

Welcome to the Whyte Museum's Archives and Library

Records can take many forms. Our holdings include government documents and records; private historical manuscripts and papers; maps, charts and architectural plans; photographs; paintings, drawings and prints; audio tapes; film and video; newspapers; and a special collections library of publications with emphasis on the Canadian Rockies

Our goal is to give you the knowledge and tools you will need to locate and retrieve the material relevant to your research. Your job is to assess and interpret them. If you need assistance during any stage of your research, just ask a member of staff in the reference room.

Planning ahead

Before your research visit to the Archives and Library, please spend some time doing preparatory work.

Think about your topic; it always helps to have a clearly defined research goal. Consult with your instructor if you are taking a course and are unclear about the focus of your research. Do some background reading. University, college and local public libraries will have many of the published sources you will need. These secondary sources will help you identify the important people, places and events to look for in the archival records. Many also have bibliographies which can be used to identify potential research sources. The Internet can lead to useful background information and electronic sources as well.

Search our Archives and library online database before visiting the Archives and Library. The database has descriptions of both visual and audiovisual (indicated by a "V") and textual records (indicated by a "M"), and includes description for sound recordings (indicated by a "S") in the Archives as well. In some cases, digital images and PDFs may be attached.

First shown is the search page, also known as the "Welcome" page, this page is the entry point for any searching.

You can conduct searches by entering search terms into the main search bar. The main search bar can be used to search all collections at the same time, or you can search a specific collection by selecting Archives, library, art or heritage collections. Type in your search terms and then click the "Search" button or hit the "Enter" key.

For more tips on how to search, on the welcome page, please click on the help link in the top right side of the screen



If you have questions about our Archives and Library holdings please contact archives@whyte.org

Appointments are preferred and encouraged. We will be able to give you better assistance if you organize your research time well. If you arrive at the last minute to do your research you may be competing with many other researchers for resources and staff time and may not be able to access the material you need. Also allow yourself sufficient time to do your research, especially if your topic is a complex one and requires detailed research and/or access to many records.

For an inside look on how you can help Archivists help you please [check out this blog](#) by Samantha Thompson, Archivist at the Peel Art Museum and Archives.

REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR [WEBSITE](#) FOR HOURS OF SERVICE AND CLOSURE DAYS.