



SAANICH ARCHIVES

Test Your Research Skills!

Have you attended a Wednesday morning orientation session at Saanich Archives? Perhaps you are a researcher looking to refresh your skills? Here is a chance to use what you have learned and explore the many resources in the Archives Reference Room.

1. City Directories

You've just purchased 4372 Parkside Crescent, and you've been told that your home was built around 1961.

- Is that the correct date?
- Who was the first person to live in this house?
- Is there any other information about the first owner(s)?

2. Pioneers Files

Layritz Park was named for a local pioneer.

- Where in Saanich did he live?
- What was his occupation or business?

3. Vertical Files, General

a) You need to research the ongoing problem of invasive plants for a school science project.

- Is there any information on invasive plant species in the Archives?
- Name 3 invasive plant species in the Saanich area

b) The Wilkinson Road Jail, now known as the Vancouver Island Regional Correctional Centre, was not always used as a provincial jail.

- When was it built?
- What else has the building been used for over the years?

4. Photos online

You travel to work each day on Gorge Road and are interested in what the area looked like in the past.

- Search photos of the Gorge area on the Saanich Archives website <http://www.saanicharchives.ca>
- Find a photo of the earliest bridge over the Gorge. What is its accession number?

5. Clerk's Files Finding Aid

The war years, 1939-1945, were a time of shortages, personal sacrifices, and increased public involvement in government programs such as rationing and emergency preparedness.

Using the Clerk's Files Finding Aid:

- Find box and file numbers for documents that deal with air raid emergency procedures
- Can you see any other entries relating to war concerns?

6. Landowners Finding Aids

Peter Merriman was one of the first landowners in Saanich.

- How many acres of land did he buy?
- What year did he purchase it?
- What was the price?

7. Fire Insurance Plan (1968)

At the corner of W. Burnside and Tillicum is the Tillicum Centre, with its stores, cinemas and restaurants. Using the 1968 Fire Insurance Plan:

- Find out what was on that site before the shopping centre
- Can you see any structures that are still here today?

8. Oral Histories

The Vantreight family has been connected with Saanich for over a hundred years. Using the transcript of the 1977 oral history interview with Geoffrey Vantreight, Jr:

- Find out what country they emigrated from
- In what year did the Vantreights settle in Saanich?
- In what part of Saanich did they establish their farm?
- The Vantreight family is now famous for their daffodils, but what other crop did they grow on their land?

How well did you do? Answer sheets are available from Archives staff.

SAANICH ARCHIVES
3100 Tillicum Road
Victoria, British Columbia V9A 6T2
Tel: 250-475-1775 Email: archives@saanich.ca
Visit us online at <http://saanicharchives.ca>