Family History
Immigration and shipping: getting started

Under what migrant schemes did people arrive?

Immigrants travelled under different schemes. **Assisted passengers** received a government subsidy and paid a small charge or were free. **Remittance or Nominated** passages were arranged by a friend or relative living in Australia, who paid a warrant for their passage to the Government. **Indentured immigrants** were brought out as contract labourers for employers who paid the Government for their passage. **Unassisted** immigrants paid full fare. More information exists for assisted passengers but the amount varies according to time period and the colony or State. Check guides for each State for further information.

What resources are available?

The following **indexes** and **lists are a selection** that will help you trace your ancestor's arrival in Australia.

Queensland: check NSW and Victorian lists as well

1848-1859	Index: passengers arriving in Moreton Bay (now Brisbane)	Family history reference collection (MFA 929.3944) https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/node/1341/browse **Note:** The website provides an index and some are digitised. State Library holds the lists. **This is the best index for the period before 1859**
1848-1915	Index: assisted immigrants to Qld	Family history reference collection (MFA 929.3) State Library holds the lists.
1848-1915	Index: assisted immigrant ships to Qld	Open access microfilms, family history reference collection. The Library holds the lists. (MFL 929.3943)
1848-1912	Index: Assisted immigrants to Qld	https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/search-the-records *Index categories < Immigration < Assisted Immigration 1848-1912* Connect to digitised lists. State Library holds additional lists.
1852-1899	Queensland Customs House shipping index – passengers & crew	Indexes on CD-ROM (QCFS 929.39431) **Note:** Digitised lists are available through National Archives of Australia, Item J715, Rolls 1-42.

New South Wales

1828-1842*	Lexigraphical index to assisted immigrants (Bounty Index)	Open access microfilm, family history reference collection. State Library holds the index and lists *Bounty Immigration NSW* [CD-ROM] (QCFS 929.3944 2002) https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1542665 (Available on FamilySearch website)
1828-1843	Index: miscellaneous assisted immigrants	https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/node/1346/browse **Note:** State Library holds some of the films indexed.
1844-1896	Indexes: assisted immigrants to NSW	Family history reference collection (MFA 929.3944) https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/node/1341/browse **Note:** Website provides index & some digitised lists. Library holds lists.
1853-1900	Immigration deposit journals	Index and Journals on open access microfiche (MFCB 929.3944 1988) or CD-ROM (QCFS 929.3944 2005) **Note:** Also search indexes and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1826-1853	Card index to unassisted passengers arriving NSW	Open access microfilm, family history reference collection (MFL 929.3944 1999 [AO Reels 1358-1372])
1842-1855	Index: unassisted arrivals to NSW	Index and lists on open access microform (MFCB 929.3944 1994) https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/node/1351/browse
1845-1922	Index: unassisted and coastal shipping	http://marinersandships.com.au/ State Library holds the lists.
1837-1925	Index to vessels arrived Sydney	https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/node/1356/browse
1826-1922	Indexes to assisted & unassisted passengers	Search indexes and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1826-1900	Indexes to assisted & unassisted passengers	Search indexes and lists onsite at **FindMyPast**

Victoria

1839-1851	Index: assisted immigrants, Port Phillip	Family history reference collection (MFA 929.3944) https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/node/1341/browse **Note:** Website provides an index only. State Library holds the lists.
1839-1871	Index: assisted British immigration	Open access microfiche, family history reference collection https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/passenger-records-and-immigration/assisted-passenger-lists **Note:** Website provides an index only. State Library holds the lists.
1846-1889	Index: unassisted immigrants from Britain	Open access microfiche, family history reference collection. The Library holds the lists.
1852-1923	Index: unassisted immigrants from British, NZ & foreign ports	Open access microfiche (to 1923) and CD-ROM (to 1879). Ask at family history desk, level 3. State Library holds the lists.
1852-1923	Index: unassisted inward passengers to Victoria	https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/passenger-records-and-immigration/unassisted-passenger-lists **Note**: Website provides an index only. State Library holds lists.
1852-1915	Index: outwards passengers to interstate, UK & foreign ports	https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/passenger-records-and-immigration/outwards-passenger-lists **Note:** Website provides an index only. Library does not hold the lists.
1839-1851	Index: assisted immigrants,Port Phillip	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1839-1923	Index to assisted & unassisted passengers	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)** Search indexes onsite at **FindMyPast**
1852-1924	Coastal passenger lists	Search index and lists onsite at **FindMyPast**

Tasmania

1829-1865	Unassisted and coastal shipping. Index and passenger lists on open access	Index at MFCB 929.3946 1993 (microfiche) Lists at MFL 929.3946 1987 (microfilm)
1841-1889	Assisted immigrants. Index and lists both on open access	Index at MFCB 929.3946 1992 (microfiche) Lists at MFL 929.3946 1984 (microfilm)
1817-1887	Index to Departures	https://librariestas.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names/ Search also onsite at **FindMyPast**
19th Century	Index to passengers & ships arrivals	https://librariestas.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names/
1829-1957	Index to passenger arrivals	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1834-1837 1841-1887	Index to passenger and crew lists	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1841-1884	Immigrant lists	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1854-1887	Immigrant applications & Bounty tickets	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**

