INNER WEST

Discover the story of your ancestors:

A Guide to How to Find Your Family

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Introduction

This guide will help you trace the history of your family in Australia and in the Inner West Council area.

The Family History Collection consists of birth, death and marriage records for all Australian States, as well as cemetery registers, electoral rolls, probate indexes, shipping records, handbooks and directories. You can research your family tree with free access to ancestry databases in the library.

The research steps outlined in this guide can be carried out at the Inner West Council Libraries. The guide also lists additional resources that can be researched, depending on the type of information required. Researching your history requires you to piece together a puzzle and be an investigator, it is not a quick process so be prepared to dig.

Family History Research Sessions

Individuals can work at their own pace in researching their family history, ancestors and genealogical goals. The group has been going strong for over 15 years and is a space to help each other by way of discussions, knowledge, and skill sharing.

Our Community History staff member is also available during these sessions to guide and help with tracing your genealogy / family history.

It runs February to November, second Tuesday of the month, 10am-12pm.

All are welcome to join. It is preferrable to be computer literate, have an inner west library account, able to search the web and have an active email address. You will also need to bring your work and have knowledge or records of dates and events of your ancestors like birth, marriage, and death. We will have laptops, but you can also bring your own laptop or device.

Specialist staff are available to assist with research enquiries at these locations:

Ashfield Library
Level 3, Ashfield Civic Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield
Phone: 9392 5108

Balmain Library
370 Darling Street, Balmain
Phone: 9367 9211

Leichhardt Library
Piazza Level, Italian Forum, 23 Norton Street, Leichhardt
Phone: 9367 9266

Marrickville Library
Patyegarang Place, 313 Marrickville Road, Marrickville
Phone: 9392 5226

Contact our team for any enquiries: history@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Key documents that can be found in Australian Sites

Family History Research Guide | National Library of Australia (NLA)

- Trove and History Newspapers – Newsletters On Births, Deaths And Marriage, House History.
- Inner West Records – House Histories, Photos, Schools
- My Heritage and Ancestry – Family Trees, Photos, Stories, Documents
- City Of Sydney And State Library NSW – Documents, Images
- National Archives – Migration and Immigration Records, War Records, Images, Citizenship
- War Sites – Service Records
- Probate Packets State Archives – The Will and Full Belongings of a Person, Itemised List of Their Belongings at Their Residence (Viewable in Person at the Archives)
- Property Records For Family Members - NSW Land Registry – Certificate Of Titles,
- State Library Of NSW, Subdivision Plans and Maps, Naa.Gov.Au,
- SDT Explorer - Aerial Images of Sydney from 1943 - 2005
- Reserve Bank of Australia Unreserved – Photos, Company and Personnel Records
- Sand Directories - Renters and Job Titles

Tips and Notes

Ancestry – Library members have access to more than 1.5 billion names in over 4,000 databases. Includes records from US census, military, court, land and probate, church records, passenger lists. Electoral Rolls 1903-1980 are now available online.

MyHeritage Library Edition™ – One of the largest, most internationally diverse genealogy databases of its kind in the world. It includes billions of historical documents from more than 48 countries, millions of historical photos, public records, indexes and additional resources.

The Australian Newspapers Collection – Search two of the most influential Australian newspaper: The Age (1854-2000) and the Sydney Morning Herald (1831-2000).

State Library of NSW has a comprehensive range of historical newspapers printed in Britain.

Gather information from relatives

Speak to family members - they might also have copies of records.

Don't believe everything you read and hear

It's possible that the event occurred at a different place, time or didn't happen at all. For example, not all children were baptised and not all people who lived together were married.

Try widening your search to include earlier or later years or by entering less information in the search. Search other indexes from different areas including other states and countries and registers from nearby parishes. Look also at records that include births and deaths at sea.

Maybe the event was never registered

Events weren't always registered.

There are various reasons why, such as the family lived far from town or the clergy didn't bring their register and instead made rough notes to be written up later (this especially happened in rural areas). The event may have been accidentally left off the index, or the register could have been lost or destroyed.

Catholic?

The Catholic Church registers do not begin until 1820 and it wasn't until 1834 that they were officially allowed to record baptisms, marriages and burials.

Before this time many Catholics chose not to marry or had their children baptised into another denomination.

Spelling variations

Your ancestor's first or last name may not be spelt the same on all records for their birth, marriage or death. The spelling of their name may have changed over the years or they may have changed it. The spelling may also be different from other family members.

Don't forget to take into account pronunciation at the time of registration as well as 19th century literacy levels.

Search for all spelling variations as well as possible nicknames. Try wildcards and truncation when searching online.

Mistakes may have happened when the handwritten records were transcribed and indexed. Check the name from the index against the record.

Electoral Rolls

Electoral rolls list people who are registered and eligible to vote at federal, state, territory and local government elections and referenda.

Australian electoral rolls contain the following details on each registered voter:

- name
- address
- occupation (omitted after 1983)
- gender

Electoral rolls research guide | National Library of Australia (NLA)

1902: The Commonwealth Franchise Act granted voting rights to most men and women over 21, excluding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Voting rights for women in state elections varied.
1911: Compulsory enrolment introduced.
1962: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people gained the right to vote in Commonwealth elections. Enrolment was voluntary, but voting became compulsory once enrolled.
1984: Compulsory enrolment and voting extended to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

If you're looking for details of your ancestors' landholdings or movements, there are three types of maps that will be useful to your research.

Squatting or pastoral maps

When European settlement began in Australia, land administration followed the British system of 'Old Title' where information about each parcel of land was held against the name of the owner of the title.

Names and the extent of these early allotments may be found on early squatting or pastoral maps held by us and most state libraries.

Grants and deeds to Old Title system allotments are held by the relevant state lands departments, land title office or state archives.

Parish, town and county maps

In the 1860s, the Old Title system was replaced by 'Torrens Title'. Torrens Title is a system of recording title information against the parcel of land itself.

New South Wales (and other colonies) were divided into counties and civil parishes. Parish and county maps, together with village and town surveys, form the basis of land administration. They contain the basic references required to identify the original owner of a parcel of land from the commencement of Torrens Title, and to search for subsequent owners.

Real estate or sales plans

Real estate or sales plans were used by real estate companies to advertise land sales and contain evidence of prices paid, boundaries, road changes, land use, social change and types of ownership.

Background tips

Civil registration of births, deaths and marriages in the Colony of New South Wales commenced in 1856. Prior to this date, baptisms, marriages and burials were recorded in church registers.

The New South Wales civil registration system also included the following areas when under New South Wales administration:

- Federal Capital Territory/Australian Capital Territory
- Northern Territory
- Queensland

NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages Registers, 1787-1856

The NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages provide free, searchable, online indexes to:

- Births/baptisms 1788 - 100 years ago
- Marriages 1788 - 50 years ago
- Deaths/burials 1788 - 30 years ago

Information on burials can be found in a variety of sources, including:

- burial certificates
- church registers
- civil death certificates
- council and private cemetery registers/records
- funeral director or undertaker records
- monumental inscriptions (listings of grave markers, memorial plaques and monuments)
- newspaper funeral notices.

Probate packets include the last will & testament.
The records are arranged by the date that probate was granted, not by the date of death, and in some cases it may take a number of years for probate to be granted.

What is probate?
A grant of probate is the authority given by the Supreme Court of NSW to the executor(s) to deal with a deceased person's estate. The will in the Probate packet is considered by the Court to be the only legal document.

Is there a probate packet for everyone who died in NSW?
No, not everyone who died in New South Wales has a probate packet.
Depending on the type, size and value of the assets located in New South Wales it may not be necessary to obtain a grant of probate in New South Wales. There is no statutory requirement to obtain probate in every case.

Other Important Files Available:

- Deceased estate files, 1880-1959
- Will books, 1800-c.1984
- early probate records, 1790-1875
- Assisted Immigrants Index 1839-1896
- Convicts index 1791-1873
- Census & musters guide 1788-1901
- Insolvency records 1842-87 and bankruptcy records 1888-1928
- Inquests & coronial records guide
- Gold (auriferous) lease registers 1874-1953
- Infirm & destitute asylums guide
- Court of Criminal Jurisdiction guide
- Naturalization index 1834-1903
- Overseas Newspapers | Eresources | State Library of NSW
- Professions & occupations – State Archives have an array of guides for researching individuals with police, firefighters, nurses, public servants, schools and other jobs.

Immigration and Migration

Shipping and passenger records | National Library of Australia (NLA)

- Estimated arrival date: the earliest known family event found occurring in Australia such as a marriage or birth is generally a a good clue. Death certificates from some states may also record how long a person has been in Australia.
- The colony or state of arrival: early events for the family in this country are a guide to a starting point for research, but bear in mind that the traveler may have arrived in another state or colony and travelled overland to their final residence.
- Ancestors' occupation: a person's means may help you determine whether they might have paid their own fare.

