



Vancouver Public Library

Genealogical Resources

An occasional newsletter provided by
Fine Arts and History
Vancouver Public Library

Issue #27 - Summer 2009



VPL Genealogy Contest - Winners!

Congratulations to the following five winners of the Vancouver Public Library's Canadian Internet Genealogy Contest:

- Frances Dowdswell
- Teresa Eckford
- Diane Moore
- Gwen Morse
- Vivian Oswald

Each winner will receive a copy of Finding Your Canadian Ancestors by Sherry Irvine and Dave Obee, an outstanding guide to Canadian genealogical research.

Winner's names were drawn at random from entries to the Canadian Internet Genealogy Contest, which closed on May 15, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. To be eligible for the draw, entrants had to correctly answer 12 questions using a list of 12 pre-selected free Canadian genealogy databases.

View the original questions and answer key:

www.vpl.ca/images/uploads/cigc_main.pdf
www.vpl.ca/find/details/cigc_answer_key

Recent Additions to the Collection

*Items listed below without a **Ref.** designation may be borrowed. Call 604-331-3603 to request a book, or place your request through the online catalogue (iPAC) at ipac.vpl.ca*

Ref. items must be used in the library.

General

Google Your Family Tree: Unlocking the Hidden Power of Google

by Daniel M. Lynch, 2008
929.10285 L98g

Record Interpreter: A Collection of Abbreviations, Latin Words and Names Used in English Historical Manuscripts and Records, 2nd ed.

by Charles Trice Martin, 1910
929.341 M37r

A Tree Without Roots: The Guide to Tracing British, African and Caribbean Ancestry

by Paul Crooks, 2008
929.3729 C94t



Ontario

1891 Census of McNab Township, Division M, Renfrew County, Ontario

Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group,
2008

Ref. 929.3713 R41M16u 1891

1891 Census of Renfrew Village, Division I, Renfrew County, Ontario

Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group,
2007-09

Ref. 929.3713 R41R41u 1891

1891 Census of Sebastopol Township, Division P, Renfrew County, Ontario

Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group,
2008-01

Ref. 929.3713 R41S44u 1891

Quebec

The Notaries of French-Canada, 1626-1900: Alphabetical, Chronologically, by Area Served

by Robert J. Quintin, 1996

Ref. 929.3714 Q79n

Recensement de Trois-Pistoles 1851: indexation alphabétique et par pages réelles

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2000

Ref. FRE 929.3714 R29s 1851

Recensement de Trois-Pistoles 1861: indexation alphabétique et par pages réelles

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2000

Ref. FRE 929.3714 R29s 1861

Recensement de Trois-Pistoles 1871: indexation alphabétique et par ménages: district no. 166 Témiscouata, sous-district h Trois-Pistoles: partie 1, secteur Trois-Pistoles, partie 2, secteur Sainte-Françoise

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2000

Ref. FRE 929.3714 R29s 1871

Recensement de Trois-Pistoles 1881: indexation alphabétique et par pages réelles...

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2000

Ref. FRE 929.3714 R29s 1881

Recensement de Trois-Pistoles 1891: indexation alphabétique et par ménages

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2000

Ref. FRE 929.3714 R29s 1891

Recensement de Trois-Pistoles 1901: indexation alphabétique et par ménage

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2008

Ref. FRE 929.3714 T84R2s 1901

Recensement de 1911: indexation par ménages et alphabétique: Trois-Pistoles

Société historique et généalogique de Trois-Pistoles, 2007

Ref. FRE 929.3714 T84R2s 1911

Atlantic Provinces

Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853, vol. 2

by Terrence M. Punch, 2008

Ref. 929.3715 P98e

British Isles

Army Records: A Guide for Family Historians

by William Spencer, 2008

929.341 S74a



How to Trace Your Irish Ancestors: An Essential Guide to Researching and Documenting the Family Histories of Ireland's People

by Ian Maxwell, 2008

929.3415 M46h

Tracing Your Irish Family History

by Anthony Adolph, 2007

929.3415 A23t

Tracing Your Scottish Family History

by Anthony Adolph, 2009

929.3411 A23c

Europe

Searching for Flemish (Belgian) Ancestors

by Jozef J. Goethals, 2007

929.3493 G59s



Genealogy Programs at the Vancouver Public Library

Tracing Your Ancestors in British Columbia

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Alma VanDusen meeting room, Central Library

350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Free

Learn how to research your B.C. roots using resources available at the Vancouver Public Library, at other institutions, and on the Internet at this free workshop.

