

Research Guide 203
Understanding Vital Statistics Indexes

Last Updated:
August 2024



Bride and groom, Torges wedding
circa 1945
C 5-1-0-146-2
Gordon Powley photos

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In this guide

This guide has information on how to understand the alphabetical indexes to vital statistics (birth, marriage and death records).

You will find these indexes and the corresponding birth, marriage and death registrations on microfilm in our reading room. Libraries that offer interloan services may also borrow the microfilm for you. For microfilm lists and instructions on how to find registrations on microfilm, [click here to view our Ontario Vital statistics webpage](#). This webpage is also accessible from our website (ontario.ca/archives), by clicking on “Tracing Your Family History”.

Please note: Microfilm is no longer being produced for new records entering the archives. Registrations for births after 1918, marriages after 1932 and deaths after 1942 are available online through ancestry. [Click here to access the ancestry.ca website](#). Ancestry can be accessed without a membership at the Archives of Ontario and many public libraries at [ancestryinstitution.ca](#). You do not need to use the indexes to search registrations online. For information on digitized registrations and where to find them, [click here to view our Ontario Vital statistics webpage](#).

What is in the indexes?

The alphabetical indexes were created starting in the late 1950’s. They replaced previous handwritten original indexes. The format of the indexes varied over time, but the fields remained the same.

Below is an explanation of the main fields in the indexes and whether they are required to find the registration.

Note*: The number column corresponds with the numbers on the [examples of the index pages](#) at the end of this guide.

Number*	Field Title	Explanation	Required to find registration?
1	<i>NAME</i>	This is the name of the person on the registration, copied from the original registration. Only the name of the child (for a birth), the bride and groom, and the deceased were indexed. Women remarrying were indexed under their previous <i>married</i> surname. In addition, some marriage indexes included the maiden name of women who were re-marrying.	Yes , you need this information to find the registration.
2	<i>PLACE OF EVENT</i>	This is the town or township where the event was registered. For rural births and deaths, this may differ from where the actual event took place.	You may need this information to find the registration
3	<i>DATE OF EVENT</i>	The usual format is month, day and year. For example, 06 12 01 equals June 12 th 1901. Marriages for 1873-1881 were indexed with single digit for the months and <i>O</i> , <i>N</i> , and <i>D</i> for <i>October</i> , <i>November</i> and <i>December</i> .	You may need this information to find the registration
4	<i>REGISTRATION NUMBER</i>	This is the unique numbered given to each registration.	Yes , you need this information to find the registration.
5	<i>REGISTRATION YEAR</i>	This is the year when the birth, the marriage or the death was registered. It may be different from the date of event.	Yes , you need this information to find the registration.
6	<i>CONTROL NUMBER</i>	This number correspond to the type of registration (birth, marriage or death) and type of correction to the original registration (if any). It was likely included for data quality control.	No , you do not need this information to find the registration.
7	<i>CODE</i>	This is a list of the control numbers (see no. 6 above). This information appears on <u>some</u> index pages.	No , you do not need this information to find the registration.

Number*	Field Title	Explanation	Required to find registration?
8	C.O.	This code corresponds to the county, district or city where the event was registered. It was used for data control purposes.	No , you do not need this information to find the registration.

Contact us

Although unable to do your research for you, our reference archivists are waiting to assist you. You may telephone or write to them by mail or email or — best of all — visit the Archives of Ontario.

Telephone: 416-327-1600 Toll free (Ontario): 1-800-668-9933

Email: [Click here to email the Archives of Ontario](#). The e-mail address is reference@ontario.ca

Address: Archives of Ontario, 134 Ian Macdonald Blvd., Toronto, ON M7A 2C5

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This information is provided as a public service. Last update is shown at the beginning of this guide. Readers should where possible verify the information before acting on it.

