

## BRITISH COLUMBIA ARCHIVES GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH RESOURCES

This document forms the basis of our Web site's Genealogy page (<http://www.bccarchives.gov.bc.ca/sn-C71714/textual/general/genealog.htm>). The following records and published materials available at the BC Archives may help you with your family history research. This list is organized by type of record, along with a brief note on retrieval. Call slips are required unless otherwise noted. For hours of operation, retrieval times, and locker service, refer to the Services section of our Web site (address at end of this document) or a separate information sheet.

Some sets of records are large, and require the use of finding aids and other supplementary aids. Special information sheets to guide you through the location and retrieval process are available in the Reference Room and online for those sets of records identified with an asterisk (\*). Most provincial government records finding aids as well as catalogue descriptions are searchable via keyword through our Web site. All provincial government records are subject to the *Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act* or other statutory restrictions and may not be accessible without a research agreement.

### PUBLISHED MATERIAL

NOTE: Check both the hardcopy Library Catalogue in the Reference Room and online. Items with no call number are not catalogued. Date ranges for some items are for Archives holdings only.

#### **Handbooks on genealogical research**

Obtain call number by looking under the heading subject "GENEALOGY".

#### **Family histories**

Obtain call number by looking under the name of the family.

#### **City and provincial business directories (these list occupations of individuals)**

Complete call slips showing the city and year required. Some directories are available on self-serve microfilm reels or as bound photocopies on top of the library catalogue. An inventory is available at the Information Desk.

#### **Telephone Directories**

Complete call slips showing the city and year required. An inventory is available at the Information Desk.

#### **Crockford's Clerical Directory (Anglican)**

1868, 1896, 1910-1914, 1916-1918, 1920-1922, 1923-1927, 1929-1936, 1941, 1947-1950, 1953-1968.

Call number: NW 283 C938 + year

#### **Clergy List (Anglican)**

1882, 1911-1916.

Call number: NW 283 C629 + year.

#### **Navy Lists**

1806-1975, with gaps.

Complete call slip with title and year required.

#### **Army and Militia Lists**

1789-1976, with gaps.

Complete call slip with title and year required.

#### **Canadian Expeditionary Force, Battalion Lists**

Call number: NW 355.3 C212; provide battalion number or unit name on call slip.

#### **Mercantile Navy Lists and Maritime Directory**

1857-1957 with gaps.

Call number is R 359 M553 + year.

#### **Voters Lists (by provincial electoral district)**

1874-1993, with gaps.

Complete call slips with title, year and electoral district.

Call number: Ref NW 324.1 B862 [year].

NOTE: Voters lists less than 25 years old are restricted.

#### **British Columbia & Vancouver Island Gazette**

1859-1860, 1863-1980.

Includes notices of government appointments, applications to purchase land, licenses issued, etc.

Complete call slip for index first (NW 320.05 B862 + year); then call slip for correct year and page number (no call number required).

#### **\*The 1881 Census, Vancouver Island**

Call number: Ref. NW 317.1 C215 1881 (an index). Also available online at <http://history.mala.bc.ca>

#### **\*The 1891 Census, Victoria**

Call number: Ref. NW 317.1 C215 1891 (an index). Also available online at <http://history.mala.bc.ca>

#### **Canadian Who's Who**

1910, 1917, 1936-39, 1948-90.

Call number: Ref. NW 920 C212 + year.

#### **Annual Report of the Public Schools (Dept. of Education), 1872+**

Includes names of teachers, statistical information about schools.

BC *Sessional Papers* self-serve microfilm D-24, D-25, D-25a, D-26 (1872-1982), or *Public Schools Reports* self-serve microfilm D-31 (1871-1950).

Call number: NW 971.58 B862p + year (1983-present)

#### **Annual Report of the Department of Mines, 1874+**

Includes names of individuals killed and injured.

BC *Sessional Papers* self-serve microfilm D-24, D-25, D-25a, D-26 (1872-1982), or self-serve microfiche Df-86 (1874-1979).

Call number: NW 971.35 B862 + year (1921+)

Index call number: NW 971.35 B862 1874-1964 index

Also available online, including indexes, at <http://www.em.gov.bc.ca>

### GOVERNMENT RECORDS

**\*British Columbia. Vital Statistics Agency. Birth registrations, 1872-1901 (GR-2965); Marriage registrations, 1872-1926 (GR-2962); Death registrations, 1872-1981 (GR-2951); Overseas casualties, 1940-1945 (GR-3132)**

Self-serve microfilm. Consult *online index* to obtain reel number. Microfiche indexes (GR-3033 [Bf0043], GR-3034 [Bf0044], and GR-3103 [Bf0045]) are also available.

**GR-2017. Canada. Census Office, Manitoba and Red River, 1831-1847, 1849, 1856, 1870**

Self-serve microfilm reel B00396. Consult finding aid for a list of enumeration districts.

**\*GR-0469. Canada. Census Office, British Columbia only, 1881**

Self-serve microfilm. Consult boxed finding aid to obtain microfilm reel numbers.

**\*GR-0288. Canada. Census Office, British Columbia only, 1891**

Self-serve microfilm. Consult boxed finding aid to obtain microfilm reel numbers.

**\*GR-2927. Canada. Census Office, British Columbia only, 1901**

Self-serve microfilm. Consult finding aid to obtain microfilm reel numbers.

**GR-0436. Canada. Dept. of the Interior. Dominion Lands Branch, 1885-1930**

Self-serve microfilm. Includes applications to homestead in the Railway Belt and the Peace River Block. Consult boxed finding aids to locate microfilm reel numbers.

