



Mississippi Mills Public Library

Need help with
your genealogy
research?

Some helpful hints
to guide you!



TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED

1. Begin your family tree by gathering all the papers, photos, documents and family heirlooms you have.
2. Set aside some time to interview relatives who may have additional information.
3. Start a family tree or pedigree chart using the information you have learned from family and documents you already have.
4. Select a single surname, individual or family to start so you don't get overwhelmed.
5. Explore the internet. Try some of the sites listed on the other side of this brochure!
6. Organize your new information as you go. Make notes, and photocopies. Save and date everything!
7. If you are lucky enough to be able to visit graves and churches, take photos and date them, too.
8. Don't be afraid to take a break from research. Sometimes, a bit of time to mull over your findings helps make them clearer!

SEARCH TIPS FOR ANCESTRY.CA

The **wildcard character (*)** will account for various name endings, up to 5 extra characters. For example, searching **Char*** will return hits on names like Charles, Charley, Charlie, Charlene, or Charlotte and any other names beginning with the letters Char. *Note that you must type in at least the first three letters of the name before putting in the wildcard.*

The **truncation symbol (?)** is used when you only want one letter of a name to be different. If you are trying to find the name Hansen that was also sometimes spelled Hanson, you could type in **Hans?n** to find both variant. *Note that you must type in at least the first three letters of the name before putting in the truncation.*

IN-LIBRARY RESOURCES:

ALMONTE BRANCH:

Locked Case – contains local history resources, census lists and some Ottawa history materials

Microfilm – Almonte Gazette 1861-2005, some Lanark County Canadian Census records and some local church registers

Microfiche – Ontario Archives Land Record Index and a Guide to Holdings of the Archives of Ontario

Vertical Files – clippings from local papers with a focus on major people and events in the area

Cemetery Registers – local cemeteries and graves

Local Family Histories – materials compiled by some of the larger local families

Almonte Gazette Scrapbooks – clippings from the Gazette from 1900 – 1953

BOTH BRANCHES:

Ancestry.ca Library Edition – available on the public internet computers

Our **Pakenham Branch** also has a local history collection which includes history on local churches, cemeteries and local families. You will also find a collection of photo albums containing newspaper clippings and photos of houses and people from Pakenham and area.

ONLINE RESOURCES:

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum –

Online, searchable access to Almonte Gazette 1861-1989 as well as searchable access to their research library

www.mvtm.ca

Library and Archives Canada –

Click *Genealogy & Family History* to follow links to databases

www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng

Automated Genealogy –

Searchable databases of Canadian Census records

<http://automatedgenealogy.com>

Find A Grave –

Searchable databases of graves from around the world

www.findagrave.com

Family Search –

Worldwide database of genealogy records

www.familysearch.org

Cyndi's List –

A comprehensive list of available genealogy resources on the web

<http://www.cyndislist.com/canada>

LOCAL CONTACTS:

Lanark County Museums Network – One stop access to local museums. Follow the links of the left hand side of the web page to find what you're looking for!

Members of the network include Lanark Archives, Naismith Museum, North Lanark Regional Museum, Legion Hall of Remembrance and many more!

<http://www.lanarkcountymuseums.ca/>

The logo features the word "GENEALOGY" in a large, black, serif font. Below it, the tagline "life in the past lane" is written in a smaller, black, cursive font. The text is centered on a light gray background.