

Genealogy Basics – How I Used the Cape Breton GenWeb

By Joe Petrie

INTRODUCTION

In addition to being a Professional Genealogist, I am a Family Historian. For the latter, I collect lots of additional information including obituaries which I pasted into my PAF Notes section/ I have collected obituaries and other information from the Cape Breton GenWeb site. The Cape Breton Gen Web Obituary collection ended in 2014.

Remember that Genealogists focus on 10 Vital items: Date and place of Birth, Christening, Marriage, Death and Burial. One major web site for Nova Scotia Vitals is NovaScotiagenealogy.com. Unfortunately, many of the older death records do not contain burial information. None of the records in NovaScotiagenealogy.com. contain christening information.

NOVA SCOTIA GENWEB

I am impressed with the GenWeb web site! The following is from the site. Most of the items are links. Unfortunately some links do not work.

Information Sources

- **Census Information**
 - [Nova Scotia Census Records](#) - Microfilm list of Nova Scotia Census records available through the LDS, the AGLL, and PANS. (AGLL is the American Genealogical Lending Library.)
- **Nova Scotia Genealogy Resources**
 - [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) - Information on the records and resources available for Nova Scotia research.



Genealogy and Historical Societies - Online

- **Provincial Societies**
 - [Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia \(GANS\)](#)
 - [Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society](#)
 - [A Directory of Nova Scotia Museums, Archives, Public Galleries, and Historical, Heritage, and Naturalist Organizations](#)
- **County, Regional and Local Societies**
 - [Admiral Digby Museum \(Digby County\)](#)
 - [Annapolis Valley Macdonald Museum](#)
 - [Archelaus Smith Historical Society & Museum \(Cape Sable Island/Shelburne\)](#)
 - [Argyle Township Court House & Archives \(Yarmouth County\)](#)
 - [Colchester Historical Museum and Archives](#)
 - [Hantsport and Area Historical Society](#)
 - [West Hants Historical Society](#)
 - [Kings County Historical Society and Old Kings Courthouse Museum](#)
 - [Mainland South Heritage Society](#)
 - [Oxford Historical Society \(Cumberland County\)](#)
 - [Pictou County Genealogy and Heritage Society](#)
 - [Queens County Museum and Historical Society](#)
 - [Shelburne County Genealogical Society](#)
 - [South Shore Genealogical Society](#)

(Lots of missing sites!)



Genealogy and Historical Societies – Other

- **Provincial Societies**
- **County, Regional and Local Societies** (incomplete)

Annapolis County	Antigonish County	Cape Breton County
Colchester County	Cumberland County	Digby County
Guysborough County	Halifax County	Hants County
Inverness County	Kings County	Lunenburg County
Pictou County	Queens County	Richmond County
Shelburne County	Victoria County	Yarmouth County



Libraries

- **Nova Scotia Libraries**
 - [Nova Scotia Provincial Library](#)
 - [Nova Scotia Regional Libraries](#)



Newspapers

- **Nova Scotia Newspapers**
 - [Halifax Chronicle Herald Online](#)
 - [Nova Scotia Historical Newspapers Online](#) - Courtesy of Libraries Nova Scotia, this is a collection of sixteen digitized newspapers from Nova Scotia, with dates ranging from 1769-1991.
 - [Genealogical Information from the Acadian Recorder](#)- Information extracted by Susan Burns



Geography and Maps

- **Geography**
 - [Canadian Geographical Name Server](#) - Use the search form to locate both historical and current Nova Scotia place names.
- **Maps**
 - [Nova Scotia Crown Land Grant Maps / A.F. Church Maps](#) - The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources offers these maps for purchase.
 - [Public Map of Nova Scotia](#) - Very useful interactive highways map of Nova Scotia.
 - [Nova Scotia Topographical Maps](#) - An excellent collection of a series of maps of Nova Scotia, divided into 20 areas.
 - [Nova Scotia Road Map](#) - A road map showing major roads and highways of Nova Scotia.
 - [Nova Scotia Highway Map](#) - A road map showing major roads and highways of Nova Scotia.



Telephone Directories and Postal Codes

- **Telephone Directories**
 - [Canada411 Canadian Telephone Directory](#) - Search the Canadian Telephone Directory for both individuals and businesses in Nova Scotia.
- **Postal Codes**
 - [Canadian Postal Codes](#) - Look up Nova Scotia Postal Codes here. Sponsored by Canada Post Corporation.



Reference Books and Bookstores

- **Books**
 - [Nova Scotia Genealogy Reference Books](#)
 - [A Selected List of Nova Scotia Genealogy and History Books](#)
 - [Nova Scotia Genealogy Books at the Library of Congress](#)
- **Bookstores**
 - [Nova Scotia Government Bookstore](#)
 - [Nova Scotia Used and Rare Bookstores](#)
- **Books, Publications and Accessories for Sale**
 - [American Genealogy Lending Library \(AGLL\) - Canada Books](#)
The entire Canadian census is also available for microfilm purchase from [AGLL](#).
 - [Global Genealogy - Canadian Genealogy and History Books](#)
 - [Lost in Time - Canada Books](#)



Genealogy Mailing Lists and Chat

- **Nova Scotia Mailing Lists**

These mailing lists will send you a welcome message with further instructions on posting once you have sent your initial subscription request by e-mail.