Pre-registration is required and begins Tuesday, August 18th. Space is limited. For more information, please contact Fine Arts and History at **604-331-3716**



Exploring Canadian Census Records on the Web

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Level 7 computer lab, Central Library

350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Free

Historical Canadian census records are increasingly available on the Internet. Learn how to find and use these important resources at this free workshop.

Pre-registration is required and begins Wednesday, September 9th. Space is limited. For more information, please contact Fine Arts and History at **604-331-3716**.

Programs Elsewhere in the Lower Mainland

First Steps on the Ancestral Trail

Saturday, September 12, 2009

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Surrey Public Library, Cloverdale Branch

5642 – 176A Street, Surrey, B.C.

Charge: \$10.00

Interested in your family history but don't know where to start? Take your First Steps on the Ancestral Trail with Brenda Smith.

What tools do we need? Where do we look? Are we on the right path? Attend this session to explore the methodology needed to launch a family history research project. Participants receive a starter workbook and other materials to guide their first steps on this popular self-development path.

Please pre-register by calling **604-598-7328**, or emailing **genealogy@surrey.ca**.

Payment required upon registration.

Masonic and Beth Israel Cemetery Tours

Sunday, September 13, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Burnaby Village Museum

6501 Deer Lake Avenue, Burnaby, B.C.

Charge: \$10.50

Tour two side-by-side little-known Burnaby cemeteries. At the Masonic Cemetery, learn about a fallen police officer, an Olympic gold medalist, a Victoria Cross winner, Mr. Whistle and the Woodward Mausoleum. At the Beth Israel Cemetery, Jewish burial traditions and graves are explored.

Start Searching Your Family History – A Beginners' Workshop in 5 Lessons

Mondays: September 21, October 5, 26,

November 9, 23, 2009.

5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Surrey Public Library, Cloverdale Branch

5642 – 176A Street, Surrey, B.C.

Charge: \$100.00 for series

This series of five 3-hour classes, developed by writer and researcher Brenda Smith, addresses each beginning family history researcher's need for guidance in embarking on a very personal journey. Working with their own materials, and supporting each other, learners will discover their particular motives and set goals for their research, organize and evaluate their data, and plan the first stage of their individual programs. Participants must be able to commit to attending all five sessions.

Lesson 1: Probe the Past – From the Known to the Unknown

Discover your personal motivation for compiling a family history, formulate goals for research, and draft a family tree diagram.

Lesson 2: Organize – The Second Prime Directive

Explore organizational approaches, basic data collection and storage techniques, organize your workbook, and create a family group sheet.

Lesson 3: Can You Prove That? Verify Your Findings

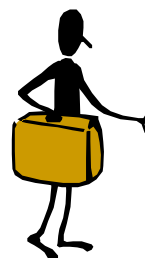
Process documents, discuss evidence and apply standards of proof.

Lesson 4: Right Forest, Wrong Tree: Interpret Your Findings

Build context for your research, and develop techniques for critical analysis of family history data.

Lesson 5: Pack Your Parachute: The Research Plan

Renew your research goals and prepare a plan for continuing research.



BCGS Research Trips

Fall 2009

British Columbia Genealogical Society

Unit 211, 12837 – 76th Avenue, Surrey, B.C.

Two groups to Salt Lake City this year—and one group to Scotland. Contact Eunice Robinson for details: eunice@dccnet.com

Also Noted...

Conference on Family History & Genealogy: Strengthening Ties That Bind Families Together Forever

July 28-31, 2009

Brigham Young University

Provo, Utah

- More information:
<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/>

29th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy 2009

August 2-9, 2009

International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

- More information:
www.philly2009.org

Congrès mondial acadien 2009

August 7-23, 2009

World Acadian Congress = Congrès mondial acadien

- More information:
www.cma2009.ca



5th Annual Genealogy Conference and "Land Cruise"

August 26-30, 2009

Wholly Genes, Inc.

