

Learning about local history and the Ottawa Library

Victorian architecture is important to Ottawa. Can you find a book about this subject in our catalog? Where is non-fiction located and how is it arranged?

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Gary Hart, a former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate, has written several books, both fiction and non-fiction. Locate one of his fiction books? Where are the fiction shelves and how are they arranged?

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How many houses did Gary Hart live in while residing in Ottawa?
Hint: look in the book "Historical Curiosities about Ottawa by John Mark Lambertson (Local history 978.166 lam (#19) Where is the local history collection?

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During WWII there was a POW camp in Ottawa. Where was it located?
Hint: Can you find a book written by Randy Clark by looking in the catalog under his name? If it is not on the shelf, find articles in the Ottawa-History pamphlet file.

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The library has a pamphlet file of articles about Jotham Meeker. Can you find it? What role did he play in Ottawa history?

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What structures in Franklin County are listed on the National Register?
Hint: There is a reference book titled "National Register of Historic Places 1966-1988." Can you find it by looking in the catalog? Where is the Reference Department?

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Can you find a magazine article about Elizabeth Layton, a famous artist who lived in Wellsville? Look in online databases. Where is a list of Ottawa Library periodicals? Back issues of magazines are behind the Circulation Desk. When did Elizabeth Layton begin to draw, and what method did she use?

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Use the microfilm readers in the Reference Room to look at either: The Ottawa Daily Republican, September 24, 1896 Special Franklin County Issue: What did the company of Underwood & Underwood produce? Or The Ottawa Herald, June 18, 1936 70th Anniversary edition issue: Who was the first mayor of Ottawa?

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Who is the director of the Franklin County Historical Society?
Hint: ask this question at the Reference Desk, where a community information file contains the answer plus info about local clubs and services.

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Look at the picture of Ottawa located in the Reference Room. A copy of this birds eye view of Ottawa is available for check-out by patrons 18 and over. There are also works of art by local artists, among them art prints by William Howe and Elizabeth Layton. How long do they check out?
