Mackay Genie Gossip

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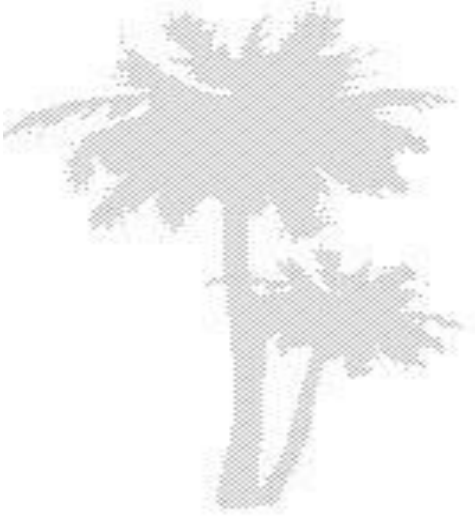

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Mackay Family History Society Inc.

Mackay Family History Society Inc.
PO Box 882, Mackay, QLD 4740

Phone: (07)4952 2762 **Email:** mfhs@easynet.net.au
Address of Research Reference Library:
17B Keith Hamilton Street, Mackay West.

The Mackay Family History Society Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to family history and genealogy. All office bearers and helpers are volunteers.

Executive Committee

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Vice President	Jeannette Howard
Treasurer	Yvonne Peberdy
Secretary	Jean Turvey

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Project Officers
Jean Turvey, Judy Wallace

Volunteer Helpers are needed for various Projects: This may include library roster duty, indexing, maintenance, fund raising, computer knowledge, etc. – the choice is yours. Please offer your services and expertise a few hours a month. In the first instance contact Yvonne Peberdy at our library to discuss details.

Annual Membership Fees: Single $35.00 & Family $45.00 are due on the anniversary month of the member joining.

Society Meetings: The first Saturday of February, May, August (AGM), and November at 1.00 p.m. in the society library. Other meetings and activities will be advised. All Members and Visitors are always Welcome.

Research Library Details: See the outside back cover.

SOCIETY NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held Saturday 1 August 2009 at 1 pm. ALL WELCOME

Raffle Winners: Congratulations to B.Carroll 1st Prize $500; and Y.Peberdy 2nd Prize $200.

Welcome to New Members: We hope that you find joy and satisfaction in climbing your family tree and digging up your roots.

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What's Old at Our Library

[Europe is the most popular area of research apart from Australia and the UK. Hope you find this list useful._Ed.]

EUROPE

Europe Miscellaneous Information (folder) W02/100/02
European Countries Miscellaneous Information (folder) W03/100/01
The Lapps (book) by Arthur Spencer W03/073/01
Latin Glossary for Family & Local Historians (book) L09/016/01
Shell Reiseatlas 1981/82 – Mairs Geographischer (book) W08/084/01
Simple Latin for Family Historians (book) by Eve McLaughlin L02/016/01
Trafalgar's Map of Europe W10/084/03
Vital Records Index of Western Europe (CD) W07/017/01

BELGIUM

Antwerp Emigration Index 1855 (book) by Chas.M.Hall et al. W08/051/01

FRANCE

A Study of France & the French People (book) by P.E.Smythe, W03/073/02

GERMANY

Address Book for German Genealogy (book) by Ernest Thode, W02/031/05

Die Zietung (Journals) by GSQ German Group W09/079/01

German – General Information (folder) W02/100/01

German & English Dictionary (book) W09/033/01

German & Polish Maps (facsimile) W10/084/02

German Family Research Made Simple by J.Konrad, (book 2 copies) W08/046/02 & W02/031/02

German Genealogical Digest (journal) W09/079/02

German Place Names Pre-1945 (booklett 2 copies) W08/046/01

German Research (facsimile) by Eric Koppitke W02/031/03

German Research Directory (book) by C.Wardale & M.Jenner W08/045/01

German-American Names by Geo.F.Jones W02/031/06

Germany 1832 Maps (facsimile 2 copies) W10/084/01

Hamburg Passenger Lists Shipping Index 1873 (folder) W08/053/01

How to Find My German Ancestors & Relatives by Dr.H.F.Friedrichs (book) W02/031/04

If I Can You Can – Decipher Germanic Records (book) by Ednam Benty W02/034/01

In search of your German Roots (book) *by Angus Baxter* W02/031/01

SWEDEN

The "Wasa"Lost & Salvaged (Swedish Warship) Book) by B.Kleingardt W03/005/01

Lone Graves & Death Register Extracts Mackay District 1864-1965

Several years ago Sue Hill, who is now deceased, spent many days at the Mackay Court House transcribing the local Death Registers. Around the same time another member, Wendy Porter, copied the burial entries that pertain to the Mackay District from the records held at the Bowen Court House.

The results of their diligent work are on file at our society library. However, these have been used infrequently over the years, and almost forgotten. Lately Yvonne Peberdy has spent a lot of time collating and indexing this very interesting and important material.

