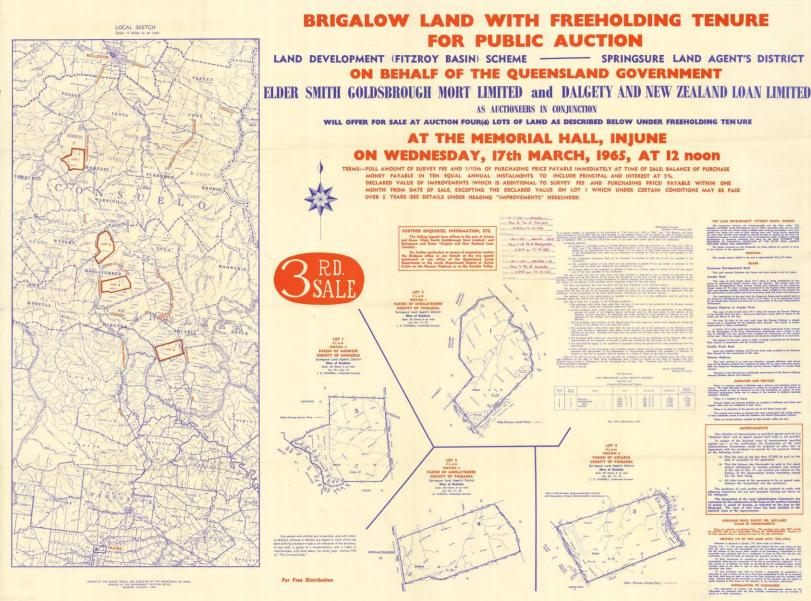
Land tenure records



DR2810 - Map of Brigalow Land with freeholding tenure available for Public Auction, 17 March 1965

Research Guide to land tenure records at Queensland State Archives

Queensland State Archives (QSA) is the official repository for Queensland Government records selected for permanent retention because of their continuing value. The archived public records are from state government departments, state courts, local government authorities and statutory authorities. The records are in our facility at <u>Runcorn, Brisbane</u>, and open records are available for viewing in the Reading Room, free-of-charge.

The main finding aid for records held at QSA is the <u>Queensland State Archives' online catalogue</u> (known as ArchivesSearch).

The following citation abbreviations are used throughout our catalogue:

- ITM QSA Item (describes the item)
- PR Physical Representation (generally the original or microfilm copy)
- DR Digital Representation (for a digital image)
- S Series ID (for series of records)
- A Agency ID (for the creating or responsible agency).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that our catalogue contains images, names and voices of people who have died.

Information about land tenure is found in the records created by the Surveyor General's Department, the Survey Office, the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Crown Lands, the Department of Lands and Works, the Lands Department, and subsequent names of the agency responsible for land records – the most recent is the Department of Resources.

Files about land tenure are often accessed by searching for the name of the land holder in <u>ArchivesSearch</u>. However, many land records are arranged by form of tenure, and the Land Agent or Crown Lands Commissioner's district. To use these records, it is necessary to determine the form of tenure such as pastoral lease, occupation license, selection, special lease or freehold. Further, the conditions for land tenure changed over time with changes to the relevant legislation.

To conduct historical land research, knowledge of three components of land administration is important. These components are administrative areas, property descriptions and land tenure. More detail is available in Land 101 compiled by Kaye Nardella of the Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying.

The main series of land records held at QSA are pastoral leases, occupation licenses, land selections, special leases, freehold title and freehold tenure. These forms of land tenure are generally defined as:

- A *pastoral lease* is a large area of land rented for a fixed period of time from the Crown for pastoral purposes. Pastoral leases are sometimes referred to as runs, stations, blocks or pastoral holdings. The Crown retains the right to resume parts of the leasehold in certain circumstances. Tenancy is usually long term. Types of pastoral leases include preferential pastoral lease, development pastoral lease, prickly pear pastoral lease, stud pastoral lease and forest grazing lease. It was common for farmers to secure improvements on the pastoral property which were usually the homestead and other buildings from being taken over by the Crown at the expiration of the lease, by purchasing the property immediately surrounding the homestead. Therefore, pre-emptive purchases made under section 54 of the *Pastoral Leases Act*, *1869* converted part of the lease to freehold title.
- An occupation license is a large area of land rented for a maximum of one year from the Crown for
 pastoral purposes. The license may be renewed annually if the Crown does not require the land. Similar to
 the pastoral lease with the exception that it is short term and generally for smaller areas of land.