For Property Searching

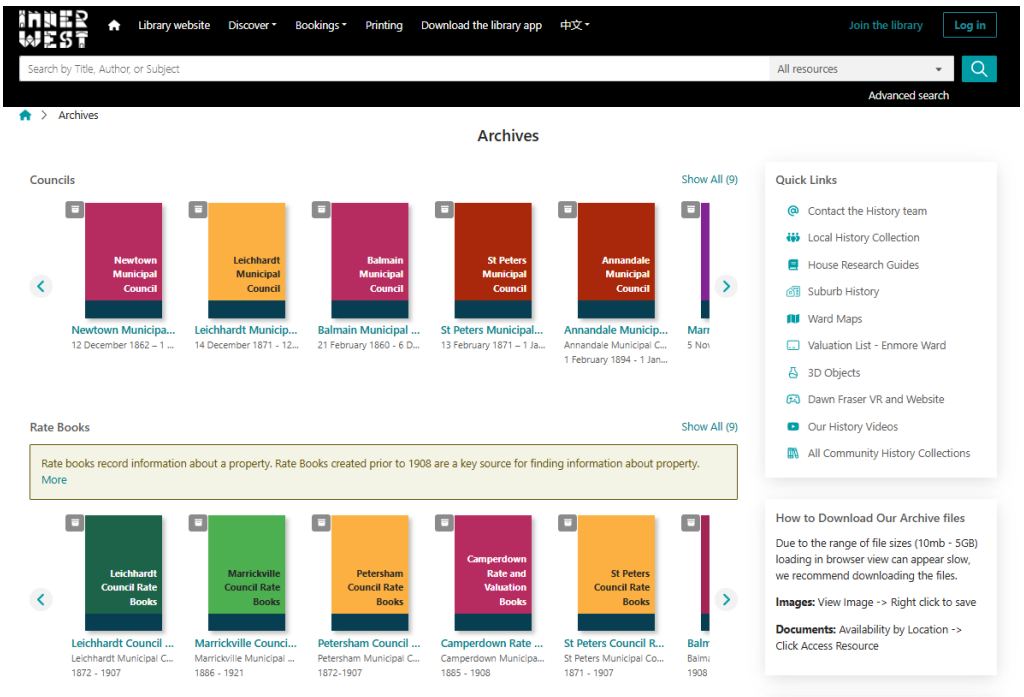
- Make a list of what you already know about your house including street address (current or previous), Council ward, nearest intersection, cross street or lane, or house name. Note any names of adjoining houses, prominent buildings nearby that may be older or similar in age to the house, or features such as parks.
- Take a closer look at your house. Features, details and building materials can help you identify the architectural style of the house. The house style can help you to broadly date it, if it has been built in a style popular at a particular time. Check Australian architectural styles or guides available online or books such as *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: styles and terms from 1788 to the present* by Richard Apperly, Robert Irving, Peter Reynolds; photographs by Solomon Mitchell.
- Talk to neighbours, former owners or long-term residents in the street. They may know about former owners or people who lived there. They may even have photos of your house or of the street.
- Gather any papers you have relating to your house such as certificate of land title, deposited plan (DP) and lot numbers or photos of the house.
- Use the Library's online catalogue to search for photos, surveys and reports about your house or street. Search for the street name or suburb to locate photos or information.
- Information about heritage properties is available on the NSW State Heritage Inventory. Heritage Studies conducted by the former Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville Councils can also provide information about some houses. The library holds heritage reports about some of these properties.
- If the house is in Haberfield, look at *Tours of Haberfield Past and Present (Parts 1, 2 and 3)* by Vince Crow. These books include information about houses in Haberfield. They are available at Ashfield and Haberfield Libraries.
- Need a Step by Step, explore our house video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6FYnQo_8cj4

Our Library Catalogue

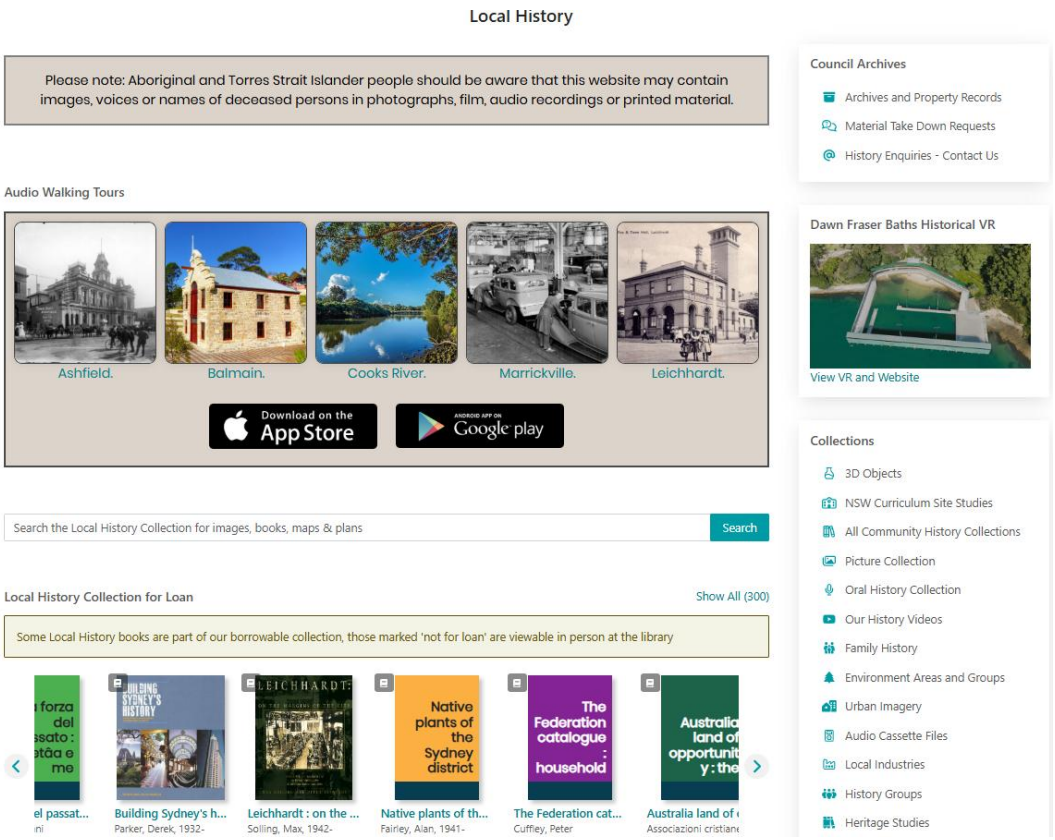
We have two pages on the library catalogue for you to access historical information. Our archives page provides pages of property documents for all the Inner West Council Suburbs. Majority of material is freely downloadable. Our instructional videos can help assist you in navigating our pages - https://youtu.be/6FYnQo_8cj4

These records refer to areas:

Marrickville, Leichhardt, Balmain, Ashfield, Newtown, St Peters, Sydenham, Tempe, Annandale, Haberfield, Petersham, Camperdown, Stanmore, Enmore, Lewisham, Dulwich Hill, Lilyfield, Rozelle, Birchgrove, Ashbury, Croydon, Croydon Park, Dobroyd Point, Hurlstone Park and Summer Hill.



On our Local History page, you can find images, books, oral histories, local groups, objects from the archives and much more all about the Inner West Area.



Identify the historic Council and Ward your house was in

Houses in the former Marrickville Council area

Use the 1910 Council Ward maps located on the catalogue to work out which of the following your house was in prior to 1949: Petersham, Marrickville, St Peters, Camperdown or Newtown Councils.

Once you've worked out the historic Council, refer to the Map for the appropriate ward your house was in. You'll need this information to use the Council Valuation and Rate books.

