosma Chernochan was cited for the second time in as many years in The Gazette for his public service.⁷⁰ On June 24, 1919, Kosma had been formally appointed to the position of Justice of the Peace for Smoky Lake by order in council.⁷¹ It was a long way to have travelled for a peasant boy from Orshivtsi.

The types of cases that Kosma dealt with in his seven years as Justice of the Peace ranged from straight-forward administrative matters to cases involving criminal charges and convictions. Probably the most common charge laid in the late teens and early twenties was that of intoxication. This was a fairly minor charge, and did not involve high



Figure 8: The U.F.A. store, circa 1921. Kosma is seated at the entranceway. (John Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

court costs. For example, on May 27, 1922 John Fedoczlek was charged with intoxication and fined \$7.50. The breakdown of his fine was as follows: \$2.00 for the interpreter; \$2.00 for the Justice of the Peace; and a \$3.50 fine.⁷²

Another common offence was the failure to send children to school. This charge brought court costs in the vicinity of \$15.70, broken down in the following manner: \$4.00 for the interpreter; \$3.20 for the delivery of the summons; \$2.50 for the constable; and \$6.00 to the Justice of the Peace.⁷³ It is interesting to note that almost every case Kosma dealt with throughout the twenties involved the services of an interpreter. This indicates how relatively low the level of English was among the pioneers of Smoky Lake, as well as showing, by contrast, how exceptional Kosma's skills were for a member of the immigrant community.

In September 1922, Kosma's semi-annual report to the Deputy Attorney General in Edmonton listed the following infractions: neglect to send children to school; intoxication; operating a motor vehicle on a highway without lights; an animal beating; and a few assault cases.⁷⁴ Several of the people who appeared before Kosma were neighbours and friends of the Chernochans. Kosma, however, served as Justice of the Peace from 1919 until 1926, and his stature in the community never wavered, while the esteem he enjoyed as an individual only grew.⁷⁵

(f) Beyond Smoky Lake

1) Hairy Hill

By the fall of 1926, Kosma's numerous responsibilities were beginning to demand an inordinate amount of his time. To moderate the situation he decided to resign from his post as Justice of the Peace and devote himself fully to business matters.⁷⁶ It was not very long afterward that Kosma decided to pull up his roots completely and embark

on a new business venture. In 1928, the Chernochans left Smoky Lake for Hairy Hill. Here Kosma purchased the Edgehill Hotel and, together with Maria, took up the hotel business.

The townsite of Hairy Hill was not as developed as Smoky Lake in 1928. It was, however, the focal point of a region which encompassed the Hairy Hill and Boian rural communities. As such it was not without its own business potential. It was that same year for example that Maria's cousin, George Mihalchan, moved the old Boian Hall to the Hairy Hill townsite, converted it into a general store and competed admirably with the Mandryk general store established a year earlier.⁷⁷ In addition, to the commercial establishments of the Hairy Hill townsite there were other worthy outlets. A school was opened in the townsite itself in 1928, which Kosma's children attended, and St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church, located in the vicinity of Boian, provided a place for them to worship.⁷⁸

In spite of the fact that the townsite of Hairy Hill did not attain village status until 1946⁷⁹ (more than 20 years later than Smoky Lake), by 1928 the number of residents in the general vicinity numbered some 1,200. By 1928, the townsite was located on the C.P.R. line and was listed in the 1928 Henderson's Directory as a "business centre."⁸⁰ It drew many local farmers and residents to its business community.

The Chernochans lived in Hairy Hill for a nine-year period - almost the entire duration of the depression years. In many ways, the hotel helped to insulate them from the ravages of the "dirty thirties," as they were able to maintain a steady clientele in the hotel tavern and restaurant. This income, coupled with the proceeds from their farmland, assured their solvency through these difficult times.⁸¹

2) Willingdon

In 1937, Kosma sold the Edgehill Hotel and moved his family to Willingdon. The Chernochans stayed only one year in Willingdon, but it



Figure 9: Maria and friends at the side entrance of the Edgehill Hotel in Hairy Hill, circa 1935. (Donald Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

was a prosperous one for them. Kosma worked that year as a cattle and hog buyer.⁸² Despite the severely depressed economy of that decade the hog business boomed in Willingdon throughout the thirties.⁸³

Willingdon was a centre for hog sales in the thirties and forties, and consequently, stockyards operated a brisk business in the town for many years. Since Willingdon was located on the C.P.R. line to Edmonton, livestock was constantly being bought and transported into the city for further sales.

The year the Chernochans lived in Willingdon their daughter Anne, now married to Paul Lazaruk, operated a dress shop and later a hair salon with her sister Kay. When the family moved on to Edmonton, Anne stayed behind and began her own family with her husband Paul.⁸⁴

3) Edmonton

Kosma and Maria, together with their daughter Kay and two sons, Donald and John, moved to Edmonton in 1938. Here they purchased the Astor House Hotel which had been established in 1915, and built themselves a home in the Highlands area.⁸⁵ Their purchase of the Astor House proved to be another successful business venture and led them, in time, to additional lucrative investments. Throughout these years the Chernochans were active members of St. John's Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Edmonton. Finally in 1952, Kosma and Maria retired and spent the following eight years travelling and enjoying the warm, southern climate of Arizona and California.

Although Kosma and Maria had long ago left their Smoky Lake farm, they did not actually sell it until 1959.⁸⁶ For 38 years Kosma held on to the land that gave him his start in Canada and helped to sustain him and his family for almost four subsequent decades. Ironically, within six months of the sale of SE 33-59-17 Kosma passed away on February 15, 1960 at the age of 72. Three years later on August 15, 1963 Maria, too, passed away, and the final chapter in their lives drew to a close.

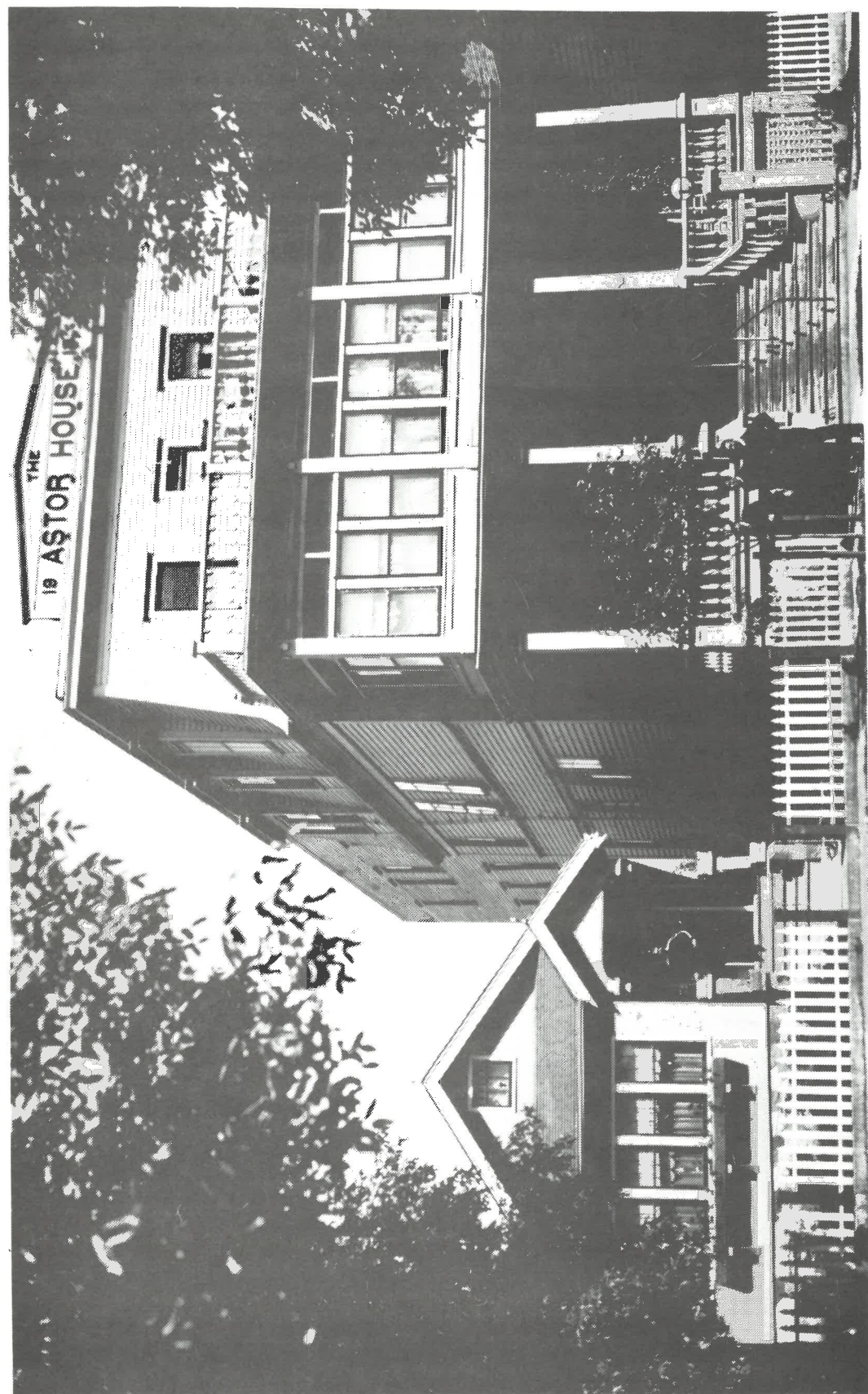


Figure 10: Donald standing on the porch of the Chernochans' Edmonton home by the Astor House Hotel, circa 1940. (Donald Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

ENDNOTES

CHAPTER I:

Introduction

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Chapter II:

Land Use and Structural History

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Land Use and Structural History

A. Land Use

(i) General

(a) Settlement and land use in east central Alberta.

Since village life in the homeland was very closely integrated, when one family member emigrated he tended to draw others to the new land in due course. Similarly, when an entire family emigrated it often compelled other related, and unrelated, families along.¹ The personal ties which were forged in the village, or en route to the new land, were long-lasting and immigrants often settled on neighbouring quarters. Groups of men worked together as seasonal labour on railways, in lumber camps, or in mines.

These initial stages in the overall process of land settlement and cultivation are worthy of discussion. The search for land, claim procedures, and survival itself were paramount issues in the first few months following immigration. The first step in this course of action was to locate a suitable parcel of land. Some of the land east of Edmonton had already been surveyed before 1900. But it was after 1900 that the process of land surveying accelerated and the major surveyors included A.S. Campbell, H.M.R. Soars, A.G. Stuart, D.F. McEwan and the man who surveyed SE 33-59-17, C.C. DuBerger.² Together with their crews, surveyors measured and marked section corners and road allowances, and made notes concerning the vegetation and topographical features of an area.

Once the land in these ranges was surveyed settlers began to stream in travelling along the old trails: Battleford Trail (from Battleford, N.W. Territories); Beaverhill Lake Trail (from Fort Saskatchewan to Vegreville); and Victoria Trail (its north section

stretching from Edmonton to the Victoria settlement, and its southern path following from Fort Saskatchewan to Star and beyond).³ Wagons and horses were the best way to travel along these routes, but for many immigrants even this rudimentary form of travel was unavailable. Some settlers floated rafts down the Saskatchewan River, others simply walked to their destination.⁴

Once the settler had decided on a given quarter section (approximately 160 acres of land) he could file a homestead claim. Before making a homestead application though, it was necessary first to actually settle on the land. Having provided proof of settlement, an application fee of \$10 was paid as an honorarium to the local agent, but no patent was given for at least three years. Then it was only granted providing the settler had met the conditions of the Homestead Act.⁵ Essentially, the homesteader's claim entitled him to occupy and cultivate the land in question and, in fact, required him to maintain residency and develop his land according to the following formula:

1. By residence on homestead for at least six months in each year for three years, dating from the time of perfecting entry by becoming an actual resident, and by cultivation of land to a reasonable extent.

or

2. By continuous residence for 12 months after date of entry, 30 acres at least of cultivation, the erection of a habitable house, and payment for the land at current Government price per acre.⁶

Needless to say, the first few years of homesteading consisted of heavy toil. Grubbing, clearing and ploughing the land was back-breaking work and required oxen or horses, and implements. The early development of the homesteads was often funded through the ready-cash returns provided by seasonal labour. Gradually, tolerable economic adjustment was achieved by the settlers and they were able to turn their attention toward the further development of their farms.

Throughout east central Alberta the agricultural mainstay has

traditionally been grain farming. The area bounded by Edmonton, Athabasca, Bonnyville and Vegreville is mainly engaged in mixed farming; that is, the practice of grain growing and livestock tending. Trends in agricultural production are determined by several factors, the most important of these being climate and quality of soil. Where rich earth predominates and climatic conditions permit, the most lucrative field crop is wheat, followed by oats, barley, and rye, - rye in particular is usually reserved for soil that is less productive. It is interesting to note that land which is fertile enough to nurture some vegetation but is essentially non-arable is described as grazing land. Sometimes land is considered to be non-arable because of detrimental topographical features such as steep hillsides, large non-draining areas, or gravelly subsoil.⁷

These were all factors which combined in east central Alberta to produce an agricultural economy based on mixed farming. The 1909-1910 report to the Minister of the Interior, submitted by surveyors concerned with the townships west of the fourth meridian, described the pertinent land features of this area. The soil qualities recorded ranged from gravel, clay, and sandy subsoil, to light brown loam and black loam. The surface was generally described as rolling broken by occasional streams and ravines. Throughout the report, the land was consistently recommended for mixed farming.⁸ A description of Range 17, townships 65 and 66 (five townships north of Smoky Lake) described the land as follows:

The soil is inclined to be light on the whole, being composed of four or five inches of black loam and sandy subsoil... The surface is generally rolling and covered with small poplar bush with a small growth of poplar and willow. There are a number of small lakes and muskegs... The climate is good, and no signs of summer frost were found.⁹

The surveyor concluded that the land was suitable for mixed farming. The same conclusion was reached by scores of settlers in the

early 1900s who developed the land west of the fourth meridian, fashioning it into one of the most productive land belts in the province.

(b) The Victoria/Pakan settlement

The early history of Smoky Lake is very closely connected to that of the Victoria Settlement. Fort Victoria was one of the original settlements in this region since it was founded in the 1860s. At its apex the settlement was a bustling nucleus drawing settlers from miles around to its business establishments and social events. When the Canadian Northern Railway (C.No.R.) extended its service to Smoky Lake in 1918, however, the importance of the Victoria settlement diminished drastically while Smoky Lake's development took a dramatic upswing. Still, the townsite of Pakan (as it came to be known in the 1880s) survived and even thrived as a community for some 60 years.

The origins of the Victoria settlement were founded on the cooperation between Methodist missionaries and the Hudson's Bay Company.¹⁰ The settlement started out as a picturesque Indian camp on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River until 1863, when the Victoria Methodist Mission was established here by the Reverends George McDougall and Thomas Woolsey. As early as 1840, missionaries had been frequenting this area with the objective of converting the heathen natives, building a civilized and prosperous Canadian west, and luring natives away from the Roman Catholic faith which had previously made inroads here.¹¹

A schoolhouse and church were built in Fort Victoria in 1865. By 1870, the school had registered 40 students, and some 130 mixed-blood natives were living at the mission. Although a smallpox epidemic broke out in the settlement in 1870 and took some 55 lives, by 1871 the population stood at 150 and the settlement had recovered sufficiently to build a hospital in its midst.¹²

Land surveys were conducted throughout the 1880s and nineties resulting in an influx of settlers and immigrants to the settlement. In 1887, the post office was renamed Pakan to honour a chief of the Saddle

Lake Indian Reserve in an attempt to appease hostile natives in the vicinity.¹³ The Domestic Home Mission, established in 1897, became the second Methodist mission to operate in Pakan and the focus of its activities was to concentrate efforts on the conversion of newly arrived Austrian (mainly Ukrainian) immigrants. Rev. Charles H. Lawford, a medical doctor, was appointed in 1901 to the mission at Pakan for this express purpose.¹⁴

The Hudson's Bay Company opened its post at the Victoria Settlement in 1864. Within a decade, shallow-draft steamboats transported its goods on the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers. Steamboats named "City of Edmonton" and "Alberta" operated weekly between Edmonton and Shandro, carrying passengers, C.No.R. supplies for work gangs, wheat and hogs.¹⁵ By the early 1900s, Pakan had grown into a busy settlement. It boasted a hospital, hotel, two general stores, two blacksmith shops, three machine shops, a telephone office, church, and school.¹⁶

A visit to the Pakan general store was a major occasion for the Ukrainian settlers in the area, who travelled for miles to stock up on goods. By 1906, 250 Ukrainian families lived in the Pakan region and their mail was delivered on a weekly basis. Originally, it came in from Fort Saskatchewan along the Victoria Trail, but later arrived from Lamont. In these years Pakan was a distribution point for smaller settlements, including Wahstao, Edwand, Northbank, Pine Creek and Smoky Lake. The only other means of communication was the telegraph line extending from Edmonton to Andrew, Pakan and Saddle Lake.¹⁷

The Methodist influence had its effect on the Ukrainian immigrants of Pakan. In 1909, Metro Ponich, a 21-year-old immigrant who had worked as an interpreter for the Methodists was received into the Methodist Church. Within a year, 25 more Ukrainians had joined the church and by 1911 a Ukrainian Methodist church and cemetery were established at Pakan.¹⁸

The relative prosperity enjoyed by the hamlet of Pakan in the early 1900s soon ceased, when the extension of the C.No.R. line to Smoky

Lake effectively undermined Pakan's economic base. Machine companies like International Harvester, Massey Harris, John Deere, and Cockshutt, which had operated out of Pakan, moved their outlets north to Smoky Lake when the railway was extended. In 1922, the McDougall Hospital, (built in 1909) was dragged by steam engine to Smoky Lake and Dr. Lawford himself relocated to Smoky Lake to open a drugstore and medical office.¹⁹ The population of Pakan, which had stood at 120 people in 1914, had dropped by 1920 to 50 residents.²⁰ In point of fact, the coming of the railway created a reversal of roles for these two settlements: it spelled the end for Pakan, but cleared the way to a new beginning for Smoky Lake.

(c) The Smoky Lake Settlement

1) Era I: Pre-1863

"Pre-settlement"

The origins of the name Smoky Lake is a tale steeped in legend. There are two versions to the tale, the first telling of early voyageurs who traded in the vicinity, and the second involving the Wood Cree Indians who inhabited this area before it was settled.²¹ The first tale maintains that voyageurs who had travelled to this territory by way of the North Saskatchewan River noticed a haze of smoke to the north of the river. They set out to investigate this curiosity and came upon a large body of water. This was a huge lake measuring more than 12 miles in length and several miles wide. A light mist seemed to hang over the water forming a thin, blue haze which resembled smoke. For this reason, they called the lake Smoking Lake, a name which eventually changed to Smoky Lake.

The second version of the tale holds that the shores of the large lake were used as a meeting place by the Wood Cree Indians. A major ceremonial gathering was held here by the Indians on an annual

basis. They assembled here to perform the rites of a ceremony they called the Smoking Feast. From this ceremony the name of the lake, Smoking Lake, was derived and Smoking Lake eventually evolved into Smoky Lake. The town of Smoky Lake derived its name from its proximity to the geographical entity Smoky Lake.

In addition to the Cree Indians, who hunted and fished in the Smoky Lake area in the pre-settlement era, there were the Blackfoot Indians. The first white men to explore this terrain were the fur traders who travelled by canoe on the North Saskatchewan River. In 1810, there was a formal attempt to inhabit the area when Alexander Henry, the Younger, erected a small fort by the White Earth Creek. However, the site was soon abandoned because of its isolation and inconvenience.²²

There was no further attempt to colonize this area again until 1860 when Rev. Thomas Woolsey built a small station near the Smoking Lake. Rev. Woolsey had come to Canada in 1852 and moved to the Smoky Lake region from Pigeon Lake.²³ Woolsey was a Methodist minister and came to Alberta with the intention of spreading the Methodist faith. For a period of two years he attempted to establish a permanent mission at this site. His correspondence indicates that by 1862 he had built a cabin and stable and that he had an interpreter and two hired men assisting him. However, his efforts were in vain. The mission was poorly located as there were few fur-bearing animals in the vicinity and consequently few people. When Rev. George McDougall visited Woolsey at his tiny mission and saw the futility of his pains, he suggested Woolsey relocate his mission to the Victoria settlement. By the summer of 1863, Woolsey and Rev. McDougall's son John, were busily constructing suitable buildings for their mission in Victoria.

2) Era II: 1863-1902

"Early settlement"

Following the departure of Rev. Woolsey from the Smoky Lake

area there were no subsequent attempts to establish a colony here. With the relocation of the Methodist Mission to Victoria, and the opening of a Hudson's Bay Company outpost here in the following year, it was the Victoria/Pakan settlement which attracted early settlers and immigrants. The early settlement history of Smoky Lake is, in great part, the history of Pakan.

It was not, in fact, until 1899 that the first immigrant settlers began to trickle into the Smoky Lake region.²⁴ Over a three-year period their numbers gradually increased. But it was the surveying of the land, carried out in 1902, which signalled the real beginnings of immigrant settlement in Smoky Lake. It was this settlement, transpiring over a period of several years, which altered the future of Smoky Lake in a way that would have been unimaginable to Rev. Woolsey a half-century earlier.

3) Era III: 1902-1918

"A new community"

The settlement of Smoky Lake by immigrants began in earnest in 1902 and continued for many years. This first and largest immigration of Ukrainians to Canada ceased in 1914 with the outbreak of the First World War.²⁵ As early as 1899, however, the Smoky Lake region began to be settled by Ukrainians, many of whom came from the same village in Bukovyna - Toporivtsi. Although the majority of this contingent arrived in 1899, many more followed in 1900, and again in 1902.²⁶ At one time, there were as many as 75 families from Toporivtsi living in Smoky Lake.²⁷ The hardships experienced by Ukrainian pioneers in general are well-documented in Land of Pain Land of Promise and other publications.²⁸ The difficulties depicted in these sources seem, at times, incredible to the reader and impossible to endure. Yet in reality the invincible spirit of the pioneers proved to be indefatigable - it set the backbone of the Smoky Lake community in place.

An institution which played a key role in the lives of the pioneers in the Smoky Lake area was the Kolokreeka Mission. This Methodist mission was built in 1908 one and a half miles north of the settlement. It was located beside a small creek, which was a tributary of the White Earth Creek. Because of the mission's location by the creek, it was referred to in Ukrainian as being "by the creek" (kolo "krika"), and hence its name originated.²⁹

The purpose of the mission was to provide educational and spiritual services in the burgeoning community. The first teacher of the mission was Edith Weeks. The various teachers of the mission, Phoebe Code (1910), Adele Young (1911), Mary Yarwood (1912), Alice Sanford (1913), among others, and Edith Weeks herself taught school, held Church services and Sunday school classes, and provided English lessons to the settlers in the vicinity. In addition to this work some of the mission's services were also provided in adjoining districts.

The mission maintained its school for more than 30 years, closing it finally in 1937. Nonetheless, mission workers continued to carry on community work for an additional 20-year period, the last appointment terminating in 1957. The Kolokreeka Mission was for many years a focal point of Smoky Lake, providing valuable services to residents for more than five decades.

The early town development of Smoky Lake dates from the same period as the establishment of the Kolokreeka Mission. Smoky Lake's first postmaster, Tanasko Dwernichuk, moved to the tiny settlement from Pakan. In 1907, Dwernichuk opened a store on Stefan Dubetz's land immediately north of the Smoky Lake settlement. Here he worked as Smoky Lake's first storekeeper and postmaster.³⁰ Mail was delivered on a weekly basis for several years to the community. Dwernichuk served officially as postmaster from 1909 until 1916 when he was replaced by Stefan Zaharichuk. Zaharichuk served a two-year term, then was replaced by John Stogrin in 1919.

Smoky Lake's business community did not get off the ground until after the extension of the C.No.R. line in 1918. Until this time

the community was composed of farmers who travelled to other centres (such as Pakan) to make major purchases and carry out business matters. A general store was built in Smoky Lake in 1917 and was operated by Wasył Chahley.

A mill operated in Smoky Lake from the year 1916. Known as the Farmer's Mill, its first organizers were Andrew Shymko, Fred Dmytrow and Joseph Jarema.³¹ Some of the capital needed to found the mill came through the sale of shares at the cost of \$25. Andrew Shymko's share was eventually purchased by Henry Bielish who succeeded Shymko as the town miller. The mill was resold in 1940 to Efrim Maximenko, and remained operational through to 1944 when it burned down.

Educational services in the Smoky Lake community were provided by the Kolokreeka Mission until formal schools were established. The first regular school built in the immediate vicinity was located a few miles west of the settlement. This was the Toporoutz School³² built in 1909 and named for the village of Toporivtsi, the Bukovynian birthplace of many of the local residents. Its first secretary was George Chahley. Other schools in the area built in this same period were the Edwand (1907), Kotzman (1910), and Ruthenia (1911) schools, all of which were located in the range to the east of Smoky Lake (see Appendix B).³³

In 1916, a group of farmers in Smoky Lake decided to organize the community into an independent school district and to build a school in their own settlement.³⁴ They elected a committee to spearhead the action. Stefan Stogrin, one of the few English-speaking committee members, was elected as one of three trustees. Nykolai Kashuba and Ivan Yakimchuk were named as two more trustees, and Percy Sutton, a Methodist missionary, was made secretary. Their efforts spanned a three-year period as they rallied for support, raised the necessary funds and sought official authorization for the school. This was finally attained in 1918, but the school was not constructed until the following year because of a severe epidemic of influenza which ravaged the community in 1918. The school was finally erected in 1919 and named White Earth School.

The first Ukrainian church in Smoky Lake was actually a small chapel built in 1907 next to a cemetery, which had been established two years previously.³⁵ A church was constructed on the site in 1915. It was built by members of the congregation itself some eight miles northwest of Smoky Lake and was named St. Onufry Church.

The Ukrainian Catholic Parish of St. Paraskevia was the first church to be built in the immediate area. Plans for its construction began in 1912, when some 30 residents gathered at the home of Stefan Molowaychuk and pledged contributions of \$19.90 each toward this end. St. Paraskevia was built by its parishioners and named to honour the Ukrainian village church of one of these people. Bishop Budka visited the small parish in 1914, and the church itself was replaced by a larger structure in 1930.³⁶

The Russo-Orthodox Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary was another of the early churches established in Smoky Lake. It was constructed circa 1916 of hewn logs and finished with siding. Crosses molded from iron bars provided by a local backsmith were added to the structure.³⁷

These are some of the aspects of community life in Smoky Lake in its early years of development. This was an era of hard work and new beginnings which saw the establishment of pioneer homesteads, the first signs of a business community, and the founding of educational and religious institutions. It was an era which pushed open the gates to the future and set the stage for the ensuing decade of progress.

4) Era IV: 1918 - 1929

"Boom town"

The years following the extension of the C.No.R. line through Smoky Lake were years marked by rapid expansion and intensive growth. The mood of this period was best captured by the reportage of The Gazette at the time. In May 1919 for example, Smoky Lake was covered

under its own column heading for the first time. Until the appearance of that issue Smoky Lake had only been mentioned in conjunction with Pakan - the larger of the two communities prior to 1919.

The Gazette painted a picture of an animated community where development was proceeding in full swing. The reporter commented on the fact that tri-weekly train service was expected to begin in six-weeks time, and that in addition to the already operating business establishments - three general stores, a second-hand store, the standard Bank, a flour mill, a garage, and a pool and dance hall - plans were underway by both the Alberta Pacific Grain Co. and the Gillespie Elevator Co. to build grain elevators in town.³⁸ Within three months of this report, The Gazette printed the news that James Mitchell had erected a warehouse for Cockshutt machinery, John Draper had built an implement warehouse, and the International Harvester Co. was selling machinery in Smoky Lake.³⁹

By the fall of 1919, Smoky Lake's businesses had expanded to include Nick Sawchuk's new garage, and a cinema operated by Greniuk, Vortec, Chahley and Co. At the same time, the C.No.R. was planning to build a railway station in town.⁴⁰ By Christmas, a knitting factory had opened, as had a telephone office, and the U.F.A. store in which Kosma Chernochan was a shareholder. The tremendous productivity being generated by Smoky Lake prompted The Gazette's reporter to write "keep an eye on Smoky Lake, its growing like a mushroom after warm rain."⁴¹

Reportage of this nature continued through 1920 when some of the highlights mentioned in the paper were the establishment of the Beaver Lumber Company;⁴² the construction of a new hotel; the grading of streets;⁴³ the advent of direct dialing telephone service;⁴⁴ and the installation of electric wires for lighting.⁴⁵ Almost every mention of Smoky Lake in The Gazette throughout 1920 also commented on the availability of local sawmill services, and at one point the reporter remarked that "the hammering of nails is heard all over."⁴⁶

Within a few short months Smoky Lake had virtually changed from

a sleepy, little hamlet reached only by stagecoach, to an industrious, thriving community showing every prospect of heightening its remarkable growth spiral.

In 1921, a brick factory was built to the north of Smoky Lake by Mike Fuchkan, Nick Pirzek, Wasyl Krachuniak and Wasyl Horobetz.⁴⁷ Bricks were manufactured from clay found in the area and were in great demand as construction was underway all around.

The culmination of all of this activity came in 1922, when Smoky Lake was incorporated as a village.⁴⁸ The municipal councillors appointed for the first term were William Czumer, Nick Gavinchuk, and Kosma Chernochan. The progress made by Smoky Lake in this one decade was phenomenal. Whereas in 1911, Henderson's Directory had listed almost every Smoky Lake resident as being a farmer,⁴⁹ in 1922, Wrigley's Directory listed the village residents according to occupation, which ranged from barrister, surgeon and priest, to mechanic, mason and real estate agent.⁵⁰ The 1922 directory mentioned that 800 farmers resided in the municipal district in addition to the residents of Smoky Lake itself.

It was also in 1922 that the McDougall Hospital was moved from Pakan to Smoky Lake. This event, perhaps more than any other in that decade, symbolized the advantage won by Smoky Lake over other local settlements by the arrival of the C.No.R.

By 1926, the frenetic growth of the early twenties had slowed somewhat. Nonetheless, two community halls had been erected and it was here that residents staged debates, plays, concerts, and other social and educational activities. The McDougall hospital was equipped with a modern X-ray machine and new laboratory in this year, and two doctors administered to the patients. In addition, a new high school was built in the village itself. Other developments in the late twenties included the replacement of the Russo-Greek Orthodox Church in 1928. The Roman Catholic Church, founded by Father Paul Francis and Mother Luranan Francis, was also built that year.

As a whole, the decade of the twenties was a time of enormous opportunity and vast expansion in Smoky Lake. This great advancement was triggered by the introduction of C.No.R. services to Smoky Lake, an event which singularly altered the future of the small settlement. These were years characterized by a tremendous exertion of energy on the part of town builders and enterprisers - an era that essentially set Smoky Lake "on the map."

5) Era V: 1929 - 1939

"The dirty thirties"

The contrast between the decade of the "dirty thirties" and the prosperous twenties could not have been greater throughout all of Alberta. Signs of a failing economy came as early as July 1929 when unemployed workers staged demonstrations at the Legislature in Edmonton.⁵¹ By Christmas of that year unemployment statistics were critical and farm prices had dropped significantly. The situation deteriorated rapidly. Many farmers had gone into debt during the industrious twenties fully expecting that their production would continue to increase. But from 1930 on, the price of wheat, beef, and pork fell without reprieve leading to increasing alarm.

It was the Municipal Council in Smoky Lake that bore the brunt of local farmers' complaints. During the Depression the council was referred to as the "Farmers Parliament," since it was to this body that disgruntled farmers aired their problems. The major laments focused on poor roads, inadequate relief and high taxation.⁵² Greater numbers of farmers in the area found themselves in dire straits as returns on farm produce plummeted with unprecedented severity: a bushel of wheat brought 18 cents, a dozen eggs went for three cents, while a hog or a steer brought a few meagre dollars. The majority of farmers defaulted on tax payments in an attempt to cope with the drastic situation.

As the situation worsened farmers in the Smoky Lake area began demanding relief support. This government subsidy provided a small

supplement of food and clothing, feed for cattle, hospital transportation, and seed grain guarantees.⁵³ However, the shortage in tax revenue left the municipality few available funds so that relief dollars were greatly limited. After an unsuccessful attempt to secure additional bank loans - unsuccessful because of outstanding, unpaid loans owed by the municipality - the council was forced to abandon the relief program altogether.

The Municipal Council, in an attempt to raise the money needed to repay previous bank loans, proposed to do so by putting farm lands with defaulted tax payments up for sale at public auction. Although their action was condemned by the provincial Department of Municipal Affairs, the council decided to proceed with plans for the auction without actually selling any of the land. Their bluff worked. Rate payers who had been withholding taxes because they felt their hard-earned money would be wasted in public welfare support realized the gravity of the situation and made their payments to the municipality. On the day of the sale a public sympathy demonstration was held in Smoky Lake, and soon thereafter the relief support program was reinstituted through supportive government grant funds.⁵⁴

Although the relief program provided some respite from the heavy toll of the Depression, it was essentially a "band-aid" treatment which provided no long-term resolution. In December of 1932, residents of Smoky Lake joined with people from Willingdon, Two Hills, Mundare, Myrnam, Calgary, Lethbridge and other centres, in a mass hunger march to Edmonton.⁵⁵ The purpose of the march was to place certain demands before the Legislature, including the cancellation of all debts, exemption of small farmers from taxation, cessation of sheriff's sales and grain seizures, cash relief for poor farmers, and free medical care and educational services. Since most Ukrainian farmers had landholdings of 160 acres at this time, the dismally low prices for grain in the thirties meant the average quarter section provided mere subsistence living.⁵⁶ Many of these people were in the forefront of the march and

many were responsible for vast donations of food prepared for the marchers.⁵⁷ The march was organized jointly by the Farmer's Unity League and the Worker's Unity League. It was staged with the hope of improving matters for farmers in Alberta, but met with little success. The net result of the 1932 hunger march was that the farmers were treated with hostility from the press, silence from the politicians, and violence from the R.C.M.P.

