

GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES - 2025

Local:

Ontario Ancestors (Ontario Genealogical Society): <https://ogs.on.ca>

Durham Region Branch, O.G.S.: <https://durham.ogs.on.ca/>

Oshawa Ontario FamilySearch Centre

Location: 632 Thornton Rd N, Oshawa, Ontario L1J6T6 Phone: 905-728-3151

(Entrance is located at the south west corner of building.)

E-mail: on_oshawa@familyhistorymail.org

FamilySearch Centre Affiliates:

Ajax Public Libraries

Kawartha Lake Public Libraries

Oshawa Public Library

Ramara Township Public Libraries

Whitby Public Library

Township of Uxbridge Public Library

Find a FamilySearch Center or Affiliate location: <https://locations.familysearch.org/en/search>

Uxbridge Genealogical Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UxGenGroup>

uxbridgegenealogygroup@hotmail.com

Census:

1803 – 1807 Census returns for Whitby and Pickering Townships

from: Oshawa Vindicator Newspaper; Wednesday, May 4th, 1864; page 2, column 6 & 7

<http://communitydigitalarchives.com/the-oshawa-vindicator/1864-04-27/002/newspapers.html>

from: Oshawa Vindicator Newspaper; Wednesday, April 27, 1864; page 2, column 7

<http://communitydigitalarchives.com/the-oshawa-vindicator/1864-05-04/002/newspapers.html>

Upper Canada Census 1842 (online)

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/collection/1834342>

1851/2 census Oshawa:

<http://images.ourontario.ca/whitby/3307477/data?n=29>

(Anglican entries only / names only / Oshawa starts on image 10)

1871 Newcastle District Census & Assessment

<http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives/84-021> (Supplement to the microfilm)

Church Records Collection:

An assortment of transcriptions and photocopies of local church records are held in the Durham Region Branch office.

Newcastle District Marriage Records (additional entries only)

<http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives/83-016>

Wesleyan Methodist Baptismal Register (with images)

<https://bowergenealogy.ca/resources/methodist/>

Early Darlington and Whitby Township, etc. Marriages 1805 – 1817

[as listed in the “The Canadian Statesman”; Bowmanville, Ontario dated Wednesday 24 October 1894, pg. 4; Vol. XL, Number 43]

<https://vitacollections.ca/claringtonnews/2828531/page/5?n=>

Church Archives:

Anglican Archives – Diocese of Toronto

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/parish-administration/archives/?lang=en>

United Church of Canada Archives (including former Methodist, Congregational, Bible Christians and some Presbyterian)

<https://www.unitedchurcharchives.ca/>

Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives

<https://presbyterianarchives.ca/>

Roman Catholic – Archdiocese of Toronto

<https://www.archtoronto.org/archives/>

Quaker Archives

<https://quaker.ca/archives/>

Directories: [including contributions by Wyatt Avery]

Vernon’s Directories: Oshawa 1921 – 2002

Whitby 1960 – 2002

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/records/default?search=vernon%27s%20directories%20oshawa>

Search Oshawa Directories 1921-1969 online

[#2020AAW](https://bit.ly/2UQzcpz)

(Includes 1916/17 Ontario & Durham Counties Vernon’s Farmers & Business Directory & 1911 Oshawa Business Directory)

1851 Canada Directory

<https://accessgenealogy.com/canada/1851-canada-directory.htm>

Gazetteer and Business Directory for the United Counties of Northumberland & Durham 1865-6

<https://archive.org/details/gazetteerbusiness1865suth>

1866 Directory of Ontario County

https://durham.ogs.on.ca/resources/Ontario_1866_Directory/index.html

1869 Directory of Ontario County

https://durham.ogs.on.ca/resources/Ontario_1869_Directory/index.html

1869–70 County of Durham Directory

<https://digitalarchive.tpl.ca/objects/355341/the-county-of-durham-directory?ctx=fc2db5b6e293f559aa038cd9d56d1a856b2c05e9&idx=0#>

1871 Province of Ontario Directory

<https://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/001075/f2/nlc008162.pdf>

1880 Directory... County of Northumberland and the County of Durham

<https://digitalarchive.tpl.ca/objects/355540/directory-and-book-of-reference-for-the-west-riding-of-the-c#>

The Union Publishing Co's Farmers' & Business Directory for the counties of Durham, Peterborough, Victoria for 1884

<https://archive.org/details/unionpublishingc01unse>

The Union Publishing Co's Farmers' & Business Directory for the counties of Durham, Northumberland, Peterborough, Victoria for 1886

<https://archive.org/details/unionpublishingc02unse>

Farmers' and Classified Business Directory for the Counties of Durham, Northumberland, Peterborough and Victoria for 1887

