

Guide to Genealogy for Beginners

How to get started with your family history.

A starter guide from the New Brunswick Genealogical Society.

Start with what you know

Start with yourself.

Then add your parents and grandparents, your children and grandchildren.

Write it all down for the next generations!

Keep it in a notebook, a diary, a family Bible, or a computer program

Then start your research

Find records at the public library, or the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, conduct personal interviews with family, visit local history archives, do online research, consult letters, diaries, and other family records.

Examples of Computer Programs

Family Tree Maker 2019 available at https://www.mackiev.com/ftm

Legacy Family Tree available in standard (free) and deluxe versions

RootsMagic available in free or purchased versions https://www.rootsmagic.com

Ancestry.ca - by subscription only, monthly or yearly rates are available

Try before you buy. Try a variety of free software options to find the one you like best.

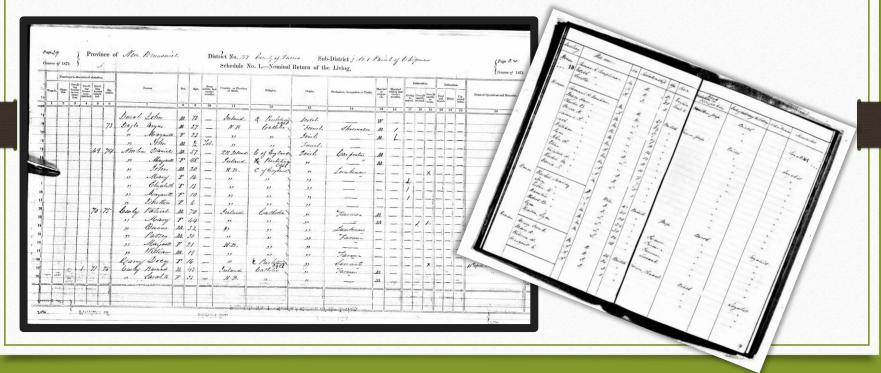


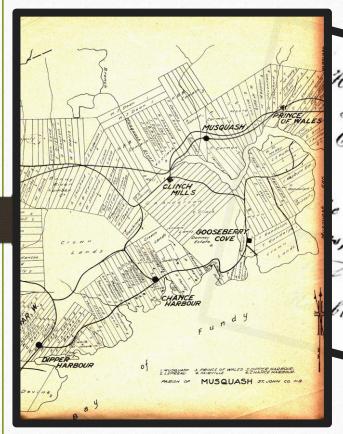
Vital statistics records



Census records

The Canadian census has been recorded every 10 years starting 1851. Privacy rules protect Canadian census records for 92 years.





