

Maps, Charts and Architectural Plans

Search Guides

How to enter search terms when searching for:

- Published material
 - Guide for Using Library Advanced Search (for general searches)
 - Guide for Using AMICUS Advanced Search (for academic searches)

Note: Library Advanced Search and AMICUS Advanced Search use the same database.
- Historical published and unpublished material
 - Guide for Using Archives Advanced Search

How to Improve Search Results

Guide for Using Library Advanced Search

Related Links:

- Generic [Search Help](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/search/006-130-e.html) <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/search/006-130-e.html>

On the **Library Advanced Search** page: http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/lac-bac/search/lib_adv

1. Always use “Any Keyword” when doing a search.
2. If searching with a date, use an “Any Keyword” field.
3. Under “Search In,” select “LAC Catalogue” to search the LAC collection only.
4. In the “Format” drop-down menu, select “Map.”
Note: When searching for an atlas, type “atlas” in an “Any Keyword” text box and leave the “Format” as “All.”
5. Select “Submit.”

Example 1

Search

Library Advanced Search

Search for:

Any Keyword	<input type="text" value="canada"/>	AND
Any Keyword	<input type="text" value="canadian climate centre"/>	AND
Any Keyword	<input type="text" value="1991"/>	

Search in:

☐ All
 ☒ LAC Catalogue
 ☐ Canadian Libraries

Publication type:

Language:

Format:

~~**Date:**~~

Number of results: per page



Example 2

Search for an atlas:

Search

Library Advanced Search

Search for:

Any Keyword



1908

AND



Any Keyword



atlas

AND



Any Keyword



edward stanford

Search in:



All



LAC Catalogue



Canadian Libraries

Publication type:

All



Language:

Any



Format:

All



~~Date:~~

~~after (YYY)~~



Number of results:

10 results



per page

Submit

Clear

Guide for Using AMICUS Advanced Search

Related Links:


- Generic [AMICUS Help](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/amicus/006002-130.0-e.html) <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/amicus/006002-130.0-e.html>
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On the **AMICUS Advanced Search** page:

http://amicus.collectionscanada.ca/aaaweb-bin/aamain/advanced_search?sessionKey=1303300369028_142_78_200_11&l=0

1. Under “Choose a Catalogue,” select
 - “National Library Collections” to search LAC collections.
2. In the Keyword drop-down menu, select “Any Keyword.”
3. In the Keyword text boxes, enter “cartographic (or “cartographique” for maps in French).
Note: When searching for atlases, enter “atlas” instead of “cartographic.”
4. Enter all additional search terms.
5. Select: “Submit.”

Example



Advanced Search

[Introduction](#) |
 [Comments](#) |
 [AMICUS Help](#) |
 [My List](#)
[Go to Registered Service](#)

Basic Search
 Advanced Search

Choose a catalogue:

☒ National Library Collections
 ☐ Entire AMICUS database

Select one or more indexes and enter your search terms:

Any Keyword	cartographic	AND	
Any Keyword	heron bay	AND	
Any Keyword	canadian hydrographic service		

Optional limiters for searching:

Date

=

Format

Language

Target Audience Books

Publication Type



Guide for Using Archives Advanced Search

Related Links:

- [Generic Search Help](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/search/006-130-e.html) <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/search/006-130-e.html>
- [Using Archives: A Practical Guide for Researchers](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/04/0416_e.html) http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/04/0416_e.html

On the **Archives Advanced Search** page: http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/lac-bac/search/arch_adv

1. Always use “Any Keyword” when doing a search.
2. If searching with a date, use an “Any Keyword” text box.
3. In the “Type of material” drop-down menu, select whichever is appropriate for your search, either:
 - “Maps and cartographic material”or
 - “Architectural and technical drawings”
4. In the “Online” drop-down menu, select “Yes” if you want descriptions with digital images only.
5. Select “Submit.”

Example

Search

Archives Advanced Search

Search for:

Any Keyword	▼	british admiralty	AND	▼
Any Keyword	▼	nova scotia	AND	▼
Any Keyword	▼	1955		

Type of material: Maps and cartographic material ▼

Hierarchical level: All ▼

~~Date:~~ after (YYYY-MM-DD) ▼

Online: Yes ▼

Source: All ▼

Number of results: 10 results ▼ per page

Submit

Clear



On the Search Results page:

Use the “Limit to” options in the right-hand column to further narrow your search results.

E.g., the “Item” option in the “Hierarchical Level” limits results to the individual or item-level descriptions (i.e., a single map instead of a group of maps).

Limit to:

Type of material:
[All](#)
✓ [Maps and cartographic material](#) (145)

Found in:
[All](#)
[LAC](#) (145)

Online: [No](#)
[All](#)
[No](#) (72)
[Yes](#) (73)

Hierarchical Level:
[All](#)
[Fonds/Collections](#) (16)
- [LAC](#) (16)
[Series](#) (23)
[Files](#) (3)
[Item](#) (95)
[Accession](#) (8)

Date:
[All](#)
[-1900](#) (83)
[1900s](#) (44)

How to Improve Search Results

General:

It is recommended that you always use “Any Keyword” in the Keyword field when searching.

Dates:

Because the publication dates of maps can be uncertain, you may wish to avoid using the “Date” text box; instead, enter dates into an “Any Keyword” text box to improve search results.

Names:

Keep in mind that the databases contain descriptions of historical documents. You may need to use expressions and words whose meanings have changed over time to improve your search results.

E.g.

Great War, European War, First World War, World War 1
Klondike, Klondyke

Be aware of changes in place names.

E.g.

Fort Frontenac, Cataraqui or Cataracoui = Kingston
Ville-Marie = Montréal
Bytown = Ottawa
York = Toronto

Publishers of older maps often changed French place names to an English equivalent.

E.g.

Île-aux-Grues changed to Crane Island
Pointe-Lévis changed to Point Levi
St-Jean-sur-Richelieu changed to St. John's

Map Series:

When searching for a specific title from a map series (such as the 1:50 000 NTS or nautical charts), it is recommended that you search by the sheet number or the individual title.