Australia
Research Outline

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This outline can help you find information about your ancestors who lived in Australia. It also gives you information about genealogical records and can help you decide which types of records to search.

HELPS FOR USING THIS RESEARCH OUTLINE

Before using this outline, choose the information you want to find about one of your ancestors, such as a birth date or a maiden name.

After you have decided what information you want to find, look at the “Record Selection Table” in the Introduction Section of this outline. The table lists the best types of records to search for finding the information you want.

There is a section in this outline for each type of record listed in columns 2 and 3 of the “Record Selection Table.” These sections give you more information about these records. The sections come in alphabetical order.
References to the Family History Library Catalog

The Family History Library Catalog contains a listing of all the records available at the Family History Library. The catalog is available at the Family History Library and at each Family History Center. The staff can help you learn to use the catalog.

This outline gives you instructions for finding information in the catalog. For example, in the section called “Census” you may find the following statement:

For more information about census records, look in the "Locality Search" of the Family History Library Catalog under:

- **AUSTRALIA** - CENSUS
- **AUSTRALIA, [STATE]** - CENSUS
- **AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]** - CENSUS

This statement tells you to look in the catalog under:

- Australia and then under the subject “CENSUS.”
- A state in Australia and then under the subject “CENSUS.”
- A town in a state in Australia and then under the subject “CENSUS.”

This outline also includes references to specific records. These references include the following:

- **Call Numbers.** The call number is used to find a record in the Family History Library (FHL).

- **Computer Numbers.** Each record is assigned a number to identify it in the catalog. If you are using the Family History Library Catalog on computer or compact disc, you can search for the record by the computer number. This is the quickest way to find the listing of the record in the catalog.

For additional information on using the catalog, see *Using the Family History Library Catalog* (30966).

References to Family History Library Publications

The Family History Library has many publications that may be helpful to you in your research. Some are referred to in this outline (titles are in italics, and item numbers are in parentheses). These publications are available at the Family History Library and the Salt Lake City Distribution Center.
INTRODUCTION

Australia was initially settled in 1788 by convict transportees from the British Isles. If you have ancestors who lived in Australia during the early settlement, you may find a convict or two among them. There are many records on these convicts. To learn about these records, read the following sections of this outline:

- Census (Musters)
- Convict Records
- Correctional Institutions
- Court Records
- Emigration and Immigration
- Public Records

Australia is a part of the British Commonwealth. Before 1901 areas in Australia were referred to as colonies. These colonies were independent for many years; as a result each one developed its own laws and records. Keep this in mind as you read about the various records available for Australian genealogical research.

In 1901 Australia formed a federation of states and territories. The states are New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and the island of Tasmania. The territories are Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Record Selection Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECORD SELECTION TABLE: AUSTRALIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This table can help you decide which records to search. It is most helpful for research from 1800 to the present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 1. Choose an ancestor you would like to know more about. What new information would you like to learn about that person?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2. Look at the Record Selection Table in the outline. It will tell you which are the best types of records for that information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3. Read the sections in the outline about those types of records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 4. Look in the Family History Library Catalog and choose a specific record to search.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 5. Look at the record.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. In column 1 find the goal you selected, then in column 2 find the types of records most likely to have the information you need.
2. Read the sections in the outline about those types of records.
3. Look for those types of records in the Family History Library Catalog.
4. Search the records.
5. If you do not find the information you need, return to column 3 and try those records.
Note: Records of previous research (Genealogy, Biography, History, Periodicals, and Societies) are useful for most goals, but they are not listed unless they are especially helpful.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. If You Need</th>
<th>2. Look First In</th>
<th>3. Then Search</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Civil Registration, Church Records, Emigration and Immigration, Convict Records</td>
<td>Census, Cemeteries, Newspapers, Military Records, Occupations, Naturalization and Citizenship, Medical Records, School Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth date</td>
<td>Civil Registration, Church Records, School Records</td>
<td>Biography, Newspapers, Military Records, Occupations, Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Cemeteries, Obituaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthplace</td>
<td>Civil Registration, Church Records</td>
<td>Biography, Obituaries, Newspapers, Military Records, Occupations, Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Medical Records, Convict Records, Cemeteries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>Civil Registration, Church Records, Biography, Genealogy, Emigration and Immigration</td>
<td>Newspapers, Obituaries, Probate Records, School Records, Court Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convict Records</td>
<td>Convict Records, Correctional Institutions, Emigration and Immigration, Census, Public Records</td>
<td>Court Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death</td>
<td>Civil Registration, Church Records, Newspapers, Cemeteries, Obituaries</td>
<td>Probate Records, Court Records, Land and Property, Military Records, Biography, Genealogy, Correctional Institutions, Convict Records, Medical Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorce</td>
<td>Divorce records</td>
<td>Newspapers, Biography, Genealogy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>Native Races, Minorities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family members</td>
<td>Church Records, Civil Registration, Biography, Genealogy, Emigration and Immigration</td>
<td>Newspapers, Probate Records, Obituaries, School Records, Court Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical background</td>
<td>History, Historical Geography</td>
<td>Church History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration date</td>
<td>Correctional Institutions, Naturalization and Citizenship, Emigration and Immigration, Convict Records</td>
<td>Biography, Census, Medical Records, School Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living relatives</td>
<td>Directories, Civil Registration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maiden name</td>
<td>Civil Registration, Church Records, Convict Records</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td>Church Records, Civil Registration, Convict Records</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Church Records, Directories, Civil Registration, Occupations, Probate Records, Convict Records</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
<td>Church Records, Civil Registration, Biography, Genealogy, Emigration and Immigration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical description</td>
<td>Military Records, Court Records, Correctional Institutions, Convict Records</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place-finding aids</td>
<td>Gazetteers, Directories, Maps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place of residence</td>
<td>Convict Records, Church Records, Directories, Civil Registration, Voting Registers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record-finding aids</td>
<td>Archives and Libraries, Genealogy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Church records, Biography, Civil Registration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town, district, and state origins and boundaries</td>
<td>Gazetteers, Maps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Archives generally collect and preserve original documents from organizations such as churches or governments. Libraries generally collect published sources such as books, maps, and microfilms. The following section describes the major archives and libraries of genealogical and historical records for Australia. When one of these repositories is referred to elsewhere in this outline, return to this section to obtain the address.

If you plan to visit one of these repositories, contact the organization and ask for information about their collection, hours, services, and fees. Many archives require a reader’s ticket (an indication that you are a responsible researcher). Before you plan a visit, find out if you need a reader’s ticket and how to obtain one.

Many of these archives and libraries have a Web page on the Internet. From the Web page you can obtain up-to-date information on addresses, services, telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail addresses, and much more. A catalog of the repository’s holdings may also be on the Internet.

Most archives have catalogs, inventories, or periodicals that describe their records and how to use them. If possible, study these guides before visiting an archive so that you can use your time there more effectively. Many of these guides are available at the Family History Library, at public or university libraries, or through interlibrary loan.

The following is an effective general guide to the archives and libraries in Australia:


Catalogs, inventories, and periodicals are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS

In Australia the major types of genealogical repositories are:

- National archives and libraries.
- State archives and libraries.
- Church archives.
- Historical and genealogical societies.
- Military archives.
The following paragraphs give brief descriptions of these repositories and include their mailing addresses.

**National Archives and Libraries**

The Australian government preserves its records related to Australian history and culture. Records of genealogical value at the national archives include:

- Business records
- Immigration records
- Military records
- Naturalization records

Most records date back to the 1901 Federation of Australia, but some date back even earlier.

The address for the national archives is:

National Archives of Australia  
Canberra  
P.O. Box 7425  
Canberra Mail Centre  
Australian Capital Territory 2610  
AUSTRALIA

The following is a guide to the collection:


The national archives also publishes particular records and fact sheets on specific topics. These fact sheets can be accessed through the following Web site of the national archives:

- National Archives of Australia  

**Branches of the National Archives of Australia**

The national archives also has regional offices. Records are usually stored at the regional office of the state where they were created. Although records are not circulated between offices, a few heavily used reference materials are on microfilm for wider availability.
Addresses for the regional offices are:

Australian Archives, Australian Capital Territory Regional Office  
P.O. Box 447  
Belconnen  
Australian Capital Territory 2616  
AUSTRALIA  

New South Wales Office  
P.O. Locked Bag 4  
Chester Hill  
New South Wales 2162  
AUSTRALIA  

Northern Territory Office  
P.O. Box 24  
Nightcliff  
Northern Territory 0810  
AUSTRALIA  

Queensland Office  
P.O. Box 552  
Cannon Hill  
Queensland 4170  
AUSTRALIA  

South Australian Office  
P.O. Box 119  
Walkerville  
South Australia 5081  
AUSTRALIA  

Tasmanian Office  
4 Rosny Hill Road  
Rosny Park  
Tasmania 7018  
AUSTRALIA  

Victorian Office  
P.O. Box 8005  
Burwood Heights  
Victoria 3151  
AUSTRALIA  

Western Australian Office  
P.O. Box 1144  
East Victoria Park  
Western Australia 6981  
AUSTRALIA
National Library

The National Library has a helpful collection of manuscripts, family histories, histories, church records, cemetery transcripts, directories, maps, newspapers, and indexes. The library also has more than 24,000 oral family history recordings.

The address for the National Library is:

National Library of Australia
Parkes Place
Canberra
Australian Capital Territory 2600
AUSTRALIA

The following guide to the National Library is available at the Family History Library:


State Archives

Each region of Australia has a state archive. The archive serves as repository for records of that particular area (except for national records). Some of the state archives have a separate genealogy section.

Most record offices publish guides to their collections, and many publish leaflets dealing with specific topics. Some of these guides and leaflets are listed below under each archive.

Records of genealogical value at the state archives include:

- Birth, marriage, and death records
- Court records
- Directories
- Electoral rolls
- Land records
- The *Government Gazette* and similar newspapers
- Shipping records

Addresses and guides for the state archives are:

New South Wales
Archives Office of New South Wales
2 Globe Street
The Rocks
Sydney
New South Wales 2000
AUSTRALIA

_A Concise Guide to the State Archives of New South Wales._ Nos. 1–30. Sydney: Archives Authority, 1971–. (FHL book British Ref Q 994.4 A35gc; computer number 16807.)


Northern Territory
Northern Territory Archives Service
P.O. Box 1197
Darwin
Northern Territory 5794
AUSTRALIA

Queensland
Queensland State Archives
162 Annerley Road
Dutton Park
Queensland 4102
AUSTRALIA

_Provenance Catalogue._ Queensland State Archives. Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1981. (FHL microfilm 1239122–1239123; computer number 149612.)

South Australia
South Australia State Archives
P.O. Box 123
Rundle Mall
Adelaide
South Australia 5001
AUSTRALIA

"Ancestors in archives: a guide to family history sources in the official records of South Australia._ Adelaide, South Australia: Government of South Australia, 1991. (FHL book British 994.23 A37a; computer number 672179.)

Tasmania
Archives Office of Tasmania
77 Murray Street
Hobart
Tasmania 7000
AUSTRALIA


Victoria
Public Record Office
Level 19 Nauru House
Genealogical sources. Victoria: Public Record Office, 1984. (FHL book British Ref 994.5/M1 D23g; computer number 458582.)

Western Australia
State Archives
Alexander Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre
Perth
Western Australia
AUSTRALIA

State Libraries

State libraries have collections of newspapers, directories, electoral rolls, and government publications. The following state libraries are located in Australia:

New South Wales
State Library of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
Sydney
New South Wales 2000
AUSTRALIA

Queensland
State Library (John Oxley) of Queensland
William Street
Brisbane
Queensland 4000
AUSTRALIA

South Australia
State Library of South Australia
North Terrace
Adelaide
South Australia 5000
AUSTRALIA

Tasmania
State Library of Tasmania
91 Murray Street
Hobart
Tasmania 7000
AUSTRALIA
Other Libraries

Genealogical sources are also available at other libraries in Australia. For addresses and information, use the book listed below:


Contact the libraries directly to inquire about their collection, hours, services, and fees.

The following book contains a listing of indexes that are available in Australian libraries:


Church Archives

For addresses of church archives, see the “Church Records” section of this outline.

Historical and Genealogical Societies

In Australia many organized historical and genealogical societies maintain libraries that collect valuable records. For more information, including the addresses of some societies, see the “Societies” section of this outline.

Military Archives

Military archives may have information on your ancestor who served in the Australian army or navy. For more information, including addresses, see the “Military Records” section of this outline.
Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services can help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive e-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research information about your ancestors from Australia in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost. Services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

As of April 1997, the following site (Genuki) is an important gateway that can link you to many network and bulletin board sites:

- GENUKI
  http://www.genuki.org.uk
  The above site is a cooperative effort by many genealogical and historical societies to list databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources for parishes and counties on the Internet.

FamilySearch™

FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch™, a collection of computer files containing several million names. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

BIOGRAPHY

A biography is a history of a person’s life. In a biography you may find an individual’s birth, marriage, and death information. You may also find the names of the individual’s parents, children, or other family members. Use this information sparingly, because it may sometimes be inaccurate.

Some brief biographies have been gathered and published in collective biographies, sometimes called biographical encyclopedias or biographical dictionaries. Often these collective biographies
only include biographies of prominent citizens of Australia. Others feature biographies of specific groups of people, such as Aborigines.

The following are significant biographical encyclopedias:


The *Bicentennial dictionary of Western Australians*. 8 vols. Nedlands, W.A.: University of Western Australia, 1988–1994. (FHL book British Ref 994.1 D36bd; computer number 642966.) This work includes three volumes on Aborigines.

The Family History Library does not generally collect individual biographies, but they do have many collective biographies that are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - BIOGRAPHY AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - BIOGRAPHY AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - BIOGRAPHY

You can also find some biographical information in Australian encyclopedias. For more information see the “Encyclopedias and Dictionaries” section of this outline.

**BUSINESS RECORDS AND COMMERCE**

Records or histories of businesses and commercial companies seldom contain dates or places of birth, marriage, or death. There are, however, some Australian business records that contain valuable genealogical information. For example, some bank ledgers in Australia give the name, occupation, residence, age, place of birth (by county and country), year of immigration and name of ship, and a physical description of depositors. Lawyers at the time kept detailed records for their clients. Included in these records are probate material, adoption records, insurance papers, lawsuits, and other sources that may help you trace your ancestors.

In addition, pub owners, butchers, lumberjacks, auctioneers, or other professionals had to be licensed. Licenses were granted by the courts, and notices were then published in the *Government Gazette*. For further information about gazettes, see the “Court Records” section of the outline.

Many business records, such as the ones previously described, are deposited in Australian national archives, state archives, and other local repositories. For further information, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

The Family History Library has few business records. To find business-related records in the Family History Library, look in the Family History Library Catalog under:
CEMETERIES

Cemetery records often give more information than church burial records and may include the deceased’s name, age, date of death or burial, birth year or date of birth, and sometimes marriage information. They may also provide clues about an ancestor’s military service, religion, occupation, place of residence at time of death, or membership in an organization. Cemetery records are especially helpful for identifying ancestors who were not recorded in other records, such as children who died young or women. In Australia, the first cemetery is reported to have been in Sydney in 1788.

