

Newspaper Holdings at the Archives of Ontario

212 Research Guide

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This research guide will help you find newspapers in the Archives of Ontario collection as well as locating newspapers that are not in our collection.

The Archives of Ontario’s newspaper holdings include:

- newspapers, in both original and microfilm format, from most Ontario cities and towns dating from 1793 to approximately 1930
- a unique collection of multilingual newspapers from Ontario’s multicultural communities, dating from 1930 to 1987
- a number of non-Ontario and speciality newspapers, such as labour movement newspapers.

Most newspapers in the Archives’ holdings can only be consulted in our Reading Room. Microfilmed newspapers are available on a self-serve basis. It takes one to two business days to retrieve newspapers that are not on microfilm. Newspapers in our multicultural newspaper collections are also available on microfilm and through our interloan.

Holdings of the major current Toronto newspapers are limited to the *Globe and Mail*, 1844 to 1917 and 1928 to 1931.

The *Toronto Reference Library* has copies of the *Star*, the *Telegram*, the *Sun*, current issues of the *Globe and Mail* and other more recent Ontario newspapers ([Click here to access the Toronto Public Library website](#)). Other public libraries, local history centres or archives may also have collections of newspapers.

The Records

To find a newspaper in the Archives’ collection you need to know its name (or “masthead”) and where it was published.

Research Topic	Resources
Locating the Place of Publication	See the Title Index in Section 2 of Brian Gilchrist’s <i>Inventory of Ontario Newspapers</i> , Toronto: Micromedia Limited, 1987, available in the Reading

Research Topic	Resources
	Room.
Finding if a newspaper is in the Archives collections	<p>See Finding Aid L 23 Original and Microfilm Newspaper Collections in the Archives of Ontario (on our Web site or in the Genealogy Reference Area of the Reading Room). Refer to Appendix A5 for lists of newspapers available on microfilm. They are organized alphabetically by place of publication.</p> <p>If the newspaper is listed, note the microfilm N number. (e.g., N 481). Find the microfilm in the newspaper microfilm cabinets (cabinet numbers 33 to 46, with green labels) that are arranged by N number. If there is more than one reel of microfilm for the newspaper, the label on each microfilm box will tell you the exact dates of newspapers that are on each reel.</p> <p>If the newspaper is not listed as part of our microfilm collection, see Appendix A2 of Finding Aid L 23. It lists original newspapers by place of publication. Original Toronto newspapers are listed by name in Appendix A3. If a newspaper is listed as part of our collection of original documents, note the container number in the far right hand column (e.g., 13-2). Arrange to have the newspaper retrieved for you by submitting a Records Request Form to the Circulation Desk. (You can also e-mail or phone us in advance). Please give the newspaper name, years requested and container number.</p> <p>For our multicultural newspaper collection, see the Multicultural Newspapers Microfilming Project Binder (available in the Archives' Reading Room), or the Microfilm Interloan Catalogue (on our Web site). Both are arranged according to the name of the newspaper. There is a community and language index at the front of the binder.</p>
Finding Newspapers Published Outside of Ontario	If you know the place of publication, see Finding Aid L 23, Original and Microfilm

Research Topic	Resources
	<p>Newspaper Collections in the Archives of Ontario, Appendix A5. It lists microfilmed newspapers alphabetically by place of publication.</p> <p>If the newspaper is not listed in L 23, Appendix A5, see Non-Ontario Newspapers, 2 volume (available in the Reading Room). It lists original newspapers within our holdings by jurisdiction (province, region, country) and then alphabetically by the name of the newspaper.</p>
<p>Finding a newspaper that is not in the Archives' collection</p>	<p>Consult these other sources:</p> <p>Canadian Newspapers on Microform held by Library and Archives Canada. Click here to access the Library and Archives Canada website. Library and Archives Canada has the country's most extensive and up-to-date collection of newspapers on microfilm.</p> <p>Brian Gilchrist's <i>Inventory of Ontario Newspapers, Toronto: Micromedia Limited, 1987</i> (available in the Reading Room) to determine which organizations have the newspaper.</p> <p>Union List of Canadian Newspapers, 1988 (available in the Reading Room) to determine which repositories hold non-Ontario newspapers.</p> <p>The Toronto Reference Library Newspaper Collection, especially for more current newspapers. Click here to access the Toronto Public Library website.</p> <p>Local libraries and archives.</p> <p>The <i>Toronto Star</i> makes available on the Internet, for a fee, "Pages of the Past", a digitized version of each of its issues from 1894 to 2002. Click here to access the "Pages of the Past" website through the Toronto Public Library.</p>
<p>Researching newspaper publication</p>	<p>See the Newspaper Collections: Microfilm</p>

Research Topic	Resources
and ownership history	<p>Introductions binders (available in the Reading Room). These binders contain a brief history of the ownership, publication and historical context of some microfilmed newspapers and a list of contents indicating which editions are missing. The entries are listed by microfilm reel number (for example, N 11). To find the N number, see Finding Aid L 23 Original and Microfilm Newspaper Collections in the Archives of Ontario, Appendix A5.</p> <p>The history and list of contents are also on the microfilm, at the beginning of each newspaper.</p>

Making Contact

Ready and Willing

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.

Contact us

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

Email: [Click here to email the Archives of Ontario](#)

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

Website

For information about the Archives' holdings, as well as access to research guides and other customer service materials available through the Archives of Ontario. [Click here to visit our website.](#)

Customer Service and Research Guides

The Archives of Ontario has published a series of in-depth research guides on a variety of specific topics. For more information, please see "Customer Service and Research Guides" under "Accessing Our Collection" on the home page of the Archives website.

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