

O CANADA: CENSUS & BEYOND RESEARCH RESOURCES

Claire V. Brisson-Banks, BS, MLIS, AG®



Mini-Timeline

1605: Nova Scotia founded by French (Acadia)	1812: Manitoba settled by displaced Highlanders (became a province in 1870)
1608: Quebec Village established by French	1867: Dominion of Canada created, which united Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec & Ontario
1713: English take over Nova Scotia, New Foundland & Hudson Bay area (7-year war)	1871: British Columbia joined the Dominion of Canada
1749: Halifax founded	1873: Prince Edward Island joined the Dominion of Canada
1755-1758: 6000 French Acadians forced f/Nova Scotia	1898: Yukon Territory Created
1769: Prince Edward Island detached f/Nova Scotia	1905: Saskatchewan, Alberta became a province
1784: New Brunswick separated from Nova Scotia	1947: Canadian citizenship established separate from British
1791: Quebec divided into Lower (Quebec) and Upper Canada (Ontario)	1949: Newfoundland 10 th province

Similarities	Differences
Northern Neighbors who immigrated to US during 1800-1900s	Each province acts individually on everything
Settled East to West	Records not indexed by surname
Similar records: Vital, probate, census, land, and church records	Locating records is a challenge

Records

- Ancestry: Canada Border Crossings: 1895-1960->Each areas' coverage is different!
 - Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Vermont & Washington
- FamilySearch: U.S. Canada Border Crossing, 1895-1954, includes VT, MI, Pacific & Atlantic ports
- FindMyPast.com & MyHeritage.com: U.S. Canada Border Crossing, 1895-1954, only VT
- Library and Archives Canada: U.S. to Canada: 1908-1935 | <https://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/microform-digitization/006003-110.02-e.php?&q2=30&interval=50&sk=0&PHPSESSID=77r1u66jibc690b1urournv32>
- FamilySearch Research Wiki: Canada: Emigration & Immigration | https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Canada_Emigration_and_Immigration
- Ancestry.com: All U.S. & Canada, Passenger & Immigration Lists Index 1500s-1900s by William Filby
- Library and Archives Canada: Passenger Lists & Border Entries - Record of Registry, Nominal Indexes: 1925-35 | <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/passenger-lists-border-entry-1925-1935/Pages/introduction.aspx>

1666 Canadian Census

- Background: <https://www.eirenicon.com/1666>
- Actual Census: <https://allcensusrecords.com/canada/quebec/1666census.shtml>

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Colonial & Provincial Censuses

http://allcensusrecords.com/canada/quebec/	http://www.cangenealogy.com/armstrong
http://acadian-home.org/census-acadia.html	https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~acadiancajun/genealogy/genac1.htm
www.rootsweb.com/~canns/nscensus1770a.html	http://sites.rootsweb.com/~onlanark/census.htm
www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1825/Pages/about-census.aspx	www.findmypast.com 1825,1831,1841 Provincial
There was no conformity or indexes to these censuses. Each province is different, and many did not survive.	

Civil Government Census

- Taken on: 02 Apr 1871, 04 Apr 1881, 04 Apr 1891, 31 Mar 1901, 01 Jun 1911, 01 June 1921
- 1871 Census of Canada, Ontario, heads of household: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1871-on/Pages/about-census.aspx>
- Mortality Censuses: All taken on the same days, only 1871 available on FamilySearch.org
- Special Western Area Censuses: 1906, 1916, 1926, and 1936
- National Registration: Compulsory 1940-1946, see Library Archive Canada for availability
- Most on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, MyHeritage.com, and/or Library Archive Canada
 - <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/Pages/census.aspx>
- Census taken by province, then census district, sub-district voting or election districts, not counties.
- Geographic counties are towns, townships, and villages
- Census districts & sub-districts, townships, and counties may have same name.
- Census districts may have the same name but not include the same townships as the county
- Census district boundaries change each census year

Church Rules and Regulations

- Before 1793 only Anglican & Catholic clergy could perform marriages
- 1793-1798 district clerks could perform marriages if more than 18 miles from an Anglican clergy
- 1798-1831 Anglican, Roman Catholic, Church of Scotland, Lutheran, and Calvinist clergy could now perform marriages
- 1831-1858 Methodist, Baptists, and Presbyterian clergy could perform marriages
- 1858-1869 All clergy could perform marriages

Canadian Protestant Religions

- Anglican Church of Canada includes Church of England and Church of Ireland
- United Church of Canada includes Methodists, Presbyterian, Congregational, and Evangelical United Brethren
- Online: Huntingdon County & Seigniories of Chateauguay & Beauharnois: www.swquebec.ca/default.html
- Ontario Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms: <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~wjmartin/genealogy/wm-index.htm>
- Records are available in "ALL" media formats. Check out the Wiki Articles on EACH Denomination in Canada
 - https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Canada_Church_Records
- Loiselle Marriage Index, alphabetical order | <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/964161?availability=Family%20History%20Library>
- Program of Research Demography History: <https://www.prdh-igd.com/> (\$)
 - Roman Catholic and Protestant Family Reconstruction: www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/French-Canadian_Genealogy_Dictionaries_-_International_Institute
 - Drouin Collection: Ancestry.com
 - Tanquay Collection: www.dennispartridge.com/tanguays-genealogical-dictionary-of-canadian-families/
 - Jetté Collection: Ancestry.com

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- *Transcribed* Parish Registers/Repertoires
 - Available from various French/American Genealogical Societies
 - Sold online, use search engines to locate them
 - On microfilm and book form at the FHL
- *Actual* Parish Registers? Repertoires: On film at the FHL

