

Chronicling the Times of our Ancestors

Researching in Newspaper Archives

info and website links that may be helpful

What might we find about our families in the newspaper?

- the usual stuff: birth, engagement, marriage & death announcements; obituaries (in the place where the event happened & also in the hometown newspaper)
- landmark wedding anniversaries; reminiscences of old timers (which might include extensive family histories!)
- photos of people; stories about newcomers; news of locals during wartime
- lists of graduates; family & school reunions; church & club activities
- community events; military & sporting events; fair & exhibition prize winners
- lists of hotel guests & ship passengers; out-of-town visitors
- accidents & illnesses
- unclaimed mail in the post office; missing persons; strayed livestock
- legal notices; business transfers & sales; bankruptcy notices; tax delinquents
- crimes; court cases (possibly several articles over a period of time)
- classified ads; letters to the Editor
- previously-unknown family connections
- amazing & unexpected stories from their lives

Locating newspaper archives

Global newspaper archive collections

- [Newspapers.com](#) (sometimes offers free access on US holiday weekends)
- [ProQuest Historical Newspapers](#) — at some community libraries (eg, [Vancouver Public Library](#)) & academic libraries
- [NewspaperArchive.com](#) (mostly US, some Canada & UK, mostly London)
- [MyHeritage.com](#) (free with some genealogical society memberships, eg, [OGS](#))
- [Google News Archive](#) & [Internet Archive](#) (both free)
- [Elephind.com](#) (combined search of multiple websites, mostly US & Australian)

Online newspaper archives by country & region (a very incomplete list)

- Canada: [Canadiana.ca](#)
- BC: [The Province, Times-Colonist & Vancouver Sun @ProQuest](#);
[BC Historical Newspapers @UBC](#); [SFU Digitized Newspapers](#); [NewsHound](#) (Kamloops & area); [BC Regional Digitized History](#) (Okanagan & Kootenays)

- Prairies: [Peel's Prairie Provinces @U of Alberta](#)
- Ontario: [OurOntario.ca](#); [Canadian Community Digital Archives](#)
- UK: [British Newspaper Archive](#)
(some newspapers [free to view](#), also on [FindMyPast.com](#), details [here](#))
- Ireland: [Irish Newspaper Archives](#)
- Wales: [The National Library of Wales](#)
- Australia: [Trove](#) (National Library of Australia)
- USA: [Chronicling America](#); [Ancestry.com](#); [GenealogyBank.com](#); [Fulton History](#)
(compare US newspaper archives [here](#) & in *Family Tree Magazine* 2023 March)

Lists of links to newspaper archives by place & newspaper title

- Global: [Wikipedia](#); [Cyndi's List](#); [The Ancestor Hunt](#); [Elephind.com](#)
- Canada: [CanGenealogy.com](#) (Dave Obee)

Other repositories

- [Vancouver Public Library](#) (some databases require a VPL Library card)
- [New York Times](#) archives is free with a digital subscription to the newspaper
- Newspaper clipping scrapbooks (eg, [Canadian Necrology @U of Toronto Library](#))

Searching in online newspaper archives

- [Tips, hints & helps](#) from Newspapers.com's blog, *Fishwrap* (seriously! 🐟)
- [10 tips & tricks for searching in newspaper archives](#) by Thomas MacEntee (Genealogy Bargains) — links to other large newspaper archive websites
- [Why you should use a newspaper research log](#) by Kenneth R. Marks (The Ancestor Hunt) & [zillions](#) of other links, tips & tutorials
- [Ideas for processing Newspapers.com articles](#) by Janine Adams (Organize your Family History)
- [Researching immigrant ancestors using newspapers from Newspapers.com](#)
- [Newspaper research strategies using MyHeritage.com](#) (video)

Resources in our BCGS Library

- ***Researching Canadian newspaper records*** by Ryan Taylor (929 HP HC 14)
- ***British Columbia Vital Statistics From Newspapers 1858-1872, Including Vital Statistics From Diaries 1852-1857*** by Brian Porter, BCGS (971.1 BCGS)
- ***Researching American Newspaper Records*** by Rhonda McClure (929 HP HA17)
- ***Researching Irish Newspapers & Other Major Printed Sources***
by Brian W. Hutchison (929 HP HI 10)
- ***British and Irish Newspapers (Unlock the Past)*** by Chris Paton (929.1 PAT)