- A *land selection* is a small area of land rented from the Crown for agricultural or grazing purposes. Most types of selections are convertible, that is, they are designed to be converted to freehold tenure after a fixed number of years, provided the selector fulfils certain conditions such as residence by the selector or his bailiff on the land, improvement to a set value, and payment of an annual rent. There are various types of selections such as agricultural farm, grazing farm, grazing homestead, prickly pear or perpetual lease.
- A *special lease* of Crown Land may be granted for a fixed term for manufacturing, industrial, residential, business or recreational purposes.
- A *freehold title* is any piece of land purchased outright. A Deed of Grant is issued upon the first sale of a property. A Certificate of Title is issued upon any subsequent sale and transfer.
- A freehold tenure is a lease that converts to freehold if conditions are met, such as repaying money owed.

Some land tenure records prior to the separation from New South Wales in 1859 are also held at Queensland State Archives, most land records for this period are at the State Records Authority of New South Wales.

Pastoral leases

Papers Relating to the Transfer of Run Leases

Circa 1/1/1848–31/12/1874 S12061

Specific record of interest in this series are: Papers concerning the transfer of leases in the Moreton Bay Region Circa 1/1/1848–31/12/1874 ITM7656, DR24599 and DR24600

Registers of demands made for leases to pastoral runs in the various Pastoral Districts Circa 1/1/1848–31/12/1870

<u>S12035</u>

Specific records of interest in this series are: Register of demands Circa 1/1/1848– 31/12/1868 ITM7561

Register of demands Circa 1/1/1858–31/12/1870 ITM7562

Run Registers Circa 1/1/1849–31/12/1979 S13924

These registers include the name of run, name of lessee, area, description of land, dates of application, action on lease (transfer, forfeiture, surrender of lease), references to consolidations, details of rent.

Specific records of interest in this series include the following registers of runs and register sheets for runs.

Register of runs in Pastoral Districts Burke under the *Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868* Circa 1/7/1873–31/7/1873 ITM23386 Darling Downs under the Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868 Circa 1/7/1868– 31/7/1868 ITM23387, DR59099

Kennedy under the Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868 Circa 1/1/1869–31/1/1878 ITM23388

Moreton under the Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868 Circa 1/7/1868–31/7/1878 ITM23389

Port Curtis under the *Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868* Circa 1/4/1868–31/7/1878 ITM23390

Wide Bay and Burnett under the *Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868* Circa 1/1/1869–31/12/1877 ITM23391

Darling Downs under *Settled Districts Pastoral Leases Act 1876* Circa 1/11/1878–31/10/1880 ITM23420, DR65645

Kennedy under the Settled Districts Pastoral Leases Act 1876 Circa 11/9/1877–5/9/1882 ITM23421, DR65646

Moreton under the Settled Districts Pastoral Leases Act 1876 Circa 1/6/1877–30/9/1882 ITM23422, DR65647

Port Curtis under *the Settled Districts Pastoral Leases Act* 1876 Circa 1/11/1877–30/6/1882 ITM23423, DR65648

Wide Bay and Burnett under the *Settled Districts Pastoral Leases Act 1876* Circa 1/4/1879–30/6/1882 ITM23424, DR65649

Register sheets for runs

Abbey Peak - Ayrshire Downs Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294889

Babbiloora - Blunder Park Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294890 Register of demands Circa 1/1/1858–31/12/1870 ITM7562

Boah – Byroya Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294891 Cabbage Tree – Copesland Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294892

Eaglefield - Funnell Junction Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294894

Haddon – Justin Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294896

Labona – Lythe Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 <u>ITM294898</u>

Mooraberree – Myuna Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294900

Packsaddle - Quita Creek Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294902

Scardons Hill - Sypher Park Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294904

Truno – Weymouth Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294906

Index to registers of runs, LAN/N1

Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1869 ITM23302 in Index to Various Register of Runs, <u>S13915</u>

This index is to the various registers of runs or pastoral leases.