<https://archive.org/details/farmersclassifie1887unio>

The Union Publishing Co's Farmers' & Business Directory for the counties of Muskoka, Ontario, Simcoe, Victoria, Durham for 1889

<https://archive.org/details/unionpublishingc04unse>

Farmers and Business Directory for the Counties of Durham, Northumberland, Ontario, Peterboro and Victoria for 1890

<https://archive.org/details/farmersbusinessd1890unio>

The Union Publishing Co's (of Ingersoll.) Farmers and Business Directory for the counties of Durham, Hastings, Lennox, Addington, Northumberland, Prince Edward for 1893

<https://discover.cabhc.ca/uploads/r/community-archives-of-belleville-and-hastings-county/0/a/3/0a3feb8a4217d59bc05cebbcee242f855feebe512a818ff3fb3d39872470ca31/1893Directory.pdf>

Farmers and Business Directory for the Counties of Durham, Northumberland, Peterboro and Victoria. And Districts of Haliburton, Muskoka Nipissing and Parry Sound for 1897-8

<https://archive.org/details/farmersbusinessd1897unio>

Farmers and Business Directory for the Counties of Durham, Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterboro and Victoria for 1903

<https://archive.org/details/farmersbusinessd1903unio>

Vernon's Durham, Haliburton, Northumberland, Ontario, Peterboro and Victoria County Directory, 1916 [/ 1917]

<https://archive.org/details/vernonsdirectory19167>

List of Free Online Ontario City Directories by Kenneth R. Marks

<https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/free-online-ontario-city-directories/>

Helpful Websites:

Barbara Kyle & Peter Bolton's Port Hope website
<http://alivingpast.ca/>

Bill Martin's Genealogy Pages
<http://my.tbaytel.net/bmartin/sitemap.htm>

Brian Winter Vertical File Collection [Whitby Township]
https://0901.nccdn.net/4_2/000/000/081/4ce/brian-winter-vertical-file-collection.pdf

CanadaGenWeb
<https://canadagenweb.org/>

Canadian Geographical Names Database
<https://geonames.nrcan.gc.ca/search-place-names/search>

Canadiana
<https://www.canadiana.ca/>

Coroner's Inquests Index (Durham)
<http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives/84-020>

Cyndi's List
<https://www.cyndislist.com/>

FamilySearch
<https://www.rootsweb.com/>

Olive Tree Genealogy
<https://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>

Ontario and Upper Canada Genealogy and History (Michael Stephenson – free indexes)
<https://www.ontariogenealogy.com/>

Ontario Locator (Place Name Directory)
<https://canadagenweb.org/specialprojects/ontario-locator/>

Ontario Name Index, The (TONI)
<https://ogs.on.ca/>

Our Ontario
<https://search.ourontario.ca/>

Port Hope History
<https://www.porthopehistory.com/>

Prisoners: Cobourg Jail
<http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives/84-020>

Rootsweb
<https://www.rootsweb.com/>

The Ancestor Hunt
<https://theancestorhunt.com/>

Vintage Ajax [Facebook]
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1641108162833783/>

Vintage Bowmanville [Facebook]
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1237056426334358/>

Vintage Brooklin [Facebook]
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/vintagebrooklin/>

Vintage Hampton [Facebook]
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/627842404454150/>

Vintage Oshawa [Facebook]

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/314293565275586/>

Vintage Pickering [Facebook]

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/vintagepickering/>

Vintage Uxbridge [Facebook]

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Vintage-Uxbridge-100070768255767/>

Vintage Whitby [Facebook]

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/269943443168610/>

Land:

The Ontario Land Records Index (original grantees)

<https://archive.org/details/ontariolandrecordsindex>

Abstract Index books

<https://www.onland.ca/ui/>

By map:

<https://help.onland.ca/en/property-search/>

Note: easier to use (rural)

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

Libraries:

Ajax Library - <https://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/genealogy> ; <https://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/archives/using>

- Microfilm of Ontario Birth, Marriage and Death Indices
- Historical editions of local newspapers;
- Photographs of Ajax and the surrounding area;
- Birth, Marriage and Death Indices from local newspapers;
- Digital Archives - <https://images.ourontario.ca/ajax/search>

Brock Library - <https://brocklibraries.ca/>

- Adult Programs -> History and Genealogy

Clarington Library Museums & Archives - <https://www.cplma.ca/museums-and-archives/>

- Local Newspapers: Digitized and Microfilm <https://vitacollections.ca/claringtonnews/search>
- Cemetery Records
- Surname Indexes

Durham College Library

<https://durhamcollege.ca/student-life/campus-services/library>

Kawartha Lakes Public Library

<https://www.kawarthalakeslibrary.ca/en/index.aspx>

Library and Archives Canada

<https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng>

Oshawa Library - <https://oshawalibrary.ca/local-history-genealogy/>

- Globe and Mail Archives (Library Card Required).

