

Guide to Marriage Indexes

Marriage registrations for marriages that occurred more than 75 years old from the date of marriage are available at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

[Go to marriage indexes](#)

Locating and requesting a Marriage Registration

Registration records are not available in the Sandra Thomson's Reading Room or online. You will need to search for a **registration number** to request a record through our online payment system.

1. Using a brides, groom or Indigenous [marriage index](#), select the first letter of the surname.
2. Scroll through the index to find the year the person was married to locate their name and registration number.
3. Request and pay for your Vital Statistics record by completing a [Vital Statistics Request](#)

If the marriage record is less than 75 years old, contact a registry agent.

Vital statistic indexes & use

Vital statistic indexes are yearly summaries of vital events that contain basic information such as name, location, year, and registration number. The indexes are used to locate registrations.

- You can search either a bride's name or a groom's name, but there is only one record.
- Indigenous marriage indexes
 - o Includes both brides and grooms in the same index under their surname.
 - o Between 1923-1945, some Indigenous marriages were indexed separately.
 - o If you are unable to find a record, check the bride and groom marriage indexes.

Marriage indexes are handwritten and are organized alphabetically by surname and then by year. Each letter is then further subdivided according to the first vowel instance in the surname, i.e., Aa, Ae, Ai, Ao, Au; Ba, Be, Bi, Bo, Bu, and so on.

For example:

- Andrews will be found under Ae; McLean will be found under McE; Smith will be found under Si, and so on.
- If there is no distinction between Mc and Mac, both will be together under one label.
- 'Y' is not considered a vowel. Hyde, for example, if it is not found under "He", check "Ha," "Hi," "Ho," and "Hu."

Here is an index example that includes registrations from 1925:

1	2	3	4	
House John	Hobbema	82	1925	1. Name 2. Place of marriage 3. Registration number 4. Year
Houl George	Goodfink Lohr	83	1925	

In the above example, **John House** was married in **Hobbema** in **1925** and the marriage registration number is **82**. Place names are listed as they were known in the year the event occurred. Prior to 1917, Vital Statistics used letters or roman numerals to indicate a year. Please see this list for determining what letter links to the year of your event:

Year	Code	Year	Code	Year	Code
Up to 1897	II / III	1904	G	1911	O
1898	A	1905	H	1912	P
1899	B	1906	J	1913	Q
1900	C	1907	K	1914	R
1901	D	1908	L	1915	S
1902	E	1909	M	1916	T
1903	F	1910	N		

Marriage indexes not available on website

Marriage records are available 75 years from the date of the event. Indexes are not made available until all of the events from a year can be accessed. To request a record from this year, please contact the Reading Room archivist.

Unable to locate a marriage record

If the record is not found in the indexes, it may not have been registered with the Government of Alberta.

If the marriage was performed by a faith organization, they might have a record of the event. The Provincial Archives has registers for some faith organization, [Faith Organizations | Provincial Archives of Alberta](#). Roman Catholic sacramental records are not found at the Provincial Archives. For Indigenous communities, however, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI) kept an index of [baptisms, marriages and burials](#) that occurred in their churches (see the [OMI fonds](#) for more information).