**GR-1547. Canada. Dept. of the Interior. Immigration Branch**

Self-serve microfilm. Includes files relating to Asiatic and Oriental immigration and child emigration programs, but there is no nominal or subject index. Consult bound finding aid to locate microfilm reel numbers.

**GR-1372. Colonial Correspondence**

Self-serve microfilm. Letters to the colonial governments of BC and Vancouver Island, 1849-1872. Consult the card index between the textual records and library catalogues; then use the finding aid to convert "F" file number to a self-serve microfilm reel number.

**GR-1999. British Columbia. Surveyor of Taxes (Assessment Rolls), 1876-1948 (incomplete)**

Self-serve microfilm. Consult boxed finding aid to determine taxation district, then consult microfilm reel list to obtain self-serve microfilm reel number.

**\*GR-0112 and others. British Columbia. Dept. of Lands (Pre-emption Records to 1970)**

Consult "Government Records Relating to Crown Lands in British Columbia" (Binder 15 on top of card catalogues). See also incomplete nominal card index beside "Government Records & Historical Manuscripts Catalogue #1 (Old System)"

**\*British Columbia. Attorney General (Coroner's Records 1859-1970)**

Consult Binder 7A on top of card catalogues. Principal nominal index for inquests between 1879-1937 is self-serve microfilm reel B07895; the chronological register is microfilm reel B07894. Nominal indexes from 1938-1970 are on self-serve microfiche.

NOTE: Inquests and inquiries after 1910 are FOIPPA-restricted and must be reviewed prior to release. See the information sheet for details.

**Various GR accessions. British Columbia. Attorney General (Court Records)**

Includes records of civil and criminal proceedings c. 1849-1980s. Consult "Court Records Guide" (Binder 7B) on top of card catalogues. Client must be able to identify the place and level of court (e.g. Supreme, County, Police Court) in order to search the correct GR collection.

NOTE: Some Supreme Court Cause Book indexes can only be searched by staff or a lawyer.

**\*Various GR accessions. British Columbia. Attorney General (Wills, 1861-1981)**

Indexes are self-serve microfilm reels B01990, B11790 to B11794. See also Binder 7A on top of card catalogues.

**\*Various GR accessions. British Columbia. Attorney General (Probate Case Files 1861-1981 [incomplete])**

Principal indexes are self-serve microfilm reels B01990 (Victoria probates 1861-1981); self-serve microfiche Bf00032 and self-serve microfilm reel B13076 (New Westminster, 1881-1977); and self-serve microfilm reels B02531; B11786 to B11788; B09710 (Vancouver, 1893-1986); Probate files from other areas can be identified in Binder 7A on top of card catalogues or by searching the online textual records catalogue with the keyword "probate".

**Various GR accessions. British Columbia. County Court and Government Agencies.**

Naturalization applications and records from County Court registries and Government Agency offices. Search the textual records index on the Web site for "naturalization" to find these types of records.

**Various GR accessions. British Columbia. Health care records.**

Patient case files for provincial institutions such as Essondale, Tranquille, and Woodlands. Consult with the Duty Archivist for access requirements under the FOIPPA.

**Various GR accessions. British Columbia. Provincial Police, 1858-1950**

Includes personnel records, Superintendent's correspondence, license applications. Consult Binder 12 on top of card catalogues.

**GR-1489. BC. Canadian Confederation Centennial Committee 1967**

Records are Applications For Pioneer Medallions and include genealogical information. Consult finding aid.

**GR-1490. BC. Centennial '71 Committee**

Records are Applications for Pioneer Medallions and include genealogical information. Consult finding aid.

**PRIVATE PAPERS**

**Church Registers of baptisms, marriages and burials**

Check catalogues under church name (e.g. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church); place name (e.g. Victoria, BC. - Christ Church Cathedral); and subject headings "REGISTERS OF BIRTHS, ETC." and "RELIGIOUS RECORDS".

NOTE: many religious orders have their own archives.

**Family Papers**

Diaries, correspondence, etc. Check catalogues under the family name.

**Family Trees**

The Archives holds only a few. Check manuscript and library catalogues under the family name.

**MS-0700. Laing, Frederick William, "Colonial Settlers on the Mainland of British Columbia" (typescript)**

Self-serve microfilm reel A00819(1).

**MS-0467. Alexander Begg collection**

Includes three volumes of questionnaires distributed to settlers in the North West Territory in 1884-1885.

Self-serve microfilm reels A01267 and A01268

**MS-2053. Hudson's Bay Company. Archives**

Microfilm registers of records available on microfilm.

Consult the finding aid to determine which portion of the HBC Archives classification system to search on the three self-serve microfilm reels (A01270, A01271, and A01815). Submit your request to borrow up to three microfilm reels through the Retrieval Desk.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Newspaper and Clippings Index**

Self-serve microfiche. Index to newspaper articles and clippings files on microfilm 1858-1900, 1910s-1982.

Search under family name or subject. Asterisked articles can be found in clippings files on microfilm; for all other references you must retrieve self-serve newspaper microfilms (arranged by place of publication) and locate article by date, page number and article title. Some newspaper/clipping index items refer to Provincial Archives Scrapbooks, 1901-1944, (self-serve microfilm reels D-22).

**Mailing Address:** Access Services, BC Archives, P.O. BOX 9419 STN PROV GOVT, Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

**Reference Room:** 655 Belleville St., Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

**Phone:** (250) 387-1952 **Fax:** (250) 387-2072 **E-mail:**

[access@www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca](mailto:access@www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca)

**World Wide Web:**

<http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/>

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