- Heritage Collections: Oshawa Images
- Oshawa Historical Documents
- Oshawa Newspaper & Obituary Index <https://news.ourontario.ca/oshawa/search>

Pickering Library - <https://pickeringlibrary.ca/teen-subject/databases/>

- Historical Newspapers: Toronto Star (Library Card Required)
- Pickering Local History Collection Digital Archive

Port Hope Public Library - <https://porthopepubliclibrary.ca/>

Ramara Township Public Library

<https://www.ramarapubliclibrary.org/research-readers-advisory/>

Scugog Library - <https://www.scugoglibrary.ca/online-catalogue/local-history/>

- Scugog Digital Newspaper Collection

Toronto Public Library (Virtual Reference Library)

https://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/arts_culture/2017/05/ontario-resources-available-in-the-digital-archive.html

Trent University Library and Archives

http://www.trentu.ca/library/archives/digital_resources

University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Ontario Tech University)

<https://ontariotechu.ca/sites/library/>

Uxbridge Library - <https://uxlib.com/services/local-history-and-genealogy/>

- has a dedicated genealogy room
- research requests answered by Uxbridge Genealogy Group (\$)
- Cemetery database <http://uxlib.com/modules/cemetery/>
- Newspaper database <http://uxlib.com/modules/newspaper/>

Whitby Library - <https://whitbylibrary.ca/archives-and-local-history>

- has a historical newspaper link <https://vitacollections.ca/whitbynews/search>
- hosts the Whitby Archives
- historical photographs online
- local history books indexes online

Local History Books on-line:

“Chronicles of a County Town: Whitby Past and Present” by Brian Winter 1999 [Index]

<https://www.whitbylibrary.ca/chronicles>

“Historic Sketches of Oshawa” by T. E. Kaiser 1921

<https://archive.org/details/sketchesoshawa00kaisuoft/page/82/mode/2up>

“History & Reminiscences of Bowmanville” by J. B. Fairbairn, 1906.

<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/archive/History-and-Reminiscences-of-Bowmanville-2R3BF1OGADYQJ.html>

“On the Shores of Scugog” by Samuel Farmer 1913

<https://archive.org/details/shoresscugog00farmuoft/mode/2up>

“Past Years in Pickering” by William R. Wood 1911

<https://archive.org/details/pastyearsinpicke00wooduoft/page/18/mode/2up>

Reach / Scugog Townships: [Assorted books]

<https://www.scugogheritage.com/historybooks/index.htm>

“Pioneer Days at Greenbank” by Mary A. Till 1916

<https://archive.org/details/pioneerdaysatgre00till>

“The Craggs of Greenbank” by Georgina Fandrey (nee Cragg) 1977

<https://digitalcollections.ucalgary.ca/archive/The-Craggs-of-Greenbank-2R3BF1FJ4NNDD.html>

“The Townships of Darlington and Clarke...” by John Squair 1927

https://archive.org/details/localhistory_2HE/mode/2up

The Rural Diary Archive has at least 10 diaries from Ontario & Durham Counties

<https://ruraldiaries.lib.uoguelph.ca/>

Maps:

1860's Tremaine's Maps

<https://utoronto.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8cc6be34f6b54992b27da17467492d2f>

McGill University Historical Atlas' (ca. 1870's)

<https://digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas/>

Museums, Archives and Historical Societies:

Archives of Ontario

<https://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/index.aspx>

Beaverton Thorah Eldon Historical Society

<https://btehs.com/>

Beaverton Historical Society

<https://historicbeaverton.org/>

Cannington & Area Historical Society

<http://www.canningtonhistoricalsociety.ca/home.html>

Clarington Museums & Archives

<https://claringtonmuseums.com/>

Durham Region Area Archives Group

<https://durhamregionarchivesgroup.com/whitby-archives/>

Lake Scugog Historical Society

<https://lakescugoghistoricalsociety.com/>

Manvers Historical Society

<https://www.facebook.com/ManversHistorical/>

Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society [Archives]

<https://millbrookcavanhs.org/>

Newcastle Village and District Historical Society

<https://newcastlehistorical.ca/>

Ontario Regiment RCAC Museum
<https://www.ontrmuseum.ca/tankmuseum/>

Oshawa Historical Society
<https://oshawahistoricalsociety.org/>

Oshawa Museum [& Archives]
<http://oshawamuseum.org/>

Pickering Local History Collection Digital Archive
<https://corporate.pickering.ca/PLHCWebLink/Welcome.aspx?cr=1>

Pickering Museum Village
<https://www.pickering.ca/en/discovering/pickering-museum-village.aspx>

