



## 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.*

photo albums containing newspaper clippings and photos of houses and people from Pakenham and area.

A comprehensive list of available genealogy resources on the web

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

## 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

## 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](http://www.mvtm.ca)

### Library and Archives Canada –

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

[www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng](http://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](http://www.findagrave.com)

### Family Search –

Worldwide database of genealogy records

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

### Cyndi's List –

## 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/>



GENEALOGY  
*life in the past lane*