It would be years before circumstances improved for the farmers of Smoky Lake. The summer of 1935 was exceptionally hot and dry, and the price of wheat remained below the cost of production.⁵⁸ The winter which followed was the coldest on record in Alberta and the next summer was, once again, incredibly hot and dry, resulting in poor production. The first year that brought some relief was 1937, but the situation did not show real signs of improvement until the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. The "dirty thirties" however, were destined to remain a bitter memory for many years; it had been an era blemished by adversity.

6) Era VI: 1939 - 1962

"Recovery and growth"

With the outbreak of war in 1939, the hardships of that desolate decade slowly receded. Prices on farm products began to increase and money started circulating again. Farmers were able to buy new tractors, bills were paid, merchants increased their stock, taxes in arrears were collected, and the municipality was able to initiate road, and other improvements.⁵⁹ Recovery was gradual, however, and it was a few years before a renewed growth cycle was actually discernible in Smoky Lake.

By the mid-1940s several new businesses were operating successfully in Smoky Lake. New businesses continued to open throughout the forties and fifties as the benefits of economic recovery penetrated

the community. In 1944, William Politsky opened his meat market and confectionery. The following year the Smoky Lake Feed Mill opened for business offering to crush every kind of grain but rye.⁶⁰ When the war ended genuine development got under way. In 1946, several new business outlets were established. Among them were Mykytiuk's Store - a general store selling dry and dairy goods, produce and meats; the Central Motors Garage, managed by Steve Romanchuk; and the Smoky Lake Motors Garage.⁶¹ Both garages repaired and sold automobiles to an ever increasing market of purchasers.

It was also in 1946 that electrical power was brought to Smoky Lake by Canadian Utilities Ltd.⁶² The high power line had to be extended over the North Saskatchewan River in order to supply electricity to 120 subscribers. In the same year the McDougall Hospital received substantial grants from the Board of Home Missions which enabled the hospital to purchase a new diesel power engine and modern kitchen equipment. The citizens of Smoky Lake donated a baby incubator to the hospital, and plans for the addition of a new wing were initiated.⁶³ By the end of the decade several more establishments had opened their doors for business, among them the Red and White Store dealing in food and clothing, the Marshall Wells Store specializing in hardware, sporting goods, and electrical appliances, and the Midland Lumber yard.⁶⁴

In addition to the increase in business enterprises, community development was evident in the late forties and fifties particularly in the establishment of educational and social institutions. In 1948, the new H.A. Kostash High School was opened.⁶⁵ It contained five additional classrooms and a library, and employed twelve teachers. The school was named to honour Harry Kostash, superintendent of the Smoky Lake school district. Additionally, the Veterans' Legion was organized at this time to serve the needs of war veterans living in Smoky Lake. Soon after, the Ladies' Auxilliary was established with the mandate of fundraising and performing other social work for the hospital. In the

late fifties the Boy Scouts and Cubs were started in Smoky Lake.⁶⁶

Throughout the 1950s, businesses continued to thrive in Smoky Lake: general stores, appliance outlets, and a service station served the needs of the public. In 1952, the Alberta Government Treasury Branch offered its banking services for the first time. The following year water and sewage were installed in the village.⁶⁷ By the late fifties Smoky Lake had attained new status in the surrounding countryside. In July 1958, it was named "town of the week" and described as being a place of "considerable importance." It had, in fact, developed into the focal point in a district of some 7,000 people. Smoky Lake's population at that time was 700, 90 per cent of which was Ukrainian.⁶⁸

By the early sixties Smoky Lake had recovered fully from the grim depression years. The economy had stabilized and investment was once again promising. It had required much rebuilding to reach this point; it was an era that paved the way to the future.

7) Era VII: 1962 - 1971

"A modern town"

On February 1, 1962 Smoky Lake was formally recognized as a town and the surrounding vicinity attained county status. The first annual meeting of the County of Smoky Lake was held February 23, 1962 at which time a financial statement was issued. It showed that the county had expended close to \$1,250,000 that year, but had a surplus of more than \$63,000.⁶⁹ About 16 miles of road had been graded, and 45 miles had been gravelled and regavelled. There were six school districts in the county with a total of 68 classrooms, 75 teachers and 1,646 students.

The mayor of the town of Smoky Lake was George Kozub. There was a population of 729 in 1962, roads had been gravelled and oiled that year and one mile of sidewalk had been laid. And there were many more plans for further development. Proposals were made for a community

centre, a 25-bed hospital, a nurses' residence, and a new county office. A senior citizen's home with accommodation for 50 people was planned.⁷⁰ It was also in this year that plans for the Victoria Museum at Pakan were made.⁷¹

In 1963, proposals for the introduction of natural gas service into Smoky Lake were studied. This was to lead to one of the most controversial episodes in the town's history. When gas lines were connected to some 240 outlets in February of the following year, it became apparent that no gas supply had yet been secured. The confusion had arisen as a result of a misunderstanding as to who was responsible for the drilling of a gas well. It culminated in a stalemate as the town and oil companies locked horns on the issue. The controversy mounted, creating quite a stir in the community and arousing much publicity in the press. Finally it came to be debated in the Alberta Legislature and was soon resolved when the town and the British American Oil company agreed to share the costs of building a well. Within two years of the event, Smoky Lake decided to drill its own stand-by gas well in order to avoid the high economic costs of purchasing gas elsewhere.⁷²

In the meantime town development continued to accelerate. By 1965, the St. Olga and Volodymyr Church had been built, two and one-half miles of town streets were paved, and the town's population had topped 1,000. In the next few years a veterinary clinic, a new drug store, and a coin-operated laundry were opened. Direct dialing for individual phone owners was installed at a cost of \$35,000, and the County of Smoky Lake proposed additions to the Vilna and H.A. Kostash High Schools.⁷³

As a centennial project, the County of Smoky Lake published a review of the communities of Smoky Lake and Warspite in 1968, reviewing the years 1867 - 1967. The review is an informative document depicting the town of Smoky Lake in terms of its overall development, and as it was in the late 1960s - a prospering community that had come into its own.

8) Era VIII: 1971 - present

"Consolidation"

In March 1978, a survey of Smoky Lake was conducted in order to provide an overview of the community's structure and undertakings. On the basis of this survey the Alberta Business Development and Tourism Department produced a colour pamphlet containing community profile data on Smoky Lake's location, population, transportation, climate, community facilities, utilities and services, financial institutions and municipal services.⁷⁴ The pamphlet described Smoky Lake in the following manner:

This vibrant and progressive community was incorporated to village status in 1922 and later to town status in 1962 ... Full recreational facilities and community services make this a great town in which to raise a family ... Primarily an agricultural community, the townspeople have shown considerable foresight in planning industrial diversification to meet the needs of the future.⁷⁵

The survey listed Smoky Lake's population as 1,075 in 1971, which by 1976 had swelled to 1,121. The 1976 town population was broken down into age groups as indicated in Table 3.⁷⁶

Table 3

Population of Smoky Lake According to Age Group				
Age Group	Male	Female	Total	% of Total Population
0-4	31	21	52	5
5-24	137	134	271	24
25-64	257	273	524	47
65+	145	119	264	24

The size of Smoky Lake's labour force quoted in the survey was 330 men and women, the highest concentration of workers being in the field of education (25%), followed by agriculture (20%), finance and manufacturing (both at 15%), construction, fishing and trade (10% each), and public administration, defense, and agriculture services making up the balance. The proportion of skilled labour was listed as 50 per cent, semi-skilled and unskilled as 25 per cent each.

The survey cited Smoky Lake's business community as consisting of 49 retail and wholesale trades, 10 transportation outfits, and three services incidental to agriculture. It also mentioned two manufacturing companies: Alfalfa Plant and Smoky Lake Bakery as major employers.

Natural resources of the community were coal, sand and gravel, petroleum, natural gas, timber, fish, and agriculture. Municipal services included fire protection, provided by 30 personnel with two fire trucks and all requisite equipment at their disposal, and police protection supplied by four R.C.M.P. officers. In addition, Provincial Judge's Court was cited as hearing cases twice a month in Smoky Lake. Government facilities included the offices of the A.G.T.; Department of Agriculture; Department of Highways; N.E. Alberta Health Unit; Department of Health and Social Development; Department of Transport; Post Office; and a Senior Citizens' Home. Community and recreational facilities mentioned were the Lions Club; Legion Association; Agricultural Society; Agricultural Complex; Curling Rink; National Hall; Ortona Hall; and numerous parks.

Thus, we see Smoky Lake in the contemporary context as having evolved into a mature community, offering the public and private amenities necessary to meet the needs of its citizens. In the past it has contributed greatly to the overall development of east central Alberta, in the present it is a community with a sense of pride in its own history. A community that has undergone many phases and witnessed several generations - one that has worked to fashion the struggles of yesterday into the rewards of tomorrow.

(ii) Specific

(a) The Chernochan site: vegetation

The existing plant life on SE 33-59-17 is representative of vegetation throughout east central Alberta. Although there is nothing extraordinary about this plant life, it does exhibit some properties worthy of comment. Essentially, vegetation on SE 33-59-17 is comprised of a number of species which can be described in lay terms as grouping under the general headings of trees, flowers, grasses, herbs and weeds.

Of these categories of plant life the most highly valued among Ukrainian pioneers was trees. Since forest land in Ukraine was owned mainly by the nobility, peasants did not have free access to the forest, neither for the purpose of hunting, nor to acquire wood. For construction purposes wood had to be purchased, and since good quality wood was scarce its cost was very dear.⁷⁷ The Ukrainian pioneer, therefore, sought to settle on land that contained wooded areas, as these would provide him with the necessary materials to develop and maintain his farm.

White spruce (Picea glauca Voss) is one species of tree growing on SE 33-59-17. It is characteristic of the entire Boreal Forest Region, but can be found almost everywhere in Canada because it grows in a variety of soils and climate.⁷⁸ Its roots are extremely pliable and the tree itself grows to an average height of 80 feet with a diameter of two feet. White spruce is considered to be one of the most important trees in Canada for pulpwood and lumber, and was used in the construction of the Chernochan machine shed.

Another fir that grows on this quarter section is Jack Pine (Pinus banksiana Lamb). A characteristic of Jack Pine is that it reaches its best development on sandy soils, attaining the same dimensions as White Spruce. Although the Jack Pine commonly grows in pure stands it also propagates - as does White Spruce - in mixed groves with Balsam Fir, Balsam Poplar, Trembling Aspen, and other conifers.⁷⁹

Of the poplars, Balsam Poplar (Populus balsamifera) and Trembling Aspen (Populus tremuloides Michx) grow on SE 33-59-17. Some 35 species of poplar have been named, of which six are native to Canada. These trees are very common because they grow in every province, and in some parts of the prairies they are the only trees.⁸⁰ Poplar is a fast-growing tree and its wood is used for lumber and pulpwood. Balsam Poplar was also used in the construction of the machine shed.

The Willow (Salix sp) is another rapidly-growing tree which is easily propagated. It varies in growth from tiny plants and small shrubs, to trees. Although they usually require ample moisture, willows can grow on well-drained upland soils. Such an environment is located on SE 33-59-17 in the vicinity of the machine shed site where a grove of willows, poplars, and other foliage stands.

Two perennials grow in this same thicket: Prickly Rose (Rosa acicularis) and Wild Red Raspberry (Rubus strigosus). These two flowers are members of the rose family and are both common and widespread throughout Alberta. The former has been, in fact, Alberta's floral emblem since 1930.⁸¹ It is a bushy shrub that grows to a height of one to three feet, in and around open woods, thickets, clearings, fields, bluffs, roadsides, and other areas affording adequate protection. The Prickly Rose has the distinction of appearing on a commemorative stamp issued in 1966.

The raspberry plant grows much taller than the Prickly Rose. Reaching a height of three to six feet, its stout, slightly bristly stems tend to arch downward once they have reached their full height so that their tips touch the earth. The raspberry is best known for the large, red, juicy berry it produces as fruit. These sweet berries have traditionally been popular as picking fruit, and served to stave off starvation by early explorers, trappers and settlers.⁸² This perennial, like the rose, grows on the borders of woods, bluffs and river banks.

The many herbs growing on SE 33-59-17 break down into a number of sub-species, some of which display noteworthy properties. Wormwood

(Artemesia absinthium), or as it is also known, Sagewood, is a composite woody herb that is native to Europe and Asia but has escaped its original cultivation.⁸³ This herb is potentially detrimental to cattle as it taints their milk if consumed. Wormwood also has the capacity to degrade grains. Although it has some medicinal applications, wormwood can be oil toxic if taken in large doses.

Two species of clover growing on this land are Alsike Clover (Trifolium hybridum), another species to have escaped from cultivation, and Yellow Sweet Clover (Melilotus officinalis), which was introduced into Canada for fodder and to be used in the production of fertilizer and honey.⁸⁴

Other herbs growing on SE 33-59-17 include Vetch (Vicia americana), a twining, leguminous plant also used for fodder and in soil-building, and Freemont's Goosefoot (Chenopodium fremontii) and Maple-leaved Goosefoot (Chenopodium hybridum var. gigantospermum), both of which are glabrous herbs producing utricular fruit. Additional forms of vegetation include Kentucky Blue Grass (Poa pratensis) and Brome Grass (Bromus marginatus), and a number of weeds such as Russian Pigweed (Axyris amaranthoides), a species introduced from Asia; Hempnettle (Galeopsis tetrahit), a native to Eurasia; Hedge Bindweed (Convolvulus sepium), originally of European origin but currently spread across the globe; Bull Thistle (Cirsium vulgare), native to Eurasia; and Spiny Annual Sow-Thistle (Sonchus asper), a common weed native to Europe.⁸⁵

(b) The Chernochan site: eras

1) Era 1: pre - 1863

"Pre-settlement"

This first era denotes the epoch of pre-settlement and, with reference to land distribution in east central Alberta, it constitutes the period of "pre-surveying" as well. Quarter section SE 33-59-17 was not surveyed until 1902, the year when the majority of land in the Smoky

Lake district was first surveyed. As mentioned earlier, it was this occurrence which precipitated a major influx of settlers to Smoky Lake. Prior to this event, lands in this region were inhabited by Native Indians who hunted, trapped and fished as a means of sustenance. These were the Wood Cree and Blackfoot Indians, whose own history constitutes the pre-settlement era of Smoky Lake.

2) Era 2: 1863 - 1902

"Surveying"

The earliest survey conducted in Township 59, Range 17, west of the Fourth Meridian was in 1884. The survey was conducted by C.A. Magrath and approved October 28, 1884. Although certain land forms and other topographical features were recorded by this initial survey, the entire region was not surveyed in detail until 1902. The first field notes showing details of the topography of SE 33-59-17 were compiled by C.C. DuBerger between September 1, 1902 and November 1, 1902.⁸⁶

DuBerger's notes provide a record of the land surface and soil quality of the above-named site, as well as the land immediately surrounding it. Thus, they give an accurate account of this land's appearance in its virginal state and form a good starting point for a protracted discussion of land use. By observing the original condition of the land prior to the time that it was altered in any manner, we can learn more about its actual cultivation process and the underlying reasons that determined that process.

In general terms, the early topography of SE 33-59-17 resembled that of most of Township 59 - lightly wooded, rolling country with scattered prairie openings. There was, however, considerable variety in topography and vegetation in different portions of the land, some of which were quite distinct. The northern border of the quarter was quite marshy at the eastern tip.⁸⁷ This section did not extend far into the quarter and was really a small segment of a larger marsh bordering on

three other quarter sections: NE 33-59-17, NW 34-59-17 and SW 34-59-17. The land immediately to the west of this marshy sector was firm and rolling in nature. This undulating trait marked most of SE 33-59-17 and extended throughout the entire section. There was a natural spring running through the southeast end of the land in the vicinity of a muskeg which ran through the adjoining quarter to the east.⁸⁸

The vegetation recorded on the field notes pertains solely to tree growth. It shows a variety in the distribution of species so that separate patches of tree life emerge. The northern portion of land was covered by a fairly wide corridor of willows, which was part of a growth pattern spreading into the adjoining quarter. Immediately south of this growth was a large stretch of young poplar measuring some five inches in diameter. Intermixed in this stretch was a smattering of willows.⁸⁹ It would appear that this section was fairly exposed and unprotected because several windfalls are recorded here indicating natural devastation due to the elements.

To the west of these poplars a small marshy section is noted, and it is surrounded by spruce measuring six inches in diameter and more poplar, which cover an expansive section running north and south. These poplars were somewhat older trees measuring six inches in diameter. The southeast of the quarter was covered with a large area of five inch poplar and scattered with pine six inches in diameter.

The soil on SE 33-59-17 is categorized by the surveyor as being of Class Two quality.⁹⁰ He describes the soil as black loam with a depth of four inches. The sub-soil is recorded as a mixture of sand and gravel.

It is just this variety of subsoil which is most suitable for the growth of poplars. Similarly, pine reaches its best development on sandy soil. Spruce is known to propagate on a variety of soils and its growth, too, would be supported in sandy sub-soil. Willows, on the other hand, are usually thought of as having an association with swamps, riverbanks and streams, for as a group they require ample moisture.⁹¹

The willow patch on SE 33-59-17 for example, is recorded immediately south of a marshy section. Individual willows, however, grow in drier areas but usually in mixed groups like the one described above.

Although as a whole the soil of SE 33-59-17 is described as being of secondary quality, its actual quality varied throughout the quarter section. The southeast portion of the land is sandy but cultivatable. But a large segment of the quarter, located in its southwest corner, is a veritable wasteland with very poor gravelly soil. However, a fairly large section on the north end of the quarter is an exceptional black loam.⁹²

The role these varieties of soil played in deciding the land use and grain farming on SE 33-59-17 will yet be seen. What is definitely shown by the notations of this initial survey is that the land was varied in topography, in vegetation, and in quality of soil. Its surface could be described in broad terms as undulating in nature. Its plant growth was abundant with fairly young poplars, spruce, pine, and willows comprising the balance. Although its soil was categorized as Class Two, the soil quality actually ranged from very poor and poor in some areas, to good and excellent in others. All of these attributes combined to assign a unique set of properties to the land which would eventually determine its use - a process that was initiated by its first owner and cultivator, Kosma Chernochan.

3) Era 3: 1902 - 1918

"Ownership"

Kosma Chernochan filed on quarter section SE 33-59-17 in 1908. In doing so he took upon himself the arduous task of converting untouched territory into fertile cropland; something that would take years to accomplish. During the first few years, Kosma lived with his parents on the quarter adjacent to his own, SW 34-59-17 and the family



Figure 11: Kosma at Hosmer, B.C., circa 1910. (Donald Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

worked as a unit to develop their respective lands. Although in the first year of residency Kosma broke no land on his quarter, he did acquire four head of cattle. The following year he broke his first acre, increased his number of cattle to six and added a pair of horses to his holdings. In 1910, he broke four more acres and cropped all five acres of broken land. He also added a third horse to his team. His progress was painstaking but steady. Like other pioneers, Kosma also worked at seasonal labour. As mentioned earlier, his winters were spent in the coal mines of Hosmer, B.C. Throughout the spring and summer months he worked on his own quarter section as well as that of his parents - by 1910, he had helped Teodosi break and crop four acres of land.⁹³

The year of 1911 was a productive one for Kosma. That year he broke 25 acres, and although he cropped only five of them, he added two more head of cattle and a fourth horse to his stock. Kosma kept his livestock in his father's stable together with Teodosi's own livestock, which numbered ten cattle, three horses, and three hogs in 1911.

Breaking the land was tedious work in the pioneer days. Ploughing, harrowing and seeding small plots of land, even with the aid of horses, was strenuous labour. The process of clearing itself was extremely taxing as it required removing stones and grubbing by hand. Often it was necessary to perform several diskings in the virgin soil, particularly in those areas that had been previously wooded. A major source of aggravation were the mosquitoes that swarmed about in warm, damp weather and made the work even more tortuous. Smudges were kept burning day and night to combat their hordes.⁹⁴

By the time he filed for homestead application in September 1912, he had broken another five acres and put a total of 30 acres into seed. He also had 11 head of cattle and five horses, his land was cordoned off by two miles of wire fencing, and he had built himself a house measuring 18 x 44 feet. The following year, Kosma married Maria Mihalchan and together they continued to develop their land and farm buildings.⁹⁵



Figure 12: The Chernochan clan, circa 1921. From left: Anne, Kosma, Teodosi, Maria, Donald, Maria and Kay (Anne Lazaruk Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

Of the structures Kosma erected on his farm, none was as traditional in design as his house. In spite of some modifications, it was essentially built in the vernacular tradition of his homeland. However, the house was constructed of logs - this in itself would have attested to the relative prosperity of the farmer (hospodar) in the old country. As already mentioned, wood was at a high premium in Ukraine in the early part of the century. In Bukovyna, a wooden house might require some 50-60 beech trees (buky) to construct, and that made the cost of building a home very expensive.⁹⁶ Often peasants had no choice but to use secondary materials such as brushwood (khvorost) and straw (soloma) in constructing their homes and outbuildings.

Kosma's house was linked to Ukrainian folk architecture through its location, orientation and design. To the hospodar the location of his home was a conventional matter. Houses situated close to the road (like Kosma's) were termed nablyzheni, and those set deeply into the farmyard (dvir) were called viddaleneni. Kosma's house was oriented to the south, as houses almost always were in Ukraine. The rationale for this choice was consistent in both the old and new environments: to provide protection from the elements and fully utilize the warm rays of the sun.⁹⁷

The design of Kosma's house conformed to the traditional two-room (dvo-kamerna) with centre vestibule (siny) layout. A unique feature which set it apart from other houses, and one that was endemic to the Bukovynian style, was the addition of a wide platform (pryzba) around the exterior of the house. The pryzba had a double function: to shield the house from flooding, and to serve as a veranda in warm weather. This second function was facilitated by a wide eave extending over the pryzba and providing shade.⁹⁸

In Ukraine, the number and size of outbuildings (hospodarski budivli) built by the hospodar depended on his socio-economic standing, the size of his land, climactic factors, and his individual preferences.⁹⁹ The same conditions determined the pioneer farmer's choice and style of outbuildings in east central Alberta. Kosma's early

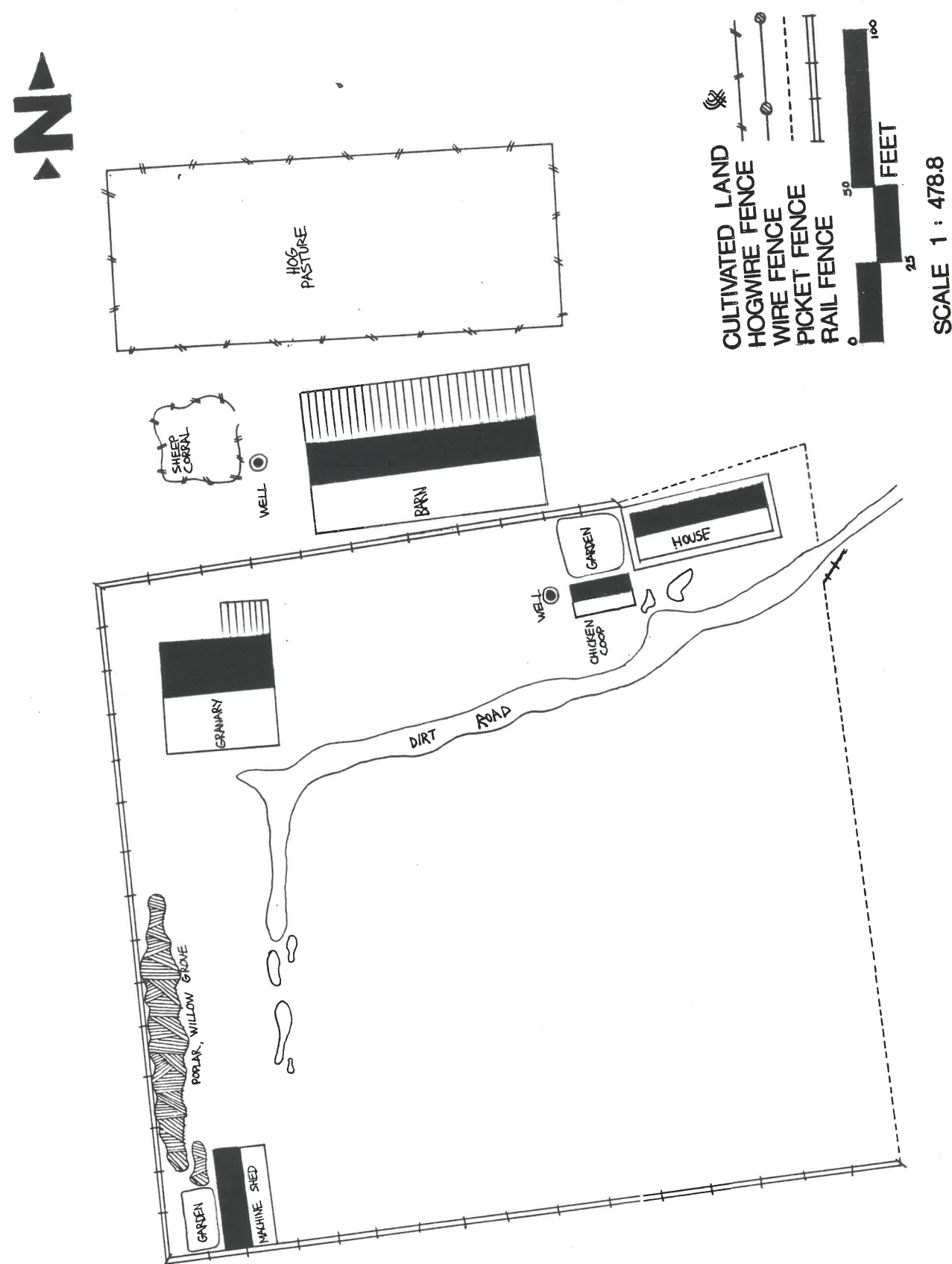


Figure 13: The Chernochan Yard, circa 1920. (Drawing by John Stanko.)

requirements had been adequately met through the use of his father's outbuildings, but following his marriage he set out to construct his own.

The expansion of farm outbuildings usually depends on the level of farming techniques employed by a given farmer; that is, as the farmer develops his land, his need for additional structures, machinery and implements increases correspondingly.¹⁰⁰ The first structure Kosma and Maria added to their farm was a small house (*mala khatyna*), which was initially used for cooking and canning during the hot months of the year and was eventually converted into a chicken coop (*kurnyk*).¹⁰¹ Two wells were dug, one by the chicken coop and another by the barn. As his grain production increased, Kosma decided to build his own granary. Similarly, once he had acquired a number of implements - a wagon and some machinery - Kosma decided to build a machine shed. The barn was the last structure to be erected and it was the largest and most modern of Kosma's outbuildings.¹⁰²

As pointed out by John Lehr, and as demonstrated by the design of Kosma's various buildings, there is a direct correlation in an immigrant society between the decline in aspects of material folk culture and the adoption of new values.¹⁰³ It is interesting to note that Kosma's first construction, his house, was still largely designed within the genre of Ukrainian folk architecture, while his latter constructions conformed increasingly to the Canadian norm. This trend elucidates Lehr's theory:

Recorded in the design, form and construction of every [building] are the social values and economic status of the builder. Perceptions of what is desirable in terms of ... design and ... size change as social values and economic circumstances change.¹⁰⁴

As Kosma's farm expanded it took shape quite differently from those in the homeland. In the early 1900s, outbuildings found on a typical farmstead (*hospodarstvo*) in the Podillian region of Ukraine consisted of a number of highly specialized structures. These included

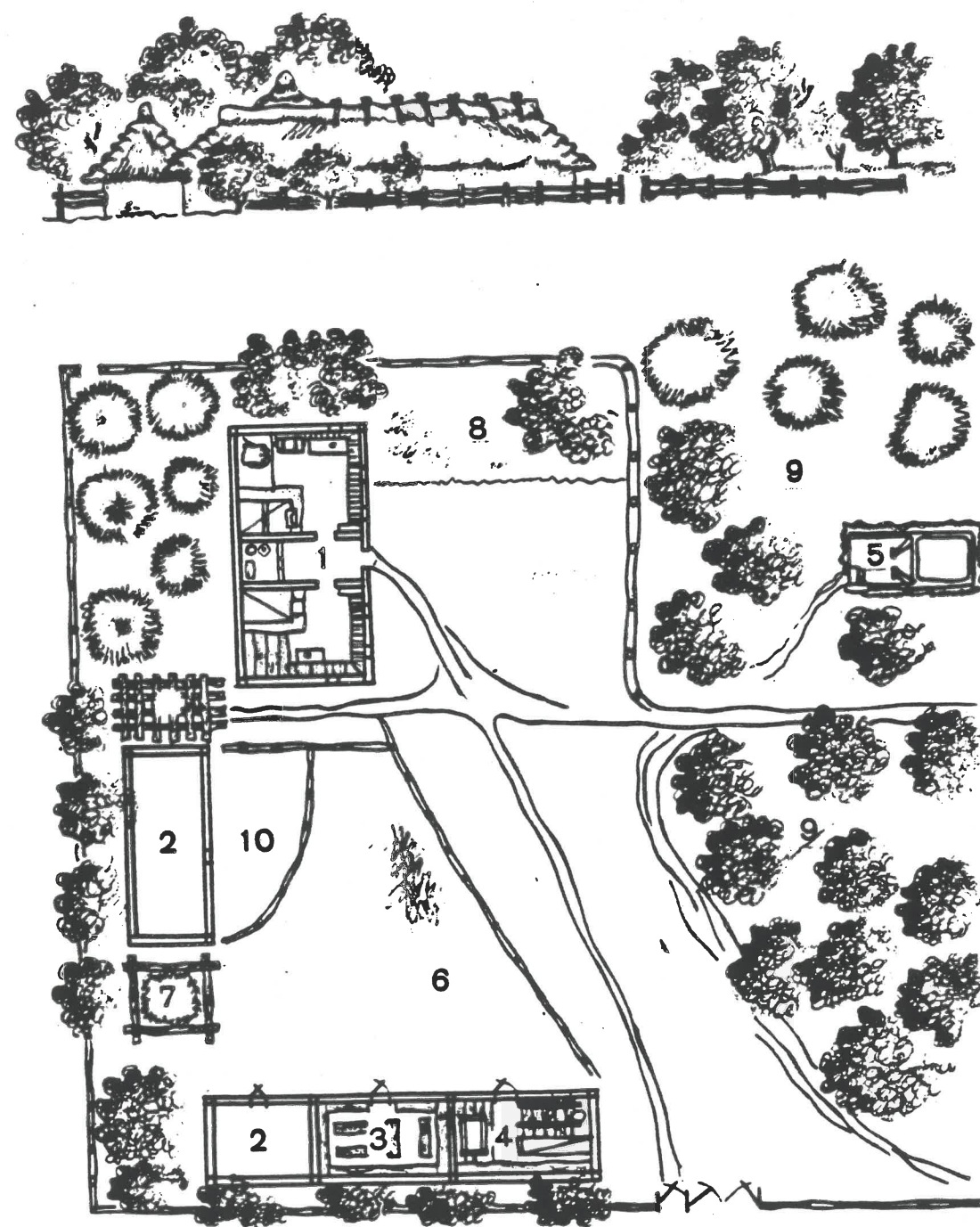


Figure 14: Potter's yard plan with free arrangement buildings in southwest Ukraine, circa 1900. 1-house; 2-machine shed; 3-storage area; 4-forge; 5-oven; 6-firewood storage; 7-clay storage; 8-flower patch; 9-garden; 10-corral. (In T.V. Kosmina. *Silske zhytlo Podillia*. Kiev: Naukova Dumka, 1980), p. 76.

small storehouses for hay, straw and seed, tools and drygoods, and corn, fruit and vegetables (*klunia*, *komora*, *koshnytsia* and *pohrib*, respectively); a small barn (*khlyva*) for cattle; a stable (*stainia*); a hog house (*sazh*); and chicken coop (*kurnyk*), as well as one or more covered structures or lean-tos (*nakryttia*, *povitka*, *vozovnia*) used as wagon sheds and, occasionally, for implements.¹⁰⁵

The arrangement of domestic buildings on a *hospodarstvo* is a topic that has been given much treatment in Ukrainian folk architecture. It forms, in fact, an area of study unto itself - the study of the farmyard (*dvir*). T.V. Kosmina and Z.S. Hudchenko divide the various configurations of the *dvir* into a number of sub-headings: (i) free arrangement (*vilna zabudova*), where there is no set order of buildings nor are they united under a common roof; (ii) single-row alignment (*odnoriadna zabudova*), where all buildings align with the house in a single row and may or may not share a full or partial common roof; (iii) double-row alignment (*dvoriadna zabudova*), where all buildings align in two parallel rows and may or may not share a full or partial common roof; (iv) letter " " arrangement (*" " podibna zabudova*), where buildings align to resemble the letter " " ; and closed arrangement (*zamknena zabudova*), where all buildings are adjoined by one common roof. (Kosmina also adds a sixth category: letter " " arrangement (*" " podibna zabudova*), where buildings align to resemble the letter " " .)¹⁰⁶

Clearly, a highly formalized approach has been taken in analyzing the *dvir* of the Ukrainian *hospodarstvo*. On the other hand, the Canadian farmyard has not been as rigidly delineated. In general, the layout of the Ukrainian farmstead owes a certain allegiance to established trends, as well as to notions of convenience and accessibility and the personal preferences of the individual farmer. The arrangement of Kosma's buildings was influenced, no doubt, by both approaches. As we can see from Figure 13, which portrays his farm's yard plan circa 1920, the house and outbuildings conform to no one definition put forth by Kosmina and Hudchenko. The yard plan does,



Figure 15: Canadian homesteader's farm buildings and yard. Note the storage structure to the right of the barn built of rough lumber with a low roof and open entranceway. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. H501.)

however, seem to hold some commonality with more than one of these definitions. That is to say, it is a free arrangement in that the buildings do not abide by a rigid configuration, but at the same time there is some discernible ordering. For example, all of the outbuildings do fall one after the other, behind the house and away from the main road, but they do not align in a single row and, therefore, do not qualify as a single-row arrangement. Furthermore, because of the machine shed's positioning at the rear and to one side, they almost resemble an inversed " " configuration.