Examples of index pages

Birth index page

PAGE NO.	NAME	000012	SEX	PLACE OF EVENT CROSS INDEX	CO. C.I.	B.C.	DATE			REGISTRATION NO.	REG. YEAR	CODES
							MO.	DAY	YR.			
1	MARSHALL ALEXIA MARGAREY		F	M11 MITCHELL	44		12	30	90	23193690	1	CONTROL
2	MARSHALL ALLAN RUNDLE		M	M11 LONDON	35		05	10	90	90188027	7	1. BIRTH
3	MARSHALL ALONZO HARRY		M	M11 CHARLOTTEVILLE	38		10	08	90	02181190	1	1. BIRTH
4	MARSHALL ANNIE E		F	F11 WIDDIFIELD TWP	37		04	29	90	02072990	1	1. BIRTH
5	MARSHALL ANTHONY		M	M11 BLENHEIM	41		02	04	90	02513190	1	1. BIRTH
6	MARSHALL ANTHONY ROY		M	M11 ALBEMARLE TWP	4		08	20	90	00317690	1	1. BIRTH
7	MARSHALL ARTHUR HUNTER		M	M11 E GARAFRAXA	9		05	25	90	00615890	1	1. BIRTH
8	MARSHALL BEATRICE K		F	F11 KINGSTON	15		07	17	90	00941890	1	1. BIRTH
9	MARSHALL CARRIE MABEL		F	F11 USBORNE TWP	24		11	27	90	01405090	1	1. BIRTH
10	MARSHALL CHARLES H		M	M11 HAMILTON	67		05	09	90	03755590	1	1. BIRTH
11	MARSHALL CHARLES PERCY		M	M11 TINY	51		02	01	90	03032690	1	1. BIRTH
12	MARSHALL CHARLES F		M	M11 CAYUGA	19		08	16	90	01135790	1	1. BIRTH
13	MARSHALL DAVID H		M	M11 TORONTO	72		02	25	90	04044590	1	1. BIRTH
14	MARSHALL EDIA A		F	F11 OSHAWA	40		08	05	90	02430490	1	1. BIRTH
15	MARSHALL ELIZABETH		F	F11 EAST TORONTO	70		05	19	90	03912190	1	1. BIRTH
16	MARSHALL ELLEN M		F	F11 WALKERTON	67		09	26	90	03792890	1	1. BIRTH
17	MARSHALL EMILY JANE		F	F11 HURON TWP.	4		09	05	90	00308390	1	1. BIRTH
18	MARSHALL ERNEST WILLIAM		M	M11 LONDON	35		04	04	90	00352190	1	1. BIRTH
19	MARSHALL ETHEL MARGARET		F	F11 BARTON TWP	67		01	27	90	01914390	1	1. BIRTH
20	MARSHALL EUPHEMIA		F	F11 N DUMFRIES TWP	61		05	09	90	03666490	1	1. BIRTH
21	MARSHALL EVA CLARE		F	F11 BELLEVILLE	22		08	19	90	03401190	1	1. BIRTH
22	MARSHALL FLORENCE LOUISE		F	F11 NORTHWOOD	27		07	07	90	50106746	1	1. BIRTH
23	MARSHALL GEORGE FRANCIS		M	M11 PICKERING TWP	40		01	24	90	02359790	1	1. BIRTH
24	MARSHALL GEORGE PRINGLE		M	M11 OSNABRUCK	53		07	25	90	03243490	1	1. BIRTH
25	MARSHALL GERALD		M	M11 OTTAWA	6		01	16	90	00471690	1	1. BIRTH
26	MARSHALL GERTRUDE MAUD		F	F11 PERRY TWP	42		05	24	90	02123690	1	1. BIRTH
27	MARSHALL GWENDOLINE		F	F11 TORONTO	72		06	25	90	04199690	1	1. BIRTH
28	MARSHALL HAROLD		M	M11 KINGSTON	15		09	10	90	00953690	1	1. BIRTH
