Home Publishing
your
Family Genealogy

Print and DVD Publication
Experiences of
Peter and Brian Cassidy

Peter Cassidy pcassidy@cassidys.ca

Brian Cassidy bpc@unb.ca

www.cassidys.ca

May 2008

Genealogy Publishing

- Methods
  - Text (printed book)
  - Internet (web)
  - Multimedia (DVD and CD etc)
- All three are needed for effective publishing
- All can be done at home (we have done them all)
- Each has it's own set of costs, advantages, disadvantages and challenges
- This presentation covers only text and multimedia

Previous Publications

- 1949 Green Book – our inspiration
- Title – The Cassidy Family History
- No ISBN – book unregistered
- Format 6 x 9
- 18 families and 98 individuals
- Oldest Date 1797 (birth of William Cassidy in Ireland)
- Publication coincided with renovation and dedication of Francis Edward Cassidy Memorial Church in 1949
- Project of several children of Francis Edward Cassidy
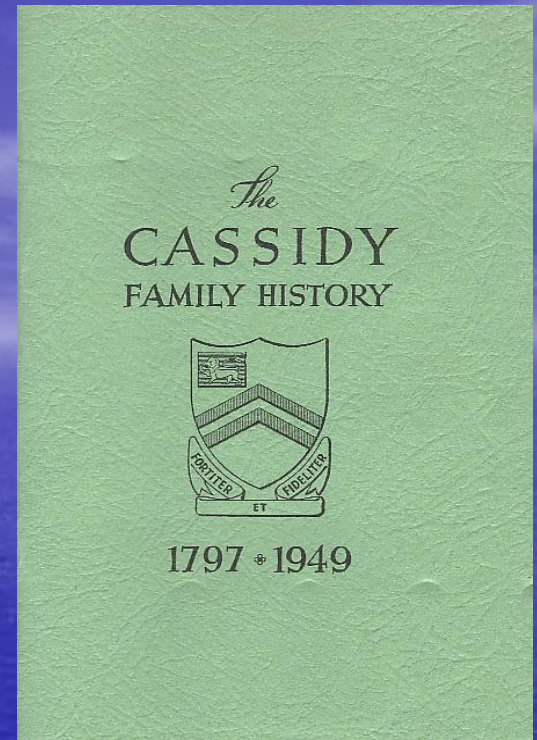
Second Edition - 1985

- 1980 – Begin research
- 1985 - Our first publication
- ISBN 0-9692351-0-0
- Format 8-1/2 x 11
- 118 families
- Commercially printed
  - 100 copies
  - Black and White only
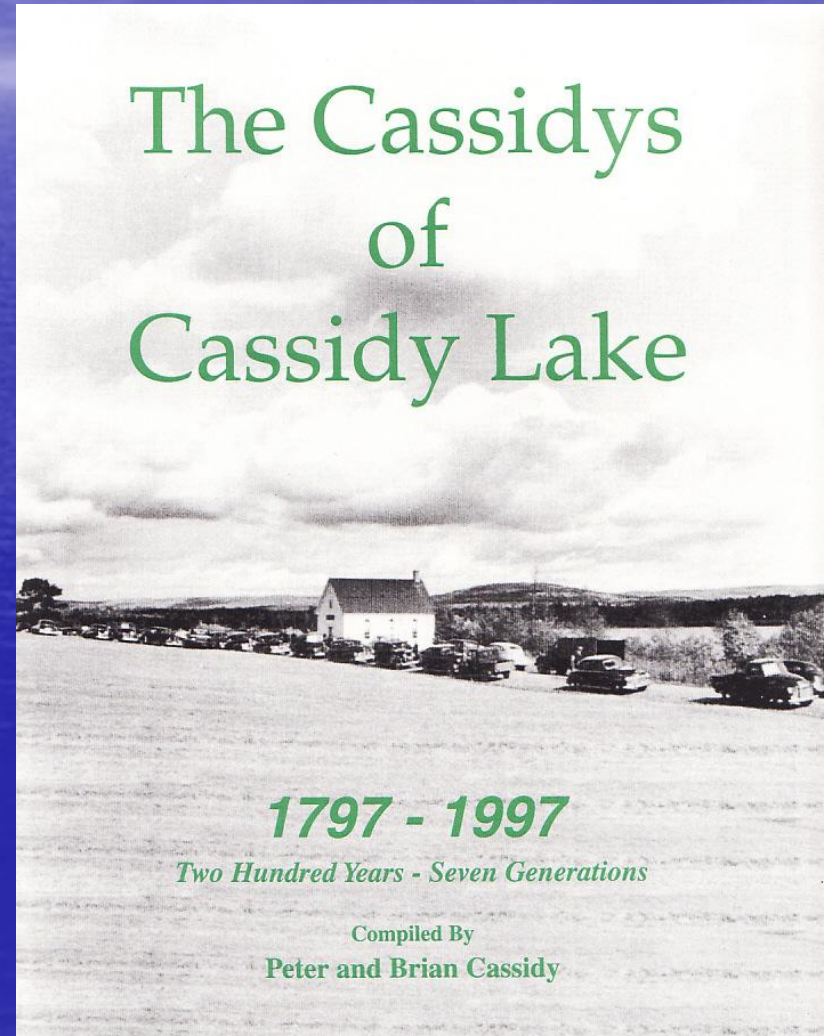 - Grayscale photos

