Genealogy Collections and Published Genealogies

Last Updated: November 2020

[Men, women, and children standing and sitting next to Brien family tombstone], J.C. Smith, Archives of Ontario F 4700-0-0-0-238, Image Number I0054201
In this Guide

This research guide provides information about genealogy collections and published genealogies held by the Archives of Ontario.

*Please note: this guide contains links to information found in our online Archives Descriptive Database. On our website, this database is found under “Access our Collections.” If you are using a print copy of this guide, go to page 3 for more information on how to find the online descriptions.

The Records

Archives of Ontario Genealogical and Biographical Research Files

These files contain information on a limited number of families in Ontario that Archives of Ontario staff have researched. The Archives no longer collects this information.

A description for these records is available in our online Archives Descriptive Database. Click here to access description for RG 17-21: Archives of Ontario genealogical and biographical research files.

Biography and Genealogy Index

This card catalogue is a name index to a variety of genealogical sources and biographical information on individuals and families. The Index has not been updated for many years. You can find some explanatory cards at the start of the index. You can access this index on microfiche in the Reading Room.

Genealogies Collection

This collection contains genealogies completed by private individuals and donated to the Archives prior to the 1970s. Click here to access the description for F 277: Genealogies collection.
Most of the genealogies are available on self-service microfilm in the Archives' Reading Room and through the Microfilm Interloan Service. Click here for more information on our Microfilm Interloan Service.

**Published Genealogies**

The Archives holds a small number of published genealogies in our library collection. You can usually locate them by searching our BiBLION Library Catalogue by the name of the family. Click here to search BiBLION.

The Archives no longer collects published genealogies but the Toronto Public Library holds some genealogies and local history collections at various branches. Click here for more information on researching genealogy at the Toronto Public Library. Other local libraries and archives may also have published genealogies.

**How do I get to the online descriptions?**

1. On our website’s main page, click on “Access our Collections”, and click on “Archives Descriptive Database”, as shown in the image below:

   ![Image of Archives Descriptive Database](image)

2. In the Database, click on “Advanced Search”: 

   ![Image of Advanced Search](image)
3. On the “Advanced Search” page, click on “Search Groups of Archival Records”:

This image shows the "Advanced Search" page in the Archives Descriptive Database, with an arrow pointing to the "Search Groups of Archival Records" button.

4. On the “Search Groups of Archival Records” page, enter the reference code (that’s the number starting with C, F or RG).
Contact Us

Although unable to do your research for you, our reference archivists are waiting to assist you. You may call 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](mailto:reference@ontario.ca). The e-mail address is reference@ontario.ca

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

**Website**
Visit our website for information about our collections and our services, our online exhibits and education programs, and links to our social media accounts. [Click here to visit our website](http://www.ontario.ca/archives). The website is [www.ontario.ca/archives](http://www.ontario.ca/archives).

**Customer Service and Research Guides**
Our guides contain information about our services, freelance researchers available to do research for you, and some of most popular records. [Click here to view our guides](http://www.ontario.ca/archives). To find the “Research Guides and Tools” on our website, click on “Access our Collections”.

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