Index to registers of pastoral leases or holdings, LAN/N2 Circa 1/1/1863–31/12/1880 ITM23374 in Alphabetical Register of Pastoral Holdings, <u>S13919</u>

This alphabetical register of pastoral holdings includes names of runs incorporated in pastoral holdings.

Index to pastoral lessees, LAN/N3 Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23375, DR65638 in Index to Lessees of Runs, S13920

This index is used to find entries in Registers of Run Lessees, S13922

Corea – Dysart Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294893

Gadara – Gyranda Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294895

Kaampa – Kyra Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294897

Maaland – Moonzie Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294899

Naibar – Owangowan Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294901

Racecourse Creek - Saxby Downs Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294903

Table Mount – Troutbeck Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294905

Wharton Creek - Zig Zag Creek Circa 1/1/1904–31/12/1977 ITM294907 Registers of Run Lessees

Circa 1/1/1860-31/12/1902 S13922

To find entries in these registers use index LAN/N3, ITM23375, DR65638

Specific records of interest in this series include the following registers:

Register of run lessees (Volume 1) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23377, DR65639

Register of run lessees (Volume 3) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23379, DR83350

Register of run lessees (Volume 5) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23381, DR83352

Register of run lessees (Volume 7) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23383, DR83354 Register of run lessees (Volume 2) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23378, DR65641

Register of run lessees (Volume 4) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23380, DR83351

Register of run lessees (Volume 6) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1902 ITM23382, DR83353

Index to non-current lessees of Crown Land

Circa 1/8/1885–31/12/1993 S14000

This card index is used to find land files including pastoral holdings (run files), <u>S14031</u>. The cards are arranged alphabetically and record persons who held some form of Crown leasehold such as pastoral lease, land selection, occupation license, special lease, non-competitive lease, road lease, perpetual lease under the *Land Act of 1884* and subsequent legislation. Many of the files in S14050 (LAN/DF1-5106) that are indexed in S14000 are name listed in <u>ArchivesSearch</u>. Refer to the following Research Guides for more land record information: <u>Land Agents' records</u>, <u>Land Codes</u>, and <u>Land tenure records</u>.

This card index is partially indexed by QSA online index Registers of Lessees of Agricultural and Grazing Farms 1885-1908 [LAN/P518 Index]

In the decades past, to make public records accessible to members of the public, Queensland State Archives (QSA) created microfilm copies of the files. Recently, these microfilms were digitised as PDFs, and the PDFs are available on the Reading Room computers under *Selected QSA records*.

Pastoral Holdings (Run Files)

Circa 1/1/1850– 2/9/2014 S14031

To find run files up to 1993, search the index to non-current lessees, <u>S14000</u>. In the decades past, to make public records accessible to members of the public, Queensland State Archives (QSA) created microfilm copies of the files. Recently, these microfilms were digitised as PDFs, and the PDFs are available on the Reading Room computers under *Selected QSA records*.

After 1993, search for the name of the lessee and the run in <u>ArchiveSearch</u>. For more information refer to Search procedure: Pastoral leases available in the Reading Room.

Occupation licenses

An occupation license was for a large area of land rented for a maximum of one year from the Crown for pastoral purposes, provided it was not subject to de-pasturing. Similar to the pastoral lease, this land tenure was short-term and generally for a smaller area of land.

Registers of occupation licenses Circa 8/5/1885–31/12/1980 S14008

These registers are used to find the occupation license files, <u>S14005</u>. Information includes Land Agent District; date of *Gazette* notice; date and number of application; area; name of applicant; amount of rent paid.

Occupation license files

Circa 1/1/1865–01/01/2013 <u>S14005</u>

To find occupation license files, search the registers of occupation licenses, <u>S14008</u>, or for more recent files search for the name of the lessee in <u>ArchiveSearch</u>. Files may include the *Government Gazette* notice, application form, description of land, notices of transfer, correspondence with the Lands Department or Land Agent, notification of intention not to renew license, action taken to advertise the land, and letters from persons wanting to rent the land. For more information refer to the <u>Research Guide to Occupation licenses</u>.

Land selections

A selection is an area of land leased from the Crown for agricultural or grazing purposes, such as conditional, unconditional, grazing farm, agricultural farm, grazing homestead, prickly pear, sugar selections, soldier settler selections and perpetual lease selections.