To find tombstone inscriptions or burial records, you must know where an individual was buried. Clues to burial places may be found in funeral notices, obituaries, church records, and death certificates. Individuals were usually buried in a church, community, or private cemetery near the place where they lived or died. Cemetery locations may be found on maps of the area. For information on maps, see the “Maps” section of this outline.

Information recorded on tombstones is of primary importance. Often, this information has been transcribed, indexed, and published and is found in manuscripts and books in libraries and archives. The Family History Library has copies of some of these books.

Transcriptions of tombstones can also be accessed via the Internet. Be aware that large cemeteries are transcribed in sections. Be sure to look to see if the transcription you are using is of the entire cemetery or just a section.

The following is a directory of transcribed cemetery inscriptions:


Burial records and plot books (cemetery plans) kept by cemetery officials are especially valuable when trying to find an ancestor who could not afford a gravestone or monument. The records and books are usually held in the cemetery’s administration office or by the local council or church.

Sexton’s records, or register books, list the deceased’s name, date of death or burial, and plot number or description. Plot books and cemetery plans give a diagrammatic description of a cemetery. Each grave is shown by number with the name of the person buried there. These records may have been transcribed and listed in alphabetical order. By examining the original plot book or cemetery plan, rather than relying on alphabetized transcripts, you may find relatives buried in adjoining plots.
Unique to Australia are two types of burials: lone graves and station burials. Because of the vast distances between settlements, many people who died en route to other localities were buried where they died. These types of burials are known as lone graves. Many of these lone graves have been located, and the known information has been transcribed and collected.

Many burials were on stations, which are small settlements on large tracts of grazing land. These burials were generally limited to family members or workers at the station. Station burials were on private ground, and seldom was burial information transcribed, except in a published family or local history.

When death and burial records are difficult to find, contact a local library, historical society, or historian. They may have the records you seek or can help you locate obscure family plots or relocated cemeteries. For information on archives and societies, see the “Archives and Libraries” and the “Societies” sections of this outline. Also, local genealogical periodicals often publish sexton’s records and transcripts of tombstone information. For information on periodicals, see the “Periodicals” section of this outline.

The Family History Library has copies of some cemetery records, compiled or published tombstone inscriptions, and some burial records. These are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - CEMETERIESAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CEMETERIESAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CEMETERIES

Indexes to cemetery records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - CEMETERIES - INDEXESAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CEMETERIES - INDEXESAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CEMETERIES - INDEXES

CENSUS

National censuses have been taken by the Australian government since 1911. However, to protect individual privacy, all national censuses were destroyed after statistical information was collected. Because of this policy, census usage in Australian research may vary greatly census usage in other countries.

Typically a census is a count and description of the population. Where available, census records can provide an ancestor’s name, age, occupation, marital status prior to the marriage, birthplace, and family member relationships. Census returns can also provide clues that lead to other records. A census may list selected people or the whole population. The percentage of people listed depends on the purpose of the census and on how careful the enumerator was.

Australian states have also taken censuses—mostly from the eighteenth century on. However, many of the censuses do not survive because they were taken primarily for population studies and taxation. See the listing below for dates of the initial censuses in each state:
• New South Wales 1788
• Northern Territory 1861
• Queensland 1861
• South Australia 1841
• Tasmania 1803
• Victoria 1836
• Western Australia 1829

The first country-wide census was taken in 1881. For a list of existing census returns look under “Census” for each state in the following book:


Existing censuses have been published or microfilmed and are available at the Family History Library. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CENSUS AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CENSUS

The following is a register of the census records available in the Family History Library:


**Census Substitutes**

In Australian research, other records can be used in place of census records. They are referred to as “census substitutes,” and they list individuals who lived in specific places. It is rare, however, to find an entire family listed. Usually these records list only the head of household’s name, date and place of residence, occupation, age, value of property, and sometimes ship of arrival.

Records that can be used as census substitutes are:

- Population Musters—See below.
- Electoral roles—See the “Voting Registers” section of this outline.
- Directories and almanacs—See the “Directories and Almanacs” section of this outline.
- Emigration and immigration records—See the “Emigration and Immigration” section of this Outline.
- Depasturing licenses—See the “Land and Property” section of this outline.
- Rate and valuation books—See the “Taxation” section of this outline.
- Lists of convicts—See the “Convict Records” section of this outline.
Census substitutes can be found in most major archives and libraries in Australia. For a listing of these archives and libraries and their addresses, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

**Population Musters.** Because convicts were transported into Australia, the government found it necessary to survey the population at least annually. These surveys, known as musters, began in 1788. Information contained in the records might include an individual’s residence, status (convict, free, military), sex, name, ship of arrival, trial date, trial place, sentence, and remarks. Some early musters list children, wives, and servants. For a list of surviving musters, look under the topic of “Census” for each state in the following book:


**CHURCH DIRECTORIES**

Church directories list names and addresses of church officials, dioceses, and parishes. There are many genealogical uses for church directories:

- They list all the parishes in a diocese so you can determine if your ancestor’s town had a parish church. Many directories list all towns belonging to a parish, and most are for specific denominations.
- They sometimes provide the earliest dates each parish’s church records exist.
- They may include historical information about each parish. In Australia, *parish* is a common term applied to all churches to mean “the local congregation.”
- They usually group parishes by clerical district so you can easily determine all neighboring parishes.
- They give the address of the diocese headquarters and often of the diocese archives where additional records may be kept.

The Family History Library does not have copies of all directories. It does have directories for the Roman Catholic and Lutheran Churches. Some information, such as the priest’s name, may be out of date. The addresses and parish histories are still valid.

Church directories are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**AUSTRALIA - CHURCH DIRECTORIES**

AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CHURCH DIRECTORIES

The Family History Library has the following directory to help you determine the diocese of the Roman Catholic parishes:

The Family History Library also has the following directory for the Lutheran Church:


More current directories and directories of other denominations may be available at genealogical societies, archives, or libraries. For addresses, see the “Societies” and “Archives and Libraries” sections of this outline.

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES**

Church directories list names and addresses of church officials, dioceses, and parishes. There are many genealogical uses for church directories:

- They list all the parishes in a diocese so you can determine if your ancestor’s town had a parish church. Many directories list all towns belonging to a parish, and most are for specific denominations.
- They sometimes provide the earliest dates each parish’s church records exist.
- They may include historical information about each parish. In Australia, *parish* is a common term applied to all churches to mean “the local congregation.”
- They usually group parishes by clerical district so you can easily determine all neighboring parishes.
- They give the address of the diocese headquarters and often of the diocese archives where additional records may be kept.

The Family History Library does not have copies of all directories. It does have directories for the Roman Catholic and Lutheran Churches. Some information, such as the priest’s name, may be out of date. The addresses and parish histories are still valid.

Church directories are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**AUSTRALIA - CHURCH DIRECTORIES**

Australia, [STATE], [TOWN] - CHURCH DIRECTORIES

The Family History Library has the following directory to help you determine the diocese of the Roman Catholic parishes:


The Family History Library also has the following directory for the Lutheran Church:

More current directories and directories of other denominations may be available at genealogical societies, archives, or libraries. For addresses, see the “Societies” and “Archives and Libraries” sections of this outline.

**CHURCH HISTORY**

Research procedures and genealogical sources are different for each religion. Hence, it is helpful to understand the historical events that led to the creation of records, such as parish registers, that your family was listed in.

The following book provides an excellent background in to the development of the various religious denominations in Australia:


The following summaries of the major religious influences in Australia may also prove helpful.

**The Church of England**

The Church of England is the largest religious denomination in Australia. The first church service was held 3 February 1788. Until the Church Act of 1836, the Church of England was the state church of the Australian colonies.

**The Presbyterian Church**

The Presbyterian Church was established in Australia by Scottish and Irish settlers. Churches developed as Scottish and Scots-Irish migrants began to settle in the new colony of New South Wales, and then in other colonies as they were established. The earliest congregation began in 1803 in New South Wales.

**The Methodist Church**

The Methodist Church was officially organized in Australia in 1815; however, Methodists began meeting as early as 1812 in Sydney.

**The Roman Catholic Church**

The beginning of Catholicism in Australia was largely based on Irish-born immigrants and their descendants. The first Catholic mass was celebrated in 1803 when two priests were sent to administer to the needs of the Irish community. By 1828, 31 percent of the population was Catholic.
Baptist Church

By 1831 the Baptists were holding services. However, they have never comprised more than 1.5 percent of the population.

CHURCH RECORDS

Church records are an excellent source for information on names, dates, and places of birth, marriage, and burial. Most people who lived in Australia are recorded in a church record. Church records pre-date civil registration, and they may be the only source of family information for that time period. For information on government recordings of births, deaths, and marriages, see the “Civil Registration” section of this outline.

General Historical Background

In general, the keeping of church records in Australia began in 1788 with the recording of baptisms and marriages.

The beginning date for church records varies by state as follows:

- New South Wales 1788
- Tasmania 1803
- Queensland 1829
- Western Australia 1829
- South Australia 1836
- Victoria 1837
- Northern Territory 1911 (before 1911, see New South Wales and South Australia)
- Australian Capital Territory 1911 (before 1911, see New South Wales)

For more information about the various churches in Australia, see the “Church History” section of this outline.

Copies of Church Records

In some cases, all or parts of original church records have been lost. Fortunately some copies were made. These copies are kept in various archives and can be used to supplement missing or illegible registers.
Information Recorded in Church Registers

The most important church records for genealogical research are christening (baptism), marriage, and burial registers. The information recorded in church registers varies according to time period and the church official who recorded the event. Generally, the more recent records give the most complete information.

**Christenings.** Children were generally christened or baptized within a few days of birth. Christening registers usually give the infant’s and parents’ names, status of legitimacy, names of witnesses or godparents, and the christening date. Other details may include a birth date, age (if a baptism of an older child or an adult), father’s occupation, and the family’s place of residence. Death information is sometimes added.

**Marriages.** Marriage registers often include the marriage date, names of bride and groom, marital status prior to the marriage, and names of witnesses. Other information such as age, residence, occupation, names of parents, and birthplace may also be listed.

**Burials.** Burials are recorded in the church records of the local congregation where the individual was buried. Burial registers list the name of the deceased and the date and place of death or burial. They also may include additional details such as age, place of residence, cause of death, and names of surviving family members. Occasionally the date and place of birth and even parents’ names are given. Some denominations did not always keep burial registers.

Locating Church Records

Church records were kept locally. You must know your ancestor’s religion and the town where he or she lived. You must also determine the parish of your ancestor’s town so that you will know which registers to search. For information on finding a parish, see the “Gazetteers” section of this outline. The “Church Directories” section of this outline also gives information about finding a parish.

There are books available that will help you locate church records. The following book lists the various denominations by town and indicates where the records are held:


**Church Record Inventories.** An inventory is a listing of available church records, their location, and what years they cover. Sometimes inventories identify which parishes served which towns at different periods of time. For other ways to identify which parish served which town, see the “Church Directories” section of this outline.

Inventories of church records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:
Records at the Family History Library. The Family History Library has some Australian church records on microfilm and microfiche. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CHURCH RECORDS

Records Not at the Family History Library. Copies of church records for the various states for the pre-civil registration time period were given to each state’s registrar general and often kept in the state archives. The dates of these records are as follows:

- New South Wales 1788–1856
- Tasmania 1803–1838
- Queensland 1829–1856
- Western Australia 1829–1856
- South Australia 1836–1842
- Victoria 1837–1858
- Northern Territory See New South Wales and South Australia
- Australian Capital Territory See New South Wales

After civil registration began, many church records were kept in local custody. Others are found in state repositories and church archives. For the address of a given church, see the “Church Directories” section of this outline. The following is a good directory to use in locating church archives:


For information on state repositories, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

Indexes to Church Records

There are two excellent indexes to church records. The Thomas D. Mutch Index (called the Mutch Index) is a card index of birth, marriage, and death entries compiled from parish registers. Though it covers later time periods, it is most effective for the pre-1830 time frame. The Kerrison James Index covers pre-1830 christenings, marriages, and burials copied from English church records.

For several years, various states have worked to produce Pioneer Indexes, which include some parish registers in addition to civil registration records. To learn more about these indexes, see the “Civil Registration” section of this outline.
To find indexes that are available at the Family History Library, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - CHURCH RECORDS - INDEXESAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CHURCH RECORDS - INDEXES

CIVIL REGISTRATION

Civil registration (vital) records were created by the government and include births, marriages, and deaths. They are commonly referred to as vital records because they pertain to critical events in a person’s life. They are an excellent source of information for names, dates, birthplaces, marriages, and deaths. These records may also include divorce records.

For birth, death, and marriage records before civil registration, see the “Church Records” section of this outline.

General Historical Background

The government of each colony or state began keeping civil registration records as follows:

• Tasmania  1838
• South Australia  1842
• Western Australia  1842
• Victoria  1854
• Queensland  1856
• New South Wales  1856
• Northern Territory  1870
• Australian Capital Territory  1911

At first, civil registration required the clergy to make copies of marriage, baptism, and burial records. These records are known as civil transcripts of church records. Because churches were involved in early civil registration, it is difficult to clearly distinguish between civil registration and church records. Later, about 1856, the responsibility for civil registration was placed in the hands of government employees independent of the church. Civil registration then required people to report all births, marriages, and deaths to a civil registrar.

Information Recorded in Civil Registers

When civil registration first began, there was no common standard of recording information, so the information listed may vary from state to state. Later records generally give more complete information than earlier ones.
Birth records may provide the following information:

- Surname and forenames of child
- Date and place of birth of child
- Sex of the child
- Multiple births
- Surname and forenames of father
- Age, birthplace, and occupation or rank of father
- Maiden surname and forenames of mother
- Place and year of marriage of parents
- Age and birthplace of mother
- Number and sex of previous issue, if deceased
- Name, relationship, description, and residence of informant

Marriage records may provide the following information:

- Surname and forenames of parties
- Occupations and places of residence of parties
- Ages and places of birth of parties
- Marital status prior to the marriage
- Date and place of marriage
- Name of celebrant and denomination
- Names of witnesses
- Surnames and forenames of parents

Death records may provide the following information:

- Surname and forenames of deceased
- Date and place of death
- Occupation, age, and sex of deceased
- Place of birth and place and date of marriage of deceased
- Length of residence in Australia and in what colonies, states, and territories
- Name of spouse and names and ages of living children of deceased
- Number and sex of issue, if deceased
- Name and occupation of father
- Maiden surname of mother
- Cause of death and duration of last illness
- Name of medical practitioner
- Date and place of burial
- Religion and name of minister or witness
- Names of undertaker and informant
- Residence and relationship or description of informant
- Date and place of civil registration
Indexes to Civil Registration Records

Each of the several states in Australia have created indexes to their civil registration records. These indexes are on microfilm or microfiche and cover births, deaths, and marriages from the beginning of civil registration in the state to the present day. Where available, indexes can help you find your ancestor more easily.

