

GENEALOGIES (FIRST FAMILIES)

AT THE

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF NEW BRUNSWICK

CANADA

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(Sixth edition: January 2006)

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New Brunswick Genealogical Society
Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

Introduction

In the years since the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick was established in 1967 a large number of family histories have been donated to the institution with the intentions that the information might be shared by other genealogists and that it might be preserved for the use of future generations.

Smaller genealogies a few pages in size were placed in *MCI: Family histories collection*; larger book-length sized genealogies were allotted to *MC80: New Brunswick Publications*. In addition, over the past four decades over 3,000 private individuals, professional people, businessmen, politicians, and various organizations have donated collections to the Provincial Archives. Scattered through these collections is a wealth of family history information.

To help researchers the staff at the Provincial Archives produced a *Guide to family histories at the Provincial Archives*. As far as it goes this guide is an excellent resource but it is not particularly detailed. In 1997 members of the Genealogical Society of New Brunswick decided that a more detailed listing of genealogical resources at the Provincial Archives was required and I was asked to undertake the project. In 1999 the first “partial listing” was produced and it was distributed along with other genealogical information to various libraries about the province.

The 2006 edition has been prepared to assist the family historian identify and locate genealogical data in the files, books, manuscripts, records and resources found in the collections at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick situated in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

This compilation contains information on 7,414 of the first families to arrive in New Brunswick. Each descriptive *Family Entry* contains the name of the head of a household, his date and place of birth, the date of his death, the names of his parents, and the name of the community, parish and county where a family settled. Next is listed the date and place of marriage, the name of his wife, the date and place of her birth, the date of her death and the names of her parents. The names of each of the children, their dates of birth and death, the names of their wives, their dates of birth and death and names of their parents are listed. The amount of data in each *Family Entry* depends upon the thoroughness of the researcher submitting the genealogy.

The *Family Entry* concludes with a description of the record source or sources at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick in which information was found. The name of the file, the book, manuscript or collection as well as the number of pages within the source or sources are provided to enable the researcher to visit the Provincial Archives and locate this material quickly and efficiently.

An *Index* containing 104,626 entries has been created to help family historians locate particular individuals. For those with similar names additional data has been included in the index entries such as date of birth, name of the wife, place of birth, or location of settlement. In using the *Index* researchers are reminded that a surname in capital letters refers to a main *Family Entry*; a surname in lower case letters refers to someone mentioned in a main entry.

Researchers should remember that the data in each descriptive entry is only **for the first family** of that surname to arrive in New Brunswick. Information on the family **before** it came to New Brunswick, and for **succeeding generations** sometimes up to the present, may be found in the file, book or collection. The genealogist must visit the Provincial Archives and check out the resources for themselves. Acadians, Pre-Loyalists/Planters and Loyalists who arrived in the province with married children with their families often have **two generations** of their family described.

To simplify the descriptive entries, I have treated the New Brunswick of today as if it has always existed. A family that came to the region in 1764 and settled at the mouth of the Saint John River is said to have settled at Saint John, New Brunswick even though the area was part of the colony of Nova Scotia at that time, and the city of Saint John was not created until two decades later. Those arriving in the colony in 1804 and taking up residence at Woodstock, NB, are described as settling at Woodstock, Carleton County, rather than at Woodstock York County as it was known in 1804. To do otherwise would have required an inordinate amount of time and space to make explanations. A researcher who was unfamiliar with New Brunswick history and geography would have become totally confused.

The genealogist is reminded that there is a book available from the Provincial Archives titled, *Community Place Names in New Brunswick, Canada* done by Robert F. Fellows which contains data on over 4,300 cities, towns, villages, settlements, dispersed communities, localities, Indian reserves, railway points, stations, landings, urban and suburban communities. The book also contains data on 15 counties and 155 civil parishes.

Researchers should remember that the contents of genealogical files, books and collections at the Provincial Archives vary in composition, size, completeness and accuracy and I was unable to verify the accuracy of the information found in these various sources. Readers who detect errors and who wish to submit corrections or who want to send donations of genealogies, either large or small, are encouraged to contact the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, PO Box 6000, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5H1.

The contents of this guide in no way are intended to replace original resources and records found at the Provincial Archives. This guide must be viewed as an annotated index intended to direct researchers to the numerous books and files held by the Provincial Archives. To consult the various resources listed in this guide the researcher can visit the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick on the University of New Brunswick Campus in Fredericton, Monday to Friday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturdays, excepting statutory holidays. Phone: (506) 453-2122 Fax: (506) 453-3288

E-mail: provarch@gov.nb.ca.

Internet: <http://www.gov.nb.ca/supply/archives>

To date the following collections have been searched for genealogical data:

MC1 Family Histories Collection: over 1,500 files:

MC80 New Brunswick Publications Collection: MC80/1 to MC80/2967:

Manuscript Collections: MC1 to MC3000:

Microfilm reels: F1 to F22127.

Abbreviations

/	“or” as in Betsey/Elizabeth
b.	born
BC	British Columbia, Canada
bp.	baptized
bur.	buried
c1800	about 1800
CT	Connecticut, USA
d.	died
m.	married
MA	Massachusetts, USA
MC	Manuscript collection (at the Provincial Archives)
MC1	Manuscript Collection #1: Family Histories Collection (at the Provincial Archives)
MC80	Manuscript Collection #80: New Brunswick Publications (at the Provincial Archives)
ME	Maine, USA
NB	New Brunswick, Canada
Nfld	Newfoundland, Canada
NS	Nova Scotia, Canada
ON	Ontario, Canada
PEI	Prince Edward Island, Canada
QC	Quebec, Canada
unm.	unmarried

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