29	MARSHALL HELEN LILLIETT		F	F11 N TORONTO	70		12	18	90	24418391	1	1. BIRTH
30	MARSHALL HELENA MAY		F	F11 WARWICK TWP	29		06	22	90	01618690	1	1. BIRTH
31	MARSHALL HENRY		M	M11 TORONTO	72		09	08	90	04339790	1	1. BIRTH
32	MARSHALL HESTHER		F	F11 WINDSOR	13		02	28	90	00722190	1	1. BIRTH
33	MARSHALL JAMES		M	M11 HAMILTON	67		06	20	90	03758990	1	1. BIRTH
34	MARSHALL JAMES		M	M11 WONCK TWP	36		12	10	90	02101490	1	1. BIRTH
35	MARSHALL JAMES EDWARD *		M	M11 GLOUCESTER	6		02	11	90	00399990	1	1. BIRTH
36	MARSHALL JOHN ALEXANDER		M	M11 ONONDAGA TWP	3		04	20	90	50104646	1	1. BIRTH
37	MARSHALL JOHN FREDERICK		M	M11 WOODSTOCK	41		03	23	90	02541490	1	1. BIRTH
38	MARSHALL JOHN MCKAY		M	M11 LONDON	35		09	30	90	90185130	1	1. BIRTH
39	MARSHALL JOHN ROY P		M	M11 HOUGHTON TWP	38		02	26	90	02178190	1	1. BIRTH
40	MARSHALL JOHN WESLEY		M	M11 CAVAN	11		06	03	90	02263690	1	1. BIRTH
41	MARSHALL K DOUGLASS		M	M11 SALT FLEET TWP	67		10	03	90	24272191	1	1. BIRTH
42	MARSHALL LILIAN BERTHA		F	F11 S GRIMSBY	33		08	15	90	01840790	1	1. BIRTH
43	MARSHALL LILIAN JANE C		F	F11 BRAMPTON	43		06	12	90	02563890	1	1. BIRTH
44	MARSHALL LILLIAN MAUD		F	F11 TORONTO	72		11	08	90	04380490	1	1. BIRTH
45	MARSHALL LILLIAN MAY		F	F11 WIDDIFIELD TWP	37		08	11	90	02075090	1	1. BIRTH
46	MARSHALL LILY EVELYN		F	F11 ORILLIA TWP	51		03	29	90	03126790	1	1. BIRTH
47	MARSHALL MAGGIE EVA		F	F11 OWEN SOUND	18		07	13	90	01092390	1	1. BIRTH
48	MARSHALL MAGGIE C		F	F11 TRAFALGAR	21		05	28	90	01159390	1	1. BIRTH
49	MARSHALL MANLY HEROLD		M	M11 RICHMOND TWP	32		09	02	90	22336691	1	1. BIRTH
50	MARSHALL MARGARET G		F	F11 ORO	51		05	17	90	03136790	1	1. BIRTH
51	MARSHALL MARTHA MAY		F	F11 W FLAMBOROUGH T	72		05	24	90	03689290	1	1. BIRTH
52	MARSHALL MARY		F	F11 TORONTO	72		10	26	90	04387790	1	1. BIRTH
53	MARSHALL MEMIE LUCINDA		F	F11 ARTHUR TWP	65		10	30	90	03577490	1	1. BIRTH
54	MARSHALL OLIVER A		M	M11 S DUMFRIES TWP	3		04	26	90	00779390	1	1. BIRTH
55	MARSHALL PETER MELVIL		M	M11 N DUMFRIES TWP	61		04	24	90	03400590	1	1. BIRTH
56	MARSHALL RICHARD F		M	M11 E LUTHER	9		03	25	90	00619190	1	1. BIRTH
57	MARSHALL RICHARD EARL		M	M11 ESQUESING	21		05	05	90	01150890	1	1. BIRTH
58	MARSHALL ROBERT SAMUEL		M	M11 MEDONTE	51		07	16	90	03158190	1	1. BIRTH
59	MARSHALL RUSSELL STANLEY		M	M11 PUSLINCH	65		11	29	90	03553090	1	1. BIRTH