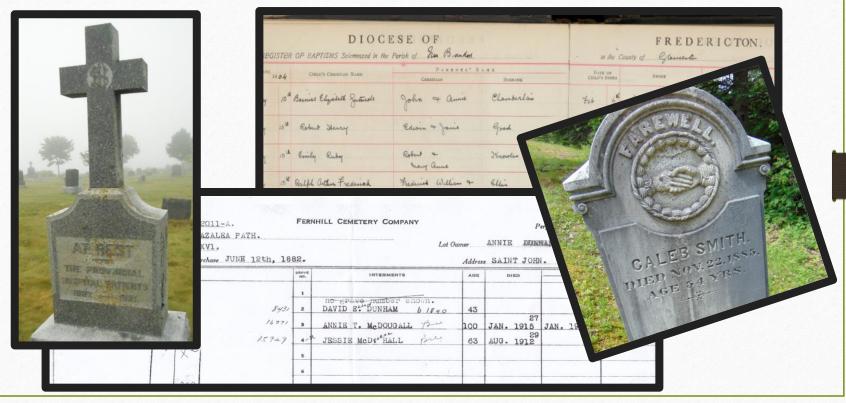
Maps and land records

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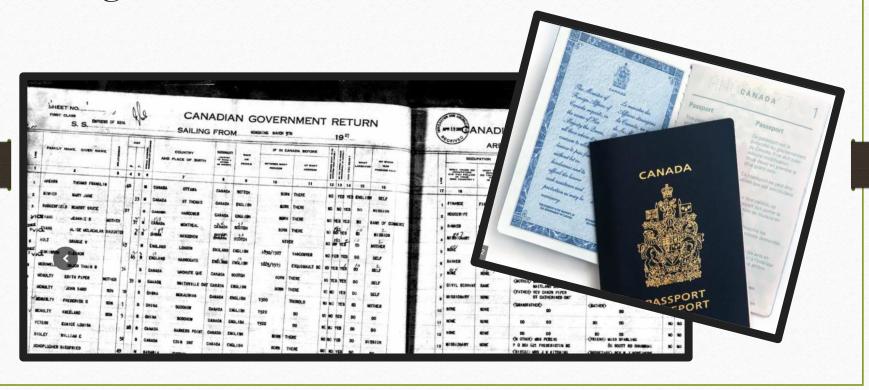
Wills and other legal documents Anthony McBriarty, 1877, Saint John Probate Records (RS71A), PANB microfilm F10946, Denly Alle Jam of Intheren in the Crang I ten will and the Cangard and wat in budy but of dem Dumid named trong Mi Briarty and in sunday med want mind mand mind of the last and a ship and a last a could despect the state and a ship a ship and a ship this by to any fact the and lest and livery finder and making mad all Bullo Transpire A smade by med and Thursty direct that all my fint debts and funared and textamentary and foresters and bocasta beautifus and foresters and bocasta hereing the proved and filed b: September 1877 by McBriarty, 1877, Saint John Probate Records (RS71A), PANB microfilm F10946, hcial Archives of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, 2016.



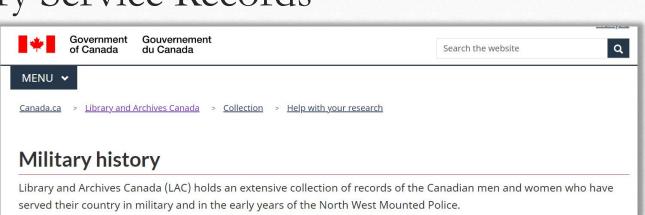
Church and Cemetery records



Immigration and Travel records



Military Service Records





Military abbreviations

Service files use many different acronyms. Use this index to better understand them



First World War

Discover the many collections of documents that we hold relating to



How to ATIP a military record

Learn how to file an ATIP request for military service files

Check the math and think through the details



Does it make sense?

Was the mother within her childbearing years?

Did the family live at that location?

Were there others with the same name?

Was Grandad really 110 years old?

Was Grandma old enough to be married?

Cite your source - Keep track of where your information came from

- What website, microfilm, book or person did it come from?
- When did you get the information?
- How can you, or someone else, find the document again?



Citation examples:

Francis Baird and Catherine Porter, 1859, Marriage Bonds 1810-1932 (RS551A), PANB microfilm 9091, Bond number 4975, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, 2016.

New Brunswick Land Grants, 1784-1997 (RS686), PANB microfilm 16302, Volume B, Page 199, Grant number 128, 1788, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick. Accessed 3 Aug 2016.

Oscar A. Wetmore, 1904, Justice of the Peace Appointment Register, 1863-1963 (RS581), PANB microfilm 8504, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, 2016.

Gilford Studholme et al, 1785, New Brunswick Land Grants, 1784-1997 (RS686), PANB microfilm F16302, Volume NS-A, Page 113, Grant number 86, Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, 2016.

Limitations to research in New Brunswick

- Some early census records no longer exist
- Fire and other disasters destroyed many records
 - The Great fire of Saint John 1877
 - The fire at the Customs House in Saint John in the 1920s
- Vital statistics records were not required until 1888
- The Provincial Archives was not established until 1967

How can I contribute to the history of New Brunswick?

Consider donating older family documents and photographs to the

Provincial Archives of New Brunswick.