Orkney Springs, Virginia, U.S.A.

- More information:
www.whollygenes.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?screen=CRUISE

2009 Washington State Genealogical Society State Conference

September 11-13, 2009

Washington State Genealogical Society
Spokane, Washington, U.S.A.

- More information:
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waewgs/conference09.htm

The Seven Years' War in America

September 15, 2009

The National Battlefields Commission
Quebec City, Quebec

- More information:
www.ccbn-nbc.gc.ca/_en/2009.php#colloque

BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting

September 18-20, 2009

British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa
Ottawa, Ontario

- More information:
www.bifhsgo.ca/Conference2008.htm

New from

 **ancestry library edition**

Ancestry Library Edition is a popular database available to Vancouver Public Library users at all branch locations.

The Historical Canadian Census Collection

In June, Ancestry launched new **1861, 1871 and 1881 Canadian census databases**. With these additions, Ancestry's online collection of historical Canadian census records now provides complete coverage from 1851 to 1916. All Canadian census databases are searchable by name and results are linked to digital images of original records. While some of the records are also available on other websites, Ancestry is the only online source of comprehensive digitally-linked nominal indexing for the 1851, 1861, 1871 and 1916 censuses.

The project represents the collaborative efforts of Ancestry, Library and Archives Canada and FamilySearch.

Border Crossings: From U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935

In April, Ancestry added a new immigration database to its collection of Canadian genealogical records. **Border Crossings: From U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935** comprises roughly 1.6 million records of immigrants crossing into Canada from the United States. Records can be searched by name, port of arrival, arrival date, birth year and location and gender. Results are linked to digital images of original records.

French Deaths by Guillotine, 1792-1796

To mark Bastille Day (July 14), Ancestry released a grim but unique collection of French records in early July. **French Deaths by Guillotine, 1792-1796 (Les guillotinéés, France, 1792 à 1796)** comprises the names of more than 13,000 individuals executed during the French Revolution, mainly by guillotine. The victims ranged in age from 14 to 92. The database includes some of the most famous individuals associated with the French Revolution – King Louis XVI, Marie Antoinette and Robespierre. Records include date of death, occupation and other facts.



Hidden Gems

King's Daughters and Founding Mothers: The Filles du Roi, 1663-1673, 2nd ed.
2 vol. (2001)
Peter Gagne
Ref. 929.3714 G13k

The filles du roi were young French women – about 800 in number – who were sent to New France between 1663-1673 under the auspices of the King of France. The purpose of the program was to provide prospective brides for the men of New France. Young women were desperately needed due to a gender imbalance in the colony that had resulted in a lack of marriageable women.

These two volumes provide detailed information about the filles du roi, including each young woman's date and place of birth, parents' names, date of departure for New France, spouse, date and place of marriage, children, any subsequent marriages, residence(s) and date and place of death.



Loyalist Genealogy Research Guide

More than two million Canadians trace their roots to the Loyalists.

The Loyalists were colonists who remained loyal to the British Crown during the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783). Eventually, between 80,000 - 100,000 Loyalists fled the former Thirteen Colonies (U.S.). Roughly half settled in the British North American colonies that later became the Dominion of Canada.

The Vancouver Public Library has prepared a detailed guide to help genealogists interested in researching Loyalist ancestors at the Vancouver Public Library and beyond.

The guide points to a large range of print materials in the Vancouver Public Library, as well as records on CD-ROM and in the popular Ancestry Library Edition database. Links to free online resources are also provided.

Researching Loyalist Ancestors is available online at www.vpl.ca/find/details/researching_loyalist_ancestors

Print copies are available in Fine Arts and History on Level 6 at the Central Library.