Essentially, we can say that the basic yard plan of Kosma's farmstead owed some allegiance to traditional styles but was mainly a function of his new environment - both in terms of its physical and cultural aspects. The main physical factor deciding the farmyard's organization was that the buildings themselves were built on what is, in effect, an upland plateau. This was done for the all-important purpose of good drainage. Additionally, the outbuildings were erected with ample space between structures. Since there was plenty of land there was no need to crowd buildings into a tight compound, as had been necessary in Ukraine where land was enormously scarce.

The arrangement of individual buildings within the established modes of the Ukrainian dvir varied from region to region and from one hospodar to the next. For example, in a Lemko region farmstead at the Museum of Folk Architecture and Life (located in Lviv) the farm house itself is presented as an oblong structure where one corner serves as a storehouse and is divided into two sections: a large area for the storage of straw, and a smaller section used as a wagon and tool shed.¹⁰⁷ It was also common in the Lemko region to erect lean-to structures (prychyny) between buildings (often between the house and the barn) for storage. Similar types of lean-tos (prytuly) were often attached at the rear of structures, as evidenced by a Hutsul farmstead at the Lviv museum. A means of providing an enclosed space for the storage of farm inventory (remanent), firewood, and even farm animals which the Hutsuls used was to extend a larger structure's roofline over

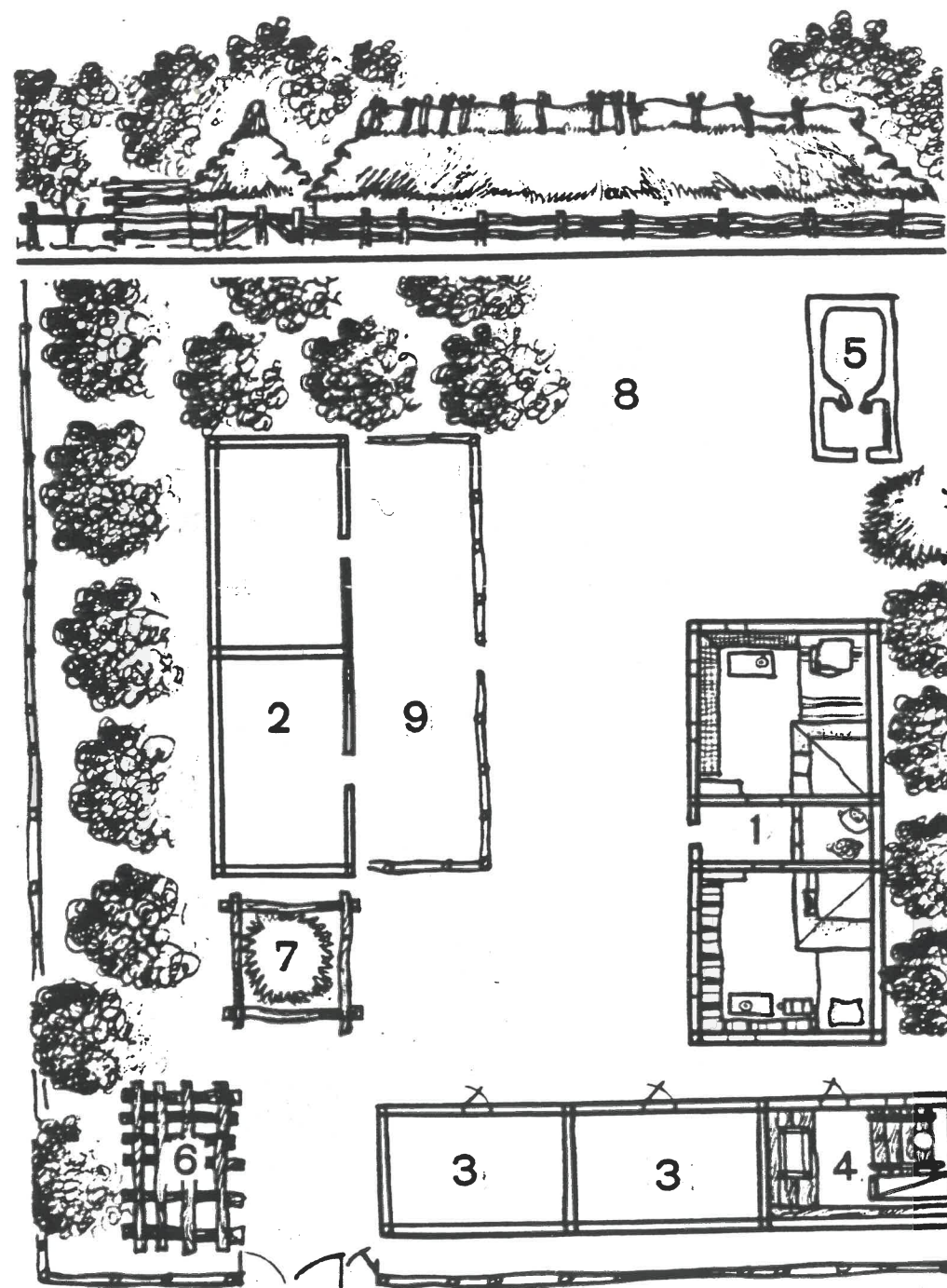


Figure 16: Potter's yard plan with free arrangement buildings in southwest Ukraine, circa 1900. 1-house; 2-machine and implement shed; 3-storage area; 4-forge; 5-oven; 6-firewood storage; 7-clay storage; 8-garden; 9 -corral. (In T.V. Kosmina, *Silske zhytlo Podillia*. Kiev: Naukova Dumka, 1980), p. 85.

an open area or onto three log walls.¹⁰⁸

The basic ordering of buildings in the Podillian region of Ukraine in more recent years conformed to a house-barn-storage shed pattern.¹⁰⁹ The pattern at the beginning of the century varied considerably, however. Often the house was set off by a large building divided into individual storage sectors, or in the case of poor peasants the pattern was simply house-shed-barn (all of them small structures connected by a partial roof). Most often the structure located furthest from the house was the barn, possibly because of the secondary status traditionally accorded to structures used to house animals.¹¹⁰

This was not the case on Kosma's farm. His barn was located close to the house and was large and modern in appearance. Behind the barn stood a sizeable granary and attached to its north end was a small lean-to (*prytula*) where he kept tools and other equipment. The barn, too, had a series of leans attached at its north end. These were enclosed structures and used as additional stalls for livestock.¹¹¹ Kosma's machine shed was situated to the south of the granary at the far border of a small thicket of poplars and willows, and at the very rim of the natural upland swell of the land. Significantly, one of the prominent characteristics of the Bukovynian farmstead was to erect a separate building as a machine shed (*shopa*) and set it apart as an independent structure unto itself.¹¹² In this manner the *shopa* gained early recognition as a viable outbuilding among the Bukovynians; an attitude apparently transplanted to the new land by Kosma.

Another traditional notion vitalized by Kosma on his farmstead was the importance of the fence enclosure. In Ukraine, the *hospodar* considered the fence to be a vital component of the *dvir*; it was, in fact, that which gave form to the *dvir*. Moreover, buildings were thought to be united into one ensemble through the presence of a fence.¹¹³ The fence was especially important in terms of setting the *hospodar's* farm from the road and away from adjoining plots of land.¹¹⁴ The lack of a fence reflected very poorly on a *hospodar* and was interpreted as signifying his negligence, carelessness, sloth, and

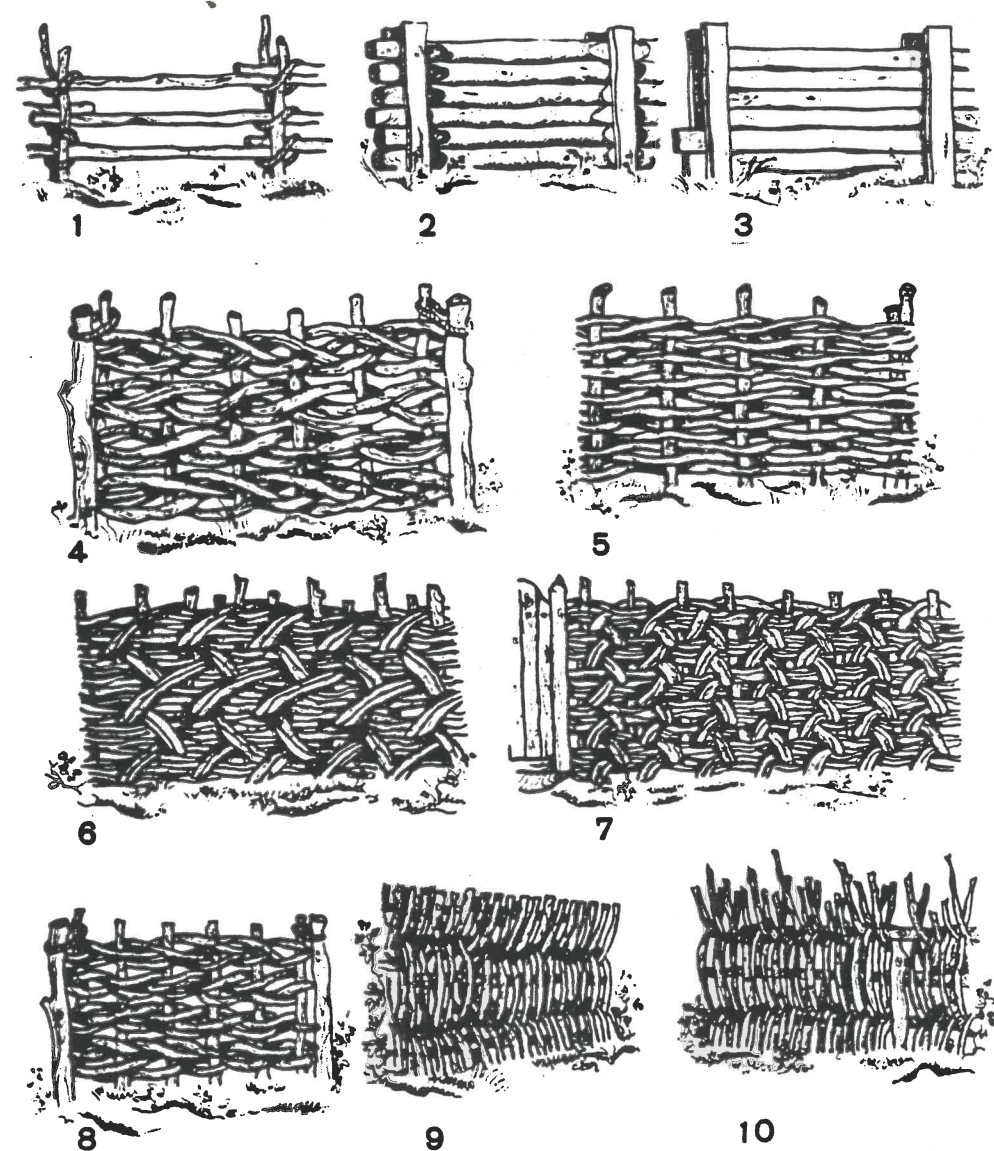


Figure 17: Wooden fences used in Podillia in the late nineteenth, early twentieth centuries. 1-rail; 2-log; 3-board; 4-8 - horizontally woven twigs; 9-10 - vertically woven twigs. (In T.V. Kosmina, *Silske zhytlo Podillia*. Kiev: Naukova Dumka, 1980), p. 103.

even debauchery.¹¹⁵ The construction and appearance of a fence depended mainly on available materials and was often erected from one or more of them: brushwood, weeds, willows, brambles, turf and others. But the most valued material for constructing a fence and the hardest to come by, was wood. Most wooden fences were found in the forested regions of Ukraine where they were made from boards (*doshky*) and termed *parkany* or *chastokoly*.¹¹⁶ (See Figure 17.) The fence was sometimes viewed as a wall-like enclosure of the farmstead, one which formed a tightly clad border about the structures and sometimes acted as an additional support to the roofs of small sheds and storehouses.¹¹⁷ Fences constructed of horizontal poles supported by posts implanted in the ground (*vorennia*) were favoured by the Hutsuls and were often built in a zigzag fashion with no gates.¹¹⁸

The fence Kosma erected about his farmyard had much in common with these examples from the vernacular mode. Traditionally, the most significant stretch of fencing in the farmyard was that which faced the road, and it was here that Kosma place a high-grade picket fence (*shlabsy na shtords*). The *shlabsy* continued along the north border of the house, ending at its west wall. From the front of the barn and along the back of the granary ran a rail fence (*vorennia*) which served to cordon off the barn from the other buildings. A small gate to the barn area was located in the vicinity of the chicken coop. Starting at the northwest end of the granary and running south, the rail fence continued to the south end of the machine shed. From this point it ran down toward the road until it joined up with the picket fence. A large gate measuring some 16 feet in width and made of rails and barbed wire was situated in the east fence line and opened onto the path leading down to the main road.¹¹⁹

The other fenced area on Kosma's farm was a huge hog pasture measuring some five acres and located north of the barn and granary. This area was fenced off with hog wiring (*pletennyi drit*) which was about four feet high and divided horizontally into two types of meshing. The bottom section of the wire had a tight meshing with two by

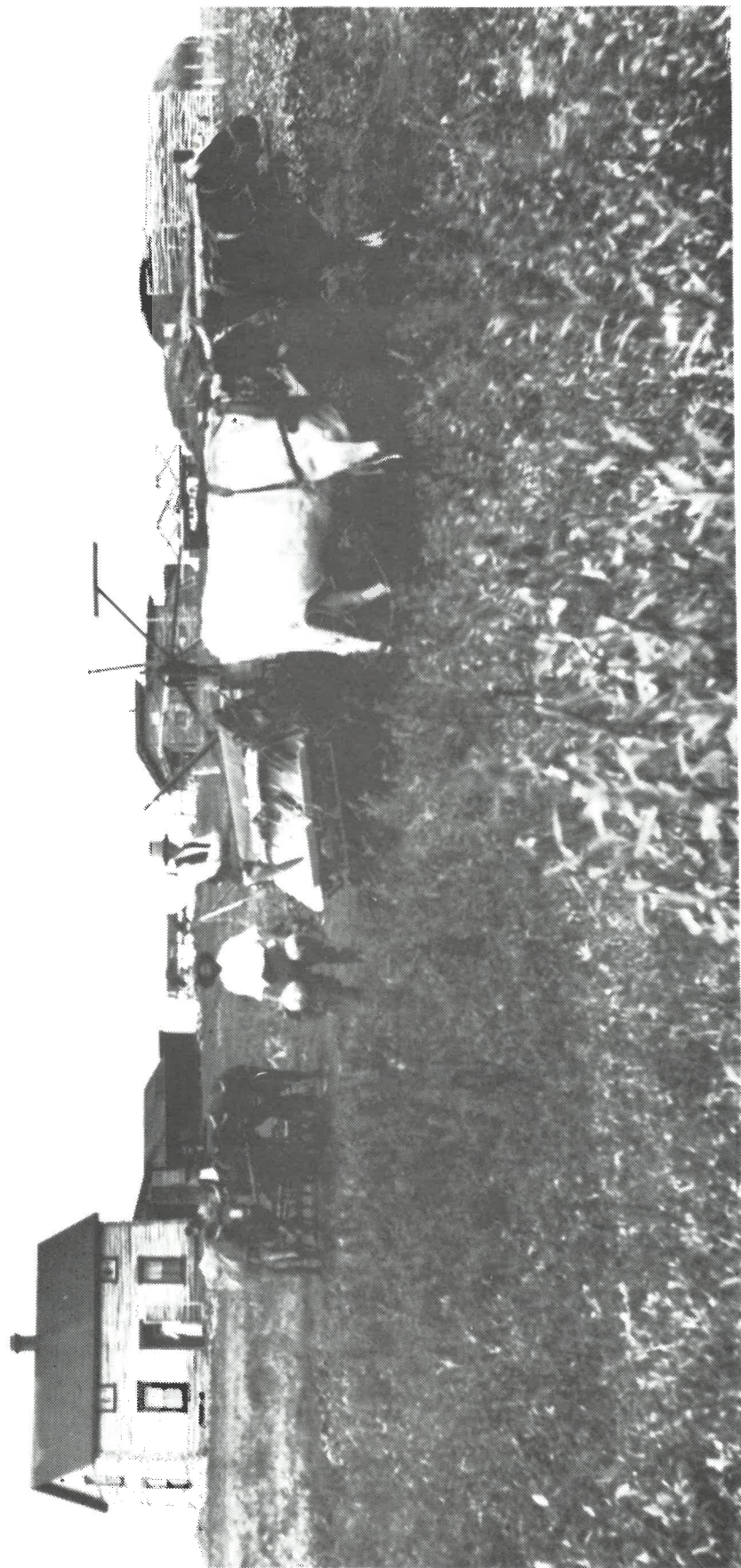


Figure 18: Canadian homesteader's farm near present Lloydminster site, circa 1900. Note the machine shed to the rear of the house constructed of boards with an open entranceway. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. P458.)

six inch openings and the top section was meshed loosely with six by six inch openings.¹²⁰

Kosma had about 200 hogs in 1918.¹²¹ Hog farming was very popular at the time and the previous year hog statistics for Alberta had peaked with 730,237 swine counted in the province. This figure compared with 327,510 in 1911.¹²² Most pioneer farmers kept swine, as climactic conditions in east central Alberta were highly conducive to their breeding. The periods of low temperature were offset by a dry climate and swine could be easily and economically sheltered in simple board pens. Kosma kept his swine in the closed leans built onto the north side of the barn.¹²³

In addition to hogs, Kosma had about 20 cattle, six horses, two dozen sheep, and a few dozen chickens.¹²⁴ Poultry in particular was universally popular among pioneers as it made a heavy contribution to food supplies as well as bringing significant cash returns. For example, in 1916 the value of poultry products was five times as great as that of sheep and half as great as that of beef, cattle or swine.¹²⁵ The sheep Kosma kept were sheared and used by Maria to make woolen products such as clothing, tapestries and embroidered shirts.¹²⁶

Kosma fed his livestock with the feed grain grown on SE 33-59-17. The coarse grains, oats and barley, made up about 25 acres each of his cultivated land. They were grown on the northwest sector of the quarter. The sandy soil of the southeast area extended over some 30 acres and it was here that Kosma grew rye; a grain that is suited to growth in sandy soil. The fine, black loam soil on the north portion of SE 33-59-17 measured about 20 acres and it was reserved for wheat. Only 100 acres of the quarter section were sown by Kosma, as a huge portion of land in the southwest segment was uncultivable. This wasteland could not be utilized even for grazing, and Kosma's cattle grazed together with his father's cattle on the adjacent quarter.¹²⁷

An important food supplement for Kosma's family was provided by the large garden tended by Maria. The garden (horod) measured one-half acre and was alternated annually between two plots of land located,



Figure 19: Farm buildings and yard in early 1900s. Note the machine shed set between two existing structures and sharing their walls. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. H359.)

respectively, directly south of the house, and west of the machine shed.¹²⁸ In this manner, each plot was given a bi-annual summer fallow period in which to replenish its nutrient value. A high production level from the garden was critical to pioneers since it supplied their entire fresh produce intake. To ensure fresh food in the summer months, vegetables had to be gathered from the garden daily. In winter, stored or preserved potatoes, carrots, beets, turnips, cabbage, peas, beans and sourkraut provided nourishment.¹²⁹ In addition to being an indispensable source of food, gardens were also regarded as an object of display by pioneer farmers and each took great pride in maintaining its care and well-tended appearance.¹³⁰

Such was the nature of land use on Kosma's quarter in the years preceding 1918. The Chernochans successfully transformed acres of rough terrain into productive fields and expanded their farm buildings to meet their growing needs. It was a long, involved process requiring much toil but compensating them well.

4) Era 4: 1918 - 1929

"Tenancy"

The years 1918-1919 were exceptionally prosperous for farmers. These were the years that marked the end of the First World War, throughout which wheat prices had been steadily increasing. By 1919, they stood 134 per cent above the pre-war average.¹³¹ Consequently, Era IV witnessed a period of intensive wheat production and high sales of farm machinery - an upsurge in farm economy that was to last several years. It was in this peak period that Kosma Chernochan decided to advance his career and improve prospects for his family, by moving to Smoky Lake itself. The farm was doing well and Kosma decided it would be most economical to rent it out while pursuing other avenues in town. Kosma rented the farm on a crop-sharing basis (tretyi bushel), which customarily entailed the payment of one-third of the tenant's crop in exchange for the use of the landlord's farmland and buildings.¹³² It was in the fall of 1921 that Kosma moved his family into Smoky Lake and

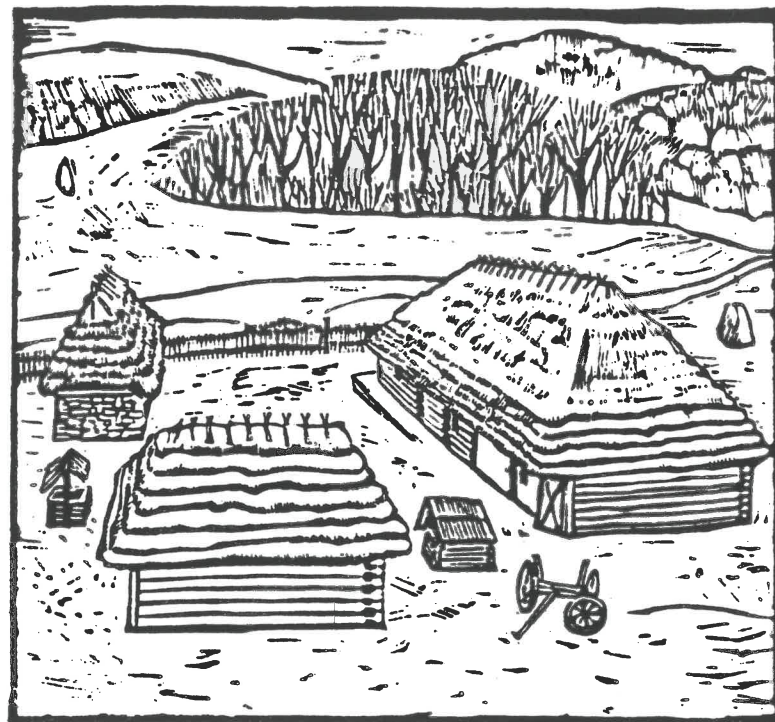
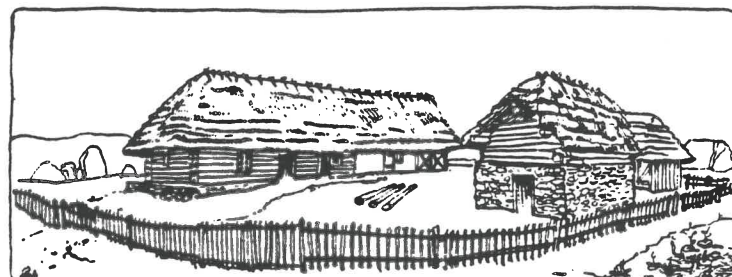


Figure 20: Farmyards for Lemko and Hutsul regions. Top to bottom: Lemko letter 'П' plan - note implement left standing in yard; Lemko double-row plan - note fencing; Hutsul log structures - note lean-to by house; Hutsul enclosed plan - note shared roof and lean-to created by extending roof top. (In A.H. Danyliuk et al., *Muzei narodnoi arkhitektury ta pobutu u Lvovi*. Lviv: Kameniar, 1980), p. 65.



rented the land to his first tenant, Harry Kuzyk.

Harry Kuzyk, however, did not have much success on Kosma's land. He moved onto the farm in autumn and this in itself disadvantaged him. He had purchased several head of cattle with the intention of breeding more. Yet he had little available grain feed for them and no excess supply of straw. It was a cold autumn and soon the grazing fields were frozen. Harry was forced to sell off his cattle one-by-one in an attempt to salvage his investment. Within a year he had gone bankrupt and was left with no alternative but to move off the farm. Harry Kuzyk was succeeded by another brief tenancy; that of Penteley Koshman. Koshman's stay was also unprofitable and he, too, rented the farm for less than a year.¹³³ Koshman was followed by a more stable tenant, Gregorii Salahub, who moved with his wife and family of ten children onto SE 33-59-17 in 1923.¹³⁴

Gregorii Salahub was born in Toporivtsi, Bukovyna. It was here that he met and married his wife, Nastasia. Together they emigrated to Canada in 1901, and settled initially on a homestead in Smoky Lake. This first homestead proved to be unsuitable for their purposes and the Salahubs relocated to Duvernay. Throughout this time Gregorii travelled about the countryside working at odd jobs. One of these work stints took him and his family as far as Yak, B.C. Gregorii eventually moved his family back to Smoky Lake. In Smoky Lake they stayed on Vasyi Lazaruk's farm for two years until they learned that the homestead to the east of them was available for rent. They moved onto SE 33-59-17 in 1923, and in addition to it the Salahubs also rented SW 34-59-17. This second quarter was Teodosi's land, which had been purchased by Kosma that summer. Although Teodosi and Maria continued to live on the quarter for several years, their land was farmed by the successive tenants of SE 33-59-17.¹³⁵

The farm that Gregorii acquired in 1923 stood as it had during the Chernochans' residence. The farmhouse and outbuildings had not been altered in any way and were in good condition. Gregorii had no farm equipment or livestock of his own and purchased several pieces of



Figure 21: Canadian farmyard, circa 1920. Note the enormity of the machine shed (wide enclosed variant) indicating the level of mechanization employed on the farm. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. P554.)

machinery and farm implements, as well as some livestock from Kosma.¹³⁶

The farmyard fencing which had been erected by Kosma was still standing. The hog pasture was also still in place and in the first year of their tenancy the Salahubs kept and fed about 100 of Kosma's swine. They were paid for their work, which included the tending of about two dozen of Kosma's sheep. In the spring of 1924, Kosma collected these swine and sheep and sold them at market.¹³⁷

Gregorii did not keep sheep of his own and only had two or three sows which produced about 20 piglets each. He had four cows that he grazed on SW 34-59-17, eight horses, and about 150 chickens. In winter, the swine were sheltered in the covered stalls on the north end of the barn.

Gregorii seeded and farmed both SW 34-59-17 and SE 33-59-17. The former quarter had little arable land when the Salahubs began their tenancy. Only 25-30 acres had been broken on this quarter and they were seeded with rye because the land was very gravelly. In 1924, Kosma hired a man to break another 60 acres on SW 34-59-17, and this land was put into wheat by the Salahubs. There was more arable land on SE 33-59-17. By the mid 1920s, about 130 acres of the quarter were cultivated. Since Gregorii had very little livestock he did not grow feed grain and concentrated his efforts on wheat and rye. About 15 acres were put into rye and these were located in the sandy southeast corner of the quarter. The balance of land, about 115 acres, was sown with wheat.

The garden, which was kept by Nastasia, was large and plentiful. Nastasia preferred a big garden and alternated its site between two patches of land, each of which was about half an acre in size. One patch was located in the same spot Maria Chernochan had cultivated her garden - behind the machine shed - and the second patch was ploughed over the former sheep corral because of the high nutrient value of this soil. Between these two patches, alternated annually, Nastasia kept the family fed with potatoes, cabbage, carrots, onions, beans, tomatoes and various other vegetables.¹³⁸

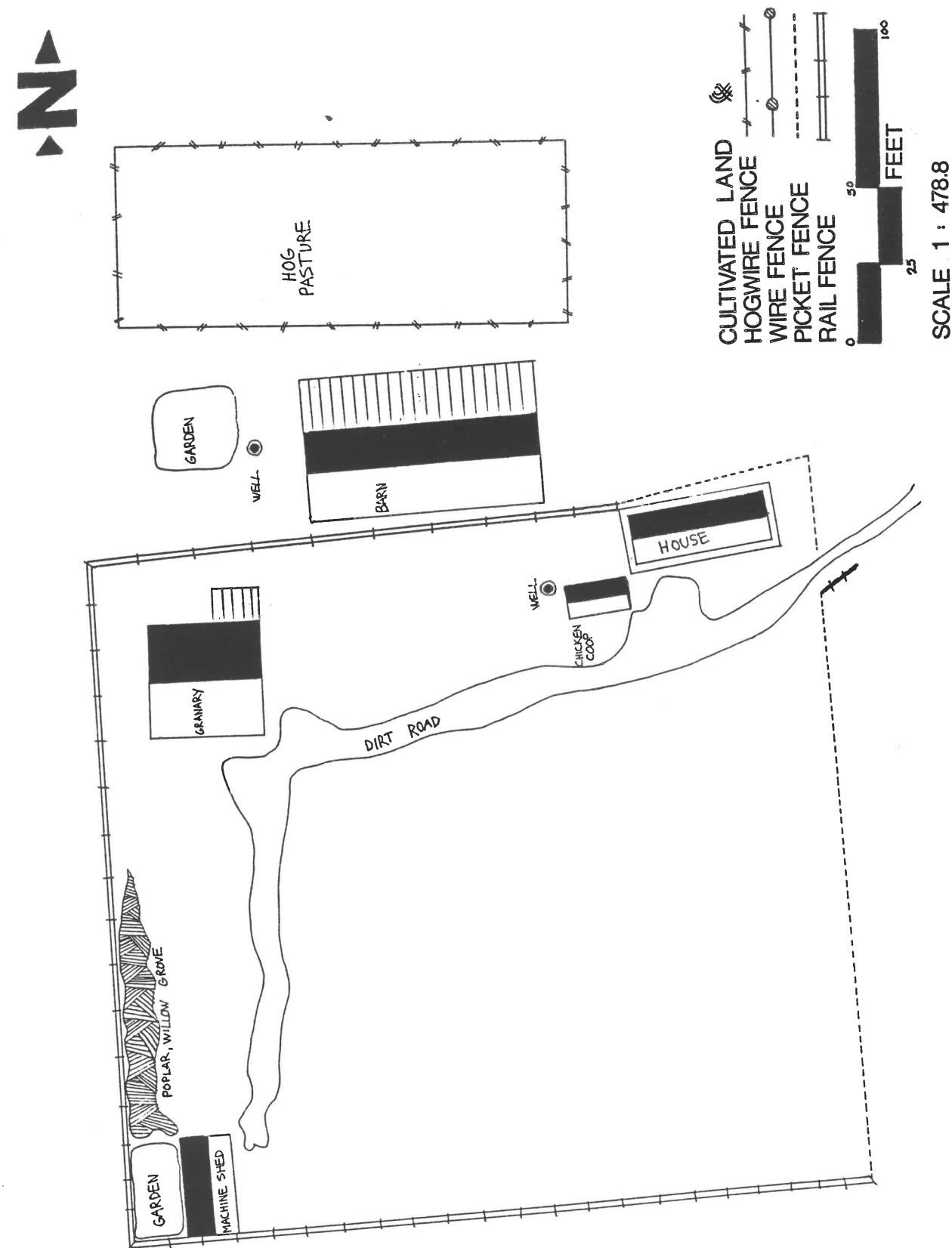


Figure 22: The Salahub Yard, circa 1925. (Drawing by John Stanko.)

By 1928, the Salahubs had managed to save enough money to consider purchasing their own farms. Gregorii and his older sons, Vasyi, Ivan and Peter, decided to buy homesteads at Lac La Biche and make a fresh start there. The family began moving their belongings to Lac La Biche as early as the winter of 1928. That summer's harvest was the Salahubs' last on Kosma's land; by the autumn of 1928 they had relocated completely.

5) Era 5: 1929 - 1939

"Tenancy, cont'd."

The year 1928 marked a tragic event for Kosma's nephew, Nick Odensky. His wife, Mary, died that year leaving him a widower at the age of 21 and the father of two small children. Nick and Mary had been living in Smoky Lake, but upon Mary's death Nick and his children moved back to the elder Chernochan's home on SW 34-59-17. Nick was a truck driver by occupation, but when the Salahubs terminated their tenancy on Kosma's lands he started farming in addition to truck driving.¹³⁹

Although Nick farmed both quarters, he lived with his children in his grandparent's house, and the farmhouse on SE 33-59-17 stood empty for a year. In the summer of 1929, however, Gregorii and Domka Romanchuk arrived in Smoky Lake, and by fall they were living in the farmhouse. The Romanchuk's were both originally from Toporivtsi, Bukovyna. Gregorii's father had homesteaded in the Warspite area and convinced his son and daughter-in-law to settle in Alberta as well. But they arrived in Smoky Lake at the most inopportune time. The Depression was just setting in, money was losing its value and work was hard to come by. When Kosma offered them the use of his farmhouse the Romanchuks accepted readily.¹⁴⁰

After a year of inoccupancy, the farmyard on SE 33-59-17 had acquired an unkempt appearance. Tall grass was growing wildly throughout the yard, and Gregorii's first job was to burn it out and clean up the grounds.