Registers of Selections 8/4/1868– 1/8/1885 <u>\$13945</u>

The registers were used to find selection files in S14033 prior to the selection files being name listed in <u>ArchivesSearch</u>. These registers are indexed by QSA online index, <u>Applications by Selectors 1868-1885</u> (LAN/P54-56) LAN/P57.

If an <u>online QSA index</u> is available, we recommend researchers search this. The content of online indexes has been sourced directly from original records. Digitised copies of many original registers and indexes are also available in the <u>QSA catalogue</u>, and digitised copies of some microfilmed original records are available on Reading Room computers.

Selection Files 8/4/1868–31/12/1930 S14033 To find these early land selection files known as LAN/AG files, search <u>ArchivesSearch</u> for the name of the selector. These files are about the administration of land selected under *Land Acts 1868 to 1884*. The files may include the application to select, description, survey plan, lease, proof of fulfilment of conditions, certificate of fulfilment of conditions, *Government Gazette* notices, transfer of lease, forfeiture of selection, reversal of forfeiture, application to purchase, issue of deed of grant, and correspondence. If you do not find the name of the selector, search the appropriate Register of Selection, <u>S13945</u> for more information.

Index to non-current lessees of Crown Land

Circa 1/8/1885–31/12/1993 <u>\$14000</u>

This card index is used to find land files including agricultural farm leases, grazing homestead leases and perpetual lease selections in Dead Farm Files, <u>S14050</u>. The cards are arranged alphabetically and record persons who held some form of Crown leasehold such as pastoral lease, land selection, occupation license, special lease, non-competitive lease, road lease, perpetual lease under the *Land Act of 1884* and subsequent legislation. Many of the files in S14050 (LAN/DF1-5106) that are indexed in S14000 are name listed in <u>ArchivesSearch</u>.

In the decades past, to make public records accessible to members of the public, Queensland State Archives (QSA) created microfilm copies of the files. Recently, these microfilms were digitised as PDFs, and the PDFs are available on the Reading Room computers under *Selected QSA records*.

Refer to the following Research Guides for more land record information: <u>Land Agents' records</u>, <u>Land Codes</u>, and <u>Land tenure records</u>.

This card index is partially indexed by QSA online index Registers of Lessees of Agricultural and Grazing Farms 1885-1908 [LAN/P518 Index]

Dead Farm Files

Circa 30/6/1831-4/12/2012 <u>S14050</u>

This series is files on agricultural farm leases, grazing homestead leases and perpetual lease selections, now known as freeholding leases. To find files search for the name of the lessee in <u>ArchiveSearch</u>, if this search is not successful, and the file was created before 1993, search the index to non-current lessees, <u>S14000</u>. The files include the application form, license to occupy, maps, survey plans, description of land, reports, transfers, certificate of performance of conditions of selection, lease, *Government Gazette* notices, changes of tenure, application for freeholding and correspondence with selectors. Sometimes there are death or marriage certificates and copies of wills.

Register of Lands Open for selection and purchase

Circa 1/1/1861–31/1/1867 S16128

This register known as SUR/6 is indexed by QSA online index Register of lands 1861-1868.

Registers of Agricultural Reserve leases

Circa 1/12/1866–29/2/1868 <u>\$16150</u> These registers known as SUR/7-11 are indexed by QSA online index Register of lands 1861-1868.

Register of Agricultural Reserve leases, 1866-1868, Circa 1/11/1866–29/2/1868 ITM101533 SUR/12 in S16122

This register issued for portions of agricultural reserves is arranged by agricultural reserve lease name.

Index to Agricultural Reserve leases Circa 1/12/1866–29/2/1868 ITM101536 SUR/15 in <u>S16125</u>

This index of agricultural reserve reserves is arranged by name of lessee.

Register of Applications for Selections, under Section 67 of the Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868 Circa 1/1/1868–31/3/1869 ITM76341 in S14073

Information in the register includes application number, correspondence reference, name of lessee, name of agricultural reserve, number of portion/s, area, date of selection, county, parish, dates of payment, particulars of payment, amount, transfers, whether purchased or new reference number, and date the deed was prepared.