Brian W. Hutchison Genealogical Scholarship

The Alberta Family Histories Society has announced the availability of the above scholarship, in the amount of \$500, to be awarded to a Canadian resident. The scholarship is to be used towards the cost of tuition and books for the recipient to study genealogy and family history in a recognized educational or accreditation program. The scholarship will be awarded in Spring 2010. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2009. More information is available at www.afhs.ab.ca/scholarship

To access the guide:

- Go to www.spl.surrey.bc.ca
- Click on **Programs & Services**
- Click on **Genealogy**
- Click on **Cloverdale Genealogy Guide**
- Click on the title link

Once you have opened the guide, you can search contents by entering keywords in the small search box in the horizontal toolbar at the top of the viewer.



Cloverdale Genealogy Resource Guide Now Online

The Cloverdale Branch of the Surrey Public Library has an outstanding collection of Canadian genealogical records. A guide to the collection, entitled Canadian Genealogical Resources: A Guide to Materials Held at Cloverdale Library, now in its 15th edition (September 2007), has recently been made available online.

Genealogists will find it an excellent resource for the detailed information that it provides about a vast array of Canadian genealogical records and for planning a research trip to the Cloverdale Library.



Appointment of New Librarian and Archivist of Canada

In April, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the appointment of Daniel J. Caron as the Librarian and Archivist of Canada, effective April 25, 2009.

Prior to his appointment, Daniel Caron was Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Management and Horizontal Integration Sector, Library and Archives Canada. Mr. Caron replaces Ian E. Wilson, who has retired from the Public Service but will hold the title of Librarian and Archivist of Canada Emeritus as President of the International Council on Archives.

News from the Canadian Genealogy Centre

Digital Copies of Canadian Expeditionary Force Personnel Files Now Available

One of the Canadian Genealogy Centre's most popular resources is the **Soldiers of the First World War – CEF** database (www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/cef/index-e.html). The database is a searchable index to over 600,000 personnel forms associated with Canadians who served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force during World War I. The records can be searched by Surname, Given names, and Regimental number.

Search results are linked to digital images of the Attestation Paper or Enlistment Form for each individual. These documents were created at the time that a person volunteered or was drafted into the C.E.F. Attestation Papers include the recruit's name and address, next-of-kin, date and place of birth, occupation, previous military service and distinguishing physical characteristics. Enlistment Forms are simpler and include only the recruit's name, date of recruitment and compliance with requirements for registration.

While the Attestation Papers and (to a lesser extent) Enlistment Forms are a valuable source of genealogical information, additional information may be found in an individual's full personnel file, which may include up to two or three dozen additional forms with information about enlistment, training, medical and dental history, hospitalization, discipline, pay and discharge or notification of death.

Photocopies of personnel files can be ordered by mail or fax using a printable form available on the Soldiers of the First World War – CEF database site. The charge is \$.40 per page.

For those who would prefer to receive copies of service files in electronic format, the Canadian Genealogy Centre is piloting a service whereby a digital copy may be ordered instead. When ordering a personnel file, indicate that you would like a digital copy. Digital copies will be supplied (at the same price per page as paper copies) on a compact disk.

New Research Guides

The Canadian Genealogy Centre has recently added three new research guides to its website.

New **Jewish** and **Polish** genealogy research guides provide information about the history of the Jewish and Polish communities in Canada and detailed descriptions of Library and Archives Canada archival collections of special interest to genealogists. Many records have been microfilmed and are available through interlibrary loan. Information on genealogical data in published sources at Library and Archives Canada is also provided as is information about resources in other institutions and links for online research.

The **Heraldry** guide provides basic information about heraldry and clears the popular misconception that a coat of arms is assigned to a specific family, clan or surname. It describes heraldry resources available at Library and Archives Canada and online.

To access these guides:

- Go to www.genealogy.gc.ca
- Click on **What to Search: Topics** in the left navigation bar
- Click on **Index of Topics** in the drop-down list
- Click on the relevant letter or scroll-down the alphabetical list to locate the guide of interest.



On-Site Resources at Library and Archives Canada

Visitors to Ottawa may be interested in a number of genealogical resources that are available only to on-site users at the Canadian Genealogy Centre, Library and Archives Canada, 3rd Floor, 395 Wellington Street.