The Cassidy Family History

1797-1985
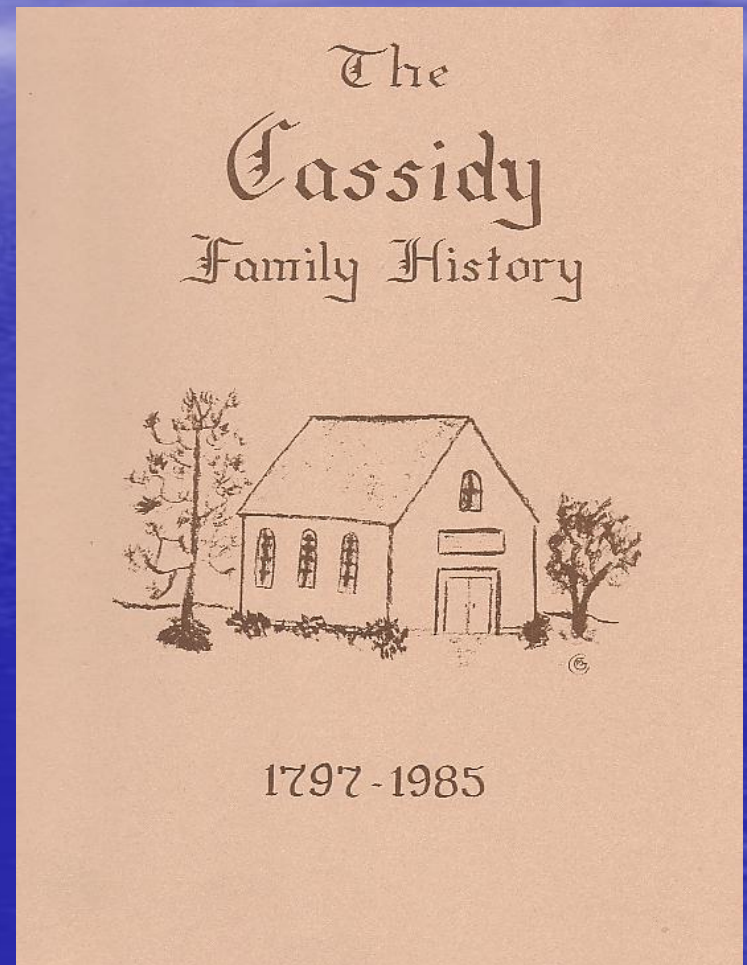
Third Edition - 1990

- ISBN 0-9692351-1-9
- Format 8-1/2 x 11
- 163 families
- New Title
  – The Cassidys of Cassidy Lake
- Commercially Printed

THE CASSIDYS
of
CASSIDY LAKE

A History - Third Edition
1797 - 1990

by
Peter and Brian Cassidy
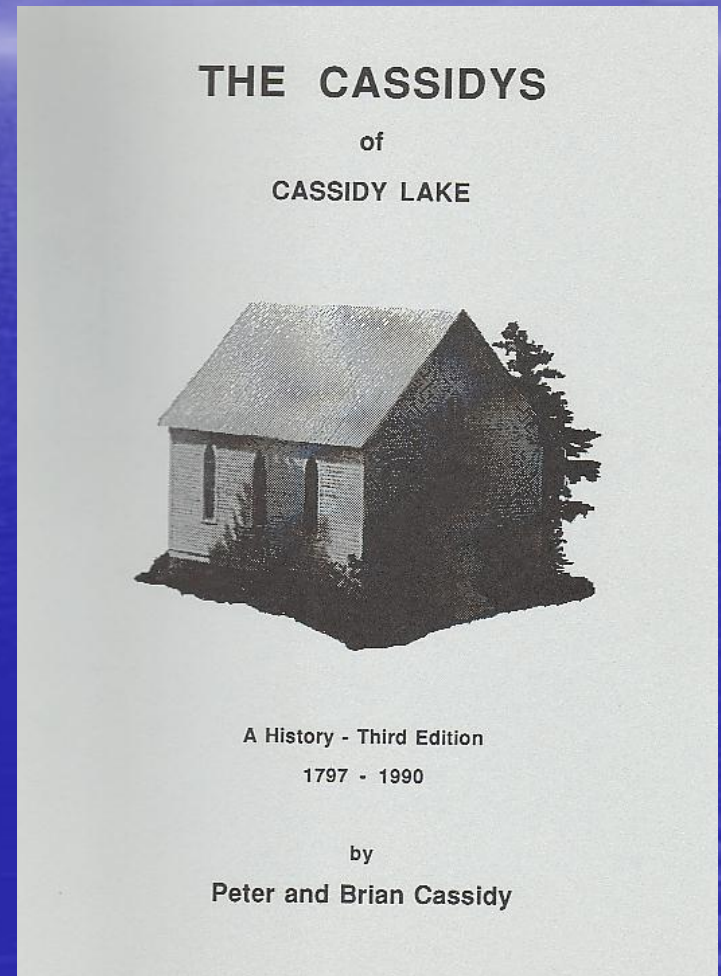
Fourth Edition - 1997

- 200 year milestone
- ISBN 0-9692351-2-7
- Format 7-1/2 x 9-1/4
- 185 families
- Full colour printing
- Home published
  - Adobe PageMaker
  - Colour Laser
  - Print run 10 books

The Cassidys
of
Cassidy Lake

1797 - 1997

Two Hundred Years - Seven Generations

Compiled By
Peter and Brian Cassidy

Fourth Edition Revisions

- First Revision - 1998
  - 200 families
- Second Revision – 2000
  - 238 families
  - Oldest date 1762
  - Subtitle change
- Third Revision – 2002
  - 272 families
  - Book getting too big

