

PRE-1870 MARRIAGE REGISTRATIONS

ACQUIRED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

District Marriage Registers, 1780-1858 (RG 80-27-1)

These registrations were compiled by the District Clerks of the Peace under the authority of the 1831 Upper Canada Marriage Act and date predominantly from 1831-1858. The Districts covered areas made up of one or more Counties.

To find a registration: follow one of the options below.

- **Use the published indexes to the District Marriage Registers (easier to use than the originals):** (1) The published indexes can be found in the Pre-1874 Marriage Indexes bookcase. (2) In the index for the District of interest to you, search for the name of the bride or groom; this will refer you to a page at the front of the index where you will find a transcription of the marriage record. (Note: If you do not know which District to search, consult the County-District conversion table in the *Guide to Published Marriage Indexes*, part 1; the *Guide* is located in the Pre-1874 Marriage Indexes bookcase). (3) To determine the microfilm reel number containing the original marriage record, see the *Guide to Published Marriage Indexes*, part 1.

or

- **Go directly to the original District Marriage Registers on microfilm:** (1) The microfilm reels are listed in the Marriages Binder, Appendix A18. This list also indicates which Counties comprised each District. (2) For some Districts, original indexes are available on microfilm and are also listed in Appendix A18; in the index, look for the name of interest to you; this will refer you to a page number or entry number in the volume containing the marriage registrations.

County Marriage Registers, 1858-1869 (RG 80-27-2)

These registrations were compiled by the County Clerks of the Peace (the successors to the District Clerks) under authority of the 1857 Marriage Act and date predominantly from 1858-1869.

To find a registration: follow one of the options below.

- **Use the published indexes to the County Marriage Registers (easier to use than the originals):** (1) The published indexes can be found in the Pre-1874 Marriage Indexes bookcase; they are arranged in alphabetical order by County. In the published index, search for the name of the person of interest to you. You will be given a brief summary of the marriage registration; in some cases, you are also given a page number, or a volume and page number, referring to the location of the registration in the original volume on microfilm; if you are not given a volume/page number, use the date of the marriage to find the entry in the original volume. (2) To determine the microfilm reel number containing the original volume, see the *Guide to Published Marriage Indexes*, part 2. The *Guide* is located in the Pre-1874 Marriage Indexes bookcase.

or

- **Go directly to the original County Marriage Registers on microfilm:** (1) The microfilm reels are listed in the Marriages Binder, Appendix A19. (2) For some Counties, original indexes are available on microfilm and are also listed in Appendix A19; in the index, look for the name of interest to you; this will refer you to a page number or entry number in the volume containing the marriage registrations.

Roman Catholic Marriage Registers, 1828-1870 (RG 80-27-4)

These registers consist of Roman Catholic marriage certificates copied from parish registers from the Niagara Peninsula, Toronto area, and Simcoe and Dufferin Counties. The forms used in these volumes indicate that they were probably forwarded to either a Division Registrar or the Office of the Registrar General sometime during or after 1897.

To find a registration: Either: (1) use the published index and then go to the corresponding registration on microfilm; entries in the index are alphabetical by last name; or (2) go directly to the original registrations on microfilm; most of the registers are arranged alphabetically by the name of the groom.

- **Published Index:** *Roman Catholic Marriage Records, 1828-1870* can be found in the Pre-1874 Marriage Indexes bookcase.
- **Original Registrations:** microfilm reels are listed in the Marriages Binder, Appendix A21.

Other Pre-1870 Marriage Registers Acquired from the Office of the Registrar General

- **Book of Marriages Not Registered (St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, Toronto), 1858-1897 (RG 80-18)**

The marriages recorded in this volume were never incorporated into the main registration system of the Registrar General. All were conducted at the Anglican Church of St. John the Evangelist on Portland Street in the city of Toronto between 1858 and 1897, and the volume was extracted from the marriage register of that same church and given to the Registrar General in 1924. The volume is arranged alphabetically by surname of the groom.

Original Registrations: use microfilm reel MS 943 Reel 1.

- **Vital Statistics Files, 1838-1952 (predominant 1858-1869) (RG 80-15)**

Most of the records in this series are marriage returns (1858-1869) of various clergymen and ministers from Dundas County.

Original Registrations: microfilm reels are listed in Marriages Binder, Appendix A17.

- **New Credit Wesleyan Mission Marriage Register, Brant County, 1859-1931 (RG 80-27-5)**

Original Registrations: use microfilm reel MS 248 Reel 23

Additional Sources of Pre-1870 Marriage Records

For information on additional sources, consult the following:

- *Other Sources of Birth, Marriage, and Death Records* binder, available in the Genealogy Reference Area of the Main Reading Room. See especially:
 - Section 1.1 Church Records Collection (F 978)
 - Section 1.2 Marriage Records Collection (F 982)
- Research Guide 299 *Sources of Family History*, section 2.2.
- *Guide to Published Marriage Indexes*, parts 3, 5, and 7, available in the Pre-1874 Marriage Indexes bookcase.