



History

History is one of the major subject strengths of the State Library of Queensland. This is reflected both in the collections of the State Reference Library and the John Oxley Library. The State Reference Library contains printed and electronic information about Australian and world history, with a particular emphasis on Australia. The John Oxley Library is a research collection in the area of Queensland history and contains both published and unpublished resources.

The History collection is useful for all levels of research, from primary school through to postgraduate study, and is also heavily used by members of the general public.

What does it include?

Australian and world history

- **Reference tools** include encyclopaedias, biographical dictionaries, chronologies, bibliographies, yearbooks and a range of print and electronic indexes and databases. Electronic resources include *Australia/New Zealand Reference Centre* and *APAIS*.
- **Books** include a broad range of local, regional and international histories. The extensive collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century histories is a particular strength, as is military history, the general history of Europe, British history and the two world wars. Significant works include *Official history of Australia in the war of 1914-1918* / C.E.W. Bean REF 940.40994 1981.
- **Biography:** British biographical archive (1601 to 1978) MFC 920.042 1984; MFC 920.042 1991 (Series 2) and The Australasian biographical archive MFC 920 1990 allow access to hundreds of sources of biographical information. Two significant reference sources include *The oxford dictionary of national biography* REF 920.041 2004 and *Biography and genealogy master index* REF 920.073 1980-.
- **Journals** published in Australia and internationally with some journals dating back to the mid-eighteenth century. There are long runs of titles such as *The Annual register* and *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* G 906.42.
- **Newspapers** include Australian dailies, Queensland regional papers, and some overseas titles in print, microfilm, and electronic sources. The Times digital archive, for example, gives seamless access to the *London Times* from 1785 to the present.
- **Audiovisual** resources, including documentaries about Australian and world history, are held in video and DVD formats.

Queensland history

The John Oxley Library, located on level 4 of the State Library building, collects primary and secondary source materials that document Queensland's social, cultural, religious, and political history. Resources include books, pamphlets, journals, newspapers, printed ephemera, maps, manuscripts, original works of art, photographs, music, oral history, and online electronic information sources that support sustained research into the history of Queensland.

Books that provide a good overview of Queensland history are:

- *From the Dreaming to 1915 : a history of Queensland* (1982) J 994.3 fit and
A History of Queensland : from 1915 to the 1980s (1984) by Ross Fitzgerald J994.304 fit.
- *Notes on the political history of Queensland, 1859-1917* (1918) by Charles A. Bernays RBJ 320.9943 ber.

A useful bibliography giving titles and publication details of Queensland history resources is:

- *A Guide to the History of Queensland : a bibliographic survey of selected resources in Queensland History* (1985) compiled by Ross Johnston and Margaret Zerner Q 016.9943 joh.

The John Oxley Library also contains published histories of towns and shires, clubs and societies, schools and colleges, churches, universities, political parties and more, as well as biographies, clippings files, and photographs on these subjects.

Journals in the collection, such as the *Royal Historical Society of Queensland Journal* S 994.3005, are a rich source of historical research. This journal is accessible through its associated index, *The Johnston index to the Royal Historical Society of Queensland Journal* REFJ 016.9943 joh.

How can I use the collections?

Material from the State Reference Library is available for use in the State Library. Some databases are only available from State Library premises, but others such as the *Australia/New Zealand Reference Centre* and *NewsBank* may be accessed statewide by Queenslanders who hold a State Library e-services card, or who are public library members.



What services are on offer?

Experienced librarians are available to help you with your enquiries. For assistance ask at any of the State Library Information Desks on levels 1, 2, 3 or 4, ring 07 3840 7810, fill out an online enquiry form at www.slq.qld.gov.au/enquiry, or contact us on the State Library's instant message service, **Ask SLQ**.

A range of tours, exhibitions and talks are provided as a means of highlighting the historical resources held by the State Library. These are included within the State Library's What's On brochure and online at www.slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on

How do I access these services and facilities?

Relevant material can be identified using the State Library's online catalogue and the *Picture Queensland* and *Manuscripts Queensland* online finding aids at www.slq.qld.gov.au/oh

Log on to the State Library's website at www.slq.qld.gov.au to:

- Browse the online catalogue and databases at www.slq.qld.gov.au/find
- Browse the digital Queensland Heritage Collections at www.slq.qld.gov.au/oh
- Fill in an online enquiry form at www.slq.qld.gov.au/enquiry

Visit the State Library at South Bank, Brisbane to access:

- The State Reference Library's general collection, journals and serials on level 2
- Video recordings, DVDs, and newspapers on level 3
- The John Oxley Library on level 4

For opening hours details go to www.slq.qld.gov.au/home/hours

See Info Guides on *How to search the catalogue* and *How to request an item* for more information.

How do I borrow it?

Material held in the State Reference Library can be made available via your local public library. It is not available for loan directly to individuals.

Material held within the John Oxley Library is not available for loan, and may only be accessed within the John Oxley Library Reading Room, level 4, State Library of Queensland, South Bank.

Need further information?

State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank

Reference Services: 07 3840 7810

John Oxley Library: 07 3840 7880

www.slq.qld.gov.au/enquiry

Visit www.slq.qld.gov.au/find/infoguides to access all Info Guides