

Joe Petrie's List of Free New Brunswick Genealogy Web Sites

[Provincial Archives of New Brunswick](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/VISSE/?culture=en-CA) <http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/VISSE/?culture=en-CA> – It includes New Brunswick Vital Records and Indices - births, marriages, deaths and immigration. Also, it includes Land Grants and Land Petitions records. In addition, includes the Hutchinson and Lovell Directories.

[Library and Archives Canada](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-911-e.html) <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-911-e.html> - The list of free genealogy links for Census records are available. Some like Ancestry are subscription sites. FamilySearch.org is a free site.

[New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cannb/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cannb/> - This is the provincial page of the New Brunswick GenWeb project.

[Family Search](https://familysearch.org/) <https://familysearch.org/> Supposedly, there are about a half a billion records in their databases including the Censuses of Canada for 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891.

[Family Search Community Trees](http://histfam.familysearch.org/) <http://histfam.familysearch.org/> - There are 3 New Brunswick databases. I think that this is the most interesting site that I discovered this year.

[Automated Census of Canada](http://automatedgenealogy.com/census/) <http://automatedgenealogy.com/census/> - The records include the 1851, 1901 and 1911 Censuses.

[Genealogical Dictionary of Acadian Families](http://www.acadian-cajun.com/genac4.htm) <http://www.acadian-cajun.com/genac4.htm> - This is Steven A. White's material. Steven is a Genealogist, Centre d'Études Acadiennes, Moncton University, Moncton, New Brunswick.

[Steven A White Acadian Home](http://stephenwhite.acadian-home.org/) <http://stephenwhite.acadian-home.org/> - Steven is a Genealogist, Centre d'Études Acadiennes, Moncton University, Moncton, New Brunswick.

[Miramichi - New Brunswick - Genealogy](http://www.miramichi-river.com/genealogy/genealogy_search.html) http://www.miramichi-river.com/genealogy/genealogy_search.html - This is a database of tombstone inscriptions from all the cemeteries in the county of Northumberland, New Brunswick, Canada.

[New Brunswick Gravemarker Gallery](http://gravemarkers.ca/brunswic/index.htm) <http://gravemarkers.ca/brunswic/index.htm> - This is the New Brunswick Provincial web page which is part of The Canadian Gravemarker Gallery.

[New Brunswick Headstone Photo Project](http://www.canadianheadstones.com/nb/) <http://www.canadianheadstones.com/nb/> - This project is archiving headstone photos for all cemeteries in New Brunswick.

[1833 New Brunswick Special Census of the Madawaska Settlement](http://www.upperstjohn.com/1833/) <http://www.upperstjohn.com/1833/> - This census includes communities on both banks of the Upper St. John River valley in what are now Madawaska Co., New Brunswick, and Aroostook Co., Maine.

[New Brunswick Genealogy Links](http://new-brunswick.net/nbgenlinks/index.htm) <http://new-brunswick.net/nbgenlinks/index.htm> - This is a link-to-links site.

[New Brunswick Family Research](#)

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbfamilyresearch/recordsofresearch.html> - This is a link-to-links site.

[Ruby Cusack Genealogical Site](http://www.rubycusack.com/) <http://www.rubycusack.com/> - This is a link-to-links site.

[Upper St. John River Valley](http://www.upperstjohn.com/) <http://www.upperstjohn.com/> - This site contains transcriptions of early censuses, surveys, land grants and maps. Early censuses are annotated with genealogical information on almost every family in the valley.

[Albert County, New Brunswick Genealogy](http://albertnb.tripod.com/default.htm) <http://albertnb.tripod.com/default.htm> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Campobello, Charlotte County, New Brunswick](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcampob/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcampob/> - This site is a regional page of New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Carleton County New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcarlet/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcarlet/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Charlotte County](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcharlo/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcharlo/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Kent County, New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbken/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbken/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Kings County, New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbkings/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbkings/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Lepreau, Charlotte County, New Brunswick](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbleprea/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbleprea/> - This site is a regional page of New Brunswick GenWeb.