There are also Pioneer Indexes on compact discs which index civil registration records and some church records. These indexes include the following:

*New South Wales Pioneers Index, 1788–1918*
*The Federation Series: 1899–1918 (part 2 of New South Wales Pioneer Index)*
*The Tasmanian Pioneers Index, 1803–1899*
*The Victoria Pioneers Index, 1837–1888*
*The Western Australian Pioneers Index, 1841–1905*

These indexes are available in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah; genealogical societies throughout Australia; and many local public libraries all over Australia. These indexes are not available at Family History Centers.

A compilation of most of these Pioneer Indexes was produced by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in a set of four compact discs entitled *Australian Vital Records Index 1788–1905*. It is available for purchase, except in Australia, through the Salt Lake Distribution Center, 1999 West 1700 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84104-4233, USA.

Locating Civil Registration Records

Birth, marriage, and death records may be obtained from the state civil registration offices or archives in Australia.

Pre-civil registration records from many towns are in the various state archives and registrar general’s office. Many of these records have been microfilmed and are available at the Family History Library. However, for more recent records, and for those not yet microfilmed, contact the appropriate state archives.

If your request is unsuccessful, search for duplicate records such as church registers. For more information on church registers, see the “Archives and Libraries” and the “Church Records” sections of this outline.

The following are the addresses of civil registration offices where requests may be made:

**Australian Capital Territory**
Office of the Registrar General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages
National Mutual Centre, 4th Floor
Darwin Place
P.O. Box 788
Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed very few Australian civil registration records because the government has placed restrictions on public access to these records. By law, personal application must be made to the various state archives for copies of the certificates.

To find civil registration records in the Family History Library, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library’s catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE]- CIVIL REGISTRATION

There may also be information under:
AUSTRALIA - CIVIL REGISTRATION

Archive offices may have inventories and guides that describe the record-keeping systems and available civil registration records in Australia. These guides are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIESAUSTRALIA, [STATE]- ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

CONVICT RECORDS

Australia was first settled in 1788, when the British government established a penal colony at Port Jackson, Sydney Bay. As a result, records about convicts transported to Australia are numerous and play a major role in Australian family history research.

New South Wales holds more convict records than any other state. Of the approximately 150,000 convicts transported to Australia from Great Britain between 1788 and 1850, nearly 90,000 of them went to the region of New South Wales, which then covered a substantial portion of Australia. Tasmania received more than 60,000 convicts from Great Britain in addition to convicts from other colonies. Western Australia received approximately 10,000 transported convicts between 1850 and 1868. South Australia never received convicts.
Victoria and Queensland did not become separate, self-governing colonies until after convict transportation to eastern Australia ceased. Thus, these areas do not have convict records.

By 1829 convicts or ex-convicts made up approximately 65 percent of the population of New South Wales. The ex-convicts had received either a ticket of leave, a certificate of freedom, or a pardon.

Tickets of leave were issued to convicts having served about half of their sentences with good behavior. These tickets allowed convicts to seek employment as they wished, limited their movement to a certain district for the remainder of their sentences. Prior to 1828, bench magistrates granted tickets of leave and approved applications for convicts to marry. The actual ticket of leave was issued to the convict; the government retained the ticket of leave butts. Ticket of leave butts listed the convict’s name, ship, and date of arrival, native place, trade or calling, date and place of trial and sentence, a physical description, and the district to which he or she was confined.

Certificates of freedom were issued to convicts on completion of their sentence or when they received a pardon. Certificates were generally given to convicts whose original sentences had been for 7 to 14 years. The government retained certificates of freedom butts, which were similar to ticket of leave butts. Pardons, both conditional and absolute, were generally granted to convicts with life sentences. Conditional pardons required that the ex-convict never return to the British Isles or his or her pardon would be void. Absolute pardons allowed an ex-convict to return to the British Isles if he or she wished. Pardons contain information similar to tickets of leave.

Convict indents are lists that were made when convicts arrived on transport ships. Information given in indents is similar to that in tickets of leave but also includes a convict’s marital status and number of children and whether the convict was literate. An index to convict indents for 1788–1842 is held by the Archives Office of New South Wales. For the address, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

The following is a guide to the convict records held by the Archives Office:

*Guide to the convict records in the Archives Office of New South Wales.* Sydney: The Archives Authority, 1970. (FHL book British Q994.4 A35g No. 14; computer number 39205.)

The ticket of leave butts and certificate of freedom butts for the over 67,000 convicts sent to Tasmania have not survived. The main records for Tasmanian convicts are the convict conduct registers. Information contained in these registers are similar to the tickets of leave and certificates of freedom. Description lists are also available for Tasmanian convicts and give detailed descriptions of the convicts.

Records about convicts are found under several headings in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - [TOPIC] AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - [TOPIC]
The topics are:
CENSUS
CONVICT RECORDS
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS
COURT RECORDS
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION
PUBLIC RECORDS

The following books are good sources for further information about convicts and the English penal and transportation systems:


Cobley, John F. C. C. *The crimes of the first fleet convicts*. Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1970. (FHL book British 994 P2c; computer number 252148.)


**CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Correctional institutions, including jails and penal colonies, created many valuable genealogical records. Such records include jail entrance and charge books, musters of convicts and prisoners, registers of sentences and punishments, registers of prisoner conduct, petitions for mitigation of sentences, and registers of sentences remitted or commuted.

The Family History Library has a large collection of records generated by correctional institutions. These records can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following headings:

AUSTRALIA - CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

**COURT RECORDS**

Court records contain information about individuals who were involved in litigation or other court matters. Details about Australian convicts are often found in court records. Most court records provide names of individuals who served as defendants, plaintiffs, jurors, or witnesses. They may also provide such information as the individual’s residence, occupation, physical description, and family.

There were several different courts in Australia. Cases brought before the district magistrates’ courts and the courts of quarter sessions in each state concerned petty crimes such as theft, breaches of peace, and drunkenness.
Supreme courts handled divorces, bankruptcies, insolvencies, and naturalizations. Some of the functions of the supreme courts were later transferred to the federal courts. The federal courts tried the most serious and indictable offenses such as murder and manslaughter.

Coroner’s courts investigated unusual deaths. Records dealing with these matters included the deceased’s name, age, and place of death. Newspapers often reported the dealings of the coroner’s courts, which may provide additional information such as the names of the descendant’s spouse and children and reports of witnesses.

Each state published a government or police gazette. These gazettes included information about individuals who appeared before the courts and individuals who were employed by the government or who held public offices (school teachers, constables, or postmasters). The gazettes also gave details about land grants and transfers, leases, mining claims, runaway convicts, and individuals who were granted various licenses.

Court records in Australia can be found in national archives, state archives, and other local repositories and libraries. For further information, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

There are some published name indexes to existing court records. The Family History Library has many of these indexes. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - COURT RECORDS: INDEXESAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - COURT RECORDS: INDEXES

Many Australian archives have published guides to their court record holdings. These copies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under: AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - COURT RECORDS - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS

The Family History Library has some microfilm copies of Australian court records and gazettes. These copies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - COURT RECORDSAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - COURT RECORDSAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - COURT RECORDS

DIRECTORIES

Directories are alphabetical lists of names and addresses. They often list all the adult residents or tradesmen of a city or area. In the twentieth century, telephone directories are a helpful source in locating individuals. Directories can also be used as a census substitute.

The most useful directories for genealogical research are city directories of local residents and businesses. These are generally published annually and may include information about an individual such as name, address, occupation, spouse’s name, and other helpful facts. (An
individual’s address can be helpful when searching in a large city with several parishes.)
Directories sometimes have city maps and may include addresses of churches, cemeteries, civil registration offices, and other locations of genealogical value.

The Family History Library has many directories for Australia. These directories date from the early 1800s to 1984. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - DIRECTORIES AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - DIRECTORIES AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - DIRECTORIES

Some directories list only certain types of tradesmen or businesses. These directories may be listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - OCCUPATIONS

There are also special directories that can help you determine church diocese and parishes. See the “Church Directories” section of this outline.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Emigration and immigration sources list names and other details about individuals leaving (emigration) or coming into (immigration) Australia. Between 1788 and 1900 over 1,000,000 people immigrated to Australia. Most of them were from the British Isles, but some were from Europe and Asia.

Prior to 1900 there were four classes of immigrants to Australia:

- Convicts came to Australia after they were tried and convicted for crimes committed in the British Isles. They were sentenced to Australia for various periods of time, depending on the crime.

- Bounty immigrants were chosen by Australian colonists to come from the British Isles to Australia.

- Assisted immigrants came to Australia through the financial assistance of the government, organizations, or wealthy individuals.

- Paying passengers came to Australia through their own means.

With the exception of paying passengers, immigration records usually contain a great deal of genealogical information. Many records list each individual’s name, age or date of birth, place of birth, trade or occupation, physical description, marital status, and number of children. Passenger lists of paying immigrants usually list only names.
Many eighteenth and nineteenth century immigration sources have been published. Indexes to passenger lists have also been published. In addition, many books have been written about immigrants from various countries and religions who settled in Australia. For more information about immigrants from other countries, see the “Minorities” section of this outline. The National Archives of Ireland has a searchable index database on the Internet for transportation records of Irish convicts sent to Australia between 1788 and 1868. The national archives can be accessed at the following site:

- The National Archives of Ireland
  [http://www.nationalarchives.ie/](http://www.nationalarchives.ie/)

Australia also kept records of individuals leaving the country as emigrants. These outward-bound records include the names of passenger and crew members and sometimes additional information such as an individual’s age, marital status, occupation, and nationality.

The following book gives information about immigration sources and indexes for Australia:


There are also several source books about how to find emigration and immigration records. These books are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION- HANDBOOKS, MANUALS, ETC.

Emigration and immigration records, such as the ones previously described, are deposited in Australian national archives, state archives, and other local repositories and archives. For further information, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline. To find these records at the Family History Library, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Indexes of emigration and immigration records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION - INDEXES AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION - INDEXES AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION - INDEXES

**ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES**

Encyclopedias and dictionaries provide precise and comprehensive information on a specific topic. Also, they often contain valuable information for genealogical research. They may include articles about towns and places, prominent people, minorities, and religions and can give
information about diverse topics such as record keeping practices, laws, customs, commerce, costumes, occupations, and archaic terminology.

The Family History Library has several encyclopedias and dictionaries for Australia. The following series is an especially good resource:

*Australians: A Historical Library*. 11 vols. Broadway, N.S.W.: Fairfax, Syne & Weldon, 1987. (FHL book British Ref 994 H2ah; computer number 482191.) The first five volumes in the series are histories of the Australian people from 1788 to 1988. The other six volumes include a historical atlas, a guide to sources, events and places, a historical dictionary, historical statistics, and the guide and index to the series.

The following are other encyclopedias and dictionaries for Australia:


The Family History Library also has encyclopedias and dictionaries specific to the states of New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

**GAZETTEERS**

Gazetteers are dictionaries of place names that describe towns and villages, parishes, districts, rivers and mountains, population size, and other geographical features. Additional information may include major manufacturing works, canals, docks, railroad stations, and postal stations.
Gazetteers usually include only the names of places that existed at the time of publication. The place names are generally listed in alphabetical order, similar to a dictionary.

You can use gazetteers to identify the places where your family lived and to determine the civil and church jurisdictions of those places. For example, one gazetteer gives the following description of Nelson: “One of the original districts of the county of Cumberland, N.S.W.” Another describes it as “a parish in the hundred of Windsor, and county of Cumberland, N.S.W.”

There may be many places in Australia with the same or similar names. You may need to use more than one gazetteer to identify the specific town where your ancestor lived, the state and district the town was in, and the jurisdictions that kept records.

Place-name guides can also help identify places. In the Family History Library Catalog they are listed in the Locality Search under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL

**Finding Place Names in the Family History Library Catalog**

To find an Australian state under which a town is filed in the Family History Library Catalog (if you are using microfiche), use the “see” references on the first microfiche for Australia. If you are using the catalog on compact disc, use the Locality Browse Search.

**Modern Place Names**

For some research purposes, such as correspondence with an archive, it is useful to learn modern jurisdictions for the area where your ancestors lived. Learning this will also help you locate the ancestral town on modern maps. The following modern gazetteers can be found at many large libraries and archives:


Division of National Mapping, Department of Minerals and Energy. *Australia 1:250,000 map series Gazetteer*. Canberra, A.C.T.: Australian Government Publishing Service, 1975. (FHL book British 994 E5am; computer number 38369.) This is a topographical place-name reference that identifies about 60,000 places or features without descriptive information. It also gives coordinates to ordnance survey maps.

Other modern place-name aids can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - POSTAL AND SHIPPING GUIDES

**Historical Place Names**
Because names and boundaries of some places have changed or no longer exist, you may need to use sources that describe places as they were known earlier.

The following is one national gazetteer that identifies historical places in Australia:

Wells, William Henry. *A geographic dictionary or gazetteer of the Australian colonies, 1848*. Facsimile edition. Sydney: Council of the Library of New South Wales, 1970. (FHL book Ref 994 E5w, computer number 201135; films 1439040 item 9 to 1439041 item 1, computer number 514333; fiche 6343447, computer number 651908.)

Sources for historical place names are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - GAZETTEERS

Gazetteers and similar place-name guides for most Australian states are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - GAZETTEERS

The following is an example of a gazetteer specific to a state:

Manning, Geoffrey H. *The Romance of place names of South Australia*. Adelaide: G. H. Manning, 1986. (FHL book British Ref 994.23 E5m; computer number 514270.)

The following book lists a bibliography of gazetteers:


**GENEALOGY**

The term *genealogy* is used in this outline and in the Family History Library Catalog to describe a variety of records containing family information. These records may be gathered by individuals, other researchers, societies, or archives. They may include pedigree charts, compiled information on families, correspondence, ancestor lists, research exchange files, record abstracts, and collections of original or copied documents. These types of records can be a good source of time-saving information, but they must be carefully evaluated for accuracy.

**Major Collections and Databases**

The Family History Library has several sources that contain previous research or that can lead you to other individuals who are interested in sharing family information. These sources include:
• **International Genealogical Index.** This index provides names and vital information for many deceased individuals who lived in Australia. This valuable research tool lists birth, christening, and marriage dates and will occasionally list death, burial, or probate dates. The index for Australia includes names extracted from parish registers by volunteers and names submitted by other researchers.

The International Genealogical Index is available on microfiche and on compact disc as part of FamilySearch™. If you are using the microfiche edition, it is arranged alphabetically for the whole country. If you are using the compact disc edition, the computer will search the entire country for any name.

• **Ancestral File.** This file, part of FamilySearch™, contains family history information linked in family groups and pedigrees; this information has been contributed since 1979. Since 1996, the file contains the names of millions of people, including hundreds of Australian families. Ancestral File allows you to print pedigree charts, family group records, and individual summary sheets for any person in the file.

• **Family Group Records Collection.** More than eight million family group record forms have been microfilmed in the Family Group Records Collection. These records include some Australian families. There are two major sections: the Archive Section and the Patrons Section. The film numbers for both sections are listed in the microfiche edition of Family History Library Catalog under:

**FAMILY GROUP RECORDS COLLECTION**

**Family Histories**

Many Australian families have produced histories or newsletters that often contain genealogical information, biographies, photographs, and other excellent information. These histories can often include several generations of a family.

