



## Researching Your House in Fitzroy - using the library resources and the internet

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1 Build up a database of early occupants, from the Sands & McDougall directories

- of your house, and the immediate neighbours, and maybe your whole block of the street
- noting any changes of house numbering that may have occurred in 1905, 1888 and 1865

2 Rate books give details on occupants and their occupations, owner, building description, valuation

- but microfilm quality is variable, often difficult to read the handwriting, and to navigate
- use Fitzroy CC rate books from 1859 onwards,
- use MCC Gipps Ward rate books (1845-59) and/or valuation records (1843-1850)

3 For the original building date, type, owner, builder, it is possible to search

- Burchett Index (1850-1870)
- Australian Architectural Index

4 Some one-time records and indexes across Fitzroy are

- List of Property, Nov 1854, detailing occupiers, owners and building descriptions,
- index of petitioners for municipal separations from 1856 to 1863
- MMBW detailed maps of the 1897-1900 period

5 Information on owners, occupants and their families is available in

- index of births, marriages, deaths
- index of inquests
- shipping arrivals (now available on-line)
- probate documents (now available on-line)

6 Old newspapers have articles and advertisements on people and places, and are now on-line

- e.g. Argus (daily 1848-1954), Mercury (Fitzroy weekly 1875-1877), Port Phillip Herald (1840-1902)  
best to use the Advanced Search function, especially for unusual names or particular addresses
- e.g. results for "101 Gore" were 474 hits in 2009, now 791 hits in 2011;
  - e.g. results for "101 Greeves" were one hit in 2009, now 7 hits in 2011:

7 Google Advanced Search

- |   | of web     | of images | of news archive |
|---|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| - "101 Gore" - hits in 2009 & 2011 were | 1300 & 951 | 15 & 84   | 202 & 84        |
| - "101 Greeves" - in 2009 & 2011 were   | 7 & 10     | 20 & 1    | 1 & 0           |