[Madawaska County, New Brunswick GenWeb](#)

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mearoost/madawaska/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Pennfield, Charlotte County, New Brunswick](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpennfi/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpennfi/> - This site is a regional page of New Brunswick GenWeb.

[Queens County, New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbqueens/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbqueens/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Saint John County, New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbstjohn/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbstjohn/> - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[St. George, Charlotte County GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpstgeo/) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpstgeo/ - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project. It included links to Historical Notes, Family Genealogies, Muster Rolls, etc.

[Sunbury County GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbsunbur/) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbsunbur/ - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Victoria County, New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mearoost/victoria/) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mearoost/victoria/- This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Waterford Parish GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcwater/) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbcwater/ - This site is a regional page of New Brunswick Genweb.

[Westmorland County GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbwestmo/) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbwestmo/ - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[York County New Brunswick GenWeb](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbyork/) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbyork/ - This site is a county page of the New Brunswick GenWeb Project.

[Heritage Charlotte](http://www.heritagecharlotte.com/) http://www.heritagecharlotte.com/- This is a link-to-links site. It includes historical and genealogical resource for Charlotte County including cemetery records.

[Grantbook Database](http://www.lib.unb.ca/gddm/data/panb/panbweb.html) http://www.lib.unb.ca/gddm/data/panb/panbweb.html - This searchable database consists of records of land settlement in New Brunswick in the period 1765-1800. County or place of settlement can be searched, as can be primary grant holder names.

[Grand Falls Genealogy Club](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbgfgc/links.html#Genealogy_related) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbgfgc/links.html#Genealogy_related - The site includes society information as well as links to genealogy sites and to cemetery transcriptions.

[Nan Jones Genealogy Page](http://users.xplornet.com/~pebbles2/) http://users.xplornet.com/~pebbles2/ The site has Group sheets and Pedigree charts for the Jones family who came to the Moncton area from Pennsylvania in 1766. It includes relationships to the other immigrating families and my Colpitts connection. Surname is searchable.

[Barrys of Saint John, New Brunswick](http://bvanasse.tripod.com/barry/) http://bvanasse.tripod.com/barry/ - This is a family genealogy site for the descendants of Michael D Barry and of Patrick Kelly who settled in Saint John.

[Blackland, Restigouche County, New Brunswick](http://www.restigouche.roots.net/) http://www.restigouche.roots.net/ - This is a family genealogy site for the McCormack, MacCormack, McCormick families who moved from the Isle of Arran to Restigouche, New Brunswick in 1832.

[Carl W. W. Stymiest Home Page](http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/s/t/y/Carl-W-Stymiest/) http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/s/t/y/Carl-W-Stymiest/ - There are twenty-five Stymiest generations with 112 different spellings of this surname.

[DeMerchant Family Website](http://markdionne.com/demerchant/favorite_links.html) http://markdionne.com/demerchant/favorite_links.html - This site is dedicated to the distinctly New Brunswick surname and the Loyalist soldier who started a new family of hard working, loyal New Brunswickers.

[Evans](http://www.evans-events.com/tree.htm) <http://www.evans-events.com/tree.htm> - The site has links to genealogy information for a number of New Brunswick families: Bickerton, Brewster, Erle, Evans, Gilchrist, Gillies, Greenslade, Griffiths, Henderson, Howe, Hubbard, Hunt, Long, MacFarland, Othen, Parlee, Patton, Peeters, Robichaud, Secord, Smith, and Spragg. Most have roots in Atlantic Canada, and Ontario.

[Flowers, Chatterton, Thompson, and Related Families of Bonaventure Co., QC, and Restigouche Co., New Brunswick and Adjacent Areas](http://www.chaleurgenealogy.beyondgrandmasattic.com/) <http://www.chaleurgenealogy.beyondgrandmasattic.com/> - The site contains genealogy information for related families in Bonaventure County, Quebec; Restigouche County, New Brunswick and other adjacent areas on the Bay of Chaleur.