The Family History Library has some published Australian family histories and newsletters. Copies at the Family History Library are listed in the Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog. Not every name found in a family history will be listed in the Family History Library Catalog because only major surnames are included.

The following is a helpful bibliography of family histories:


**Genealogical Collections**
The Family History Library has some collections of genealogical material of Australian families. These materials include published and unpublished collections of family histories and lineages as well as the research files of some genealogists. The following is an example of a genealogical collection:

Smee, C. J. *The Pioneer register*. Spit Junction, N.S.W.: The Pioneer Register, 1983–. (FHL book British 994 D2s; computer number 167858.) This is an ongoing project to gather genealogical and historical information about all individuals arriving in Australia before 1820.

Genealogical collections are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA- GENEALOGY AUSTRALIA, [STATE]- GENEALOGY AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]- GENEALOGY

**Genealogical Indexes**

Indexes are excellent tools for the genealogist. Many organizations and individuals compile indexes to certain records, groups of people, or localities. If an index applies to your research, it can save you many hours of searching. The Family History Library has some of these indexes. The following are some examples:

*Australasian genealogical computer Index: a bi-centennial project*. Sydney, N.S.W.: Society of Australian Genealogists, 1987. (FHL fiche 6341633, nos. 1–37; computer number 495894.) This index includes various records held by the Society of Australian Genealogists and other genealogical societies and repositories. It includes records from every state, including some Irish transport records of unassisted passengers to New South Wales, 1854–1922. This project is ongoing.

Mutch, Thomas Davies. *Thomas Davies Mutch Card Indexes*. Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1960–1980. (FHL computer number 30194.) This index is said to cover all existing records for New South Wales from 1787 to 1828, except the Newcastle Registers and the Methodist Church records. It also contains some other records up to 1957.

Other genealogical indexes are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:


If indexes are not available at the Family History Library, they may be listed in the following:
Research Coordination

Many organizations, such as family history societies, publish directories listing the research interests of individuals. These directories are excellent tools for finding living relatives who are unknown to you and who may have information about your family. The following are some examples:


Other similar directories or interest lists can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - GENEALOGY - DIRECTORIES
AUSTRALIA - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS
AUSTRALIA - GENEALOGY - SOCIETIES
AUSTRALIA - GENEALOGY - SOCIETIES

Directories with an international scope can be found in the microfiche edition of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GENEALOGY - INDEXES
GENEALOGY - DIRECTORIES

HERALDRY

Heraldry is the regulation, designing, and use of coats of arms and their related symbols by the noble classes of Europe and some other countries. In Australia, an extremely small percentage of people are entitled to bear coats of arms because they are either descendants of a noble family or have been granted the right to bear arms by the English monarch.

An armorial is a collection of descriptions of coats of arms and the families that bear them. It also briefly describes why the families are entitled to certain coats of arms. An armorial may also
indicate early bearers of certain coats of arms, sometimes with familial relationships, birth dates, and other genealogical information. Each armorial will differ from others and will include different names. Be aware that some minor noble families are not included in any books. The following sources are of particular interest for Australia:

Low, Charles. *A roll of Australian arms corporate and personal, borne by lawful authority*. Sydney, N.S.W.: Rigby Limited, 1971. (FHL book British 994 D24; computer number 250236.) This source lists many cities and individuals who are entitled to a coat of arms. It also includes color pictures of the coats of arms.


The Family History Library has collected many armorials and much information about noble families. This information is located in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - HERALDRY[COUNTRY OF ORIGIN] - HERALDRYAUSTRALIA - NOBILITY [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN] - NOBILITY

In addition, noble families are often subjects of published genealogical books or articles. See the “Genealogy” section of this outline and the “Genealogy” and “Nobility” sections in the outlines for the countries of origin.

**HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY**

Australia, an island continent, is the smallest of the continents, with a land mass of about 8.5 million square kilometers. Most of the interior of the continent is arid to semi-desert because of low rainfall. The coastal areas and islands receive more rain and are much better suited to settlement. As a result, the population centers continue to be in the coastal areas.

Australia is rich in mineral deposits including gold, coal, and iron ore. Gold was discovered in 1851 in New South Wales, with subsequent discoveries in Victoria, Queensland, Northern Territory, and Western Australia. Coal was one of the first minerals to be utilized in Australia. This country also has one of the highest reserves of iron ore in the world.

The coastal areas of Australia have the best soils for agriculture; therefore, areas around Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane are the main agricultural centers. Wheat, barley, fruit, and other produce grow well in these areas. The coastal areas of Queensland are suited for producing sugar. Dairying and raising livestock are also important parts of the agricultural economy of Australia. Sheep and cattle grazing occurs on all but the harshest desert areas of the interior.
Settlement of foreigners in Australia began in 1788, when the colony of New South Wales was formed as an English penal colony. New South Wales originally included about half of the continent. In 1825, the western boundary of New South Wales was extended to cover almost two-thirds of the continent. At the same time, Van Diemen’s Land (Tasmania) was separated from New South Wales. In 1831, the western portion of the continent that was not part of New South Wales became Western Australia. South Australia followed in 1836, carving out a rectangular piece of New South Wales. Victoria took another piece of New South Wales in 1851, and the boundaries of New South Wales fluctuated until the last colony, Queensland, was formed in 1861. Various other changes of the boundaries between states occurred, and Northern Territory was formed in 1911.

The following historical atlas gives more detailed information about boundary changes and other aspects of Australia’s historical geography:


Other historical geography sources are found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHYAUSTRALIA - HISTORYAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHYAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - HISTORY

**HISTORY**

Effective family research requires some understanding of historical events that may have affected your family and their records. Learn about the key events, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends surrounding your ancestors; they may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These historical events may also have led to the creation of records, such as land and military documents, that mention your family.

Your ancestors will become more interesting if you also use histories to learn about the events in which they may have participated. For example, you might learn about events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

The following are some key dates and events in the history of Australia:

1788  The European settlement of Australia began with the English establishment of a penal colony at Sydney Cove, Port Jackson. Its initial population was more than 1,000 convicts and military personnel, known today as “First Fleeters.”

1790  The second fleet arrived in June and saved the colony from starvation.
The population of the colony numbered more than 1,700.

1791  The third fleet arrived in August to October and included the first Irish transportees. The population of the colony numbered nearly 2,900 and included 87 free settlers, 44 of which were former convicts. The rest of the free settlers were discharged seamen and marines.

1793  The first free settler immigrants arrived in January.

1803  Australia’s first newspaper, the weekly *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, began publication in March.

The first settlement in Van Dieman’s Land (called Tasmania since 1856) was founded at Risdon Cove. The settlement was later moved to the present-day site of Hobart.

1825  Van Dieman’s Land was proclaimed a separate colony, independent of New South Wales.

1826  Registration of births, marriages, and deaths in each parish was required by law.

1828  The first regular census was taken in New South Wales. The population was estimated at 36,598, including 15,728 convicts.

The Swan River area of Western Australia was settled. The following year it was proclaimed a colony, and the site for Perth was selected.

1835  The “bounty” system of assisted immigration operated during these years.

1836  The Church Act gave all churches equal status.

1836  South Australia was proclaimed a colony, and 1837 the first settlement of Adelaide was established.

1838  New Zealand was proclaimed a colony, independent of New South Wales, on 3 May.

1839  Government-assisted immigration to Australia began.

1840  By “order in council,” New South Wales stopped receiving convicts. The order was rescinded by the British government in 1848, but few convicts were received thereafter.

1842  Electoral rolls, a valuable census of those eligible to vote, began to be published each election year in New South Wales. Those for Queensland began to be published in 1852 and those for Tasmania in 1859.

1850s  The Australian Gold Rush brought prospectors and emigrants from all over the world. More than a half million people emigrated to Australia during that decade.

1850  The New South Wales Legislative Council resolved to cease receiving transported convicts. Transportation to eastern Australia ended two years later, and transportation to Western Australia began.

1851  The Port Phillip district officially became the colony of Victoria,
independent from New South Wales.

1858  The total population of the five existing colonies surpassed one million.
1859  The colony of Queensland separated from New South Wales.
1863  The area later known as the Northern Territory annexed from New South Wales to South Australia. It remained under South Australian administration until 1911, when the Commonwealth assumed administration.

New Zealand offered free land grants to Australian volunteers to fight in the Second Taranaki War. By the end of the year, 1,475 volunteer military settlers from Australia had gone to New Zealand.

1868  Transportation of convicts to Australia ended. Approximately 160,000 convicts had been sent from Britain.
1901  Australia became a Commonwealth.
1911  The Australian Capital Territory was vested, and the Commonwealth took over the administration of the Northern Territory.
1917  The transcontinental railway was completed.

The Family History Library has many published national, state, and local histories for Australia. You can find these histories by looking in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA- HISTORYAUSTRALIA, [STATE]- HISTORYAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]- HISTORY

The following are only a few of the many historical sources that are available. Some may be found in major research libraries.


For more historical sources, see the “Encyclopedias and Dictionaries” section of this outline.

Local Histories
Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. They describe the settling of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. They also profile the early settlers and prominent people. In addition, published histories of towns, districts, and states may contain histories of families. Even if your ancestor is not mentioned, information on other relatives may be included that may provide important clues for locating your ancestor. Local histories may also suggest other records to search. They may be studied and enjoyed for the background information they can provide about your family and about the community and environment in which your family lived.

Local histories are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE]- HISTORYAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - HISTORY

Bibliographies of national, state, and local histories are available for Australia and many of its states. These biographies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA- HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHYAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY

LAND AND PROPERTY

Land records are primarily used to learn where and when an individual lived in a specific area. They often reveal other family information, such as the individual’s spouse, heirs, other relatives, or neighbors. You may learn where an individual lived previously, about his or her occupation, and about other clues that may help with further research.

To find land records in Australia, you must know some of the history and development of Australia as it was settled. The following is a brief chronology of land dealings in Australia:

1788 Governor given power to grant land at his discretion.
1790 Privates, noncommissioned marine officers, and free settlers given free land grants.
1804 Rich settlers given grants if they will make major improvements to land.
1824 Sale of crown lands begins; free land grants limited to 2,560 acres.
1831 Free grants halted; public auction of lands begins.
1836 Squatters enter lands outside original 19 counties of New South Wales.
1843 English Crown Lands Act regulates price of land.
1847 Sale of Waste Lands Act creates settled, intermediate, and unsettled classifications for land, opening new possibilities for settlement by the general population.
1858 Torrens system of land conveyance and registration in South
Australia provides title registration for first time; other states follow.

Initially all land in Australia belonged to the Crown, which used three basic methods to dispose of the land: free grants, sales, and license and leases. *Alienation* is the term used to describe the passing of land from the government to an individual on a permanent basis (i.e., free grants or sales). Licenses and leases allowed the government to come back and possess the land at a future date.

**Crown Land Grants: 1788–1831.** A grant gave, without compensation, an individual or company a parcel of land for private use. Some land grants required that the land be improved within a certain time period. These grants from the Crown are the most valuable records to use when searching for early settlers. All grants, from the first one recorded in 1790 to the time when free grants were halted in 1831, are held in the Lands Title Office in New South Wales. These records generally give the grantee’s name and occupation and identify the land being granted. Other records relating to grants are military volunteer land grants, lists of occupants of Crown lands, land orders, and registers.

**Sales.** In 1824 a new system was initiated that allowed the sale of Crown land to settlers. When land was passed from the Crown to an individual or from one individual to another, a document known as a *deed* was written to record the event. It listed both parties involved, their occupations, and places of residence. Early deeds are held in the Lands Title Office in New South Wales. Later deeds are held by individual state land titles offices. Other records available regarding sales of lands are registers, applications, description books, schedules of lands sold, memorials, and deeds for the transfer of land.

In 1831, when land grants were halted, disposing of land by auction was introduced. This system created new records, including records of lands leased by auction, registers, and applications.

As Australian settlement began, no commercial or industrial establishments existed. Availability of vast areas of land gave rise to what became the largest commercial effort in Australia: the grazing of cattle, sheep, and horses. The lands used for this purpose are known as pastoral lands. These lands were seldom alienated (sold or granted) but were licensed and leased, which allowed individuals to use the lands while the Crown retained ownership.

**Licenses.** Settlers were permitted to occupy Crown lands for grazing purposes if they obtained a license that could be renewed annually. The first of these licenses was the Ticket of Occupation, which was granted in about 1820. These licenses gave owners rights to grazing land within two miles of their residence. Later, depasturing licenses gave owners rights to the vacant Crown lands beyond the limits of the owners’ homes. (Today, depasturing licenses can be used as census substitutes.) The applications for depasturing licenses list:

- Name
- Trade or calling
- Residence
- Land applied for
- Marital status
- Number of children
- Name and condition of the person under whom stock are to be placed
- Real or personal estate possessed by applicant

Licensing impacted not only the grazing industry, but the mining industry as well. Mining licenses began with the gold rush in 1851. Mining is still licensed today.

**Leases.** As the wool industry progressed, squatters began to illegally overrun Crown lands to pasture their sheep. In 1836 a squatter was allowed the use of his “run” if he paid an annual licensing fee. In 1847 the Crown instituted a lease system which offered a more secure occupancy for the squatter. Leasing allowed the squatter to legally occupy the land for longer than a year and, if desired, to buy it at a fixed price. Records dealing with this period include leases and squatters directories.

**Finding Land Records in Australia**

Listed below are the dates that land records began in each state:

- Australian Capital Territory  1901
- New South Wales  1792
- Northern Territory  1886
- Queensland  1862
- South Australia  1836
- Tasmania  1827
- Victoria  1838
- Western Australia  1829

Many land records are held in the states’ Land Title Offices. Land Title Offices also have parish maps that can be used as plat maps to identify your ancestor’s land holdings, as well as to identify the land owned by other individuals in the surrounding areas. Parish maps are divided into areas that provide names of the original grantees and landowners. The following book provides information on Land Title Offices and their addresses:


Land records may also be held in major archives and libraries in Australia. For a listing of archives and their addresses, see the “Archives and Libraries” section in this outline.

**Finding Land Records in the Family History Library**
The Family History Library has a few land records from Australia; however, all record types are not available for all areas. Search for land records by looking in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - LAND AND PROPERTY
AUSTRALIA, [STATE]) - LAND AND PROPERTY
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - LAND AND PROPERTY

LANGUAGES

Prior to the European settlement in 1788, the Aborigines had an extensive language system with more than 500 different dialects. Almost three-quarters of the modern-day place names of Australia are of Aboriginal origin. The meaning of many of these place names have been lost because the Aboriginal dialects have died out.

Early settlers in Australia were mostly from the British Isles. However, a group of Germans settled in South Australia beginning in 1838. Other groups from Europe, Asia, and other parts of the world came to Australia over time, bringing with them their many different languages. Even so, most records used in Australian research are written in English. However, English has developed over time into Australian English, Pidgin English, and Aboriginal English. These variations, as well as the accents of immigrants from different countries, may affect the way names appear in records. For example, the names of ancestors from London may vary from record to record because of the Londoners’ tendency to drop the H from many words.