Highlights include access to the U.K.-based **Find My Past** database. **Find My Past** is a rich source of indexes to primary genealogical data for the United Kingdom, including parish records (1538-2005), civil registration (1837-2005), census data (1841-1911) and outbound U.K. passenger lists (1890-1960). For those unable to visit Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa, **Find My Past** is also available to home users on a pay-as-you-go or subscription basis.

Other resources available for on-site use at Library and Archives Canada include a variety of CD-ROMs. Notable among these is the **Database Parchemin**, comprising summaries of Quebec notarial records from 1626-1784.

Canadian Civil Service Salaries Online

Familyrelatives.com has launched a searchable database of Canadian civil service records from 1872-1918. In addition to salaries, the records include a large amount of useful genealogical information including:

- Name
- Title
- Salary
- Birth date
- Age
- Date of first appointment
- Department
- Years at post

- Promotion to present rank
- Creed or religion
- Nationality of origin

Searching is free but there is a charge for full access to search results and images.



Edmonton Historical Photographs

The City of Edmonton, Alberta has greatly expanded its collection of online historical photos and posted them on a new-and-improved website. The site comprises about 25,000 digital images. Future plans include the addition of more photographs, as well as maps, digitized records and finding aids. The online collection is searchable using either a Quick or Advanced search function. Print or scans of images are available for purchase. To search the Edmonton historical photograph collection, go to archivesphotos.edmonton.ca.

News from FAMILYSEARCH

New Collections Added to Record Search Pilot

FamilySearch's impressive Record Search Pilot site continues to grow as new databases are created and existing ones are updated, offering unprecedented free access to an international range of genealogical data.

<http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch>

For genealogists with Canadian roots, perhaps the most important additions are comprehensive nominal indexes to **1851, 1861, 1871 and 1891 Canadian census records**. With a complete 1881 Canadian census nominal index already long available at www.familysearch.org, this means that full indexes to all five 19th-century Canadian national censuses are now freely available online. Search results provide complete references to assist users in locating digital or microfilm images of original census records. For more news about online Canadian census databases, see **News from Ancestry** (above).

Another notable addition to Record Search Pilot is the site's first online Portuguese collection. The new **Brazil, Rio de Janeiro Civil Registration** database includes about 4.5 million searchable digital images of original civil registration (registros civis) records from all municipalities in the state of Rio de Janeiro, with coverage as follows:

- Births, 1889-1930
- Marriages, 1889-1950
- Deaths, 1889-2006

Records cover all the population, both Catholic and non-Catholic.

Databases incorporating millions of historic records from Southern U.S. states have also recently been added to Record Search Pilot, representing marriages and deaths in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Event and date coverage vary from state to state. The collection also includes Civil War Pension Index Cards, Florida state census records, Freedman Bank Records, Louisiana War of 1812 Pension Lists. Some databases are indexes only, some are images only, and some are both.

Other new or newly updated Record Search Pilot databases include:



Argentina

- Resistencia Diocese, Catholic Parish Records, 1882-1921



Australia

- New South Wales, Alphabetical Index to Newspaper Cuttings 1841-1987

Brazil

- Pernambuco Civil Registration 1889-2003

Czech Republic

- Northern Bohemia Litomerice Archive Church Books 1552-1905
- Southern Bohemia, Trebon Archive Church Books, 1650-1900

Delaware, U.S.A.

- Birth Records, 1861-1908

Idaho, U.S.A.

- Deaths 1911-1937

Indiana, U.S.A.

- Indiana Marriages, 1811-1959

Jamaica

- Trelawny Parish Civil Registration Births, 1878-1930

Louisiana

- Deaths 1850-1875; 1894-1954

Massachusetts, U.S.A.

- Death Records, 1841-1915
- State Census, 1855
- State Census, 1865

Mexico

- Baja California and Baja California Sur, Church Records 1750-1983
- Coahuila, Catholic Church Records, 1627-1978
- Colima, Catholic Church Records, 1707-1969
- Campeche, Catholic Church Records, 1638-1944

Netherlands

- Limburg Parish Register Transcripts, 1600-1822

New Mexico, U.S.A.

- Deaths, 1889-1945

New York, U.S.A.

