This guide will help you find county and city directories, phone books and voters’ lists that are in the Archives’ collections. The records that this guide describes will be of particular interest if you are doing family history research, by helping you to find the exact location where an individual lived.

You will find all databases and guides mentioned in this guide in the “Start Your Research” section of our website.

THE RECORDS

City and County Directories and Telephone Books

The Archives holds a number of city and county directories on self-service microfilm. [Click here to access our online library catalogue, BiBLION.](#) Search the name of the county or city to find the appropriate reel number. For Toronto and London city directories, check Library finding aids L 15 Toronto City Directories on Microfilm and L 19 London, Ontario City Directories on Microfilm in BiBLION. The Toronto city directories are also available through microfilm interloan.

The Archives also has copies of microfilmed Bell telephone books for Ontario for 1879-1979. There is a microfilm listing on the General Reference bookshelves of the Reading Room. The microfilm may also be available through other libraries.

Voters’ Lists

These records list only the people entitled to vote in municipal, provincial and federal elections. They document voters’ residences and, in some cases, the voters’ occupations. The Archives’ library has voters’ lists for a limited number of municipalities (1874-1978, mainly 1874-1910). [Click here to check the Library finding aid L 17 Voters’ Lists in BiBLION for more information.](#)

There are some voters’ lists in municipal records. See Research Guide 209 - Municipal Records at the Archives of Ontario for more information. Local archives and libraries may also have some voters’ lists.

Library and Archives Canada has microfilmed voters’ lists for federal elections from 1935 to 1980. This microfilm is available in the Archives’ Reading Room
and at Library and Archives Canada. Click here to check the description for the Federal voters’ lists diffusion material (D 96). For more information, click here to access the Archives Descriptive Database, or, for more information, click here to search the Library and Archives Canada website.

MAKING CONTACT

Ready and Willing

Although unable to do your research for you, our reference staff 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
Fax: 416-327-1999
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. Please click here to visit our website www.ontario.ca/archives.

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 “Research Guides and Tools” under “Accessing Our Collection” on the home page of the Archives website.

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