The Cassidys of Cassidy Lake

History and Genealogy from 1762

Compiled By Peter and Brian Cassidy
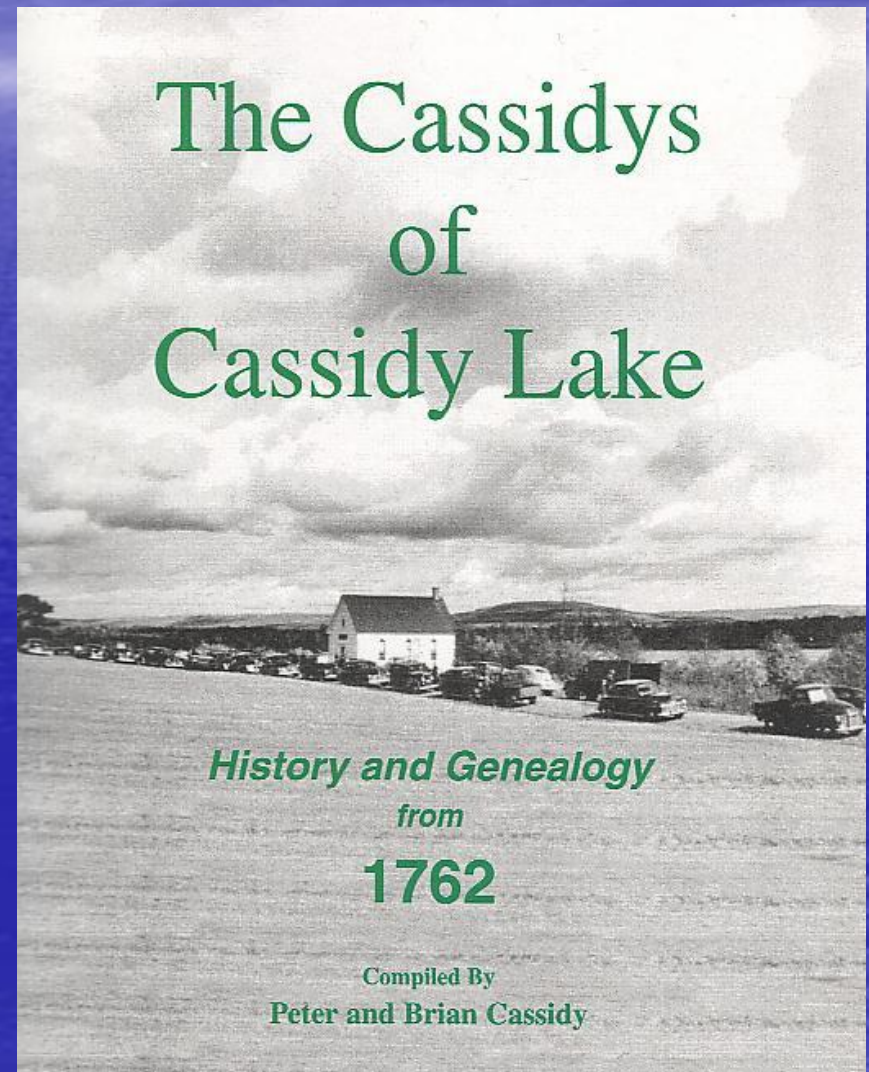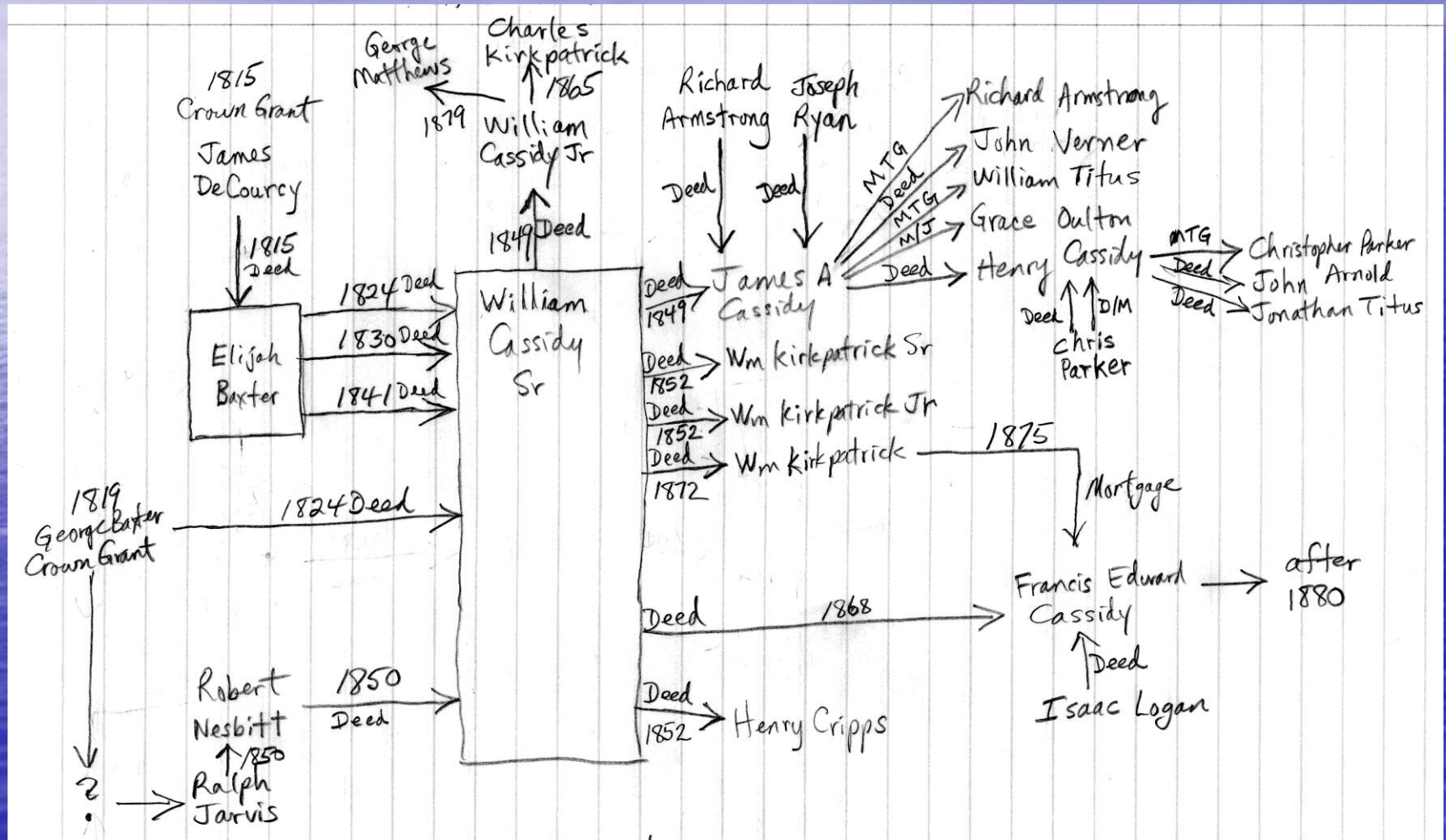
Fifth Edition - 2004

- ISBN 978-0-9692351-4-9
- Produced with Microsoft Publisher
- Multi-volume layout
- First volume
  - Intro, Roots, Cassidy Lake info etc
- Other volumes
  - children of William Cassidy
- About 300 families and 1000 individuals
- Too big!
- Too many versions of family records and their associated index (FTM, Book, Web)