- State Census, 1892
- State Census, 1865

Rhode Island, U.S.A.

- State Census, 1915

Spain

- Avila Diocese, Catholic Church Records, 1530-1935
- Gerona Diocese, Catholic

United States

(see also names of individual states)

- 1920 Census
 - Delaware
 - District of Columbia
 - New Mexico
 - Michigan
 - Nevada
 - New Hampshire
- Veterans With Federal Service Buried in Utah, Territorial to 1966

New Records of British Jews

The **Knowles Collection**, a free popular database of Jewish genealogical data from the British Isles, has been expanded to include over 40,000 records. The database builds on the work of the late Isobel Mordy. It electronically links tens of thousands of individual Jews into family groups. The records come from many sources: censuses, probate records, synagogue birth, marriage and death records, biographies and more. Individuals can add to the collection by contacting its author, Todd Knowles, at **knowlest@familysearch.org**. The file is available for free download as a PAF or GEDCOM file.

To access the Knowles Collection:

- Go to **www.familysearch.org**
- Click on **Jewish Family History Resources** (under the **Family History Library** heading)
- Look for the **Knowles Collection** heading (under **Records and Databases**) and click on the **PAF** or **GEDcom** option.



Finding Records of Your Ancestors in England

FamilySearch has produced a new title in its outstanding series of free genealogical research guides focused on specific countries. The 32-page [Finding Records of Your Ancestors in England](#) offers a detailed, illustrated introduction to the Research Process, Finding Places, and locating birth and marriage information in civil registration, census and church records.

The guide can be downloaded for free:

- Go to **www.familysearch.org**
- Roll your mouse over **Research Helps** (in the horizontal top navigation bar)
- Click on **Articles**
- Click on **E**
- Scroll-down and click on **England, Finding Your Ancestors**

Other guides in the series cover Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Sweden and African-Americans.



Family History Lesson Series

FamilySearch has introduced a new free Family History Lessons series. The short lessons are practical self-study guides on a range of key topics and are available as PDFs. Topics are as follows:

- Lesson 1: Perform Descendancy Research
- Lesson 2: Conduct Family History Interviews
- Lesson 3: Involve Children and Youth in Family History
- Lesson 4: Write a Personal History
- Lesson 5: Create a Family History
- Lesson 6: Involve Your Extended Family in Family History
- Lesson 7: Use the Internet for Family History Research

The lesson series is available on the FamilySearch home page (**www.familysearch.org**). Look for the link under **What's New**.

A Closer Look at ... Family History Archives

A relatively new and less well-known feature of FamilySearch is the Family History Archives, a digital collection of published genealogy and family history books. In addition to histories of families, it includes county and local histories, cemetery transcriptions, "how-to" books, genealogy magazines, medieval material and other resources. The collection currently comprises over 35,000 items.

The books are from the collections of a number of U.S. libraries but the scope of the Family History Archives is international. Several important U.S. genealogy collections are represented, including the Family History Library (Salt Lake City), Allen County Public Library and Mid-Century Public Library.

To access the growing collection:

- Go to **www.familysearch.org**
- Roll your mouse over **Search Records** in the horizontal blue navigation bar at the top of the page.
- Click on **Historical Books** in the drop-down list.



To use the Family History Archives, you must have Adobe Flash Player Version 10 installed on your computer. The program can be downloaded for free. The Family History Archives home page provides a link to the site. On the Family History Archives home page, you can search by **Surname, Author or Title**. You can also enter geographical place-names or subject keywords (e.g. "cemeteries") in the **Search All** field.

Click on any title in the detailed summary results to open and view a digital copy of the corresponding original publication.

Ontario Records Online

An online database created by the Quinte Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society has been updated and now comprises 1,014,600 names to help genealogists research ancestors in the Ontario counties of Hastings, Prince Edward and Northumberland. The names are drawn from hundreds of genealogies, family histories, ancestor charts, cemetery transcriptions, local newspaper indexes, directories, local histories, parish register transcriptions, surrogate court wills and funeral cards. The database is available at www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canqbogs Full details associated with index entries may be obtained from the Quinte Branch for a small research fee.

