NAA

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA

Fact sheet

Tracing ancestors in the National Archives

The National Archives holds records that might be useful in your family history research. By identifying the ways in which the people you are researching may have had contact with the Australian Government, you might be able to locate records relevant to your search. This fact sheet lists subject areas for which records are likely to be held and identifies fact sheets and/or research guides that will lead to the records.

You should also refer to the National Archives' publication Finding Families: The Guide to the National Archives of Australia for Genealogists.

Defence force and defence service

Boer War

- *Fact sheet 67 - Boer War records*

Civilian service

- *Fact sheet - 39 Civilian service in World War II*
- *Fact sheet - 181 Civil Construction Corps records held in Perth*
- *Fact sheet - 183 New Guard Movement, 1931–35*

Coastal fortifications

- *Fact sheet - 24 Coastal fortifications in New South Wales*

Courts martial

- *Fact sheet - 63 Sources of information about military service*

Defence force personnel records

- *Fact sheet - 30 Navy service records*
- *Fact sheet - 32 RAAF service records*
- *Fact sheet - 63 Sources of information about military service*
- *Fact sheet - 67 Boer War records*

Records held by Office of Air Force History, Canberra

- *Fact sheet - 121 General Sir John Monash*
- *Fact sheet - 136 Army service records*
- *Fact sheet - 138 Navy service records held in Melbourne*
- *Fact sheet - 177 Defence service records for World War I and World War II*

HMAS Sydney

- *Fact sheet - 111 The sinking of HMAS Sydney, November 1941*
- The Sinking of the HMAS Sydney: A Guide to Commonwealth Government Records

Maralinga

- *Fact sheet - 129 British nuclear tests at Maralinga*
- Aboriginal Deaths in Custody: The Royal Commission and its Records, 1987–91

Militia

- *Fact sheet - 134 Colonial defence personnel records held in Melbourne*

National service

- *Fact sheet - 117 Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War*
- *Fact sheet - 160 Universal military training in Australia, 1911–29*
- *Fact sheet - 161 Conscription referendums, 1916 and 1917*
- *Fact sheet - 162 National service and war, 1939–45*
- *Fact sheet - 163 National Service, 1951–59*
- *Fact sheet - 164 National Service, 1965–72*

Pay and administrative records

- *Fact sheet - 36 Military records held in Hobart*
- *Fact sheet - 132 World War II Army pay files held in Adelaide*
- *Fact sheet - 133 Defence and service records held in Melbourne*
- *Fact sheet - 135 Army administrative records held in Melbourne*
- *Fact sheet - 137 Navy Historical Records files*
- *Fact sheet - 152 Army and RAAF pay records held in Perth*

Prisoners of war

- *Fact sheet - 61 World War II war crimes*

RMC Duntroon

- *Fact sheet - 165 Royal Military College, Duntroon*

War veterans

- *Fact sheet - 54 Veterans' case files*

The National Archives also holds records on employment in wartime armaments factories.

Immigration

Aircraft arrivals

- *Fact sheet - 66 Migrant selection documents held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 123 Records of British migrants held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 156 Records relating to Dutch migration held in Sydney*

Child migration

- *Fact sheet - 124 Child migration to Australia*
- *Fact sheet - 147 Child migrant records held in Sydney*
- Good British Stock: Child and Youth Migration to Australia

Chinese migration

- Chinese–Australian Journeys: Records on Travel, Migration, and Settlement, 1860–1975

Displaced persons and refugees

- *Fact sheet - 66 Migrant selection documents held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 185 Migrant selection documents held in Perth*

Dutch migration

- *Fact sheet - 156 Records relating to Dutch migration held in Sydney*

Italian migration

- *Fact sheet - 100 Records relating to Italian migration held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 207 Records relating to Italian migration held in Perth*

Japanese migration

- Allies, Enemies and Trading Partners: Records on Australia and the Japanese

Jewish migration

- *Fact sheet - 217 The Jewish experience in Australia*
- Safe Haven: Records of the Jewish Experience in Australia

Migrant accommodation

- *Fact sheet - 170 Migrant hostels in New South Wales, 1946–78*

Migrant selection documents

- *Fact sheet - 66 Migrant selection documents held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 123 Records of British migrants held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 156 Records relating to Dutch migration held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 185 Migrant selection documents held in Perth*

Naturalisation and citizenship

- *Fact sheet - 68 Naturalisation records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 100 Records relating to Italian migration held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 187 Citizenship in Australia*
- Citizenship in Australia: A Guide to Commonwealth Government Records

Passenger records

- *Fact sheet - 38 Passenger records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 56 Passenger records held in Perth*
- *Fact sheet - 64 Passenger records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 172 Passenger records held in Melbourne*
- *Fact sheet - 184 Passenger records held in Hobart*
- *Fact sheet - 190 Passenger records held in Brisbane*
- *Fact sheet - 220 Passenger arrivals index*

Quarantine

- *Fact sheet - 143 North Head Quarantine Station, Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 228 Torrens Island Quarantine Station, South Australia*

The National Archives also holds records on emigration and passports.