[Flynn Family of Miramichi](http://mflynn.ca/) <http://mflynn.ca/> - This site contains a 1000 plus member family tree for the descendants of Patrick Flynn and Bridget Sullivan. Patrick immigrated to Canada in 1834. They are among the founding families in the Saint Margaret's/Bay du Vin area.

[Hickie Genealogy by Ruth Murgatroyd](http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/hevensto/Ruth/) <http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/hevensto/Ruth/> - This family web site is for the Hickey(i.e.) genealogy from Restigouche County in northern New Brunswick.

[Irene's Genealogy Page](http://cyberbart.tripod.com/family.htm) <http://cyberbart.tripod.com/family.htm> - The site contains genealogy and history information of Campbellton, Restigouche Co. It includes the family history and genealogy of Doyles, Godin, Donovan, Poirier, Bourque, Arbour, and Dion.

[McKinneys Of Summer Hill And Their Neighbors](http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/davmc/) <http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/davmc/> - This site is dedicated to James Alexander McKinney and his wife, Mary Ann (Murphy) McKinney who immigrated from Northern Ireland in 1825. It included their neighbors, pioneers, who established the communities of Summer Hill, Dunns Corner and Headline.

[McLeod Family Genealogy](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~dimcl/) <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~dimcl/> - This site is a family history of a McLeod family from Sussex Parish, Kings County, New Brunswick.

[New Brunswick Pioneers. History of our Coburn/Jewett and Related Families](http://www.stoneyburn.ca/Coburn_etal/index.php) http://www.stoneyburn.ca/Coburn_etal/index.php - This site contains local history, genealogy and family history of the Coburn/Jewett and related families of Maugerville, Sheffield, Fredericton and Keswick Ridge New Brunswick.

[Noddin Genealogy](http://noddingenealogy.blogspot.com/) <http://noddingenealogy.blogspot.com/> - This site is a family site for Noddin which is of English descent. The Noddins were Yorkshire settlers looking to make a fresh start.

[Oxford: from Scotland to New Brunswick](http://www.nextech.de/genealogy/oxford/) <http://www.nextech.de/genealogy/oxford/> - This site is a family site for the descendants of James Oxford, who arrived in New Brunswick about 1784, with his son Matthew. Some families remained in NB. Others moved to the US. Distaff lines include Sweezy, Murphy, Miller, King, Bassett, Archibald, and others.

[Russell Family Research in Canada & Australia](http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/r/o/g/Maria-J-Rogers/) <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/r/o/g/Maria-J-Rogers/> - This site is a family site for the descendants of George Frederick Russell, b. 1827 Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. In about 1853 he arrived in Australia and our branch of the Russell line began.

[The Cole/Cox Loyalist Home Page](http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/c/o/l/Jon-B-Cole/?Welcome=987474941) <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/c/o/l/Jon-B-Cole/?Welcome=987474941> - John Cole and Charles Cox (Cocks) were loyalists who were transported to St. John, New Brunswick, Canada in 1783.

[Grand Manan Island Genealogies](http://kencarrico.tripod.com/) <http://kencarrico.tripod.com/> - This site contains Census records, marriage records, researcher email list, family data files and other site links.

[Loyalist Collection](http://www.lib.unb.ca/collections/loyalist/) <http://www.lib.unb.ca/collections/loyalist/> - The Loyalist Collection at the Harriet Irving Library at the University of New Brunswick is searchable.

[New Brunswick Cemetery Transcriptions & Photos](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~damery/)

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~damery/> - The Provincial online cemetery project provides transcriptions & photos on all cemeteries within New Brunswick.

[PANB Cemetery Database \(Provincial Archives of NB\) -](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Cemeteries/Default.aspx?culture=en-CA&PageLoad=Form)

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Cemeteries/Default.aspx?culture=en-CA&PageLoad=Form> - This is the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick PANB database containing 217,593 transcriptions for New Brunswick cemeteries in the counties of Albert (1), Carleton(129), Charlotte(109), Gloucester(70), Kent(55), Kings(119), Madawaska(3), Northumberland(8), Queens(145), Restigouche(7), St. John(23), Sunbury(53), Victoria(12), Westmorland(66) and York(147).