Each name is now included in an alphabetical index which refers the researcher to the actual records that Sue and Wendy compiled. There is also an index of each place where people are buried. There are names; and burial places, many of the latter are lone graves. This recently indexed material consists of deaths:-

- before the commencement of the Burial Register for the Mackay Cemetery on 3 August 1873; which is from 2 February 1872 to 18 May 1873
- from 16 December 1878 to 18 April 1879; and 8 August 1883 to 15 September 1883 where the pages are missing from the Council Burial Registers.
- of all lone burials up to 1965
- burials in smaller cemeteries managed by trusts where the records are missing.
- registered in Mackay but the person has been buried elsewhere; or not buried anywhere because the body has not been found.

Please note that those who are buried in Mirani, Walkerston, Sarina, Mt. Bassett, and Mackay Cemeteries after 1872 are not included. But is does cover the many small cemeteries around the district most of which have been forgotten, plus the lone graves. Also, from 1926 onwards the deaths in the Mackay Registers cover the area from just south of St. Lawrence, west to Middlemount and just north of Bloomsbury.

This long-forgotten material is well worth inspecting because it provides extra information from that which appears on the microfische of Queensland Deaths which is published by the Registrar of Births Deaths & Marriages.

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The Process of Restriction On Access To Public Records.

[This article is based on a letter that was written by a Member of Parliament some time ago._Ed.]

Some public authorities in late 1999 and early 2000 reviewed their access conditions imposed on certain series of records at Queensland State Archives. This review resulted in access being restricted to some public records, which had previously been available.

Those changes were reported in the *Courier Mail* on 18 April 2000. There may have been more recent changes since then. However, this information is still relevant as it explains how the process works,

The Queensland Police Service amended the restricted access period to Murder Files from 65 years to Restricted, the Health Department amended the restricted access period to Dunwich Benevolent Society and Eventide records from 30 years to Restricted, and the Education Department amended the

restricted access period to School Admission registers from Open to 15 years restricted.

The decision to change access periods was made by the responsible public authority under provisions of the Libraries and Archives Regulations 1990, sections 21, 22, and 23. A Chief Officer may impose conditions and restrictions on access to records held at Queensland State Archives.

Queensland State Archives acts upon access instructions received from the responsible public authority, which transfers records to archives, or the public authority which has assumed responsibility for the records, but does not make the access decision.

The records will be kept available. However, in cases where the restricted access periods have been extended, or now apply indefinitely, researchers will apply to the responsible public authority for access. Once permission to access the restricted records is given, staff at Queensland State Archives may release them to the researcher.

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Dunwich Benevolent Asylum records

Judy Webster, *Tips for Queensland Research*;
December 2005 edition; pp.20-21.

Dunwich Benevolent Asylum was established on North Stradbroke Island in 1865. The function of Dunwich (as defined by the *Benevolent Asylum Wards Act of 1861*) was to provide for poor people who, because of age, accident, infirmity or otherwise, were unable to care for themselves. Consequently its inmates included both elderly and younger folk. Dunwich was a *benevolent* asylum, not a mental asylum, but many people spent time in both types of institution.

Some Dunwich records at Qld State Archives are open to the public, but others are under the control of Qld Health

who impose a 100-year closure period. For records that are closed you can apply for access through Freedom of Information. However such applications are expensive and often frustrating, so **inspect all relevant items listed below** (Qld State Archives location numbers are in square brackets) before writing to the Freedom of Information Officer, Legal and Administrative Law Unit, GPO Box 48, Brisbane Qld 4001.

Many Dunwich inmates were illiterate, and there is tremendous **variation in spelling** even within an individual's own file, so check under all possible variants.

1. In the Public Search Room at Qld State Archives, search the **card index to Dunwich records**. It covers many nineteenth and twentieth century sources. Note all details on the card, including the date and source reference, and ask the archivist whether that source is accessible.
2. **Index to Colonial/Home Secretary's Office applications for admission to Dunwich Benevolent Asylum with associated correspondence, 27 Jan 1890 – 20 Jul 1922.** This series has no files for surnames starting with A, B before BOU, E, K, L, 0, P, Q, T, U, V or W. Some files for other letters of the alphabet are also missing. The index is a bound volume in the Public Search Room. Even if the bundle as a whole is closed, you can ask the archivist to show you the file for someone admitted more than 100 years ago. Files in each bundle are usually arranged by surname. Their contents vary, but often include:

- application form with date, place, name, address, age, country of birth, religion, occupation, length of time in Qld, married or single; names, addresses and circumstances of applicant's sons and daughters; names, addresses and circumstances of other relatives; names and addresses of employers during the past 2 years, and length of time with each; real or personal property; aid received from hospitals

or other charitable institutions during the past 2 years; reasons for desiring admission; through whom applying; and applicant's signature.

- certificate of two householders (with their name, address and signature) saying how long they had known the applicant
- certificate of a surgeon or physician re applicant's health
- sometimes letters written by the applicant or his/her relatives, or other correspondence.

3. **Immigration Department: register of applications for admission to Dunwich 1902-1904** [IMM/108]. The main card index apparently does not include this source. It is alphabetical by first letter of surname, and gives name, age, country of birth, religion, occupation, dates of application, admission, discharge or death, and remarks.