Internal security

Internees, aliens and POWs

- *Fact sheet - 58 World War I internee, alien and POW records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 59 World War II internee, alien and POW records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 101 World War II internee, alien and POW records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 106 World War I internee, alien and POW records held in Adelaide*
- *Fact sheet - 107 World War II internee, alien and POW records held in Adelaide*
- *Fact sheet - 171 World War I internee, alien and POW records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 180 Wartime internee, alien and POW records held in Perth*
- *Fact sheet - 182 Civil Aliens Corps records held in Perth*

ASIO and its predecessors

- *Fact sheet - 33 Security intelligence records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet - 52 Exempt information in ASIO records*

- *Fact sheet - 53 Personal information in ASIO records*
- *Fact sheet - 69 ASIO files on writers and literary groups*
- *Fact sheet - 130 The Royal Commission on Espionage, 1954–55*
- *Fact sheet - 173 Security intelligence records held in Melbourne*

Employment

Commonwealth public servants

- *Fact sheet - 27 Tasmanian railways*
- *Fact sheet - 35 Administration of the Australian Capital Territory*
- *Fact sheet - 60 Design and development of the National Capital*

Customs and shipping

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- *Fact sheet - 55 Fremantle Harbour*
- *Fact sheet - 65 Customs shipping records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 92 Customs houses in South Australia*
- *Fact sheet - 93 Customs House, Port Adelaide, South Australia*

Dockyards

- *Fact sheet - 140 Cockatoo Island Dockyard*
- *Fact sheet - 141 Stevedoring industry*
- Cockatoo Island Dockyard: A Guide to the Records

Foreign and diplomatic service

- *Fact sheet - 88 Australia and the United Nations*
- *Fact sheet - 158 The foundation of the State of Israel, 1948*

Lighthouses

- *Fact sheet - 122 Lighthouse records in Tasmania*
- *Fact sheet - 233 Lighthouse records held in Brisbane*
- *Fact sheet - 259 South Australian lighthouse records*

Post offices

- *Fact sheet - 50 Post Office records*
- *Fact sheet - 189 General Post Office, Sydney*

Territorial administration

- *Fact sheet - 48 Papua New Guinea patrol reports*
- *Fact sheet - 103 The Cocos (Keeling) Islands*

- *Fact sheet - 148 Records of Papua New Guinea, 1883–1942*
- *Fact sheet - 157 Christmas Island*
- Papua New Guinea Records 1883–1942: Microfilm Collections

Commerce and industry

Business

- *Fact sheet - 120 Bankruptcy records held in Sydney*
- *Fact sheet - 155 Edward John Connellan and Connellan Airways*

Copyright and patents

- *Fact sheet - 105 Copyright records*
- *Fact sheet - 245 Patent, trademark and design records in Brisbane*
- *Fact sheet - 265 Patent records held in Canberra*

Industrial relations

- *Fact sheet - 232 Industrial relations records held in Melbourne*

Industry

- *Fact sheet - 26 The wine industry in South Australia*
- *Fact sheet - 94 Excise control of distilled products in South Australia*
- *Fact sheet - 98 Regulation of beer and brewing in South Australia*
- *Fact sheet - 108 The pastoral industry in the Northern Territory*
- *Fact sheet - 199 Army Inventions Directorate, 1942–46*

Merchant Navy

- *Fact sheet - 30 Navy service records*

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Bringing Them Home

- *Fact sheet - 175 Bringing Them Home name index*

General

- *Fact sheet - 112 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody*
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- *Fact sheet - 114 Memorandum of Understanding with Northern Territory Aboriginal people*
- *Fact sheet - 145 Albert Namatjira*
- *Fact sheet - 150 The 1967 referendum*
- *Fact sheet - 205 Memorandum of Understanding with the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency*

- *Fact sheet - 209 Memorandum of Understanding with South Australian Indigenous people*
- *Fact sheet - 224 The Wave Hill 'walk-off'*
- *Fact sheet - 225 Charles Nelson Perkins*
- *Fact sheet - 231 Neville Bonner*
- Aboriginal Deaths in Custody: The Royal Commission and its Records, 1987–91
- walata tyamateetj: A guide to government records about Aboriginal people in Victoria
- Tracking Family: A Guide to Aboriginal Records Relating to the Northern Territory

Prominent figures

General

- *Fact sheet - 28 Australia First Movement*
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- *Fact sheet - 78 Robert Gordon Menzies*
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- *Fact sheet - 82 Joseph Benedict Chifley*
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The arts

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The church

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Points to remember when using the National Archives

Most of the collection dates from Federation in 1901, and records do not become available until they enter the open access period. See Access to records under the Archives Act.

Archival collections are not the same as library collections. See *Fact sheet - 04 What are archives?, Fact sheet - 05 Archival terms*, and Citing archival records.

You must observe the research centre rules. You are using original records that can only be read or copied in the office where they are held.