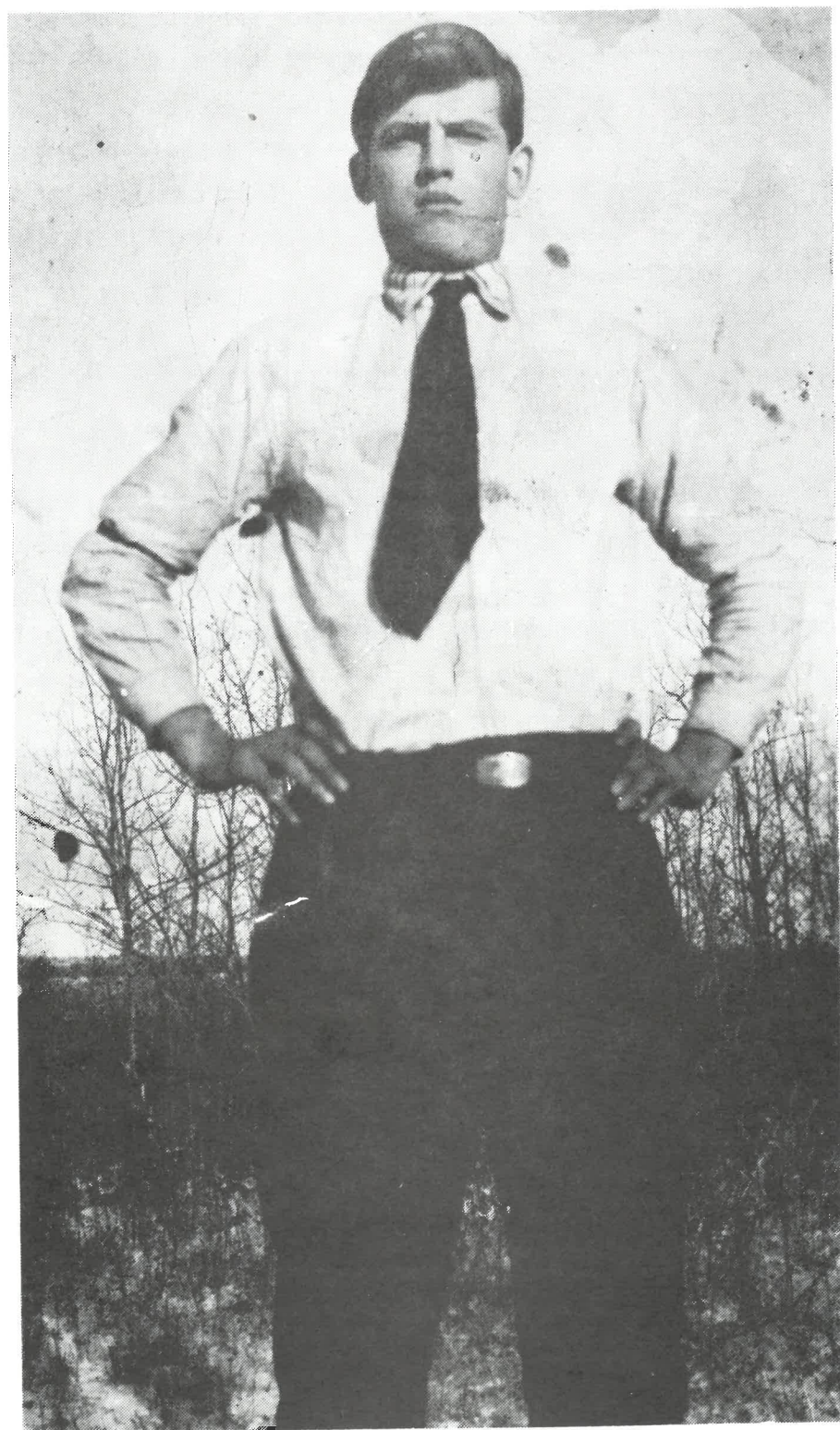


Figure 23: Nick Odensky, circa 1925. (Kay Odensky Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)



Figure 24: Gregorii and Domka Romanchuk with their children, circa 1934. (Romanchuk Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

The Romanchuks had only one cow which they grazed by the side of the road. This one cow and a few chickens were the only livestock they owned. They managed to survive two very difficult years on SE 33-59-17 from the meagre earnings Gregorii was able to earn, and from the produce of the vegetable garden Domka kept. Domka kept the garden behind the chicken coop and grew various vegetables in it.¹⁴¹

The Romanchuks left the farmhouse in the fall of 1931, and they were to be its last occupants. The house burned down the following summer in a prairie fire and was never rebuilt.

The major change Nick Odensky made to the farmyard of SE 33-59-17 was to replace the rotting rail fence on the south side of the yard with a wire fence. This fence stretched from the machine shed down to the county road. Parts of the old picket and rail fence were still standing in sections, although they no longer served a functional purpose.¹⁴²

In 1932, Nick Odensky met Kay, his second wife, in Edmonton and by late summer she had joined him in Smoky Lake. Throughout this period he continued to work truck driving in addition to farming wheat, barley, oats and rye on the two quarter sections.¹⁴³ Kosma had borrowed two small, portable granaries from Tanasko Elaschuk and these were kept on the south side of the main granary to serve as additional storage space.¹⁴⁴

Following the departure of the Romanchuks a garden was no longer kept on SE 33-59-17. A small garden was cultivated by Kay Odensky and Nick's grandmother, Maria, but it was located on the adjacent quarter section.

In 1934, Nick and Kay moved away from Smoky Lake. Teodosi had passed away two years earlier and Nick's grandmother also moved away at this time. Consequently, the two quarters were let out once again. They were rented to Joe and Bertha Palichuk in the fall of 1934.

The Palichuks' tenancy was shortlived. It fell during the worst of the depression years and the Palichuks found there were too many odds to battle. Although they rented on a crop-sharing basis, they

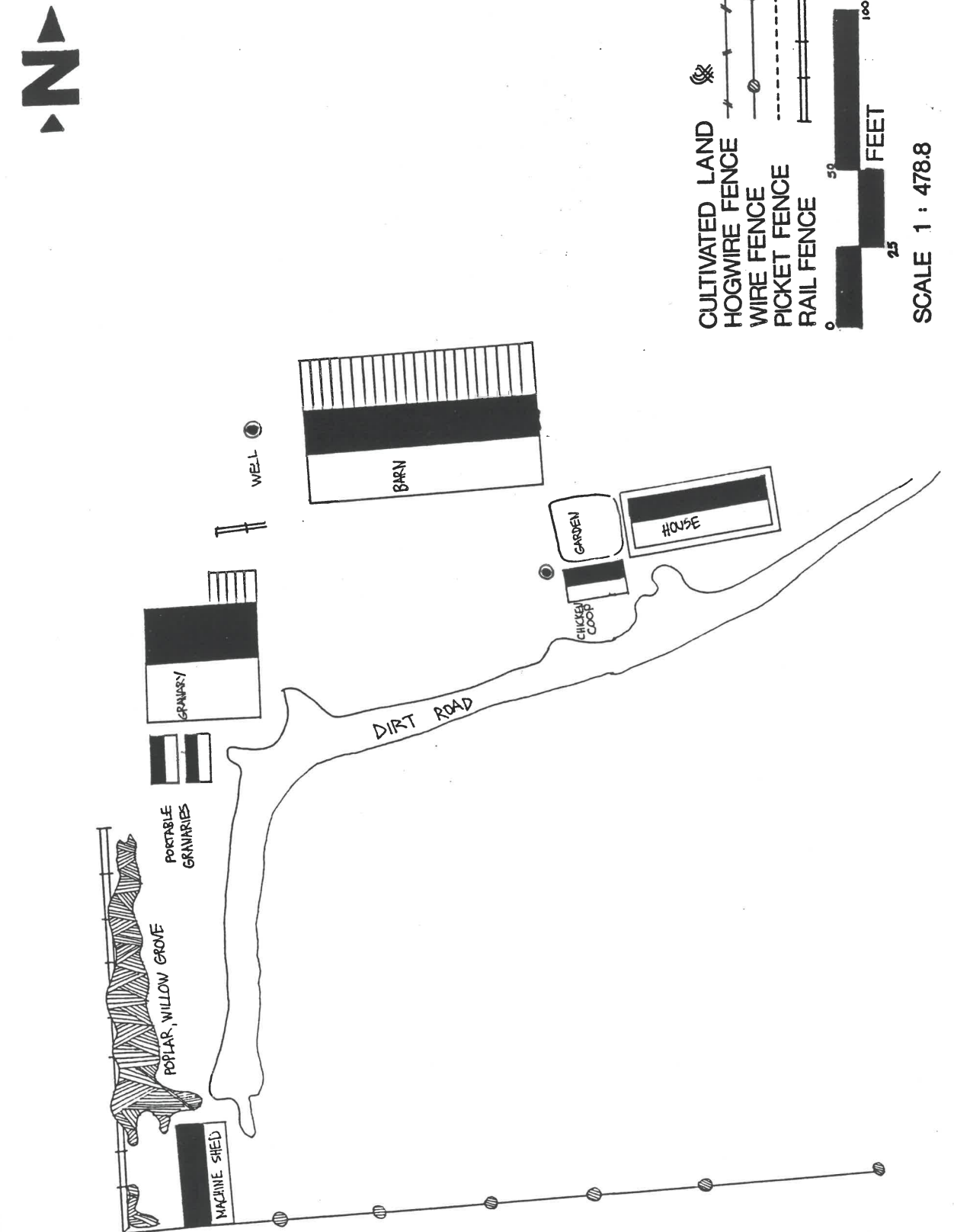


Figure 25: The Odensky/Romanchuk Yard, circa 1930. (Drawing by John Stanko.)

were unable to produce a decent crop. They lived in the house on SW 34-59-17 and kept their livestock and implements in the outbuildings located on this quarter.¹⁴⁵ Their livestock holdings were very poor, consisting of one cow, a dozen chickens and a few hogs. They had their own tractor and this they kept under a lean-to together with a plow, seed drill and harrow, all of which they had had to borrow.

The outbuildings on SE 33-59-17 were left vacant in this period but the fields were cropped. Joe seeded 60 acres in wheat and 40 acres in barley leaving the balance in summer fallow. The Palichuks barely survived the winter of 1934-35. Then following a poor harvest in the fall they decided to abandon the farm altogether.

When the Palichuks moved out, Tanasko Elaschuk rented the two quarters from Kosma. Tanasko farmed these lands for 14 years and following his retirement his sons, George and John, continued to farm them for another 10 years. In all, the Elaschuks rented from Kosma for a period of 24 years - longer than all of Kosma's other tenants combined.

6) Era 6: 1939 - 1962

"Professional farming"

Tanasko Elaschuk was born in Toporivtsi, Bukovyna. He emigrated to Canada at the age of twenty-five and homesteaded on land five miles south of SE 33-59-17. In 1909, he decided to cancel that claim and settled with his wife and children on a quarter section one mile north of Kosma's land.¹⁴⁶ The Elaschuks had a large family - six boys and six girls. Their eldest son, George, helped Kosma clean and prepare his machinery for an auction sale which took place at the time Tanasko rented the land.¹⁴⁷

Tanasko rented these two quarters in 1935; the mid-point of the depression years. At that time one quarter section alone produced too little grain to provide a means of support to the average family. With a dozen children, Tanasko had many mouths to feed as well as a ready pool of labour. For these reasons he decided to farm Kosma's two quarters in addition to his own land. Since he had his own machinery



Figure 26: The Chernochan farmstead, circa 1932. (John Chernochan Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

and equipment he had no need for Kosma's, thus Kosma auctioned off his equipment in the fall of 1935.

In addition to owning his own equipment, Tanasko also had his own farmhouse and outbuildings and had little use for the buildings on SE 33-59-17. He moved the portable granaries back to his own quarter and although he made use of the large granary, the barn, chicken coop, and machine shed all stood empty for the duration of his tenancy. The barn, in fact, was destroyed in a prairie fire in the early 1940s and was never rebuilt.¹⁴⁸

With two buildings destroyed on SE 33-59-17, their former sites no longer served a purpose and Tanasko decided to plow this land and use it for cultivation. Similarly, there was no longer any need to maintain a farmyard or wells since no one resided on the farm. Thus, the remaining fencing was removed the wells were filled in and the land to the east of the machine shed was cultivated as far as the old farm road. The only remaining fencing was a dilapidated stretch standing behind the machine shed.

Tanasko kept no livestock on this farm, nor did he plant a garden here. He used SE 33-59-17 for the sole purpose of crop raising. The majority of the quarter was put into wheat - about 100 acres in all. About thirty acres of sandy land in the southeast corner of the quarter were used for rye.

Every third year the entire quarter was left in summer fallow. The remaining 30 acres of the quarter were located in the southwest corner of the land. This was the uncultivable portion comprised of bush and streams¹⁴⁹ which is clearly discernible as wasteland territory in the aerial photograph shown in Figure 29.

In 1949, Tanasko retired from farming and was succeeded in his enterprise by his sons, George and John. During the course of the 1930s and forties the nature of farming altered greatly in Alberta. This period saw a shift from small mixed farms to huge farming enterprises. The latter undertaking required the extensive use of machinery and specialized in mass-producing crops. It was largely pursued by the



Figure 27: Tanasko and Domka Elashuk (seated at bottom right) with their children. George is seated third from left and John is standing at far right. (George Elashuk Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

second generation of Ukrainian farmers in Canada. These were men who considered farming to be more than a means of sustenance or a way of life - it was a business and it was run by professional farmers.¹⁵⁰

This interpretation of farming was consistent with the techniques employed by the Elaschuks. When Tanasko retired in 1949, George and John pooled their resources and expanded their arable land by renting out additional quarters. At one point they were renting eight quarter sections, all of them located within the vicinity of their own farms.

On SE 33-59-17 the Elaschuk brothers continued to seed in the same manner established by their father. One year they deviated from this plan and grew oats, but the crop was destroyed by hail that summer and the attempt was never repeated. The Elaschuks threshed their grain in the area south of the old farmyard where they kept a hopper - a portable structure for the purpose of storing grain with a pipe-like device for releasing its contents.

The Elaschuks made use of the natural spring flowing through the south end of the quarter. It was here that they grazed their cattle. But the only outbuilding they used regularly was the granary. The chicken coop was not used at all by them and the machine shed was used infrequently. Upon occasion George stored certain implements in the shed for the winter, and one summer he kept a newly purchased binder here in order to shelter it from the rain. Aside from these minor usages the machine shed was basically left unused for a 24-year period.

In 1959, Kosma sold both of his quarters to Justyna Bala and that same year the Elaschuks terminated their tenancy. Justyna Bala, in turn, sold the land to her husband, Teodor, in 1963. The Balas speculated in quite a bit of land throughout these years and although they owned SE 33-59-17 for a period of five years they never resided on it, renting it out the entire time.¹⁵¹ The Balas' tenants put the majority of their land into grass, both crested wheat and alfalfa. About 60 acres of the SE 33-59-17 quarter was sown with various crops, and in 1964 some of the land was in summer fallow.¹⁵² This was how the quarter appeared when Basil and Antonia Zailo purchased it that year.

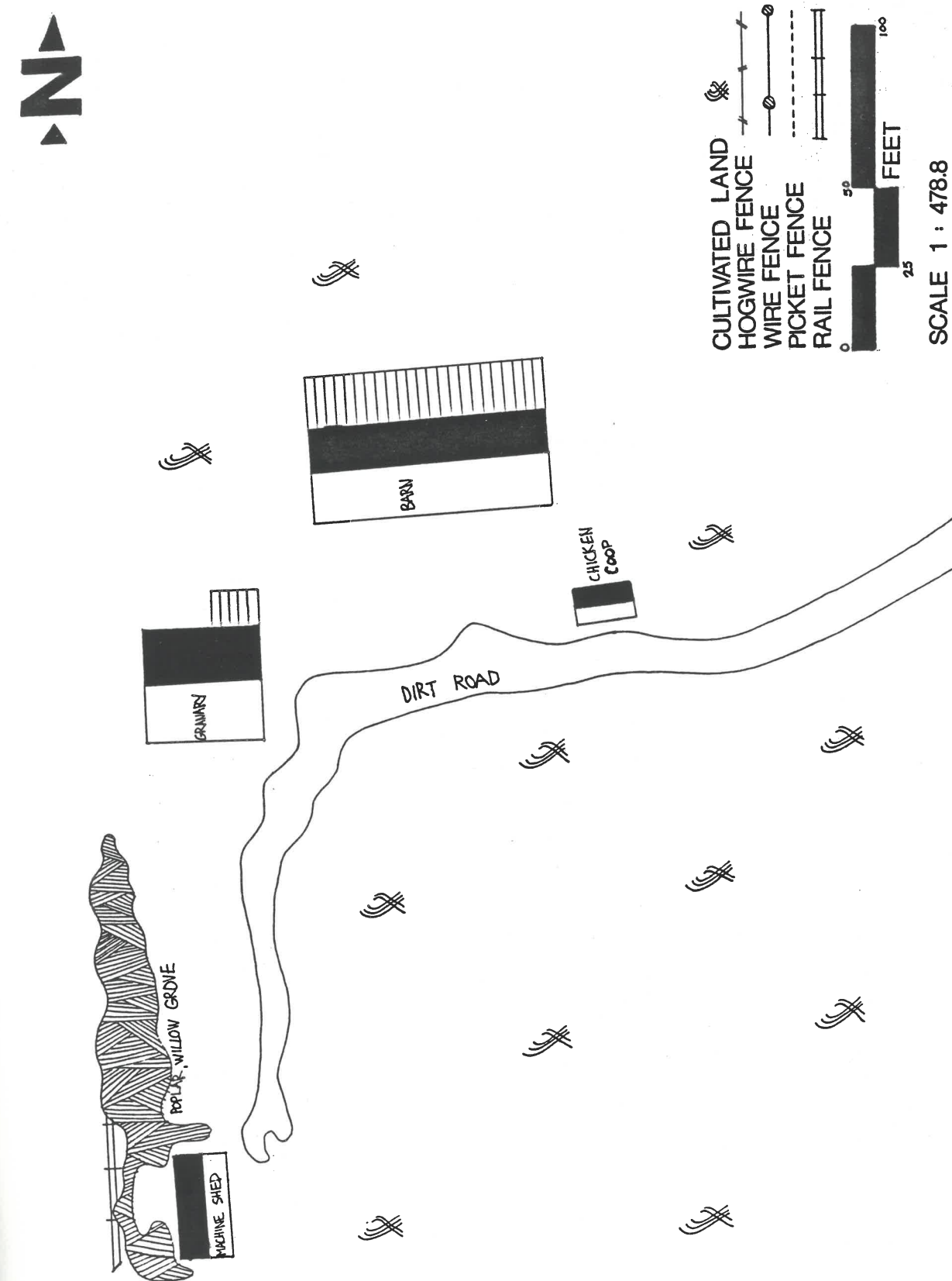


Figure 28: The Elaschuk Yard, circa 1940. (Drawing by John Stanko.)

7) Era VIII: 1962 - 1971

"Specialized farming"

Basil and Antonia Zailo were both born in Alberta (Lamont and Smoky Lake, respectively). Themselves second generation Ukrainians, they moved to Smoky Lake in 1964 in the hope that their children would be positively influenced by the cultural environment of the area. They purchased SE 33-59-17 and SW 34-59-17 with the intention of developing an extensive hog enterprise.

The Zailos first task was to convert farms that had been used originally for mixed farming, and later for intensive grain farming, into one specialized unit. They built a new residence and erected special hog barns on SW 34-59-17 - a process which took close to two years - since there was less cultivatable land on this quarter. The adjacent quarter, SE 33-59-17, was used for dry farming of feed grain to sustain the hogs. The Zailos seeded 60 acres of barley, 30 acres of oats, and 30 acres of alfalfa on SE 33-59-17. In addition, 30 more acres on SW 34-59-17 were also cropped with feed grain. Although they harvested good crops from both quarters, they found that there was not enough grain to support their 500 hogs and purchased the extra feed grain that was necessary.¹⁵³

In 1965-66, the Zailos planted two to three acres of potatoes on SE 33-59-17. They considered this an experiment, for at the time they were entertaining the thought of raising potatoes as a secondary crop, something they thought would be feasible in the sandy soil of the southeast section of the quarter. Although they had bountiful crops in both years, they experienced problems in marketing the potatoes and, consequently, decided the plan was unviable. The following year they replanted these acres with alfalfa.

The Zailos tried to enhance their land aesthetically and economically by planting trees along the county road borders of both quarters, and along the creek that bisected the quarters in their south-end regions. They had some 5,000 Jack Pine and Colorado Blue

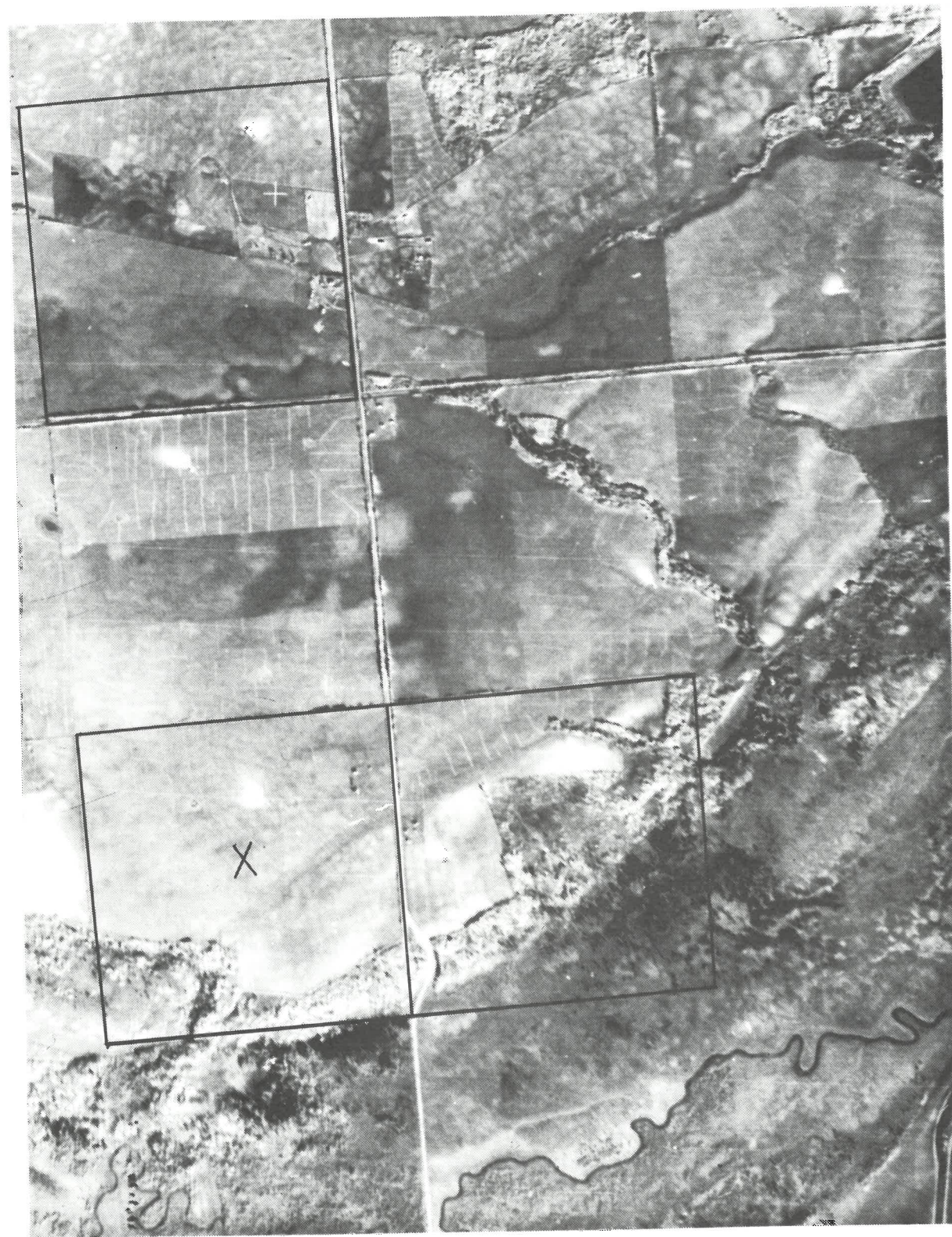


Figure 29: Aerial photograph of SE 33-59-17 (marked by X) and SW 34-59-17, in 1949. Note: the Elaschuks' farm is located two quarter sections to the north of SE 33-59-17. (Alberta Energy and Natural Resources, Roll AS125, Print 203, Org. Scale 1:40,000, 1949.)

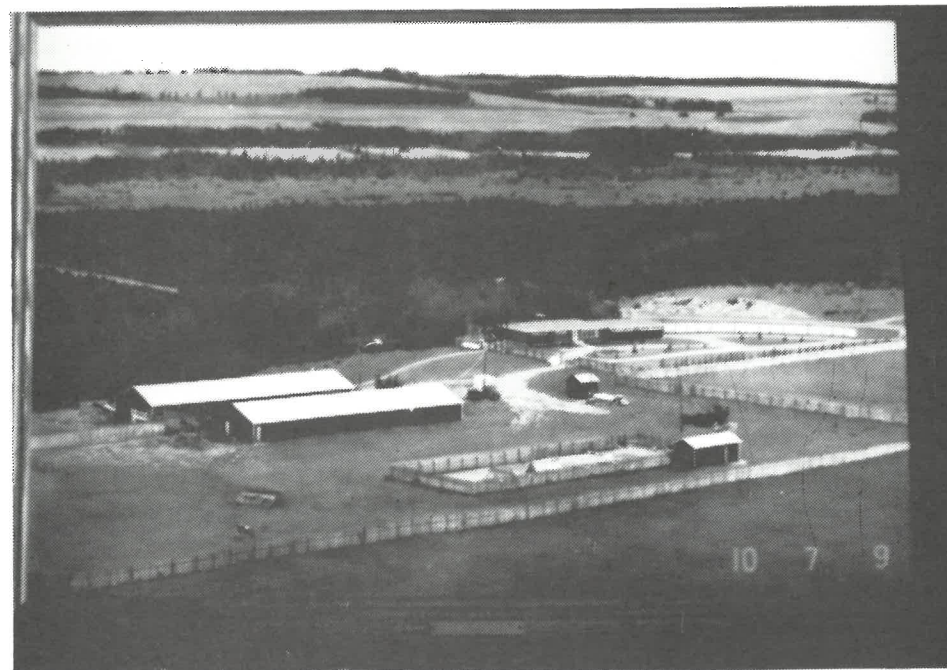


Figure 30: Top, Basil and Antonia Zailo with their family, circa 1965. Bottom, the Zailo farmyard on SW 34-59-17. (Zailo Collection, uncatalogued photograph.)

Spruce planted in these areas to act as a shelter belt for the land and to improve the appearance of their farm.¹⁵⁴

The uncultivable southwest portion of the SE 33-59-17 was colloquially termed "the ponderosa" by the Zailos. It was used by the local young people as a camping and recreational area. There were, however, many raspberries and blueberries in this sector and a natural spring flowed through it. The Zailos at one time considered damming this spring and creating a trout farming dimension within their enterprise, but the plan was never effected.

Basil and Antonia concentrated their efforts on raising the Specific Pathogen Free Hog (S.P.C.F.). This was a breed of hog raised under lab conditions to be totally free of all germs. To house their hogs they erected two long barns, which are shown in Figure 30. In addition to the hogs, the Zailos kept about 15 head of cattle, 200 chickens and a dozen turkeys. All of their livestock was kept on SW 34-59-17.

The only existing fencing on SE 33-59-17 at this time was the wire border fence surrounding the quarter. It was eventually torn down along the county roadside during a road expansion project in the late 1970s. There was no fencing in the former farmyard area whatsoever, and Basil plowed within 10-15 feet of the existing structures. There were three buildings still standing on SE 33-59-17 and all of them were put to use. The large granary was used to store grain; the chicken coop was used for garden tools and small incidentals; and the machine shed was used for the storage of machinery. The poplar and willow grove to the west and north of the machine shed grew to be quite dense over the 14-year period the Zailos lived on the farm. One young sapling persisted in growing directly in front of the machine shed and although Basil chopped it down in the late 1960s, another soon sprouted in its place. Within a decade it had grown to maturity.

There were several feet of clearance maintained directly ahead of the machine shed. It was beyond this area that the Zailos planted their garden. They cultivated a large garden, which was tended by

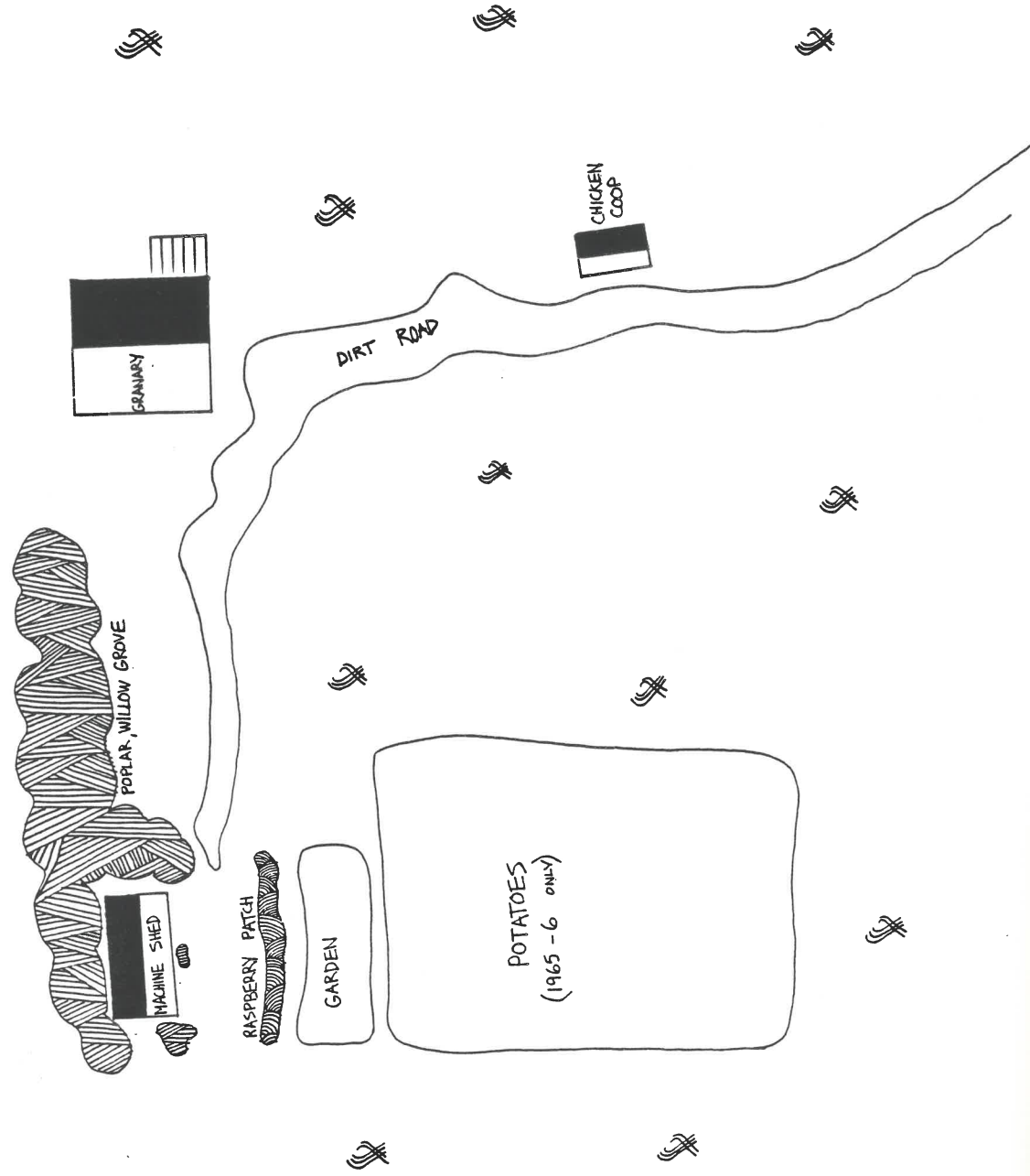


Figure 31: The Zailo Yard, circa 1968. (Drawing by John Stanko.)

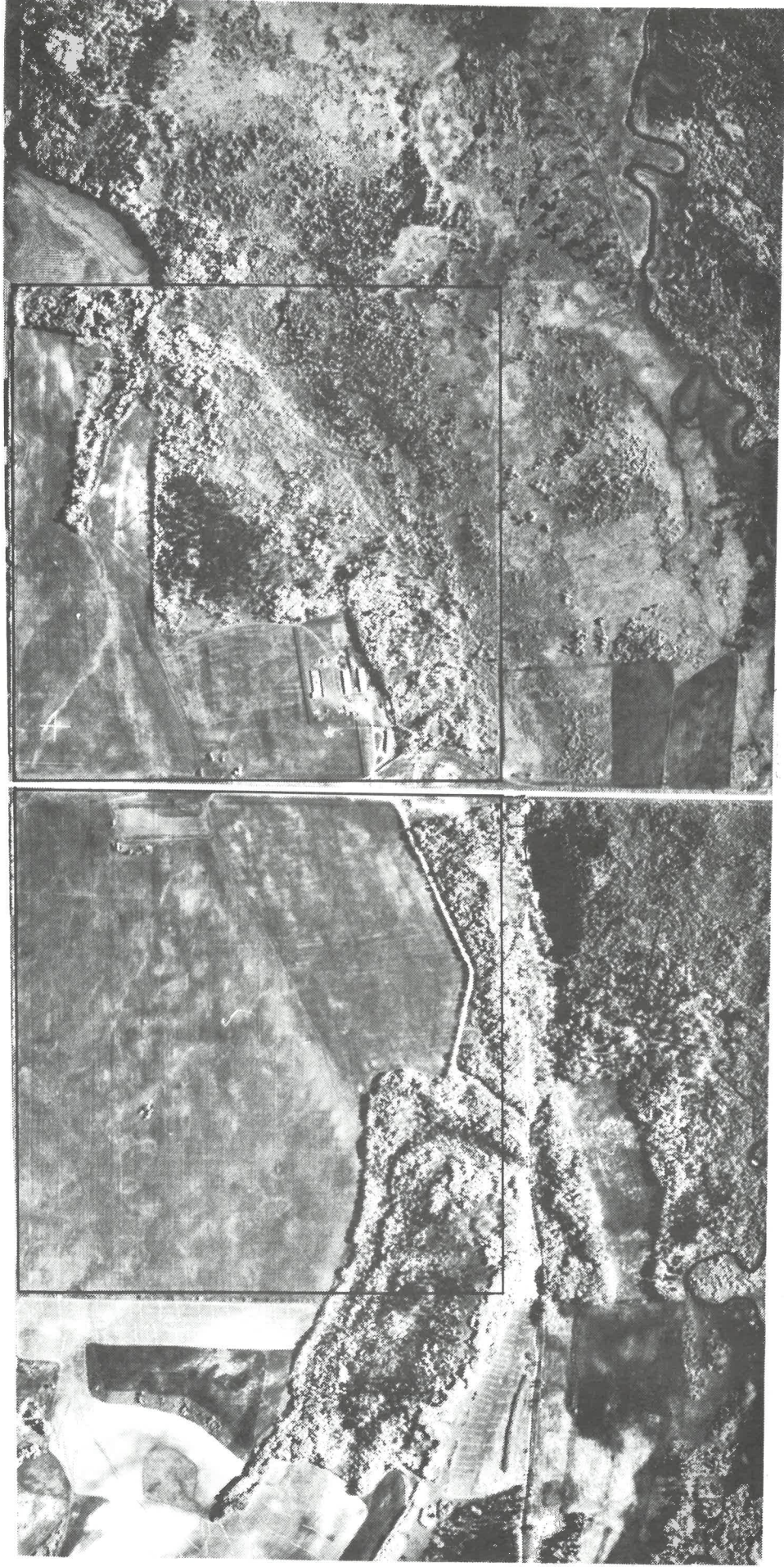


Figure 32: Aerial photograph of SE 33-59-17 (left) and SW 34-59-17 in 1968. Note the wasteland area along the south border of SE 33-59-17. (Alberta Energy and Natural Resources, Roll AS993, Print 230, Org. Scale 1:31,360, 1968.)

