

Ontario

Research Outline

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This outline describes major sources of information about families from Ontario. Before reading this outline, study the Family History Library's *Canada Research Outline* (34545), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS AT THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library has many of the records described in this outline. The major holdings include land, probate, census, tax, cemetery, church, and vital records.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, microfiche, and compact disc numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. These numbers may be used to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers.

THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog, which is found at the library and at each Family History Center. To find a record, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

CANADA - MILITARY RECORDS

ONTARIO - LAND AND PROPERTY

ONTARIO, BRANT - PROBATE RECORDS

ONTARIO, BRANT, BRANTFORD - CHURCH RECORDS

- Then the *record type* you want, such as:

CANADA - *MILITARY RECORDS*

ONTARIO - *LAND AND PROPERTY*

ONTARIO, BRANT - *PROBATE RECORDS*

ONTARIO, BRANT, BRANTFORD - *CHURCH RECORDS*

The record types described in this outline are the record types listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog. The catalog is organized by Ontario's county structure as it existed in 1962. Counties became more important record-keeping centers as district importance began to dwindle in 1850. Occasionally records are listed in the catalog by the district where they were created. For additional information, see the "Gazetteers," "Historical Geography," "History," and "Map" sections of this outline.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers:

National Archives of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N
CANADA
Telephone: 613-996-7458

Personal Records Unit
Researcher Services Division
National Archives of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N3
CANADA

Archives of Ontario
77 Grenville Street
Toronto, ON M5S 1B3
CANADA

Many records for the old pre-1867 “Province of Canada” (which combined present Ontario and Quebec) are at the National Archives of Canada. Other records for the province and counties of Ontario are at the Archives of Ontario. Many records from both archives are available on microfilm at the Family History Library.

Both the Archives of Ontario and the National Archives of Canada lend copies of many of their microfilmed records to public libraries through the interlibrary loan service. See the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

If you plan to visit either of these archives, contact the organization and ask for information about their collection, hours, services, and fees.

There are also major genealogical collections located at:

Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library
789 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4W 2G8
CANADA

University of Western Ontario D. B. Weldon Library
1151 Richmond Street North
London, ON N6A 3K7
CANADA

Major church archives are discussed in the “Church Records” section of this outline. To learn about Ontario municipal archives, see sources cited in the *Canada Research Outline* (34545). Some of the sources you will want to use are also available in other major archives and libraries in the United States and Canada.

Inventories, Registers, and Catalogs

A directory of addresses, telephone numbers, hours, and brief description of collections is:

Taylor, Ryan. *Important Genealogical Collections in Ontario Libraries and Archives: A Directory*. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1994. (FHL book 971.3 J54t; not on microfilm.)

See the “Societies” section of this outline for a directory of Heritage Organization repositories.

A few localities have published inventories of sources relating to their area; these are at archives throughout the province. An excellent example is:

Bloomfield, Elizabeth, ed. *Inventory of Primary and Archival Sources: Guelph and Wellington County to 1940*. [Guelph, Ont.]: University of Guelph, 1989. (FHL book 971.342 H23i; fiche 6104305.)

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks serve as libraries. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive E-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Ontario in a variety of sources at local, provincial, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of September 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- Canada GenWeb

<http://www.cam.org/~beaur/gen/cdgenweb.html>

A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county and province.

- Canadian Genealogy Resources

<http://www.iosphere.net/~jholwell/cangene/gene.html>

Lists county, provincial, and national resources; personal pages; and publications.

- Roots-L

<http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/canada.html>

A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly updated research coordination list.

BIOGRAPHY

Biographies of many prominent Ontarians are included in Jesse Edgar Middleton's *The Province of Ontario: A History* (vols. 3-5), referred to in the "History" section of this outline.

Two other significant collections of biographical sketches for Ontario are found in:

The Canadian Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-made Men, Ontario Volume. Toronto: American Biographical Pub. Co., 1880 (FHL book 971.3 D3c; film 934,809 item 3.)

Fraser, Alexander. *A History of Ontario: Its Resources and Development.* 2 vols. Toronto: Canada History Co., 1907 (FHL book 971.3 H2f; fiche 6046760.) Biographical sketches are in the end of volume 1 and all of volume 2.

See the *Canada Research Outline* (34545) for national biographical dictionaries listing Ontarians.

Canadian encyclopedias include biographical sketches.

Town, county, and local histories often partially consist of biographies of residents. For example:

Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte: Including Genealogies [sic] of Old Families and Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens. Toronto: Rolph and Clark, [1904]. (FHL film 982,201.) Contains many biographies.

There is no major province-wide index limited to biographies. Three master indexes—*Biographical and Genealogical Card Index for Ontario*, *People of Ontario*, and *Central Canadians*—include citations to scattered biographies and many other sources. They are described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline. Book and manuscript collections of biographies are located at the institutions listed in the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

BUSINESS RECORDS AND COMMERCE

For a description of Hudson's Bay Company records, see the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

CEMETERIES

The Family History Library has copies of many cemetery records from Ontario. See:

Cemetery Records of Ontario, Canada. 17 vols. [N.p.: n.p.], 1947-1967. (FHL book 971.3 V3ce; film 823,644-48, 874,379 item 7, film 1,035,565 item 10; fiche 6046793.)

For an index, see:

Index to Cemetery Records of Ontario. Typescript, [1971?]. (FHL book 971.3 V3ce; film 824,329 item 8.) This is an alphabetical list of names and locations of cemeteries in vols. 1-14 above.

Known cemeteries in Ontario are listed in:

Ronnow, Verna, ed. *Inventory of Cemeteries in Ontario.* Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1987. (FHL book 971.3 V34i; not on microfilm.)

For tombstone inscriptions from more than half of the 4,000 cemeteries in Ontario, see booklets published by branches of the Ontario Genealogical Society and other organizations. See also the magazines in the “Periodicals” section of this outline.

CENSUS

Federal

Many federal census records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives of Canada, and at other provincial and local archives. The *Canada Research Outline* (34545) provides more detailed information about the federal records.

The Family History Library has Canadian federal censuses of Ontario for 1871, 1881, 1891, and 1901.

Index, 1871 Census of Ontario. Most Canadian national censuses are not indexed by province. The Canadian government did not make indexes. The Ontario Genealogical Society prepared an index for the 1871 census of the province:

Elliott, Bruce S., ed. *Index to the 1871 Census of Ontario*. 30 vols. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1986-1992. (FHL book 971.3 X22i 1871; not on microfilm.) A computer version of the original databases for this index is available at the National Archives of Canada and the Automated Resource Center of the Family History Library. This is listed in the Family History Library Catalog under the heading ONTARIO - CENSUS - 1871 - INDEXES.

Provincial

Pre-1842. The pre-1842 censuses of Ontario were taken each year by local tax assessors and filed with the District Clerk of the Peace. Most have been lost. Those for Augusta Township, Grenville County, are on FHL film 393,998. They cover the years 1796, 1806, 1813, 1823, and 1824. Other head-of-household lists made by tax assessors date from the late 1820s and 1830s for some townships. See the "Taxation" section of this outline.

1842-1850. The first census for all of Upper Canada (present southern Ontario) was a head-of-household census taken in 1842. Much of it does not survive. The 1848 and 1850 head-of-household censuses exist for only three of twenty districts then in the province: Huron, Johnstown, and Newcastle. The available 1848 and 1850 censuses are indexed in:

Dilts, Bryan Lee. ***1848 and 1850 Canada West (Ontario) Census Index.*** Salt Lake City: Index Publishing, 1984. (FHL book 971.3 X22d; not on microfilm.)

1851-61. Important every-name censuses were taken in southern Ontario for 1851 (actually taken in 1852) and 1861. Some sections of these censuses are lost. A list of townships for which these and other censuses are available is in the Ontario section of:

Hillman, Thomas A. ***Catalogue of Census Returns on Microfilm, 1666-1891.*** [Ottawa]: National Archives of Canada, 1987. (FHL book 971 X23ht; not on microfilm.)

Census Indexes. A bibliography of available census indexes by township is:

Crowder, Norman K. *Indexes to Ontario Census Records: Interim Update.* Nepean, Ont.: Crowder, 1992. (FHL book 971.3 X23c 1992; fiche 6075927.)

All census records for Ontario are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the headings:

ONTARIO - CENSUS - [YEAR]
ONTARIO, [DISTRICT] - CENSUS - [YEAR]
ONTARIO, [COUNTY] - CENSUS - [YEAR]
ONTARIO, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CENSUS - [YEAR]

CHURCH RECORDS

Consult church registers for records of baptisms, marriages, and burials before 1869—the year civil vital registration began in Ontario. These registers may be useful to 1930, when complete civil vital registration was finally achieved. Religious affiliation can be determined from family sources or censuses beginning in 1851.

You should search the registers of all denominations in the area where your ancestor lived, since many baptisms were performed in the nearest church, regardless of the family's religious affiliation. At certain periods of Ontario's history, only certain denominations were allowed to perform marriages. In many cases an individual had to be married by a priest or minister of a religion other than his own. The following history traces these changes:

1793	Pre-Only Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy could legally perform marriages.
1798-1793	Marriages could be performed by Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy and district clerks if the couple resided more than eighteen miles from an Anglican minister. Despite legal restrictions, a few Lutheran and Presbyterian ministers performed marriages before 1798 and recorded them in church registers.
1831-1798	Anglican, Calvinist, Church of Scotland, Lutheran, and Roman Catholic clergy could perform marriages.
1858-1831	All denominations mentioned above as well as Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians could perform marriages. Only non-Catholic and non-Anglican clergy were required to keep marriage registers for the inspection of civil authorities, separate from regular parish records.
1869-1858	Clergy of all denominations could perform marriages. Clergy of all faiths were requested to transcribe information into county marriage registers; many did not.

The Family History Library has many parish records of the Roman Catholic Church and some church records for smaller denominations, notably minutes of various Baptist conferences.

Many denominations have collected their records into central repositories. Some national church headquarters or archives are described in the *Canada Research Outline* (34545). Addresses of many church archives in Ontario are in Brenda Dougall Merriman's

Genealogy in Ontario, pages 243-46 (see the “For Further Reading” sections of this outline).