4. **Dunwich admission book (males) 1900-1903** [A/52868] was opened to the public in 2004. It usually gives name, age, admission date, date of discharge or death, admitted from where, reason for admission, birthplace, religion, occupation, education, father's name and occupation, mother's maiden name, marital status, when/where married, spouse's name, children, and history. In some cases it gives children's names, ages, places of residence and occupations. "History" may include the inmate's places of residence, occupations and employers, how long in Qld, etc.

5. **Index to Dunwich weekly returns from Qld Government Gazette notices, 1885-1907** (admissions, discharges, re-admissions, transfers, removals, deaths). This is in two maroon-covered volumes in the Public Search Room. The *Gazettes* themselves (on microfilm) often list occupations and places of residence for several years prior to admission, and may give personal and biographical details, ship of arrival, etc. They are especially useful for

admissions less than 100 years ago because in such cases the admission records created by Dunwich are closed.

6. **Index to Eventide (Sanagate, Qld) Registers of Deaths 1954-1959** (Judy Webster, Brisbane, 2000). When Dunwich closed in 1946, inmates were transferred to Eventide. The *index* to Eventide death registers gives name, maiden surname for women, year of death, and source location. *You need this information to apply Freedom of Information access to the records*, which show name, signature, date admitted, from where, cause of admission, age or birth date), birthplace, religion, marital status (or "apart"), occupation, pension, father's name and occupation, mother's maiden name, husband's name or wife's maiden name, where married, at what age, children (often name, age, exact address), other relatives (siblings, grandchildren, cousins etc., often with exact address), person to be contacted in emergency, height, weight, eye colour, hair colour, history, clinical record and conduct, leave of absence, transfers, discharges.
7. A few Dunwich inmates are included in my **index to selected names from 1860s/1870s Colonial Secretary's Office in-letters** on <www.judywebster.gil.com.au/colsec.html>**. Inwards correspondence registers of the Colonial Secretary / Home Secretary** would also give minimal details of some applications or correspondence re those (and other) Dunwich inmates.
8. Some inmates were transferred to Dunwich from a mental asylum (or vice versa), so check indexes to **Public Curator insanity files** - see <www.judywebster.gil.com.au/insanity.html>.
9. I can arrange for searches (fees apply) in another index to some Dunwich records up to the early 1940s. This index,

compiled prior to closure of the records, includes a few personal details.

10. Other sources that may refer to Dunwich admissions are **police watchhouse charge books** and old age pension records. [These are explained in Judy Webster's book.]

Brisbane: Moreton Bay Matters (Brisbane History Group, PO Box 12, Kelvin Grove DC, Qld 4059) has an article about Dunwich Benevolent Asylum. See also the books ***Moreton Bay People*** (volumes 1-3) by Peter Ludlow. Other titles may be listed in ***Index to Journal Articles on Australian History*** (Crittenden) and ***Guide to the History of Queensland*** (Johnston and Zerner).

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Avoid the Pitfalls of the IGI

-Roy Stockdill, *Practical Family History*, March 2008 pp.32-36

Perhaps one of the things that flummoxes beginners to family history more than anything else is the International Genealogical Index — or the IGI. Roy Stockdill provides some useful tips on getting the most out of this excellent resource for finding baptism and marriage records.

There is no doubt the IGI is a fantastic resource for online genealogy. However - and this is the bit that newcomers often don't realise it is also quirky, full of pitfalls, duplications and errors and can sometimes be downright misleading! My aim is to help you understand how the IGI works, explain some basic principles of how to get the best out of it and assist you to separate the wheat from the chaff.

I should make it clear that this article is about the online version of the IGI only, which is to be found at www. familysearch.org, the website of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS).

Older and more experienced family historians will have grown up with the earlier versions on microfiche and CD-ROM. However, these are now relatively out of date and I suspect the great majority of users today will be accessing the IGI at the FamilySearch website.

A secondary source

There is one golden rule to bear in mind: whilst the IGI is a valuable resource, it is a secondary source and not a primary one. It is, as its name implies, an index to the original records and not those records themselves. It should, therefore, be used strictly as a guide to where to locate the originals.

What is the IGI?

To understand the IGI and how it works, you must first understand what it is and what it is not! The IGI did not start out as a resource for genealogists; it has become one by the goodwill of the LDS in making it available to all, whether church members or not.

Its principal purpose has always been to act as a record of certain ceremonies, called ordinances, which have taken place within the church. These need not concern us here, except to know that they are to do with the LDS beliefs of baptising their ancestors by proxy into their church.

To this end, they have collected many millions of entries from parish registersand bishops' transcripts (BTs - copies of the registers sent annually by the incumbent to the bishop) and also from their own church members. So the IGI falls into two distinct parts: (a) What is called the controlled extraction program from parish registers and BTs; (b) Private submissions from individual church members.

The vital thing to remember when using the IGI is that entries from the controlled extraction program can generally be regarded as accurate, since they come from official records, whilst the private submissions from LDS members should be treated with caution.

I have sometimes been accused of being unfair to LDS members in my criticism of private submissions – and, indeed, I accept many church members are diligent researchers and genealogists who do their best to get their facts right. However, there is no doubt that many private submissions are wildly inaccurate.

Unknown sources

The problem is that there is no way of telling them from the online data what the original underlying source of the information was. It may have come from a parish register or other official record the submitter has examined, but, equally, it may derive from a family bible or similar memorabilia, be an assumption based on a coincidence of names and dates, or simply nothing more than pure guesswork.