The Cassidys of Cassidy Lake

History and Genealogy

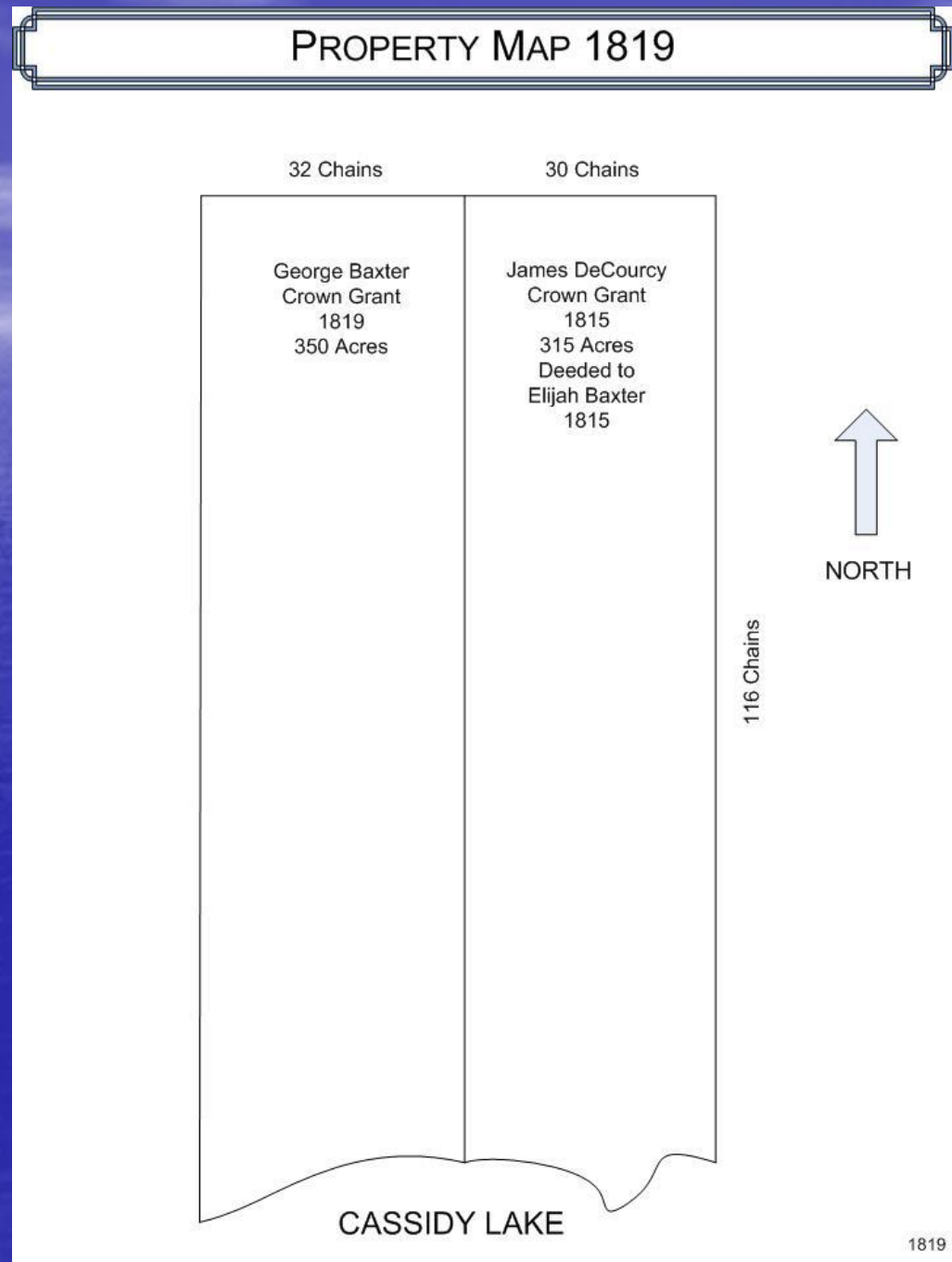Compiled By
Peter and Brian Cassidy
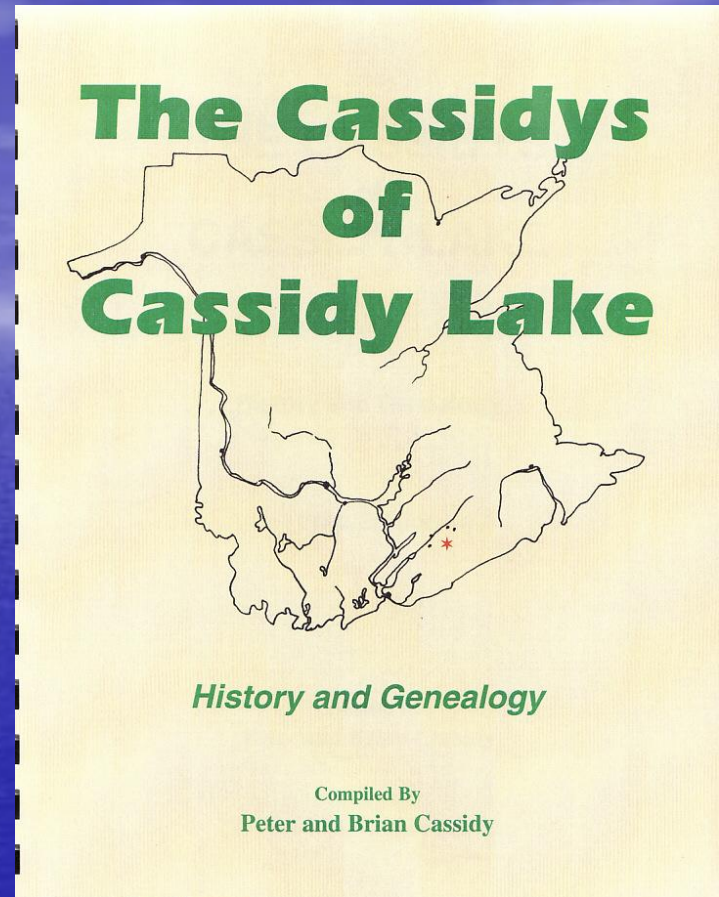
New Game Plan - 2005

- Time for a new book and new title
- Focus on Irish roots, life at Cassidy Lake, significant family members and migration to other parts of North America
- Similar to first volume of 5th edition
- Remove family data (web site only)
  - Just *one* version of family record data to maintain (in Family Tree Maker)
  - Family record index generated from FTM for book and website
- Incorporate more research on Cassidy Lake property