You can write to the following churches to learn where their records are located.

Anglican

The Anglican Church in Canada, sometimes called Church of England or Protestant Episcopal Church, has published an inventory of church records and their locations at diocesan archives in Ontario:

Guide to the Holdings of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. Agincourt, Ont.: Generation Press, 1990. (FHL book 971.3 K23g; not on microfilm.)

Further information is available from:

Archivists of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario
135 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M4C 1L8
CANADA

Baptist

Many Baptist records for Ontario are at the Family History Library. For further information write to:

Canadian Baptist Archives
McMaster Divinity College
Hamilton, ON L8S 4K1
CANADA

Presbyterian

Only a few pre-1925 Presbyterian records are available through the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Some of these are on film at the Family History Library. Most such records are at archives of the United Church of Canada. See the address below.

Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives
50 Wynford Drive
Toronto, ON M5T 1Z6
CANADA

Roman Catholic

Most pre-1910 records of Roman Catholic parishes in Ontario have been microfilmed and are available through the Family History Library and its centers. Exceptions are listed below.

The records of Stormont and Glengarry Counties are at:

Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall
220 Chemin Montreal
P.O. Box 1388
Cornwall, ON K6H 5V4
CANADA

The parish records of the Diocese of Hamilton are at:

Diocese of Hamilton
700 King Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 1C7
CANADA

United Church of Canada

United Church records include Methodist, most Presbyterian, and Congregational church records dating from before the 1925 merger which formed the church. Many records are still in the hands of local clergymen. Others are at:

United Church of Canada Archives
73 Queen's Park Crescent East
Victoria University
Toronto, ON M5S 1K7
CANADA

COURT RECORDS

Court names and functions have continued to evolve since 1789, when courts of justice were first established in Ontario. Until 1881, a distinction was made between courts of common law dealing with criminal matters and courts of equity dealing with civil and property matters. Probate courts are in still another category. See the "Probate Records" section of this outline. Very few court records other than probate records are at the Family History Library.

The highest court in the province is now the Supreme Court of Ontario. It is divided into the Court of Appeal and the High Court of Justice. Since 1930, divorce proceedings have been one of the functions of the High Court, or of lower court judges acting as agents of the High Court. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of records of the Supreme Court 1881-1937 (FHL film 851,370-71,) and of one of its predecessors, the Court of Queen's Bench 1828-1881 (FHL film 851,369-70). These records are indexed at the beginning of each volume.

At the intermediate level are the County or Judicial District Courts which handle both civil and criminal matters. The inferior Provincial Courts include a Civil Division comprising a number of Small Claims Courts, a Criminal Division, and a Family Division.

Record Access

Records of the Small Claims Courts and other inferior courts are usually not preserved in archives. Certain types of court files that may be preserved, including adoption records and juvenile court proceedings, have always been considered confidential and therefore of limited access.

Civil and criminal records from the county and district courts are usually sent from the court to the Archives of Ontario after a certain period of time. They are in process of sorting and cataloging some of these records. Most of the records are not indexed.

Until 1980 most Ontario court records were considered public records open for review. This has been changed so that recent records of civil suits, for example, are limited to the lawyers and persons directly involved. Contact the court or the Archives of Ontario to determine accessibility of court records.

Record Types

Complete transcripts of court actions are rare, although reports of court proceedings may have been published in newspapers. See the “Newspapers” section of this outline.

Criminal court records usually consist of abbreviated court minutes (the official court record) and case files (which include indictments, depositions, and records of conviction and sentence).

Civil court records include court minute books, case files (including papers from the original plaintiff's filing to the final judgment), and a variety of other separate series (including judgment books, order books, process books, and procedure [index] books).

Early Court Records

Court records were some of the earliest records created in what is now Ontario. However, many of the very early records have been destroyed, some intentionally as a space-saving measure, some accidentally through fire or flood.

In 1979 the Archives of Ontario received the remaining case files of the Supreme and County Courts of the province dating before 1959. They also hold records of other courts, including the Courts of Quarter Sessions and the Court of Chancery.

Pre-1837, Lieutenant-Governor's Council. Until 1837 the lieutenant-governor of the province and his council had responsibility for most matters of equity, including certain land, business, and family matters. A few of their Orders-in-Council still exist, although many have been lost. Some Orders-in-Council dealing with land transactions have been microfilmed. They are mixed with other records listed in the Family History Library Catalog under ONTARIO - LAND AND PROPERTY.

1837, Court of Chancery. Although the Court of Chancery was established in 1837, case files date only from 1869. Prior to 1881 this court functioned as a superior court of equity exercising jurisdiction over such matters as land patents, estates of incompetent persons, and guardianships. The court was headquartered in Toronto, although between 1857 and 1881 the court's justices were required to go on circuit to county towns. The Archives of Ontario has records and partial indexes for the Court of Chancery.

Early 1800s, Courts of the General Quarter Sessions. The Archives of Ontario also holds some records dating back to the early 19th century for the Courts of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace in Newcastle and Johnstown Districts. Each of the four or more districts in early Ontario had a Court of Quarter Sessions composed of the local justices of the peace or magistrates meeting together four times yearly to judge criminal matters. Until 1841, when District (later County) Councils were established, the Courts of Quarter Sessions also had administrative duties such as collecting assessments, allocating money for roads, and paying official accounts.

Records for the Courts of Quarter Sessions continue into the 20th century and are divided into criminal case files and accounts series.

Other early courts included the following:

1790	Court of King's Bench (or Queen's Bench) was established. This court sometimes functioned as a central superior court for the province.
1794	District Courts were set up as civil courts to deal with moderate cases not involving title to land.
1850	District Courts were renamed County Courts. They gained new civil responsibilities.
1874	County Courts gained criminal jurisdiction.
1900s	County Court duties expanded to include adoptions, changes of name, and other matters.

An excellent explanation of court records and their use in genealogy is Gordon Dodds's "Court Records as a Genealogical Source in Ontario" in Don Wilson's *Readings in Ontario Genealogical Sources*, pages 94-105. This is listed in the "For Further Reading" section.

DIRECTORIES

Directories of heads of households can help in locating individuals in a certain place, especially when their names do not appear in the censuses. Many city and county directories from the 1840s to the present are available. For example, the Family History Library has directories for:

Toronto	
1846-47	film 862,286 item 2
1859-60	film 862,286 item 4
1914	film 1,320,735 item 2
Hamilton	
1858	fiche 6046560
1865-66	fiche 6046750
1881-82	fiche 6019955

The Family History Library also has microfilm copies of:

The Canada Directory for 1857-1858. Montréal: John Lovell, 1857. (FHL film 956,166.) This lists tradesmen in cities in what is now Ontario and Quebec. For an alphabetical index to the Ontario portion, see:
Wilson, Thomas B. and Emily S. Wilson. *Directory of the Province of Ontario 1857 with a Gazetteer* [sic]. Lambertville, N.J.: Hunterdon House, 1987. (FHL book 971.3 E4w; not on microfilm.)

Many Ontario directoris up to and including 1900 are available on microfiche:

Pre-1900 Canadian Directories. [Ottawa, Ont.]: Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions, 1988. (On 4219 FHL fiche beginning with 6360453. These fiche do not circulate to Family History Centers.)

Some Ontario directories are included in the material indexed in *People of Ontario* and *Central Canadians* described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

People

Europeans. The original European settlers came in the early 18th century from France or from French Canada. They first settled the area surrounding the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers, which now separate Ontario from Michigan. Ontario has continued to receive significant numbers of overseas settlers from that time to the present day.

Americans, Loyalists. Beginning in 1784, large numbers of American Loyalists came from the United States to settle along the St. Lawrence River.

Most of the earliest settlers of Upper Canada (Ontario) were natives of the United States. By 1810, eighty percent of the white population of the province was estimated to have been born in the U.S., but only 25 percent of them were Loyalists (who had arrived by 1796) or their descendants. The rest were Americans who had recently come to Canada for land or other economic opportunities. New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania were listed as states of origin of many of these “late Loyalists,” as they were sometimes called.

British. The British Isles soon replaced the United States as the main source of immigration to Ontario. Many Irish settlers came beginning about 1820. About sixty percent of the Canadian Irish were Protestant.

Eastern Europeans. Large numbers of immigrants came into Ontario from Britain and from eastern Europe during the pre-World War I period, 1891-1914. Jews, Slavs, and Italians contributed to the ethnic diversity of large cities such as Toronto.

Canadian Emigrants. A favorite 19th-century destination of Canadians leaving Ontario was Michigan. About one out of every four Michigan families finds a direct connection to Ontario.

Records

There are only a few scattered immigration records for Ontario for the period before 1865. There are several incomplete lists of Loyalist settlers in Ontario. For example:

Crowder, Norman K. *Early Ontario Settlers: A Source Book*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993. (FHL book 971.3 H29c; not on microfilm.) Transcribes and indexes various provisioning lists and returns of settlers during 1783-89.

Fitzgerald, E. Keith. *Ontario People 1796-1803*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993. (FHL book 971.3 D2f; not on microfilm.) Has district Loyalist rolls.

“Emigrant Returns” of early settlers, 1815-1834. (FHL film 1,319,966-67.) These are mainly for Lanark, Leeds, and Perth counties. The Archives of Ontario also have filmed copies.

Names and addresses of some later Ontario immigrants and of the relatives they left behind are in:

Holt, Ruth and Margaret Williams. *Genealogical Extraction and Index of the Canada Company Remittance Books 1843-1847*. 3 vols. Weston, Ont. and Oakville, Ont.: Holt and Williams, 1990. (FHL book 971.3 W29g; not on microfilm.)

Various collections of papers in the Archives of Ontario and the National Archives of Canada list names from British-subsidized emigration programs such as the Irish movement into the Ottawa Valley and near Peterborough, 1823-1825, led by Peter Robinson. Many of those lists have been published in various sources, including those given in Brenda D. Merriman's *Genealogy in Ontario*. See the “For Further Reading” section of this outline.