Language Aids

The following books and dictionaries can help you in your research. You can find these sources and similar material at many research libraries.


Additional language aids (including dictionaries of various dialects and time periods) are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES

MAPS
Maps are an important source in locating where your ancestors lived because they help you see the neighboring towns and geographic features of an area.

Maps identify places, parishes, districts, churches, geographical features, and transportation routes, and their proximity to other towns. Historical maps are especially useful for understanding boundary changes.

Maps are published individually or in atlases, which are bound collections of maps. Maps may also be included in gazetteers, guidebooks, local histories, and history texts.

Different types of maps can help you in different ways. Historical atlases describe the growth and development of countries. They show boundaries, migration routes, settlement patterns, military campaigns, and other historical information. Road atlases are useful because they provide detail of the countryside. Ordnance survey maps show townships in great detail—up to half inch to the mile. City and street maps are extremely helpful when researching large cities such as Sydney; they provide locations of churches, cemeteries, businesses, government offices, and monuments. Other types of maps include parish maps, county atlases, and topographical maps.

**Using Maps**

Maps must be used carefully for several reasons:

- There are often several places with the same name.
- The spelling (and even names) of some towns may have changed since your ancestors lived there. Some localities have different names in different languages. For example, Hahndorf, South Australia, changed names three times within a 20-year period. Prior to 1918, the town was known as Hahndorf. It was renamed Ambleside in 1918 and returned to the name Hahndorf in 1935. The Aboriginal name for the area is Bukartilla.
- Place names are often misspelled. Difficult names may have been shortened, and important diacritic marks may have been omitted.
- Aboriginal names and spellings have been retained and in some cases anglicized. For example, Conkar may be found as Kongarong on some maps.
- Political boundaries are not clearly indicated on all maps.

**Finding the Specific Town on the Map**

To do successful research in Australia, you must be able to identify the town where your ancestor lived. Because many towns have the same name, you may need some additional information before you can locate the correct town on a map. Gazetteers can help because they identify the district or state your ancestor’s town was in and distinguish it from other towns of the same name. (See the “Gazetteers” section of this outline.) Before using a map, search gazetteers, histories, family records, and other sources to learn all you can, such as:
- The state your ancestor’s town was in.
- The state or country your ancestor came from.
- The name of the town where your ancestor was baptized or married.
- Towns where related ancestors lived.
- The size of the town.
- The occupation of your ancestor or his or her relatives (this may indicate the size or the industries of the town).
- Nearby localities, such as large cities.
- Nearby features, such as rivers and mountains.
- Industries of the area.
- Dates when the town was renamed.
- Dates the town existed.
- Other names by which the town was known.

Finding Maps and Atlases

Collections of maps and atlases are available at numerous historical societies and at public and university libraries.

Major map collections for Australia can be found at the National Library of Australia. For the address, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

The Family History Library has a small collection of Australian maps and atlases. These sources are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - MAPSAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - MAPS

The following are helpful atlases and maps for Australia:

*The Reader’s digest complete atlas of Australia including Papua-New Guinea.* Sydney: Reader’s Digest Association, 1968. (FHL book British Ref Q 994 E3r; computer number 352624.)


The following is a directory of Australian maps and atlases:


**MEDICAL RECORDS**

Medical records for Australia include hospital and asylum records, infectious disease registers, and annual alphabetical lists of invalids. Of particular genealogical value are the registers of
hospitals and asylums. These registers usually include the patient’s name, sex, age, marital condition, residence, occupation, and religion. Other details may be listed, such as the patient’s admission and discharge dates, cause for admission, death date (if the patient died while in the hospital or asylum), place of origin, ship and port of arrival, and miscellaneous remarks. Some medical records have been indexed.

The following source provides information about hospital and asylum records in Australia and where they are deposited:


The Family History Library has collected some medical records and indexes to medical records, including those for hospitals and asylums. These records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA- MEDICAL RECORDSAUSTRALIA, [STATE]- MEDICAL RECORDSAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]- MEDICAL RECORDS

Indexes, where available, are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA- MEDICAL RECORDS - INDEXEAUSTRALIA, [STATE]- MEDICAL RECORDS - INDEXEAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]- MEDICAL RECORDS - INDEXES

**MILITARY RECORDS**

Military records identify individuals who either served in the military or who were eligible for service. Evidence that an ancestor served in the military may be found in family records, biographies, census, probate records, civil registration, and church records.

Military records may include:

- Muster rolls
- Personnel files
- Regimental account books
- Letters of deportment
- Lists of officers
- Pay vouchers or records
- Pension records
- Records of leave
- Naval records
- Descriptive rolls

**Army**

The history of the army in Australia can be divided into three main groups:
Imperial forces
Local colonial forces
Commonwealth military forces

Imperial Forces (1788–1870)
The marines, under the direction of the Admiralty Board, were the first military presence in Australia. They arrived with the first fleet and were assigned to guard the convicts. In 1790 the marines were replaced by the first army regiment. The British maintained army regiments in Australia from that time until 1870. The following source lists army regiments that were and are stationed in Australia:


Local Colonial Forces (1854–1901)
By 1842 Great Britain was pressing the colonies to develop and support their own defense force. By 1870 the last of the British troops had left Australia. In order to keep a strong military force, some colonies, including New South Wales and Victoria, offered land to those who had served at least five years in the military. The colonies soon realized they needed to coordinate their defense activities. As a result, in 1877 a British commissioner of defense came to the colonies and helped organize an army.

Commonwealth Military Forces (1901–Present)
In 1901 the Australian government took responsibility for the defense of for the whole country.

Navy
The organization of the navy is divided into three groups:

- The British era, 1788–1887
- Auxiliary squadrons and subsidies, 1887–1909
- Australian squadron, 1909–

The British navy first arrived in Australia as a part of the first fleet. The first regular warship was stationed at Sydney in 1821, and the navy continued to be in Australia from that point on. In 1855 Australia’s first warship was built. Although Australia had organized its own navy by 1869, it was still under the protection of the British navy. In 1901 the Australian government took over jurisdiction of the navy.

For more details on the history of the army and the navy in Australia, read volume two, pages 215–244, of the *Australian Encyclopaedia* mentioned earlier.
The following book can supply further information on tracing your military ancestors:

Montague, R. H. *How to trace your military ancestors*. Sydney, N.S.W.: Hale & Iremonger, 1989. (FHL book British 994 M27m; computer number 544116.)

**Availability of Records**

Information on the British military records is given in the *England Research Outline* (34037). The records of regiments that served in Australia are available at some archives and genealogical societies in Australia. British military records are held at the Public Record Office listed below. Some records are also available on microfilm through the Family History Library.

Public Record Office
Ruskin Avenue
Kew
Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU
ENGLAND

Military records in Australia can be found in the following repository:

**Australian War Memorial**
G.P.O. Box 345
Canberra
Australian Capital Territory 2601
AUSTRALIA

The Australian War Memorial holds a large collection of military records. The memorial has a research center, but the staff does not offer a research service. They will provide a list of other people who do research at their center. The following is a guide to the center’s records:


Other national offices that have records are:

**Naval Records**
Directorate of Sailors’ Postings
D-2-26
Department of Defence (Navy Office)
Russell Offices
Canberra
Australian Capital Territory 2600
AUSTRALIA
Most state archives will have some military records. For a listing of the archives and their addresses, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline. Check their holdings to determine exactly what the state archives have. Two states have military history societies that can help you. The addresses of these societies are:

New South Wales
New South Wales Military Historical Society
112 Irvine Crescent
Ryde
New South Wales 2112
AUSTRALIA

South Australia
South Australian Maritime Museum
126 Lipsom Street
Port Adelaide
South Australia 5015
AUSTRALIA

The Family History Library has some Australian military records. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:
The following are some examples of military records:

*Military records: marriages, baptisms and births of military units in New South Wales, ca. 1850–1942.* Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1983. (FHL film 1368199; computer number 233682.)

*Alphabetical lists of deserters from ships, 1852–1952 (South Australia).* n.p., [199-?]. (FHL film 6344807–6344808; computer number 717892.)


*Great Britain. War Office. Muster rolls and pay lists of New South Wales Regiment, 1799–1823.* Canberra: Filmed by the National Library of Australia, [1908–?]. (FHL film 1483372–1483547; computer number 543512.)

**MINORITIES**

Over the years many ethnic minorities, including Jews, Italians, and Chinese, have immigrated to Australia. Some of your ancestors may come from these ethnicities. To learn about the ethnic, racial, and religious groups of your ancestors, you might study a history of Jews in Australia, Italians in New South Wales, or Chinese in the gold fields of Victoria. This historical background can help you identify where your ancestors lived and when they lived there, where they migrated, and the types of records they might be listed in.

The Family History Library collects records of these minority groups, especially in published histories. A good example of one of these histories is the *Australian Ethnic Heritage Series*, which includes histories on the Afghans, Americans, Baltics, Cornish, Czechs, Dutch, Germans, Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Jews, Lebanese, Maltese, Poles, Scandinavians, Scottish, and Spanish in Australia. This source, and other similar sources on minorities, are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

*AUSTRALIA- MINORITIES* AUSTRALIA, [STATE]- MINORITIES

Other sources are also in the microfiche edition of the Family History Library Catalog under the name of the minority group, such as:

**JEWS - AUSTRALIA**

The following books are examples of these sources:


For additional information, see the “Native Races” section in this outline.

**NATIVE RACES**

There are two indigenous groups of people in Australia: the Aborigines and the Torres Strait Islanders. Neither groups had a written language; consequently, records generated about them are found in other sources listed in this outline such as biography, civil registration, and church records.

The library of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies contains records about indigenous people, including an Aboriginal biographical index. Their mailing address is:

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies  
G.P.O. Box 553  
Canberra  
ACT 2601  
AUSTRALIA

Information about the native people of Australia is listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - NATIVE RACES  
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - NATIVE RACES

Additional sources are also listed in the microfiche edition of the Family History Catalog under the subject:  
AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES

**NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP**

Naturalization is the process of granting citizenship privileges and responsibilities to residents. Those who immigrated to Australia from anywhere in the British Commonwealth did not have to become naturalized upon entering the country.

The names of those who became citizens were recorded in citizenship books dating from about 1825. These books include information about the citizen including his or her name, age,
social and economic status, occupation and training, and sometimes birthplace. Until the twentieth century, only males of the middle or upper classes were granted citizenship, including landowners, merchants, and tradesmen.

Naturalization records are housed in a variety of record offices throughout Australia. The following source provides information on the time period covered by these records and the location of the record offices:


The Family History Library has obtained copies of some citizenship records for Australia. For example, the *Aliens’ Oaths, 1858–1904* was recorded in the Queensland Supreme Court (FHL films 918090–919027; computer number 361877). Most citizenship records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

**NEWSPAPERS**

The first newspaper in Australia, the weekly *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, began publication in 1802. Other newspapers soon followed. Notices of births, marriages, and deaths; obituaries, military, government and business notices; and news of the day were printed in these newspapers. Some compilations have been made of the genealogical information found in early newspapers. The following is one such compilation:


To find newspapers and compilations available in the Family History Library, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - NEWSPAPERS AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - NEWSPAPERS

Bibliographies of existing newspapers are also available. The following is an example:


Newspaper bibliographies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - NEWSPAPERS - BIBLIOGRAPHY AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - NEWSPAPERS - BIBLIOGRAPHY
OBITUARIES

Obituaries are useful in genealogical research because they often contain birth dates and places; names of parents, siblings, spouse, children and other relatives; death information; and place of burial. Local genealogical and historical societies, public libraries, newspaper publishers, and other organizations maintain clipping files of obituaries. Printed abstracts of obituaries can also be found in various published sources, such as genealogical periodicals.

The Family History Library has collected some obituaries for Australia. These are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - OBITUARIES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - OBITUARIES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - OBITUARIES

OCCUPATIONS

Knowing an ancestor’s occupation can help you distinguish him or her from others with the same name. The records about your ancestor’s occupation could provide information about his or her life and family.

Most trades required a training period or apprenticeship that included several steps. Records were often created to indicate the progress or completion of this training. These records can provide information about the apprentice such as age, place of residence, length of apprenticeship, and father’s name.

In most societies, occupations were a measure of social status. Some trades were viewed as more prestigious than others. Many trades, such as butchers, tanners, shoemakers, tailors, and others, were organized into guilds. Guild records often give information about workers such as names of parents, place of origin, occupation, and age.

Some types of occupational records that you will find are:

- Apprenticeships
- Registers
- Appointments
- Histories
- Guild records

The Family History Library has collected some occupational records for Australia. The following are three such records that may describe your ancestor’s life and trade:

Australia. Department of Public Instruction. Register of Teachers, 1860–1903. Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976. (FHL films 919340–919348; computer number 353721.) These registers are particularly rich in genealogical information because the
information required on the form includes date of birth, nationality (often listing the county and country of birth), religious denomination, starting date as a teacher, resignation date, professional training (which often includes names and places of schools attended in the country of origin), previous employment (by places and years), miscellaneous facts (such as when the individual came to the colony), wife’s maiden name (if married), wife’s attainments and experience (if she also taught school), the number and ages of the teacher’s children, and an employment history.


Books about occupations and records of occupations are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - OCCUPATIONSAUSTRALIA, [STATE]- OCCUPATIONSAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]- OCCUPATIONS

**ORPHANS AND ORPHANAGES**

Orphans are children who were either parentless or homeless because the parent(s) could not care for the child. Hundreds of orphans were sent to Australia from the British Isles. Details about these orphan immigrants can be found in ship passenger lists. For further information on ship passenger lists, see the “Emigration and Immigration” section of this outline.

There are several types of Australian records about orphans including orphanage registers, school records, apprenticeship records, and charitable relief office reports. For more information about orphanage school records, see the “Schools” section of this outline.

Orphanage registers give detailed information about each orphan, including name, age, parent(s), ship of arrival, religion, and remarks (such as death date, discharge information, and whether apprenticed). Many of these records are indexed.

Orphanages in Australia date back to almost the beginning of the British settlement. Orphanage records in Australia can be found in national archives, state archives, and other local repositories and libraries. See the following for a list of orphan and orphanage records in Australia and where they are deposited:

The Family History Library has collected some records relating to orphans and orphanages. These records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - ORPHANS AND ORPHANAGES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - ORPHANS AND ORPHANAGES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - ORPHANS AND ORPHANAGES

PERIODICALS

Most genealogical and historical societies in Australia publish magazines and newsletters. The articles often include:

- Family genealogies and pedigrees.
- Transcripts of church records, migration lists, and cemetery records.
- Helpful articles on research methodology.
- Information about local records, archives, and services.
- Book advertisements and book reviews.
- Research advertisements.
- Queries or requests for information about specific ancestors that can help you contact other interested researchers.

In addition, excellent state, regional, and ethnic group publications are available.

The following is a helpful list of periodicals published in Australia:

Periodicals in Print: Australia, New Zealand, & Papua New Guinea. Melbourne, Australia: D. W. Thorpe, 1994–. (FHL British book 994 A35a; computer number 730979.) This source includes a list of all periodicals published in Australia in 1994. More recent editions should be available in Australia.