[Canadian Forces Base Gagetown Cemeteries \(Provincial Archives of NB\) -](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Cemeteries/CFBG/default.aspx?culture=en-CA)

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Cemeteries/CFBG/default.aspx?culture=en-CA>
The database contains over 1943 cemetery transcriptions and 1143 digitized photos for all known cemeteries contained within CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick,

[Cemeteries of New Brunswick \(Interment.Net\)](http://www.interment.net/can/nb/index.htm) <http://www.interment.net/can/nb/index.htm> - A collaborative effort of cemetery preservation advocates working to increase public awareness and activism in preserving, protecting and restoring endangered and forgotten historic cemeteries worldwide.

[Canadian Merchant Navy War Dead Database -](http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/history/secondwar/atlantic/merchant_search)

http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/history/secondwar/atlantic/merchant_search - This is a Veterans Affairs Canada Database of the names & vessels of Canadian Merchant seamen who were killed while serving in Canada's Merchant Marine.

[Death Registration of Soldiers 1941-1947 \(Provincial Archives of NB\) -](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS141C6/default.aspx?culture=en-CA)

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS141C6/default.aspx?culture=en-CA> - This is a database for deaths of New Brunswick-born Second World War (WWII) soldiers and military service personnel. This is not a comprehensive database but does include 1295 records.

[New Brunswick Marriages and Deaths - 1847 \(Marj's Place\)](#) -

<http://jubilation.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/letters/bdm.html#deaths> This site contains marriages and deaths as reported in the New Brunswick Courier.

[Acadian and Maritime Obituaries](http://obit.genacadie.ca/keyword_search_obit.php) http://obit.genacadie.ca/keyword_search_obit.php - Online searchable project for all Maritime newspaper obituaries printed prior to 2005.

[Obituaries \(CanadaEast\)](#)

<http://www.canadaeast.com/classifieds/obituaries/&tt=on&tj=on&dg=on&period=1> - Online search engine for New Brunswick obituaries from the Telegraph Journal, Daily Gleaner & Times-Transcript.

[Obituaries \(NB Past\)](http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpast/family/clips.html) <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpast/family/clips.html> - The site contains obituaries for New Brunswick.

[Obituaries \(Obituary Index Canada\)](http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpast/family/clips.html) <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nbpast/family/clips.html> - This site lists obituaries for individuals born in New Brunswick.

[Obituary Daily Times \(RootsWeb.com\)](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~obituary/) <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~obituary/> - This is a searchable database of over 10 million obits, including many for New Brunswick & the rest of Canada.

[1865-1868 Hutchinson Name Directory \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](#) -

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Directories/Hutchinson/Default.aspx?culture=en-CA> - This is a database of names, professions and addresses of New Brunswick residents.

[1871 Lovell Name Directory \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](#) -

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/Directories/Lovell/Results.aspx?culture=en-CA> - This is a database of names, professions and addresses of New Brunswick residents.

[1923 St. John Directory - New Brunswick \(Distant Cousins\)](#) -

<http://www.distantcousin.com/Directories/Canada/NewBrunswick/StJohn/1923/Pages.asp?Pages=1> - This is a digital book of names, professions and addresses of New Brunswick residents.

[Marriage Bond Index 1810-1932 \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](#) -

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS551A/default.aspx?culture=en-CA> This is a database of New Brunswick marriage bonds.

[Miscellaneous Lists of Soldiers \(The Canadian Military Heritage Project\)](#) -

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~canmil/lists.htm> This site lists pensioners, names of RMC cadets, and Loyalist, French Indian War, War of 1812 and 1837 Rebellion muster rolls. This includes the Maritime Provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

[Muster Rolls: Loyalist Muster Rolls \(Online Institute for Advanced Loyalist Studies\)](#)

<http://www.royalprovincial.com/military/musters/mustlist.htm> - This site has an index to many Loyalist muster rolls. This includes the Maritime Provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Muster Rolls: 1777 Prince of Wales American Volunteers (Kings County Mallery's/Mallory's) 1777 Muster Roll for the regiment under Montford Browne's command. In September 1783, this regiment travelled from New York on the ships Montagu and Elizabeth to the Saint John River area of Nova Scotia where they disbanded, which is now present-day New Brunswick, Canada.