Overseas immigrants to Ontario usually landed at Quebec or at ports in the northeastern U.S., then took smaller vessels or came overland into Ontario. Very few lists for Canadian ports exist before 1865, and only a handful for U.S. ports prior to 1820. Some names of early immigrants have been indexed in:

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*. 3 vols. plus annual supplements. Detroit: Gale Research, 1981-. (FHL book Ref 973 W32p; film numbers are in the compact disc Family History Library Catalog under *computer number 75625*.)

Passenger lists for ships coming to major Canadian ports after 1865 are described in the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

Ontario Department of Immigration Records, 1869-1897

Under the confederation of 1867, both the Dominion Government and the Provincial Governments had responsibility for immigration. The Archives of Ontario and the Family History Library have some Ontario Department of Immigration records for 1869-97.

Much family information is included in two alphabetical series of Six-Dollar Bonus Refunds for 1872-76. About one-fifth of the immigrants into Ontario during that time had such papers. See:

- Refund bonus applications (Series J). (On five rolls of microfilm, FHL film 1,405,787-88 and 1,405,910-12.)
- Refund bonus certificates (Series I). (On six rolls, FHL film 1,412,649 and 1,405,952-56.)

See also this useful record:

Applications for Passage Warrants (Series L). 1872-88. 4 vols. (FHL film 1,405,912.) Lists names and locations in Ontario of immigrants whose passage was paid by sponsors.

Family members' names and ages are sometimes given. The 1872 and 1873 lists give some immigrants' exact street addresses in Europe.

These and other Ontario Department of Immigration records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under ONTARIO - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Records of ethnic groups, including Mennonites, Scots, Germans, and Blacks are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under ONTARIO - MINORITIES.

Canadian Border Crossing Records

The United States kept records of people crossing the border from Canada to the United States. These records are called border crossing lists, passenger lists, or manifests. There are two kinds of manifests:

- Manifests of people sailing from Canada to the United States.
- Manifests of people traveling by train from Canada to the United States.

In 1895, Canadian shipping companies agreed to make manifests of passengers traveling to the United States. The Canadian government allowed U.S. immigration officials to inspect those passengers while they were still in Canada. The U.S. immigration officials also inspected train passengers traveling from Canada to the United States. The U.S. officials worked at Canadian seaports and major cities like Quebec and Winnipeg. The manifests from every seaport and emigration station in Canada were sent to St. Albans, Vermont.

The Family History Library has copies of both kinds of manifests. Because the manifests were sent to St. Albans, Vermont, they are called *St. Albans District Manifest Records of Aliens Arriving from Foreign Contiguous Territory*. Despite the name, the manifests are actually from seaports and railroad stations all over Canada and the northern United States, not just Vermont.

Border Crossing Manifests. Manifests may include each passenger's name, port or station of entry, date of entry, literacy, last residence, previous visits to the United States, and birthplace. The manifests are reproduced in two series:

- *Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1895-January 1921*, (608 rolls; FHL films 1561087-499; computer number 423848.) Includes records from seaports and railroad stations all over Canada and the northern United States. These manifests provide two types of lists:

--Traditional passenger lists on U.S. immigration forms.

--Monthly lists of passengers crossing the border on trains. These lists are divided by month. In each month, the records are grouped by railroad station. (The stations are listed in alphabetical order.) Under the station, the passengers are grouped by railroad company.

- *Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific Ports, 1929-1949.* (25 rolls; FHL films 1549387-411; computer number 423848.) These list travelers to the United States from Canadian Pacific seaports only.

Border Crossing Indexes. In many cases, index cards were the *only* records of the crossings. These cards are indexed in the four publications below.

A Soundex is a surname index organized by the way names sound rather than how they are spelled. Names like Smith and Smyth are filed together.

- *Soundex Index to Canadian Border Entries through the St. Albans, Vermont, District, 1895-1924.* (400 rolls; FHL films 1472801-3201; computer number 423848.)
- *Soundex Index to Entries into the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1924-1952.* (98 rolls; FHL films 1570714-811; computer number 423848.)
- *St. Albans District Manifest Records of Aliens Arriving from Foreign Contiguous Territory: Records of Arrivals through Small Ports in Vermont, 1895-1924.* (6 rolls; FHL films 1430987- 92; computer number 423849.) The records are arranged first by port and then alphabetically by surname. Only from Vermont ports of entry: Alburg, Beecher Falls, Canaan, Highgate Springs, Island Pond, Norton, Richford, St. Albans, and Swanton.
- *Detroit District Manifest Records of Aliens Arriving from Foreign Contiguous Territory: Arrivals at Detroit, Michigan, 1906-1954.* (117 rolls; FHL films 1490449-565; computer number 432703.) Only from Michigan ports of entry: Bay City, Detroit, Port Huron, and Sault Ste. Marie.

GAZETTEERS

Several helpful guides to places in Ontario have been published. The Family History Library Catalog usually lists records according to the jurisdictions indicated in this most useful modern gazetteer:

Gazetteer of Canada: Ontario. 1962 edition. Ottawa: Dept. of Mines and Technical Survey Geographical Branch, 1962. (FHL book 971.3 E5c; not on microfilm.) This edition was published before regional municipalities had been erected out of some former townships and counties. Lists localities alphabetically and references the township and county in which each was located. Gives geographical coordinates (latitude and longitude). Note: Newer editions omit all references to jurisdictions such as townships and counties and merely list the latitude and longitude of each locality.

For recent jurisdictions in which many localities are found, see:

Schindler, Marc A. *Administrative Atlas of Canada; Vol. 3: Ontario.* Gloucester, Ont.: Schindler-Spring Family Organization, 1988. (FHL book 971 E7sm v. 3; not on microfilm.) This volume has a gazetteer that lists major towns and the jurisdictions they are in. It has schematic maps that show the boundaries of those jurisdictions.

Historical Place Names

Because names and boundaries of some places have changed or no longer exist, you may need to use sources that describe places as they were known earlier. Old and new names of many localities are in:

Carter, Floreen Ellen. *Place Names of Ontario*. London, Ont.: Microfilmed for Phelps Publishing Co. by David Hallan Information Graphics, 1985. (On 25 microfiches; FHL fiche set 6332553. No circulation to Family History Centers.) Reports that Ontario places averaged three name changes through history. Includes a cross-reference index to all place names, old and new.

An excellent source of information on localities and their jurisdictions in early Ontario is *Lovell's Canadian Dominion Directory for 1871*. See the "Directories" section of the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. These must usually be searched in person. See:

Archives of Ontario. *Biographical and Genealogical Card Index for Ontario, 1780-1869*. (On 13 rolls of film; FHL film 1,544,194-99 and 1,544,223-29.) This was prepared from a variety of sources at the Archives of Ontario.

An important genealogical collection was transferred in 1991 from the Archives of Ontario to the Region of Peel Archives in Brantford. The *William Perkins Bull Collection* includes alphabetically arranged research notes, newspaper clippings, and other records collected in the 1930s on more than 2,000 families in the Peel County region. Part of the "Families" series from this collection is on microfilm at the Archives of Ontario. It is not at the Family History Library. It is described in:

Wm. Perkins Bull: Guide to the Wm. Perkins Bull Records at the Region of Peel Archives. [Brantford, Ont.]: Region of Peel Archives, 1995. (FHL book 971.3535 H23w; not on microfilm.)

The Family History Library has microfilm copies from the Archives of Ontario of:

Dr. W. G. Reive Collection (Niagara District). (FHL film 573,954-55.) Includes cemetery transcriptions and historical and genealogical information.

Family histories and other records of genealogical value included as parts of books and periodicals located at the Family History Library are indexed by county in:

Sykes, Ernie and Eileen Sykes. *Supplementary Index to Canadian Records. Volume 2: Ontario*. Revised. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1985. (FHL book 971 D22si v. 2; film 1,421,714 item 2; fiche 6051410.)

This book is basic to genealogical research on Ontario Loyalists:

Reid, William D. *The Loyalists in Ontario: The Sons and Daughters of The American Loyalists in Upper Canada*. Lambertville, N.J.: Hunterdon House, 1973. (FHL book 971.3 V2r; fiche 6046758.) Used early land records to make the family groups given here.

Ontario branches of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada have published lineages of some of their members. An example is:

Loyalist Ancestors: Some Families of the Hamilton Area. Toronto: Pro Familia Genealogical Services, 1986. (FHL book 971.352/H1 D21; not on microfilm.)

Local histories frequently include biographical and genealogical information. For example:

Anderson, Allan and Betty Tomlinson Anderson. *Tecumseth Township, the Unforgettable Past*. [Ontario]: Corp. of the Township of Tecumseth, 1984. (FHL book 971.317 H2t; not on microfilm.) Has a large genealogical section of Tecumseth families.

Two useful indexes to genealogical information in published Ontario sources are:

Elliot, Noel Montgomery. *People of Ontario 1600-1900: Alphabetical Directory of the People, Places and Vital Dates*. 3 vols. London, Ont.: Genealogical Research Library, 1984. (FHL book 971.3 D22o; not on microfilm.) This master index lists over 250,000 people alphabetically by surname from more than 400 townships. Citations include: surname, given names, type of event (birth, marriage, death, etc.), year, sometimes an abbreviated place name, and always a source code (often including a page number). The appendix at the end of each volume provides bibliographic information about most, but not all, of the 153 sources. Many of the sources appear to be the series of illustrated historical atlases of the counties of southern Ontario published between 1876-81. See the "Maps" section of this outline. Other sources include directories, census extracts, collected biographies, and local histories. Looking up the source may provide further information about the date, event, or residence. Many of these and some additional sources are indexed in the very similar:

Elliott, Noel Montgomery, ed. *The Central Canadians, 1600-1900: An Alphabetized Directory of the People, Places, and Vital Dates*. 3 vols. Toronto: Genealogical Research Library, 1994. (FHL book 971 D22cc; not on microfilm.) Master index of over 500,000 people found in 211 sources for Ontario and 8 sources for Manitoba. It is an index to many published atlases, biographies, census records (1851-1881), directories, family histories, genealogies, immigration lists, land records, local histories, Loyalist listings, marriage records, native races, naturalizations, and slavery records.