It is absolutely vital, then, when using the IGI, to know whether the data comes from an extracted entry from parish registers or BTs, or from a private submission by an LDS member. But how do you tell the difference?

Batch numbers

The answer lies in knowing about batch numbers. These are the essential clue to understanding the IGI. The step by step guide below takes you through the process, using data from my own researches and looking for my great-grandfather, Robert Stockdill, who was born at Easingwold in the North Riding of Yorkshire in 1806.

How To Use the IGI Step by Step

1. First, we go to www.familysearch.org, then to "Search" and select "International Genealogical Index" for the IGI custom search dialogue box. I enter "Robert Stockdill" in the first and last name fields, the event as birth/ christening, the year as 1805 with a range of +/- 5 years, the region as British Isles, the country as England and the county as Yorkshire.

2. Clicking on "Search" produces 10 entries, but I know from my other researches that the ones I want are numbers 8 and 9. These are, in respective order, for Robt Stockdill, a male christening on 24 July 1806 at Easingwold, and Robert Stockdill, a male birth on 22 July 1806, also at Easingwold.
3. Clicking on the underlined link to either entry takes me to another screen that reveals further information. This tells me Robert's father was also Robert Stockdill and his mother was called Mary Yellow.
4. In a column below the parents' names is a heading, "SourceInformation: Batch No." and below that is the batch number itself, P007531. To the immediate right is a column with the dates 1599-1812, which indicates the range of records from which the entries come.
5. I click on the underlined "Batch No." link which automatically returns me to the IGI search dialogue box with the batch number now placed in the appropriate field.
6. I enter Robert Stockdill and Mary Yellow in the parents' fields (the other fields can be left blank, except the Region field which must include the British Isles) and click "Search" once more. This produces six children christened by the same couple in Easingwold between 1791 and 1806. Note that the first three were baptised as STOCKDALE and the last three as STOCKDILL – one of the vagaries of spelling in family history we have to get used to!
7. Click on any one of these entries and I am taken to the screen described earlier with the parents' names. Now I move to the right and click on the link "Source Call No.: 0844556" This takes me to yet another screen, which reveals that the source of the records is the

parish registers of All Saints, Easingwold, from 1599-1812.

8. Further links headed "Printout Call No.", take me to another screen which give me details of the microfiche or microfilm from which the records have been extracted and which I can either order from the LDS in Salt Lake City, to be viewed at a Family History Centre (a list of centres can be found on the website), or examined at record offices and libraries where the original registers, of copies are held.

Checking the source

Having followed the step by step, let us return to the list of entries for Robert Stockdill which appeared with my original IGI query on the FamilySearch website. Among them is an entry for Robert Stockdale, number 10 on the list, born at Easingwold on 22 July 1806.

This is clearly my Robert, my great-grandfather, but where did this entry come from? Clicking on the underlined link produces the information that it has been entered in Film Number 170406 and, proceeding further by clicking on subsequent links, it appears that he features in a record entitled "Baptisms for the dead, 1888-1894; their indexes 1888-1955, Manti Temple", which is a document within the LDS Church.

Frankly, I have little idea what this means and I don't much care, since I have the authentic data from the parish registers. However, it illustrates my point that you have to be disciplined when searching the IGI.

It would seem that someone has submitted my great-grandfather's name to the church records but I have absolutely no idea who or why. Nor is there any clue as to where they obtained the information, but on this occasion they seem to have got it right. However, this is not always the case, since many private LDS submissions to the IGI are pure fiction!

Understanding the codes

A more detailed description of batch numbers would seem appropriate here.

Those codes beginning with C, K or J are taken from a christening/baptismal register; those headed M or E are from a marriage register; and those headed P are from a printed copy or typed manuscript of a register. Note that P does not mean "private", as some beginners often assume. All numerical codes and those beginning with A or F are LDS member submissions and should, therefore, be treated with caution.

Experiment with numbers

You should try experimenting with batch numbers. For instance, changing the last digit may bring up a different set of records from an earlier or later register. And changing the initial C (for christenings) to an M may well produce a marriage register.

The use of batch numbers is very important, since this enables you to refine your search to one particular parish and set of registers.

Find a batch number

How can you discover the batch numbers for a particular parish? Go to the link called "Family History Library Catalogue" on the bar above the IGI search box and when the menu appears click on "Place Search". You are presented with more links that, with a couple more clicks, take you to a link called "Church Records — Indexes" for your chosen parish.

Select this and then choose "Computer printout" for the church you want and this takes you to yet another screen that should supply the batch numbers for that parish.

An alternative is to use an excellent website devised by a genealogist called Hugh Wallis at http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/—hughwallis/IGIBatchNumbers.htm. This is a compilation of IGI batch numbers for the British Isles and North America and, by using the alphabetical menus to select

your parish and batch number and then entering a surname, you are taken straight to the results page at FamilySearch. Brilliant!

Birth date warning

When looking at private submissions to the IGI, as opposed to the controlled extractions, my further advice is to treat like the plague those birth/baptism entries which use the word "About", since these are dangerously misleading. They are notoriously unreliable, being no more than guesses arrived at by subtracting 25 years in the case of a man and 21 years for a woman from a marriage date to arrive at a supposed birth date.

