



Researching Your House in Fitzroy

using the resources of the Fitzroy Library and the Internet

Recommended sequence for researching

- 1 Build up a database of early occupants, from the Sands & McDougall directories
 - of your house, your neighbours, and maybe the whole block of your street
 - noting any changes of house numbering that may have occurred in 1905, 1888, and 1865

- 2 Rate books give details on occupants and their occupations, owner, building description, valuation
 - use Ancestry.com.au if you already know the resident's name
 - use Fitzroy rate books from 1859 onwards, and the Melbourne rate books prior to 1858

- 3 For the original building date, type, owner, builder, it is possible to search
 - Burchett Index (2423 early records of Fitzroy over the period 1850 to 1870)
 - Australian Architectural Index (on-line at mileslewis.net)

- 4 Some one-time records and indexes across Fitzroy, and held at the Fitzroy Library, are
 - VPRS:3182 MCC List of Improved & Unimproved Property, Fitzroy Ward, Nov 1854
(printed version available in Local History Room, Fitzroy)
 - Index of petitioners for municipal separations, from 1856 to 1863
 - MMBW detailed maps of Fitzroy, 1897 to 1900 (also available on-line from SLV)

- 5 Information on owners, occupants and their families is available in
 - index of births, marriages, deaths, inquests
 - shipping arrivals http://prov.vic.gov.au/index_search?searchid=23
 - wills and probate records http://prov.vic.gov.au/index_search?searchid=54

- 6 Newspaper searching
 - <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/search?adv=y>

- 7 Internet search
 - http://www.google.com.au/advanced_search?hl=en

Resources in the Fitzroy Library

- A **Melbourne & Suburban Directories** (by Sands & McDougall, Sands & Kenny, Tanner, etc)
1839 to 1974 on microfiche
1854, 1860-81, 1884, 1892, 1904, 1914-19 fully searchable on CDs
- B **Rate Books** Fitzroy 1859 to 1949 (on microfilm) and 1958 to 1973 (on computer)
Melbourne 1845-60 rate books, and 1843-50 property valuations (on microfiche)
MCC List of Properties, Fitzroy Ward, 1854
- C **MMBW (Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works) maps** of 1897-1900 period,
showing outline of individual houses in Fitzroy (also on-line at slv.vic.gov.au)
- D **Municipal Petitions Index (1856-63)**, includes 6,600 petitioners names and addresses from Fitzroy
- E **Burchett Index of "Notice of intention to build"**, 1850-70 (on CD & FHS website)
- F **Index of Births (1836-1920), Marriages (1836-1942), Deaths (1836-1985)** Also on Ancestry.com.au
- G **Victorian Government Gazette** gazette.slv.vic.gov.au - but with a limited index
or a fully searchable version on the Fitzroy Library "local history" computer, for 1847 and all years 1851-1897
- H **City of Yarra Heritage Studies** 1978 to 1998 (in bookshelves)
and Heritage Database 2008 on "local history" computer
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Resources on the Internet

Newspapers

Trove archive at National Library of Aust. <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/search?adv=y>
Port Phillip Herald 85,000 pages, from 1840 to 1902 paperofrecord.com

Ancestry.com.au

(either by personal subscription, or free use at the Fitzroy Library)

City Directories, 1845-1948 <http://search.ancestry.com.au/search/db.aspx?dbid=60845>
Rate Books, 1855-1963 <http://search.ancestry.com.au/search/db.aspx?dbid=60706>
Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980 <http://search.ancestry.com.au/search/db.aspx?dbid=1207>

City of Yarra

at yarracity.vic.gov.au

then select > Planning > Heritage or > Libraries > Local History Collection

Research Databases of Prof Miles Lewis

at mileslewis.net

then select > Melbourne Mansions with 6375 records total, including 143 in Fitzroy
or select > Aust. Architectural Index with 81,000 records, including 3,000+ in Fitzroy

Public Record Office Victoria > Online indexes and digitised records

at prov.vic.gov.au

select > Wills and Probate often describes properties and contents
or > Passenger Lists often includes early immigrants to Fitzroy

Pictures

National Library (Trove) picture archive at trove.nla.gov.au/picture
PictureVictoria 600+ images of Fitzroy at picturevictoria.org.au
State Library especially 1000+ of Fitzroy in the CUA collection at slv.vic.gov.au