Houses in the former Leichhardt Council area

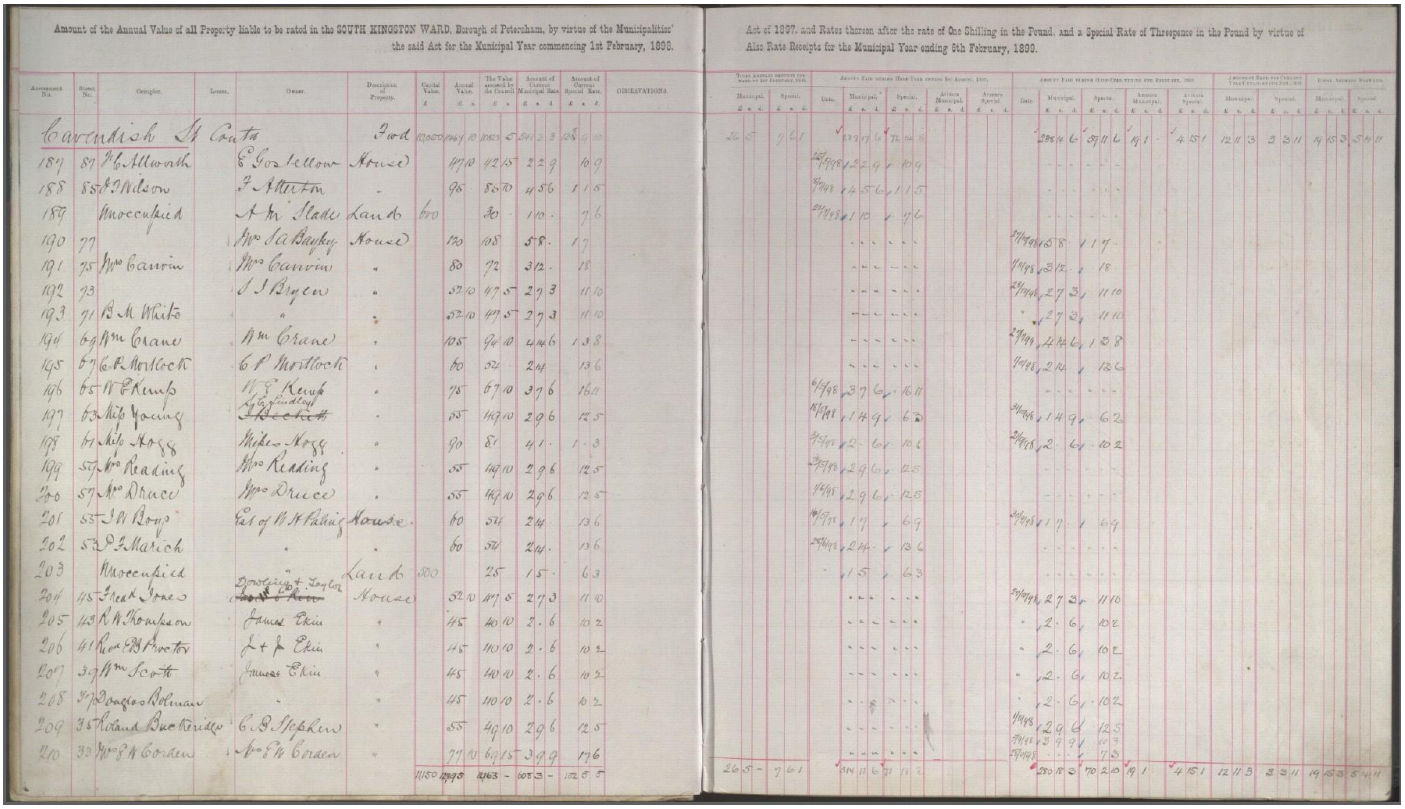
Refer to the 1892 Parish of Petersham Maps for Leichhardt and Balmain to identify the ward your house was in.

Houses in the former Ashfield Council area

Refer to the Parish of Petersham Maps for Ashfield to identify the ward your house was in.

Note: Some street names may have changed since the Parish of Petersham maps were created. Some main streets or roads are Council or ward boundaries. Some streets are included in several Councils e.g. Stanmore Road is included in Newtown, Marrickville and Petersham Councils.

Search the relevant Council Valuation assessment or Rate books



1898 - 1899 Petersham Council Rate Book

Valuation assessment, Valuation lists and Rate books record basic information about a property including: number, lot, section, land dimensions, description of the property, house name, assessed value and rates due. Property owner details are recorded including name and contact address. The property occupant's name and occupation are sometimes recorded.

Valuation assessment books record the valuation of properties. Rate books record the annual payment of rates to the Council. Rate books normally contain less information than the Valuation assessment books. Valuation assessment and Rate books were compiled either annually or triennially.

Valuation assessment and Rate books are organised chronologically, by ward. Streets are listed in alphabetical order (e.g. Ashfield and Marrickville Councils) or by geographical area (e.g. St Peters and Petersham Councils). Properties are listed by property number - odd numbered properties are listed together and even numbered properties together. Cross streets are also recorded.

Note: house numbers are not always recorded in the early Valuation assessment or Rate books.

You can find the Valuation assessment Books, Lists and Rate books on the catalogue

- Starting with the most recent books, work backwards until you find the dates you are looking for e.g. when the property description is recorded as Land, or when you reach the year your relative lived in the house.

- Record details about the property as you go including owner's name, occupant's name, house name or change in house number.

  Note: Houses were renumbered at various times. There was significant renumbering of houses throughout Marrickville Council area during the years 1923 to 1925. The old numbers were crossed out and replaced by the new number. It is important to systematically work backwards from through the books to ensure you are researching the correct house.

  If there is no house number, use the house name, the owner's name, names of neighbouring houses or owners, to locate your house.

Rates & Valuation books and Valuation lists we hold across these years:

- Annandale Council 1894 – 1920*
- Ashfield Council 1872 – 1949 Lists (hard copy rate books from 1928)
- Balmain 1908-1939*
- Camperdown Council 1885 - 1908
- Leichhardt 1872-1966*
- Marrickville Council 1886 – 1963 Lists (Books on hard copy to 1980s)
- Newtown Council 1866 – 1949*
- Petersham Council 1872 – 1963 Lists (Books on hard copy from 1926)
- St Peters Council 1871 – 1963 Lists (books hard copy from 1924)

  *Note – only Rates books are held for some Councils. There are no Valuation assessment books held for the former Annandale, Balmain, Leichhardt or Newtown Councils.

We don't hold every Valuation assessment or Rate book for every Council and ward. Some books are missing.

Council Valuation assessment books from the mid-1920s to the mid-1980s for the former Ashfield and Marrickville Councils, are held at the Council Archives. These records are in hard copy. Access is by appointment only.

To make an appointment, contact the Council Archives history@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Troubleshooting

I can’t find the street in the Valuation assessment or Rate books

- Check the street existed and hadn’t changed its name. Use the Historical Council ward maps to confirm.

  A list of street name changes in the former Marrickville Council area can be found in the book *Marrickville: Rural Outpost to Inner City* by Richard Cashman and Chrys Meader, held in the library.

- If your house is located at an intersection, check if it is listed with the houses on the cross street

- If your house has or had two street frontages, check if it is listed under the other street name

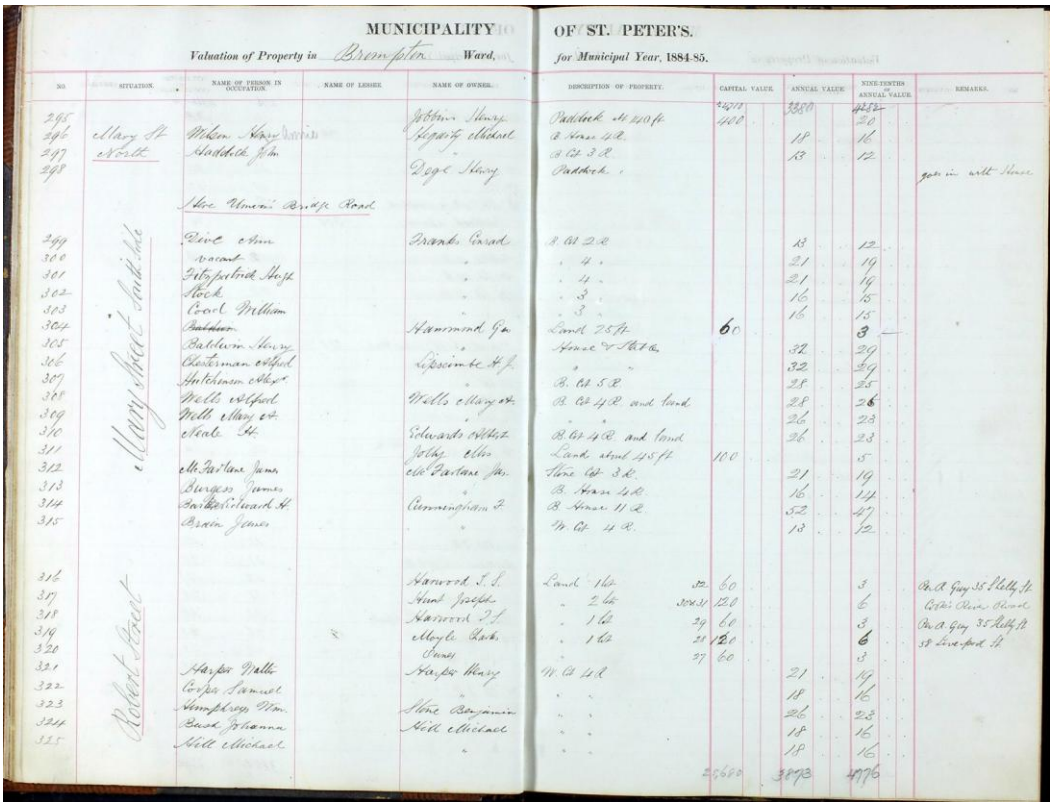
- Check adjoining Wards as boundaries may have changed over time

I can’t find my house (or house number)

- Check you are looking in the correct Ward. Long streets may appear in more than one ward

- House numbers may not be recorded in early Valuation assessment or Rate books.
  The property owner’s name, house name, section and lot number or owners of neighbouring properties can be used to help identify your house

- You may have skipped a year when searching the books and overlooked a transfer of ownership or renumbering of houses. Retrace your steps. Locate the book recording the house and work backwards systematically from there.