Cassidy Lake Land Transactions 1815 to 1880
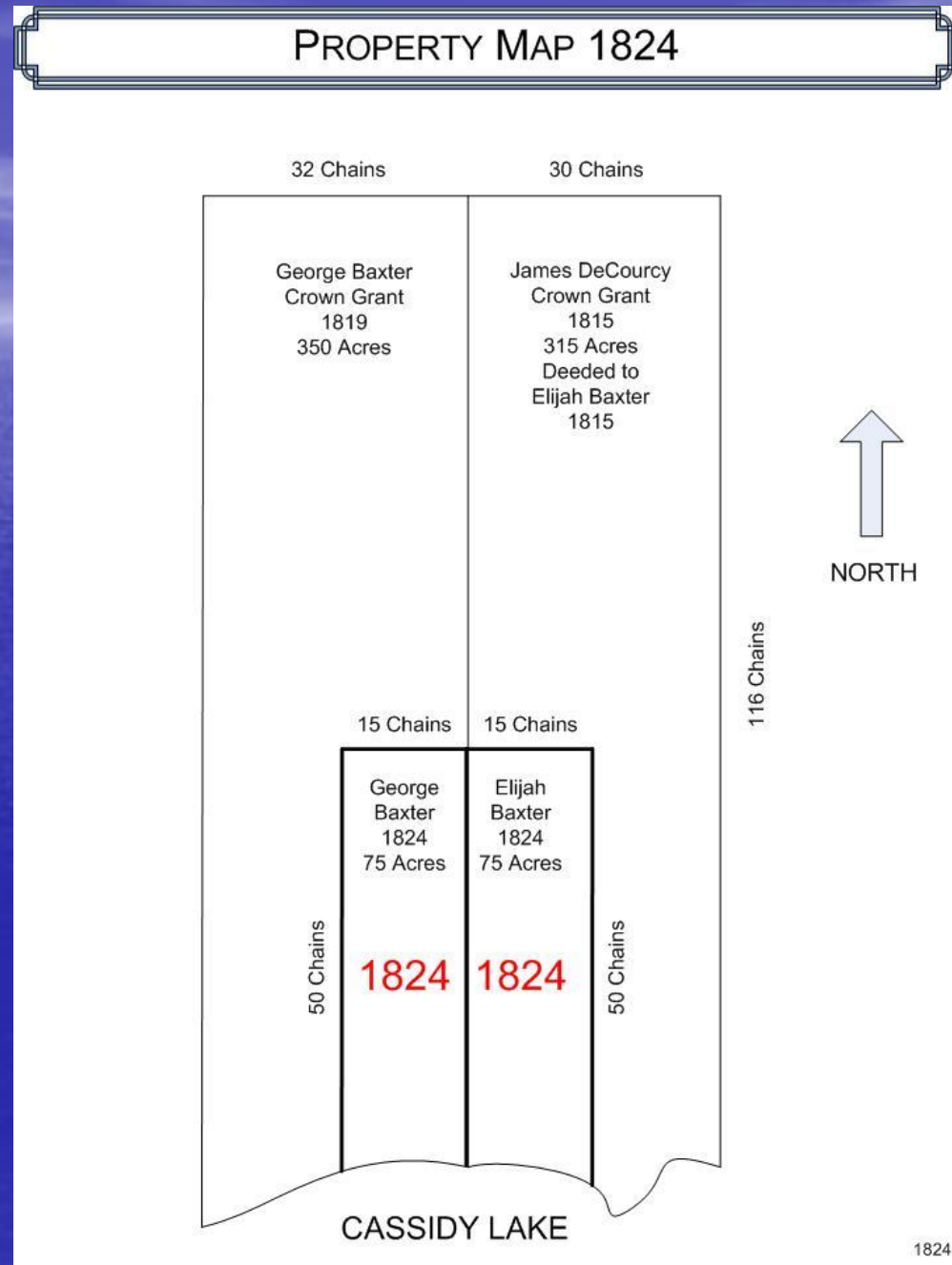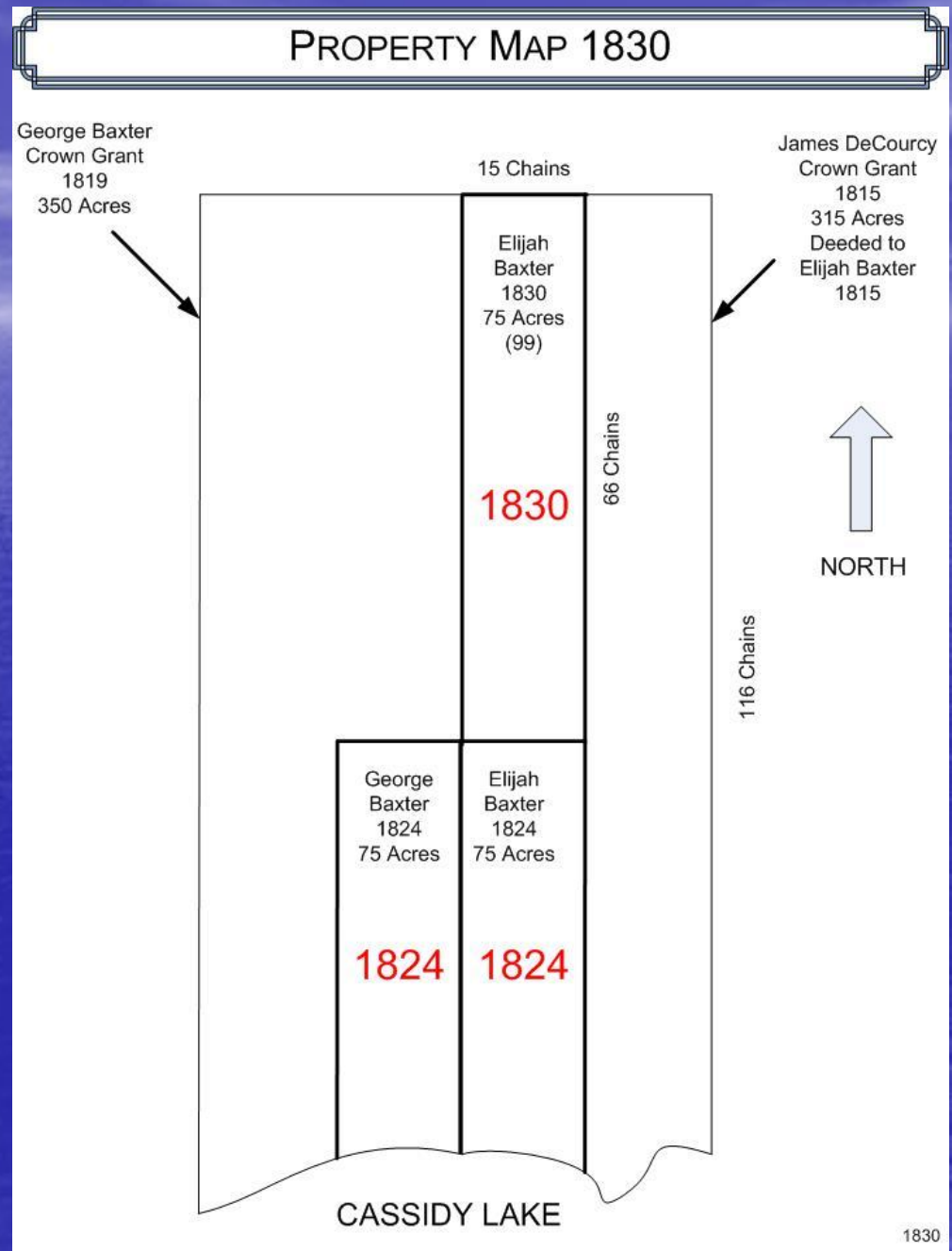
Cassidy Lake Property Maps

PROPERTY MAP 1819

32 Chains

30 Chains

George Baxter
Crown Grant
1819
350 Acres

James DeCourcy
Crown Grant
1815
315 Acres
Deeded to
Elijah Baxter
1815

NORTH

116 Chains

CASSIDY LAKE

1819

Cassidy Lake Property Maps

PROPERTY MAP 1824

32 Chains   30 Chains

George Baxter
Crown Grant
1819
350 Acres

James DeCourcy
Crown Grant
1815
315 Acres
Deeded to
Elijah Baxter
1815

NORTH

116 Chains

15 Chains   15 Chains

George
Baxter
1824
75 Acres

Elijah
Baxter
1824
75 Acres

50 Chains

1824   1824

50 Chains

CASSIDY LAKE

1824

Cassidy Lake Property Maps

PROPERTY MAP 1830

George Baxter
Crown Grant
1819
350 Acres

James DeCourcy
Crown Grant
1815
315 Acres
Deeded to
Elijah Baxter
1815

15 Chains

Elijah
Baxter
1830
75 Acres
(99)