I have seen examples where the actual birth date has been out by 30, 40 or even 50 years, when a man or woman has married late in life as a widower or widow or as an elderly bachelor or spinster.

What these "about" entries usually mean is the the submitter has a) looked for a birth in a particular parish and failed to find it; or b) assumed a birth in the same parish in which someone married without bothering to check the original records. In fact, the subject may well have been born elsewhere.

Surname searches

Another vagary of the IGI is that what is known as the "standardised surname" search does not always work as you might expect. Theoretically, unless you tick the "Use exact spelling" box the search should find all known variants of the surname on which you are searching.

For instance, if I enter "Stockdale" the search will also find other versions of the name such as Stockdill – my own surname – Stockdall, Stockdell, Stockdaile, and so on.

However, there is a variant of my name with a "g" in the middle, ie. Stogdale, Stogdill. The IGI search does not recognise these names as variants of Stockdale, so when I am researching for my one-name study I have to enter them separately.

Coverage

Do remember that the IGI is far from complete and is being added to continually. The county coverage of the UK, for instance, is eccentric. Some counties are exceedingly well covered and others very poorly.

Final tips

Finally, here are a couple more tips to enable you to search the IGI more scientifically:

- If you are looking for all children born to a particular couple, you can sometimes find them by filling in all the fields except the first and last names. Leave those blank. This is particularly useful if a couple had children in more than one parish. Inevitably, however, it works far better with uncommon surnames and is not recommended for Smiths, Browns and Joneses!
- Enter solely a batch number and region, e.g. British Isles, leave ALL the other fields blank and click on "Search". You will then get the entire register and can scroll through it in screens of 200 entries at a time up to a maximum of 5,000 entries. Using this method, I have sometimes found entries that did not appear with a normal search because they were lurking in peculiar misspellings of the name. This works best in smaller parishes and not so much in large parishes in towns and cities because you hit the 5,000 maximum.

I have saved until last the two most important pieces of advice of all, which are these...

- Never, ever try to build a family tree solely from the IGI, and especially not from the private submissions! For one thing, it contains very few deaths and there is always the serious possibility that the person you think was an ancestor may, in fact, have died in infancy or as a child. I have also

heard cases of researchers finding entries for people who never existed!

- Finally, I cannot emphasise enough that the IGI is an index only. You should always check whatever you find in it with the original records, for two reasons:
  1. To confirm the accuracy of the entries;
  2. Because parish registers very often contain extra information that has not been extracted to the IGI.

For example, in the case of my own family at Easingwold this was one of the many Yorkshire parishes that had what are called Dade Registers. These give much more information than normal, including the names of the grandfathers of baptised children and their parishes of origin — which, of course, has not been extracted to the IGI.

Happy hunting.

About the author
Roy Stockdill is a former Fleet Street journalist and has been a family historian for 30 years. He is on the Society of Genealogists' Board of Trustees and is editor of the award-winning Journal of One-Name Studies for the Guild of One-Name Studies. Roy lectures in genealogy and writes regularly for Practical Family History, specialising in helping readers solve their family history research problems.

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MY FATHER-IN-LAW: A Bigamist, or was he?

[This interesting query has apparently been published in more than one family history journal, the names of which are unknown. It is from one from one Bev Durkin._Ed.]

"My curiosity was aroused by a phone call from England to my late mother-in-law, from a woman claiming to be her late husband's granddaughter.

"My mother-in-law passed the call off as a mistake, but I was not so sure. My father-in-law 26 years older than

his wife and they did not marry until he was 48, so I thought it quite possible he had left an illegitimate child behind in England.

"The truth when uncovered was quite different. He had come to Australia to "make his fortune in the mines", leaving a wife and four children behind in Lancashire. Shortly after his arrival a letter came from his wife to tell him that their three eldest children aged seven, five and two had died from scarlet fever, leaving the youngest, a son aged six months, the only survivor. Years of trying to persuade his wife and son to join him failed and letters between them ceased. It was after this that my in-laws met and married. I couldn't understand why he had stated on their marriage papers that he was a bachelor, but I have since read that couples separated by sea for seven years were free to marry again. (I have not verified this).

"[An Editor replied to set Bev's mind at rest:]

"This seven years separation "rule" was accepted and prevalent in the 1800s, but I don't know when or if it ceased."

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Queensland State Archives
New Additions on Archives Search

Series ID 18785 (1920 - 1956)

Minutes of the general and special meetings of the Bowen Town Council.