Antonia's mother. In addition to the many vegetables growing in the garden, a wild patch of raspberries grew at its west-end border. These were picked regularly by the Zailos and used for preserves.

8) Era VIII: 1971 - Present

"Specialized farming, cont'd."

The garden was not maintained in the last two years that the Zailos farmed SE 33-59-17. Instead the land was put into grain. In the process, the raspberry patch was partially destroyed but a substantial section remained. The Zailos sold their land in 1978 to Sophia and Arthur Tilma. Although the Zailos had already discussed the donation of the machine shed to the U.C.H.V., the acquisition was settled with the Tilmas.

The Tilmas moved onto SE 34-59-17 in the spring of 1978 and took over the hog raising enterprise the Zailos had established.¹⁵⁵ They rented SE 33-59-17 to Peter Gabruck who put the entire quarter into rape seed. The Tilmas did not make use of any of Kosma's old buildings, and since the machine shed was to be moved very shortly, Peter Gabruck used only the granary to store his harvest.

In the fall of 1978, the Chernochan machine shed was moved to the U.C.H.V., and with this event the discussion of the land use history of SE 33-59-17 ends.

B. Structural History

(i) Era III: 1902 - 1918 "As-built"

(a) Building function, design, site and orientation

In terms of its practical use, a machine shed is essentially a warehouse.¹ Its function is to provide storage to machinery and equipment for the purpose of maintenance and repair, to increase

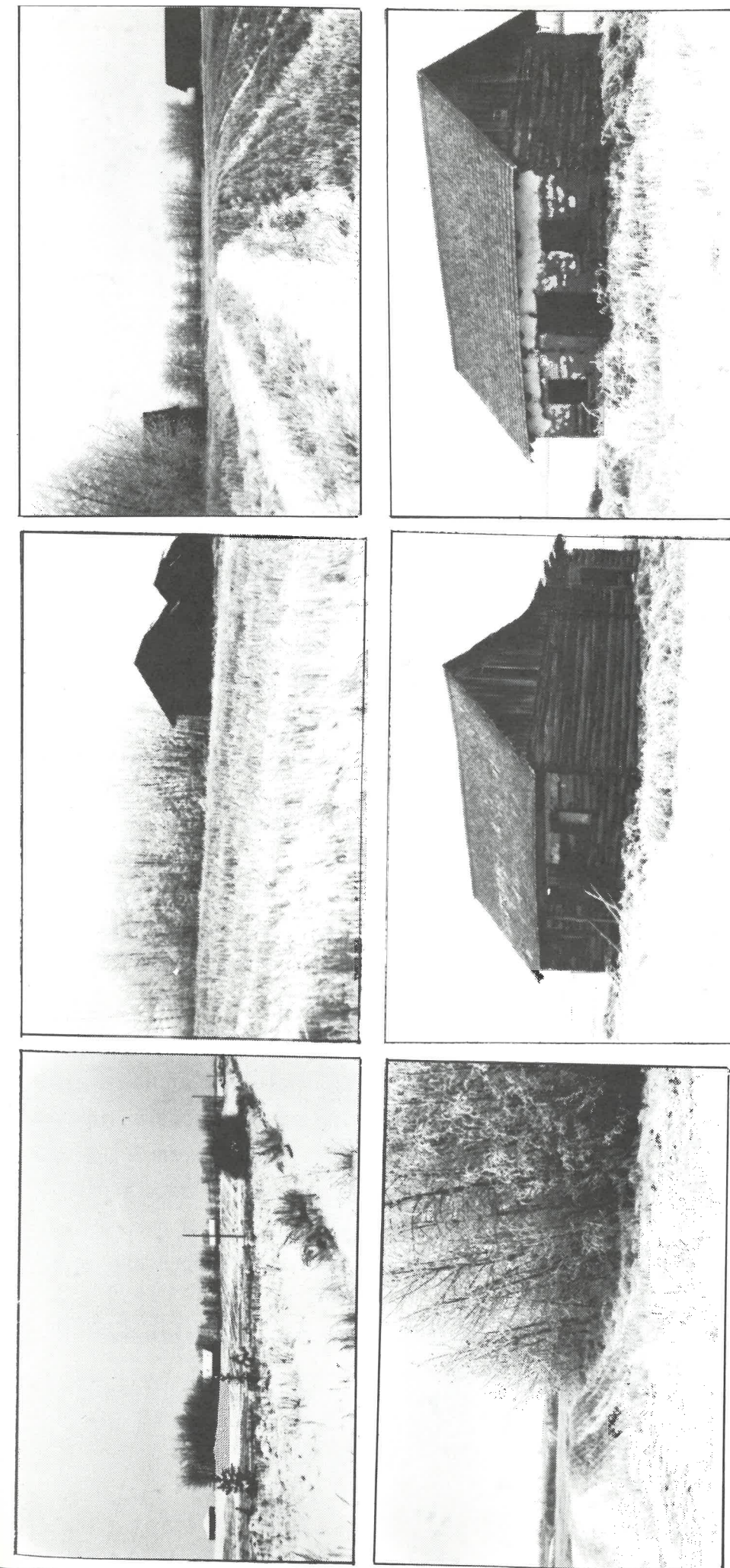


Figure 33: Present-day appearance of SE 33-59-17. Clockwise from upper left: view north from the highway; view west from the former house location; view north from the former site of the machine shed; the chicken coop; the granary; view south toward the former site of the machine shed. (Field Photographs, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sonia Maryn.)

protection against theft or accidental damage, and to give shelter from the hazards of wind, rain and snow. In order to achieve these objectives a machine shed must be properly designed, constructed and situated. The design of machine sheds in Ukraine at the turn of the century was not a complex matter. Many farmsteads (hospodarstva), in fact, did not include a separate structure of this sort, and where such storage sheds did appear they often took the form of lean-to additions to existing structures.² An exception to this rule was the Bukovynian machine shed (shopa, shipka), which often appeared as a separate structure on the Bukovyna hospodarstvo.³

Lean-tos were also used in east central Alberta where Ukrainian pioneers and other early settlers concentrated their efforts on cultivating land, and had little farm equipment to speak of. As the homesteaders' farm inventory grew in proportion to the amount of land under cultivation, separate structures for machinery storage began to appear. Moreover, as the farms of Ukrainian settlers expanded far beyond the confines of the conventional Ukrainian hospodarstvo, these farmers began to adapt their notions of traditional Ukrainian architecture to the Canadian model.⁴ The Chernochan machine shed is a case in point.

The evolution of the Canadian machine shed underwent a pattern of development similar to that of sheds in Ukraine: from primitive lean-to additions, to independent specialized buildings. The fully evolved model of machine shed can be divided into three types of building layout; narrow, open-side shed - the simplest construction, providing just enough room to accommodate a single row of machinery; wide, open-side shed - permitting the parking of equipment in two rows; and wide, enclosed shed - a drive-through shed, totally enclosed and offering the most protection.⁵ The Chernochan machine shed can be classified within the first category. It was built as a narrow structure accessed on one side - a side that was left open and wholly exposed.

In terms of size the Chernochan shed was not expansive,

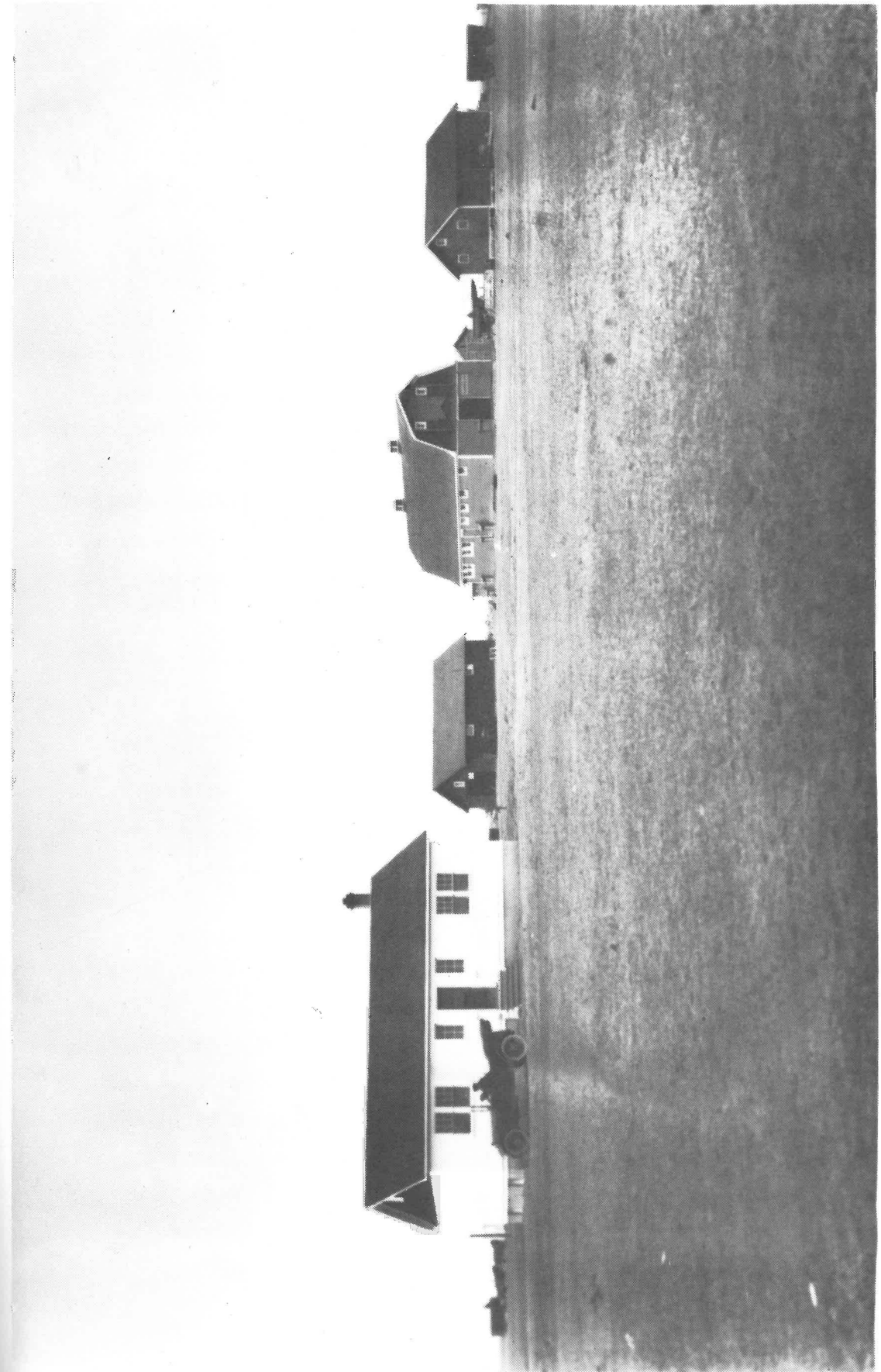


Figure 34: C.P.R. ready-made farm, circa 1918. Note the large machine shed (behind the barn) built of lumber with a shingled roof. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. P524.)

consisting of two bays and measuring 5,535 x 10,840 mm. Generally, any plan of space that affords adequate room to meet the needs of the farmer is considered sufficient. For economy, however, the space should be fitted as realistically as possible to those needs.⁶ Thus, the front openings should be wide enough and high enough to accommodate the widest and tallest machine. When Kosma built his machine shed in 1917, he had already acquired some machinery, but his mind was on the future, for he allowed excess storage space in anticipation of future acquisitions.⁷

Kosma built the machine shed several feet away from his other outbuildings, but within a proximity that allowed for convenience of access. The site itself offered good drainage as it was located at the top of a natural land swell. Although machine sheds are often oriented away from a public road, so as to keep equipment out of view, Kosma oriented his shed toward the county road so that it would face east. In this way the entrance to the machine shed was shielded from wind, rain and snow, which blew from the north.

(b) Building materials and construction

In constructing any given form, the choice of building materials, even where that choice is limited, should take into account durability, maintenance requirements and attractiveness of appearance.⁸ In Ukraine, the most desirable building material - wood - was also the least available. This was an important factor in determining the actual design of machine sheds. For example, often a shed was roughly fashioned between two existing structures, or as an extension of an existing structure in order to economize on space and building materials.⁹ This was especially salient in the "enclosed arrangement" farmyard, where walls and roofs were shared by all buildings. In east central Alberta, however, wood was plentiful. It became the early settlers' main building material for every structure.

Construction itself was usually a collective endeavour.



Figure 35: Canadian farmstead with narrow open-side machine shed. Gable roof is finished in boards. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. B199.)

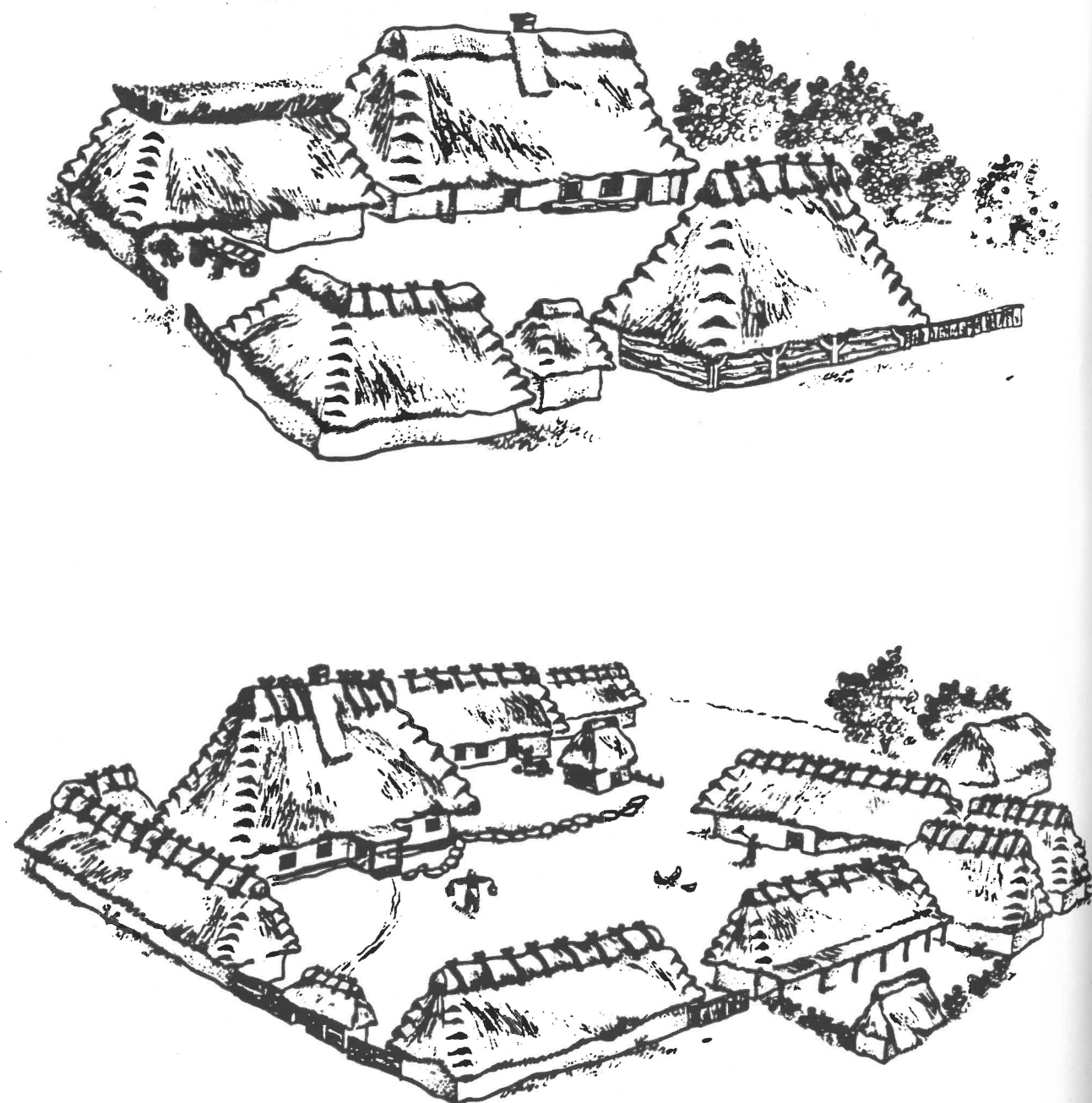


Figure 36: Two styles of farmyard in southwest Ukraine, circa 1900. Note the storage sheds created by open-end covered areas. (In T.V. Kosmina, *Silske zhytlo Podillia*. Kiev: Naukova Dumka, 1980), p. 80.

Traditionally, the principles of Ukrainian folk architecture were passed on through the centuries from generation to generation, carpenter to carpenter, and father to son.¹⁰ Teodosi Chernochan was himself a builder (*budivnychi*), and together with Kosma erected the various buildings on their two quarters of land.¹¹ The two men did not work alone, however. The effort needed to fell, scale, carry and raise logs called for the cooperation of neighbours and friends. Collective work "bees" (*toloka*, *klaka*) were common and were a social institution of pioneer life.¹²

In preparing materials for the purpose of construction, often wood was collected in winter and transported by sleigh to the construction site. Work on the building would then proceed in spring. Teodosi and Kosma cut and prepared the logs for the machine shed in this manner and the wood slabs used for cladding were cut at a local sawmill.¹³ Three types of wood were used in the construction of the shed: White Spruce, Balsam Poplar and cedar. The first two grew on the quarter but cedar, used for the shingles, was purchased in ready-made strips from the sawmill. White spruce was used for logs throughout the shed and for the cladding placed on the west wall. The sheathing on the north and south walls was done in Balsam Poplar, but the gable infill on these two walls was also White Spruce.¹⁴

(c) Architectural features

(1) Floor

The floor of the machine shed was earthen (*zemliana*).¹⁵ Earthen floors were not an uncommon feature in pioneer days and were even found in homesteaders' cottages. These cottages had floors composed of hard stamped mud which were coated regularly with a mixture of dung and water.¹⁶ Similarly, dirt floors were the norm in the outbuildings of Ukraine, particularly in the case of implement sheds, which were mostly rough assemblies. They were also common in lean-tos and equipment storage sheds in east central Alberta in the early part of

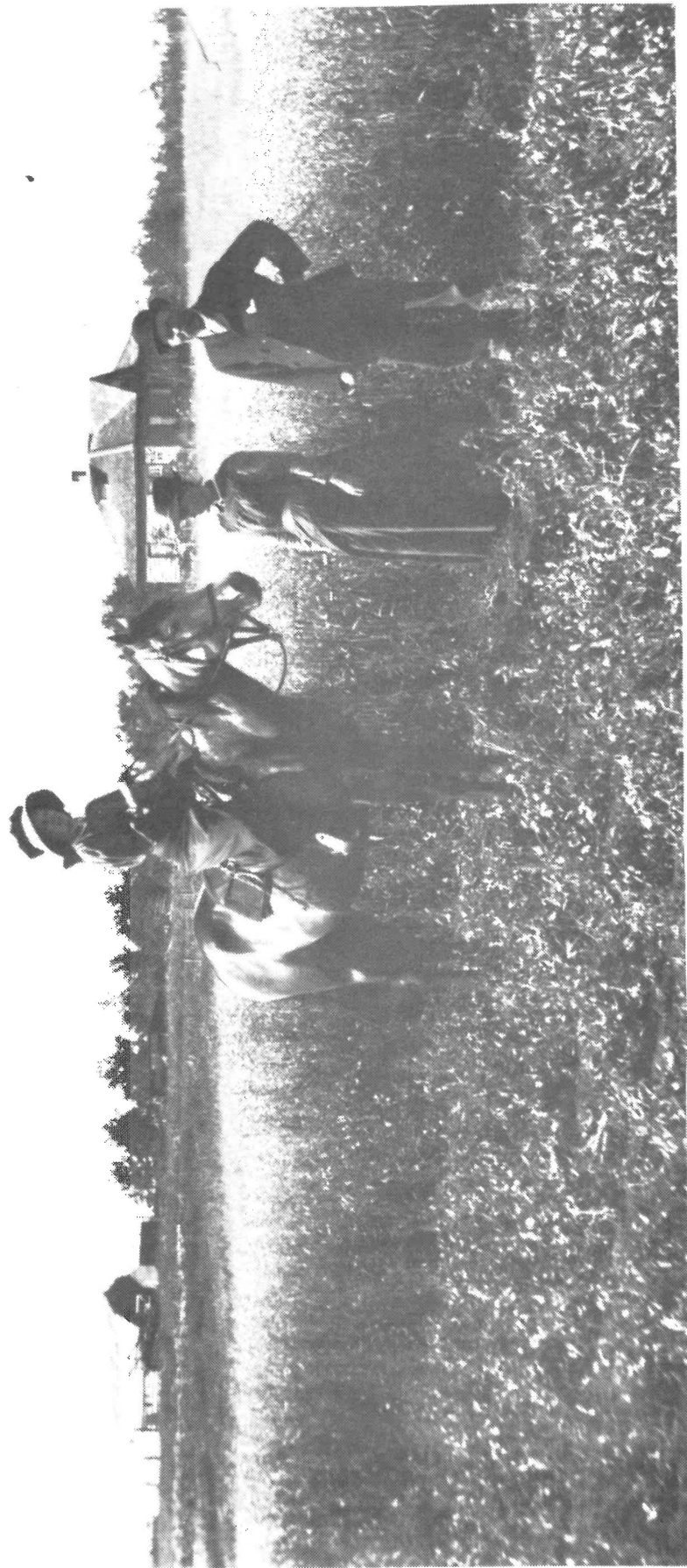


Figure 37: Canadian farmers in early 1900s. Note the roughly constructed machine shed in centre left background. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. H736.)

the century.¹⁷ They were practical and served the same function that a more elaborate floor might provide.

The Chernochan machine shed had a floor that was prepared in the most rudimentary fashion. The shed's proposed site was simply cleared of trees and bush; any remaining foliage soon dried out once the shed was in place. The topsoil, which was constantly tramped through everyday usage, eventually hardened to a consistency comparable to cement.¹⁸ It was a primitive composition, but efficacious.

2) Foundation

The farm outbuildings (*hospodarski budivli*) of Ukraine were laid without foundations of any kind.¹⁹ True foundations were rare, as well, in the Ukrainian folk house. The usual procedure was to rest the house on a number of large stones placed beneath the bottom log, thus elevating the log away from contact with the ground.²⁰ By this means the bottom log was shielded from the dampness of the ground and protected from possible rotting.

This same method was employed in providing a foundation for the machine shed. Holes were dug into the ground at appropriate intervals along the line of the north, south, and west walls of the shed. These holes were dug deeply enough to hold large field stones level with the ground. Foundation rocks were then placed in the holes located at the four corners of the shed and along the lengths of its three walls.²¹

3) Posts

Characteristic of the Carpathian region of Ukraine in the early years of the century were storage structures for farm inventory which resembled large, open canopies. These structures had no walls and were actually roofs supported by four to six posts (*pidsobiika*, *vynos*, *halereia*). A variant of this storage structure was created by a roof



Figure 38: Top, a typical log addition to clay plastered house, and bottom, a storage lean of boards, both in Ukraine. (Figures 15 and 31 in Z.S. Hudchenko, *Muzei narodnoi arkhitektury Ukrainy*. Kiev: Budivelnik, 1981.)

extending beyond an existing structure and supported at its outside end by two posts (piddashsha).²² In Eastern Slovakia, posts played an equally important role in the design of storage structures. Thin log walls at the rear and sides of the shed were reinforced through frontal posts, which provided the main support to the roof (dashka, prychilok, pelevynk).

Structural support for the Chernochan machine shed's open east end was provided by three timber posts (slupy). The main function of these posts was to support the upper wall logs that in turn, formed a base for the roof rafters.²³ A second purpose accorded to the northeast and southeast corner posts was to provide a mortise for the tenons of the north and south wall logs.

4) North, south and west elevations: interior

I: Log walls

Among the pioneers, the preferred species of wood for construction purposes was pine or spruce. However, the immediate availability of wood determined the extent to which any particular species was employed. For example, often barns and sheds were built of inferior wood such as aspen because of a shortage of harder woods.²⁴ Since there was plenty of wood on SE 33-59-17, the Chernochan shed was built primarily of spruce. Its log walls were erected exclusively of spruce lending a durability to the structure which was intended to make it last for decades.

The first step Kosma undertook in preparing the felled logs (logy) for the machine shed was to saw them into proper lengths and strip them of their bark. This latter task was accomplished with a broad-axe. Since not all of the logs were of one diameter, those that were excessively wide were hewn on one side so as to align them as closely as possible to the average curvature of all the wall logs.²⁵ The heaviest log was chosen for the bottom, which rested on the stone

foundation of the machine shed, and it was hewn on all four sides. This was done to add balance and weight at the base of the structure.²⁶ The three foundation beams were each of one length and ran along the full extent of the shed's three walls, meeting at the northwest and southwest corners.

The placement of a thicker longer beam at the base of a log wall was fundamental to the structure of the wall. In Eastern Slovakia this first log was called "the bottom" (spodnyi).²⁷ The Hutsuls referred to the base beam as pidvalyna, and to field stones used to straighten an uneven terrain as pidlizky.²⁸

Once Kosma had ensured that the shed's wall was securely founded, it was erected by placing round log upon round log (vibli, kruhliaky). These logs were not broken in any place but of one solid length. The log wall was not finished in any way, nor did Kosma plaster it as he did his other buildings.²⁹

II: Dowels

In order to impart a greater stability to the wall, Kosma used wooden dowels in the basic log structure.³⁰ This was a technique common to log wall construction in Ukrainian folk architecture. For example, Shukhevych speaks of the preponderance of dowels (tybli) and the rarity of nails (tsviakhy) used in constructing Hutsul buildings.³¹ Dowels used by the Hutsuls were basically wooden pegs which were driven through augered holes in order to pin together two or three logs.

The logs of the machine shed elevations were tied together vertically through the use of similar dowels.³² The builders placed these dowels in each of the three walls spacing them evenly throughout the walls. In all, several dozen of these pegs (tivky, shpaigy) were used in securing the machine shed. Most of the pegs held together three logs, but some were shorter and held only two.³³ The men sharpened

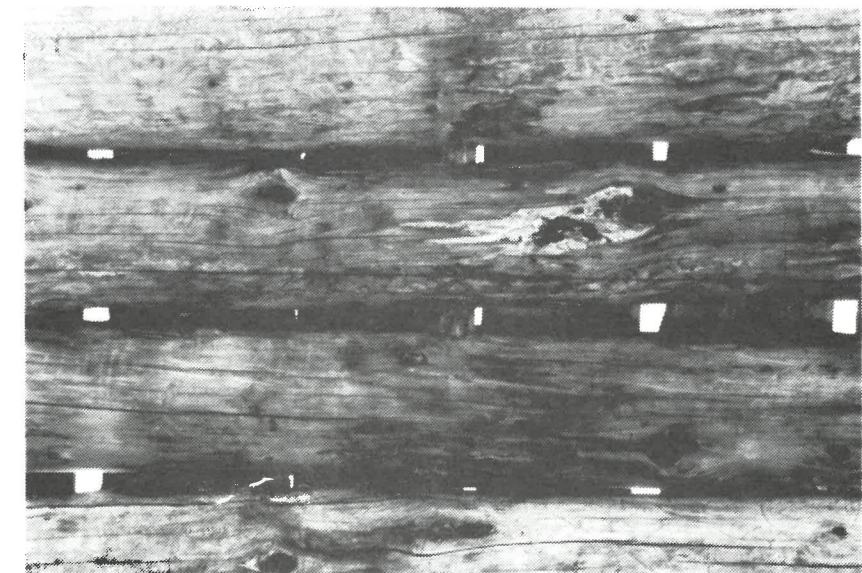
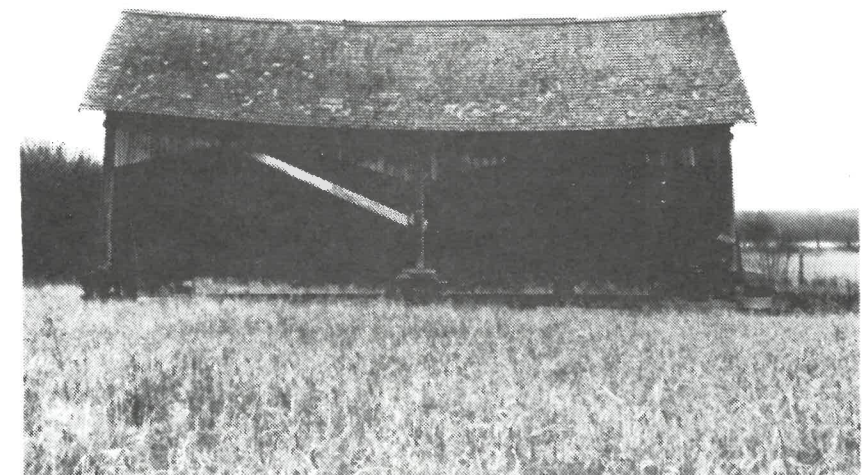


Figure 39: Top, the Chernochan machine shed supported by bracing and standing on timber blocks. Centre, wall logs held together by wooden dowels. Bottom, foundation beam and rotted cladding at the north elevation. (Field Photographs, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sonia Maryn.)

the dowels at their ends with axes and then drove them into the logs during the course of construction. A hand auger (sverdla) was used to drill holes into successive logs as the work progressed. Once the walls were "pegged-up" they were stable throughout the body of their structure.³⁴

III: Corners

Horizontal log construction was typical in Ukraine. It was accomplished with one of three types of log: round (vibli), hewn (brusovani), or split (rizani).³⁵ The type of log used determined the structural components of the wall, the most significant being the corners. Round logs were interlocked at the corners by simple saddle notching (vuhly), while logs that had been hewn were usually connected by means of a dovetail joint (zamky).³⁶ If the log ends were not trimmed at the corners the former means of interlocking logs created an external protrusion (lyshok) that lent an unfinished appearance to the structure (see Figure 40).³⁷ Zamky, on the other hand, derive their name from the fact that this corner finish was always clean so that the exterior of the wall closed at right angles.

A closed or "square" corner was primarily used by Ukrainian pioneers in the construction of their homes. Logs were closely fitted and corners neatly trimmed at the wall. Because early Canadian homes were mainly constructed with wedged dovetail notching this feature became known among the Ukrainian settlers as English corners (angliiski zamky).³⁸

Kosma finished the northwest and southwest corners of the machine shed with dovetail notching (zamky). The notching work itself was accomplished during the construction process. As each new hewn log was laid, it was fitted to the corresponding log of the perpendicular wall, its dovetail notch fitting into that of the other log. The workers alternated this

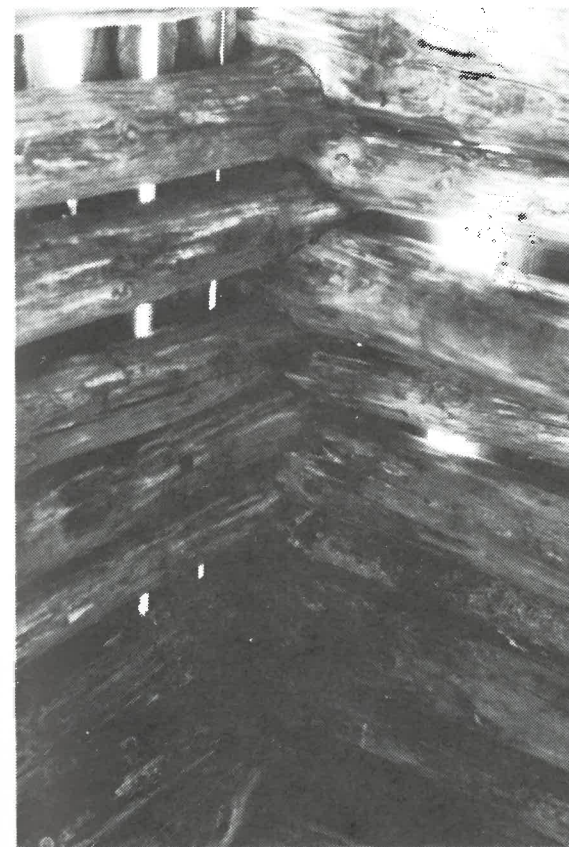


Figure 40: Top, notching at the southwest corner, interior (left) and exterior views. Bottom, the exterior of an untrimmed saddle-notched corner in Ukrainian house. (Field Photographs, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sonia Maryn and Figure 22 in Z.S. Hudchenko, Muzei. Kiev: Budivelnik, 1981.)



procedure at both ends of the machine shed's west elevation until all three walls were completed.³⁹ Kosma did not fit the logs of the machine shed as tightly as he did those in the house and granary since the question of insulation was not as crucial of a matter here. They were laid quite loosely with cracks showing between them, but because of adequate corner notching and wall pegging they were sturdy and held well (ne rozsuvalysia).

5) North, south and west elevations: exterior

I: Cladding

A means of providing environmental shelter to a log structure which was relatively easy to execute and did not require plastering was the addition of board slabs (doshky) to its exterior elevations. This was a method that was employed in the Ukrainian vernacular tradition,⁴⁰ and it was one utilized by Kosma in the construction of his machine shed.