1830

66 Chains

116 Chains

NORTH

George
Baxter
1824
75 Acres

Elijah
Baxter
1824
75 Acres

1824   1824

CASSIDY LAKE

1830

Cassidy Lake Property Maps
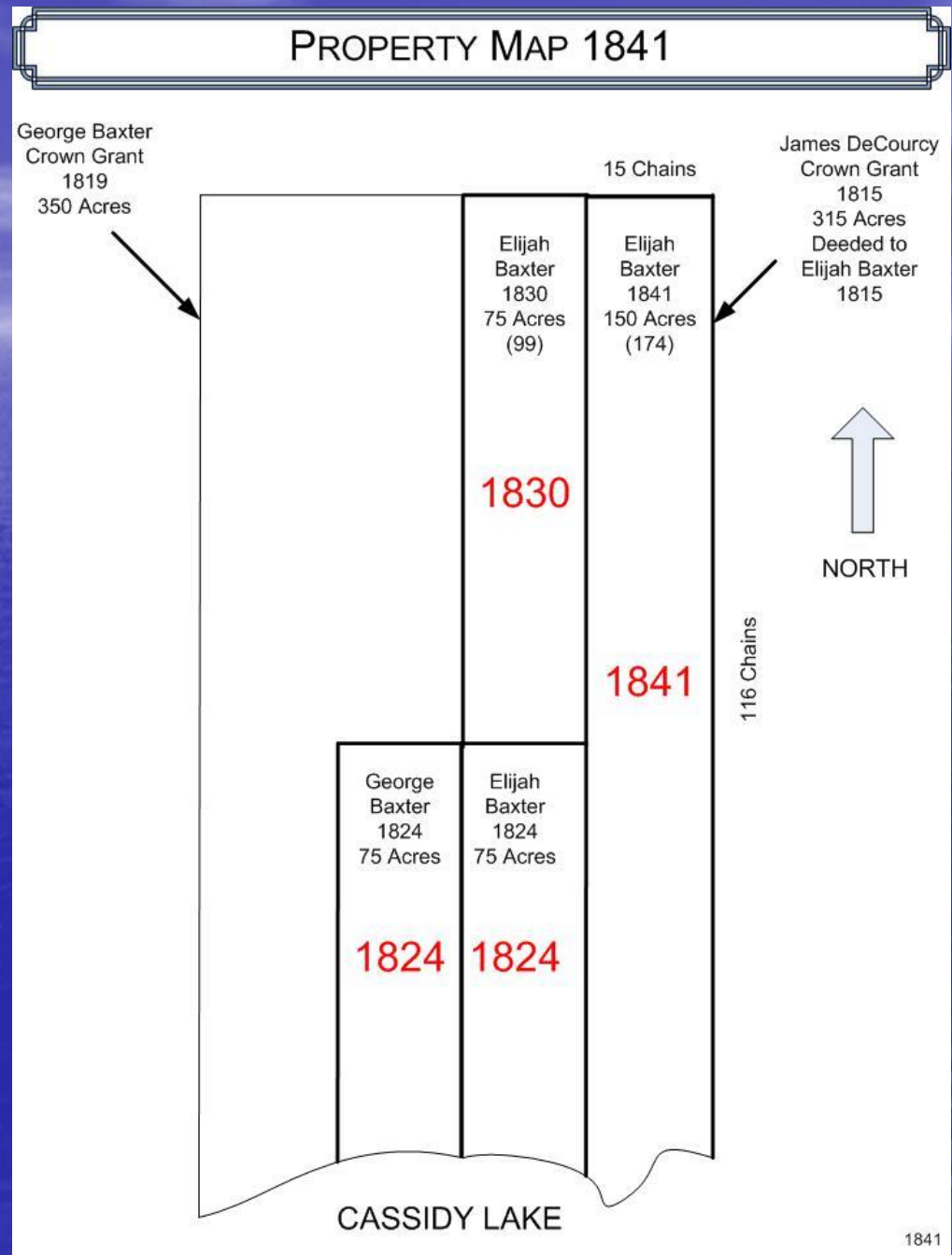
Cassidy Lake Property Maps

New Publication – 2007

The Cassidy Story

from Ireland
to Cassidy Lake
and Beyond

by
Peter and Brian Cassidy
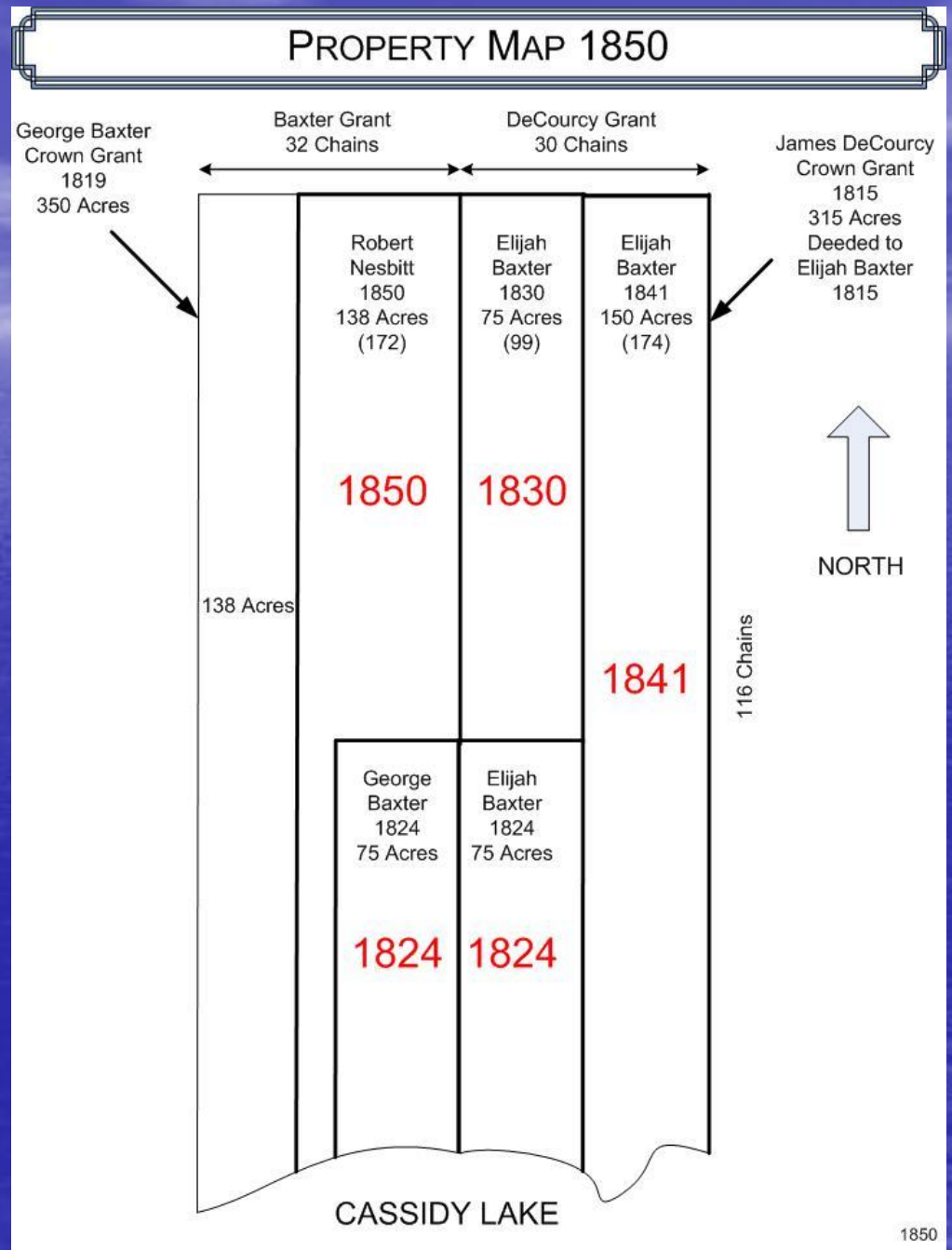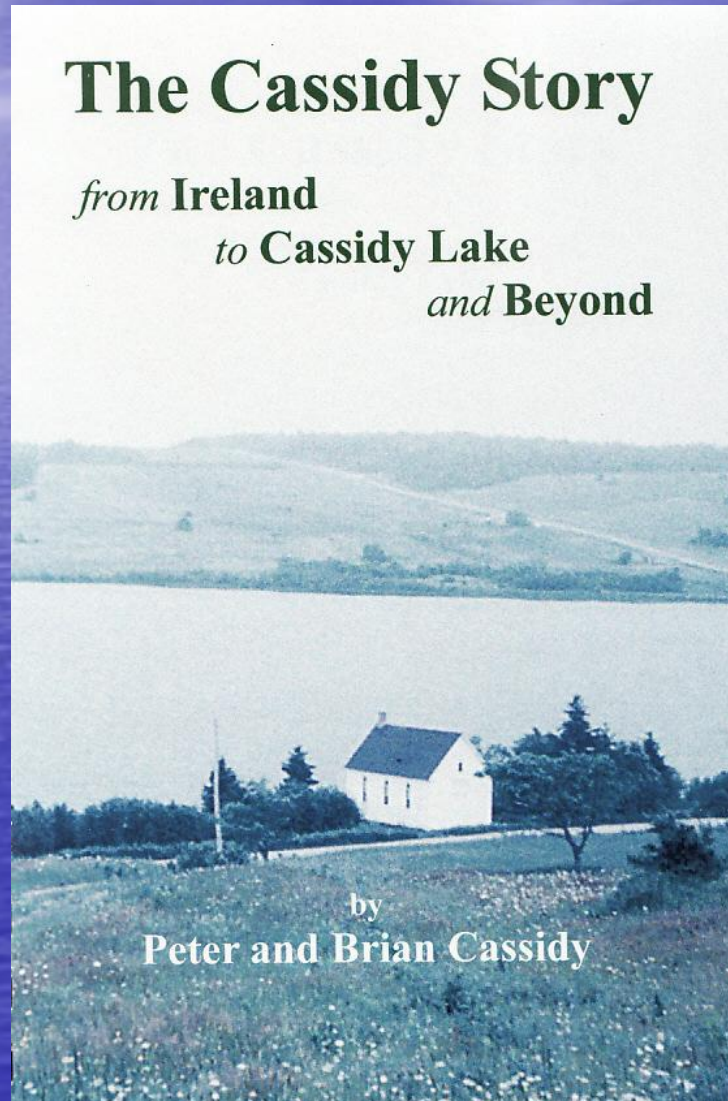
The Cassidy Story – Book Layout