Pickering Township Historical Society
<https://www.facebook.com/PickeringHistorical/>

Port Hope and District Historical Society [Dorothy's House Museum]
<http://www.porthopehistorical.ca/museum.htm>

Port Hope Archives
<https://www.archeion.ca/port-hope-archives>

Port Perry / Scugog Township Heritage Gallery
<https://www.scugogheritage.com/misc/hamlets.htm>

Scugog Shores Museum Village
<https://www.scugog.ca/en/live-and-play/Scugog-Shores-Museum-Village.aspx>
<https://vitacollections.ca/SSMVA/search>

Sunderland & District Historical Society
<http://sunmus.ca/>

Town of Ajax Archives
<https://www.ajax.ca/en/play-and-discover/history-and-archives.aspx>

Town of Whitby Archives
<https://www.whitbylibrary.ca/archives-and-local-history>

Uxbridge Historical Centre [Museum & Archives]
<https://www.uxbridgehistoricalcentre.com/>

Uxbridge Scott Historical Society
<http://www.ushs.ca/>

Whitby Historical Society [Lynde House Museum]
<https://whitbyhistoricalsociety.com/>

Newspapers:

The Ancestor Hunt
<https://theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html>

Canadian Community Digital Archives
<http://communitydigitalarchives.com/>

Clarington (Bowmanville) Newspapers
<http://vitacollections.ca/claringtonnews/search>

Jamie Bradburn Creative
<https://jamiebradburncreative.wordpress.com/online-newspaper-guide/>

Ontario Newspapers List
<https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/ontario-online-historical-newspapers-summary/>

Ontario Newspapers

OurDigitalWorld.net

Oshawa Newspapers

<http://news.ourontario.ca/oshawa/search>

<http://communitydigitalarchives.com/the-oshawa-vindicator/newspapers/pg!0!0!0.html>

Pickering Newspapers

<https://corporate.pickering.ca/PLHCWebLink/Welcome.aspx?dbid=0&repo=PICKERING&cr=1>

Port Perry (Scugog) Newspapers

<https://vitacollections.ca/lshs-news/search>

Uxbridge Newspapers [index]

<https://uxlib.com/modules/newspaper/>

Whitby Newspapers

<http://vitacollections.ca/whitbynews/search>

Tax and Assessment Records:

Reach Township Assessment and Collectors Rolls

<https://vitacollections.ca/SSMVA/3882823/data?grd=8508>

Vital Statistics:

Archives of Ontario – <https://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/index.aspx>

(microfilm in Reading Room)

Births: predominantly 1869-1918

Marriages: 1869 -1943 many gaps

Deaths: 1869-1953, and Deaths of Ontarians overseas - 1939-1947

FamilySearch - https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Ontario_Civil_Registration

Ontario Births, 1869-1912; index

Ontario Marriages, 1869-1927 ; index & images

Ontario Deaths, 1869-1937 and Overseas Deaths, 1939-1947 ; index & images

Ancestry.ca - <https://www.ancestry.ca/>

Ontario, Canada Births, 1869-1917 (\$)

Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1869-1942 (\$)

Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1952 (\$)

Yearbook collection:

See our collection list at

<https://durham.ogs.on.ca/publications/yearbook-index.htm>

Temporary Link: <https://timetraces.com/durhambranch/publications/yearbook-index.htm>

[Other yearbooks available in various Archives and Libraries, including the Town of Whitby Archives.]

Ontario, Ontario Co, Durham Co, Durham Region Timelines

1783+ Loyalists arrive in the western area of Quebec
1788 – 1791 – Nassau District, Province of Quebec (old Ontario & Durham Counties)
1791 – Quebec divided into Upper and Lower Canada
1791 – 1792 – Nassau District, Upper Canada (old Ontario Co & Durham Counties)
1792 – 1849 – Home District, Upper Canada (old Ontario Co; Durham Co only till 1802)
1798 – 1841 – York County, Upper Canada (old Ontario Co [East Riding, York Co])
1802 – 1849 – Newcastle District - formed from Home District (old Durham Co)
1841 – Upper Canada becomes Canada West
1841 – 1851 - York County, Canada West (old Ontario Co [East Riding, York Co])
1849 – Districts abolished; County administration begins
1850 – 1974 – Durham County merged into United Counties of Northumberland & Durham
1852 – 1867 – Ontario County, Canada West formed from York Co
1867 – Canadian Confederation; Canada West becomes Ontario
1867 – 1974 – Ontario Co, Ontario
1974 – present – Region of Durham (old Ontario County minus Rama & Mara Twps plus 3 townships from old Durham County – Cartwright, Clarke, Darlington)

Use this timeline to create your location search terms appropriately.

Stephen Wood U.E. & Nancy Trimble P.L.C.G.S.

7 October 2025