Series ID 5753 (1992)

Originating Summonses which include summons for maintenance, application for custody, summons to commence action, protection orders, Court of Criminal Appeal summons for directions. (Open)

Series ID 18811 (1879 - 1897)

General Order, Circular Memorandum and District Order Book from the Police Station, Morven. This register contains mostly hand-written copies of orders and memorandums in letter format received by the Police Station at Morven. Some printed gazettal notices and memorandums have also been pasted in the volume. (Open)

Series ID 18813 (1916 – 1965)

Minute Books from the Land Commissioner's Court at Blackall. Matters dealt with include certificates of performance of conditions, applications to select land (of all tenures), show cause cases, application for occupation licences. (Open)

Series ID 18818 (1886 - 1967)

Applications to select land in the Blackall Land Agent's District. (Open)

Series ID 18816 (1891 - 1895)

Proclamations of lands open to selection in the Tambo Land Agent's District. (Open)

Series ID 18817 (1938 - 1959)

Proclamations of lands open to selection in the Blackall Land Agents District. (Open)

Series ID 13478 (1886 - 1959)

Registers of grazing farms and grazing homesteads in the Blackall Land Agent District. (Open)

Archives website at http://www.archives.qld.qov.au/research/new records.asp. This list is updated regularly.

New Indexes

Index to Passage Certificates 1887 – 1906

Indexes QSA Series ID 7002: Register of Passage Certificates kept by the Sub-Immigration Agent, Warwick, and records

applications by sponsors of immigrants. Register details include date of application, names of applicant and nominee, amount paid for passage certificate, amount paid for outfit, total paid, receipt number, to whom the passage certificate forwarded, the date forwarded, date received, number, date delivered and remarks.

Index to Register of Immigrants 1864 – 1878

Indexes QSA Series ID 7454: Register of Immigrants kept by the Assistant Immigration Agent, Toowoomba. This register contains details of applications for passage certificates for immigration, registered in Toowoomba. The date, name and age of immigrant, trade, where living (country of origin), amount paid, name of depositor and relevant remarks as to where living in the district are included in the details. Note the majority of immigrants listed in this register originate from Ireland.

Queensland State Archives now has over 350 000 entries in the online indexes.

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Members' Research Interests

Each edition of this journal goes to thirty Family History Societies in various parts of Australia. They in turn send us a copy of their journals which are kept in our library. So this is an excellent way to publicise your research interests.

When responding to the Mackay Family History Society, remember to give the membership number of the person who made the initial enquiry.

Member No. 252

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HUTCHISON;	Ireland, Antrim; 1800-1900
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A YOUNG BOY'S EPITAPH found in a cemetery on the south coast of NSW:

Here lies the grief of a fond mother
And the blasted expectations of an indulgent father.

Early Postal Services: Mackay North Coast

About May 1863 John Arthur Macartney, a well known Queensland pioneer cattleman selected a vast tract of land which stretched from Balnagowan near Conningsby (in the south) to the Andromache River (which runs into the O'Connell River) about 70 kilometres to the north. This land was bounded on the east by the ocean and extended west to the foothills of the Clarke Range. Within a year it was divided into four runs; the first two are Jolimont and St.Helens, with runs 3 & 4 combining into Bloomsbury.

The development of the postal services of this area provide some clues about the pattern of its settlement which took place over the following years. The author, Joan Frew, has used Government Department records which appear in the Bibliography of her book; for instance: Queensland State Archives, John Oxley Library in Brisbane, Commonwealth Archives in Brisbane, Mitchell Library in Sydney, Lands Department in Brisbane, and Australia Post in Sydney and Brisbane. However, she acknowledges that the published information is not complete, mainly due to the destruction of Post office records even as late as the 1950's!

Joan Frew, *Queensland Post Offices 1842-1980 and Receiving Offices 1869-1927*, (South Brisbane: Watson Ferguson & Co. 1981). ISBN 0 9593973 0 2.

[p.97] SOME RELEVANT ABBREVIATIONS

b.	Compass bearing
c.	County
C.P.S.	Clerk of Petty Sessions
D.R.	District Registrar
E.	East
L.R.	Line Repairer, Electric Telegraph Department

ManP&T	Manager, Post & Telegraph Department
N.	North
Op.	Operator, Electric Telegraph Department
P.O.	Post Office
P&T	Post & Telegraph
R.O.	Receiving Office
R.O.K.	Receiving office keeper
R.S.	Railway Station
R.T.S.	Railway telegraph station
S.	South
S.M.E.T.	Station Master, Electric Telegraph
S.M.	Station master or mistress, Railways
T.O.	Telegraph office
W.	West

Section 9 RECEIVING OFFICES

[p.121] **FINLAYSON** On Spring Creek 20 miles from Mackay bearing 310°, 3 miles S.E. of Seaforth (2) and 4 miles S.E. of Finlayson Point. The R.O. opened in 1883 and closed about December 1904.

R.O.K. 1883 Mrs. Fraser
1885 H.Finlayson, owner Seaforth Station
1886 Portion 584, Parish Ossa.
1900 T.Jamieson. (J.Jamieson, station manager, Portions 59 & 60v Parish Ossa).

Section 11 POST OFFICES AND THEIR ASSOCIATED RECEIVING OFFICES

[p.203] **BLOOMSBURY** 21 miles from Proserpine bearing 170°. The T.O. opened 1866. The receiving office opened at the T.O. in 1896 and was elevated to a post office about March 1909. It was an official office as it was at a T.O. The post office closed Sept. 1915-March 1916. The receiving office opened 1925 and was elevated to a post office about March 1926.

R.O.K. 1896 G.Roebuck, L.R.
1900 J.McDonald, L.R.
1901 J.McCulkin, L.R.

