

Tap into Our Network
of Archives to
Research Your
Nova Scotian Roots

Front Cover Photo: Post Office, Tusket, NS, c1907, Argyle Township Court House Archives P1983:56



25 million people in North America can trace their families heritage back to Nova Scotia sometime during the past 400 years.

Are you one of them?

What is
Genealogy?

Genealogy is the quest for the past, with a very specific focus: families. Genealogists, both amateur and professional, research your past family members – grandparents, great-grandparents, etc. – to find out who they were, when and how they lived, and how they are related to you. You may find you share the same hair colour or personality traits with a relative who lived long ago. Every family has a story... what's yours?

Genealogy is a popular leisure-time activity enjoyed by millions across North America. Imagine sharing with your children the history of your family and how it ties into the story of Canada!

How do
archives help?

Many events in our lives cause records to be created: being born, getting married, buying land, resolving a dispute, or travelling overseas. Archives keep these records and make them available to the public: property ownership, church membership, birth, marriage and death records, school attendance lists, past newspapers, photographs and research done by others. Imagine a wealth of information at your fingertips pertaining to some of the most important events in that family member's life! You might have missed your great-grandmother's wedding the first time around, but you can bring these events to life through records!

How do you start
researching your roots?

- Start with your parents or grandparents and work your way back in time.
- Gather clues from living relatives. Searching is faster if you know your family member's full name and one of the following: when they lived or where they lived or their religious / ethnic background.
- Go online - visit our members' websites to find your family's name!

How far back
can you go?

Most written records in Nova Scotia cover the 1800s and 1900s; but some archives go all the way back to 1700s!

Missing Links?

Maybe you've done some research already and are missing that one bit of information to take you further back. Use our network of archives in Nova Scotia to zero-in on your family's former hometown.

Saving your family history on CD?
Tips to make them last

- Guard against dust and scratches.
- Store your CDs on their edge, in full-size jewel cases.
- Use CD-Rs (write once) for your master copy.
- Buy highest quality you can afford.
- Keep away from heat, sunlight, and moisture.
- Don't stick labels directly on the disc.
- Make several copies and give some to other family members.
- Update your files whenever you upgrade your software.
- Make prints of your most valued images.

Routes to
Your Roots

All archives are not the same! Each one focuses on the families living in and around their location. Use this list to locate records based on ethno-cultural or religious groups.

Acadian Roots

4. Antigonish Heritage Museum (1784; 1817–1901) Antigonish, NS www.parl.ns.ca/aheritage
17. Argyle Township Court House Archives (1760–1890) Tusket, NS www.argylecourthouse.com
2. Cumberland County Genealogical Society (1790s–1950) Amherst, NS www.ccgns.ednet.ns.ca

3. Cumberland County Museum & Archives (1800–1950) Amherst, NS www.creda.net/%7Eccmuseum/
9. Fortress of Louisbourg (1713–1758; 1800–1950) Louisbourg, Cape Breton Island, NS <http://fortress.uccb.ns.ca>
16. Musée acadien & Centre de recherché (1653–2008) West Pubnico, NS www.museeacadien.ca

African Roots

19. Admiral Digby Museum (1700s–1950) Digby, NS www.admuseum.ns.ca
15. Black Loyalist Heritage Site & Museum (1783–1950) Birchtown, NS www.blackloyalist.com
11. Halifax Regional Municipality Archives (1820–1996) Dartmouth, NS www.halifax.ca/archives
13. Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management (1702–1755; 1800–1950) Halifax, NS www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm
14. Shelburne County Archives & Genealogical Society (1765–1783; 1800–1950) Shelburne, NS <http://nsgna.ednet.ca/Shelburne>

Caribbean Roots

15. Black Loyalist Heritage Site & Museum (1783–1950) Birchtown, NS www.blackloyalist.com

English Roots

20. Annapolis Valley Macdonald Museum (1790s–1950) Middleton, NS www.macdonaldmuseum.ca
2. Cumberland County Genealogical Society (1790s–1950) Amherst, NS www.ccgns.ednet.ns.ca
1. Maritime Conference Archives (1795–1930) Sackville, NB <http://marconf.ca/archives.htm>
23. Parrsboro Shore Historical Society (1800–1950) Parrsboro, NS www.ottawahouse.org
12. St. Paul's Anglican Church Archives (1749–1950) Halifax, NS www.stpaulshalifax.org
10. Eastern Shore Archives (1790–1950) Lake Charlotte, NS www.heritagevillage.ca
18. Islands Archives (1785–1950) Freeport, NS www.islandshistoricalsociety.piczo.com
14. Shelburne County Archives & Genealogical Society (1765–1783; 1800–1950) Shelburne, NS <http://nsgna.ednet.ca/Shelburne>
19. Admiral Digby Museum (1700s–1950) Digby, NS www.admuseum.ns.ca

German Roots

10. Eastern Shore Archives (1790–1950) Lake Charlotte, NS www.heritagevillage.ca

Irish Roots

22. Colchester Historical Society Museum & Archives (1760s–1950) Truro, NS www.genealogynet.com/Colchester
11. Halifax Regional Municipality Archives (1820–1996) Dartmouth, NS www.halifax.ca/archives

Loyalist (U.S.A.) Roots

19. Admiral Digby Museum (1700s–1950) Digby, NS www.admuseum.ns.ca
20. Annapolis Valley Macdonald Museum (1790s–1950) Middleton, NS www.macdonaldmuseum.ca
17. Argyle Township Court House Archives (1760–1890) Tusket, NS www.argylecourthouse.com
8. Beaton Institute, Cape Breton University (1800–1950) Sydney, NS <http://beaton.capebretonu.ca>
15. Black Loyalist Heritage Site & Museum (1783–1950) Birchtown, NS www.blackloyalist.com
10. Eastern Shore Archives (1790–1950) Lake Charlotte, NS www.heritagevillage.ca

