

# CFHA Research Guide to Canadian Resources

Prepared by the Canadian Friends Historical Assoc.  
www.cfha.info

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The Quakers arrived in Upper Canada before 1800 from both New York and Pennsylvania and settled in pockets where they could purchase excellent farmland – Prince Edward County, Niagara area, north and east of Toronto and along the north shore of Lake Erie. They left a rich record in their minute books, registers and other ephemera for both the genealogist and social historian.

## **Canadian Friends Historical Association (CFHA) since 1972**

The CFHA is an active association that holds an annual conference each September. It publishes a Journal annually and a newsletter called The meeting House about 3 times a year. Past Newsletters and Journals available on the web site.

## **Quaker Archives and Library of Canada**

Google 'quaker archives canada' to find the web site.

The archives is at Pickering College, Newmarket, ON.

Archivist: Jane Zavitz Bond and appointments are necessary. See the web site for details.

The Quaker Archives at Pickering College is the undoubted major repository of Canadian Quaker Records. The credit goes to Arthur Garratt Dorland, Quaker, history professor at the University of Western Ontario, who from the 1920's onward collected old minute books, registers, religious and history books, scholarly journals, personal journals (Timothy Rogers), letters and much else. The Dorland Reference Library at the college honours his role. Most of the registers and minute books have been microfilmed and these films are available at the Archives of Ontario.

Very likely everything mentioned at other places below is also present at this Archives however remember that this is a non lending institution.

The Marion Cronk Fonds is a recent major acquisition of letters, school books, poetry, etc that gives insight to Quaker life in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The archive has recently begun to put items from its collection on its web site. Currently the following items are available or planned.

1. Searchable transcriptions of minute books and registers from West Lake (mostly) and some of Pelham, Norwich and Yonge St meetings.
2. The Canadian Quaker Genealogical Index – 12,000 name index

3. Dorland Research Library catalogue – planned.

### **Archives of Ontario**

1. Religious Society of Friends Papers, F 997, MS 303, 59 reels, Private Records. The finding aid is with the yellow binders listings all the meeting records that were in the possession of the Quaker Archives in 1975. A few have been acquired since and are not filmed.
2. The blue card index lists about 20 holdings, mostly letters that have Quaker references. Search under Friends, society. There are a few Yonge St records.
3. Rachel Cronk Fonds – F550, MU759

### **Robarts Library, University of Toronto**

1. The library has several shelves of Quaker books. Many histories and also 19<sup>th</sup> C religious books. Most importantly it has a complete bound set of the Quaker History published by the Friends Historical Assoc, Haverford, PA. Volumes 1 (1906) to 98 (2009) are present. Search the Robarts we site to see the holdings.
2. CFHA Newsletter/Journal volumes 7 to 72 (2006).

### **Toronto Public Libraries**

1. The Quakers In Canada, A History, Arthur Dorland, 1968
2. A History of the Society of Friends (Quakers) in Canada, Arthur Dorland, 1927
3. Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, Wm Wade Hinshaw, 1936 and later, 6 Vols
4. Incomplete holdings of CFHA Journals and Newsletters (Canadiana Room and Reference Library)

### **Library & Archives of Canada, Ottawa**

1. List of the archives of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Canada: microfilmed by the Archives of Ontario (MS303) / prepared by R. Nickerson . CD 3649 O5 N63 1975

### **Suggested Books**

1. The Quakers In Canada, A History, Arthur Dorland, 1968
2. A History of the Society of Friends (Quakers) in Canada, Arthur Dorland, 1927
3. From Quaker to Upper Canadian: faith and community among Yonge Street Friends, 1801-1850, Robynne Rogers Healey Publisher Montreal ; Ithaca : McGill-Queen's University Press, c2006
4. Children of Peace, John McIntyre, McGill Queen's Press, 1994
5. Quaker Crosscurrents: three hundred Years of Friends in the New York Yearly Meeting, Hugh Barbour, Arthur Worrall, and Christopher

- Densmore, 1995, Robarts Library BX 7607.N5 Q34. Also on Google Books. Highly recommended.
6. Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, Wm Wade Hinshaw, 1936 and later, 6 Vols, Vol 1 – North Carolina; Vol 2 – Penna and New Jersey (Salem, Burlington, Philadelphia, Falls); Vol 3 – New York (Flushing, Westbury, Jericho), Vol 4 and 5 – Ohio; Vol 6 – Virginia. This is a major index to some of the records of the Monthly Meetings. (Available Toronto Reference library)
  7. Quaker Marriages in Upper Canada, Wm Riddell, OHS Papers and Records, 1927, V24, 507-11. The legal issues behind the acceptance of Quaker marriages.
  8. Quakers in Colonial North East, Arthur Worrall, 1980, 289.674 W59 [Robarts BX 7639.W67].
  9. The Hicksite Separation, Robert Doherty, 1967, 289.609 D57, [Robarts BX 7637 D6] A fine account of the difficult to understand separation.
  10. Families, OGS, Vol 19, No. 1, 1980, two excellent articles by James Zavitz and Jane Zavitz about Quaker history and using Quaker records.

**Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA**

1. Google 'swarthmore historical library'
2. This library holds the major collection of American records.
3. From the Home page select the James E. Hazard Index of The Records of New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. This will replace Hinshaw as the index for NY records as it is more complete.

**Other web sites - Google the following:**

1. Triptych – Swarthmore, Haverford and Bryn Mawr – digital database of the holdings of all three libraries.
2. Haverford Library Special Collections – at Haverford, PA
3. Bryn Mawr College Special Collections – at Bryn Mawr, PA
4. Friends Historical Association – publishes the american scholarly journal Quaker History
5. Canada Yearly Meeting
6. New York Yearly Meeting Microfilm Collection (NYSL) – a list of NY meeting records that have survived.
7. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
8. Earlham School of Religion - 17 and 18th C Quaker books online.