There are also many periodicals which are published in the countries from which Australians came. Many of these periodicals contain helpful articles for those tracing Australian ancestry.

Indexes

Most periodicals have annual or cumulative indexes. Also many indexes that include several different magazines and periodicals. Indexes can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA- PERIODICALS - INDEXES
AUSTRALIA- SOCIETIES- PERIODICALS - INDEXES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - PERIODICALS - INDEXES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE]- SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS - INDEXES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - PERIODICALS - INDEXES

Obtaining Periodicals
Copies of periodicals are available from the local societies that publish them. For more information about obtaining addresses for local societies, see the “Societies” section of this outline. Major archives and libraries with genealogical collections will also have copies of many periodicals, particularly those archives and libraries representing the area which they serve. Often, you may order a periodical from these archives and libraries through interlibrary loan, or they may make copies of the article for you.

The Family History Library subscribes to numerous periodicals. These periodicals are listed in the Family History Library Catalog. If you know the author or title of a periodical, search the Family History Library Catalog under the title or author. To find periodicals in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog, use the following approaches:

AUSTRALIA- GENEALOGY- PERIODICALSAUSTRALIA- HISTORY- PERIODICALSAUSTRALIA- SOCIETIES- PERIODICALSAUSTRALIA, [STATE]- [SAME TOPICS AS ABOVE]AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN]- [SAME TOPICS AS ABOVE][COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]- [SAME TOPICS AS ABOVE]

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records are court records that describe the distribution of an individual’s estate after he or she dies. Information in the records may include the death date, names of heirs and guardians, relationships, residences, an inventory of the estate, and names of witnesses.

An individual who left a will is said to have died “testate.” Someone who did not leave a will (or a valid will) died “intestate.” The probate process is essentially the same for both and may take many years to complete.

Availability of Probate Records

Wills or probate records were kept by each state in Australia, beginning in the 1800s. If the deceased had property in another country, the will may have been probated in the other country.

The Family History Library has a solid collection of probate records from Australia; however, many of them cannot be circulated to Family History Centers. Probate records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE]- PROBATE RECORDS

The addresses of the probate offices for the individual states are:
New South Wales (records begin in 1800)
Supreme Court of New South Wales
Probate Division
G.P.O. Box 3
Sydney
New South Wales 2000
AUSTRALIA

The Archives Office of New South Wales (see the “Archives and Libraries” section for address) holds copies of some wills and some indexes.

Victoria (records begin in 1841)
Registrar of Probates
Probate and Administration Office
471 Little Bourke Street
Melbourne
Victoria 3000
AUSTRALIA

Some records are also held by the Public Record Office of Victoria (see the “Archives and Libraries” section for address).

Queensland (three district courts—records begin as early as 1857; prior to 1859, probate was under the jurisdiction of New South Wales)

The Registrar
Southern District
Supreme Court of Queensland
George Street
Brisbane
Queensland 4000
AUSTRALIA

The Registrar
Northern District
Supreme Court of Queensland
Walker Street
Townsville
Queensland 4810
AUSTRALIA

The Registrar
Central District
Supreme Court of Queensland
East Street
Rockhampton
Queensland 4700
AUSTRALIA

The Queensland State Archives (see the “Archives and Libraries” section for address) holds early records as well as some indexes.

South Australia (records begin in 1832)
Probate Office
“Stirling Gardens”
Barrack Street
Perth
Western Australia 6000
AUSTRALIA
Tasmania (records begin in 1824)
Probate Registry
Supreme Court of Tasmania
Salamanca Place
Hobart
Tasmania 7000
AUSTRALIA
Australian Capital Territory (records begin in 1911)
Australian Capital Territory
Registrar of Probate
Law Courts of the Australian Capital Territory
1st Floor
Knowles Place
Canberra City
Australian Capital Territory 2601
AUSTRALIA
Northern Territory (records begin in 1911)
Registrar of Probates
Supreme Court of the Northern Territory
Law Courts Building
Mitchell Street
Darwin
Northern Territory 0800
AUSTRALIA

PUBLIC RECORDS

Public records of Australia can include coroners’ inquests, police records and gazettes, letters and papers of the Colonial Secretary’s office, records of government employees, records of licenses issued to publicans and merchants, and other public official records. Records about convicts may also be categorized as public records. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - PUBLIC RECORDSAUSTRALIA, [STATE] - PUBLIC RECORDS

Government and police gazettes mention individuals who hold government and public positions. They also contain information about convicts, such as notices of runaways. For more information about government gazettes, see the “Court Records” section of this outline.

SCHOOLS
Australia has many public and private schools. Private schools include those run by orphanages and correctional institutions (industrial, training, and reform schools). Records generated by both public and private schools include admission registers, punishment registers, visitors’ books, examination books, class rolls, and minute books.

Of particular genealogical value are the school admission registers. Information about each student includes name, age or date of birth, religion, parent’s name(s), student’s occupation and residence, the name of the ship on which the student immigrated, and the date of admission and discharge from the school. Other important details may be found in the remarks column.

Teachers registers are also valuable sources. For further information, see the “Occupations” section of this outline.

The Family History Library has collected many school records from Australia. These records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - SCHOOLS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - SCHOOLS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - SCHOOLS

If your ancestor was educated at an Australian university, he or she may be recorded in the University Calendars for that university. The calendars are published annually and list staff and students of the universities. The Family History Library does not have these records, but they can be found in national archives, state archives, and other local repositories and libraries. The following source provides a list of various school records and University Calendars and where they can be found in Australia:


SOCIETIES

In Australia, there are many societies and organizations whose purpose is to promote and contribute to genealogy, family history, or history in general. There are also many such societies in the countries from where your ancestors emigrated (especially the British Isles). You may find it helpful to join one of these societies and support their efforts. In return you may receive advice, research assistance, and contacts with others interested in the same topics.

Genealogical and Family History Societies

Genealogical and family history societies emphasize the study of families and the tracing ancestry or descendancy. Most of these societies publish helpful periodicals, transcripts, or compiled genealogies. Many have special indexes, collections, and projects. These societies
often publish queries about their members’ ancestors or maintain a list of members’ research interests. Some societies specialize in specific areas, topics, ethnic groups, or surnames.

Each state in Australia has one or two main societies, as well as many other local societies. The addresses for the main societies for each state are:

**Society of Australian Genealogists**
Richmond Villa  
120 Kent Street  
Sydney  
New South Wales 2000  
AUSTRALIA

**NSW Association of Family History Societies**  
P.O. Box 48  
Waratah  
New South Wales 2298  
AUSTRALIA

**Genealogical Society of Queensland, Inc.**  
1st Floor Woolloongabba Post Office  
Stanley Street  
Woolloongabba  
Queensland 4102  
AUSTRALIA

**Queensland Family History Society**  
P.O. Box 171  
Indooroopilly  
Queensland 4060  
AUSTRALIA

**South Australia Genealogy and Heraldry Society, Inc.**  
G.P.O. Box 592  
Adelaide  
South Australia 5001  
AUSTRALIA

**Genealogical Society of Tasmania, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 60  
Prospect  
Tasmania 7250  
AUSTRALIA

**The Genealogical Society of Victoria, Inc.**  
179 Queen St.  
Melbourne  
Victoria 3000  
AUSTRALIA
Many of these societies have Web sites that give information about their services and membership fees. There are also societies called dead person societies that can be found on the Internet. These societies are similar to genealogical and family history societies.

**Historical Societies**

Historical societies can be valuable sources of information because they often have information about specific individuals who lived in the area or who took part in an event (i.e., the railway, the military, and so forth). Many societies have special collections of books and manuscripts for their topic of interest. Each state has a historical society. The addresses for the state societies are:

**Royal Australian Historical Society**
133 Macquarie Street
Sydney
New South Wales 2000
AUSTRALIA

**Royal Australian Historical Society of Queensland**
115 William Street
Brisbane
Queensland 4000
AUSTRALIA

**Historical Society of South Australia**
Institute Building
Family Associations and One-Name Societies

There are many family organizations in Australia and in the countries from which Australians emigrated. These organizations gather information about individuals’ ancestors or descendants or information about all individuals with a particular surname. Family histories, family group records, and other information gathered by family organizations are described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline.

Locating Records at the Family History Library

Records of the societies mentioned are usually described in the microfiche edition of the Family History Library Catalog in the Author/Title Search under the name of the society. They are also listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following:

AUSTRALIA - SOCIETIES
AUSTRALIA - GENEALOGY
AUSTRALIA - [STATE] - SOCIETIES
AUSTRALIA - [STATE] - GENEALOGY
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - SOCIETIES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - GENEALOGY

Some records gathered by societies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the type of record. For example, cemetery transcripts gathered by a local genealogical society are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CEMETERIES
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - CEMETERIESAUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - CEMETERIES
Lists and guides that describe the collections of societies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE], [TOWN] - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS

For information about journals and newsletters produced by these societies, see the “Periodicals” section of this outline.

Records Not at the Family History Library

You may obtain information from societies in Australia by writing to them. Often they will search their compiled indexes and other sources for you. Members of the societies receive preferential treatment, so you should consider joining those societies in the area you are researching.

Mailing addresses and other information about many of the above societies and others like them can be found on the Internet. Addresses are also listed in the following books:

Johnson, Keith A., and Malcolm R. Sainty, eds. *Genealogical research directory: national & international*. Melbourne: McPherson’s, 1983–. (FHL book British Ref 929.1025 G286grd; computer number 507132.) This directory contains a list of societies in many different countries and a list of one-name studies.

Reid, Ralph. *Into History: a guide to historical, genealogical, family history and heritage societies, groups and organisations in Australia*. North Ryde, N.S.W.: R.S. & A.F. Reid, 1989. (FHL book British Ref Q 994 C44r; computer number 507156.) This guide lists information that may be of interest to genealogists and historians. There may be more recent editions available.


TAXATION

Taxation records for Australia consist of rate and assessment books. While not a primary genealogical source, they can serve as a census substitute.

Rate and assessment books have been kept from the late 1850s through the present. They are arranged by districts (shires) and alphabetically list names of the occupiers. Other details found in these books include the name of the owner, residence of the occupier, a description of the property and its value, and the date of payment and the amount paid.
Rate and assessment books in Australia are usually found in district archives and in other local libraries and repositories. The following is a guide to repositories of the New South Wales taxation records:


The Family History Library has microfilm copies of some of the rate books. These records are also listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - TAXATION

**VOTING REGISTERS**

Because of the lack of Australian census records, electoral rolls are a valuable substitute. Electoral rolls are a census of those who were eligible to vote. Early electoral rolls give an individual’s name, residence, status of property occupation/ownership, and the nature of the rateable property. Electoral rolls were published by each state during election years.

Electoral rolls for New South Wales begin in 1842 and are nearly annual. The rolls for Victoria begin in 1843, but most are incomplete. Those for South Australia survive for 1851, 1852, and from 1903 (the pre-1903 rolls were destroyed by fire). Those for Tasmania date from 1856 and those for Queensland from 1859. The rolls for Western Australia date from 1879, although most pre-1900 rolls did not survive. The following source provides a list of all known surviving electoral rolls for each state:


Voting rights were tied to property ownership; therefore, all men were not eligible to vote in the early years. Full adult male suffrage was not granted in most colonies until the 1850s and later. Women’s suffrage was not granted in the states until around 1900. Non-British subjects, unless naturalized, were not granted suffrage until the 1940s. Aboriginal suffrage was not granted until 1949.

Electoral rolls are arranged by electoral district and subdistrict, and they are generally not indexed; therefore it is necessary to know the district where your ancestor lived. Districts could change from year to year, so determining the correct district can be difficult. No comprehensive guide to districts exists for any state, although some for specific years do exist. Directories of the area may supply an address that will help you determine the district to search. For information on directories, see the “Directories” section of this outline.
The Family History Library has some electoral rolls for New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia. To find the rolls, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - VOTING REGISTERS
AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - VOTING REGISTERS

OTHER RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA

Although not discussed in this outline, the following additional Family History Library Catalog topics for Australia may be useful to your research:

ALMANACS
BIBLIOGRAPHY
COLONIZATION DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL
DWELLINGS
ETHNOLOGY
FOLKLORE
HANDWRITING
JEWISH HISTORY
JEWISH RECORDS
LAW AND LEGISLATION
MERCHANT
MARINE MIGRATION
INTERNAL MILITARY HISTORY
NAMES
GEOGRAPHICAL
NOBILITY
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES PENSIONS
POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT
POPULATION
POSTAL AND SHIPPING GUIDES
RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS LIFE
SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS
VITAL RECORDS
YEARBOOKS

FOR FURTHER READING
The following sources provide more detailed information about research and records for Australia:


Fairs, Jennie, and Dom Meadley, comp. eds. *Family and Local History Sources in the Sydney Area*. Nunawading, Victoria: Meadley Family History Services, 1995. (FHL book British 994.41/S1 D27f; computer number 784720.)


McIntyre, Perry. *The Queensland Source Book: A guide to the repositories and resources available to the local and family historian in Queensland, Australia*. Blackwater, Queensland: Perry McIntyre, 1986. (FHL book British 994.3 D27m; computer number 438688.)


The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination  
Family History Library  
35 N. West Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3400  
USA  

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.


File: Australia
The Genealogical Library has recently microfilmed an index to ships passenger lists of assisted immigrant arrivals at ports in Victoria, Australia from 1839 to 1871. These records are not yet listed in the GLC. There are some instances where the cards filmed on one roll are repeated on the next roll. This is why, although the cards are arranged alphabetically, there is some overlap in the way the names are listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Cards</th>
<th>Film Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A to Barlett, Helena</td>
<td>1,364,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barlett, Albert to Beenridge</td>
<td>1,364,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breese to Burke, Richard</td>
<td>1,364,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burke, Richard to Charting S.</td>
<td>1,364,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charting, M. to Cowser</td>
<td>1,364,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverlid to Dite</td>
<td>1,364,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditchfield to Evans, Henry</td>
<td>1,364,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans, Henry to Galby, Patrick</td>
<td>1,364,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galby, James to Grimmer, E.</td>
<td>1,364,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grimson to Henderson, Ronald</td>
<td>1,364,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson, Robt. to Hutchins, E.</td>
<td>1,364,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutchins, A. to Kennedy, Mary</td>
<td>1,364,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennedy, Mary to Logan, Charles</td>
<td>1,364,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan, Anne to McFadgen, D.</td>
<td>1,364,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McFadgen, D. to McMahon, M.</td>
<td>1,364,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McMahon, M. to Martin, Wm.</td>
<td>1,364,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin, Wm. to Mountain, H.</td>
<td>1,364,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount, Agnes to O'Keefe, Peter</td>
<td>1,364,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Keefe, Patrick to Power, Ann</td>
<td>1,364,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power, Alice to Robertson, R.</td>
<td>1,364,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robertson, P. to Shannon, P.</td>
<td>1,364,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon, N. to Sobey, Edison</td>
<td>1,364,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sobey, Mary to Toomey, T.</td>
<td>1,364,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tooney to Walton, Catherine</td>
<td>1,364,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walton, Alice to Wiseholt, E.</td>
<td>1,364,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisehart, M. to Zouch, Arthur</td>
<td>1,364,057</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEX OF THE PARISH REGISTERS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
FOR THE DIOCESE OF NEWCASTLE, NSW, AUSTRALIA 1826-1906

Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1978

Parishes included are Dungog, East Maitland, Gosford, Hexham, Jerry’s Plains, Morpeth, Mount Vincent, Muswellbrook, Newcastle (Christ Church) Paterson, Raymond Terrace, St. Albans, Stroud, Taree, West Maitland.