- Irish Roots
- Cassidy Lake
- Cassidy People
- Researching in Ireland

The Cassidy Story - Appendices

- Cemetery Plot Plan
- 1823 Contract for Cassidy Lake property
- Church Property Transfer
- Identified Family Members
  - Index of approx 1350 individuals showing date of birth and death plus reference number in database on website www.cassidys.ca (master database in Family Tree Maker)

Family Tree Maker Experiences

- Features we use
  - Reference database
  - GED file import and export (export feature used to generate database for web site)
  - Generate family member index for book
- Features we don't use
  - Photo management
  - Printing and publishing (we use Microsoft Publisher)
  - Charts (another of our many projects is to make a web based version of a family charting system which we call a Familynaut)

Familynaut
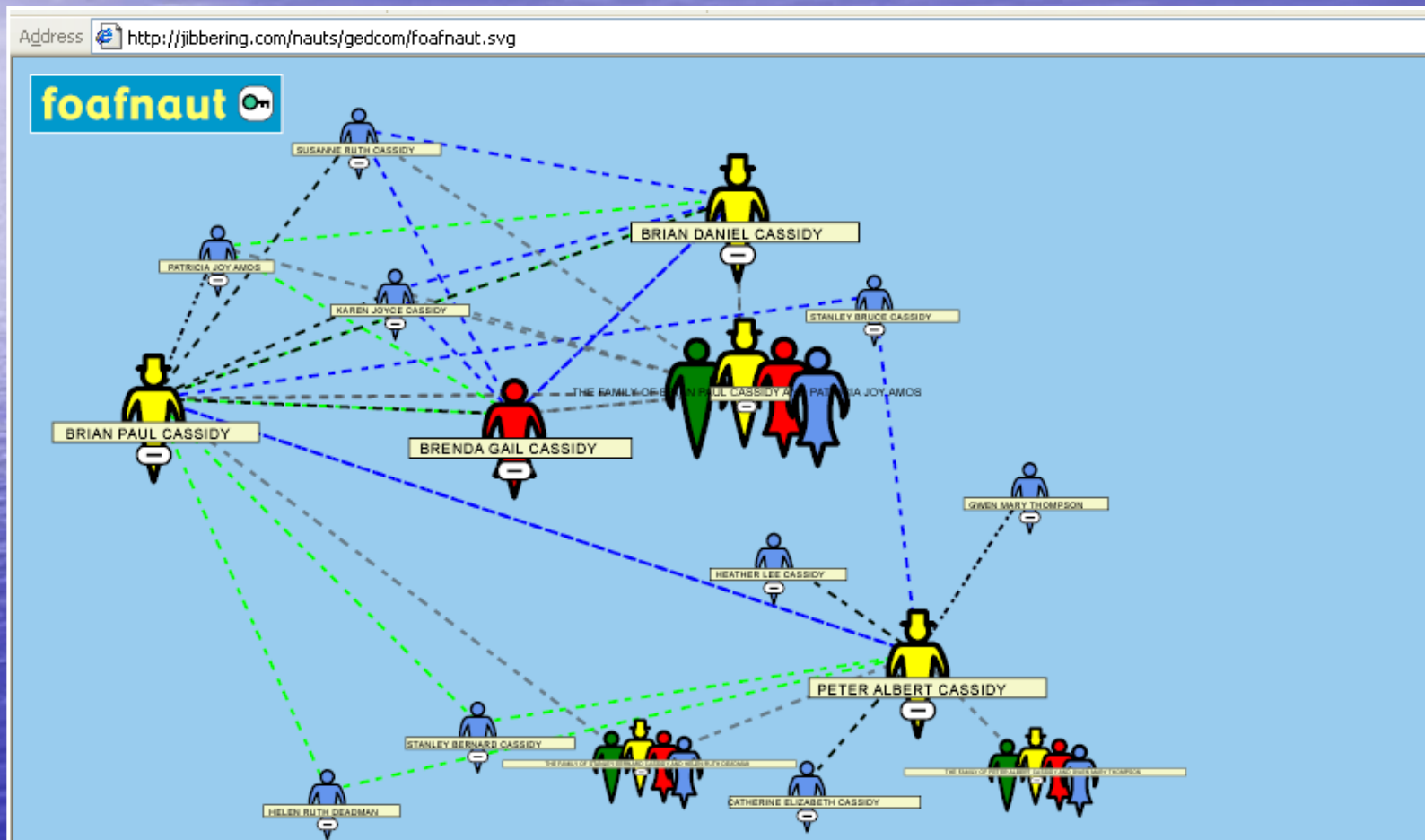
Family Tree Maker Experiences