Kosma had two species of wood cut into slabs for the purpose of sheathing: White Spruce and Balsam Poplar. He used the spruce slabs for the west wall and the poplar slabs for the north and south walls. The spruce slabs ranged from about 120-300 mm in width and were nailed to the logs of the west wall. The poplar slabs of the north elevation were about 150 mm wide and 15 mm thick, while those of the south elevation were of the same thickness but slightly wider at 155 mm.⁴¹ The cladding on all three walls was fitted closely, so that slabs butted up against one another.

Slab cladding was an effective means of shielding farm outbuildings. It was not necessary for a structure like the machine shed to be insulated as securely as a house, or even a barn or granary. Its contents could be exposed to some adverse factors like wind and cold, but were best protected from the more severe elements of rain and snow. Kosma added the sheathing to the machine shed to perform this



Figure 41: The Smulski farmstead in east central Alberta. Note the similarities (e.g. central post, gable roof) in machine shed architecture to the Chernochan shed. (In Isidore Goresky et al., eds., Ukrainians in Alberta, Vol. 2. Edmonton: Ukrainian Pioneers' Association of Alberta, 1981), p. 243.

function. It provided added protection from wind and cold and sheltered the interior of the shed from rain and snow. Another purpose served by the exterior cladding was to preserve the structure itself by buffering the log walls from extremes of weather. Finally, cladding improved the aesthetic appearance of the structure and this, too, was a consideration Kosma took into account.⁴²

6) East elevation: interior

I: Side posts

The north and south walls of the machine shed were rooted at their east ends by timber posts. These posts were mortised to receive tenons carved at the end of each individual log in the walls, and wedges were driven between those tenons which did not fit together tightly. In this manner Kosma stabilized the north and south walls even further, as well as securing them to the east elevation.

A second function of the side posts was to act as supports for the log wall above. A tenon was carved at the top of each side post and it fit into a mortise in the bottom wall log, effectively pinning the two together.⁴³ (See Figure 45.)

II: Upper log wall

The upper wall of the east elevation was built of three long logs. These logs served as a base for the roof structure - the top log was notched to provide a seat for rafters and the top and middle logs were notched to receive roof tie beams.⁴⁴ The side and top faces of the top log were squared-off to allow for a better fit in performing this function.

Kosma added wooden planks between the centre and outer posts and the upper log wall to provide railing for the exterior siding.⁴⁵

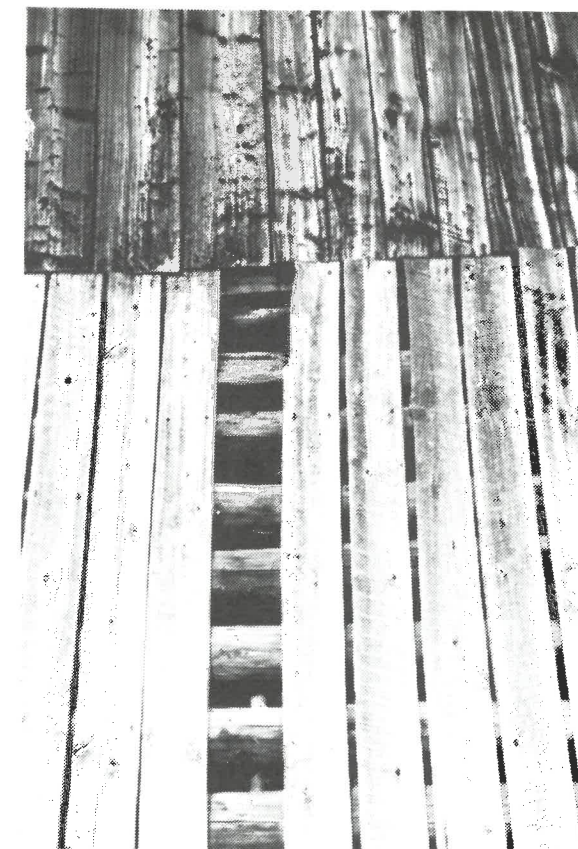


Figure 42: Top, varied wood tone of south elevation (left), and detail showing dowel pegging. Bottom, log wall to post connection at northeast corner (left) - note wedge closing gap between logs, and central post of east elevation - note notching at knee brace. (Field Photographs, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sonia Maryn.)

The wall logs themselves were tied together vertically by several wood dowels which were driven through augered holes in the same manner employed in the lower wall.

III: Centre post and bracing

The timber post set in the centre of the east elevation was also used to secure the upper log wall. At the top of the post a tenon was carved to fit a mortise hollowed out of the bottom wall log. This secured the post to the log wall above. Since the centre post supported a tremendous amount of weight Kosma ensured that it was further secured to the wall log through the addition of a knee brace. The knee brace was held up by two notches in the bottom wall log located on either side of the centre post, and was secured to the post itself by means of a second notch cut into the column of the post.⁴⁶

7) East elevation: exterior

I: Archways

Kosma had the exterior of the east elevation fashioned into two archways built of poplar cladding sawed at the mill. Individual slabs were cut manually to appropriate lengths.⁴⁷ The slabs were nailed to the upper log wall and to the planks, which provided a nailing surface for the lower ends of the sheathing.

The fact that Kosma chose to build his machine shed with curved archways was in itself a telling fact. The archways were both functional and decorative. They lent a sense of proportion and balance to the structure and enhanced its outward appearance. In taking the time and trouble to add this feature to the shed, Kosma demonstrated his concern for detail and pride in his creations.



Figure 43: Canadian farmstead near Ieduc, circa 1946. Note the rough construction of machine shed covered with a board roof. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. B247.)

8) Roof structure: interior

I: Beams, rafters, ties

The roof of the machine shed was erected on a frame of beams, rafters and ties. As mentioned above, to prepare the east elevation log wall to receive beams and rafters, the top log of the wall was squared-off on its top and side faces and notched. The top log of the west elevation was prepared in the same manner. (The north and south log walls were topped with a roughly sawn plank nailed to the top log of each respective wall.)

Heavy log tie beams varying in diameter from 140-180 mm were laid connecting the east and west elevations. The top and bottom surfaces of the tie beams were hewn flat. They were fitted at both ends into the notching in the top wall log of the east and west walls. The beams were further secured to the log wall by means of squared hewn wall pegs driven into a hole drilled through the logs and beam⁴⁸ (see Figure 45). Kosma added a narrow cross-rail between two beams to act as a storage hanger for drying goods.⁴⁹

The rafters (*krokvyy*) were erected by connecting their bottom ends to the squared and notched top wall log. The rafters themselves had been hewn at their bottom ends to allow for a better grip at the wall log. Logs were chosen for rafters that were not very thick but were very long - about 110 mm in diameter and about 3,900 mm in length. The logs were notched at their top ends as well, so that where two corresponding rafters met at their peak, the two logs butted together in a tight fit.⁵⁰

In order to afford greater stability to the rafters, Kosma added log collar ties to the rafters. A hollow was carved in each connecting rafter to provide a seat for the notched (*zarubanyi*) collar tie (see Figure 46). Narrow logs were chosen for the collar ties measuring 75 mm in diameter.⁵¹

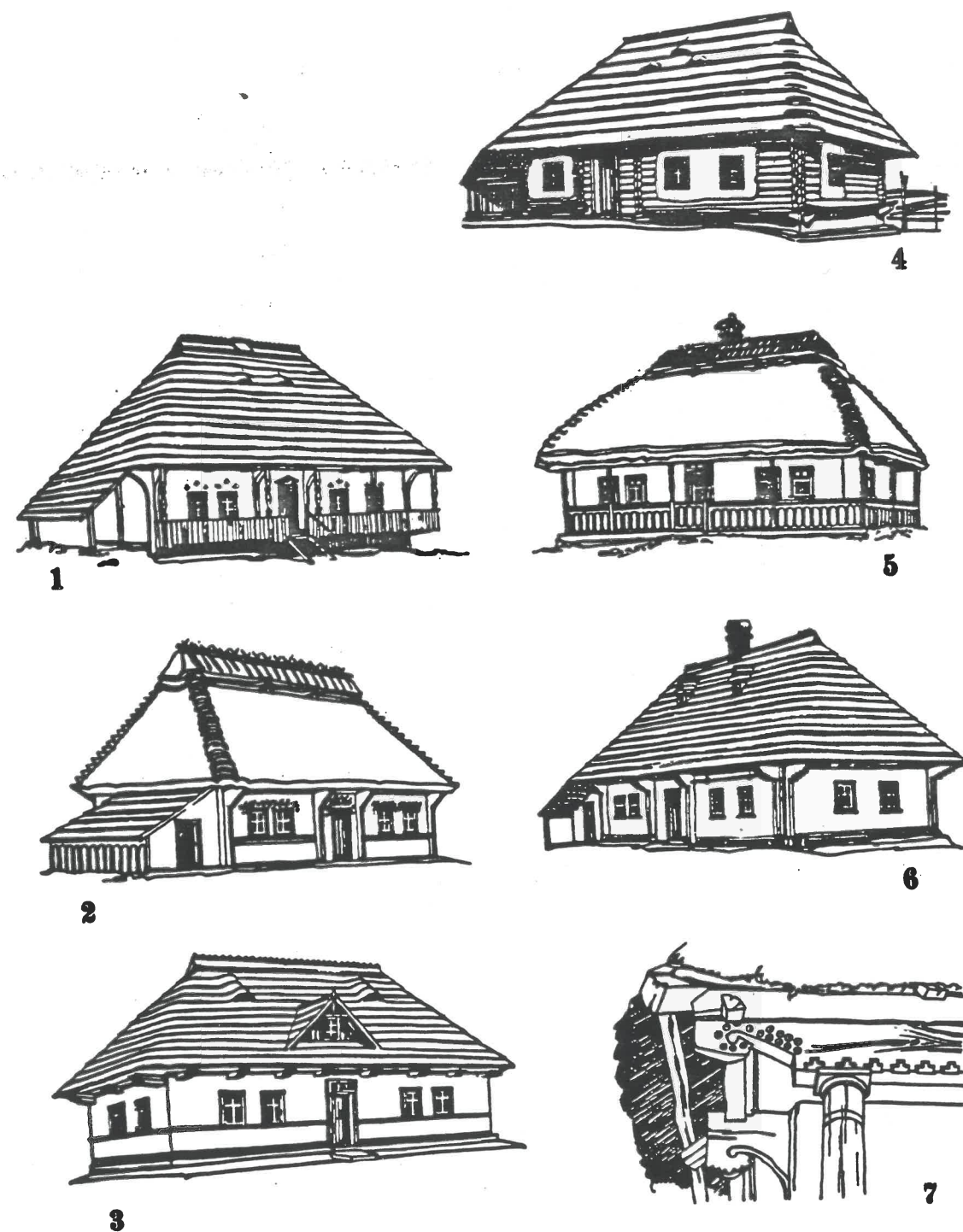
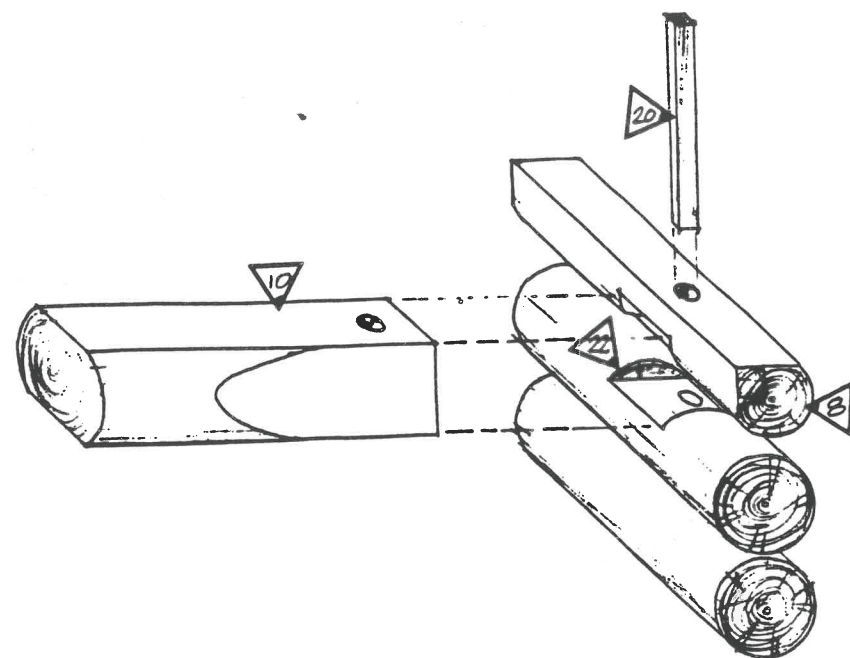
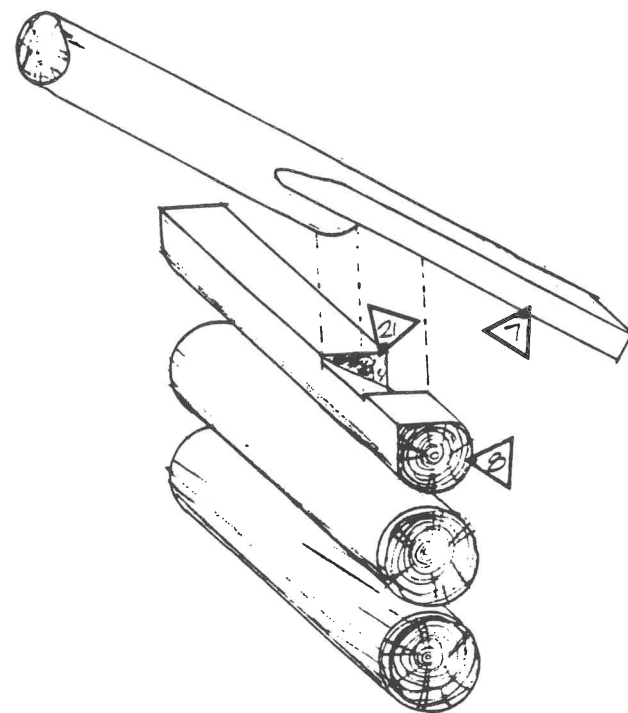


Figure 44: Houses of the Bukovynian region. Note the addition of lean-tos on No.'s 1, 2, 4 and 6. No. 7 shows a carved eave bracket of the Poltava province in Eastern Ukraine. (In V.P. Samoilovych, *Ukrainske narodne zhytlo*. Kiev: Naukova Dumka, 1972), pp. 41,44.

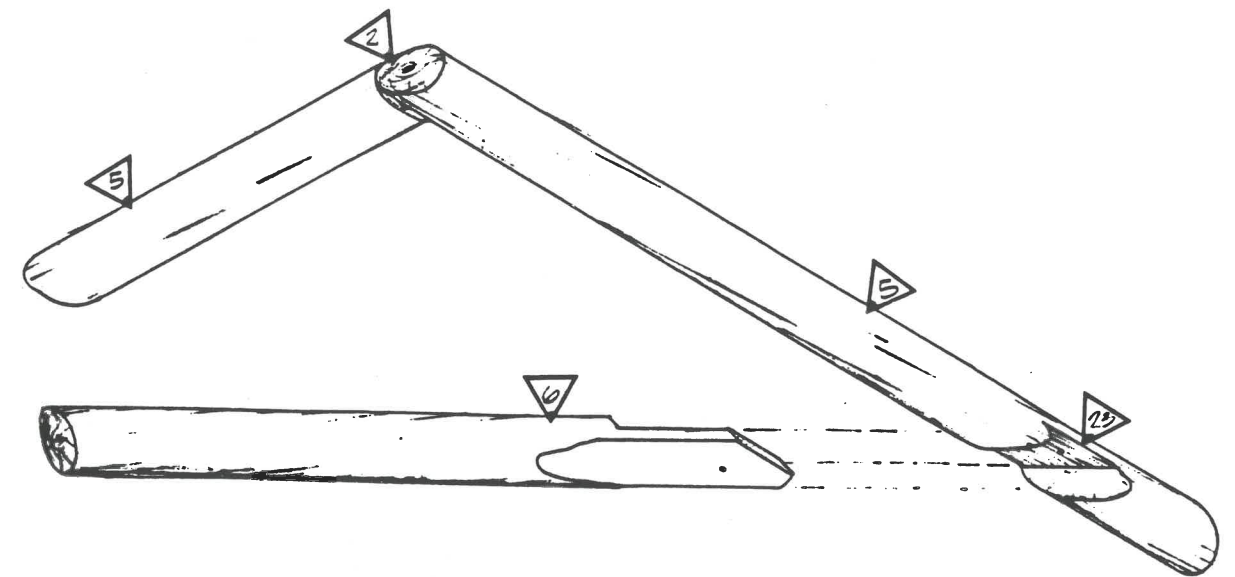


TIE BEAM CONNECTION

Figure 45: Top, tie beam connection: 10-beam; 22-notching in wall log; 8-hewn top wall log; 20-wooden dowel connecting beam to log wall. Bottom, rafter connection: 8-hewn top wall log; 21-notched seat for rafter; 7-hewn rafter end at eave extension. (Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sheet 10, Bell Spotowski Architects Ltd., November, 1983.)

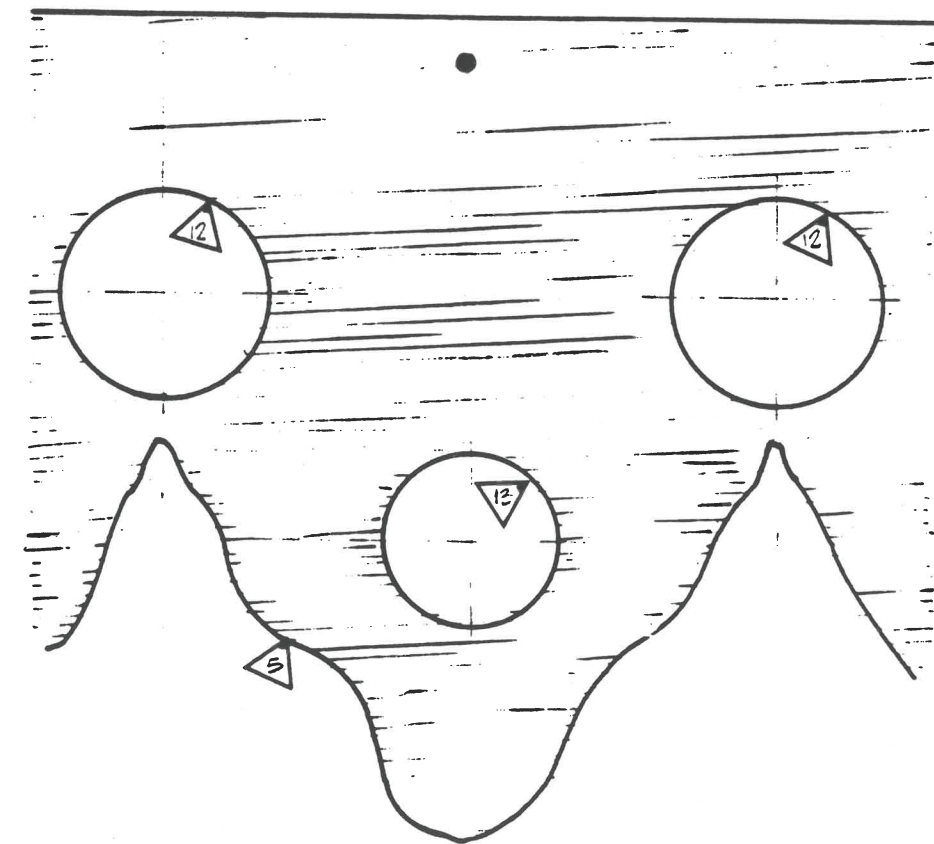


RAFTER CONNECTION



COLLAR TIE TO RAFTER CONNECTION

Figure 46: Top, collar tie to rafter connection: 6-collar tie; 5-rafter; 23-rafter notching for tie; 2-rafters butting at peak. Bottom, fretwork profile: 5-fascia board; 13-30 mm hole; 12-38 mm hole. (Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sheets 7, 10, Bell Spotowski Architects Ltd., November, 1983.)



FRETWORK PROFILE

II: Boards

Once the workers had erected the roof frame it was ready for a covering. The covering applied was a sheathing of boards (doshky). The boards were thick (at least 20 mm), and were nailed to the rafters in varying widths, from 150-300 mm. They were laid horizontally so as to span the breadth between rafters.⁵²

Kosma intended the roof boards as added insulation particularly against heavy snow deposits.⁵³ For this reason he had thicker boards cut. The boards also served as a base to which the shingles were nailed. Although they were covered with shingles, the boards themselves acted as insulating agents in retaining the dryness and warmth of the shed.

9) Roof structure: exterior

I: Form

Traditional roof forms in Ukrainian folk architecture varied from structure to structure. Storage sheds were not usually covered with elaborate roofing. As mentioned above, very often a shed was constructed as a lean-to addition or stood as a mere extension to an existing structure's roof and was supported by thin walls or posts. Where a roof was given more consideration (for example, the use of straw thatching) often it was because it was the main architectural component of the shed, standing on four heavy posts and with no walls at all (nakryttia). However, gable-roofed machine sheds were also known in some sectors, although in many cases their gable ends were covered not by thatching, but with woven willows.⁵⁴ The gable roof was relatively common on machine sheds in east central Alberta, though quite often a shed was covered with a single-sloped roof or even a flat roof

resembling those used in Ukraine.⁵⁵

The function of the roof was to provide further protection from the elements. Aesthetically, it defined the contours of a building, and in the Ukrainian vernacular tradition was often the focus of some form of ornamentation.⁵⁶

Kosma built his machine shed with a gable roof. It was of medium pitch and covered with shingles.

II: Gables

The gables of the machine shed were formed by the vertical triangle at the north and south ends of the roof structure. This triangle extended from the lower eave end to the upper ridge peak of the roof.

Thick wood slabs sawn from spruce logs were used for the gable infill. They were of random width, varying from 150-300 mm and were nailed vertically to the north and south gable ends⁵⁷. An additional board was nailed onto the north gable immediately beneath the eave extension. Kosma attached the board only to the east side of the wall and probably intended it to cover uneven slab ends.⁵⁸

III: Shingles

The use of shingles in Ukraine was not common in the early part of the century. When shingles were used it was usually in heavily wooded regions where wood was easily available. Another form of roof covering in areas where wood was abundant, was by means of metre-long thin boards (dranytsi).⁵⁹ (This method was also utilized in east central Alberta as seen in Figures 18, 35 and 43).

The most common roof covering used throughout Ukraine, though, was straw thatching. Straw was either laid flat (a method employed in covering outbuildings such as machine sheds), or more elaborately arranged in tiers (skhodnyky) with sections bound into sheaves

(kulyky).⁶⁰ Whenever possible better quality materials were used to cover a roof. In East Slovakia, for example, long strips of birch, alder or beech wood were nailed to rooftops.⁶¹ Even these roughly fashioned shingles were considered progressive during the early years of the century - both in Ukraine and in east central Alberta. It was not until the 1920s that shingles effectively replaced straw thatch in Ukrainian pioneers homes of east central Alberta. However, in many areas of Alberta, wood shingles became popular as early as the 1890s.⁶²

Kosma covered the roof of his machine shed with cedar shingles (gonty). The shingles were nailed into the roof boards with small shingle nails (tsvychky). Cedar was a top quality wood used in the manufacture of shingles at this time and was mostly imported from British Columbia.⁶³ The width of the shingle strips used on the machine shed varied, but their cut was regular. Once laid, the exposed area of each shingle strip was about 125 mm long and there were more than 30 of these courses running from the eave to the ridge pole on each slope of the roof. The roof itself was built with a medium pitch since adequate drainage was provided by the shingle covering. The cracks between shingles acted as mini-troughs in dispersing rainfall, so that the shingles were twice as efficient in keeping water out of the shed.⁶⁴

IV: Eaves

The roof line of the machine shed was built to project beyond the elevations on all four sides. On the north and south ends the eave (strikha) merely hung over the wall side. The eaves overhanging at the east and west walls, however, were extended out over the ends of the log rafters. These rafters protruded out from the interior of the shed and had been hewn to 55-65 x 90-100 mm at the eave overhang where they were placed as additional supports for the eave to rest upon.⁶⁵

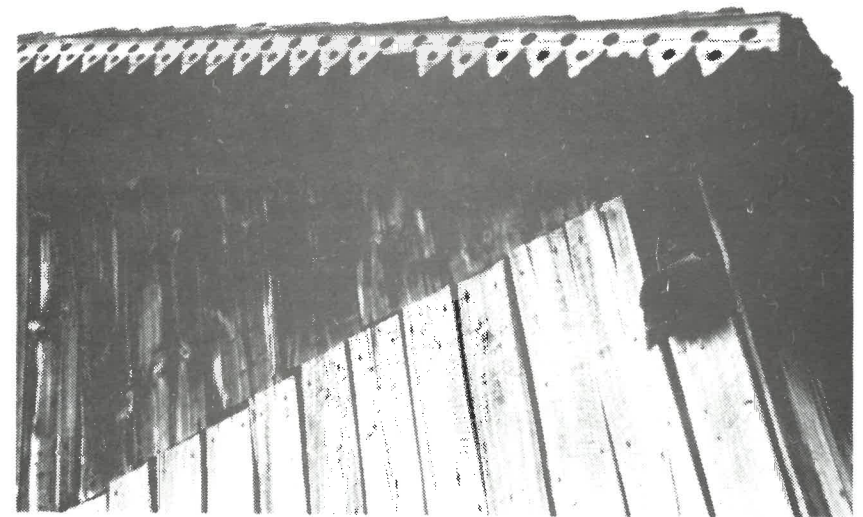
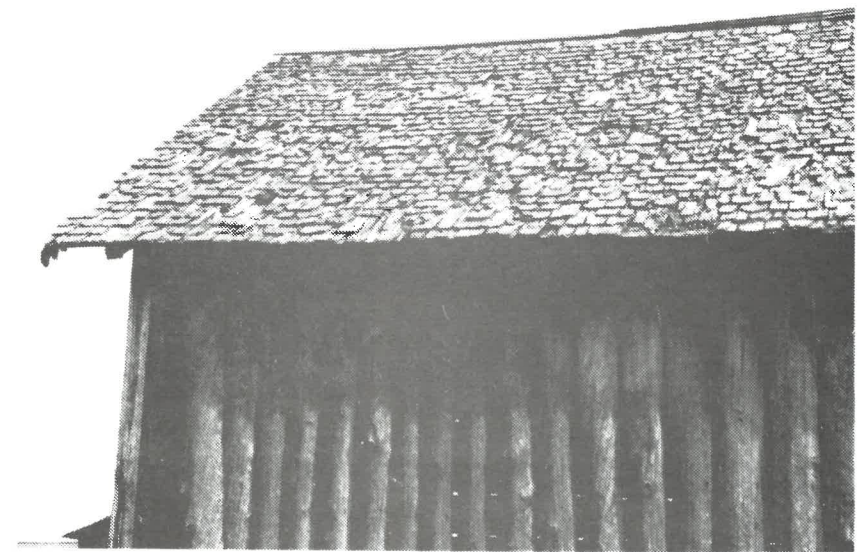
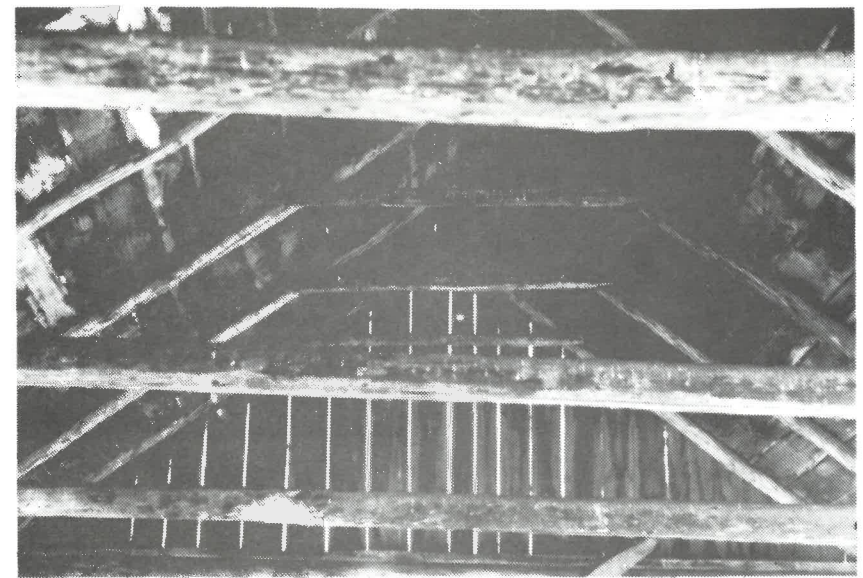


Figure 47: Top, interior roof frame of beams, rafters and ties sheathed in boards. Centre, exterior of roof covered with shingles and topped by ridge board. Bottom, fascia board with fretwork at south gable ends. (Field Photographs, Chernochan Machine Shed, Sonia Maryn.)

V: Ridge board

The machine shed's ridge board (doshka) was nailed into place along the peak of the roof. Kosma added it in order to cover the exposed ridge of the roof and prevent leakage.⁶⁶ He actually used three boards to cover the ridge which extended from the north to the south gable peaks.

VI: Fascia board

The finishing touch that Kosma gave his machine shed was to decorate its north and south eave borders with fretwork.⁶⁷ The fretwork was accomplished by augering a series of holes into a carved fascia board. The fascia board was then nailed to the eave overhang at the gable ends of the shed. The pattern of augered holes in the board was made with a hand auger and the board itself was carved with a jigsaw.

Ornate motifs of this nature were common sights on the Ukrainian homesteader's buildings.⁶⁸ Nor were wooden carvings the only form of decoration employed. Often houses were painted in bright colours with patterns trimming their borders in contrasting colours.⁶⁹ The practice of building adornment stemmed from the Ukrainian vernacular tradition. Although wood carvings (rizblennia po derevi) and painted decoration (rozpys) were mainly used to enhance houses, they were also used on farm outbuildings (hospodarski budivli). In fact, often the rozpys found on the outbuildings of a farmstead (hospodarstvo) contained more colour contrasts than did that of the house itself.

Wood carvings were usually added to hospodarski budivli to underscore their structural components and highlight their lines of construction.⁷⁰ Rizblennia was mostly done in geometric patterns as was the fretwork on the Chernochan machine shed. In Ukraine, this form of ornamentation was especially prevalent in the western provinces.⁷¹



Figure 48: Canadian farmstead, circa early 1900s. Note the narrow open-side machine shed with a single-slanting roof. (Provincial Archives Acc. No. H253.)

The most popular motif evidenced in these regions was the six-petalled rose. This and other patterns were carved on the beams, doorposts, entranceways and window frames of houses, and on architectural features of other structures such as posts, eave brackets and entrances. Geometric motifs were usually organically united to a particular feature and served a functional, as well as an aesthetic purpose.⁷² (See Figure 44.)

(ii): Era IV: 1918 - 1929

"Alterations and repairs"

In general terms, the structural integrity of the Chernochan machine shed remained relatively sound throughout this, and subsequent, eras. Certainly throughout Era IV the machine shed remained very much intact and its level of deterioration in this period was mainly cosmetic. The informant reported no evidence of sagging in the structure's east elevation or buckling in the cladding of its three walls. The wall slabs of its north and south elevations remained closely spaced, but some wear was evident on its west wall where the wall sheathing had begun to shrink. However, the west wall slabs still stood flush against the log wall. They were about 20 mm thick and no curvature was yet discernible. None of the wall slabs was missing nor did the informant report that any repairs were necessary. The boards of the south gable infill had darkened considerably and the informant attributed this to sun exposure.⁷³

The shed was in constant use throughout the latter part of this era yet no roof leakage was reported to have occurred. The informant was certain this was due to the excellent grade of shingles the machine shed was covered with. He was not amazed to learn that these shingles are still largely intact today, since they were extremely effective throughout Era IV and showed very little sign of deterioration.⁷⁴

The informant did make a few minor alterations to the machine

shed. He added several long nails to the south interior elevation to use as hangers for small implements. The other alteration he made was to hammer rails into the timber posts at the shed's east elevation. These rails (reily) were used to keep cattle, grazing in the vicinity of the shed, from entering the structure. The informant kept the planks in place through the summer months, as it was at this time that excess heat and flies prompted the cattle to seek shelter in the shed. During harvest the planks were removed. They were replaced following the harvest and remained on the shed through the winter months in order to limit access to the machine shed's contents and to deter possible vandalism or theft. When removing the planks in spring, the informant often found it cumbersome to also remove the nails he had used to hammer them in, for the planks usually split from the cold of winter. These nails he bent over and left standing in the post.⁷⁵

(iii) Era V: 1929 - 1939

"Alterations and repairs, cont'd."

The Chernochan machine shed did not require any outstanding repair during the early part of Era V. The informant recalled that her husband had made minor repairs to various structures on the farm, but did not remember any of a specific nature.⁷⁶ She did remember that the machine shed was in good condition in the early 1930s and that it had not sustained any noticeable damage or deterioration at this time. Although the informant's husband used the shed extensively he did not alter its structure in any way. No cattle grazed in its vicinity in these years and there were no rails placed at its entrance.

The mid and late 1930s saw the machine shed vacant and unused. The 1934-35 tenants of SE 33-59-17 made no use of any of the farm buildings as they lived on the adjacent quarter and had its buildings at their disposal. They had little machinery in any event, and what they did have they stored under a small lean-to structure.⁷⁷

The shed continued to be unused from the late 1930s through to the end of the 1940s. The tenant in this period had his own machine shed and it more than met his storage requirements.⁷⁸ Since he lived on a farm one mile north of the rented quarter, he did not think it practical to store his machinery some distance from his home. To do so would have made machinery repair and maintenance less accessible, and general storage less economical since he could easily leave machinery out in the field during work periods. Thus, for several years the machine shed was unutilized and abandoned.

(iv) Era VI: 1939 - 1962

"Alterations and repairs, cont'd."