MUNICIPALITY OF ST. PETER'S.

Valuation of Property in Brompton Ward, for Municipal Year, 1884-85.

No.	Situation	Name of Person in Occupation	Name of Lessee	Name of Owner	Description of Property	Capital Value	Annual Value	Nine-tenths of Annual Value	Remarks
295				Johnson Henry	Paddock 4a 2r 20p	400	20		
296	Mary St	Wilson Henry		Hegarty Michael	B. House 4R.		18	16	
297	North	Haddock Jas.			B. Ct. 3 R.		13	12	
298				Doyle Henry	Paddock				goes in with House
		Here Unwins Bridge Road							
299		Dist. Chm.		Brooks Enoch	B. Ct 2 R.		13	12	
300		vacant			" 4 "		21	19	
301		Metropolitan Hosp.			" 4 "		21	19	
302		Hock			" 3 "		16	15	
303		Cecil William			" 3 "		16	15	
304		Baldwin		Hammond Jas	Land 25 ft	60		3	
305		Baldwin Henry			House & Stable		32	29	
306		Chesterman Alfred		Lipscombe H. J.	" "		32	29	
307		Hutchinson Chas.			B. Ct 5 R.		28	25	
308		Wells Alfred		Wells Mary A.	B. Ct 4 R. and land		28	26	
309		Wells Mary A.			" "		26	23	
310		Neale St.		Edwards Arthur	B. Ct 4 R. and land		26	23	
311				Jolly Ellen	Land about 45 ft	100		5	
312		Mc Farlane James		est Farlane Jas.	Stone Ct. 3 R.		21	19	
313		Burgess James			B. House 4 R.		16	14	
314		Bartlett Richard H.		Cunningham J.	B. House 11 R.		52	47	
315		Brain James			W. Ct 4 R.		13	12	
316				Harwood J. S.	Land 1 Ac	32	60	3	Cor. A. Grey St Kelly St
317				Hunt Joseph	" 2 Ac	3043	120	6	Cor. Alice Street
318				Harwood J. J.	" 1 Ac	29	60	3	Cor. A. Grey St Kelly St
319				Mayle Chas.	" 1 Ac	21	120	6	St Liverpool St
320				Jones	"	27	60	3	
321		Harper Wells		Harper Henry	W. Ct 4 R.		21	19	
322		Cooper Samuel			" "		18	16	
323		Humphreys Wm.		Stone Benjamin	" "		26	23	
324		Buck Johanna		Neill Michael	" "		18	16	
325		Neill Michael			" "		18	16	
						2568	3893	4776	

1884 - 1885 St Peters Council Valuation book

- House numbers, the early books may not record street numbers. Street numbers are recorded for one side of the street at a time. All the odd numbers will be together, and the even numbers together.
  Note – house numbers may change over time. Where house numbers are changed, the old number is crossed out and replaced by the new number.

- Street names are written horizontally or vertically along the left-hand side of the page.
  Note – some street names changed over time. A list of street name changes in the former Marrickville Council area can be found in Marrickville: Rural Outpost to Inner City by Richard Cashman and Chrys Meader, held in the library

- Cross streets and lanes are often noted e.g. Here Unwins Bridge Road

- House names were not always recorded. House names may also change over time

- Surnames are sometimes spelt differently in different valuation assessment books

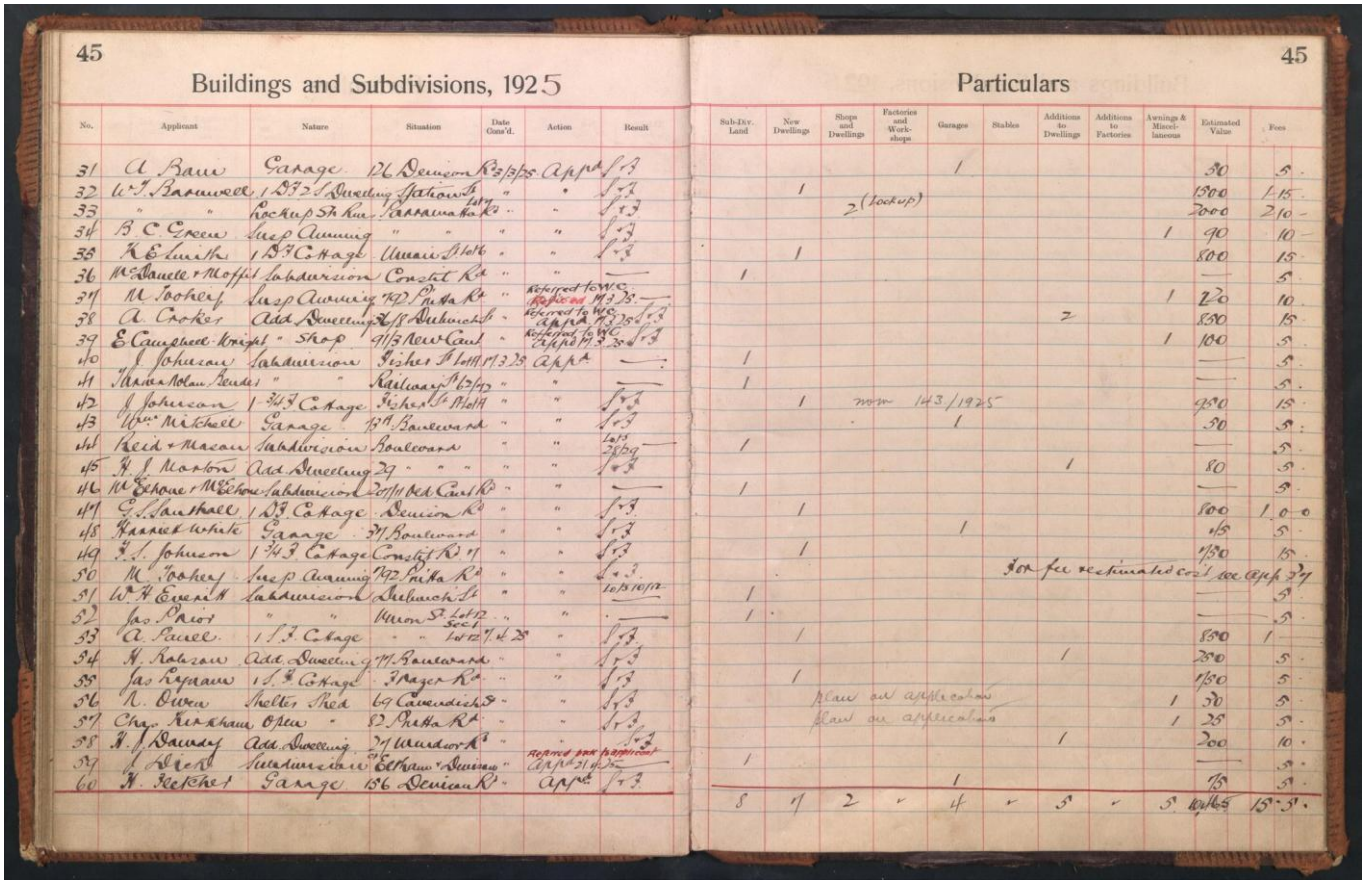
- Changes of owner are indicated by the original entry being crossed out and the new details written in

- Occupant details are sometimes recorded, mainly in the earlier books

- Assessment numbers are given to each property. A property may not have the same assessment number in successive years

- Description of property is usually limited to house, cottage, shop, factory or land. Other property uses are not usually recorded. Abbreviations are also often used e.g. Bk (brick), WB (weatherboard), Ctg (cottage). Sometimes the number of rooms is recorded.
  Note: Descriptions can vary between assessors.

