

Finding Your Family's History

Researching genealogy has become increasingly popular over the years. The City of Edmonton Archives has limited genealogical records. However, we still encourage you to see what we have to help with your research. This finding aid will guide you to the resources that are available.

If you require any additional help, the reference archivist at the City of Edmonton Archives can point you in the right direction. Good luck!

Henderson's Directory:

These directories provide the names and occupations of the heads of household, their spouse, and sometimes related adults living in the same home. As reverse directories, they can also be searched by address. The available years of the Henderson's Directory are:

- 1895
- 1899
- 1904-1917
- 1919-1978
- 1980-1982
- 1984-1987

If the date you are looking for is after 1987, there is a Polk Criss-Cross Directory for 1999 available, as well as telephone books. All of the above resources can be found in the Archives' reference room.

Obituaries:

Newspaper obituaries can be helpful as they may include biographical information as well as the names of surviving family members, and place of interment. The Archives has the Edmonton Bulletin and most of the Edmonton Journal, as well as several smaller newspapers, available on microfilm. They are easy to search when the date of death is known. If you don't have the date of death, the Edmonton Public Library has an online index of obituaries from January 1950 to December 1982 searchable by name (www.epl.ca/Obituaries/Obituaries.cfm). The Provincial Archives and the Edmonton Public Library also have newspapers available on microfilm.

Clipping Files:

Newspaper clippings can be useful when researching a family member as they can have news stories about a person or the organizations to which they belonged. The clippings in the Archives can be searched by subject or person online (archivesphotos.edmonton.ca). Not all clipping files appear in the catalogue, so if your search has no results, let us know and we may be able to search further.

Government Records:

Government records (known as Records Groups or RGs) from the City of Edmonton provide individual information in voter registries, census, cemetery records, and taxation documents. Below is a compilation of any records that might be useful in genealogical research. Each RG has a finding aid available online (search at archivesphotos.edmonton.ca), as well as in the reference room.

Voters' Lists

Voters' Lists provide the name and address of registered voters. They might also provide additional information, such as occupation, citizenship status, whether they own property, and whether they identify as Protestant or Catholic. Early lists are small and may be alphabetical, while for later lists the researcher will need to know the individual's address to search the correct polling district. The table below shows the records that are available.

Area	Years	RG and Series	Record Description
Edmonton	1895-1914, 1945-64, 1966-68, 1971, 1974	RG-8 Series 11	Municipal Election
Edmonton	1915-27, 1929-51	RG-8 Series 11	List of Electors and Burgesses
Strathcona	1899-1906	RG-100.1 Class 1	Voters' Lists
Beverly	1959-61	RG-102 Series 1	Voters' Lists

Municipal Census

Municipal Census records may provide name, citizenship, whether they were living in the city at the start of the year, property ownership, religion (if Roman or Greek Catholic), marital status, number of persons in household, number of children in primary and secondary school, and name of employer. Censuses are available from the Edmonton area between 1945-1969, and 1974. To learn more please see the finding aid for RG-8 Series 11 (search at archivesphotos.edmonton.ca).

Cemetery Records

RG-21 includes records for all municipal cemeteries going back to 1882. To search for individual burial records, the first step is to find the cemetery where the person was buried. You can check the online City of Edmonton Cemetery Search (coewebapps.edmonton.ca/cemeteries/default.aspx) for a list of deceased and the cemetery where they are located. Then use the RG-21 finding aid for specific cemeteries and years, within the documents themselves will be a list of

the deceased, the plot location within the cemetery, and if the deceased have been moved. To learn more, please see the finding aid for RG-21 Series 3.

Tax Records

Our tax records include tax assessment and collector rolls for Edmonton, Beverly, the Village of West Edmonton, and the Village of North Edmonton. To search for a family member's tax information, you need their name and where they lived in a given year. The tax records will include their address, name, the amount of tax they owed that year, how much was paid, and any outstanding payments.

Area	Years	RG and Series
Edmonton	1893-1951	RG-3 Series 2.1
Beverly	1913-1960	RG-102 Series 2
Village of West Edmonton	1912, 1916-1917	RG-103 Class 2
Village of North Edmonton	1910-1911	RG-104 Series 2

External Resources:

The following list includes other institutions and resources which might be of interest in genealogical research.

- Library and Archives Canada - Census, Military Service, Immigration, and Aboriginal Peoples Records
395 Wellington St,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N4
Phone: (613) 996-5115
www.bac-lac.gc.ca
- Provincial Archives of Alberta - Birth, Marriage, Death Certificates, Census, Divorce, and Criminal Records
8555 Roper Road
Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 5W1
Phone: (780) 427-1750
provincialarchives.alberta.ca
- Religious Archives
 - The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton - Baptismal records and Marriage Certificates www.caedm.ca

- Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta (JAHSENA) - Bar/Bat Mitzvah Records and Marriage Certificates
www.jahsena.ca
- United Church of Canada - Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, Historic Membership Rolls, Communion Rolls, and General Membership Lists
www.albertanorthwestconference.ca/archives/
- Anglican Church of Canada - Baptisms, Marriage, Burial, and Parish Death Records www.anglican.ca/archives/incanada/#12
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada - Birth, Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, Burial and Accession, Transfer and Release of Members
www.albertasynod.ca/administration/synod-archives/
- Alberta on Record - Searching Aid for Alberta-wide Archives and collections
Suite 407, 10408 124 St NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1R5
Phone: (780) 424-2697
www.archivesalberta.org
- Alberta Human Services - Adoption Records
www.humanservices.alberta.ca/adoption/14846.html
- Alberta Genealogical Society - Homestead Record Finding Aid
162, 14315 – 118 Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta, T5L 4S6
Phone: (780) 424-4429
www.abgenealogy.ca/
- Métis Nation of Alberta Genealogical Resource Centre - Métis Familial Research
100-11738 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, T5G 0X5
Phone: 780-455-2200
www.albertametis.com
- Edmonton Public Library - Obituary database and local history records
Enterprise Square - 10212 Jasper Ave. (REVISE in 2020)
Edmonton, Alberta, T5HJ 4P6
Phone: (780) 496-7000
www.epl.ca
Obituary Database: www.epl.ca/Obituaries/Obituaries.cfm
- The Alberta Genealogical Research - Collection of Births, Marriages, and Deaths
www.albertagenealogy-research.ca