Marriage index page

VITAL STATISTICS INDEX											
SURNAME	2 MARR		DATE		RECORD IDENTITY		PLACE OR CROSS REFERENCE		ETL		
	GIVEN	NAMES	M. DAY	YR.	PR.	NUM & SER.	4				
SURNAME	GIVEN	NAMES	M.	DAY	YR.	PR.	NUM & SER.	4	WIDEN NAME	INITIALS	BIRTHPLACES
RAMSY	33	JESSIE	8	28	73	05	204-841	ST CATHARI	74	E	L1
RANDAL	35	HARRIET	0	15	73		007-793	PARKHILL	73	E	L1
RANDALL	27	EDWIN	9	07	73		006-336	RALEIGH T	73	C	C1
RANDALL	70	ELIZABETH	2	18	73		013-527	PINE OKCHA	73	E	L1
RANDALL	15	GEORGE	7	10	73		003-409	KINGSTON	73	A	C1
RANDALL	72	JAMES	0	07	73		014-296	TORONTO	73	A	C1
RANDALL	70	PHEBE WIDDIFI	7	15	73		013-372	PINE OKCHA	73	E	L1
RANDALL	21	ROBERT L	N	06	73		005-492	MILTON	73	A	C1
RANDALL	40	WILLIAM	9	06	73		009-084	OSHAWA	73	A	C1
RANDELL	32	ROSA	1	08	73		007-392	NAPANEE	73	E	L1
RANDOLPH	15	WILLIAM	4	20	73		003-544	PORTLAND	73	A	C1
RANEY	72	CHARLES	9	05	73		014-295	TORONTO	73	A	C1
RANGER	46	CERILA	9	15	73		011-556	ST EUGENE	73	E	L1
RANKIN	18	AGNES	0	23	73		005-238	JARVIS	73	E	L1
RANKIN	44	ANNIE	4	23	73		010-031	N EASTHO T	73	E	L1
RANKIN	04	ARCHIBALD	1	01	73		004-445	WALKERTON	73	A	C1
RANKIN	11	CHARLOTTE	6	17	73		009-825	PT HOPE	73	E	L1
RANKIN	60	COLIN	1	22	73		013-130	LINDSAY	73	C	C1
RANKIN	27	FRANCES	9	22	73		006-482	CHATHAM	73	A	C1
RANKIN	44	MARGARET	3	06	73		010-030	STRATFORD	73	E	L1
RANKIN	51	THOMAS	6	03	73		010-780	PENETANGUI	73	A	C1
RANKINS	39	EMILY T	3	11	73		009-672	PERCY T	73	E	L1
RANSEER	30	WILLIAM	6	23	73		006-832	BATHURST	73	A	C1
RANSFORD	24	RICHARD	9	18	73		006-067	CLINTON	73	A	C1
RANSON	27	AMOS	8	13	73		006-374	BLLENHEIM	73	A	C1
RANSON	72	GEORGE	1	04	73		014-092	TORONTO	73	A	C1
RANSON	35	THOMAS	6	18	73		007-783	PARKHILL	73	A	C1
KAPELGIE	63	ELIZABETH	1	23	73		012-739	CHIPPAWA	73	E	L1
RAPER	11	JOHN	6	30	73		009-481	LIFFORD	73	A	C1
RAPER	44	MARY T	5	06	73		010-215	AVONTON	73	E	L1
RAPLEY	39	THOMAS F	5	05	73		205-758	LONDON	75	A	C1
RAPP	44	CATHARINA	N	04	73		010-013	WALLACE	73	E	L1
RAPPOLD	65	MARGARET	0	25	73		012-369	MORRISTON	73	G	L1
RAPSEY	35	FANNIE	7	31	73		008-124	LONDON T	73	E	L1
RAPSON	03	REUBEN	1	02	73		004-754	BRANTFORD	73	A	C1
RATCLIFF	40	DANIEL M	0	11	73		206-767	COLUMBUS	74	A	C1
RATCLIFF	40	MARGARET	9	22	73		008-860	E WHITBY T	73	E	L1
RATE	35	WILLIAM BAXTER	8	12	73		008-264	ADELAIDE	73	A	C1
RATH	24	LIZZIE	2	05	73		005-980	HARPURHEY	73	E	L1
RATHWELL	06	BENJAMIN MCFADDE	1	29	73		004-122	OTTAWA	73	A	C1
RATHWELL	17	ELIZABETH	2	11	73		007-039	MENRICKVIL	73	E	L1
RATHWELL	60	GEORGE	0	17	73		210-151	ELDON T	74	A	C1
RATHWELL	30	JANE	9	02	73		006-968	LANARK T	73	E	L1
RATHWELL	30	SAMUEL	6	03	73		006-974	RAMSAY T	73	A	C1
RATHWELL	06	SARAH	6	19	73		004-135	OTTAWA	73	E	L1
RATTENBURY	24	CHARLOTTE	3	19	73		005-905	VARNA	73	E	L1
RATTRAY	65	THOMAS	4	22	73		012-527	GUELPH	73	C	C1
RATTRAY	32	THOMAS M	9	17	73		007-529	NEWBURGH	73	A	C1
RATZ	44	CONRAD	4	15	73		010-244	ELLICE T	73	A	C1
RAU	04	JOSEPH	5	27	73		004-662	FORMOSA	73	A	C1