Building Registers



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Buildings and Subdivisions, 1925

No.	Applicant	Nature	Situation	Date Consd.	Action	Result
31	A Bane	Garage	26 Denison Rd	13/25	Appd	
32	W J Bramwell	1 D.T. Dwelling	Gatehouse	"	"	
33	" "	Lockup Str Rm	Parramatta Rd	"	"	
34	B C Green	Surp Awning	" "	"	"	
35	K E Smith	1 D.T. Cottage	Illawarra Rd	"	"	
36	Mc Daniel + Moffit	Subdivision	Constit Rd	"	"	
37	M Tookey	Surp Awning	192 Parramatta Rd	"	Referred to W.C. Rejected	
38	A Crooker	Add Dwelling	4 Dulwich St	"	Referred to W.C. Appd 17/3/25	
39	E Campbell-Knight	Shop	411 New Canl Rd	"	Referred to W.C. Appd 17/3/25	
40	J Johnson	Subdivision	Fisher St Petersham	11/3/25	Appd	
41	Parramatta Roads	" "	Railway Rd	"	"	
42	J Johnson	1 D.T. Cottage	Fisher St Petersham	"	"	
43	Wm Mitchell	Garage	194 Boulevard	"	"	
44	Reid + Macan	Subdivision	Boulevard	"	"	Lots 2 to 9
45	W J Manton	Add Dwelling	29 " "	"	"	
46	M Ethone + M Ethone	Subdivision	20 & 22 Old Canl Rd	"	"	
47	G Shanthall	1 D.T. Cottage	Denison Rd	"	"	
48	Frances White	Garage	371 Boulevard	"	"	
49	F J Johnson	1 D.T. Cottage	Constit Rd	"	"	
50	M Tookey	Surp Awning	192 Parramatta Rd	"	"	
51	W H Everett	Subdivision	Dulwich St	"	"	10/3/25
52	Jas Paiot	" "	Union St Lot 12 Sec 1	"	"	
53	A Pavell	1 D.T. Cottage	" " Lot 12	7/4/25	"	
54	N Katzow	Add Dwelling	371 Boulevard	"	"	
55	Jas Kynaw	1 D.T. Cottage	3 Hazer Rd	"	"	
56	R. Owen	Shelter Shed	69 Cavendish St	"	"	
57	Chas Kenham	Open "	82 Parramatta Rd	"	"	
58	N J Bawdy	Add Dwelling	27 Marlborough St	"	Refused see Rejected	
59	J Abel	Subdivision	Eltham + Denison	"	Appd 31/3/25	
60	N Fletcher	Garage	196 Denison Rd	"	Appd	

Particulars

Sub-Div. Land	New Dwellings	Shops and Dwellings	Factories and Work-shops	Garages	Stables	Additions to Dwellings	Additions to Factories	Awnings & Miscellaneous	Estimated Value	Fees
				1					30	5
	1								1300	1 15
		2 (lockup)							2000	2 10
								1	90	10
	1								800	15
1									—	5
								1	220	10
						2			850	15
								1	100	5
1									—	5
1									—	5
	1	now 1+3 / 1925		1					950	15
									30	5
1									—	5
						1			80	5
1									—	5
	1								800	1 0 0
				1					45	5
	1								1150	15
						for estimated cost see appl 37				
1									—	5
1									—	5
	1								800	1
						1			280	5
	1								1150	5
		plans on application						1	30	5
		plans on application						1	25	5
						1			200	10
1									—	5
				1					75	5
8	11	2	4	4		3		5	10 Lots 5	15 3

1925 Petersham Council Building Register

Building Registers were compiled by Council and record applications submitted to Council for approval of building works or subdivision of property. The Registers can be used to confirm construction dates or that works were approved by Council.

Building Registers record applications for:

- Construction of new buildings such as houses, garages or factories
- Alterations to existing buildings such as conversion of a house to flats
- Subdivision of land

The Building Registers usually contain the following information:

- application number
- applicant's name
- property address
- description of the building work
- date the application was submitted
- Council meeting date at which the application was considered
- whether the application was approved, referred to a Committee, subject to conditions or not granted
- whether the work was started or finished
- Council ward (former Ashfield Council and St Peters Building Registers)

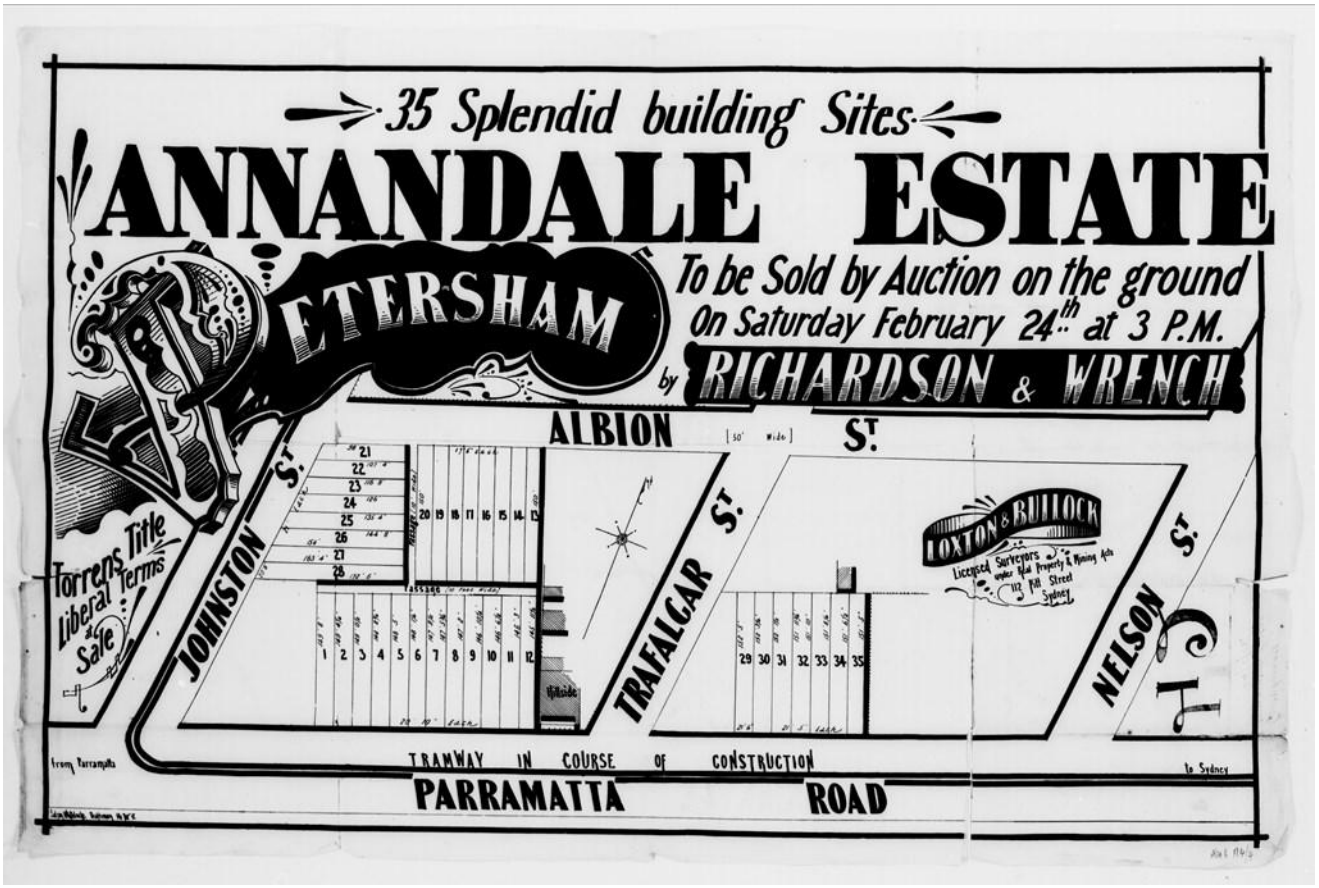
Building applications are arranged by year and application number. Building application numbers are recorded in the Valuation assessment Books.