* 1,238,767 Aaron - Bettington
* 1,238,768 Bettington - Campbell
* 1,238,769 Campbell - Crepuiod
* 1,238,770 Creighton - Englebrecht
* 1,238,771 Englebrecht - Gary
* 1,238,772 Gray - Hook
* 1,238,773 Hood - Lamb
* 1,238,774 Lamb - Matchett
* 1,238,775 Mate - Oxley
* 1,238,759 Oxley - Robershotte
* 1,238,760 Robards - Smith, W.
* 1,238,761 Smith, W. - Towbridge
* 1,238,762 Troughton - Winsor
* 1,238,763 Winship - Zotzenbeck

* Available at BYU (1993)
MAJOR GENEALOGICAL RECORD SOURCES
IN AUSTRALIA

BY

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Series E, No. 2
15 Nov 1968
In identifying ancestors, genealogical researchers need the answers to four key questions regarding record sources:

1. What types of records exist that will aid in the identification of ancestors?
2. What periods of time do the existing records cover?
3. What genealogical information appears in the existing records?
4. What is the availability of existing records for searching?

The chart and table that follow contain answers to the above questions for the major genealogical record sources of Australia. The major sources are listed, together with type of record, period covered, type of information given, and source availability.

Table A shows at a glance the record sources available for a research problem in a particular century.

Table B provides more detailed information about the major records available. For example, if a pedigree problem is in the 19th century, a quick indication can be obtained from Table A of the sources available for that period. Reference to Table B will then provide more complete information.
AID TO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA

TABLE A

MAJOR SOURCE AVAILABILITY BY CENTURY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF RECORD</th>
<th>18th</th>
<th>19th</th>
<th>20th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Military Record</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Electoral Rolls</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Civil Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Naturalization Records</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Liverpool (N.S.W.) Asylum Records</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Government Records</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Immigration Records</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Coroners' Inquest Registers</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Passenger Lists</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Newspapers</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Probate Records</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Musters and Censuses</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Directories</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Church Records</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Convict Records</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Monumental Inscriptions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Land Records</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE RECORD</th>
<th>PERIOD COVERED</th>
<th>TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN</th>
<th>AVAILABILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. MILITARY RECORDS</td>
<td>1901 to present</td>
<td>Names of officers and men; dates of birth, enlistment, discharge, etc.; places of birth, death, marriage; movement of personnel</td>
<td>Department of the Army, Canberra, A.C.T., Australia Use of military records 1901 to present restricted; pre-1901, see major genealogical record sources in England and Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ELECTORAL ROLLS</td>
<td>Approx 1842 to present</td>
<td>Name, residence, occupation, and sex of voters; published in the year of each election</td>
<td>State archives; state and local libraries; the following on film (Genealogical Society): New South Wales, 1842-1900; Queensland, 1862-1905; Tasmania, 1859-1865; in print (GS) all states, 1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. CIVIL REGISTRATION</td>
<td>1 Dec 1838 to present</td>
<td>Information and period covered varies from state to state, but the following is usually found: <strong>Births:</strong> name, sex, date, place; name of parents, their birthplaces, date and place of marriage, names and ages of previous children, residence <strong>Deaths:</strong> name, sex, date, place, occupation, age, place of birth, length of residence in Australia; date and place of marriage; age at marriage; name of spouse, names and ages of living children, number and sex of deceased children; names and occupations of parents; date and place of burial; religion of officiating minister <strong>Marriages:</strong> names of parties, occupation, place of residence, ages, names and occupations of parents, date and place of marriage</td>
<td>See below for each state: <strong>Australian Capital Territory,</strong> 1 Jan 1930 to present: Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, P.O. Box 370, Canberra City, Canberra, A.C.T. <strong>New South Wales,</strong> 1 Mar 1856 to present (information increased in 1900): Registrar General, Prince Albert Road, Sydney, N.S.W. <strong>Northern Territory,</strong> 1870 to present; (previously combined with South Australia); Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Law Court Building, Mitchell St., Box 1281, Darwin, Northern Territory <strong>Queensland,</strong> 1 Mar 1856 to present: Registrar General, Treasury Bldg., Queen Street, Brisbane B7, Queensland <strong>South Australia,</strong> July 1842 to present: Principal Registrar, Flinders Street, G.P.O. Box 1351 H. Adelaide, South Australia <strong>Tasmania,</strong> 1 Dec 1838 to present: Registrar General, 59 Collins Street, G.P.O. Box 875 J, Hobart, Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF RECORD</td>
<td>PERIOD COVERED</td>
<td>TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN</td>
<td>AVAILABILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. CIVIL REGISTRATION (Con't)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Victoria 1 July 1853 to present: Government Statist, 295 Queen St., Melbourne, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Western Australia, 1841 to present; (information increased, 1896 and 1924): Registrar General, Cathedral Avenue, Perth, Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. NATURALIZATION RECORDS</td>
<td>1834 to present</td>
<td>Name of applicant, resident at time of application, residence prior to immigration, age and occupation of applicant, length of residence in Australia, date of certificate; information and period covered varies from state to state</td>
<td>1834 to 1903: some from New South Wales, South Australia, and Victoria on film (GS); South Australia and Victoria at the Commonwealth Archives, Canberra, A.C.T., and records of other states at the state libraries or archives 1904 to present: Commonwealth Archives, Canberra, A.C.T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. LIVERPOOL, N.S.W., ASYLUM RECORDS</td>
<td>Approx 1833 to 1902</td>
<td>Name, age, ship, year of arrival in Australia, marital status, occupation, religion, country of origin</td>
<td>On film (GS): Archives Office of New South Wales, Macquarie St., Sydney, N.S.W. NOTE. The earlier records 1833-1858 cannot be located</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. GOVERNMENT GAZETTES</td>
<td>1832 to present</td>
<td>Early land grants, land sales, appointments of civil officers, justices of the peace, constables, postmasters, and clerks of petty sessions</td>
<td>Some on film (GS); state libraries; prior to 1832 consult the Sydney Gazette N.S.W. commenced 1832, other states later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. IMMIGRATION RECORDS</td>
<td>1830 to present</td>
<td>Age, birthplace, or place of residence prior to embarkation, father's full name, occupation and place of residence; mother's full maiden name, her father's occupation and often the maiden name of her mother; education and occupation of immigrant; information varies</td>
<td>1830 to 1919; some on film (GS); state archives and libraries 1920 to present: Commonwealth Archives, Canberra, A.C.T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. CORONERS' INQUESTS</td>
<td>Approx 1809 to present</td>
<td>Date, place and verdict of hearing; name, age, place of birth, and place of death of deceased; description of property.</td>
<td>Some early records on film (GS); Archives Office of New South Wales; state libraries; local police custody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF RECORD</td>
<td>PERIOD COVERED</td>
<td>TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN</td>
<td>AVAILABILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
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<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. PASSENGER LISTS</td>
<td>1803 to present</td>
<td>Names, occupations and countries of origin of passengers; information varies from state to state</td>
<td>1803 to 1825: local newspapers&lt;br&gt;1825 to present: state archives and libraries&lt;br&gt;1923 to present: N.S.W. records at the Commonwealth Archives Office, Sydney, N.S.W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. NEWSPAPERS</td>
<td>5 Mar 1803 to present</td>
<td>Obituaries, births, marriages, deaths; early arrival and departure of ships; some indexed</td>
<td>Local custody; state and local libraries; consult Union List of Newspapers in Australian Libraries, part two, which relates to newspapers published in Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. PROBATE RECORDS</td>
<td>1800 to present</td>
<td>Names of testators, places of residence, place where property is situated, relationships; indexed</td>
<td>New South Wales: 1800 to present: Registrar of Probates, “Mena”&lt;br&gt;House, Macquarie St., G.P.O. Box 2063 Sydney, New South Wales; 1800 to 1902 on film (GS); a few early probates are found in the colonial papers, Archives Office of New South Wales, Sydney, Aus.&lt;br&gt;Northern Territory, 4 Feb. 1911 to present: Master, Supreme Court, P.O. Box 387, Darwin, Northern Territory&lt;br&gt;Queensland, 22 June 1857 to present: Wills at the archives division of the Public Library of Queensland, William St., Brisbane, Queensland, 4000; indexes of wills are at the Supreme Court Offices, Brisbane, Queensland&lt;br&gt;South Australia, 17 May 1844 to present: Registrar, Probate Office, Supreme Court, Adelaide, South Australia&lt;br&gt;Tasmania, 2 Aug. 1824 to present: The Registrar, Supreme Court, G.P.O. Box 167B, Hobart, Tasmania&lt;br&gt;Victoria, 10 May 1841 to present: 1841 to 1910 at Registrar of Probates Law Courts, William Street, Melbourne, Victoria; 1911 to present at Commissioner of Probate Duties, Probate Duties Office, 179-183 Queen Street, Melbourne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF RECORD</td>
<td>PERIOD COVERED</td>
<td>TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN</td>
<td>AVAILABILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
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<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. PROBATE RECORDS (Con’t)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Victoria: 1841 to 1900 on film (GS) Western Australia, 14 Aug 1822 to present: Master, Supreme Court, Perth, Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. MUSTERS &amp; CENSUSES</td>
<td>1790 to 1825</td>
<td><em>Musters</em>: lists of convicts, ex-convicts, and free persons; contains names, ages, and residence</td>
<td>Those still extant are at the Archives Office of New South Wales, Sydney; use of some musters is restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1828 to present</td>
<td><em>Censuses</em>: names, ages, places, names of ships in which immigrants arrived in Australia, year of arrival; if &quot;came free,&quot; &quot;born in colony,&quot; or &quot;convict,&quot; the relationship to head of household and religion are given; information varies; some censuses and parts of others are missing</td>
<td>Some on film (GS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Copies at: Archives Office of New South Wales; Society of Australian Genealogists, History House, 8 Young Street, Sydney; National Library of Australia, Canberra, A.C.T.; the State Library of Victoria, 304-324 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The 1828 census is at the Public Record Office, London, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If still extant, censuses prior to 1828 are at state archives or libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use of some censuses is restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. DIRECTORIES</td>
<td>Approx 1788 to present</td>
<td><em>City and town</em>: names, occupations, residence; local histories; names of localities</td>
<td>State and local libraries; publishers of directories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1832 to present</td>
<td><em>Post office</em>: names, occupations, residence; local histories; names of localities</td>
<td>Some in print and on film (GS); state and local libraries; post offices; publishers of directories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. CHURCH RECORDS</td>
<td>1788 to present; period varies and not all churches included</td>
<td><em>Christenings, marriages, and burials</em>: names, dates, parentage, residence, ages, occupations, relationships, place and date of birth; information varies</td>
<td>Local parish or church custody; head office of directories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church records deposited with the registrar generals</td>
<td><em>New South Wales</em>: records of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Jewish, Wesleyan, Wesleyan-Methodist, Primitive Methodist, Australian Methodist</td>
<td>Registrar General, Prince Albert Road, Sydney, New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF RECORD</td>
<td>PERIOD COVERED</td>
<td>TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN</td>
<td>AVAILABILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. CHURCH RECORDS (Con't)</td>
<td>1788-1830</td>
<td>Congregational, Israelites, United Evangelical (Lutheran) and Independents (Congregational) of New South Wales, and parts of Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia; indexed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kerrison James Index: an index of christenings, marriages, and burials of some of the Church of England parishes</td>
<td>Original at the Archives Office of New South Wales, access through the Registrar General of New South Wales</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Copy at the Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1829-1856 (varies)</td>
<td>Queensland: records of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, New South Wales Presbyterians, Presbyterian, Wesleyan, and Independent churches situated in southeastern Queensland (see also New South Wales)</td>
<td>Registrar General, Treasury Building, Queen Street, Brisbane B7, Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1836-1842 (varies)</td>
<td>South Australia: records of the church of England, United Presbyterian, Presbyterian, Congregational, and Roman Catholic (see also New South Wales)</td>
<td>Principal Registrar, Flinders St., G.P.O. Box 1351 H, Adelaide, South Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1803-1838 (varies)</td>
<td>Tasmania: all denominations represented</td>
<td>Registrar General, 59 Collins St., G.P.O. Box 875, J, Hobart, Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1837-1853 (varies)</td>
<td>Victoria: most denominations represented (see also New South Wales)</td>
<td>Government Statist, 296 Queen St., Melbourne, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1829-1961 (varies)</td>
<td>Western Australia: records of a few Church of England parishes (see also New South Wales)</td>
<td>State Library of Western Australia, James and Museum Streets, Perth, Western Australia 6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. CONVICT RECORDS</td>
<td>1788 to approx 1870</td>
<td>Name of convict, date of arrival in Australia, name of ship, when and where tried; registers, pardons, tickets of leave, certificates of freedom</td>
<td>State archives or libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1788-1859</td>
<td>Convict registers: name of convict, date of deportation, name of ship, when and where tried; this may contain names of convicts who died at sea while being transported to New South Wales</td>
<td>Public Record Office, London, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use of these records restricted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF RECORD</td>
<td>PERIOD COVERED</td>
<td>TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN</td>
<td>AVAILABILITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. MONUMENTAL INScriP-</td>
<td>Approx 1788 to</td>
<td>Names of deceased, date and place of death or burial; sometimes date and place of birth,</td>
<td>Some manuscripts on film (GS); local libraries; private collections:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIONS</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>names of parents, name of spouse</td>
<td>Society of Australian Genealogists, Genealogical Society of Victoria, 13 Lorain St., South Oakleigh, S.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13, Victoria, Australia; Mitchell Library, Macquarie St., Sydney, New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. LAND RECORDS</td>
<td>Approx 1788 to</td>
<td>Trace back to original owners; names and addresses of purchasers and vendors</td>
<td>Some early records: on film (GS); Archives Office of New South Wales; other state archives: state libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>present</td>
<td></td>
<td>Registrar General’s Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The state libraries and genealogical societies of Australia have extensive MSS (Manuscript) collections which are not mentioned in the preceding table, but are of great value to the genealogist conducting research in Australia.