Register of offers to surrender land, or the acquisition of land for selections under the Agricultural Lands Purchase Act 1894 Circa 3/7/1894–29/12/1929

<u>ITM22387</u> in <u>S13839</u>

This register records the offers from land owners. Included is the date of receipt of offer; the name of the owner; name of property or parish; area; price per acre and total price. Some entries give the date referred to the Land Board and the decision.

Land Agent's District of Ipswich, selections in the Rosewood and Lake Clarendon Estates under the Agricultural Land Purchase Act 1894

12/5/1896–3/3/1913 ITM22395 in <u>S13955</u>

Applications to Lease Vacant Crown Land 9/7/1954–1/1/2013 S20543

The files contain applications, plans, valuation reports and correspondence between the Departments, land inspectors and Shire Councils. For more information refer to the *Search procedure: Land selections* in our Reading Room.

Special leases

Special leases were granted for a wide variety of purposes including wharf sites, quarries, accommodation houses, guano, flour mills, sawmills, fishing stations.

Index to non-current lessees of Crown Land

Circa 1/8/1885–31/12/1993 S14000

This card index is used to find land files including special leases, <u>S18005</u>. The cards are arranged alphabetically and record persons who held some form of Crown leasehold such as pastoral lease, land selection, occupation license, special lease, non-competitive lease, road lease, perpetual lease under the *Land Act of 1884* and subsequent legislation. Many of the files in S14050 (LAN/DF1-5106) that are indexed in S14000 are name listed in <u>ArchivesSearch</u>.

In the decades past, to make public records accessible to members of the public, Queensland State Archives (QSA) created microfilm copies of the files. Recently, these microfilms were digitised as PDFs, and the PDFs are available on the Reading Room computers under *Selected QSA records*.

Refer to the following Research Guides for more land record information: <u>Land Agents' records</u>, <u>Land Codes</u>, and <u>Land tenure records</u>.

This card index is partially indexed by QSA online index Registers of Lessees of Agricultural and Grazing Farms 1885-1908 [LAN/P518 Index]

Registers of Special Leases 20/3/1868–31/12/1981 <u>\$14016</u>

These registers are used to find special lease files, <u>S18005</u>. Information in the registers changed over time. Details include number of application (lease), date application received, name of applicant, term of lease, rent paid, locality, purpose, description of land, details of transfer of mortgage.

Special leases

Circa 1/1/1860-1/5/2013 <u>\$18005</u>

Special lease files may include maps, correspondence, *Government Gazette* notices, applications, descriptions of the land, notices from Treasury about payments, transfers, lease documents, conditions of lease, and details of mortgage. For more information refer to the <u>Research Guide to Special leases</u>.

Freehold

Crown Land becomes freehold when the land is sold, and the buyer is issued with a Deed of Grant by the Governor in Council.

Indexes to Land Purchases

Circa 1/1/1860-31/12/1921 S10397

These indexes are used to find the original certificates of title in Triplicate Deeds of Grant - Town Lot B Registers, <u>S46</u> and Triplicate Deeds of Grant - Land Purchase A Registers, <u>S47</u> from 1860 to 1921.

Specific records of interest in this series are:

Index to lands purchases - town Circa 1/1/1901–31/12/1921 ITM308613, DR50924

Index to lands purchases - town (Town Lot B) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1900 ITM308612, DR51543 & DR51557 Index to lands purchases - country Circa 1/1/1890–31/12/1921 ITM308615, DR51561–DR51563

Index to lands purchases - country (Land Purchase A) Circa 1/1/1860–31/12/1889 ITM308614, DR51558– DR51560

Card Index to Triplicate Deeds of Grant [alphabetical by Surname]

Circa 1/1/1922- 31/12/1965 <u>S266</u>

Details include name of purchaser/grantee, date of the deed, portion number, parish, area, volume number, and folio number (ie. page number).

Card Index to Triplicate Deeds of Grants [chronological]

Circa 1/1/1964- 31/12/1978 <u>S265</u>

Details include name of purchaser/grantee, the parish (town), portion/tenure, lease reference, volume number and folio number (ie. page number).

