



Visual History

Curriculum Connections

Grade 10 History

HISTORICAL INQUIRY AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The Region of Peel's archives form part of PAMA, the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives. In the archives, we collect, organize, store, and make available the historical records of the Region of Peel and the municipalities within it (Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon). Our records therefore cover the old County of Peel and the numerous small hamlets, villages, and towns within it from the early 19th century onwards.

We collect both official government records and the records of private individuals, businesses, and organizations. Our collections occupy over a kilometre of linear shelf space and include over one million photographs, thousands of maps and plans, and tens of millions of individual sheets of paper.

We take care of letters, diaries, journals, land indexes and deeds, council minutes, reports, bylaws, posters, pamphlets, circulars, newspapers, newsletters, photographs, maps, glass plate negatives, and many other unique and revealing items.

Archives Awareness week falls in April every year. This yearly celebration draws attention to the importance of archival institutions and the great work they do all year round.

Let's Get Started

How can we analyze evidence using archival documents as clues? What information can you gather from documents that help you to understand the past and certain stories that are told?

In this activity you will use critical thinking questions to better understand life in Peel from 1900 – 1924.

These videos will provide you with some insight on why archives awareness is important.

[Why Archives Matter](#) – PAMA Archives Blog post

[Behind the Scenes](#) – Video looking at a Russell Cooper (Peel News Photographer) photograph

Closer Look

Big ideas combined with the framing questions are intended to stimulate students' curiosity and critical thinking and to heighten the relevance of what they are studying.

Look at these videos highlighting photos and documents from the Peel Archives and use the questions below to guide your discussion.

- Brampton - [One Pic Per Year: Brampton, 1900 to 1924](#)
- Caledon - [One Pic Per Year: Caledon, 1900 to 1924](#)
- Mississauga - [One Pic Per Year: Mississauga, 1900 to 1924](#)

Gather and Organize

What types of historical documents are shown?

What images/subject matter do you see repeated?

Can you organize the material into themes?

Interpret and Analyse

What stories are shared in these videos?

What do these videos tell us about Peel between 1900 – 1924?

How do these videos help you understand what was going on at the time?

What can you explore through photographs?

Are there any images that leave you wanting to know more?

Formulate Questions

Why are firsthand accounts so important?

What can we learn from the past?

Should you pay attention to who is the source of the document?

Evaluate and Draw Conclusions

What stories are missing?

How do personal stories shape your ideas?

Communicate

Look for different images and documents (primary or secondary sources) from the same timeframe (1900 to 1924). How is the story different/similar? Assess the credibility of sources and information.

How does learning about past events help to enhance your understanding of current events and your role as an informed citizen?

Other PAMA resources to check out

Visit [PAMA's Virtual Exhibitions](#)

Check out our elements of art [poster](#)