As mentioned above, the machine shed was not used at all in the first decade of this era. Beginning with the 1950s, though, it was once again put to use. Although it had stood neglected for a 15-year period, the informants claim that the machine shed was still structurally sound.⁷⁹ It did, however, show signs of decay. The slab cladding on its north and south elevations had significantly shrunk so that discernible cracks had appeared between the boards. The sheathing on the west and north walls was particularly worn due to environmental factors. There were spaces between the slabs of the west elevation and the boards themselves were starting to arch away from the wall. The south gable end contrasted sharply with the lower south wall, which the informants believe had been bleached by the sun. The cladding on the north elevation, on the other hand, had greyed and appeared weatherbeaten.

Despite these outward signs of deterioration the machine shed required little repair. The informants did not recall making any repairs to the structure, with the possible exception of occasionally securing a loose board.⁸⁰ The roof shingles were deteriorated in sections but were still effective. One informant recalled that the roof

would leak slightly at the beginning of a rainfall, but then would stop leaking almost immediately. He attributed this factor to the unique insulating ability of cedar. Since the shingles were not painted, he felt they had retained their effectiveness even longer.⁸¹

The entrance to the machine shed was blocked by one informant in the same manner that it had been in Era IV. Rails were hammered into the three timber posts at the east elevation to prevent cattle from entering the shed and to limit access in winter.⁸²

(v) Era VII: 1962 - 1971

"Alterations and repairs, cont'd."

The Chernochan machine shed had sustained a considerable degree of deterioration by the first years of this era. Although its structure was still, in the words of one informant, in "reasonably good shape" it was now noticeably timeworn.⁸³ There was a definite sagging in the east elevation which leaned into the north end of the shed. The north east timber post appeared to have settled under the weight of the roof, which was no longer evenly distributed.

The cladding on all elevations was weathered in appearance and had shrunk so that spaces were visible between the slabs. This form of decay was particularly evident on the west elevation, where the slabs had warped away from the wall, giving a definite degree of curvature to each individual slab. The north elevation was severely weatherbeaten. Its slabs were buckling substantially, and it was greyed and dilapidated. Because of the tall grass which had grown up around the north and west sides of the machine shed, the informant was not able to comment on the deterioration at the base of the north wall slabs. However, he believed it was quite pronounced at this time.⁸⁴ There was no buckling in the south wall cladding but it had been so sun bleached that a profound difference in wood tone between the boards of the gable end and those of the lower cladding was evident. In addition,

a few boards were missing from the cladding of the north archway at the east elevation.

The roof of the shed was functioning well despite its obvious wear. There was a considerable amount of moss growing on the shingles and many of them were deteriorated in patches. However, there was no leakage from the roof and the informant attributed this to the quality of workmanship employed in constructing the shed.

The informant made no repairs to the machine shed in this era. In spite of its decay, the shed was still adequately functional. He did, however, make a notable structural alteration. The shed was used extensively throughout this period since the informant had many pieces of machinery to store. One of these pieces, a combine, did not fit under the archways of the east elevation. It had a protruding holding pin which jutted out about two feet above the body of the combine itself, and this protrusion prevented the combine from sliding into place. In order to rectify the situation, the informant cut out a section of the nailing brace in the north end of the east elevation. He did this with a hand saw. He also removed two of the exterior siding panels in the same area of the north archway.⁸⁵ However, the extra space allotted by the removal of this segment of archway still did not give the necessary clearance to fit the combine into the shed. The informant, therefore, dug a trench at the north entranceway which measured three to four feet in width and one and a half feet in depth. Thus, he was able to back the combine into the machine shed by lowering it into and out of the trench as its protruding pin passed through the cavity in the archway.

Other than this alteration, the informant made no other structural changes to the machine shed.

(vi) Era VIII: 1971 - present

"Alterations and repairs, cont'd."

The Era VII informants left SE 33-59-17 in 1978. Before their

departure arrangements had been made with the U.C.H.V. to transfer the shed to the Village site. The informants agreed that the degree of additional deterioration to the shed from the time of the departure to the present day had been minimal. The shed was stooped substantially and missing boards in its north-end archway, and was in a general state of decay at the time of their departure.

The Farmstead Group Building Selection Report, published in July 1983, records the condition of the machine shed at this time:

The machine shed is in fairly good condition. The only major problem results from settlement of the centre post, which has bowed the eave line on the east side. Relocation on an appropriate foundation should rectify this.⁸⁶

Both the structural integrity and craftsmanship of the machine shed were marked as being good in the report. The condition of the structure itself was categorized as good, but the exterior and interior were only considered to be in fair to good condition. In general, the condition of the shed was judged to be fair to good, and the overall evaluation of the building was recorded as good.⁸⁷

The Extant Drawings record the decay of the machine shed in detail. The wall logs are noted as being in generally sound condition with no evidence of previous finishing or chinking between logs. Some decay is noted, however, in the base log of the north and south elevations.⁸⁸ These bottom logs rested on the foundation of field stones and their decay is attributable to the settling of foundation rocks and subsequent contact with the ground.

The cladding of the west elevation is recorded as rotting along the bottom rim, and a loose board at the north end of the wall is also noted.⁸⁹ Loosened, buckling boards are registered on the north elevation and the settlement of logs in the north wall itself is proposed as a possible explanation.⁹⁰ The bottoms of the north wall cladding boards are noted as being severely rotted.⁹¹ Rotting is also recorded at the lower ends of the south elevation cladding. Here, as in

the north wall, the rotting has progressed to the extent that the founding log is clearly visible beneath the sheathing boards.⁹²

The front archways are shown to be missing a number of boards, particularly at the north end of the east elevation.⁹³ As mentioned above, two of these boards were deliberately removed during the course of Era VII.

Finally, the shingles of the machine shed roof are deteriorated in sections and show evidence of moss covering. The ridge board running along the peak of the roof is badly decayed in its mid-section.⁹⁴

In order to transport the machine shed from its original site to the U.C.H.V., some structural support was added to the building. This was done to fortify the structure for the shock of moving it after a 60-year period of standing in one spot. Two "x-braces" were placed across each archway of the east elevation. They were formed by crossing two two by six inch planks from the upper log wall down to the central and side posts at each archway. Since the other elevations were considered to be structurally sound, this was the only support given the machine shed prior to its move.⁹⁵

Once the shed was relocated to the U.C.H.V. additional bracing was added. Its purpose was to strengthen the form of the structure after the shock of a major shifting, as well as to rectify its deformed alignment. Wooden braces were nailed to the interior of the shed. They were placed diagonally across the north and south elevations to lend greater stability to these walls. Additionally, sections of plywood were also added to the two walls.⁹⁶ The east elevation was already braced by means of wood planks.

In addition, one of the centre cladding boards on both the north and south elevations was removed. This was done to facilitate a cross-sectional view of the log wall behind the sheathing.⁹⁷

At its present site at the U.C.H.V., the machine shed is oriented to the east as it was originally on SE 33-59-17. It rests on a series of timber blocks which act as supports, particularly to the east elevation posts. The blocks are set beneath the three front posts, as

well as under the centre section and west corner of the north wall; the centre of the west wall; and the west corner of the south wall.⁹⁸ The entire structure rests on a huge concrete pad measuring 250 mm in thickness, which ensures a proper foundation for the machine shed.⁹⁹

ENDNOTES

CHAPTER II:

Land Use and Structural History

A: Land Use

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92. Unrecorded Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, December 10, 1983.
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102. Interview with Stefan Stogrin, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
103. John Lehr, Ukrainian Vernacular Architecture in Alberta, Occasional Paper No.1 (Edmonton: Alberta Culture Historical Resources Division, 1976), p. 35.
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106. Ibid., p. 72 and Hudchenko, Muzei, p. 14.
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119. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
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126. Anne Lazaruk, Personal History of Kosma and Maria Chernochan, Typewritten Summary, Edmonton, 1981.
127. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
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129. Pride in Progress (Chipman, Alberta: Alberta Rose Historical Society, 1982) p. 43.
130. Wsevolod W. Isajiw, "Occupational and Economic Development," in A Heritage in Transition, ed. Manoly R. Lupul (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1982), p. 62.
131. Ibid.

132. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
133. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
134. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
135. Telephone Interview with George Salahub, November 30, 1983.
136. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.
137. Ibid.
138. Ibid.
139. Interview with Kay Odensky, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
140. Interview with Gregorii and Domka Romanchuk, Sonia Maryn, November 4, 1983 and Field Note, discussion with Gregorii and Domka Romanchuk, Sonia Maryn, December 3, 1983.
141. Ibid.
142. Ibid.
143. Interview with Kay Odensky, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
144. Interview with John Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
145. Interview with Joe and Bertha Palichuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
146. Alberta Department of the Interior, Homestead File 1760446, Reel 2857.

Note: Tanasko swore an affidavit on Kosma's homestead application.
147. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
148. Interview with John Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
149. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.
150. Isajiw, "Occupational," p. 62.

Note: This same point is illustrated in Lysenko's Yellow Boots when Lili Landash learns that her brother, Peter, is a student at an agricultural college. Peter is representative of a new generation of Ukrainian farmers, intent on applying a scientific and professional approach to farming.

151. Telephone Interview with Harry Bala, Sonia Maryn, November 14, 1983 and Telephone Interview with Dr. Marvin Bala, Sonia Maryn, December 20, 1983.

152. Interview with Basil and Antonia Zailo, Sonia Maryn, December 3, 1983.

Note: This information was provided by the Zailos and depicts SE 33-59-17 as it was when they purchased the quarter in 1964. Attempts to locate the Balas' tenants have proved unsuccessful. Local residents all seemed to think the Elaschuks rented in this period, as did the Bala brothers, Harry and Marvin. However, the Elaschuks claim they terminated their tenancy in 1959 and that they, too, have no knowledge as to who rented the land from 1959-64.

153. Ibid.

154. Ibid.

Note: The trees planted along the country road border were removed during a road widening project in 1978.

155. Unrecorded interview with Arthur and Sophia Tilma, Sonia Maryn, November 29, 1983.

B. Structural History

1. Deane G. Carter and W.A. Foster, Farm Buildings (New York: John Wiley and Sons Inc., 1941), p. 283.
2. T.V. Kosmina, Silske zhytlo Podillia (Kiev: Naukova Dumka, 1980), p. 102.
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5. James H. Whitaker, Agricultural Buildings and Structures (Reston, Virginia: Reston Publishing Company, 1979), p.501 and Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed (Bell Spotowski Architects Ltd., November 1983): Sheet 4, Details 1, 2.
6. Carter, Farm, p. 283.

7. Unrecorded Interview with Anne Lazaruk, Sonia Maryn, December 20, 1983.
8. Whitaker, Buildings, p. 503.
9. M. Sopoliga, Narodna Arkhitektura Ukraintsiv Skhidnoi Slovaichchyny (Svydnyk: 1976), p. 133.
10. Khvedir Vovk, Studii z Ukrainskoi Etnohrafii ta Antropolohii (New York: Howerla, 1916 [1928]), p. 6.
11. Interview with Bill and Mary Ratsoy, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.

Note: The Ratsoys concurred, as did Anne Lazaruk, Donald Chernochan, Peter Salahub, John Elaschuk, and other informants, that the machine shed was built during a collective working "bee" supervised by Teodosi and Kosma.

12. John Lehr, Ukrainian Vernacular Architecture in Alberta, Occasional Paper No.1 (Edmonton: Alberta Culture Historical Resources Division, 1976), p. 8.
13. Interview with Stefan Stogrin, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
14. Brent Riley, "Wood Species of Chernochan Machine Shed," U.C.H.V., December 9, 1981.
15. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
16. Lehr, Architecture, p. 23.
17. Note: See Figures 15, 18, 37, 43 and 48.
18. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.
19. Kosmina, Zhytlo, p. 19.
20. Lehr, Architecture, p. 11.
21. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.
22. Kosmina, Zhytlo, p. 54.
23. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 6, Details 5, 6 and 7.
24. Lehr, Architecture, p. 12.

25. Interview with John` Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
26. Ibid.
27. Sopoliga, Narodna, p. 70.
28. V. Shukhevych, Hutsulshchyna, Part I and II (Lviv: Naukove
Tovarystvo im. Shevchenka, 1902), p. 88.
29. Interview with John Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
30. Lehr, Architecture, p. 12.
31. Shukhevych, Hutsulshchyna, p. 88.
32. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 9, Detail 14.
33. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
34. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.
35. Shukhevych, Hutsulshchyna, p. 88.
36. Ibid, p. 89.
37. V.P. Samoilovych, Ukrainske narodne zhytlo (Kiev: Naukova Dumka,
1972), p. 14.
38. Interview with Stefan Stogrin, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
39. Ibid.
40. Samoilovych, Zhytlo, p. 14 and Shukhevych, Hutsulshchyna, p. 91.

Note: Shukhevych refers to these boards, which were tapered, as dranytsi and comments that their purpose was to retain the dryness of the wall logs.

41. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 7, Detail 1 and
Sheet 8, Details 1, 12.
42. Interview with Stefan Stogrin, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.

Note: The machine shed's appearance was clearly of concern to Kosma, a point that is demonstrated not only by the addition of archways but by fretwork at the gable ends. The fretwork is discussed in detail at a later point.

43. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 6, Details 6, 7.
44. Ibid.: Sheet 9, Detail 3 and Sheet 10, Detail 21, 22.
45. Ibid.: Sheet 9, Detail 11.
46. Ibid.: Sheet 11, Details 22, 23, 24, 25.
47. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
48. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 10, Details 8, 10,
20, 22.
49. Interview with John Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
50. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 5, Details 10, 12.
51. Ibid.: Sheet 10, Detail 6, 23.
52. Ibid.: Sheet 5, Detail 14.
53. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
54. Kosmina, Zhytlo, pp. 44, 102.
55. Note: See Figures 15, 37, 48.
56. Kosmina, Zhytlo, p. 37.
57. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 8, Detail 16.
58. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.

Note: Another theory advanced by both Stefan Stogrin and George Elaschuk in interviews conducted November 15, 1983 and November 16, 1983, respectively, was that Kosma added the plank to prevent leakage at a potentially weak point in the gable.

59. Shukhevych, Hutsulshchyna, p. 91.
60. Kosmina, Zhytlo, pp. 38-39.
61. Sopoliga, Narodna, pp. 72-74.
62. Lehr, Architecture, p. 21.
63. Interview with Joe and Bertha Palichuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16,
1983.

64. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.
65. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 5, Detail 12.
66. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
67. Interview with John Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
68. Interview with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
69. Lehr, Architecture, p. 23.
70. Kosmina, Zhytlo, p. 186.
71. Iu. V. Samoilyovych, "Ornamentalnyi dekor v ozdoblenni suchasnoho silskoho zhytla," Narodna tvorchist ta etnohrafia 2 (1983): 68.
72. Ibid.: 70.
73. Interviews with Peter Salahub, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983 and November 21, 1983.
74. Ibid.
75. Ibid., November 21, 1983.
76. Interview with Kay Odensky, Sonia Maryn, November 2, 1983.
77. Interview with Joe and Bertha Palichuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
78. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
79. Telephone Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, December 21, 1983.
80. Note: This statement was exacted upon prompting and most likely involved only minor repairs. The informant did not recall any specific repairs whatsoever.
81. Interview with John Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
82. Interview with George Elaschuk, Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
83. Interview with Basil and Antonia Zailo, Sonia Maryn, December 3, 1983.

84. Note: The informant did not mow this tall grass although he considered it to be a fire hazard. When observing current photographs of the machine shed he stated that the degree of overall deterioration of the shed from the date of his departure to the present had not increased.
85. Ibid., and Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 9, Detail 10, 22.
86. Roman Fodchuk and Associates Ltd., U.C.H.V. Farmstead Group Building Selection Report, Volume 1 (Edmonton: Alberta Culture Housing and Public Works, 1978), p. 50.
87. Ibid., matrix.
88. Extant Drawings, Chernochan Machine Shed: Sheet 9, Details 1, 2.
89. Ibid.: Sheet 8, Details 2, 4.
90. Ibid.: Sheet 8, Details 13, 14.
91. Ibid.: Sheet 8, Detail 12.
92. Ibid.: Sheet 7, Details 1, 2.
93. Ibid.: Sheet 6, Detail 2.
94. Ibid.: Sheet 5, Detail 16.
95. Ibid.: Sheet 9, Details 19, 20.
96. Ibid.: Sheet 6, Detail 16 and Sheet 9, Detail 19.
97. Ibid.: Sheet 7, Detail 2 and Sheet 8, Detail 14 and Field Note, discussion with Brent Riley, Sonia Maryn, December 9, 1983.
98. Ibid.: Sheet 7, Detail 18 and Sheet 8, Detail 20.
99. Ibid.: Sheet 8, Detail 19.

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CHAPTER III:

Conclusion

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The Chernochan machine shed was built more than 60 years ago. Imprinted on its frame and embedded in each architectural feature is more than one untold tale. The story of its builders - Kosma Chernochan, his family and fellow pioneers; the history of emigration and settlement in east central Alberta; the evolution of the town of Smoky Lake; the development of Kosma's land - SE 33-59-17 - and the changes it underwent through several generations of tenants and owners; and the machine shed itself, its function and design a result of the melding of two cultural traditions - Ukrainian and Canadian - are all contained in the chinks and crannies of this one structure.

The conception of the machine shed lies in the history of emigration. It was the intolerable economic climate prevalent throughout Western Ukraine in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries that spurred thousands of people to emigrate.¹ Disgruntled by exploitative measures on the part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the nobility, and disenchanted by the dismal prospects for the future, they sought a better life in a new country and set forth for the Canadian prairies. Among these emigrants was Kosma Chernochan, who arrived in Canada in 1904, at the youthful age of 16. Although he was only a boy, Kosma was advanced over many of his fellow immigrants in that he had had some schooling and, moreover, recognized the value of an education. He soon acquired an oral and written proficiency in the new language and with this accomplishment stepped onto the path to greater achievements.

Kosma had come to Canada with next to nothing in his possession, but he was determined to make something of himself and to leave his mark in the new land. Nor was he alone in this attitude. The immigrants as a whole were hard-working, resilient people. They devoted vast quantities of their collective energies and skills to the social and economic development of their communities, as well as to the society at large:

The building of railways could not have proceeded so swiftly without a rapidly expanding supply of free labour. The prairie lands could not have been so immediately productive had the number of farmers from Eastern Canada, the United States, and Great Britain not been greatly augmented by an agricultural population from Europe. The building of towns and villages in Western Canada under boom conditions could not have proceeded at such breakneck speed had there not been available labour to build, and agricultural population to support this expansion.²

The pioneer spirit was a tangible force in east central Alberta in the early 1900s. And revelling in this atmosphere of new-found liberty and vast potential was Kosma. He was a man of exceptional qualities - intelligent, personable, resourceful, politic, thrifty and enterprising - and he worked to contribute these talents to the community.³ His community record as Commissioner of Oaths, Victory Loan fundraiser, municipal secretary-treasurer, and Justice of the Peace speaks for itself. His many business accomplishments further trumpet his abilities. From his early role in the U.F.A. store, to his timely investment first in the Edgell Hotel, then in the Astor House Hotel, and later in other lucrative real estate holdings, Kosma demonstrated his business acumen and judicious choice of action. Nor did he restrict his faculties to the world of municipal politics and business affairs. He operated his farming enterprise with the same sharp discretion and good judgement.

Kosma transformed SE 33-59-17 from uncultivated bush land into fertile productive fields.⁴ In the process he also assisted his parents in the development and management of their land and continued to do so even after moving away from Smoky Lake. He was a man with a strong sense of family obligation and kinship, and together with Maria conducted his household as part of the greater Chernochan clan. Kosma and Teodosi worked side-by-side to expand SE 33-59-17, as did the elder and younger Maria Chernochan, and eventually Nick Odensky, Kosma's nephew.

As is elucidated in the land use discussion of Chapter II, the evolution of the Chernochan farm site progressed in tandem to that of Smoky Lake itself. We find consistence in the pattern of development of SE 33-59-17 with the progression of eras experienced by Smoky Lake. When comparing the general and specific aspects of the eras presented in the land use discussion, we find that in each case the character of SE 33-59-17 reflects the changes occurring in the town of Smoky Lake. Both bodies were subject to the same determining factors and, therefore, shared the resultant consequences. For example, the first two eras deal with the pre and early settlement periods of Smoky Lake and in the study of the Chernochan site they culminate in the initial surveying of SE 33-59-17 - an event which cleared the way for settlement of the site.

The third and fourth eras concern Smoky Lake's early growth period and boom town phase, and it is in these years that SE 33-59-17 undergoes a major transformation from virgin territory to wholly functioning farmstead. It is also in the heart of the boom period that Kosma decides to move into Smoky Lake in order to be closer to the vortex of activity. The land, in the meantime, is rented out to another family of immigrants who are able to advance themselves from the work they invest in the site.

The depression era wreaks havoc with the economy of all of Alberta and SE 33-59-17, placed first in the hands of Kosma's nephew, Nick Odensky and then rented to the Palichuks, is unprofitable for everyone in these years. Toward the end of the era, Tanasko Elaschuk decides to rent the site despite the prospect of poor gains in order to keep his large family both fed and occupied through the trying times. The Elaschuks continue to rent for a 24-year period, gradually reaping greater profits from the land. They institute a system of highly mechanized professional farming, working eight quarter sections at a time and mass-producing crops. Throughout these years Smoky Lake undergoes a period of economic recovery and renewed growth. New businesses open, social institutions are established and modern conveniences are introduced to the town.

In the last two eras the continued development of Smoky Lake leads to its elevation to town status and further consolidation of its business community and various local amenities. The Chernochan site comes under new ownership and is eventually converted into a component part of a specialized farming unit.

This brief synopsis illustrates the manner in which the land use of SE 33-59-17 was influenced by the same conditions that affected the overall development of Smoky Lake. The farmstead moved through several growth stages which resemble the framework of basic agricultural development: early homesteading, intensive grain farming, mixed farming and mass-produced farming.⁵ These stages, in turn, were the direct result of market conditions and technical advancements stemming from other external factors.

It is interesting to note how the course of Kosma's own life contrasted with the eras enumerated above. Kosma arrived in Canada during Era III, the period which witnessed "a new community" in Smoky Lake. Within this same timeframe he settled on SE 33-59-17, homesteaded, established his farmstead and began his community activities. The boom town era saw Kosma advancing his political career and gaining a firm foothold in his business enterprises. At the right moment he left Smoky Lake to manage a hotel in Hairy Hill, thereby avoiding the economic devastation which befell so many others during the Depression. In fact, his hotel and tavern business was not seriously deterred by the Depression and Kosma managed to turn a potentially adverse situation into a profitable one. His good fortune continued while he worked in Willingdon as a livestock salesman since hog sales remained high throughout the depression years. The sixth era, depicting Smoky Lake's recovery and growth, was one of lucrative investment and business success for Kosma, so that by the time of his death he had managed to accumulate a considerable amount of equity - an impressive legacy for a peasant boy from Orshivtsi.

One prominent attribute of Kosma Chernochan was that he continuously managed to stay one step ahead of his times. It was this

skill of foresight which ensured him business rewards throughout his latter life, and it was foresight that in earlier years spurred him to expand his farmstead in the manner that he did.

The machine shed in particular, stands as a testament to Kosma's innovative powers. Built in 1917, it was one of the first such structures to appear in the region, and in many respects represented the blending of new and old traditions. As we have seen, the Chernochan machine shed owed its design and construction to several elements of the Ukrainian vernacular as well as the Canadian styles of architecture. The conventions of Ukrainian folk architecture were particularly prevalent in the saddle notching (vuhli), pegged walls (tybli), stone foundations (pidlizky), fretwork (rizblennia), and other features of the shed. At the same time, the design of the machine shed conformed to a basic Canadian mode - the narrow open-side machine shed. Its shingled roof and solid wood construction were as much a function of the availability of materials as they were Canadian architectural traits.

The craftsmanship employed in erecting the shed was of high calibre, seen in the long-term structural integrity of the shed. Few repairs were made to the machine shed in the course of its 60-year history and only one notable structural alteration (described in Era VII of the structural history of the shed) was carried out. Constructed of hard spruce logs fortified by wood dowels, and secured through dovetail notching at its corners, and additional notching throughout its frame, the machine shed was built to last. To lend further protection to its body, board cladding was nailed to the outside of its north, south and west elevations. These were intended to provide additional insulation to the structure as well as to improve its appearance.

The machine shed's east elevation was supported by three timber posts, those at the north and south ends mortised to hold the tenons of the wall logs, and the centre post providing the main structural support for the upper log wall. The centre post was effectively reinforced by means of a knee brace connected to the upper log wall. The exterior of the east elevation was fashioned into two archways covered with

sheathing panels, which served a practical purpose as well as defining an aesthetically pleasing contour to the entrance of the machine shed.

The gable roof was supported by beams, rafters and ties, sheathed in boards and covered with shingles. The use of shingles at this early date was a progressive measure as it was not until the next decade that they came into wide use among Ukrainian pioneers.⁶ High grade cedar shingles were used to cover the roof in order to seal the structure and prevent leakage. The north and south gable ends of the roof were decorated with fretwork on carved fascia boards which united anatomically with the roof line of the structure.

It is clear in reviewing the design features of the Chernochan machine shed that it was constructed with as much attention devoted to aesthetic appeal as was to structural soundness. These two concerns were, in fact, effected by uniting them into one organic whole. Thus we find that the machine shed's exterior cladding, its archways and fretwork all served a functional and ornamental purpose. It is this quality which set the Chernochan machine shed apart from structures erected with only the former purpose in mind. And it is this aspect that made the most distinct statement about its builder. Additionally, the machine shed predated the appearance of similar buildings among Ukrainian pioneers. It was constructed at a time when many farmers were relying on primitive lean-to additions or roughly fashioned sheds to house farm inventory. Thus, its very existence made it an exceptional structure. Finally, the machine shed was not erected in a vacuum - it was, in essence, a synthesis of historical and contemporary circumstances. All of these factors combined to make the construction of the Chernochan machine shed a unique architectural accomplishment which, in 1917, stood as a harbinger of the future.

ENDNOTES

CHAPTER III:

Conclusion

1. John-Paul Himka, "The Background to Emigration: Ukrainians of Galicia and Bukovyna, 1848-1914," in *A Heritage in Transition*, ed. Manoly R. Lupul (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1982), p. 23.
 2. G.W. Simpson, "The Blending of Traditions in Western Canadian Settlement," in *The Canadian Historical Association*, ed. R.M. Saunders (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1944), p. 46-47.
 3. Interview with John Chernochan, Sonia Maryn, November 4, 1983.
 4. Unrecorded interview with Anne Lazaruk, Sonia Maryn, January 3, 1984.
 5. Wsevolod W. Isajiw, "Occupational and Economic Development" in *A Heritage in Transition*, ed. Manoly R. Lupul (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1982), p. 61.
- Note: The third and fourth stages of this framework were reversed in the development of the Chernochan site. That is, mixed farming (employed by the Salahubs) preceded intensive grain farming and mass-production farming (practiced by the Elashuks in subsequent eras). This reversal is probably attributable to the fact that SE 33-59-17 was farmed by a series of tenants who themselves were at various stages of economic advancement, which influenced their farming methodologies.
6. John Lehr, *Ukrainian Vernacular Architecture in Alberta*, Occasional Paper No. 1 (Edmonton: Alberta Culture Historical Resources Division, 1976), p. 21.

APPENDIX A:
Glossary of Ukrainian Terms

anglíiski zámky *

borshch

brusóvani

budivnýchyi

búky

chastokóly

dáshka

dóshka

drany'tsi

dvir

dvo-kamérna

dvoriádna zabudóva

gónty

haleréia

horód

hospódar

hospodárski budivli

hospodárstvo

khram

khvoróst

kislák

kláka

klúnia

kólo "kriika"

dovetail notching

beet soup

hewn

builder

beech trees

picket fence

storage structure built of thin walls and a roof

board

thin boards

farmyard

two-room

double-row arrangement

shingles

storage area supported by posts

garden

farmer

farm outbuildings

farmstead

feast on holy day

brushwood

sour milk

work "bee"

hay storehouse

"by the creek"

<u>komóra</u>	straw/seed storehouse
<u>koshnýtsia</u>	tools/drygoods storehouse
<u>kruhliaky</u>	round logs
<u>kúlyky</u>	sheaves tied in thatched roof
<u>kurnýk</u>	chicken coop
<u>lógy *</u>	logs
<u>lýshok</u>	external protrusion from saddle notched wall corner
<u>mała khatýna</u>	summer house
<u>nablýzheni</u>	close to the road
<u>nakryttia</u>	storage shed
<u>na podvíri</u>	"in the yard"
<u>ne rozsuvalysia</u>	"did not spread apart"
<u>odnoriadna zabudova</u>	single-row arrangement
<u>pan</u>	feudal lord
<u>panshchyna</u>	serfdom
<u>parkan</u>	plank
<u>párubok</u>	bachelor
<u>pelevnýk</u>	storage structure built of thin walls and a roof
<u>pich</u>	outdoor oven
<u>pidlízky</u>	foundation stones
<u>pidsobiika</u>	storage structure built of posts and a roof
<u>pidvalyna</u>	base beam
<u>plétennyi drit *</u>	mesh wire
<u>prychilok</u>	storage structure built of thin walls and a roof

<u>póhrib</u>	vegetable storehouse
<u>póle</u>	field
<u>povédo</u>	berry jam
<u>povítka</u>	storage shed
<u>prychýny</u>	storage area built between buildings
<u>prytúla</u>	lean-to
<u>prýzba</u>	platform surrounding house
<u>réily *</u>	rails
<u>remanént</u>	farm inventory
<u>rízani</u>	cut
<u>rízblennia po dérevi</u>	wood carving
<u>shípka</u>	machine shed
<u>shlábsy na shtords *</u>	picket fence
<u>shópa</u>	machine shed
<u>shpaigy *</u>	dowels
<u>síny</u>	centre vestibule
<u>skhódnyky</u>	tiers in thatched roof
<u>skinchýv hramátyku</u>	"completed grammar school"
<u>slúpy</u>	posts
<u>solóma</u>	hay
<u>spódnyi</u>	base beam
<u>sprovádyty</u>	"to sponsor an emigrant"
<u>striikha</u>	eave
<u>svérdla</u>	auger

tivkýtolókatrétyi bushel *tsviakhytsvychkýtyblividdálēnivilná zabudóvavizvoreńniavozóvniavúhlyvynoszámkyzarúbanyiZelēni Sviatazemliana"Г" podibna zabudóva"П" podibna zabudóva

dowels

work "bee"