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

Ontario did not have that name until 1867. Before that time, the province was known as Upper Canada or Canada West. Between 1841 and 1867 Canada West was affiliated with Canada East (Quebec) to form the "Province of Canada." Canada West was renamed Ontario in 1867, when it joined the new Dominion of Canada. For the sake of consistency, the name Ontario is used in most sections of this research outline.

Counties and Districts. Although they were designated by 1800, Ontario counties did not always have their own governments. Before 1850, the counties served only as geographical areas for land registration, where the militia was levied, and as “ridings” or precincts for voting purposes. Early Ontario was divided into a varying number of “districts,” and most government records were organized on the basis of those districts.

When the old districts began to be abolished in 1849, the counties became functioning governments in southern Ontario. New districts began to be established in northern Ontario in the 1850s. Today, most of the northern part of the province is divided into districts for judicial and administrative purposes, while southern Ontario has retained many of its counties.

Electoral Counties. Beginning in 1871 in Ontario boundaries of the “electoral counties” often have different boundaries from those of the municipal counties of the same names, as townships are transferred back and forth from one “electoral county” to the other. From 1871 until about 1924, Ontario had three electoral counties (Bothwell, Cardwell, and Monck) which never had government functions but were only election and census districts.

Maps. For a series of historical maps showing the evolution of Ontario townships, districts, and counties south of Lake Nipissing see:

Map of Part of the Province of Upper Canada. Scale 1:760,320. [N.p.: n.d., 19--]. (FHL map case 971.3 E7m; FHL film 982,195.) Maps are scattered on the film as follows:

1792 map, item 10
1798 map, item 13
1816 map, item 11
1826 map, item 9
1836 map, item 12
1846 map, item 14
1856 map, item 2
1867 map, item 1

References. The standard reference on the topic is:

Jonasson, Eric. “The Districts and Counties of Ontario, 1777-1979, Two Centuries of Evolution,” in *Families*. Vol. 20, no. 2 (1981), 91-102. (FHL book 971.3 B2f; not on microfilm.)

Development of Ontario townships and counties is also discussed in:

Armstrong, Frederick H. *Handbook of Upper Canadian Chronology*. Rev. ed. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1985. (FHL book 971.3 N27a 1985; not on microfilm.) Includes helpful charts and diagrams.

HISTORY

The following important events affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

- 1784 After the American Revolution large numbers of Loyalists arrived in newly-surveyed townships along the St. Lawrence River in upper Quebec.
- 1788 Present southern Ontario was divided into four districts: Hesse, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Nassau.
- 1791 The old Province of Quebec was discontinued and divided into two separate colonies, Lower Canada (now Quebec) and Upper Canada (now Ontario).
- 1792 The first parliament began. The four original district names were changed: Hesse to Western, Lunenburg to Eastern, Mecklenburg to Midland, Nassau to Home.
- 1800 Districts were adjusted to include counties established for the purpose of levying militia and as voting precincts and land registration units. Other municipal functions such as probate registration remained with the districts.
- 1812 At the time war broke out with the United States, two-thirds of the population were non-Loyalists who had been attracted by the offer of free land.
- 1815 Many immigrants arrived from Scotland. A large number settled in Lanark County.
- 1820-1850 Many immigrants arrived from Great Britain and Ireland. About 66,000 British immigrants arrived in 1833, some through the port of New York by way of the Erie Canal. In 1847, famine in Ireland caused thousands of immigrants to come.
- 1841 The Act of Union established a single combined legislature for Lower Canada (to be called Canada East [Quebec]) and for Upper Canada (called Canada West [Ontario]).
- 1849 In Canada West (southern Ontario), the counties became functioning governmental units when the old districts were abolished. However, townships within counties remain the basic building block of local government in Ontario until after 1954.
- 1857 Ottawa became the capital of the Province of Canada.
- 1867 The Province of Ontario was formed from Canada West and joined the Confederation when the Dominion of Canada was created, uniting Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.
- 1912 Provincial boundaries were moved northward to Hudson Bay.
- 1954 The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto was created from the southern half of York County, Ontario.
- 1967 Many additional counties, townships, and other local governments began to be abolished in Ontario as various large "regional municipalities" and other metropolitan governments were created.

A detailed history of Ontario is:

Middleton, Jesse Edgar. *The Province of Ontario: A History, 1615-1927*. 5 vols. Toronto: Dominion Publishing Co., 1927-1928. (FHL book 971.3 H2mj; vols. 1, 2, 5 on FHL microfiche 6048255-57; vols. 3, 4 on FHL film 1,320,801 items 5-6.) Vols. 3-5 are biographical.

Bibliographies of local histories for Ontario are:

Aitken, Barbara B. *Local Histories of Ontario Municipalities, 1951-1977*. Toronto: Ontario Library Assoc., 1978. (FHL book 971.3 A1 no. 86; not on microfilm.)

Aitken, Barbara B. *Local Histories of Ontario Municipalities, 1977-1987*. Toronto: Ontario Library Assoc., 1989. (FHL book 971.3 H23a; not on microfilm.)

LAND AND PROPERTY

Provincial Records

Land Surveys. Major surveying and settlement of Upper Canada began with the arrival of the Loyalists in 1783. Most of southern Ontario employed a survey system based on counties, townships, concessions, and farm lots. A county grouped together several named townships of unequal size and shape. Each township was divided into strips called concessions. The concessions were further divided into 100, 200, or 300-acre lots.

Concessions were usually numbered first, second, third, etc., shown in Roman numerals as I, II, III, etc. Lots were also usually numbered, but with Arabic numerals: lot 1, lot 2, lot 3, etc.

Land Grants and Petitions. Originally all Ontario land belonged to the Crown. To obtain Crown land, early settlers petitioned the Governor or his executive council. The petitions often include information on the petitioner's family and his military service. Only rarely do they tell where he came from. They do not give the location of the land he received. The Family History Library and the National Archives of Canada have 349 microfilms of the Upper Canada *Petitions for Land Grants and Leases, 1791-1867* (FHL film 1,630,807) with indexes (FHL film 1,205,476-502).

The Archives of Ontario has original copies of land grants, including Loyalist, military, and other land grants, and of settlement papers associated with the Peter Robinson and Canada Company settlements. They tell when and where the grant was awarded. Some series of these grants and papers are available on 289 microfilms at the Family History Library; see the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under ONTARIO - LAND AND PROPERTY as records of the "Ontario. Crown Lands Department. *Land records, ca. 1792-1876*. Petitions (R.G. 1)."

Index to Land Records. Many Ontario land grants are indexed in this record, which is available at archives and libraries across Canada and in the Family History Library: **Ontario Archives Land Record Index** (also called the *Computerized Land Records Index*). [Ontario?: Computrex Centre Ltd., 1979?]. (For surname index, see FHL **fiche 6330425-**

77; for geographical index by township, see FHL fiche 6330478-552; for a key to the symbols in the index, see FHL fiche 6049631.)

This index gives:

- The name of the township or town and a concession and lot number in the township where the individual received his Crown grant.
- More than 230,000 names of *first* owners of property in Ontario, that is, those who received the initial land grant from the government from the first Loyalists in 1783 to veterans of the Boer War in 1910.
- The name of the proprietor, the location of his property, the date of filing, and the type of grant he received.
- The volume and page number in the land grant series.

This index does *not* list the names of those who subsequently purchased the property from the original owner.

For further information on this index, write to the Archives of Ontario.

To Use Land Records. You must know the name of the township where your ancestor lived and the concession and lot number he lived on to use some significant groups of land records for early Ontario. You may find this information in these records:

- The *Ontario Archives Land Record Index*.
- The agricultural schedules sometimes included with the 1851/1852, 1861, and 1871 censuses.
- The “Buildings and Lands” schedules included with the 1901 Canadian census.
- The illustrated historical atlases of southern Ontario counties originally published about 1878. See the “Census” and “Maps” sections of this research outline and of the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

Township Papers. There is sometimes family information in the correspondence included with the miscellaneous records called *Township Papers*. They are not indexed, but are arranged by township, concession, and lot number. The Family History Library and the Archives of Ontario have film copies of the Ontario Crown Lands Department, *Township Papers, ca. 1783-1870's* ([Toronto]: Microfilmed by the Archives of Ontario, 1982) on 541 rolls.

Heir and Devisee Commissions. Other provincial land records which may include family information are the records of the two Heir and Devisee Commissions. These commissions were established to resolve land disputes in cases where Ontario land may have been transferred improperly.

- The pre-1804 First Heir and Devisee Commission Records (on microfilm) are at the National Archives of Canada and at the Family History Library:

Ontario Heir and Devisee Commission (1st). *Land records, 1784-1857*. (FHL computer number 111231.) These are not usually indexed by name, but they are arranged by original Ontario district.

- The Second Heir and Devisee Commission Records 1804-1895 are at the Archives of Ontario and at the Family History Library:

Ontario Heir and Devisee Commission (2nd). *Land records, 1796-1894*. (FHL computer number 157885.) A good surname index to the case files of these records is on FHL films 1,313,779-82.

County Records

Transfers of Property. After the initial land grant was awarded, subsequent transfers of property were listed in *Abstract Indexes of Deeds* kept in various land registry offices in the counties. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of about half the records from southern Ontario for 1783-1957. For example, the library has 55 microfilms of *Abstract Indexes* for Wentworth County (FHL computer number 328875).

Within each county the *Abstract Indexes* are arranged chronologically by township, concession, and lot number. They often list names of family members to whom the lot was transferred and give file numbers of deeds, mortgages, and sometimes wills which may contain more information.

County “Memorials”. The Family History Library has copies of county “memorials,” usually deeds and wills, but not mortgages, dating from the creation of each county to 1880 or 1900. You can obtain copies of other land transactions by contacting the appropriate land registry office. Addresses are given in the government pages of telephone directories.

For a discussion of land records and their uses see:

A Guide to Ontario Land Registry Records. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1994. (FHL book 971.3 R27g; not on microfilm.)

MAPS

The Family History Library has a small collection of Ontario maps and atlases. Among these is a very useful series of outline maps which give county and township boundaries and the names of county seats:

Hancocks, Elizabeth. *Townships and County Seats of Ontario*. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, [197-?]. (FHL film 982,435 item 11.)