News from the British Isles

1911 U.K. Census Update

1911 U.K. census records have been released to the public in stages since January 2009. The process was completed recently, establishing access to records for all English and Welsh counties, the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Royal Navy ships (at sea at the time of census) and overseas military establishments.

Due to statutory requirements, personally sensitive information in the 1911 U.K. census will be withheld until January 3, 2012.

“Personally sensitive” information includes:

- Details of infirmity and other health-related information
- Information about family relationships that would have been kept secret

- Details of children born to women in prison, who were aged three or under at the time of the census

Released 1911 census data is available online at www.1911census.co.uk. Searching is free but viewing of household transcripts and original documents is subject to a fee. Several pay-as-you-go and subscription options are available.



Regarding the rest of the British Isles, the release of 1911 Scottish census records is subject to separate legislation. The records are scheduled for release just after March 27, 2011 when a statutory 100-year embargo ends. 1911 Irish census records are already available to the public (see next item).

Irish Census, 1911 Project – Update

The 1901 and 1911 enumerations are the only surviving full censuses of Ireland. Both cover the whole island. The National Archives of Ireland is currently engaged in a project aimed at creating free online access to indexes and digital images of 1901 and 1911 Irish census records. Recently 1911 census records of several more counties were added to the database. Counties for which records are now available include:

- Antrim
- Cork
- Donegal
- Down
- Dublin
- Galway
- Kerry
- King's
- Wexford



Currently, household transcriptions only indicate the Surname, Forename, Age and Sex of each individual. In September, the site will be rebuilt to include full transcription of ALL data on 1911 household forms including details such as religion, occupation, relationship to head of family, literacy status, marital status, county or country of origin, Irish language proficiency, specified illnesses and child survival information. A 1901 census database, with all data transcribed, is scheduled for launch towards the end of 2009.
www.census.nationalarchives.ie



British Newspapers 1800-1900

Access to articles from 49 historical London, national and regional newspapers for the period from 1800-1900 is now available on the British Library website. Over two million pages can be searched by keyword to locate information on people, property, legal notices, advertisements and news. Preview results show selected keywords in context. Passes, allowing full views of digital newspaper items, can be purchased for 24 hours (£6.99 / maximum 100 article or page views) or 7-days (£9.99 / maximum 200 article/page views).
<http://newspapers.bl.uk>

New Scottish Family History Magazine

A new Scottish family history magazine is now available. **Discover My Past Scotland** is the only genealogy magazine to focus specifically on Scottish research. The monthly publication is only available online (www.discovermypast.co.uk). Subscriptions may be purchased for 1, 3, 6 or 12 issues. A 12-issue subscription costs £25.00.



New from ScotlandsPeople

ScotlandsPeople is the official Scottish government source of genealogical data for Scotland. The fee-based site provides access to indexes and images from old parish registers, statutory (civil) registers and census records. Will and testament indexes and the coats-of-arms indexes may be searched for free although there is a charge to view documents.

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

1881 Census Images Now Available

Images of 1881 Scottish census records are now available on the **ScotlandsPeople** website. (Previously, only a census transcription was available.) This completes access to indexes and images for all Scottish census records, 1841-1901 through **ScotlandsPeople**.

Old Parish Records - Death and Burial Indexes and Images Now Available

Indexes and images of death and burial records from old parochial registers covering the period from 1538 to 1854 are now online. The site also provides access to Scottish births, baptisms, banns and marriages for the same period.

More Modern BMD Records

ScotlandsPeople has been expanded to include more modern Scottish birth, marriage and death records. The following are now available:

Indexes

- Births, 1855-2006
- Marriages, 1855-1933
- Deaths, 1855-2006

Images of original records

- Births, 1855-1908
- Marriages, 1855-1933
- Deaths, 1855-1958



Scottish Coats-of-Arms Now Available

A searchable database of coats-of-arms has been added to **ScotlandsPeople**. The database provides access to digital images from the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland from 1672 until 1907. Although older entries include less detail, later records may include a considerable amount of genealogical information.