Note: most building plans earlier than 1950 have not survived

Building and subdivision registers held

- Ashfield Council 1909 – 1997 (hard copy from 1981)
- Marrickville Council 1922 – 1997 (hard copy from 1957)
- Petersham Council 1911 – 1949
- St Peters Council 1919 – 1948
- Leichhardt Council Plans – 1909-1985

Subdivision Plans



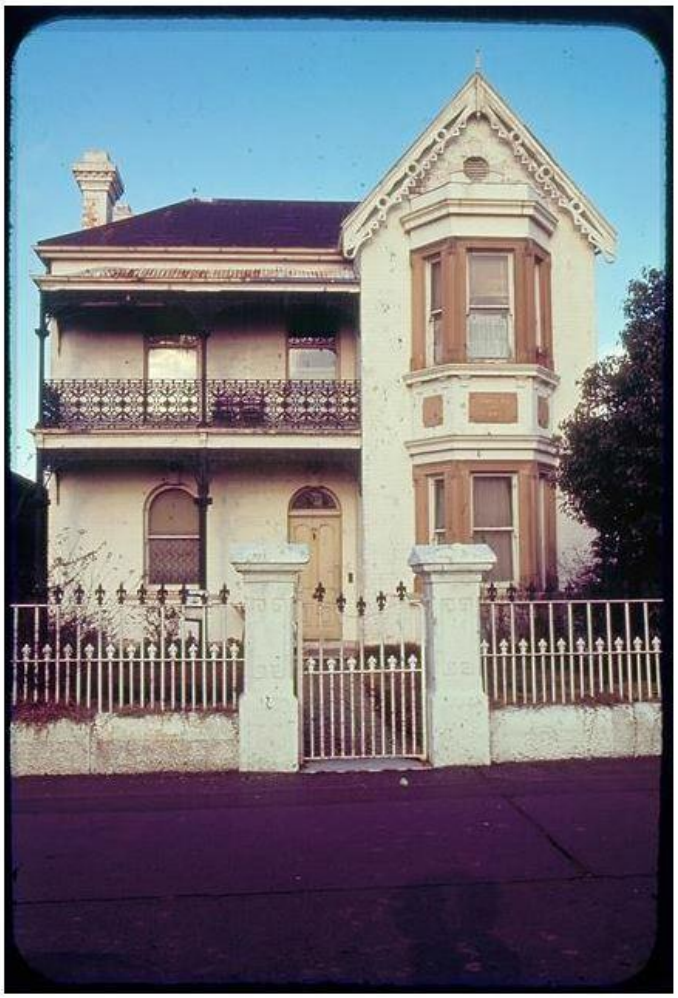
Subdivision plans were produced by property developers and real estate agents to promote land sales during the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Subdivision plans contain the name of the estate, size and number of lots, date and location of the auction. Subdivision plans often included local landmarks, houses or buildings that existed at the time of the subdivision.
Subdivision plans can be used to help you identify when an area was settled and when houses were constructed.

You can find subdivision plans on our catalogue

Note: We do not hold every subdivision produced. There may not be a subdivision for your street, the section or side of your street.

Additional subdivision plans can be found on the State Library of NSW website

Photos of houses or streets

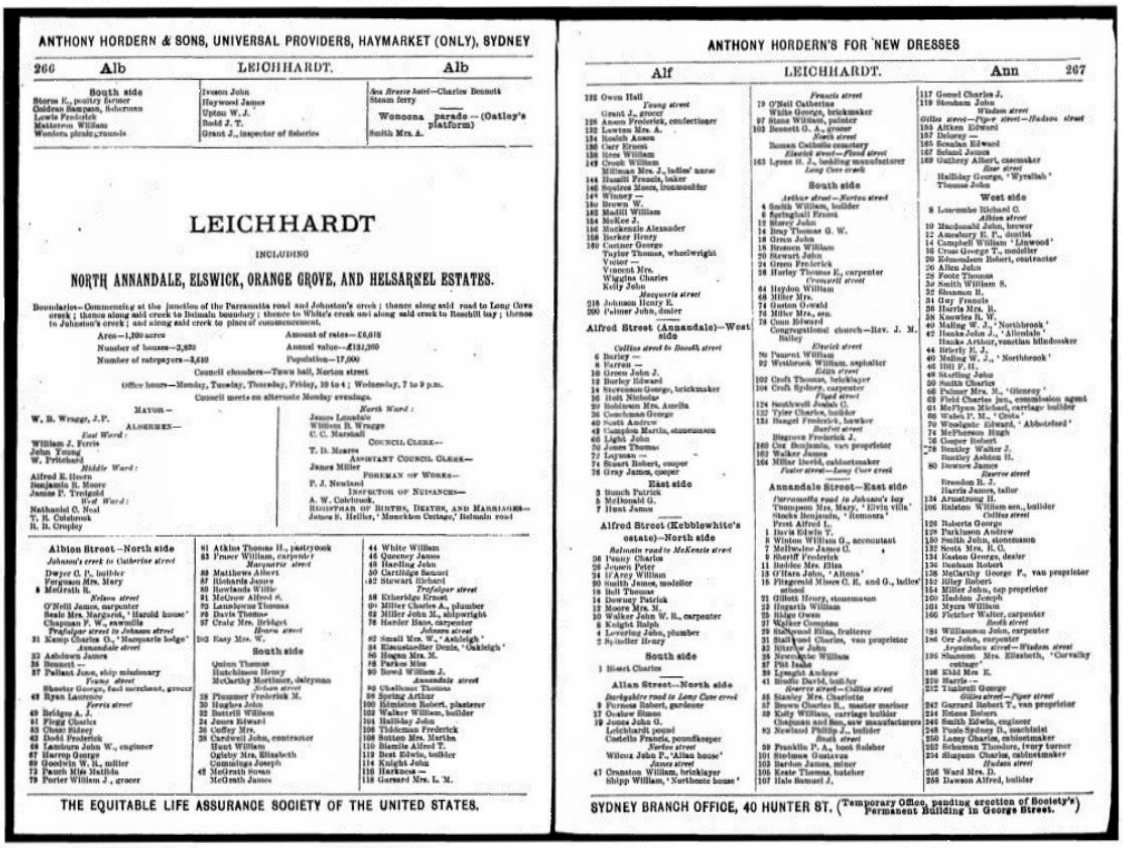


< 27/40 > Peter Reynolds Collection : Norton House, 33 Johnston Street, Annandale.

The library's photo collection contains photos of houses, buildings and streets. You can use the library online catalogue to search for photos. Search by street name or suburb.

Note: the photo collection doesn't contain photos of all houses or streets. If you have a photo you'd like to loan or donate to the Library, please talk to History staff at the Library or email history@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Sands Sydney Directory



ANTHONY HORDERN & SONS, UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS, HAYMARKET (ONLY), SYDNEY

266 Alb LEICHHARDT. Alb

LEICHHARDT

INCLUDING

NORTH ANNANDALE, ELSWICK, ORANGE GROVE, AND HELSARMEL ESTATES.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

ANTHONY HORDERN'S FOR NEW DRESSES

Alf LEICHHARDT. Ann 267

SYDNEY BRANCH OFFICE, 40 HUNTER ST. (Temporary Office, pending erection of Society's Permanent Building in George Street.

[Sands Sydney Directory](#) records occupants of residential and commercial properties. It was published annually between 1858 and 1932. The Directory covers every Sydney suburb and is arranged alphabetically by Council area.

You can use the Sands Directory to cross reference information found in the Valuation or Rate books or to fill in gaps if books are unavailable for particular years.

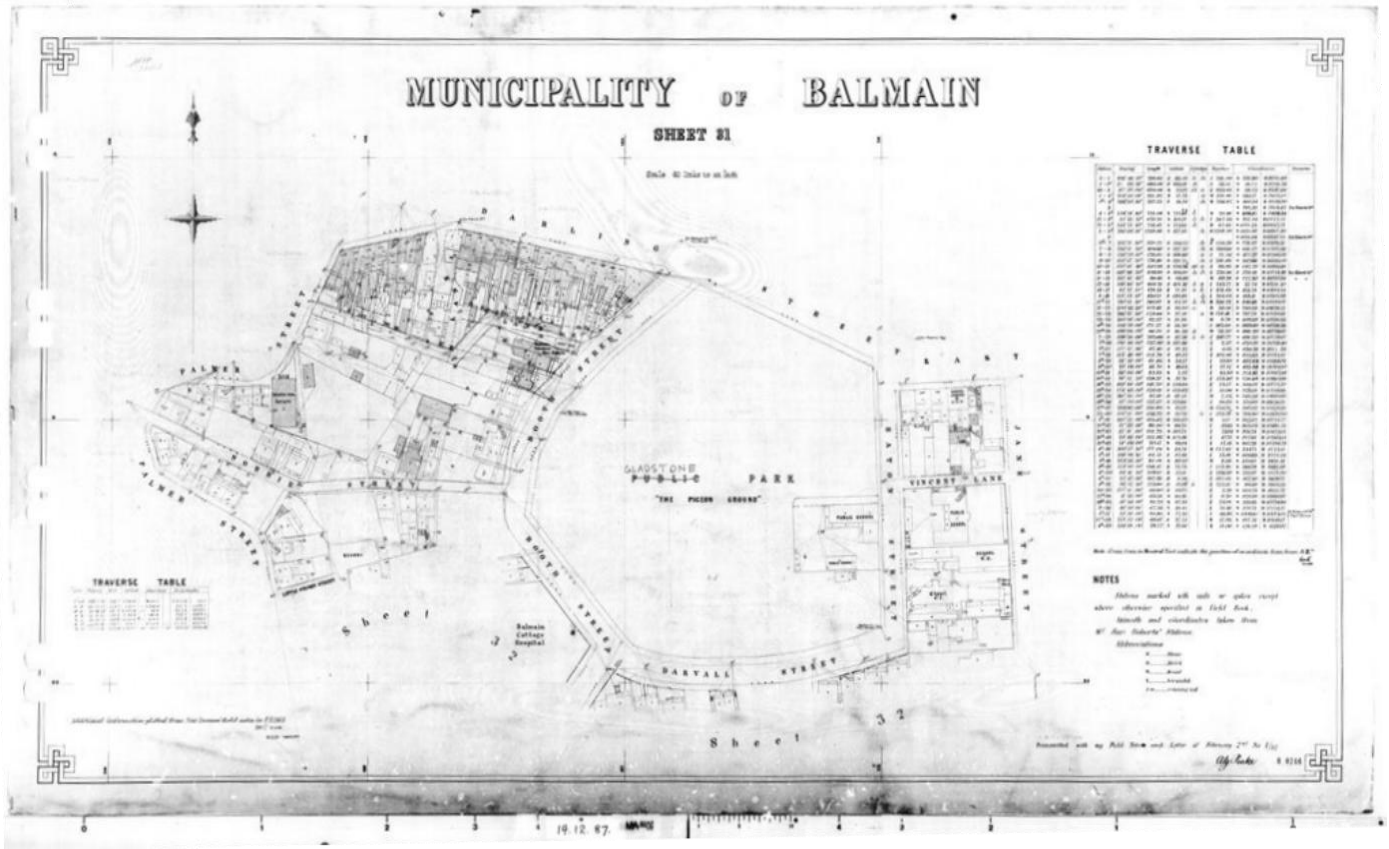
What information is in the Sands Directory:

