
Patient and Health Practitioner Records

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This research guide will help you to find and use patient records and records of health practitioners in the Archives of Ontario's collections. It covers the following topics

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All descriptions for records mentioned in this guide are available in our online Archives Descriptive Database, unless noted otherwise. You will find the database in the "Start Your Research" section of our website.

THE RECORDS

Please note the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 1990 and other privacy legislation restrict access to records 100 years old and less that contain personal information. Speak with a reference staff for more information.

Patient Records

Psychiatric Hospitals: Patient records may include case files, admission registers and discharge registers. Search the [Archives Descriptive Database](#) ("Search Records creator" option) by the name of the hospital (or the term "psychiatric" and the name of the town in the keyword field) for information and lists of records series for each hospital.

Also:

- Check the online description for the [Psychiatric In-Patients Master Index Cards, 1870-1975 \(RG 10-320\)](#).
- The records of the Inspector of Asylums, Prisons and Public Charities, 1868-1935 (RG 63) contain admission records, admission and death notices, commitment and discharge registers, patient estate records and other records for asylums throughout the Province. Speak to a reference staff about accessing these records.

Tuberculosis Hospitals: Patient records are generally limited to case files:

- Search the [Archives Descriptive Database](#) (select the “Search Records creator” option) by the name of the hospital for information and lists of records series from the following hospitals:
 - Fort William Sanatorium, Thunder Bay
 - Homewood Sanatorium, Guelph

Also search the database (“search series of archival records” option) for the [Belleville Chest Clinic patient files \(RG 10-265\)](#) and the [North Bay Chest Clinic patient files \(RG 10-168\)](#)

The following series are not described online. Please speak with a reference staff about finding and using these records.

Reference code	Title	Dates
RG 63-D-6)	Homewood Sanatorium Admission, Discharge and Death Returns	1909-1918
RG 10-157	Brant Sanatorium (Brantford) Patient Case Files	1913-1958
RG 10-146	Freeport Sanatorium (Kitchener) Patient Case Files	1922-1954
RG 10-205	Hamilton Chest Clinic Patient Case Files	1940-1958
RG 10-93	Royal Ottawa Sanatorium Patient Case Files	1908-1958
RG 10-94	St. Lawrence Sanatorium (Cornwall) Patient Case Files	1908-1957
RG 10-95	St. Mary’s on the Lake Sanatorium (Haileybury) Patient Files	1933-1940, 1943-1957

Centres for Developmentally and Emotionally Disabled Individuals: Patient records are generally limited to case files.

- Search the [Archives Descriptive Database](#) (“Search Records creator” option) by the name of the institution for information and lists of records series from the following institutions:
 - D’Arcy Place, Cobourg
 - Huronia Regional Centre, Orillia
 - Muskoka Regional Centre, Gravenhurst
 - Oxford Regional Centre, Woodstock
 - Surrey Place Centre, Toronto

The following series are not described online. Please speak with a reference staff about finding and using these records.

Reference Code	Title	Dates
RG 29-158	Aldergrove Children’s Centre (Etobicoke) Case Files	1977
RG 29-58	D’Arcy Place Developmental Centre, Residents/Clients Files	1920-1978
RG 29-160	Durham House Child and Family Centre (Whitby) Client Case Files	1975-1992
RG 29-57	Facility for Developmentally Handicapped and Emotionally Disturbed – South-western Regional Centre Resident’s/Client’s Medical, Individual Assessment and Program files	1896-1975
RG 29-146	Northwest Regional Centre Residents/Clients Files	1935-1977
RG 29-76	Regional Children’s Centre (Thunder Bay) Regional	1970-1977

Reference Code	Title	Dates
	Children's Centre Case Files	
RG 29-148	St. Lawrence Regional Centre (Brockville) Resident's/Client's Medical, Individual Assessment and Program files	1975-1977
RG 29-128	St. Thomas Adult Rehabilitation and Training Centre,	1975-1985

Other hospitals: The Archives has records of the Cornwall General Hospital ([F 1396](#), 1897-1980) and the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital ([F 1399](#), 1892-1977). They include patient records.

Existing patient records from other hospitals are usually in the custody of the hospital itself or, if the hospital has closed, will remain with the succeeding institution. Please note that most older patient records have been destroyed.

Records of Physicians, Nurses and Other Healthcare Practitioners

Physicians: The Archives has the records of over 50 prominent Ontario physicians, ranging from the late 1700s to the late 1970s.

The list below is not exhaustive. To see if the Archives has other physicians' records, search the physician's name in the [Archives Descriptive Database](#).

Reference code	Title	Dates
F 295	A.L.W. Webb fonds	1862-1914
F 512	Angus Cattanach family fonds	1821-1918
F 295	Anson Buck collection	1900-1940
F 784	Ardagh family fonds	1835-1965
F 1385	Cairncross & Lawrence Limited fonds	1893-1939
F 710	Charteris family fonds	1825-1932
F 677	Clifford Hugh Smylie fonds	1957
F 859	Crites and Thompson family fonds	1855-1890
F 1365	G. Stacy fonds	1897-1903
F 1380	George Gwynne Bird fonds	1800-1956
F 336	H. Townley Douglas collection	1816-1965
F 1367	J.B. Coleridge fonds	1909-1913
F 1376	James C. Goodwin collection	1813-1953
F 329	James Richardson family fonds	1783-1920
F 91	John Rolph fonds	1808-1940
F 1176	Joshua Brown family fonds	1841-1990
F 1374	L. Bruce Robertson fonds	ca. 1850-1930
F 1386	McLaren Pharmacy fonds	1865-1960
F 521	Solomon Jones fonds	1787-1843, 1926
F 706	Thomas Walton family fonds	1816-1948
F 1366	W.R. Bowns fonds	1856-1872
F 986	William Philp family fonds	1850-1931

The A.D. Campbell fonds (F 1382) includes biographical sketches of physicians in Waterloo County from 1824-1924 and Campbell's index cards listing physicians in Upper Canada to 1867. Speak with a reference staff on how to find and use these records.

The publication [Ontario Medical Registers, 1867-1954](#) (there are some gaps) has directories of physicians and surgeons practicing in Ontario. They are available on self-service microfilm reels MS 7155 and MS 7156 in the Archives' Reading Room.

Healthcare Practitioners: The Archives holds the *Ontario Health Insurance Plan Practitioners Registry Catalogue, 1977-1991* (RG 30-20). The catalogue lists all practitioners who are participants in the OHIP plan. Speak with a reference staff about how to find and use these records.

Nurses: The Archives has the records of the nursing schools at the [Cornwall General Hospital, 1898-1969 \(F 1396\)](#) and the [St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital, 1920-1974 \(F 1399\)](#) and the [Public Health Nursing Staff File 1927-1935 \(RG 10-30-6\)](#).

MAKING CONTACT

Ready and Willing

Although unable to do your health records 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: reference@ontario.ca

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 visit our website <http://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 "Start Your Research" on the home page of the Archives website.

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This document may contain references to electronic links that can be activated only by using the HTML version found on the Archives of Ontario website.

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