Triplicate Deeds of Grant - Town lot B registers

30/08/1860– 21/12/1921 S46

To find original certificates of title/deeds of grant, search Indexes to Land Purchases (town and country) 1860– 1921, <u>S10397</u>

Triplicate Deeds of Grant - Land purchase A registers

28/08/1860–31/8/1991 S47

To find original certificates of title/deeds of grant from 1860–1921 search Indexes to Land Purchases (town and country), <u>S10397</u>; from 1922–1965 search Card Index to Triplicate Deeds of Grant [alphabetical by Surname], , <u>S266</u>; from 1964–1978 search Card Index to Triplicate Deeds of Grants [chronological], <u>S265</u>.

Sales of Crown Land and special leases 19/12/1859–31/12/1962 \$14026

Details include date and place of sale, date of proclamation, a description of the land, upset price per acre. For the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries these lists include sales of perpetual leases.

Reports of the sales of Crown Land

16/5/1859–26/6/1915 <u>S14038</u>

Lists of Land Sold - Colony of Queensland Circa 1/9/1842–31/8/1859 ITM101517, DR51698 in S16119, SUR/4

Details include the date of sale or offer at auction, lot number, county, parish town or place, area, allotment or portion, upset price, price realized, amount of purchase money, purchaser and residence. Also see the QSA online index <u>Register of lands sold 1849-1861</u>.

Register of Lands Sold

19/4/1849–21/2/1861 ITM101547, DR50923 in <u>S16130</u>, SUR/5

Sale of land at Ipswich, Brisbane, Warwick, Drayton, Rockhampton, Dalby, Maryborough, Gayndah, Callandoon, Condamine, Gladstone. Details include the date of sale or offer at auction, lot number, county, parish town or place, area, allotment or portion, upset price, price realized, amount of purchase money, purchaser and residence. Also see the QSA online indexes <u>Register of lands sold 1849-1861</u> and <u>Register of lands 1861-1868</u>

Register of Lands

Circa 1/1/1861–31/12/1867 ITM101539 in <u>S16128</u>, SUR/6

Register of lands open for selection, and purchase. Also see the QSA online indexes <u>Register of lands sold 1849-1861</u> and <u>Register of lands 1861-1868</u>

Registers of Land Purchase Deeds under Pre-Emptive Right

24/6/1860–22/10/1885 <u>\$10373</u>

Copies of deeds issued under New South Wales land regulations. There are only two deeds issued after 1869.

Registers of Sales of Crown Lands, Country Lands

22/5/1860–2/5/1959 <u>\$9977</u>

These registers were created by the Survey Office for information to add to maps. Details may include portion number, name of purchaser and amount realised.

Registers of Sales of Crown Lands, Town and Suburban Lands

16/1/1855–18/3/1959 <u>S9963</u>

These registers were created by the Survey Office for information to add to maps. Details may include portion number, name of purchaser and amount realised. For more information refer to the *Search procedure: Deeds of Grant* available in our Reading Room.

Other sources of information

- Refer to the <u>Research guide to Land codes</u> to identify series of land files available at QSA.
- Refer to the other <u>Research Guides</u> about land records for detail about specific land tenure forms.
- New South Wales Government Gazettes to 1859 and Queensland Government Gazettes from 1859
 onwards contain details of all land tenure types. The Queensland Government Gazettes are available
 online to 1900 on <u>Text Queensland</u>. For more information about land tenure listings in the New South
 Wales Government Gazette, you may want to contact the <u>Museum of Lands Mapping and Surveying</u>.
- A range of <u>land indexes available online</u> on the <u>QSA website</u>. These include:
 - Register of land sold 1842–1859
 - Register of lands sold 1849–1861
 - Register of lands 1861–1868
 - Rents Payable (Treasury) Pastoral Runs Index 1860–1911
 - Registers of Lessees of Agricultural and Grazing Farms 1885–1908 [LAN/P518 Index]
 - Applications by Selectors 1868–1885 (LAN/P54-56) LAN/P57
 - Land selections 1885–1981
 - Register of pastoral holdings 1863–1880
 - Perpetual Lease Selections of soldier settlements 1917–1929

Historical title searches

For subsequent transactions of properties, contact <u>Titles Queensland</u>. You can purchase historical title searches and supplements either online, in person or by phone. These documents show all interests registered against the title.

Need more information?

Check our online catalogue <u>ArchivesSearch</u>. Phone us on (07) 3037 6777 or you can <u>email</u> an archivist.