Mi'kmag Roots

19. Admiral Digby Museum (1700s–1950) Digby, NS www.admuseum.ns.ca

13. Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management (1702–1755; 1800–1950) Halifax, NS www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm

New England Planter Roots

21. Archives, Acadia University (1850–2000) Wolfville, NS <http://library.acadiau.ca/archives>

17. Argyle Township Court House Archives (1760–1890) Tusket, NS www.argylecourthouse.com

3. Cumberland County Museum & Archives (1800–1950) Amherst, NS www.creda.net/%7Eccmuseum/

Scottish Roots

4. Antigonish Heritage Museum (1784; 1817–1901) Antigonish, NS www.parl.ns.ca/aheritage

8. Beaton Institute, Cape Breton University (1800–1950) Sydney, NS <http://beaton.capebretonu.ca>

5. Chestico Museum (1800–1950) Port Hood, Cape Breton Island, NS <http://fortress.uccb.ns.ca/historic/chestic2.html>

22. Colchester Historical Society Museum & Archives (1760s–1950) Truro, NS www.genealogynet.com/Colchester

7. Highland Village (1800–1950) Iona, Cape Breton Island, NS <http://highlandvillage.museum.gov.ns.ca>

1. Maritime Conference Archives (1795–1930) Sackville, NB <http://marconf.ca/archives.htm>

6. North Highlands Community Museum (1800–1950) Cape North, Cape Breton Island, NS www.northhighlandsmuseum.ca

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| United Church
see English, Scottish | Baptist Church
see African, Loyalist,
New England Planters |
| Catholic Church
see Acadians,
English, Irish | Methodist Church
see African, English,
Loyalist, Scottish |
| Anglican Church
see African, English | Presbyterian Church
see English,
Loyalist, Scottish |

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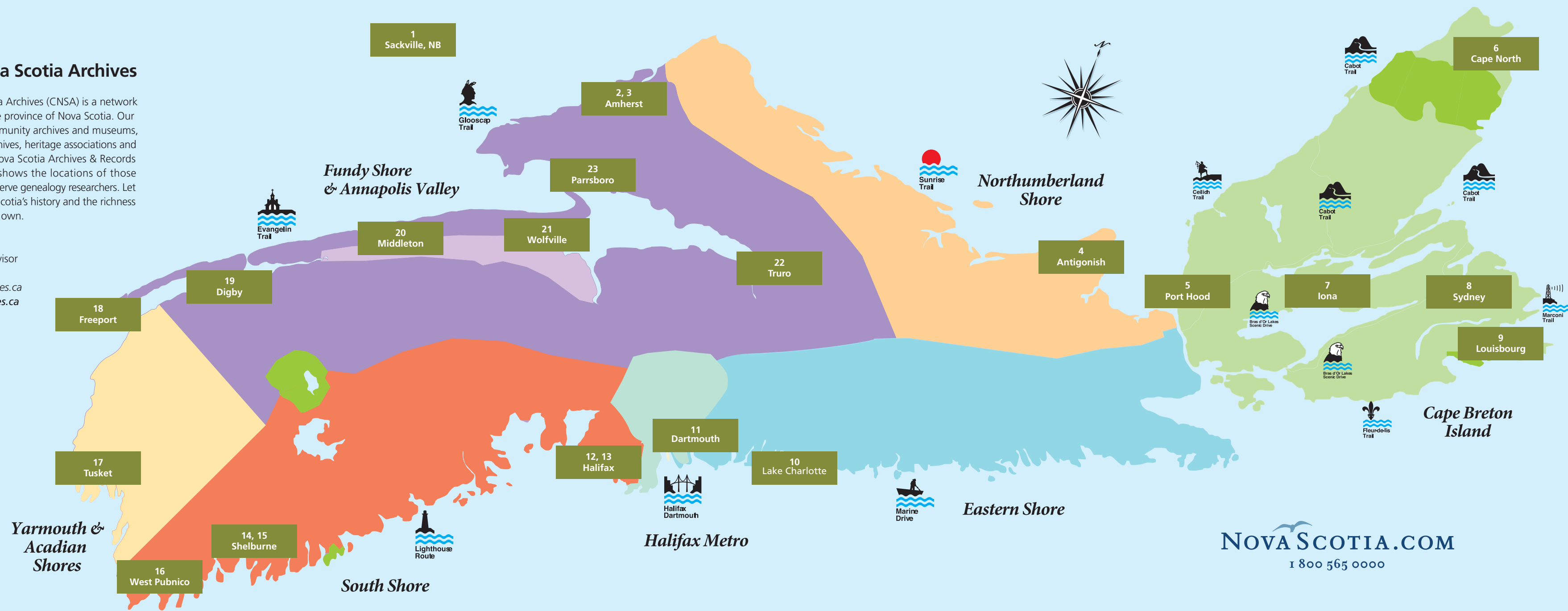
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Council of Nova Scotia Archives

The Council of Nova Scotia Archives (CNSA) is a network of archives throughout the province of Nova Scotia. Our membership includes community archives and museums, university and religious archives, heritage associations and corporations, as well as Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management. This map shows the locations of those member archives ready to serve genealogy researchers. Let us help you explore Nova Scotia's history and the richness of our heritage - and your own.

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