- Names of people who lived in a building. Note the directory doesn't indicate whether the occupants are tenants or owners
- Occupations of occupants (sometimes recorded)
- Type of building e.g. shop or factory
- House name (sometimes recorded)
- A directory of trades, professions, commercial businesses and organisations

Sydney Metropolitan Detail Series plans & Water Board plans

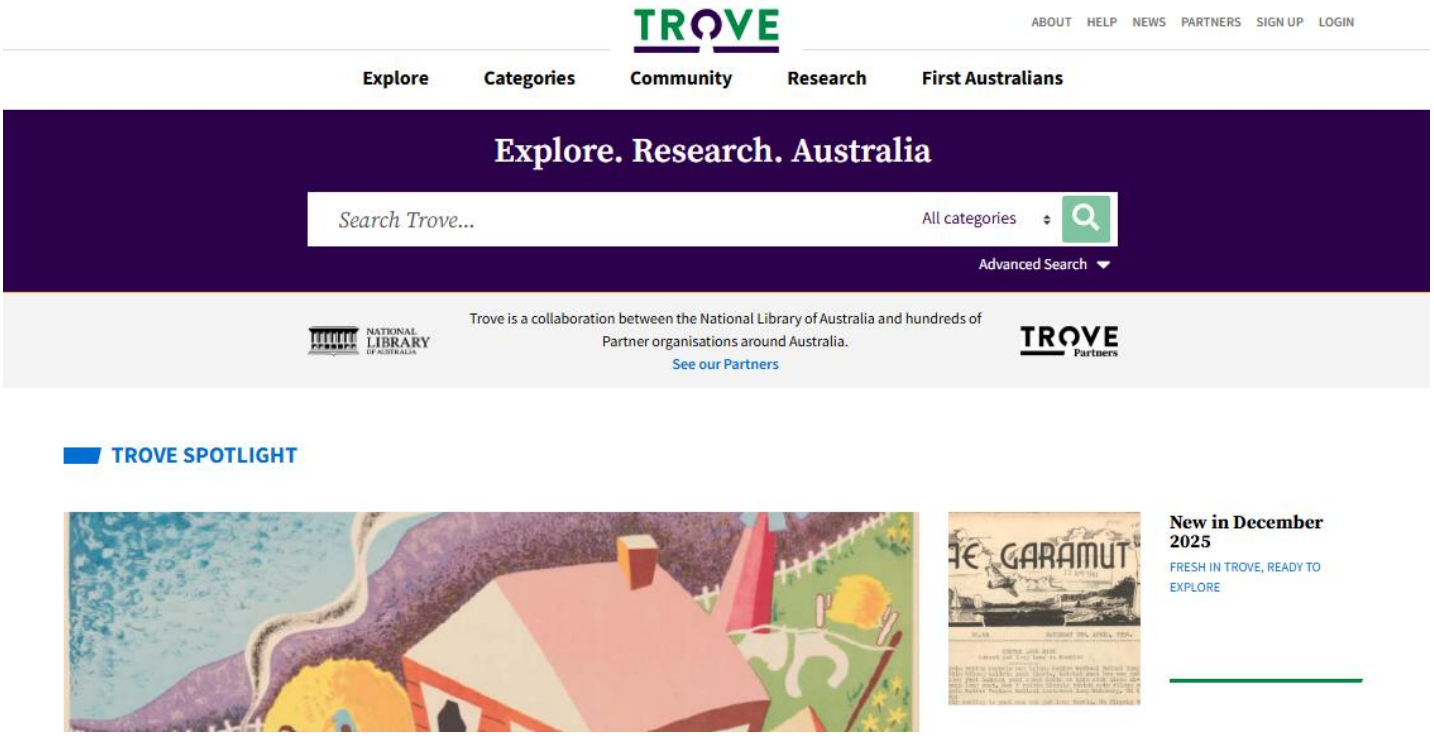
If your house was built prior to 1899 you can use the Metropolitan Details Series plans or the Water Board plans to view the exact building footprints of houses and other buildings. The maps date from approximately 1880s – 1890s.

Metropolitan Plans are only available for some suburbs and streets.



Trove

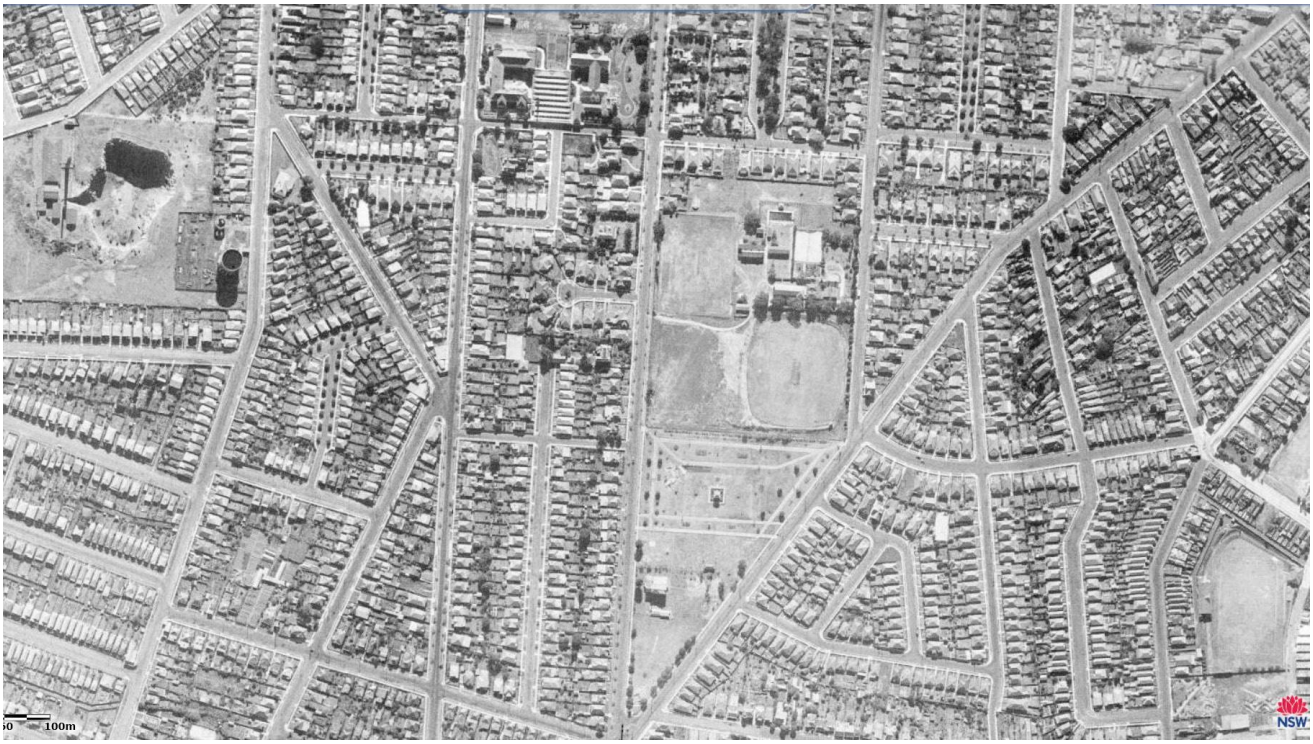
TROVE is a very useful website where you can search for photos, maps, newspaper articles related to your house, the people who owned or lived in the house, the subdivision and more.