[Muster Rolls: 1783 Black Watch \(42nd Regiment\) Veterans to New Brunswick \(New Brunswick GenWeb\)](#) http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cannb/NB_Military_1783Blackwatch.htm - The site contains the military muster roll of loyalist soldiers names and areas where they settled in New Brunswick.

[Records of Old Revolutionary Soldiers & Their Widows \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](#)

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/OldSoldiers/default.aspx?culture=en-CA> – This database lists pensions and petitions of New Brunswick Loyalist soldiers and their widows.

[Other State U.S. Military Personnel Who Died in Korea \(National Archives and Records Administration\)](#)

<http://www.archives.gov/research/index.html> - This is a list of foreign soldiers who served in the US Military and listed as missing or killed during Korea, including any from the Maritime Provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. This includes personnel name, rank, service branch, deaths, birth country (including Canada) and type of casualty.

[Other State U.S. Military Personnel Who Died in Vietnam \(National Archives and Records Administration\)](#)

<http://www.archives.gov/research/index.html> This database is a list of foreign soldiers who served in the US Military and listed as missing or killed during Vietnam, including those from the Maritime Provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. This includes personnel name, rank, service branch, deaths, death location, births, birth country (including Canada) and type of casualty.

[US Civil War: Canadians Who Served in Maine Militias \(New Brunswick GenWeb\)](#)

http://nb.canadagenweb.org/NB_Military_Maine_Militia.htm This database lists Canadians who served in the US Civil War. This list mainly includes the Maritime Provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

[War Diaries of the First World War CEF Units \(Library & Archives Canada\)](#)

http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/020152_e.html - The database contains World War I Canadian Expeditionary Force Unit diaries of daily activity.

[Ward Chipman, Muster Master's Office \(1777-1785\)](#) <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/ward-chipman/001044-100.01-e.php> - The database provides access to nearly 19,000 references to Loyalist families.

[New Brunswick Telephone Directory: 1912 \(NB GenWeb\)](#)

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cannb/NB_Directory_1912.htm - This site contains names, addresses and phone numbers of those with telephones in New Brunswick during 1912.

[Registers of Letters Patent and Supplementary Letters Patent Issued Index 1885-1976 \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS17A2_1/default.aspx?culture=en-CA) http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS17A2_1/default.aspx?culture=en-CA - This site contains over 18,000 listings for New Brunswick companies. This includes every county - Albert, Carleton, Charlotte, Gloucester, Kent, Kings, Madawaska, Northumberland, Queens, Restigouche, Saint John, Sunbury, Victoria, Westmorland and York.

[Petitions for Teachers' Licences & Payment Index 1812-1882 \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS655/default.aspx?culture=en-CA) <http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS655/default.aspx?culture=en-CA> - The site contains 6645 records of teachers petitions for licenses and payment in New Brunswick. This includes every county - Albert, Carleton, Charlotte, Gloucester, Kent, Kings, Madawaska, Northumberland, Queens, Restigouche, Saint John, Sunbury, Victoria, Westmorland and York.

[Registers of Justice of the Peace Appointment Index 1863-1963 \(Provincial Archives of NB\)](http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS581/default.aspx?culture=en-CA) <http://archives.gnb.ca/Search/RS581/default.aspx?culture=en-CA> - The site contains records for the appointment of all New Brunswick Justice of the Peace. This includes every county - Albert, Carleton, Charlotte, Gloucester, Kent, Kings, Madawaska, Northumberland, Queens, Restigouche, Saint John, Sunbury, Victoria, Westmorland and York.