Various companies published excellent atlases of southern Ontario counties during the 1870s and 1880s. These atlases include maps of townships which show the names of settlers. Many are in book form or on film at the Family History Library. Most of these atlases are indexed in *People of Ontario* or *Central Canadians* described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline. An example is:

Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Grey and Bruce, Ontario. Toronto: H. Belden and Co., 1880. Reprint. Port Elgin, Ont.: Cumming Atlas Reprints, 1975. (FHL film 982,194 item 2.)

The best collections of Ontario maps are at the National Archives of Canada and the Archives of Ontario. A bibliography of early Ontario maps is:

Winearl, Joan. *Mapping Upper Canada, 1780-1867: An Annotated Bibliography of Manuscript and Printed Maps*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991. (FHL book 971.3 E73w; not on microfilm.)

MILITARY RECORDS

Many of the Loyalists who arrived in Ontario beginning in 1784 had served in militia units attached to the British army. Until 1870, Canadian provinces were defended by units of the British army and navy. Many useful military records are at the National Archives of Canada and the War Office in Great Britain; some are on microfilm at the Family History Library. The *Canada Research Outline* (34545) provides more information about Loyalist and British military sources.

During the 19th century, Ontario men between 16 and 60 years of age served in reserve units of local militia organized by county. Militia members fought in military actions such as the War of 1812, the 1837 Rebellion, and the Fenian Raid of 1867, but records are few. Scattered lists of militia members are at various archives in Ontario. Some have been published in periodicals and books such as:

Bull, Stewart H. *The Queen's York Rangers: An Historic Regiment*. Erin, Ont.: The Boston Mills Press, 1984. (FHL book 971 M2bs; not on microfilm.) Includes lists of officers of the York County militia in 1798, 1812, and 1837.

Additional militia returns are in the periodical articles listed in Brenda Dougall Merriman's *Genealogy in Ontario*, pages 184-85. See the "For Further Reading" section of this outline.

World War I (1914-1918)

Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) service records are available through the Personnel Records Unit of the National Archives of Canada (see the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address). These service records contain detailed information from enlistment to demobilization (discharge). Information may include each person's date and place of birth, address at time of enlistment, name and address of next of kin, marital status, occupation, personal description (eye and hair color, height, weight, distinctive marks or scars), and religion. When requesting information from the Personnel Records Unit, please include the person's name, rank, and regiment (if known).

The Family History Library has almost no records of Ontarians who served in 20th-century wars. To get copies of their service records, see the sources listed in the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Until 1947, British immigrants from England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland automatically became citizens of Canada. They did not need naturalization. Non-British immigrants, however, were required to make oaths of allegiance before receiving land grants. The oaths and petitions for citizenship for 1817-1846 are in files at the Provincial Archives.

Records created after 1917 are more detailed than earlier records and are found at:

Department of Citizenship and Immigration
Public Rights Administration
360 Laurier Ave West 10th Floor
Ottawa, ONK1A 1L1
CANADA

Telephone: 888-242-2100 (In Canada only; outside of Canada, write to the above address.)

Ontario did not have a naturalization process until 1828. The National Archives of Canada in Ottawa has microfilm copies of naturalization papers for Upper Canada (Ontario) for 1828-1850. These are not at the Family History Library, but they are available through the interlibrary loan service to public libraries.

This index lists about 3,000 names:

McKenzie, Donald A. *Upper Canada Naturalization Records 1828-1850*. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1991. (FHL book 971.3 P42m; not on microfilm.)

Later naturalization records were maintained on a national basis by the office of the Secretary of State. See the *Canada Research Outline* (34545) for a detailed discussion on this topic.

NEWSPAPERS

The Family History Library has no newspapers from Ontario. The library has a number of published indexes of newspaper obituaries and marriage announcements. A typical newspaper abstract is:

McKenzie, Donald A. *Death Notices from The Christian Guardian, 1836-1870*. 3 vols. Lambertville, N.J.: Hunterdon House, 1982-1988. (FHL book 971.3 V4m; not on microfilm.)

Many newspaper abstracts of birth, marriage, and death announcements have been indexed and published in volumes of *The Ontario Register* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

An excellent guide to Ontario newspapers is:

Gilchrist, J. Brian. *Inventory of Ontario Newspapers, 1793-1986, First Edition*. 1987. Toronto: Micromedia Ltd., 1988. (FHL book 971.3 B33i; not on microfilm.) This is a survey of 345 libraries across Canada and the British Newspaper Library in London,

England. It lists their holdings of 2,900 Ontario newspapers (original and microfilm copies).

Available indexes are listed in:

Burrows, Sandra and Francine Gaudet. *Checklist of Indexes to Canadian Newspapers = Liste de contrôle des index de journaux canadiens*. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 1987. (FHL book 971 B32b; not on microfilm.)

PERIODICALS

For *nationwide* indexes to the periodicals listed in this section and other family history periodicals, see:

Periodical Source Index (PERSI). Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1987-. (FHL book 973 D25per; **fiche 6016863** [40 fiche] (1847-1985); **fiche 6016864** [15 fiche] (1986-1990); computer number 658308.) Indexes thousands of family history periodicals. Includes Canadian periodicals in French and English. Annual indexes have been published yearly since 1986. For further details, see the *PERiodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119).

The major periodicals and magazines helpful for research in Ontario include:

The Canadian Genealogist. 1979-88. 10 vols. Published by Generation Press, 172 King Henrys Blvd., Agincourt, ON, CANADA M1T 2V6. (FHL book 971 D25cg; not on microfilm.) This is more about research in Ontario sources than about other provinces.

Families. 1963-. Published by the Ontario Genealogical Society, 40 Orchard View Blvd., Suite 102, Toronto, ON, CANADA M4R 1B9. (FHL book 971.3 B2f; not on microfilm.) This well-edited journal focuses on research in Ontario sources, but it sometimes includes articles on research in other provinces and in national sources.

Ontario History (formerly *Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records*). 1899-. Published by the Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Ave., Willowdale, ON, CANADA, M2N 3Y2. (FHL book 971.3 B2o; some volumes on film 105405 and 1,415,255-57.) Cumulative indexes by author and subject. Includes genealogies, history, immigration, land records, and Loyalists.

The Ontario Register. 1968-. Published by Hunterdon House, 38 Swan Street, Lambertville, NJ 08530 USA. (FHL book 971.3 B2or; v. 3 on FHL film 908,001 items 3-4.) Irregular. Transcripts of births, marriages, deaths, notices, petitions, and lists in the 1800s. Each volume includes an index of persons and places.

Several branches of the Ontario Genealogical Society have their own publications. A good example is:

Ottawa Branch News, 1971-. Published by the Ottawa Branch, OGS, P.O. Box 8346, Ottawa, ON CANADA K1G 3H8. (FHL book 971.384 B25o; not on microfilm.)

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records have been kept at the district or county level in Ontario by Surrogate Courts since 1793. Between 1793 and 1858, a central Probate Court of the province dealt with estates valued above a certain amount of money. When the Probate Court was abolished in 1858, the Surrogate Courts took over its functions.

Registers are court order books recording petitions and grants of probate and administrators' bonds. In *estate files* you may find wills, inventories, and letters of administration. Wills involving land transactions were often not recorded with the court; but they were copied into deed books or *general register books* filed with registrars of deeds at land offices. See the "Land and Property" section of this outline.

The original probate records are at the Archives of Ontario and at district land registry offices. The Family History Library and the Archives of Ontario have microfilm copies of many probate records for most Ontario counties. These include wills and indexes to 1930. For example, from Wellington County the library has registers 1840-1931, estate files 1841-1930, and general register books 1862-1886.

An index to the original Probate Court records is:

Zuefelt, Bill, ed. *Court of Probate: Registers and Estate Files at the Archives of Ontario, 1793-1859: An Index of Genealogical Research*. [Toronto]: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1986. (FHL book 971.3 P2z; not on microfilm.)

Surrogate Court records from the original districts were taken over by *one* of the successor counties. See the "Historical Geography" section of this outline. For example, pre-1858 records of the Western District covering Kent, Essex, and parts of other counties went to Essex County. They were cataloged under ONTARIO, ESSEX - PROBATE RECORDS.

The Archives of Ontario has a surname index to all existing Surrogate Court records before 1859:

Surrogate Court Records Index, 1793-1858. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, [198-?]. (FHL fiche 6334160 nos. 1-8.)

Indexes to the later 19th-century Surrogate Court records are being published county by county as a series:

Gibson, June. *Surrogate Court Index of Ontario, Canada, 1859-1900*. Agincourt, Ont.: Generation Press, 1988-. (FHL book 971.3 P22g; not on microfilm.)

A helpful inventory of some probate records is:

Shepard, Catherine. *Surrogate Court Records at the Archives of Ontario: A Genealogical Research Guide*. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1984. (FHL book 971.3 A1 No. 206; not on microfilm.)

PUBLIC RECORDS

Public records are records created by civil authorities in the province. Records of the provincial legislature and some municipal records are among the records cataloged under this heading. Many early public records still exist, although some were lost in fires (especially the 1843 fire at Parliament House, Toronto, and the 1916 fire which destroyed the Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa).

Records of the Executive Council

In early Ontario, the lieutenant-governor and his executive council conducted much of the business of government. While some of their records are lost, many Orders-in-Council dealing with property matters still exist, mixed in with other records described in the "Land and Property" section of this outline.

The correspondence files of the first lieutenant-governor and his alternate have been preserved and published in two books:

Cruikshank, E. A., ed. *The Correspondence of Lieut. Governor John Graves Simcoe, 1789-1796*. 5 vols. Toronto: Ontario Historical Society, 1923-1926. (FHL book 971.3 N2o; not on microfilm.)

Cruikshank, E. A. and A. F. Hunter, eds. *The Correspondence of the Honourable Peter Russell, 1796-1799*. 3 vols. Toronto: Ontario Historical Society, 1932-1936. (FHL book 971.3 N2r; v. 3 on FHL film 1,697,292 item 3.)

Records of the Civil Secretary

The Family History Library and the National Archives of Canada have 71 microfilm reels of *Upper Canada Sundries, 1766-1841*, which consist of correspondence, petitions, warrants, and other documents received by the Civil and Provincial Secretaries. Many of these records concern land or military matters, including reports on the treason trials for some of those involved in the Rebellion of 1837. The finding aid to the series is on FHL films 1,630,841-42 and 1,711,038-39.