Death index page

LINE #	NAME	CONY.	PLACE OF EVENT CROSS INDEX	C.D. C.A.	S.C.	DATE			REGISTRATION NO.	REG. YEAR	CODES
						MO.	DAY	YR.			
1	PEACH FRANCIS HAROLD	M91	ERIN TWP	65		09	23	92	018563	92	CONTROL
2	PEACH MURIEL	F91	MEAFORD TWP	18		01	28	92	005659	92	L. BIRTH
3	PEACHY EUGENE	M91	OTTAWA	6		09	30	92	002542	92	L. STILLBORN
4	PEACOCK AGNES	F91	LANARK TWP	30		01	01	92	009040	92	L. MARRIAGE
5	PEACOCK ALBERT	M91	LINDSAY	60		09	16	92	017502	92	L. BIRTH
6	PEACOCK ALICE ELIZABETH	F91	TORONTO	72		06	09	92	022460	92	L. BIRTH
7	PEACOCK ARTHUR	M91	HAMILTON	67		02	22	92	019535	92	L. BIRTH
8	PEACOCK CHARLES RYRIE	M91	KINCARDINE	4		02	27	92	002221	92	L. BIRTH
9	PEACOCK ETHEL EMMA	F91	TORONTO	72		11	24	92	023945	92	L. BIRTH
10	PEACOCK GABRIEL	M91	LANARK TWP	30		01	06	92	009041	92	L. BIRTH
11	PEACOCK MATILDA	F91	GALWAY TWP	45		01	22	92	024250	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
12	PEACOCK REBECCA	F91	TORONTO	72		01	07	92	020730	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
13	PEACOCK REBECCA	F91	ETOBICOKE TWP	70		01	01	92	020194	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
14	PEACOCK THOMAS	M91	ST THOMAS	12		10	31	92	004145	93	L. CIVIL DEATH
15	PEAIR MAGGIE TERESSY	F91	N GRIMSBY TWP	35		09	07	92	009876	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
16	PEAKER MARTHA	F91	TILBURY CENTRE	27		03	31	92	007898	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
17	PEARCE CHRISTINE	F91	STAMFORD TWP	63		04	09	92	018224	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
18	PEARCE ELIZABETH B	F91	PUSLINCH TWP	65		07	01	92	018948	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
19	PEARCE EMMA	M91	TORONTO	72		10	20	92	023647	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
20	PEARCE ERNEST	M91	TORONTO	72		04	12	92	021902	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
21	PEARCE FRANCIS	M91	HAMILTON	67		10	09	92	019903	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
22	PEARCE FRANCIS	M91	HAMILTON	67		10	09	92	018838	93	L. CIVIL DEATH
23	PEARCE JOHN	M91	SCARBOROUGH TWP	70		11	19	92	020293	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
24	PEARCE M ELLEN	F91	LONDON TWP	35		05	03	92	010691	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
25	PEARCE MAGGIE AGNES	F91	COLLINGWOOD	51		09	17	92	016116	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
26	PEARCE SOPHIA MAUD	F91	HAMILTON	67		08	25	92	019815	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
27	PEAREN MATTHEW	M91	MORRIS TWP	24		06	00	92	007629	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
28	PEARNE MABEL	F91	BLANSHARD TWP	44		09	26	92	014378	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
29	PEARSE JAMES W	M91	COBBOURG	39		06	03	92	012325	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
30	PEARSON ALFRED	M91	TORONTO	72		01	05	92	021144	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
31	PEARSON ANDREW	M91	NORWICH	41		02	18	92	013617	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
32	PEARSON EDNA ROSELLA	F91	LONDON	35		08	16	92	011061	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