[Washington County Court Index 1839-1845 \(Canada GenWeb\)](http://www.canadagenweb.org/archives/nb/wccanada.txt) <http://www.canadagenweb.org/archives/nb/wccanada.txt> - This site has an index of Washington County, Maine, USA court cases involving plaintiffs, defendants or other parties from New Brunswick.

[Charlotte Taylor, Her Life and Times](http://www3.bc.sympatico.ca/charlotte_taylor/index.htm) http://www3.bc.sympatico.ca/charlotte_taylor/index.htm - Learn about the tumultuous life and times of an unforgettable New Brunswick settler.

[FreeGenData.com](http://www.freegendata.com/cgi-bin/1/search.cgi?query=New+Brunswick) <http://www.freegendata.com/cgi-bin/1/search.cgi?query=New+Brunswick> - A search tool to help you locate free genealogy databases and record transcriptions on the web. For Canada, on October 15, 2103, there were 134 web site links.

Why so many Free Family Genealogy Web Sites?

Unfortunately, the free “official” genealogy web sites and records for New Brunswick are limited.

BACKGROUND: What follows is explanatory material from the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick web site to explain precisely why for nearly a century after the province’s founding, recording of vital records was left to the counties and other institutions.

“In April 1887, the government of New Brunswick passed an Act (The Vital Statistics Act) to provide for the registration of vital events such as births, marriages and deaths. Prior to the Vital Statistics Act of 1887 there was no requirement to record such information, nor a system in place to collect and preserve this information. Some information prior to 1887 was collected by the counties but these records are limited.

Births (1810-1887 & 1888-1913)

Birth records are limited prior to 1887. However many people did complete "late registrations of birth" for birth dates prior to 1887 and in one case the oldest birth registered in New Brunswick is for someone born in 1810. These late registration were completed when people needed proof of birth, especially for government programs. New Brunswick birth information is held in private holdings for 50 years and then released for public viewing.

Marriages (1812-1887 & 1888-1958)

Marriages in New Brunswick are available to the public for 1847-1958. Marriages from 1812 to 1887 were registered within each county. However researchers will find that records for marriages made between the mid-1880s to 1958 are more extensive. New Brunswick marriage information is held in private holdings for 50 years and then released for public viewing.

Deaths (1815-1887 & 1888-1957)

The first Act to Provide for the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in New Brunswick was passed in 1887. It provided that civil registers for births, marriages and deaths be created by the deputy registrars within the various counties. As a result, county death registers were created and maintained between 1888 and 1920. Legislative changes in 1920 resulted in the records being kept centrally. New Brunswick death information is held in private holdings for 50 years and then released for public viewing.

Census Records (1851-1911)

The first national census was held in Canada in 1851 and was held thereafter every ten years. In 1956, censuses were conducted every 5 years. The last census to be made public was the 1911 Census of Canada. The next census to be release to the public will be the 1921 Census of Canada which is schedule for release in 2013. Prior to 1851, smaller censuses were taken of some cities and communities, such as the 1824, 1834 and 1840 Population Census of New Brunswick as well as early Acadian and Loyalist census. Many of these censuses provide little detail other than the number of people in a given household. In the case of early Acadian censuses, property and possession were included in the report.

Directories

In the 1860s, Thomas Hutchinson published several directories. An early directory published in 1864 for the city of Saint John and two later directories for the whole province came in 1865/66 and 1867/68. These directories included the name of the residents, street address, community, county and occupation.

Land Grants & Petitions (1784-1997)

Many early immigrants, such as loyalist, acquired Crown land through grants and petitions. These land grants cover a large period of time, from 1784 to 1997. The grantee receives a legal document authorizing possession of the land. These records were created and maintained by the government and can provide information such as grantee name, location (county, parish) and acres of land. Another valuable document in regards to land was Land Petitions. Those who wished to obtain a grant of Crown land submitted a petition to the Lieutenant Governor (later to the Crown Land Office) describing his or her circumstances, need, family, and any service (usually military) rendered the Crown which would reflect favorably and put the petitioner in the good graces of the Administration. The Lieutenant Governor in Council, acting as a Committee of Council on Land would approve or disallow the petition. If the petition was allowed, an Order/Warrant of Survey would be issued to the deputy-surveyor who had to establish the boundaries of the grant to be issued. Land petitions can contain very detail information on a person life especially as they plead their case for land.