Records of the House of Assembly (1830-1840)

The House of Assembly met from 1792 to 1840. Its published journals, which are very rare, contain names and locations of many early Ontario settlers who petitioned the government. The Family History Library has microfilm copies and indexes of:

Journal of the House of Assembly of Upper Canada, 1830-1840. (FHL film 862,269-79.)

Records of the Legislative Assembly (1841- 1867)

A combined Legislative Assembly for the Province of Canada served both Ontario and Quebec between 1841 and 1867. The *Journals of the Legislative Assembly* are rare. Some

issues are at the Library of Congress in Washington. Extracts from some of them have been published. An example taken from an 1848 issue is:

“Return of Convicts at the Penitentiary [at Kingston, Ontario] 1st October 1847,” *Lost in Canada?* Vol. 13, no. 3 (Aug 1987), pp. 133-49, and vol. 13, no. 4 (Nov 1987), pp. 182-88. (FHL book 971 B2c; fiche 6048073.)

Municipal Records

Municipalities keep minutes and business records. Many county records begin in 1850, at the time of the Municipalities Act. Records for the cities, towns, and villages begin whenever the community was incorporated and began its own activities separate from the county.

The Archives of Ontario and the Family History Library have microfilm copies of minutes and some other municipal records dating before 1900 for more than 200 communities in Ontario. Records for the rest of the more than 800 municipalities in the province must be obtained from the municipal offices or regional archives holding them.

A discussion of ways to use municipal records in family history research is in:

Walsh, Mark. “Municipal Archives and Genealogy,” pp. 67-75, in Debra Butler Honor, ed. *In the Footsteps of the Habitants*. Toronto: The Ontario Genealogical Society, 1986. (FHL book 971.3 D2o; not on microfilm.)

Addresses for all incorporated municipalities and some archives and government offices in Ontario are in the appropriate sections of:

Canadian Almanac and Directory. Toronto: Canadian Almanac & Directory Publishing Co., annual. (FHL book 971 E4ca; not on microfilm.)

SOCIETIES

There are many societies and organizations that may have information of value to your genealogical research. National societies in Ontario are listed in the *Canada Research Outline* (34545). The most important genealogical society specializing in Ontario is the Ontario Genealogical Society, formed in 1961. It has branches in most counties and districts of Ontario.

Ontario Genealogical Society
40 Orchard View Blvd.
Suite 102
Toronto, ON M4R 1B9
CANADA

Names and addresses of other local historical societies and lineage and ethnic organizations are arranged by county in:

Directory of Heritage Organizations and Institutions in Ontario. Rev. ed. Willowdale, Ont.: Ontario Historical Society, 1992. (FHL book 971.3 C44o; not on microfilm.)

TAXATION

Tax records vary in content, according to the time, place, and purpose for which they were made. Researchers often use tax records in combination with censuses and directories and with land and property records. When no other source exists, tax lists can help to locate a family in a particular area. Since they were often made each year, they can list a family's residence between census years. They can help establish age, residences, relationships, and the year an individual died or left the area.

Governments have collected taxes in Ontario since 1793. Until 1850, tax rates were determined by the provincial parliament and not by local officials. Taxes were collected by court officials located in the various districts. Tax rolls made under this system exist for a few townships. Most of these date from the 1820s or 1830s.

Early tax records. Since 1850, clerks of all Ontario municipalities—counties, cities, towns, villages, and townships—have been required to maintain tax records. Many of these records have been preserved. The major early records are *assessment rolls*, which state the value of the land or other property owned by individuals, and *collectors' rolls*, which list the amount of taxes paid in a given year. *Statute labor lists* are sometimes included with the assessment rolls. They show the number of hours that the person had to spend maintaining roads in the local area.

Voters' lists were made from the local tax lists. Adult males had to pay taxes in order to be eligible to vote. Men without real property (land) were sometimes assessed a *poll tax*, or head tax. Some men not old enough to vote (under twenty-one) were nevertheless named in the statute labor lists.

Assessment rolls give the most information on individuals. They can include the name and age of the head of household, his occupation, and information about his lands, home, family numbers (children by age categories), crops, and farm animals. They often indicate whether he was an owner or a tenant. Some of the late 19th-century assessment rolls even indicate the individual's religious affiliation.

The Family History Library and the Archives of Ontario have microfilm copies of pre-1900 assessment and collectors' rolls for about 200 of the more than 800 municipalities in Ontario. Other local tax records must be consulted at the county archives or municipal offices holding the records. Sometimes a county history or directory will include a copy of an early tax list, when the official list no longer exists.

VITAL RECORDS

Registration of vital statistics began officially in Ontario on 1 July 1869 as a provincial responsibility. A substantially complete registration was achieved by 1930.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the vital records and name indexes which have been transferred to the Archives of Ontario in Toronto. These include:

- Births, 1869-1900
- Marriages, 1869-1915
- Deaths, 1869-1925

Every year, one additional year of records is made available, but cannot be used until it is microfilmed. Births 1900, marriages 1915, and deaths 1925 were released in 1997. Check the latest edition of the Locality Search in the Family History Library Catalog under ONTARIO - VITAL RECORDS.

There are significant gaps in these records, especially in those dated between 1869 and 1900. The later vital records generally give more complete information than the earlier ones. For example, before 1907 parents' names were not usually included on death certificates, but they are after that date.

For more information write to:

Public Service Section
Attn. Vital Statistics Reference Archivist
Archives of Ontario
77 Grenville Street
Toronto, ON M5S 1B3
CANADA

Records after the cutoff dates mentioned above must be obtained from the Office of the Registrar General. An application form and a substantial search fee are required. The fee covers a search of records from a five-year period, including two years on either side of the date you request. Write to:

Registrar General
189 Red River Road
P.O. Box 4600
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6L8
CANADA

Births and deaths were not recorded by civil authorities before 1869. You may find some information on pre-1869 births and deaths in genealogies, histories, church records, newspapers, and collections of personal papers.

Marriage Records

From 1858 to 1869, the province required the counties to keep marriage registers. Clergymen of all faiths were supposed to record information from their parish registers in county marriage books. The available county marriage books are on microfilm at the Family History Library, cataloged under ONTARIO - VITAL RECORDS. A series of indexes is now being prepared for these records:

Britnell, W. E. and Elizabeth Hancocks, eds. *County Marriage Registers of Ontario, Canada 1858-1869*. Vols. 1-. Agincourt, Ont.: Generation Press, 1979-. (FHL book 971.3 V22m; not on microfilm.)

For a limited period of time prior to 1858, clergymen of faiths other than Anglican and Roman Catholic were asked to record marriage information in district marriage registers. Not all clergymen complied. Microfilms of the available records are at the Family

History Library. Consult the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under ONTARIO - VITAL RECORDS.

Marriage bonds were sometimes prepared when the couple were married by license, rather than having banns pronounced in church. Ontario marriage bonds 1803-1845 have been microfilmed and are at the Family History Library, cataloged under ONTARIO - VITAL RECORDS. An alphabetical index to these records is on three rolls, FHL film 1,276,180-82. Most have been extracted and published in:

Wilson, Thomas B. *Marriage Bonds of Ontario 1803-1834*. Lambertville, N.J.: Hunterdon House, 1985. (FHL book 971.3 V29w; not on microfilm.)

Some Ontarians were married in the United States because requirements were less strict there than in Canada. Names of many who married in the Buffalo, New York, area from 1840 to 1890 are listed in:

Jewitt, Allen E. *Early Canadian Marriages in Erie County, New York*. 12 vols. Hamburg, N.Y.: Jewitt, 1982. (FHL book 974.796 V2j; fiche 6010977-88.)

Divorce Records

Until 1930 an Act of the Parliament of Canada was required to obtain a divorce in Ontario. The act(s) for a divorce often give detailed genealogical information. Copies are available from the Clerk of the Senate. Provide the names of the spouses and the estimated year of divorce and write to:

The Clerk of the Senate
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A4
CANADA

In 1930, divorce became a matter for the Supreme Court of Ontario. See the "Court Records" section of this outline. Some Ontarians received divorces in United States jurisdictions, even though such divorces had no legal standing in Canada.

FOR FURTHER READING

More detailed information about research and records of Ontario can be found in:

Merriman, Brenda Dougall. *Genealogy in Ontario: Searching the Records*. 3rd ed. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1996. (FHL book 971.3 D27m 1996; not on microfilm.) This is probably the most complete handbook on Ontario family history research. Appendixes include a number of useful addresses and an extensive bibliography.

Taylor, Ryan. *Books You Need to do Genealogy in Ontario: An Annotated Bibliography*. Fort Wayne, Ind.: Round Tower Books, 1996. (FHL book 971.3 D23t; not on microfilm.) A county-by-county list of selected genealogical and historical titles. Includes publishers' addresses.

Wilson, Don, ed. *Readings in Ontario Genealogical Sources: A Selection of Presentations Given at the Conference on Ontario Genealogical Sources held at Toronto, Ontario, October 27-29, 1978*. [N.p: n.p.], 1979. (FHL book 971.3 D27c; not on microfilm.) This includes 23 papers on diverse topics, including archive collections, court records, land records, Loyalists, church records, and immigration.

Some handbooks mentioned in the *Canada Research Outline* (34545) include chapters on Ontario research. Some local branches of the Ontario Genealogical Society have prepared handbooks for research in their area. An excellent example is:

Taylor, Ryan. *Family Research in Waterloo and Wellington Counties*. Kitchener, Ont.: Waterloo-Wellington Branch, 1986. (FHL book 971.34 D27t; not on microfilm.)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 N. West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

Paper publication: Second edition October 1997. English approval: 11/97.

DESCRIPTION SHEET

SOURCE: Ontario Archives Computerized Land Records Index.