Land Records

- **The Crown issued early land records**, and their process covers the early years of Canada. There is a set of records entitled *Land Grants of Seigneuries, 1674-1760* available on FHL Film No. 1036410 and Fiche No. 6046787.¹ *Ancestry.com* has an online collection entitled; *Land Grants from the English Crown Index*; the index can lead to the original early land records.² Another helpful resource is the *FamilySearch Research Wiki* Article entitled, *Quebec Land and Property*.³
- **Wikipedia.com**: List of Seigneuries of New France
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Seigneuries_of_New_France
- **Notarial Records**: Deeds, Land Transfers, Marriage Contracts, Wills
 - Filed by Notary: Notaries of French-Canada: 1626-1900 (Online at FHL/FHC, Ancestry.com)
- **Quebec, Canada, Land Grants, 1763-1890**⁴
- **Crown Land Records**
 - Land Petitions: filed by person wanting land
 - Land Fiats: an arbitrary order (could be money)
 - Land Warrants: Issued to survey land
 - Land Grants: Issued on the surveyed land
 - Land Patents: Issued on the surveyed land
 - Land Deeds: Statement of Ownership of the land
 - Homestead Records: Individuals applications for free land grants
- Available online at **FHL, Library & Archives Canada, County Archives, FindMyPast, OliveTreeGenealogy.com**
- **Loyalist Land Claims**: American Colonists loyal to Britain & Land Grants to Veterans throughout Canada
 - Individual files a petition, if approved, a warrant to survey the land was ordered & a land grant or patent was issued. Records were receipts, fiats or warrants, locations tickets, and surveyor's reports. Lastly, the passing of land from one generation to the next was also listed in wills and deeds.
- **Dominion Lands Act** passed by the Canadian Parliament encouraged settlement in the western parts of Canada and assuring the Canadian Pacific Railway was constructed at this same time.
- Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan all have these application files online at *Library and Archives Canada* under *Western Land Grants*.⁵ *Ancestry.com* also has the grant registers⁶
- *Ancestry.com*: Soldier, Homestead Grant Records, 1918-1931⁷

¹ Seigniories, land grants of 1674-1760, Québec: Appendice du onzime volume des Journaux de L'Assemblée Legislative de la Province du Canada

² Ancestry.com, *Quebec, Canada, Land Grants, 1763-1890* [database-on-line], Provo, UT, USA: © 2010 Ancestry.com Operations, Inc. Accessed 13 July 2023.

³ "Quebec Land and Property." *FamilySearch Research Wiki*. Intellectual Reserve, n.d.

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Quebec_Land_and_Property: accessed 13 July 2023

⁴ Quebec, Canada Land Grants, 1763-1890: <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1774/> accessed 13 July 2023

⁵ Western Land Grants: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-grants-western-canada-1870-1930/Pages/land-grants-western-canada.aspx#toc2>: accessed 13 July 2023.

⁶ Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, Canada, Homestead Grant Registers, 1872-1930:

<https://www.ancestry.ca/search/collections/9209/>: accessed 13 July 2023.

⁷ Canada, Soldier Homestead Grant Registers, 1918-31, <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/9210/>: accessed 13 July 2023.

- ThoughtCo.: Canadian Land and Tax Records⁸

Reminder

- **“Dit” surnames:** Lists are available in both the Jetté and Tanguay books and online at the AFGS, Ancestry, and Thought.co websites.^{9,10,11}

Additional Helps

- FS Community-Canada: <https://community.familysearch.org/en/group/17-canada-events-research>
- Canadian Facebook Groups: http://genealogyalacarte.ca/?page_id=10169
- Arcadian Heritage: https://afgs.org/acadia/AHS-Acadian_Videos.html
- FS Canada Videos: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/help/helpcenter/learning-center-search/?q=Canada>
- Ancestry Videos: <https://www.ancestryacademy.com/effective-searching-for-canadian-records>

- FamilySearch Research Wiki Outlines

Alberta	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Yukon
British Columbia	Newfoundland & Labrador	Nunavut Territory	Quebec	Canada
Manitoba	Northwest Territories	Ontario	Saskatchewan	

- Archives and Libraries

Alberta	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	Yukon
British Columbia	Newfoundland & Labrador	Nunavut Territory	Quebec	Canada
Manitoba	Northwest Territories	Ontario	Saskatchewan	

- Babel Fish and Google Translate.^{12,13}
- World Gen Web: Canada: <https://www.worldgenweb.net/canada>
- Dave Obee: <http://www.cangenealogy.com>
- Parish Registers on CD or as a PDF download: <http://www.timelessgen.com/shop.html>

New Websites to Help Researching Canada

- Geneanet.org
- Filae.com
- MyHeritage: Filae Family Trees, 1911, 1921, 1931 – France Census

Never Stop Searching – New Records a coming online all the time!

⁸ ThoughtCo. <https://www.thoughtco.com/canadian-land-and-tax-records-1422119>: accessed 13 July 2023.

⁹ American-French Genealogical Society, <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~afgs/index1.html>: accessed 13 July 2023.

¹⁰ Ancestry.com, <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~unclefred/genealogy/DitNames.html>: accessed 13 July 2023.

¹¹ Thought.co: <https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-a-dit-name-3972358> : accessed 13 July 2023.

¹² “Babel Fish”, <http://babelfish.com>, accessed 13 July 2023.

¹³ “Google Translate”, <http://translate.google.com>, accessed 13 July 2023.

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