### STATE LIBRARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australian Capital Territory</th>
<th>South Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Library of Australia</td>
<td>Public Library of South Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canberra, A.C.T.</td>
<td>North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia 5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New South Wales</th>
<th>Tasmania</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Library</td>
<td>State Library of Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales State Library</td>
<td>91 Murray Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macquarie Street</td>
<td>Hobart, Tasmania 7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney, N.S.W.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Northern Territory</th>
<th>Victoria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Darwin Public Library</td>
<td>State Library of Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin, Northern Territory</td>
<td>304-324 Swanston Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(For early records, see New South Wales and South Australia State Libraries)</td>
<td>Melbourne, Victoria 3000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Queensland</th>
<th>Western Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Library of Queensland</td>
<td>State Library of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Street</td>
<td>James and Museum Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane, Queensland 4000</td>
<td>Perth, Western Australia 6000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society of Australian Genealogists</th>
<th>Genealogical Society of Victoria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History House</td>
<td>13 Lorain Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Young Street</td>
<td>South Oakleigh, S.E. 13, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney, New South Wales</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTE

Australia was proclaimed a British Sovereignty by Captain James Cook, 23 Aug. 1770.

On 18 Jan. 1788, the “First Fleet,” consisting of marines, convicts, and officials landed in New South Wales and organized the first European settlement. New South Wales was made a colony in 1786, and the following colonies were created from the original colony in the years listed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colony or Territory*</th>
<th>Year of First Settlement</th>
<th>Year Created as a Colony or Territory</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales</td>
<td>1788</td>
<td>1786</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>1803</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td>Known as Van Diemen’s Land until 1855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td>1829</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>1836</td>
<td>1836</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td>1851</td>
<td>Originally known as Port Phillip District. A few settlers came in 1803, but no permanent settlement was made until 1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>1824</td>
<td>1859</td>
<td>Was incorporated with New South Wales in 1825 and annexed to South Australia in 1863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>1869</td>
<td>1911</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*On 1 Jan 1901 the colonies were federated under the name of the “Commonwealth of Australia” and with the exception of the Northern Territory the designation of “colonies” was changed to “states.” The Northern Territory was formally transferred from the state of South Australia to the Commonwealth on 1 Jan 1911.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


It is my purpose in the following paper to challenge this view, starting with the Island of Tahiti and working across to other islands of the Pacific.

A NOTE ON THE SOURCES

In preparing the foregoing, I have used numerous sources. The principal ones were:


_Maude, H.E. Of Islands and Men_, Melbourne, 1968.


The quotation from Maude's book is from p. 136. Apart from the three deserters from the Magellan expedition, the only European "settlers" in the Pacific in pre-Cook times listed by Maude were "the twenty-eight mutineers of the San Jeronimo marooned in the Marshalls in 1566; the pinnace crew from Jacob Mahu's expedition who allegedly deserted there in 1599; (and) the quartermaster and four seamen who joined the natives when Roggeveen's African Galley was wrecked in the Tuamotus in 1722."
# Civil Registration Address List

The recording of births, marriages, and deaths in many English speaking countries is called "civil registration." You can write to the addresses in this handout to obtain a birth, marriage, or death certificate from the various countries listed.

Since prices for copies of certificates keep changing, you will need to ask for the price in your letter and offer to pay the required fee.

## Key to Information

- This list will tell you if the library has indexes or certificates. Look in the Family History Library Catalog for more details.
- The date on the right is the earliest on which certificates were made. You can obtain them from that date to the present.
- **B M D** = Birth, Marriage, and Death certificates available.

### Australia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>B M D</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales</td>
<td>B M D</td>
<td>1 Mar 1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes Norfokl Island until 1 Jan 1886)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registry of Births, Death, &amp; Marriages</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPO Box 30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney, New South Wales 2001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Library has indexes 1856-1905)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>B M D</td>
<td>1 Mar 1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar General</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prior to 1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 188</td>
<td></td>
<td>State Archivist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Quay, Queensland 4002</td>
<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 1397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunnybank Hills, Queensland 4109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Library has indexes 1856-1899)</td>
<td></td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>B M D</td>
<td>1 Jun 1842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Principle Registrar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPO Box 1351</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adelaide, South Australia 5001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Library has indexes 1842-1905)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>B M D</td>
<td>1 Dec 1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar General</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prior to 1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPO Box 875J</td>
<td></td>
<td>State Archives of Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobart, Tasmania 7001</td>
<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hobart, Tasmania 7001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Library has indexes 1838-1899 &amp; some certificates)</td>
<td></td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>B M D</td>
<td>1 Jul 1853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Registrar General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 4332</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Melbourne, Victoria 3001</td>
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<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>B M D</td>
<td>1 Sep 1841</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 7720</td>
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<td>Cloister's Square, Western Australia 6850</td>
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<td>The Registrar, Birth Death &amp; Marriage Registry</td>
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<td>GPO Box 788</td>
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<td>GPO Box 3021,</td>
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<td>Darwin, Northern Territory 0801</td>
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### CHANNEL ISLANDS

**Guernsey**  
**B M D**  
**Aug 1842**  
(includes Alderney, Brechou, Herm, Jethou, and Sark)  
La Societe Guernesiaise  
The Royal Court House  
St. Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 2PB  
CHANNEL ISLANDS  
(Library has indexes 1840-1966 & some certificates)

**Jersey**  
**B M D**  
**Aug 1842**  
The Superintendent Registrar  
10 Royal Square  
St. Helier, Jersey, JE2 4WA  
CHANNEL ISLANDS

### ENGLAND

**General Register Office**  
Smedley Hydro  
Trafalgar Road  
Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH  
ENGLAND  
(Library has indexes 1837-1980)

### IRELAND

**Republic of Ireland**  
**B M D**  
**1 Jan 1864**  
Registrar General  
Joyce House  
8-11 Lombard Street East  
Dublin 2  
IRELAND (EIRE)  
(Library has indexes 1845-1958 & some certificates)

**Northern Ireland**  
**B M D**  
**1922**  
Registrar General  
Register Office  
66 Balmoral Avenue  
Belfast, BT9 6NY  
NORTHERN IRELAND  
(Library has indexes 1922-1959 & some certificates)

### ISLE OF MAN

**Registrar General**  
Government Office  
Finch Road  
Douglas  
ISLE OF MAN  
(Library has indexes 1849-1964 & some certificates)

### NEW ZEALAND

**Registrar General**  
P.O. Box 31-115  
191 High Street  
Lower Hutt  
NEW ZEALAND  
(Library has indexes 1840-1920)

### SCOTLAND

**Registrar General**  
Search Unit  
New Register House  
Edinburgh, EH1 3YY  
SCOTLAND  
(Library has indexes 1855-1955 & some Certificates)

### WALES

**General Register Office**  
Smedley Hydro  
Trafalgar Road  
Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH  
ENGLAND  
(Library has indexes 1837-1980)
WORLD CONFERENCE
ON RECORDS
AND GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR

Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.
5-8 August 1969

EUROPEAN MIGRATION TO AUSTRALASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Part I
Introduction
by
Robert Langdon
The rounding of the Cape of Good Hope in 1488 by the Portuguese navigator Bartholomew Diaz, and the voyage of Columbus to the West Indies in 1492 were the two key factors which paved the way for European migration to Australasia and the Pacific. Both Diaz and Columbus were seeking a route to the Far East, whose valuable trade with Europe had been in the hands of Arab merchants for several centuries.

Within a dozen years of Diaz's achievement, one of his countrymen, Vasco da Gama, had reached Calicut in southern India; and by the early years of the 16th century, other Portuguese merchant adventurers had penetrated to the outer fringes of the Western Pacific. In 1511, the celebrated Portuguese admiral, Afonso de Albuquerque, captured the important port of Malacca on the Malay peninsula; and in the following July, the Portuguese reached Siam via the Strait of Singapore. The same year also saw an expedition commanded by Antonio d'Abreu sail from Malacca to the spice-rich Moluccas. In the Moluccas, the Portuguese made a treaty with the Sultan of Ternate, the principal clove-producing island, and built a fortified warehouse there for collecting the cloves. Soon they had ousted the Arabs from the East Indian spice trade and had established a monopoly which was to last for the rest of the century. By 1556, they also had a settlement at Macao in China - the first European foothold on the western shores of the Pacific basin.

Meanwhile, Columbus' voyage to the West Indies in the service of Spain had had even more widespread effects on the other side of the Pacific. Within a few years of 1492, the Spaniards had established a settlement on the island of Hispaniola, and from there they fanned out to conquer and make further settlements, first in Cuba and then on the mainland of Central America. Darien, in what is now Panama, was settled in 1508; and in September, 1513, Vasco Nunez de Balboa marched overland from that place and became the first recorded European to see the Pacific Ocean from the American side. In 1521, the celebrated conquistador Hernan Cortes overthrew the old Aztec Empire in the bloody battle of Tenochtitlan, now the site of Mexico City; and in 1524, Francisco Pizarro sailed down the coast of South America from Panama in quest of the celebrated Inca Empire, which, within a few years, he had conquered and placed under the yoke of Spain.

Although the discovery of the New World deflected the Spaniards from reaching the East
Indies, it was only a temporary delay. In 1521, Magellan’s ships crossed the Pacific, and in 1524 the famous Victoria under Sebastian del Cano arrived home from the Moluccas laden with spices.

This spurred the Spaniards to send out a second spice expedition; but when this and subsequent expeditions ended disastrously, Spanish interest in the Moluccas declined. However, reports of gold and spices in the Philippines soon turned their attention to those islands, and in 1564 an expedition under Miguel Lopez de Legaspi crossed the Pacific from Mexico and established a settlement there. A member of that expedition, Andres de Urdaneta, also did what all of his predecessors had failed to do - he sailed back to Mexico without difficulty by getting into the zone of the westerlies well to the north of the Hawaiian islands. For the next 2½ centuries, the Spaniards in Mexico maintained regular links with their Philippines colony by means of galleons, which made the outward crossing of the Pacific about 13 degrees north of the Equator and sailed home by the route that Urdaneta pioneered.

Meanwhile, the Spanish conquistadores of Peru had become fired by Inca stories about rich islands in the South Seas. A ship under Hernando de Grijalva made an attempt to find these islands in 1537. Thirty years later, Mendana found some islands in the far west of the Pacific which he thought were the fabled islands of Solomon. A second Mendana expedition was sent to colonise these islands in 1595, followed by one under Quiros in 1606. Both expeditions failed miserably, and Spanish officialdom lost interest in the South Seas.

It was at this period that the Dutch broke the Portuguese monopoly of the East Indian spice trade. A fleet of Dutch ships reached the Indies via the Cape of Good Hope in 1596; and in 1599-1600, the first Dutch ships crossed the Pacific. In 1602, the celebrated Dutch East India Company was formed, which developed a commercial empire in the Far East returning enormous profits. In the first 40-odd years of the company's existence, the whole of the west coast of Australia was explored by Dutch ships. In addition, two ships under Abel Tasman were sent on a voyage of exploration to the Pacific from Batavia, which resulted in the discovery of Tasmania, New Zealand and a number of smaller islands.

During most of the 17th century and also in the early part of the 18th, Dutch, British and French buccaneers and privateers preyed on the Spanish settlements of South America and their coast-wise and trans-Pacific shipping. Some of the more literary-minded of these gentry occasionally produced books of reminiscences on their adventures. These, in time, were incorporated into the massive collections of voyages that were extremely popular with English readers from about 1690 onwards. Such books fostered the interest in the Pacific which led to the celebrated South Sea Bubble fiasco. And these books also set men thinking that the various islands that had been discovered in the South Pacific over the years must be the fringe of a Great Southern Continent. It was a Frenchman, Charles de Brosses, who expounded the idea of a southern continent with the greatest eloquence. In a history of voyages to what he called the Terres Australes published in 1756, de Brosses claimed that his continent probably covered an area of eight to ten million square miles and he guessed that it was immensely rich in fruits, minerals, fish, etc. The discovery of this land, he said, was the "grandest, noblest, most useful
enterprise a sovereign could undertake,” and he warned his countrymen to act quickly so that it would not fall into British hands.

As it was, it was Britain’s King George III who sent out the first expedition to discover the valuable continent. This was an expedition under Commodore John Byron, which sailed round the world in 1764-66 without discovering very much. A second expedition followed immediately under Samuel Wallis, whose chief achievement was the discovery of Tahiti. The hospitable, well-stocked shores of this island became the focal point in the next few years for the exploration of the Pacific by Captain Cook.

The three great voyages of Cook, between 1768 and 1778, resulted in the circumnavigation of New Zealand, the discovery of the east coast of Australia, and the accurate charting of numerous Pacific islands. They also completely disposed of the Southern Continent myth. The discovery of the east coast of Australia proved of great practical benefit to the British Government which had financed Cook’s voyages. Following the loss of its American colonies in 1776, Britain needed a new dumping ground for the prisoners in its overcrowded gaols. Far-off Australia was just the place.

A first fleet of eleven ships carrying more than 750 convicts left England for Botany Bay, near the present site of Sydney, in 1787. It was followed during the next 60 years by hundreds of other convict transports. But as time passed, there was also a growing number of ships carrying free settlers. Within a few years of the turn of the 19th century, Sydney had become a thriving town and other towns were being developed. In 1836, Charles Darwin was moved to remark that the town of Sydney was “a most magnificent testimony to the power of the British Nation. Here, in a less promising country, scores of years have done many times more than an equal number of centuries have effected in South America,” he said.

Ships operating out of Sydney soon opened up trade with other places in the region. Ships calling at New Zealand brought tattooed Maoris to Sydney, which moved a local chaplain to determine to save their people from paganism and exploitation. Thus commerce took the first European missionaries to New Zealand, and both commerce and the missionaries were the begetters of the first European settlements. Meanwhile, missionary activity in Tahiti and Hawaii, combined with the development of the Pacific sandalwood and whaling industries, had the effect of spreading a trickle of Europeans to even more remote islands of the Pacific. And by the time Sydney was 100 years old, there were few islands in the Pacific that did not have at least one or two European traders or beachcombers.

It is the commonly accepted view among Pacific scholars that the Europeans who settled in the Pacific Islands at this time were, with a very few exceptions, the first members of their race to do so. H.E. Maude, in an essay on Pacific beachcomers and castaways, has stated that despite the fact that three men deserted in the Marianas from the first expedition to cross the Pacific, “not more than a handful of Europeans settled in the islands, either voluntarily or as castaways, in all the two and a half centuries of the age of discovery, which may be said to have lasted roughly to the founding of New South Wales.”
It is my purpose in the following paper to challenge this view, starting with the Island of Tahiti and working across to other islands of the Pacific.

A NOTE ON THE SOURCES

In preparing the foregoing, I have used numerous sources. The principal ones were:


Maude, H.E. *Of Islands and Men*, Melbourne, 1968.


The quotation from Maude's book is from p. 136. Apart from the three deserters from the Magellan expedition, the only European "Settlers" in the Pacific in pre-Cook times listed by Maude were "the twenty-eight mutineers of the *San Jeronimo* marooned in the Marshalls in 1566; the pinnace crew from Jacob Mahu's expedition who allegedly deserted there in 1599; (and) the quartermaster and four seamen who joined the natives when Roggeveen's *African Galley* was wrecked in the Tuamotus in 1722."
Other Resources: Australia

Australia Family History Centers
http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/frameset_fhc.asp

Archives and Libraries in Australian States and Territories

National Archives of Australia Family History

Australian Family Tree Connections-Microsoft Internet Explorer

Cyndi’s List Australia Links
http://www.cyndislist.com/austnz.htm