Spatial Explorer NSW

Explorer provides access to aerial maps of houses, streets and suburbs in NSW. You can use this to view 1940s to 1980s and 2000s aerial images of the property.

SDT Explorer



Family History and Genealogy Research Links

Cemeteries

- Balmain Cemetery register, now available for complete download
- Field of Mars Cemetery, Ryde, N.S.W.
- Australian Cemeteries Index
- Find a Grave
- Billiongraves
- Rookwood Necropolis : monumental inscriptions
- Metropolitan Memorial Parks

Overall Family History Research Links

- State Library of New South Wales – Professional Family History Researchers can undertake research for you (fees apply). Speak to a family history librarian on Lower Ground 2 of the State Reference Library.
- State Records NSW – Collections of records created by the NSW government and its agencies.
- City of Sydney Archives
- WikiTree: The Free Family Tree
- New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages – The Registry holds over 17 million records of events registered in New South Wales. These records include Early Church Records (baptismal, marriages and burials) from 1788 to 1855 and Birth, death and marriage registrations from 1856 to the present day.
- Society of Australian Genealogists – This site provides information about the Society plus links to Australian and overseas sources. It also provides online access to their library catalogue and some on-line databases.
- IHR NSW Family History Documents - You can become a member of IHR or pays as you go. documents available include land records, electoral rolls, school lists and mining and agricultural records.
- Coraweb – An excellent site which concentrates on Australia whilst also providing wide coverage of other areas.
- Dead Persons Society Ryerson Index – This indexes death notices and obituaries in Australian newspapers. It is a contemporary index.
- NSW Family History Transcriptions Service
- My Ancestors - free Australian genealogy records
- New South Wales, Australia Online Genealogy Records • FamilySearch
- Australian Maps-MAPCO
- Find & Connect - people who grew up in orphanages, children's homes, institutions and foster homes in NSW from the 1920s to the 1990s.
- Australian Medical Pioneer Index - Colonial doctors to 1875.
- Illustrated Sydney News
- Home page | naa.gov.au – National Archives of Australia - shipping and immigration records, World War records, images and documents
- Trove - Newspapers, Magazines, Images, Maps, Diaries and more
- NSW Land Registry – certificate of titles
- Reserve Bank of Australia Unreserved

- Census & musters
- Gaol inmates & prisoners
- Bushrangers
- Child State Care, Orphans, Schools & protection 1817-1940s
- Convicts Index
- Deceased estates files and Probates and wills
- Inquests & coronial inquiries
- Professions & occupations
- NSW Spatial Maps 1943-80s aerial images
- ProQuest Historical Newspapers
- History groups in Sydney - City of Sydney

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family history

- New South Wales | AIATSIS
- Link-Up | AIATSIS - Family tracing and reunion services
- Centre for Indigenous Family History Studies (cifhs.com)
- Records about First Australians | naa.gov.au
- Koorie Family History Service
- Family history | CITS
- Finding Your Ancestors: Researching Aboriginal Family History in NSW
- Family History | Discover Your Family Roots Today — Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation

Research information Guides

- Getting-started - family-history National Library of Australia
- Family history guide – Museums of History
- Ancestry search guide - NSW Government

Early local Community Settlements, Migration, Immigration and Refugees

- Migration Heritage Centre NSW
- European Resources for Family Historians - State Library
- Assisted passengers - Shipping and Passenger Records
- National Migration Monument name search | Australian National Maritime Museum
- Immigration & shipping NSW records 1788-1930
- Passengers Arrivals Index 1898-1972 National Archives of Australia

- Chinese Heritage of Australian Federation Project (archive.org)
- Chinese Australian family history research guide | National Library of Australia (NLA)
- Resources for Chinese Australian ancestors (yourfamilygenealogist.com)
- Lebanese Settlement in New South Wales

- History of the Greek Diaspora in Australia - Greek News Agenda
- A Timeline of Greek Immigration to Australia - Diaspora Travel Greece
- Records relating to Italian migration held in Sydney | naa.gov.au
- Italian_migration_1850-1900.pdf (coasit.com.au)
- Italy - Researching your family history
- ItalianParishRecords.org

- Inner West Latin America and Italian Leichhardt Storytelling Projects - Inner West Council
- German immigration
- Published Family Histories - Lutheran Archives
- International Genealogy Resources – Australian Jewish Historical Society

- Research on Persons and Ancestors - The Federal German Archives
- Greece Online Genealogy Records • FamilySearch
- JRI-Poland - Preserving our history, together.
- Search Your French Ancestors - Geneanet

- Lineages of the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia, South Asia, and the Islamic world
- Asian Resources - Genealogy
- Vietnamese refugees boat arrival | National Museum of Australia

Ships and Quarantine stations

- Female migration to Australia in the 1830s
- Ships Muster People Index: departing NSW (1816-1825) – (Select 'Databases', then 'NSW Ships Musters')
- North Head Quarantine Station, Register of deaths – ('RecordSearch', advanced search, 'Series', Series Search - C526
- North Head Quarantine Station, Sydney | naa.gov.au
- Passenger arrival records | naa.gov.au
- Digitised shipping lists 1828-1896
- Pure Merinos & lists of the Australian Agricultural Company Shipping Lists
- Mariners and Ships in Australian Waters – (Unassisted Passenger & Crew arrivals 1845-1900)
- Fellowship of First Fleeters January 1788.
- Asylums Records and Indexes

Military

- Researching a person | Australian War Memorial
- Military & war NSW records
- Virtual Australian War Memorial
- Convict Records of Australia
- Commonwealth War Graves
- Resources for Military Families

England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland Immigration

- Welsh Wills Search - National Library of Wales
- Scotland Places by County – gazetteers, atlases, maps, etc.
- Historical Directories of England & Wales - Special Collections
- Durham Records Online
- Search Query | FreeREG
- merchant seamen on British registered ships 1861-1913 - crewlist.org.uk
- British history sources 1500-1900 -connectedhistories.org
- 250,000 images of London
- maps, historical descriptions between 1801 and 2001
- virtual reference library of genealogical information -genuki.org.uk

- Directory of Dublin for 1803, name, address and type of merchant with map
- A Vision of Ireland through Time | Map and description
- Irish genealogy
- Passenger Lists of ships sponsored by the Donegal Relief Fund 1859 - 1864
- Galway Emigrant Index (rootsweb.com)
- Irish Famine Memorial – (special immigration scheme to bring destitute single women from the workhouses of Ireland, 1845-48)

- Emigration and immigration | Scotland's People
- NRS Catalogue - welcome

- National Archives of Ireland: Ireland-Australia transportation database
- Irish Passenger Lists – Roots Ireland
- Irish assisted immigrants to New South Wales, Australia, 1848-1870
- The National Archives of Ireland and The National Archives UK
- Genealogy - Dublinforum.net - Forum
- Genealogy Specialists
- GENUKI: Discussion Groups, UK and Ireland
- Welcome to Birmingham History Forum
- British Online Archives—Unique Primary Source Collections

Council Archives

Access to the Council Archives is by appointment only. We make sure that most records are digitised and make them all available online where possible, with our object collection now accessible in 3D.You can search for particular archive items in the catalogue. Then can make an appointment by contacting us history@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Former Ashfield Council Archives
Ashfield Library
Level 3, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield Phone:
9392 5108

Former Marrickville Council Archives
Petersham Town Hall
1st Floor, 105–107 Crystal Street, Petersham
Phone: 9335 2185

Paid history research service

If you don't want to, or can't carry out research yourself, staff are able to assist you.

The fee for history research is first half hour free then $104 per hour, or first half hour free then $52 per hour, for Pensioner Card/Health Card Holders.

Email history@innerwest.nsw.gov.au to make an enquiry.

Development and Building applications

To access Development and Building application records relating to your house, or information after the 1950s contact the Council on council@innerwest.nsw.gov.au or 9392 5000.
Or make a GIPA Request

Other sources of information

NSW Land Registry Services (formerly the Land Titles Office)
NSW Land Registry Services holds a wide range of property records and information relating to properties including land titles, associated plans and historical land grants.
http://www.nswlrs.com.au/

Newtown Project
This website features historical Council records, information, photos and subdivision maps of the former Newtown Council.
http://www.newtownproject.com.au/

Local Notes Page
http://localnotes.net.au/