[p.223] **CALEN.** On St. Helens Ck. 32 miles from Mackay bearing 291°. The T.R. was proclaimed December 23, 1881. The ST. HELENS receiving office opened 1885 and closed 1901. The CALEN post office opened April 1933/4.

R.O.K. 1885 to 1901 W.Hoey, farmer
[P.O. W.Hann, W.Heggie, J.Kennedy]

[p.231] **CATHU.** 2 miles from Yalboroo bearing 310°. The post office opened April 1938/39 and closed May 1, 1971.

[p.270] **FARLEIGH** A sugar growing area 6½ miles from Mackay. bearing 290° and three miles south of Habana. The receiving office opened November 26, 1904 (Habana closed) and was elevated to a post office January 1, 1908. It closed April 30, 1980.

R.O.K. 1904 John Penny, Manager, Fairymead Estate.
P.M. 1908 John Penny
1909 W.Christoe, P.M. until at least 1916

[p.292] **HABANA** A sugar plantation 10 miles from Mackay bearing 306°. The receiving office opened 1891 and closed November 26, 1904 (Farleigh opened). The railway opened April 19, 1918 and the receiving office opened there November 20, 1922. It left the railway March 10, 1924 and was designated a post office late 1927. The post office closed April 1933/34 and reopened April 1940/41. Temporary closure was on September 1, 1971 and permanent on December 1, 1971.

R.O.K. 1891 J.F.Ramsay
1895 May 27 E.M.Long

[p.293] **HAMPDEN** A small sugar growing settlement on the main road 17½ miles from Mackay bearing 280° and ½ mile S.W. of the Mulei railway siding. The receiving office opened August 21, 1884 and was elevated to a post office about August

1904. The office closed October 14, 1924 and moved to Mt. Jukes 3 miles to the N.W..

R.O.K.	1884	Aug.21	Albert Millard, storekeeper
	1887	Dec.19	Peter Smith, storekeeper
	1889	Feb.	A.Faux
	1891		A.Millard again
P.M.	1904		A.Millard
	1908	Jul.24	Mrs.Millard
	1908	Nov.2	George Ayres, storekeeper
	1921	Mar.	William Woodward [sic], storekeeper
	1924	Jan.21	Harry Stephens

[p.320] **KOLIJO** 31 miles from Mackay bearing 293°. The receiving office opened at the R.S. about September 1924 then left December 1, 1925 and moved to Mr. Hann's store. It was designated a post office late 1927 and Mr.Hann was P.M. until November 1934. [To the 1950s A.L.Bearsby, then R.J.Ferris to close.] The office closed May 1, 1970.

[p.323] **KUTTABUL** 20 miles from Mackay bearing 283°. Mt. Jukes is the name of a plantation in the area and was the original name of the R.S.. The MT. JUKES post office opened October 14, 1924 (Hampden closed 3 miles away). The name was changed to KUTTABUL in April 1927.

P.M.	1924	Oct.14	William Woodyard, storekeeper
	1927		Railway Department
	1930		W.Woodyard again
	1936	Apr.1	Ernest Taylor

[p.358] **MT. JUKES** See Kuttabul P.O.

[p.361] **MT.OSSA** 26 Miles from Mackay bearing 296°. The post office opened April 1934/5.

MT.PELION 28 miles from Mackay bearing 290°. The railway opened December 1, 1923. The receiving office opened at the station about February 1924 and then left by May 1925. It was designated a post office late 1927.

[p.365] **MULEI** 17 miles form Mackay bearing 280°. The post office opened April 1929/30 and closed August 31, 1971.
[p.387] **PARAPI** 15 miles form Mackay bearing 280°. The receiving office opened May 14, 1925, was designated a post office late 1927 and closed July 10, 1928.
[p.392] **PINDI PINDI** 6 miles from Yalboroo bearing 107°. The post office opened April 1935/36.
[p.412] **SEAFORTH (2)** A cane growing area 23 miles from Mackay bearing 309°. The SPRINGCLIFF post office opened April 17, 1940 and the name was changed to SEAFORTH (2) about August 1966.
[p.417] **SPRINGCLIFF**. See Seaforth (2) P.O.
[p.430] **THE LEAP** See Yakapari P.O..
[p.446] **WAGOORA** 3½ miles from Yalboroo bearing 100°. The post office opened about 1942.
[p.460] **WUNDARU** 9 miles from Mackay bearing 285° and 1 mile W.N.W. of the Conningsby school. The Hillside receiving office opened in 1887. The name was changed to CONNINGSBY in 1888 and to WUNDARU on October 24, 1924. It was designated a post office late 1927. Temporary closure was on September 1, 1971 and permanent on December 2, 1971.

R.O.K. 1887 J.Froyland
1888 Rody Kennedy
1889 J.Froyland again
1890 Robert Kippen, storekeeper

[p.462] **YAKAPARI** 13 miles from Mackay bearing 284° and ½ mile west of The Leap railway siding. THE LEAP receiving office opened 1883 abd was elevated to a post office May 1, 1888. The name was changed to YAKAPARI in October 1925 and the office closed September 1, 1971.

R.O.K. 1883 & P.M. Felix Fooks, builder.

YALBAROO. See Yalboroo P.O.