CONTENT: Indexes to the Ontario Land Records on a Provincial Level consisting of two alphabetical listings:

- (1) by locatee (name) Fiche Numbers 6,330,425 - 6,330,477
- (2) by township or town Fiche Numbers 6,330,478 - 6,330,552

The information is derived from three groups of records:

- (1) Crown Land Papers
- (2) the Canada Company Papers
- (3) the Peter Robinson Papers

From these records, four principal descriptors form the basis of the records: person's name, land location, type of transaction, and its date. Only original transactions resulting in a patent or deed were used. (The Index to Land Patents is not incorporated into this system.)

The data ranges from the 1780's to the beginning of World War I, from the grants to the United Empire Loyalists to those for the veterans of the Boer War. Each listing contains 236,747 entries.

We will deal primarily with the "locatee" index as it is the most useful. The township or town index is useful in determining neighbors of an individual. There are no explanatory notes on any of the microfiche. The following is a table of abbreviations used in the records:

TRANSACTION CODE ABBREVIATIONS AND TABLES

<u>TRANSACTION TYPE</u>		<u>TYPE OF LEASE/SALE</u>		<u>DATE</u>	<u>IDENTITY CODE</u>
<u>CODE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>	<u>CODE</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>TYPE OF DATE</u>
FG	Free Grant	CL	Clergy	1	Location
L	Lease	CR	Crown Reserve	2	Assignment
S	Sale	SCH	School	3	Patent
A	Assignment	I	Indian	4	Lease
				5	Sale
				6	Contract
				7	Deed
				8	Order-in-Council

<u>TYPE OF FREE GRANT</u>		<u>DATE TABLE</u>		<u>DATE SEQUENCE</u>
<u>CODE</u>	<u>TYPE</u>		<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Year - month - day</u>
OR	Old Regulations	1	Jan	e.g. 18320125:
NR	New Regulations	2	Feb	
FF	Full Fees	3	Mar	1832, January 25
UE	United Empire Loyalist	4	Apr	
DUE	Daughter of UE	5	May	
SUE	Son of UE	6	Jun	"C" means circa, e.g.
MC	Military Claimant	7	Jul	
COMM	Commission (Heir & Devisee)	8	Aug	1830c - around 1830
M	Military/Militia	9	Sep	
ME	Military Emigrant	10	Oct	
LB	Land Board	11	Nov	
PR	Peter Robinson	12	Dec	
SE	Scotch Emigrants (sons)			
AA	Gratuitous			
1819	Reg. 5 Jan. 1819			
1820	Reg. 1 Jan. 1820			
1825	Reg. 21 Nov. 1825			
V	Veteran (Fenian & South African)			

PROCEDURE:

1. On Locatee or Name Index, look up the desired individual. Be sure to look under all spelling variations.
2. Copy all data listed in the various columns when you find the right individual (except the information in the last two columns which are the call numbers in the Ontario Archives).

3. Ascertain which county the land is located in by checking one of the following:
 - (a) The 1881 Canadian Census Preliminary Finding Aid - located on the register table.
 - (b) "1871 Directory of Canada" - a laminated page on the register table.
 - (c) Moffat, Riley. Bibliography of Canadian Atlases & Gazetteers, 1983.
 - (d) "Historical Atlases - Ontario" - a list in the vertical file - see Canada - Ontario.
4. On the MCC film #822,351 (not the GLC), locate the film number of the "Index to Land Survey Abstracts" as listed under the heading "County--Land and Property or the Township--Land and Property," It is not necessary to consult the Index to Deeds, as this has already been done in step #2. It may be necessary to consult the Changed Number File, as many numbers listed on the MCC are "old film numbers."
5. On the film containing the "Index to Land Survey Abstracts," find the township where the land is located.
6. Find the Concession Number within that township which you copied from the microfiche in Step #2.
7. Then find the desired Lot Number within the Concession. Lots may be designated as N1/2 of lot, S 1/2 of lot, or as an entire lot.
8. Now, look for the name of the individual and time period you are seeking.
9. Copy data.
10. If the individual you are seeking is not found, go back to step #4 and find the call number of the alphabetical index to deeds, looking up the deed itself, rather than the abstract.

AVAILABILITY: The indexes are found in the small microfiche cabinet on the register table in the microforms area.

Ontario Archives land record index.

"The index consists of two alphabetical listings: 1) by locatee [see below "NAME LISTING"] and 2) by township or town [see below "TOWNSHIP LISTING"] ...

The information is derived from three groups of records: 1) the Crown Lands Papers (R.G. 1), 2) the Canada Company Papers (C.C.), and 3) the Peter Robinson Papers (MS-12). It refers only to the original alienation of land resulting in a deed or patent. The Index to Land Patents is not incorporated into this system, and must be used separately... Any conveyances made after issue of patent are registered in the local Registry Office ... The data range from the 1780s to the beginning of World War I, from the grants to the United Empire Loyalists to those for the veterans of the Boer War. Only a few entries of sales of Clergy Reserves and Canada Company lands go beyond that period. Each listing contains 236,747 entries."--[Introd.]

Includes indexes of the microfiche on the majority of cards.

	FICHE
Introduction and codes (1 p., 1 fiche)	6049631

NAME LISTING:

Bergin - Uinn; A - Annour, John	6330425
Annour, John - Bard, Robt.	6330426
Barden, Elizabeth - Bennett, R.W.	6330427
Bennett, Rich J. - Boulton, D. Arcy Edward	6330428
Boulton, D. Arcy Edward - Brown, Henry	6330429
Brown, Henry - Butcher, John	6330430
Butcher, Mark - Canada Company	6330431
Canada Company - Chishohn, Donald	6330432
Chishohn, Donald - Collins, George	6330433
Collins, George - Cozens, Nelson	6330434
Cozens, Nelson - Daly, Jno.	6330435
Daly, John - Diamond, Henry	6330436
Diamond, Henry - Duffy, James	6330437
Duffy, James - Empey, Sarah Amanda	6330438
Empey, Sidney - Fisher, Charles	6330439
Fisher, Charlotte - Fraser, Malcohn Willi	6330440
Fraser, Malcohn Wm. - Gibson, William	6330441
Gibson, Willm. - Graham, Johnson	6330442
Graham, Jonathan - Hanienn Isaac	6330443
Hanier, Jacobus - Harvey, Andrew	6330444
Harvey, Angus - Hicks, John	6330445
Hicks, John - Howard, John	6330446
Howard, John - Jackson, Robert	6330447

Jackson, Robert - Junker, Frederick	6330448
Junker, Frederick - Kingdom, Harold	6330449
Kingdom, Willm. - Lawrence, Daniel	6330450
Lawrence, Daniel - Loney, Chas.	6330451
Loney, Edwd. - Maisonville, Alexis	6330452
Maisonville, Alexis - McArthur, Peter	6330453
McArthur, Neal - McDonald, Dond	6330454
McDonald, Dond - McGillis, Marjory	6330455
McGillis, Mary - McKinnon, A.	6330456
McKinnon, A. - McNeiley Brice	6330457
McNeiley, James - Miller, Matthew	6330458
Miller, Michael - Morrison, Hugh	6330459
Morrison, Hugh - Nelson, J.A.	6330460
Nelson, J.E. - Osborne, Rich	6330461
Osborne, Richard - Perry, George	6330462
Perry, George - Prior, Bernard	6330463
Prior, Chas. - Reilly, Deborah	6330464
Reilly, Deborah - Rogers, Richd.	6330465
Rogers, Robert - Sanford, Prideaux	6330466
Sanford, Sidney M. - Shaw, Edward	6330467
Shaw, Eli - Smettzer, Thos.	6330468
Smibert, Geo. Wilson - Spicer, Janet	6330469
Spicer, Janet - Stoner, Peter	6330470
Stoner, Peter - Tennant, Jas.	6330471
Tennant, John - Trow, Jas.	6330472
Trow, Jas. - Walker, Nancy	6330473
Walker, Nathan - West, John	6330474
West, John - Wilson, Isaac	6330475
Wilson, Isaac - Young, James	6330476
Young, James - Zyerman, Hyman	6330477
(includes 4 misfiled entries at the end of the fiche)	

TOWNSHIP LISTING:	6330478
Houghton (misfiled--the rest of Houghton is filed in alphabetical order, see fiche no. 6330510) List of entries with no township given.	
Entries listed with no townships given (3 fiches)	6330479- 6330481
Three misfiled entries for:	6330482
Pakenham - James McEown, issued 1845	
Southwold - James Morgan, issued 1854	
Sydenham - James Park, issued 1851	
Haldimand :	6330483
1 misfiled entry for J.B. Weller, issued 1907	

TOWNSHIP LISTING (regular alphabetical listing):

A - Ameliasburg	6330484
-----------------	---------

Ameliasburgh - Aoff	6330485
Ba - Bentinck	6330486
Bentinck - Borden	6330487
Borden - Brighton	6330488
Brighton - By Town	6330489
C - Carrick	6330490
Carrick - Chatham	6330491
Chatham - Colchester	6330492
Colchester - Cumberland	6330493
Cumberland - Currie	6330494
D - Douro	6330495
Douro - Dungannon	6330496
Dungannon - Dymond	6330497
E - Elizabethtown	6330498
Elizabethtown - Emily	6330499
Emily - Essa	6330500
Essa - Ey	6330501
F - Fullarton	6330502
Fullarton - Funn	6330503
G - Goderich	6330504
Goderich - Greenock.	6330505
Greenock - Gwillimbury	6330506
Gwillimbury [sic] - Gwo, Goelphi [sic] (1 fiche, 5 mistyped entries)	6330507
H - Hay	6330508
Hay - Hope	6330509
Hope - Hungerford	6330510
Hungerford - Hythe	6330511
I - Inverhuron	6330512
J - Juntley	6330513
K - Korah	6330514
L - Logan	6330515
Logan - Louth	6330516
Louth - Lyon (2 entries for London at the end, misflled)	6330517
M - Markham	6330518
Markham. - McGillivray	6330519
McGillivray - McKillop	6330520
McKillop - Mitchell	6330521
Mitchell - Morris	6330522
Morris - Mutrie	6330523
N - Nottawasaga	6330524
Nortawasaga	6330525
(at the end, 1 entry for Howard (typed Noward) and 1 entry for Muskoka (typed Nuskoka))	
O - Osnabrock	6330526
Osnabruck - Oxford	6330527
Pacaud - Pittsburg	6330528