33	PEARSON FLORENCE B	F91	N MONAGHAN TWP	45		08	03	92	014612	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
34	PEARSON HARRIET	F91	CLINTON	24		12	21	92	007135	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
35	PEARSON JOHN	M91	HAMILTON	67		11	14	92	019941	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
36	PEARSON JOHN ALEX S	M91	STANLEY TWP	24		05	30	92	007102	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
37	PEARSON JOHN EDWARD	M91	TORONTO	72		01	27	92	021038	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
38	PEARSON JOHN F	M91	TORONTO*	72		11	28	92	023989	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
39	PEARSON JOHN WILLIAM	M91	E GWILLIMBURY T	70		06	30	92	020093	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
40	PEARSON LEONARD PERCIVAL	M91	LOGAN TWP	44		08	28	92	014012	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
41	PEARSON SARAH ELIZABETH	F91	SMITH TWP	45		09	07	92	014799	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
42	PEARSON SELINA	F91	TORONTO	72		04	09	92	021855	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
43	PEARSON VICTORIA	F91	TORONTO	72		08	15	92	023055	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
44	PEASE CHARLES J	M91	TORONTO	72		02	11	92	021495	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
45	PEAT FREDERICK WILLIAM	M91	UNORGANIZED TWP	36		05	28	92	011519	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
46	PEATT WILLIAM	M91	ST THOMAS	12		09	01	92	004069	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
47	PEDDEN JOSEPH	M91	ADELAIDE TWP	35		09	07	92	010511	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
48	PEDDIE JAMES	M91	UXBRIDGE TWP	40		03	15	92	012788	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
49	PEDDLER WILLIAM JOHN	M91	ENNISKILLEN TWP	29		08	23	92	008540	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
50	PEDLER JONATHAN	M91	ENNISKILLEN TWP	29		10	03	92	008541	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
51	PEDLEY HENRY HORACE	M91	ESSA TWP	51		03	15	92	016186	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
52	PEDLEY HENRY HORACE	M91	ESSA TWP	51		05	15	92	016187	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
53	PEDLOW ETHEL	F91	DEREHAM TWP	41		02	11	92	013640	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
54	PEDLOW ETHEL	F91	DEREHAM TWP	41		03	11	92	013649	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
55	PEDRICK WILLIAM	M91	N GOSFIELD TWP	13		03	14	92	004437	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
56	PEEBLES ALEXANDER	M91	PETERBOROUGH	45		02	20	92	014430	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
57	PEEBLES JAMES HOOD	M91	DUNDAS	67		03	22	92	019102	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
58	PEEL EDWARD WILLIAM	M91	MANVERS TWP	11		02	22	92	012078	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
59	PEEL JOHN	M91	CARTWRIGHT TWP	11		02	12	92	011951	92	L. CIVIL DEATH
60	PEEL M ANN	F91	MANVERS TWP	11		03	07	92	012083	92	L. CIVIL DEATH