"third bushel"

nails

small nails

dowels

deep set into the farmyard

free arrangement

wagon

picket fence

wagon shed

saddle notched wall corners

storage structure built of posts
and a roof

dovetail notched wall corners

notched

Whitsuntide

earthen

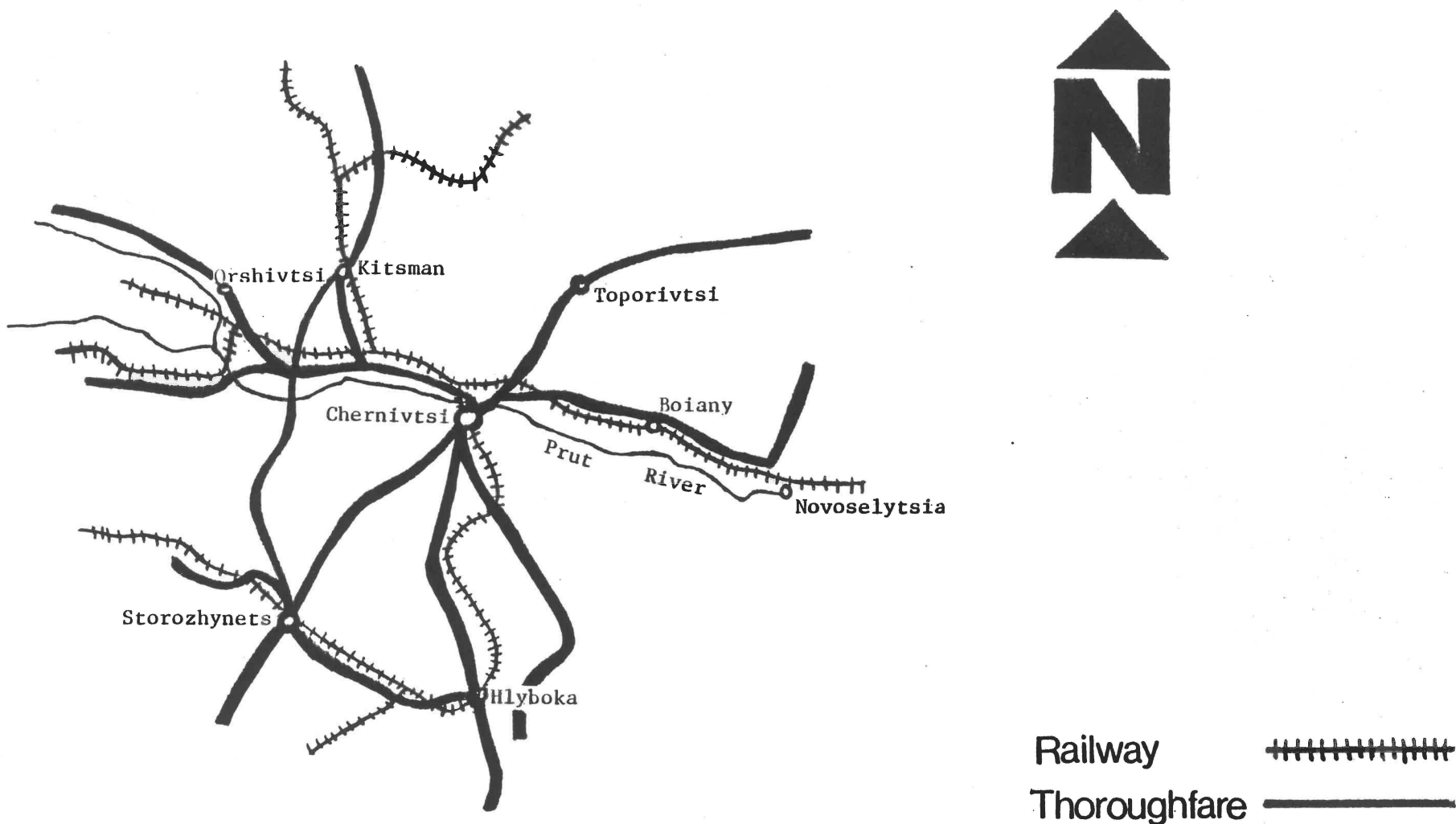
letter "Г" arrangement

letter "П" arrangement

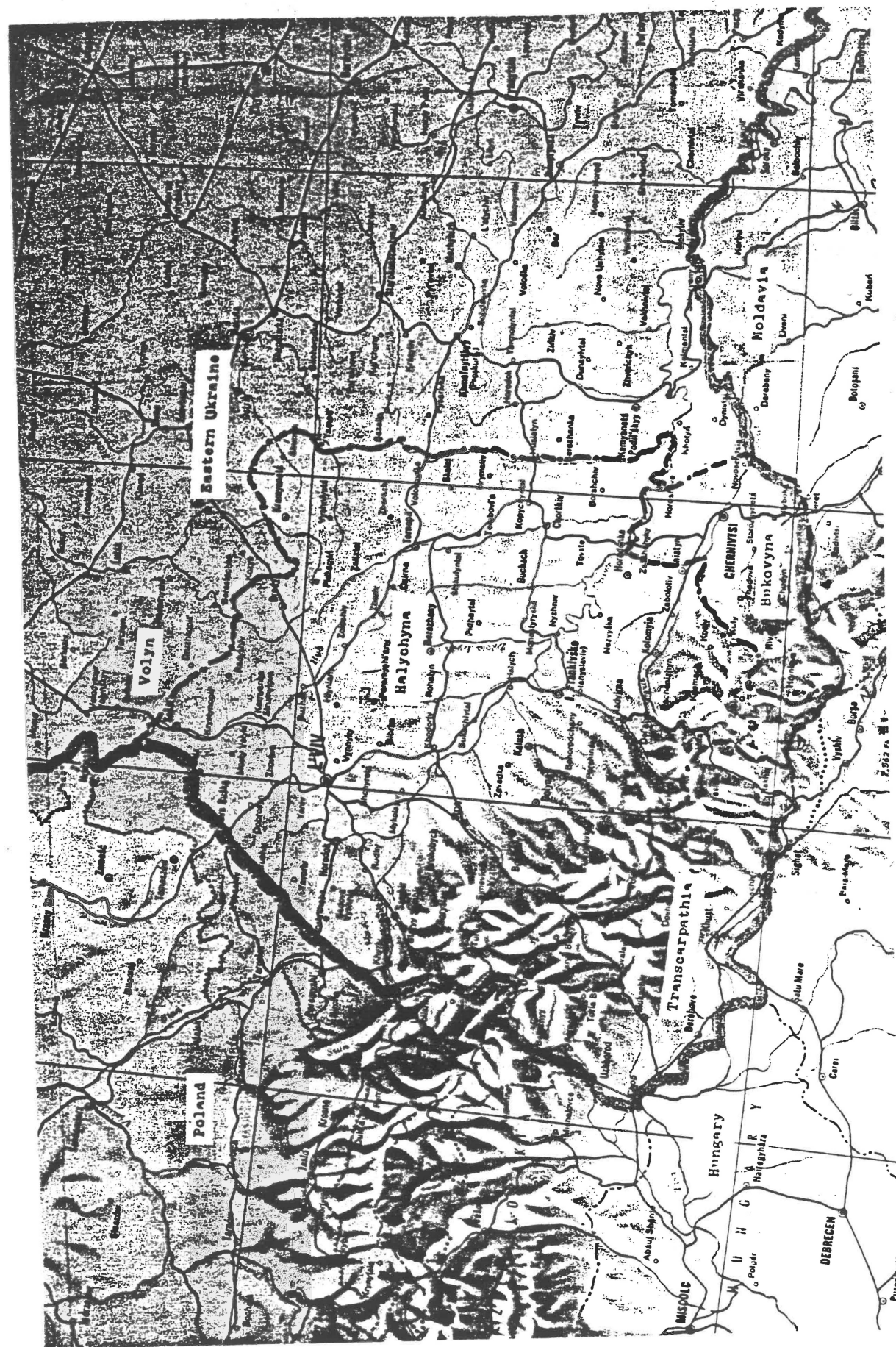
* denotes dialectal terms
indigenous to east central
Alberta

APPENDIX B:

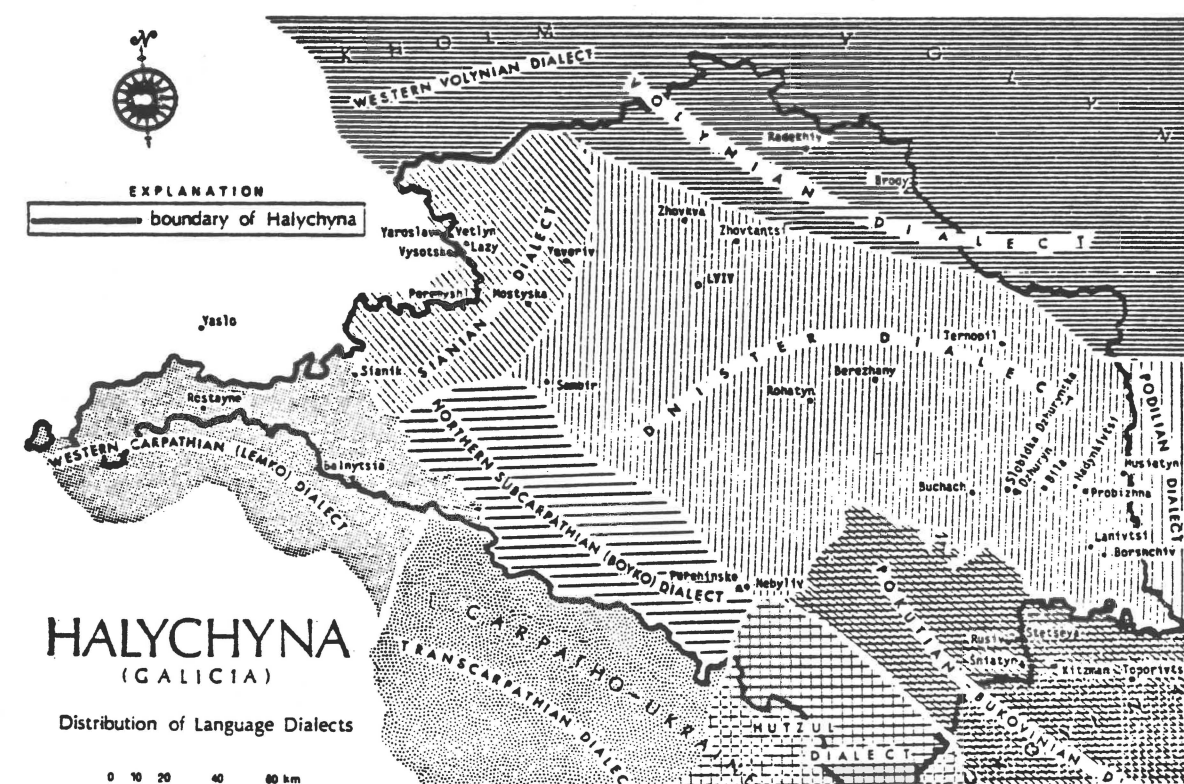
Maps



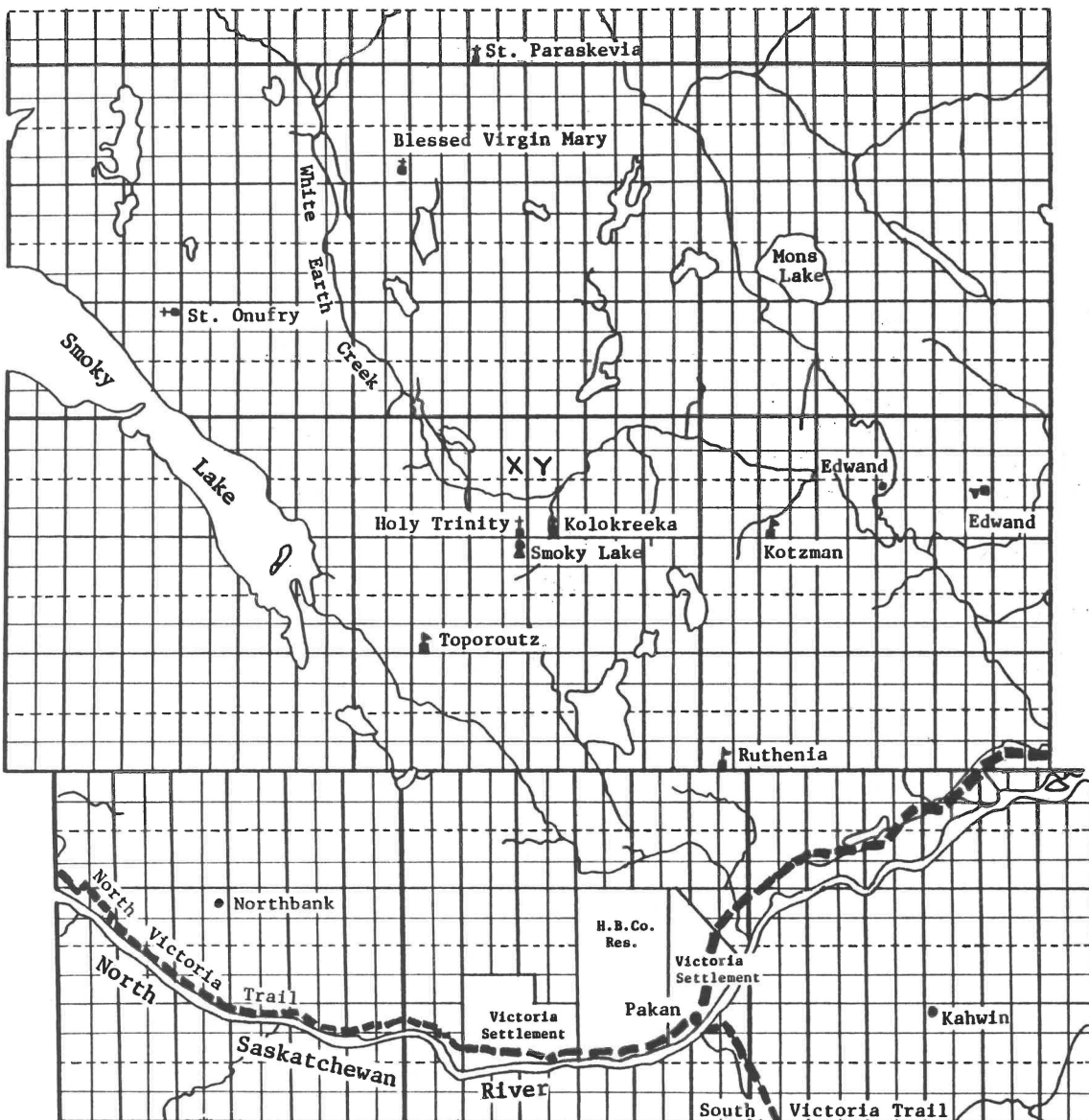
Map 1: Map of Bukovyna, circa 1905. (Sources: Stielers Hand-Atlas. Gotha: Justus Perthes, 1905 and Kurylo, Chernivetska Oblast), p. 422.



Map 2: Map of regions in Western Ukraine. (Source: Ukrainian Pioneers' Association of Alberta, Ukrainians in Alberta. Edmonton: Ukrainian News Publishers, 1975), p. 18.

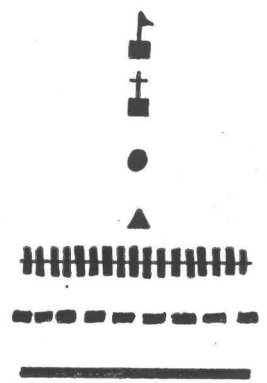


Map 3: Map of Galicia (Halychyna) adjoining Bukovina. Top shows administrative divisions, circa 1900. Bottom shows dialectal divisions. (Source: Sonia Maryn, "Chernochan Machine Shed: Land Use and Structural History." Alberta Culture, Historic Sites Service, December 1983.)

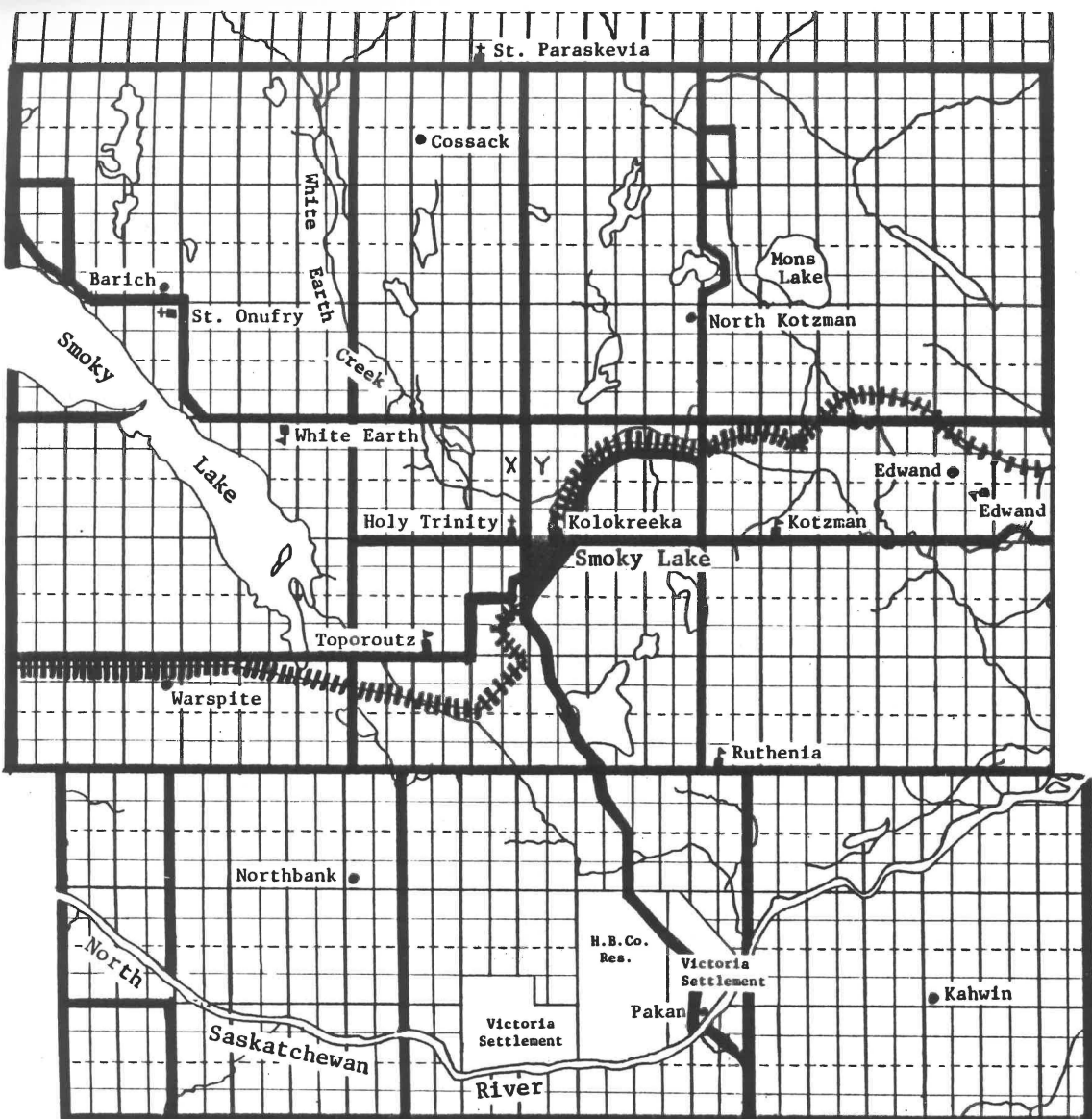


*Note: As early as 1909 (the year of the consecration of Holy Trinity Church and the establishment of the Toporoutz School), the Smoky Lake region encompassed a functioning, viable community, which was known locally as Toporoutz. Kosma's land - SE 33-59-17 ("X"), and that of his father - SW 34-59-17 ("Y"), was located directly north of the Smoky Lake townsite.

School
Church
Post Office
Store
Railway
Trail
Thoroughfare

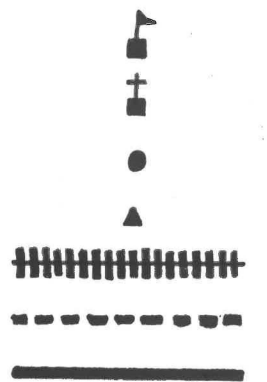


Map 4: Map of pre-railway Smoky Lake region, circa 1915*. (Sources: Map Collection, University of Alberta, Western Canada Series, Alberta Victoria Sheet, 1915; John Borch, "Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, Smoky Lake, Alberta;" Waskatenau School, *A Century in Progress*; Goresky, *Ukrainians in Alberta*; and Unrecorded Interview with Stefan Stogrin, November 15, 1983.) (Drawing by John Stanko.)



*Note: By 1929, Kosma owned both SE 33-59-17 ("X") and SW 34-59-17 ("Y").

School
Church
Post Office
Store
Railway
Trail
Thoroughfare



Map 5: Map of post-railway Smoky Lake region, circa 1929*. (Sources: Map Collection, University of Alberta, Western Canada Series, Victoria, No. 365, 1929; John Borch, "Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, Smoky Lake, Alberta;" Waskatenau School, *A Century in Progress*; Goresky, *Ukrainians in Alberta*; Hotslander, *School Districts of Alberta*; and Unrecorded Interview with Stefan Stogrin, November 15, 1983.) (Drawing by John Stanko.)

APPENDIX C:

Miscellaneous Materials Concerning Kosma Chernochan 1910-1926

FORM A

BRITISH



COLUMBIA

No. 214

CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY.

COAL MINES REGULATION ACT.

This Certificate of Competency, granted under the provisions of the
"Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Act, 1901," entitles the holder thereof
Gravford Oymnichan, of Hosmer P.O.
to follow the occupation of Coal Miner in any coal mine in the Province of British
Columbia.

Granted, after examination, by the Board of Examiners of the

Hosmer Mine, this 4th day of February, A.D. 1900

By authority of the Board.

John P. Rie

Secretary.



THE GAZETTE

L. 1, No. 6

LAMONT, ALBERTA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1918

\$1.00 a Year in

Lies Within
10 Miles of Ghent

LONDON, Oct. 21.—Allied forces in Belgium are within ten miles of Ghent, according to the official statement on operations there issued by the war office yesterday night. The statement reads: "The advance of the army groups in Flanders, under command of King Albert, continued throughout the day. After vainly trying to arrest our progress towards the western bank of the Lys, along the Deinze-Eecloo canal and near the Dutch frontier, the Germans have been forced to withdraw over the whole front."

The Belgian army has established itself along the canal. Its left flank is on the Dutch frontier and the army has occupied the important centres of Aelst, Adegheem, Bellu, and Ursel, about ten miles west of Ghent.

French forces have thrown the enemy rearguards back over the Lys and, notwithstanding floods brought about by the Germans, have crossed the river and established bridgeheads. One of these is between Gramme and Peteghem, and another is east of Oughehem.

The second British army in spite of strong resistance and difficulties arising from counter-attack, has crossed the Lys along its front and advanced on its flank to the western outskirts of

Pakan

Nik Koshelek paid a business visit to Lamont on Tuesday.

N. A. F. Iburn of Edmonton, the divisional chairman for the Victory loan paid a visit last week to Pakan and Smoky Lake. At each of these points he appointed enthusiastic and optimistic gentlemen, chairmen for the duration of the campaign. At Pakan Mr. Mitchell was appointed, he has undertaken his work very willing with the evident intention of making it go. For Smoky Lake District including townships 59 and 17 and the balance of Rural Municipal District No. 576, Kosma Chernochan will act chairman. Mr. Chernochan too has undertaken his work with commendable zeal.

Andrew

Threshing is progressing fine in our district, some of the farmers reported that they threshed as high as fifty bushels to the acre.

Thursday, Oct. 17th, Mr. Nicholas Swabl, one of our busy farmers, and Sarah Letchuk, one of the fair sex from this district, were united in the bonds of holy matrimony. They sure gave us two swell nights of dancing. Who's next?

Const. Weder arrived from the wild north west, Thursday night. Where does Const. live?

Const. McWilliams left Andrew for

CHIPMAN

J. SAPANA, Agent and Correspondent

Are you ready for the Victory Loan campaign?

Mrs. McLennan, accompanied by her daughter, Pearl, of the Standard bank staff, Lamont, spent Thanksgiving week in Edmonton.

Mrs. Theresa Bellin was in Edmonton last week receiving attention for her eyes by Dr. Norman Allan.

Painter & Brown were successful in disposing of two more tractors. Business is looking good.

Mrs. E. Auld was the guest of Edmonton friends last week.

Messrs. Romeril, Gordon Hains and McLean were delegates from Chipman to Victory Loan Convention at Edmonton last Saturday. Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance, was the principal speaker.

The R. O. Circle met last week at the Misses Bettina. The members agreed to send Christmas boxes to the boys at the front, and the Misses Wiltzen, Addison, Salter and Bellin were appointed to secure funds from those living in the country, and Miss Page for the village. The next meeting will be held at Mrs. J. Painter's.

The auction sale at Buchanan's was well attended, but only farm implements and household goods were disposed of, as it has been said the bidding on the cattle was very low.

Lamont

Mrs. J. Newhouse and Jack Newhouse are patients in the Hospital.

Mrs. Joneson of Sollman and little granddaughter are visitors in Lamont.

P. J. Rowe of the Standard Bank at Mundare is a patient at the Lamont Hospital.

Miss Gladys Holmes has returned home from the University owing to the "flu" scare.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Menzies have returned to Lamont after a vacation of several weeks.

Miss Ferguson of the Methodist Mission at Wahstao is a patient in the Lamont Hospital.

Miss Bertha McCallum of Beaver Lake is spending a few weeks with friends in Lamont.

Dr. Allin and Mr. Rogers with Master Erdley and Miss Lella Allin were in Lamont on Sunday.

Miss Shaw of Vegreville visited her sister, Mrs. Newhouse, last week, returning home on Saturday.

Mrs. Nick Swan, who has been in town for several weeks, returned to her home in Warwick on Wednesday.

Miss Mary Billbrook has gone to Elk Island Park to attend school. She is staying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Coxford.

The Board of Health has closed churches, and stopped all public gatherings in view of a possibility of influenza.

Germany Assailed
by Otto H.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—Otto H. Kahn, financier, in an appeal today to Americans of German descent, referred to the large percentage of German names in the American casualty lists, importuned "strain every nerve to equal our fellow-citizens of native birth."

After bitterly assailing the dishonoring all children of the land, Mr. Kahn declared: "This may be the last continued," for some of us an adequate place in the book of honor of Liberty Lovers. These pages will set a perpetual record as eloquent as lists."

"We men of German descent special reckoning to make ism," said Mr. Kahn. "The world has been wronged by Prussianized Germany, wronged and hurt before, but inheritance has been by imperious hands and flung gutter. Our blood has been We have been bitterly shamed and kin. Our names down to us from our fathers defiled."

"Professions of loyalty concluded Mr. Kahn. "But shall be judged. Let each of us do his part to his

The Deputy Attorney General
Dear Sir

Smoky Lake Alta
June 15 1919

Re your letter of June 11th.

I thank you for your letter and beg to say that I
am a British subject by naturalization.

My naturalization certificate is dated 8 day of Nov 1912.
I obtained an appointment as Commissioner for Oaths
on 18th Sept 1916.

I would be glad to get the appointment as
Justice of the Peace.

Yours truly

Wosma Chernochan

COMINS. BRANCH
ATTORNEY GENERAL
O.C. 1084/19

Approved and Ordered,

(SIGNED) R. G. BREIL

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Edmonton, Tuesday, June 24th, 1919

Upon the recommendation of the Hon.

the Attorney General, dated June 20th, 1919, the

Executive Council advises, under the provisions of

"An Act Respecting Police Magistrates and Justices

of the Peace", in that behalf, that the following

persons be and they are hereby appointed Justices

of the Peace in and for the Province of Alberta:-

Elmore E. Daugherty	Richdale	Alberta
Osmer E. Nurdock	Heckhorn	Alberta
Daniel E. Kennedy	Victoria	Alberta
Charles Carnegie	Beauregard	Alberta
Arthur G. Bond	Beauregard	Alberta
Wosma Chernochan	Smoky Lake	Alberta

(SIGNED) CHAS. STEWART

CHAIRMAN

CANADA
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA


R. G. Brett
Lieutenant Governor.

By His Honour ROBERT GEORGE BRETT

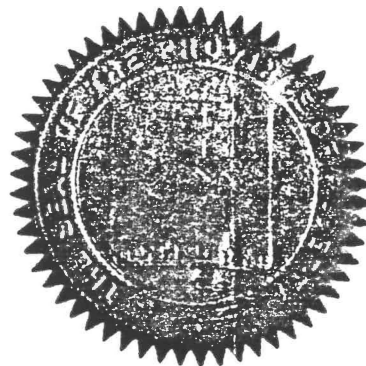
To all to whom these Presents shall come or whom the same may concern—GREETING:

Know ye that having confidence in the loyalty, integrity and ability of *Kosma Chernochan* of *Smoky Lake* in the Province of Alberta, I, under and by virtue of the powers in that behalf vested in me, have appointed and do hereby appoint him the said *Kosma Chernochan* a Justice of the Peace in and for the Province of Alberta, with all and every the powers, authority, privileges and advantages to the office of Justice of the Peace by right and by law appertaining.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Province at Government House,
Edmonton, this *Twenty-fourth* day of *June*
A.D. *1919* and in the *Tenth* year of His Majesty's Reign.

BY COMMAND

E. M. Milne
Deputy Provincial Secretary.



150
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SMOKY LAKE No. 576

KOSMA CHERNOCHAN, SECRETARY-TREASURER

SMOKY LAKE, ALBERTA

Sept 12th 1919

Mr Fanley
Inspector
Dept. Attorney General

Dear Sir

Will you be good enough Mr Fanley
see if I was sending any J.P. Supplies
for me as I have not yet received any
Books or Supplies of any kind for doing the work
of J.P. since my appointment which took
a place 15th day of June 1919.
I would like to have a Collection of Forms
and Copies of the Criminal Code and Public Statutes
and N.W.T. Ordinance Alberta Office Consolidation.

Yours very truly

Kosma Chernochan

RETURN OF JUSTICE OF THE PEACE to Attorney-General's Dept. for month of September 1920

I, the undersigned Justice of the Peace, do certify the following information of proceedings during the above month, in which I took part as such Justice, to be true and correct.

Place of Hearing	Date	Name of Prosecutor or Informant	Name of Accused or Respondent in full	Age	Sex	Married, Single or Widowed	Religion	Residence	Occupation	Charge or Matter	Sec. and Sub-Sec. of Act or Ordinance Proceeded on	Adjudication or Commital
Smokey Run	8-24-22	John J. Leblone	Ella Watkins			Mrs.		Smokey Run	Farmer	Please to send to State Sec. 9.		
"	4-23-22	Benny Guck	Andrew Wolianovsky			No		Woburn	"	Unlawfully Let Woman and Boy	372	
"	9-25-22	Mr. E. Budanan	Nick Lubchak		m	No		Smokey Run	"	Interesting condition	770-1916	
"	9-25-22	Mr. E. Budanan	John Harasim		m	No		"	"	"	77-1916	
"	9-26-22	Mr. E. Budanan	The Tressly shore		m	No		"	"	"	28-1916	
"	9-26-22	Mr. E. Budanan	John Annanick		m	No		"	"	"	28-1916	
"	9-26-22	Mr. E. Budanan	Mike Petrusk		m	No		"	"	"	24-1916	
"	9-28-22	Mr. E. Budanan	Frank Karkushy		f	No		"	"	(operate a tractor on public highways at night)		
"	9-30-22	Sofia Petrusk	Toni Petrusk		f	No		"	Former	(with out having tabs - Eight in last line W. & S. Exp.) undoubtedly amiable - 291.c.e		

Dated at

at no time have been had during the above month, this form should be marked NIL and forwarded to the Attorney-General's Dept.

1920.

J.P.

About three years ago we work together
and we made about \$400⁰⁰ then I went
to the Store and I bought everything what
we need for the house and then we saving
for the Sables. I was short \$150⁰⁰ and
and loan it from A. Purner. I could not
say when did I bought the house for my family
My neighbors give me trouble with my fence and
cattle then children and wife. I did not
sell no cattle no grain for two years
and I have no money to give my wife.
I have 27 head cattle 3 hogs. and chickens
I did not buy anything for my family and
until my wife give to me she after go to work.
all at my wife said is all true and some
words not. I was married with my wife in the old country
N. B. Husnack

With Respect

1 Emma Chenecker J. P.



RECEIVED
FEB 1 1924

6462

Statement, Form A (Magistrates Act)

CANADA
Province of Alberta

Smoky Lake
February 9th 1924

Sir,—
I enclose herewith the sum of \$ Ten being the amount
of the penalty collected on the second day of
Feb 1924 from Peter Yacinski
Smoky Lake Alberta
upon the information of John Stogren of Smoky Lake
imposed by Noema Chernosky
at Smoky Lake on the Tenth
day of February 1924, on conviction for
locking at the entrance of the said Hall and
abusing Marylena Stogren by using insulting language
directed against said Marylena Stogren
contrary to the provisions of Clause 238
of Sub E. of Criminal Code

I also certify that costs to the amount of \$ 16.75
were imposed upon the defendant as follows:

Here give
details of the
costs imposed

A. C. 200
arrest 15.0
Interpreter 25.0
J.P. 325
Witness 6.00
Mails 15.0
167.5

Your obedient servant,

Noema Chernosky J.P.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
EDMONTON

N.B.—If informant is entitled to a moiety of the fine and the same has been paid to him, his receipt must accompany this statement. Cheques should be made payable to "THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, EDMONTON," and should be marked by the Bank on which they are drawn.

Return by Justice of the Peace to Attorney General A.D. 1924.

1906, Cap 13, Sec. 10

I, the undersigned, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the Province of Alberta, do certify the following to be a true and correct return of all proceedings heretofore had in which I took part as such Justice and not included in any previous return made by me to the Attorney General of the said Province.

Name of Prosecutor or Informant	Name of Accused or Respondent	Nature of charge or matter	Act, Ordinance or By-law proceeded on	Date of hearing	Adjudication; and sentence, if any; and date	Amount of costs imposed	Date of payment to Justice and costs	To whom penalty paid by Justice	Date of payment by Justice	Remarks, if any (When two justices adjudicate, name of second justice to be given here)
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>George Gordon</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>13. law</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>15.75</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>Smoky Lake Village</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Charles Gordon</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>8 1-3-23</u>		<u>7.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>John Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>15 1-3-23</u>		<u>2.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Peter Moogewill</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>8 1-3-23</u>		<u>10.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>John Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>8 1-3-23</u>		<u>10.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>John Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>8.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Frank C. Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>18.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>Wm. E. Brinkman</u>	<u>Wm. E. Brinkman</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>13. law</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>28.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>Attorney General</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Alfred Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>13. law</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>10.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>Smoky Lake Village</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Alfred Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>12.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Alfred Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>12.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		
<u>E. S. Orndorff</u>	<u>Alfred Stogren</u>	<u>act</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>16 1-3-23</u>		<u>12.50</u>	<u>1-3-23</u>	<u>"</u>		

Done at Smoky Lake this 31st day of February 1924. A.D. 1924.

Noema Chernosky J.P.

Under the provisions of Section 10 of An Act respecting Magistrates and Justices of the Peace this return is required to be filled in, signed and forwarded to the Attorney General at Edmonton, half yearly, immediately on the 1st and 31st of each month, and must contain a report of all proceedings resulting in conviction (including matters in which fines imposed have already been transmitted with statements, to the Attorney General) and also of every other nature whatsoever commenced, tried, heard, revised or adjudicated upon by the Justice (either alone or associated with one or more other Justices or Justices) and proceedings which have not been included in some previous return. If no proceedings have been had during the period covered by the Return, and no proceedings remain unreported, the form should be marked "Nil," signed and forwarded to the Attorney General.

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H. Interviews and Field Notes

Harry Bala

- i) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, November 14, 1983.

Justyna Bala

- i) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, November 14, 1983.

Dr. Marvin Bala

- i) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, November 27, 1983.
- ii) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, December 20, 1983.

Donald Chernochan

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 3, 1983.

John Chernochan

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 4, 1983.
- ii) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, November 4, 1983.

George Elaschuk

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
- ii) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
- iii) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, December 10, 1983.
- iv) interview by Sonia Maryn, December 21, 1983.

John Elaschuk

- i) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, October 28, 1983.
- ii) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
- iii) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, November 29, 1983.

Anne Lazaruk

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, October 26, 1983.
- ii) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, October 27, 1983.
- iii) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, November 30, 1983.
- iv) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, January 3, 1984.

Evdokhia Melnychuk

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 29, 1983.

Kay Odensky

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 2, 1983.
- ii) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.
- iii) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, January 2, 1984.

Joe and Bertha Palichuk

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 16, 1983.

Bill and Mary Ratsoy

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.

Brent Riley

- i) field note from a telephone discussion with Sonia Maryn, December 9, 1983.

Gregorii and Domka Romanchuk

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 4, 1983.
- ii) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, December 3, 1983.

George Salahub

- i) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, November 30, 1983.

Nick Salahub

- i) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, November 30, 1983.

Peter Salahub

- i) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 1, 1983.
- ii) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 21, 1983.

Stefan Stogrin

- i) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, October 28, 1983.
- ii) interview by Sonia Maryn, November 15, 1983.
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Arthur and Sophia Tilma

- i) unrecorded interview by Sonia Maryn, November 29, 1983.

Basil and Antonia Zailo

- i) telephone interview by Sonia Maryn, November 17, 1983.
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