



Ancestry Library Edition is a research tool offering the most comprehensive, international genealogical information available online, with more than 5 billion names in thousands of collections. Oxford County Library has purchased a subscription and it can be accessed at any Oxford County Library branch.

Ancestry Library Edition gives you access to census records, passenger lists, immigration records, birth, marriage and death records, and more! Content includes Canadian, American, and European records, with additional worldwide records added weekly.

To access Ancestry Library Edition:

You must be connected to our library Wi-Fi (internet) to access this service.

You may bring your own device or use one of our public computers.

1. Open an internet browser and go to www.ocl.net
2. Click the Genealogy button on our homepage. This is a light green button under the book scroller.
3. Click the Ancestry Library Edition link on the left side of the page.

Is this different than Ancestry.ca? Yes, Ancestry.ca is marketed towards individuals and requires a monthly or yearly subscription fee. In this version you can customize your family tree, upload photos, and interact with other members. The full version also gives you access to more databases and content such as obituaries.

Quick Tips

To find specific types of records

Click the Search tab on the homepage and select a collection of records from the drop down menu. Not sure what you're looking for? Select all categories from the drop down menu to do a general search of all records.

To find records in a specific province, state or country

Click the Search tab at the top of the screen to browse by location, by name, or by using an interactive map.

To get all relevant names

Use wildcards to cover all possible alternative forms and spellings. Put a ? or * at the middle or end of names where you expect variations. Example – type Wil* Sm?th and Ancestry will find documents with Will Smith, William Smyth, Bill Smithe etc. to help broaden your search.

To see new content

New content is added every week! Click the New Collections tab on the homepage.

Print charts and forms

Click the Charts & Forms tab for research aids and blank census forms.

Staff Tips

Come prepared! You can only access Ancestry Library Edition from inside a library branch, so it's good to come prepared with a pencil and paper or a memory stick to save records. Ancestry research can be time consuming, frustrating, but often rewarding and fun. Plan to stay awhile.

Click the Charts and Forms tab to print off blank family tree forms to record your work. You'll also find blank census records to help you record your research or have a clearer understanding of what the original records say.

Check the Message Boards to see if anyone has written about someone of interest to you. You'll find lots of helpful hints, or even a distant relative with helpful information. Note that you can only respond to message board posts by subscribing to Ancestry.ca, but you're free to read them with Ancestry Library Edition.

Helpful Genealogy Websites

Library and Archives Canada

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/genealogy/Pages/introduction.aspx>

Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics

<https://www.novascotiagenealogy.com/>

OurOntario – research newspapers in Ontario and the US

<http://ourontario.ca/>

Automated Genealogy – free Canadian Census records from 1851, 1901, 1906, 1911, 1921

<http://automatedgenealogy.com/>

Home Children

<http://www.bifhsgo.ca/cpage.php?pt=4>

Our Roots – dozens of digitized local history books

<http://ourroots.ca/>

TONI (The Ontario Name Index) – names taken from gravestones and cemetery records

<https://www.ogs.on.ca/toni.php>

Oxford County Library – newspaper indexes, vital statistics, cemetery records, local history books and more!

<http://ocl.net/Genealogy>