YALBOROO. See reference map. The YALBAROO post office opened December 1, 1927. In February 1936 the Lands Department informed the P.M.G's Department that the correct spelling was Yalboroo but this was not officially corrected until about 1961. The office closed February 28, 1975.

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SOURCES provide INFORMATION from which we select EVIDENCE for analysis. A sound conclusion may then be "PROOF".

Sources are Documents, Publications, Databases, People or Artifacts in its: 1. Original source form

2. Derivative source form

INFORMATION is judged by the Informant's Level of Participation or Knowledge:

1. Primary information (First Hand)
2. Secondary information (Second Hand)

EVIDENCE is based on Relevance of Information & its Adequacy to Answer Question:

1. Direct evidence (Relevance/Adequacy)
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[This material is the final of a series of four on this topic. It has been adapted from – Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Sources & Citations Simplified", pages 430 – 433. It is said that one picture is worth a thousand words, as the accompanying Flow Chart shows. Following this procedure will lead to better accuracy and more success in your research._Ed.]

From SOURCE to PROOF
SOURCES provide INFORMATION from which we select EVIDENCE for ANALYSIS. A sound CONCLUSION may then be "PROOF"
SOURCES
are . . .
DOCUMENTS, PUBLICATIONS, DATABASES, PEOPLE OR ARTIFACTS
ORIGINAL (form)
DERIVATIVE (form)
INFORMATION
is judged by . . .
INFORMANT'S LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION OR KNOWLEDGE
PRIMARY (firsthand)
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EVIDENCE
is based on . . .
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DIRECT (relevance/adequacy)
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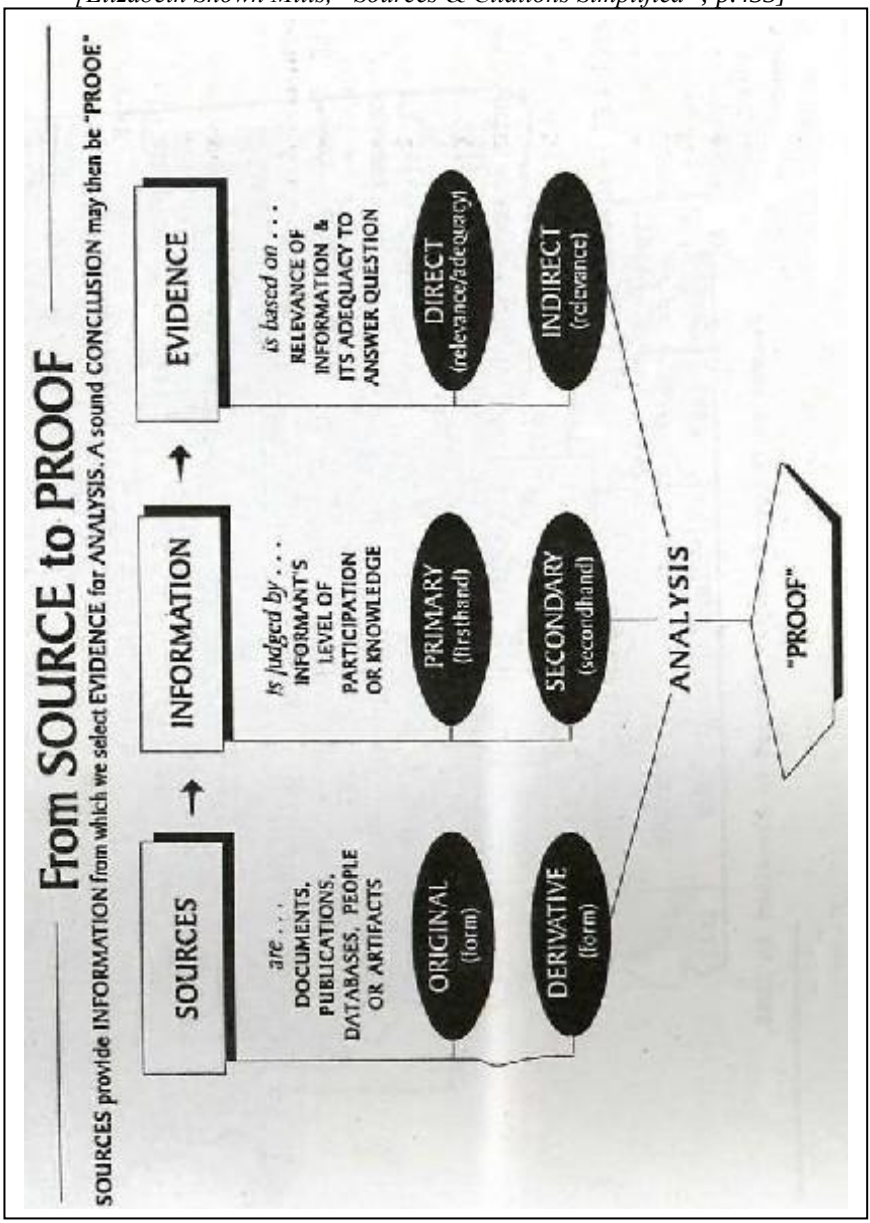
[Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Sources & Citations Simplified"; p.433]



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