 - **NOVA-SCOTIA-L Mailing List** - For those having an interest in Nova Scotia genealogical research.
To subscribe, send an e-mail to: NOVA-SCOTIA-L-request@rootsweb.com.
Type only the word: subscribe in the body of the message.
Once subscribed, post messages to: NOVA-SCOTIA-L@rootsweb.com.
An [Archives](#) is available if you would like to browse current or past posts to the list. Enter "Nova-Scotia" as the list name.
 - **CAPE BRETON Mailing List** - For those having an interest in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia genealogical research.
To subscribe, send an e-mail to: NS-CAPE-BRETON-L-request@rootsweb.com.
Type only the word: subscribe in the body of the message.
Once subscribed, post messages to: NS-CAPE-BRETON-L@rootsweb.com.
 - **THE SHIPS LIST Mailing List** - For those interested in the ships that carried their immigrant ancestors.
To subscribe, send an e-mail to: TheShipsList-L-REQUEST@rootsweb.com.
Type only the word: subscribe in the body of the message.
Once subscribed, post messages to: TheShipsList-L@rootsweb.com.



Genealogy Links

- **Nova Scotia and Canada Genealogy Links**
 - [Atlantic Canadian Genealogy Links](#)
 - [Canadian Genealogy and History Links - Nova Scotia](#)
 - [Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet - Nova Scotia](#)
 - [Canadian Genealogy Resources - Nova Scotia](#)
 - [Virtual Reference Library \(formerly "Bob's Your Uncle, eh!"\)](#) - An excellent search engine for genealogy links throughout Canada.



GenWeb Links

- **Provincial GenWeb Projects**
 - [Acadian GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Alberta GenWeb Project](#)
 - [British Columbia GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Manitoba GenWeb Project](#)
 - [New Brunswick GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Newfoundland / Labrador GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Northwest Territories / Nunavut](#)
 - [Ontario GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Prince Edward Island GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Quebec GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Saskatchewan GenWeb Project](#)
 - [Yukon GenWeb Project](#)
- **National GenWeb Projects**
 - [Canada GenWeb Project](#)
 - [US GenWeb Project](#)
- **World GenWeb Project**
 - [World GenWeb Project](#)



Queries

- **[Post Query and Read New Queries \(March 1999 to present\)](#)**
For Unknown NS Counties Only
- **[Read Old Queries \(through February 1999\)](#)**
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Archives

The [Canada GenWeb Archives](#) contains primary data files in text format, available for downloading and/or viewing online.

SUMMARY

Because [Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia \(GANS\)](#) was listed. I expected other web sites would be listed. For example, I expected the Lunenburg web site, Isle Madame web site and Cape Breton Genealogy and Historical Association web site would be listed. Maybe it was just oversight. Please note that I added comments to a few items.

Your corrections, comments and suggestions are appreciated. Please Email me at:

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Founding Member, Friends of Irish Research (FIR), Brockton, MA

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Member, Cape Breton Genealogy and Historical Association (CBGHA), Sydney, NS

Member, Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador (FHSNL), St John's, NL

Member, Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), Wheat Ridge, CO

Member, New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), Boston, MA

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Member, Friends of Morrill Memorial Library, Norwood, MA

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Genealogy Volunteer, Irish Cultural Centre of New England, Irish Fest, 2016 and 2017, Canton MA

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Genealogy Volunteer, American French Genealogical Society, Woonsocket, RI

Please note that Friends of Irish Research is the repository for my published genealogy articles in the *Newfoundland Ancestor*; and in *EZINE*, the electronic magazine of the Cape Breton Genealogy and Historical Association. (Please see friendsofirishresearch.org specifically: the Tabs for Publications and Joe's Free Web Sites.) Also, please note that I am the author of the Genealogy Basics Series.

Membership in Ireland Reaching Out (irelandxo.com) is free. It has an Electronic Magazine named XO Chronicles (irelandxo.com/irelandxo/history-and-genealogy). One of the three XO Chronicles Series is XO People. XO People focus on the Irish Diaspora (people who immigrated and never returned permanently). XO People has seven of my XO People articles about ancestors. My relatives are: John Cummings (Thurles Parish, Tipperary, Newfoundland and Lingan, Cape Breton Island); Patrick Tobin (Gowran Parish, Kilkenny and Newfoundland); and Judith Keffe (Gowran Parish, Kilkenny and Newfoundland). My wife's relatives are; John McGrath (Ballyphilip, Kilcockan, Kockanore, Waterford and Massachusetts); Helena O'Brien (Fermoy, Youghal, Cork, Boston); Peter Connolly (Kilcummin, Galway, Boston) and Mary A (Nee) Connolly (Kilcummin, Galway, Boston).