Military Records

From colonial French and British soldiers to First & Second World War personnel, military records can offer a very detailed glimpse into a person's life. These records can provide personal information such as date and place of birth, parent's names, health data (height, weight, scars) as well as military information on unit(s) served, rank, rates of pay plus their location at a given time (battles, bases, ships). Many World War One units maintained a daily diary and are a great resource when following the life of our WW1 soldier. These diaries mention names of soldiers in companies or on duty. Diaries will also give detailed accounts of front line battles as well as rest periods of units. Copies of Military Records can be obtained from the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa. If a relative served in the military, they may have belonged to a local Legion. Some Legion may have information on former members such as membership dates and photographs.

Immigration Records

When you research your family tree you will most likely reach a point where an ancestor immigrated to Canada from overseas. Immigration records such as passenger list can be very beneficial to those of European descent such as Irish and English. The 1901 Census and 1911 Census may indicate year of arrival to Canada. Death records can also provide the number of years the deceased resided in Canada and cultural background of the deceased.

Newspaper Vitals

Newspapers can provide a wealth of information in regards to vital events such as births, marriages and deaths however early newspapers may not have vital events listed in a common section as is the case with newspapers today, therefore researchers may have to scan through early newspapers for scatter vitals. By the mid-1900s, vitals were placed in a common area in newspapers. Obituaries or death notices can provide great detail into a family as these vitals tend to list not only the date and place of death but also the names of children and location of burial. Early death notices often indicate the reason of death unlike notices of today. It is important to note that publishing a birth, marriage or death notice in a newspaper was, and still is, not mandatory so be don't be surprised if you come up empty handed on your newspaper search for a death notice.

Cemetery Records

If you're still having difficulty finding information on a person and the person is no longer living, perhaps a visit to a cemetery is in order. Headstones can provide information such as dates of birth and death. More recent headstones sometimes offer information such as marriage date. Recent trends in headstone inscription include listing the names of children on the back of the headstone and images engraved on the headstone such as portraits or images of the deceased favorite interest. Visiting a cemetery can also be beneficial for gathering information on recently deceased relatives since official government information is not released to the public until 50-100 years has past.

School/Education Records

Schools records are a good source of information. Early records such as teacher petitions, certifications and copies of licenses can provide an insight into a person's life and profession. The Provincial Archives holds the "Petitions for Teachers' Licenses and Payment" file which covers 1812-1882. School records can also show the pupils in a school and class/teacher. Some later school records will also list the names of the student's parents and the birth date of the student. Though student marks are not common they can be found in some school records. Currently, school records can be search up to more recent years, such as the late 1980s, which can be beneficial when research more recent subjects.

Business & Employment Records

Though business records are private and usually held within an organization, there are items that can be used to research a business history. In 1871, John Lovell published Lovell's Canadian Directory for 1871. It was a two volume work containing the names of professional and business men and other inhabitants in the cities, towns and villages of the Canadian provinces. Another source of data may be located from old phone books.

Local History Groups

Finally, you may find further information on your family or a person in your family by contacting a local history group in the area that your family lived. While these groups will not do all the work for you, they may have photographs or data in their holdings that may be of value to your research. Keep in mind that these groups are mostly made up of volunteers and are non-profit organizations so if they do not charge a fee for their work/assets; it is customary to offer the group a donation. This will ensure that their good work can continue. There are also several culture societies in existence that can be of great assistance with understanding your family cultural background. And if you become overly interested in genealogical research or have a great love for local history, perhaps you might find pleasure in joining a local history group where you can meet with people with a similar interest and share stories and ideas.”¹

Joseph F. Petrie

Memberships: Founding Member, Friends of Irish Research; Association of Professional Genealogists; New England Historic Genealogy Society; Cape Breton Genealogy and Historic Association; and Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador.

¹ Provincial Archives of New Brunswick