GUPPY, Fred

Mr. Fred Guppy came to Canada from Somersetshire, England, in 1903 with the Barr Colonists. It is said that some citizens of the city persuaded him to stay when his train stopped while passing through to Lloydminster.



He and his wife Lucy farmed for a period of time near Floral, Saskatchewan, moving back to Saskatoon when it came time to send their children to school.

Fred Guppy was a harness maker, a trade that was in demand in Saskatoon at the time. He started his business, F.E. Guppy Harness and Leather Goods Co. Ltd., on 2nd Avenue.

He was active in civic life in Saskatoon, serving as Chairman of the Police Department during the time that R.E. Dunning was Chief. He also served on the Parks Board and on City Council. He was a strong advocate for the creation of parkland along the riverbank in downtown Saskatoon.

Mr. Guppy also served as Justice of the Peace for over 25 years. He belonged to a number of fraternal organizations, was a member of the first vestry of

St. John's Cathedral, and was a warden and vestryman at Christ Church.

An interesting bit of historical trivia is that Fred Guppy's wife, Lucy, was the cousin of Sir Cecil Chubb, a British Baronet, who owned Stonehenge after buying the land at auction. He later gave it to the nation.

Guppy Street in Saskatoon is named after Fred Guppy and his family.

Fred Guppy died December 3, 1949, at the age of 71.

Information from the Saskatoon Public Library, Local History Room Biography binders; and an article by Eric O. Burt from the *Saskatoon Star Phoenix*, February 14, 1986