Pittsburgh - Puslinch	6330529
Puslinch - Puslinch Gore	6330530
Qurora [sic]	6330531
(probably Aurora -- 1 entry, George Reynolds. issued 1905, 1913)	
R - Rochester	6330532
Rochester - Ryerson	6330533
S - Sherwood	6330534
Sherwood - Southampton	6330535
Southampton - Stephen	6330536
Stephen - Sydenham	6330537
Sydenham - Sym	6330538
T - Torbolton	6330539
Torbolton - Tyendinaga	6330540
U - Uxbridge	6330541
V - Victoria	6330542
(at the end, 1 entry for Yonge (mistyped Vonge), 2 entries for Work (mistyped Vork), 2 entries Vaughan (mistyped Vuaghan»	
W - Westminster	6330543
Westminster - Wilmot	6330544
Wilmot - Wyonge [sic]	6330545
Y - York	6330546
Z - ZOITO	6330547

TOWNSHIP LISTING (numbers only, 5 fiches): 6330548-6330552

No townships listed. Headings are as follows:

"13 St." (7 entries)

"20Princesst" (1 entry--James Thompson, issued 1850)

"3" (1 entry--Andrew Miller, issued 1834, 1842)

"5" (2 entries--D. Cook, issued 1894; Jno Regan, issued 1866)

"9Wellesey E.S." (Johnston Orr, issued 1856)

Another copy of the Township listing (75 fiches)

FICHE

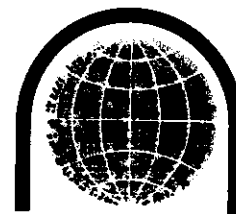
6081199

Another copy of the Name listing (53 fiches)

6081200

THIS RECORD FOUND UNDER

1. Ontario - Land and property - Indexes
1. Archives of Ontario



*"Record Protection in
an Uncertain World"*

WORLD CONFERENCE
ON RECORDS
AND GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR

Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.
5-8 August 1969

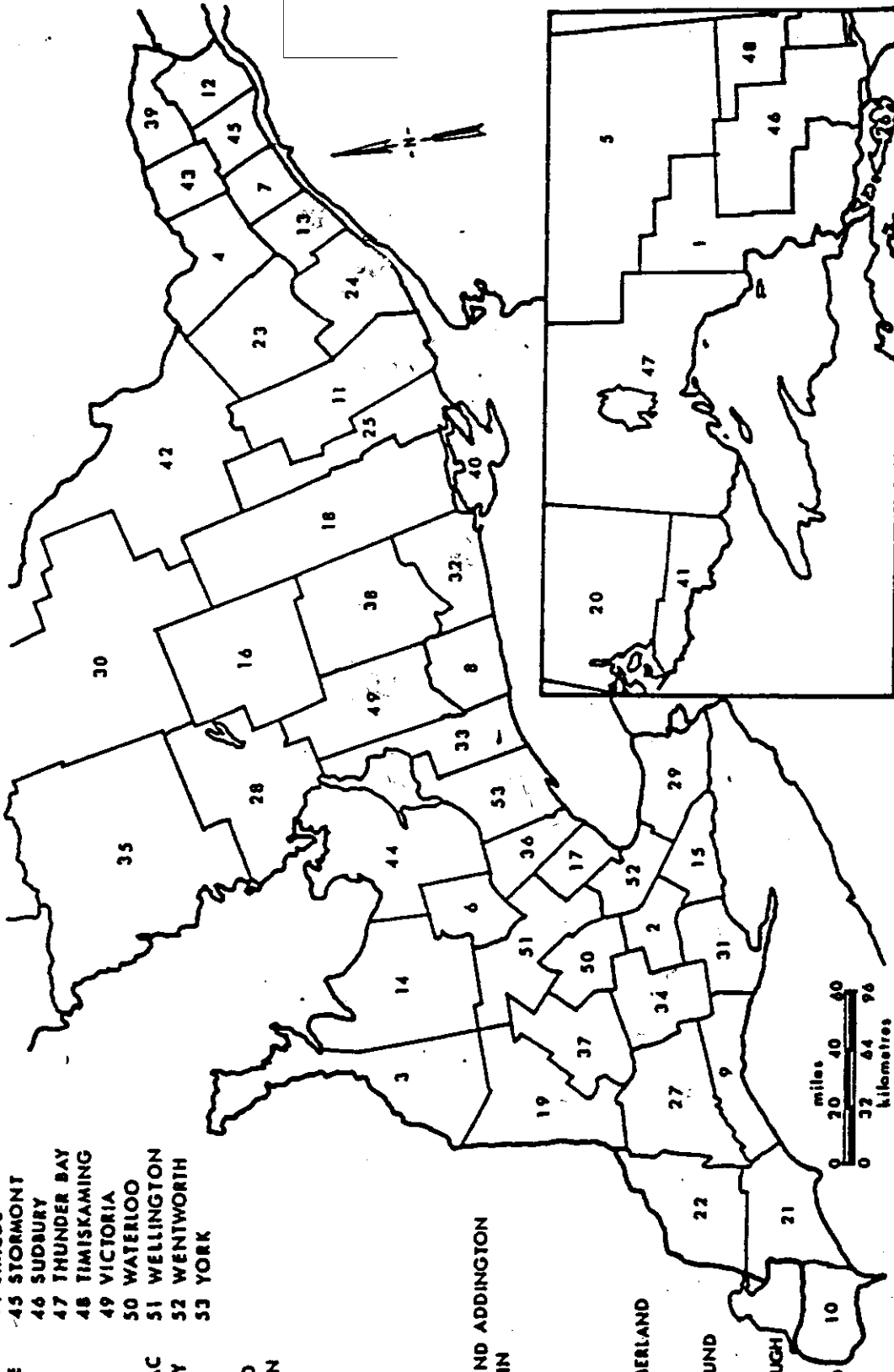
SOURCES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ONTARIO

By

Sandra Guillaume, B.A.

COUNTIES AND DISTRICTS OF ONTARIO

- 1 ALGOMA
- 2 BRANT
- 3 BRUCE
- 4 CARLETON
- 5 COCHRANE
- 6 DUFFERIN
- 7 DUNDAS
- 8 DURHAM
- 9 ELGIN
- 10 ESSEX
- 11 FRONTENAC
- 12 GLENGARRY
- 13 GRENVILLE
- 14 GREY
- 15 HALDIMAND
- 16 HALIBURTON
- 17 HALTON
- 18 HASTINGS
- 19 HURON
- 20 KENORA
- 21 KENT
- 22 LAMBTON
- 23 LANARK
- 24 LEEDS
- 25 LENNOX AND ADDINGTON
- 26 MANITOULIN
- 27 MIDDLESEX
- 28 MUSKOKA
- 29 NIAGARA
- 30 NIPISSING
- 31 NORFOLK
- 32 NORTHUMBERLAND
- 33 ONTARIO
- 34 OXFORD
- 35 PARRY SOUND
- 36 PEEL
- 37 PERTH
- 38 PETERBOROUGH
- 39 PRESCOTT
- 40 PRINCE EDWARD
- 41 RAINY RIVER
- 42 RENFREW
- 43 RUSSELL
- 44 SIMCOE
- 45 STORMONT
- 46 SUDBURY
- 47 THUNDER BAY
- 48 TIMISKAMING
- 49 VICTORIA
- 50 WATERLOO
- 51 WELLINGTON
- 52 WENTWORTH
- 53 YORK



HISTORICAL ATLASES

ONTARIO

Typical Contents

Historical sketch;

County, Township, City, Town, Village (including many names)

Maps

County, Township, City, Town

Portraits

Views *of* residences, buildings, etc.

Biographical sketches

Land owners on maps or lists

Time - about 1880

<u>County</u>	<u>Film</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Film</u>	<u>Item</u>
Brant	862288	last	Lincoln	862290	1
Bruce	862289	1	Middlesex	862290	2
Carleton	862289	2	Norfolk	862290	4
Dufferin			Northumberland	862290	5
Dundas	862290	9	Ontario	862290	6
Durham	862290	5	Oxford	862290	7
Elgin	862289	3	Peel		
Essex	862289	4	Perth	862290	8
Frontenac	862289	5	Peterborough		
Glengary	862290	9	Prescott		
Grenville			Prince Edward	862289	8
Grey			Renfrew		
Haldimand	862289	6	Russell		
Halton	862289	7*	<u>Simcoe</u>		
Haliburton			Stormont	862290	9
Hastings	862289	8	Victoria		
Huron	862289	9	Waterloo	862291	1
Kent	862289	10	Welland	862290	1
Lambton	862289	11	Wellington	862291	2&3
Lanark	862289	12	Wentworth	862291	4&5
Leeds			York	862291	6
Lennox & Addington	862289	5	Muskoka & Parry Sound	862290	3

* Also Maps f912.713533 (*GS number*)

ONTARIO, CANADA - LAND RECORDS

- 1795 - County offices to record land transactions (Grant Confirmations were expected shortly).
- 1805 - A commission set up to ascertain the heirs or devisees of the nominees of the crown to lands. (Apparently grant confirmations were delayed. Transactions could not be registered until grant was confirmed. Therefore, many transactions had taken place but not registered.)

The county could have one or more offices to record land transactions and sooner or later they were recorded in the township.

Various ways to find access to Ontario land records:

1. Microfiche copy - Ontario Archives Land Records
Index alphabetical listing by name, etc. - Gen. Soc. 6330425 - 552
2. 1861 Agricultural census gives township, lot, and concession.
3. Probate records would give land description of any property bequeathed.
4. Historical atlas with township maps. (Approximately 1880 often shows names of land owners.)
5. Index to deeds in township.
6. Index to deeds in county or county division.
7. Tax records.
8. Land grants.
9. Some county and local histories.
10. Etc.

When you have the lot and concession:

Use "Abstract Index to Surveys" - a very valuable record of all transactions pertaining to each parcel. You may prove two or three generations using only this source.

Deed must give residence of purchaser and vendor.

Deed should contain the name of the spouse of the vendor as a third party for release of dower interest.

Land transfers to children often prove the relationship.

Land transferred after death intestate may prove family relationship.