- Features we wish FTM had
  - Ability to produce a family member index using both married name and maiden name (must use one or the other but not both)
- Too many steps
  - There are too many steps from the entry of data into FTM to it's availability on our website which includes linking to photos. We need to simplify and streamline this process

DVD Planning – 2006/2007

- Title - Journey DVD Series
- Video version of The Cassidy Story
- Incorporate video clips of 16mm movies taken by Stan Cassidy from 1949 to 1952
  - Previously converted to DVD in 2005
- Three DVDs planned
  - The Cassidys of Cassidy Lake
  - Cassidy People
  - Irish Roots
- Put some video clips on website

DVD Production Challenges

- Locate, install and learn appropriate hardware and software for managing audio and video
- Write a script
- Add narration
- Find music – copyright issue – ISBN issue
- Selecting appropriate video segments
- How to identify family members?
- Video files are very large – How to manage?

Journey DVD Series
Home Publishing Software

- Adobe Premiere Pro
  - Video editing and animations
- Adobe Audition
  - Sound recording and editing
- Adobe Encore
  - DVD production
- Adobe Photoshop
  - Image processing

Journey DVD Series
The Cassidys of Cassidy Lake
Produced by Peter Cassidy
Published January 2008
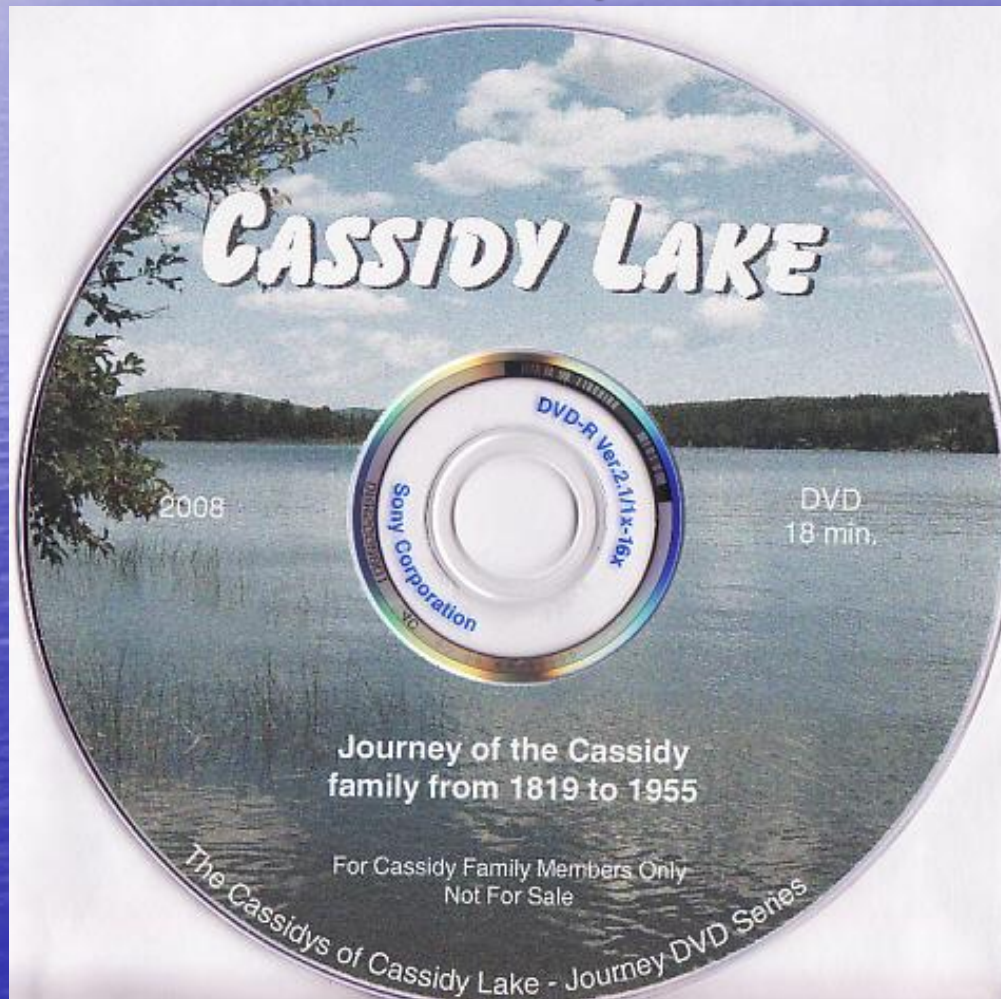
DVD Production Tips

- DVD presents information from a book in a different way (eg property maps)
- DVD (multi-media) is *flashier* than text and Internet but it contain the least amount of information
- Text, Multi-media and Internet (web) are complementary products targeting different audiences

DVD Production Tips

- One is constantly eliminating narration to fit the visuals
- Visuals need to change about every 4 seconds even if it's only to pan or zoom a still photo
- You can quickly run out of video material (we use only 5 minutes of our 30 minute family film due to redundancy and poor quality)
- The art and creative part is far more challenging than the technology
- The current crop of PC-based publishing tools are affordable and not difficult to master technically. Applying them *effectively* is another matter.

DVD Productions Tips

- Allow plenty of time for your first project
- Plan on making many revisions
- Use a storyboard to organize flow
- Good organization of production materials will keep a complex production from getting out of control
- Protect original materials (they will get re-edited and reused over the years)
- Genealogy publishing like genealogy research is a lifelong pursuit – and it's fun!

Where do we go from here?

- Research
  - Post 1880 property search
  - More grassroots research – New Brunswick and Ireland
- Website
  - Video streaming for improved viewing of video clips
  - Website update process is too complex
    - Rewrite website software to improve integration with FTM
    - Streamlined process would allow for more frequent updates
- Book
  - More research needed
  - Revise existing or publish new book?
- DVD
  - Solve music copyright issue – create own music?
  - Obtain ISBN
  - Need video of family members and Ireland
  - Publish other DVDs in the Journey DVD Series