California Digital Newspaper Collection

A new collection of digital newspapers provides access to 200,000 pages of California newspapers published from 1849-1911. The **California Digital Newspaper Collection** currently includes 6 newspapers: Alta California (1849-1891), San Francisco Call (1893-1910), Amador Ledger (1900-1911), Imperial Valley Press (1901-1911), Sacramento Record-Union (1859-1890) and Los Angeles Herald (1905-1907). Searching and viewing is free.

Additional years are coming and the collection will be expanded to include other California newspapers.

<http://cdnc.ucr.edu>

Russian Jewish Ancestors

A new Russian-language website offers people of Russian Jewish heritage access to records of the St. Petersburg Preobrazhenskiy Jewish Cemetery. The site was developed by the Jewish Community of St. Petersburg with support from local businessman Mikhail Khidekel. It features a searchable archives and photographs of headstones and gravesites.

www.jekl.ru

Getting Started... South Africa

South Africa is home to a population representing diverse indigenous and immigrant origins.

For genealogists with South African connections in their family tree, a good place to start is the www.ancestry24.co.za website. The home page includes a link to the useful **Ancestry24 Beginner's Guide: 7 Steps to Researching Your Family** with practical information and advice on genealogical research in the South African context. Free registration on www.ancestry24.co.za provides access to the rest of the site's open content including a Learning Centre with extensive information on South African records and annotated, comprehensive lists of Web Resources. For a fee, users can subscribe and search for ancestors in a large online collection of South African genealogical data.



Another important resource is the **National Archives of South Africa**, which maintains the online **National Automated Archival Information Retrieval System** (NAAIRS). NAAIRS can be used to identify documents of possible interest in archival collections in Pretoria, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Pietermaritzburg, Durban and Bloemfontein. NAAIRS also includes a large database of South African gravestone information. NAAIRS is available without charge at www.national.archives.gov.za.

The **Genealogical Institute of South Africa** (www.gisa.org.za) may also be useful when researching South African connections. The Institute's main focus is on the publication of genealogies and family histories. Its flagship publication project, the South African Genealogies series, recently published its 17th volume, completing coverage of South African surnames, A-Z. Listings of the surnames covered by each volume are available on the Institute's website. Purchase information is also available.

The **Genealogical Society of South Africa** (www.gensa.info) is another potentially useful resource for family historians researching South African roots. The Society has a variety of projects underway and publishes a quarterly journal, *Familia*. There are 11 branches in South African cities and regions.

The vast collection of microfilms at the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City, Utah includes South African records. These may be borrowed for \$6.00 per reel through the Vancouver Public Library's interlibrary loan department. For more information about searching the FHL collection and borrowing microfilms, see www.vpl.ca/find/details/borrowing_microfilms_family_history_library

Finally, **Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet** is worth checking for links to a wide range of information of potential value to South African researchers. See the **South Africa / Suid-Africa** section (www.cyndislist.com/soafrica.htm).

askaway



Can't remember if VPL has Canadian census microfilms or not? Wondering about access to materials from the Hudson's Bay Company Archives? Curious to know if the latest updates to the Ontario birth, marriage and death indexes have arrived? For answers to these and other questions, British Columbia's **askaway** chat reference service is ready to help, Sunday-Thursday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Simply log on to www.vpl.ca/about/details/askaway and click on **Chat** (next to the **askaway** banner) to connect with library information staff in real-time. If your question can't be answered immediately, it will be forwarded to Fine Arts and History for a prompt reply.

Support the Genealogy Collection

Fine Arts and History welcomes financial donations in support of the genealogical collection. Donations can be made by cash, money order, cheque (payable to the Vancouver Public Library Foundation) or credit card (MasterCard, VISA, American Express).

You can make a donation at your local branch, by telephone, or by mail. Please note that credit card donations can only be made by telephone or at the Central Library. Be sure to specify that you would like your donation to be used to purchase genealogical materials.

For more information, please contact:

Vancouver Public Library Foundation
350 West Georgia St.
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 6B1
Tel: 604-331-4000
Email: foundation@vpl.ca

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VPL website: www.vpl.ca

Fine Arts and History
Vancouver Public Library
350 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 6B1
Telephone: 604-331-3716