South Australia

1836-1841	Index to emigrant labourers applying for free passage to South Australia	MFCB 929.39423 Open access microfiche.
1836-1851	Bound for South Australia: passenger lists 1836-1851	CD-ROM (QCFS 929.39423 2005) Ask at reference desk
1845-1886	Official passenger lists, assisted passages from the U.K.	Open access microfiche, MFCB 929.39423 https://archives.sa.gov.au/finding-information/discover-our-collection/migration-and-crew/passenger-lists-1845-1940 **Note:** Website provides index and digitised lists. Library holds the lists
1846-1887	Newspaper index: persons arriving in South Australia from overseas (including New Zealand) as recorded in the *Adelaide Times*, *South Australian* & *South Australian Register*	MFCB 929.39423 1995 Open access microfiche
1888-1908	Alphabetical index to in-coming passenger list	MFCB 929.39423 Open access microfiche
1888-1940	Official lists of passengers arriving in Port Adelaide from overseas	https://archives.sa.gov.au/finding-information/discover-our-collection/migration-and-crew/passenger-lists-1845-1940 **Note:** Website provides index and digitised lists.
1922-1924	Index to applications, assisted passages as farm labourers (Barwell Boys)	MFCB 929.39423 Open access microfiche
1921-1930 1938-1939	Index to applications, assisted passages for domestic servants	MFCB 929.39423 Open access microfiche

Western Australia

1829-1890 1885-1908	Index: arrivals at Fremantle from overseas Index: arrivals at Fremantle from interstate	MFCB 929.3941 1986 Open access microfiche
1873-1925 1873-1924	Index: Arrivals from overseas into Albany Index: Arrivals from interstate into Albany	MFCB 929.3941 1986 Open access microfiche
1839-1890 1898-1925	Passenger arrivals in Western Australia, overseas and interstate	CD-ROM (QCFS 929.3941) Ask at reference desk
1873-1903	Passenger and crew lists (*Access to Ancestors* reels 198-206, 211-213)	Microfilm at MFL 929.3941 1990 Open access
1852-1930	Index to crew and passenger lists	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition**
1897-1963	Index to Freemantle passenger lists	Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition**

New Zealand

1839-1973	Index to passenger lists from Archives New Zealand (Inwards and Outwards)	Search indexes and lists at https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1609792
1843-1880	Index to arrivals and departures from New Plymouth	MFC 929.393432 1999 http://pukeariki.com/Learning-Research/Taranaki-Research-Centre/Passenger-List (1852-1880)
1839-1897	Index to arrivals into Wellington	http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/Leisure--Culture/Museums-and-galleries/Our-museums/petone-settlers-data/
1838-1889 1909-1921	Index to Auckland area passenger arrivals	https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/digital/collection/passengers
1852-1923	Index: unassisted immigrants from New Zealand ports to Victoria	Open access microfiche (to 1923) and CD-ROM (to 1879). Ask at reference desk. The Library holds the lists.
1852-1923	Index: unassisted inward passengers to Victoria	https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/explore-topic/passenger-records-and-immigration/unassisted-passenger-lists **Note:** Website provides index only. State Library holds lists. Search index and lists onsite at **Ancestry (Library Edition)**
1852-1923	Passenger lists - Victoria, Australia outwards to New Zealand	MFC 929.393 1996 (1852-1880) CD-ROM - QCFS 929.393 2009 (1852-1923) Ask at family history desk, level 3. State Library doesn't hold the lists

Other Passenger and Shipping Lists

Queensland State Archives website also holds other indexes that relate to immigration lists such as Immigrant Agent's lists. These can be found on the **Immigration** page
https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/immigration/

National Archives Australia *RecordSearch* https://www.naa.gov.au/explore-collection provides access to 20th Century indexes and lists for all Australian states. For 1898-1966 check *Passenger Arrivals Index* tab in Search screen. Also available are Brisbane incoming lists, 1852-1964, Series no. J715, Rolls 1-42 (Use advanced item search and know the date range).

Emigrants from Hamburg to Australia
This index (FAMHIS 929.3943 1991; QCFS 929.3943 2006), compiled by Eric and Rosemary Kopittke, lists German and some Scandinavian immigrants for the years 1850-1879 at the point of departure. There are indexes for 1850-1859 and 1860-69 together with the lists on open access. For the 1870s use the index at the back of each book. These records are also available on CD-ROM (QCFS 929.3943 2006) at the Family History reference desk on Level 3.

The **Shipping Intelligence** column of Australian newspapers reported daily arrivals and departures for overseas and coastal shipping. Usually, names of full fare paying passengers are listed, plus the name of the Captain, details of the ship's cargo and sometimes a report of the voyage; and the condition and character of the immigrants.

Early shipping in Moreton Bay: June 1846-December 1859 and **Early shipping in Moreton Bay : January 1860-December 1863** (both at FAMHIS 387.2.1998) contain newspaper passenger lists of unassisted migrants and shipping news from information extracted from the *Moreton Bay Courier's* shipping reports. Names are indexed at the back.

Passenger lists from the Melbourne newspaper **Argus** 1846-1868 (MFC 929.3945 1993) are indexed.

The Hodge Index (MFC 929.39423 1990) is an index to passenger lists published in South Australian newspapers for S.A. ports and New Zealand, 1837-1855.

Sources for SA shipping records 1836 to 1842 [CD-ROM] (QCFS 929.39423 2006) compiled by Graham Jaunay, is a database that provides vessel name and voyage details, the sources, and a listing of passengers.

Register of New Zealand immigrants of Scottish birth arriving before 1 January 1921 (MFC 929.393 1999-2005), is compiled by Scottish Interest Group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, and can be searched via surname, place of birth, year of birth or year of arrival.

Also available through **Ancestry (Library edition)**, *onsite* at State Library, are passenger lists to the USA and Canada as well as *UK Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960* and *UK Outward Passenger Lists 1890-1960*.

Check **FindMyPast**, available at State Library, for *Passengers leaving the UK 1890-1960*.

Check the State Library One Search online catalogue http://onesearch.slq.qld.gov.au

or *Research guide – Immigration & shipping: more than lists*.

Need further information?

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