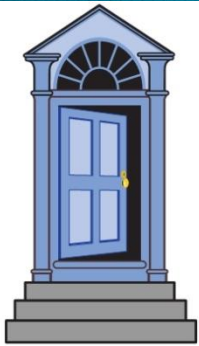


Finding Ancestral Dirty Linen in Queensland Court of Petty Session Records

Shauna Hicks

www.shaunahicks.com.au

<http://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au>



Introduction

- ▶ What are Court of Petty Session (CPS) records?
- ▶ Where to find the records?
- ▶ Any indexes and finding aids?
- ▶ What ancestral stories can they tell?
- ▶ If you don't like surprises, don't look !



What are CPS records?

- ▶ Local court records
- ▶ Relatively minor crimes
 - Drunk and disorderly
 - Obscene language
 - Assault
 - Wife/child desertion
 - Breaking and entering
 - No visible (lawful) means of support
- Check out other court records too!



Where & How to find CPS records?

- ▶ State Archives (original records)
- ▶ Newspapers (clues and details)
- ▶ Police Gazettes (clues and details)
- ▶ Subscription Databases



Shauna Hicks History Enterprises

Family and Local History

Home

www.shaunahicks.com.au

April 29th, 2014

Welcome to my website where you will discover publications and events that I am participating in.

In 2006 I was invited to give a talk on my personal involvement with family history at the Melbourne Writer's Festival. The event was held at the historic [Melbourne Athenaeum](#) which celebrated its 170th anniversary in 2009.

To learn how I became hooked on tracing my own family history, have a look at [All In The Family: Researching Your Family History](#).

In July 2011 I started an online blog [Diary of an Australian Genealogist](#) to record my research (both here in Australia and overseas), links I like, articles or newsle history news that excites me and so on.

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4

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Unpublished Thesis

[Society of Australian Genealogists](#): Diploma in Family Historical Studies Thesis

Below are the two pieces of research that I submitted for my Diploma. It was originally in Word Perfect and later migrated to Word and unfortunately the footnotes seem to have migrated differently but it is all still readable. Of course the illustrations aren't in the document but if anyone is interested I would be happy to see what I can do. Also since 1992 I have progressed with my research and ideally I should write a sequel. While I ponder that idea, you have the benefit of this 1992 work.

[Criminal Records: A Guide to Sources in Queensland](#), 1992

[From Iron Chains to Gold Bars: The Story of the Walker family and its descendants including the Evans, Potter, Bullen and Atkinson families, 1814-1941](#), 1992



Indexes and Finding Aids

- ▶ Brief guides, fact sheets @ QSA
- ▶ Newspapers
- ▶ Police gazettes
- ▶ Cora Num's website
- ▶ Judy Webster's website



Researching the archives

[Queensland State Archives](#) > [Researching the archives](#) > [Indexes](#) > Courts

Overview of holdings

Coming to the archives

...Catalogue

Resources for researchers

Indexes

⊕ Convicts / prisoners

Courts

Criminal
depositions 1861-
1885

Divorces 1861-1894

Equity files 1857-1895

...Inquests 1859-1897

...Instruments of
renunciation 1915-
1983

.....Justices of the
Peace 1857-1922

.....Naturalisations
1851-1904

Trustee files 1889-1929

Courts

Entries in the indexes provide peoples names, in alphabetical order, and include the Queensland State Archives references. The introductory section of each index provides background details and information on how to use the index.

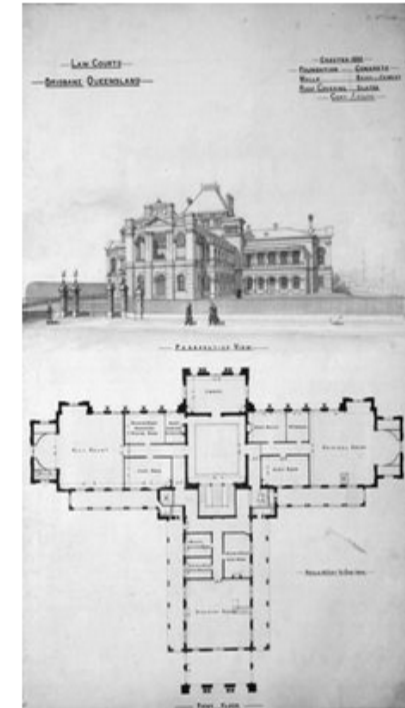
Copies of individual entries can be ordered, with details of costs provided on individual index pages. These prices apply to website and postal orders only. All prices are in Australian dollars, and include GST, postage and handling.

Please note, Adobe Reader is required to open and print these Portable Document Format (PDF) index files and is free to download from the [Adobe website](#).

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Indexes

- [Criminal depositions 1861-1885](#)
- [Divorces 1861-1894](#)
- [Equity files 1857-1895](#)
- [Inquests 1859-1897](#)
- [Instruments of renunciation 1915-1983](#)
- [Justices of the Peace 1857-1922](#)
- [Naturalisations 1851-1904](#)
- [Trustees files 1889-1929](#)
- [Wills 1857-1940](#)



Queensland State Archives,
Digital Image ID 2576,
architectural plan of the Law
Courts, Brisbane, 1888



Criminal depositions 1861-1885

This index has been compiled from [Series ID 6226, Registers of Criminal Depositions Received](#) which were created by the Crown Solicitors Office.

[Background](#)
[Explanatory notes](#)
[Search the indexes](#)
[Open Data indexes](#)
[Costs and ordering](#)

Background

Each double-page of the registers 1861-1885 is headed "depositions etc received". Under this heading, entry details also vary over time but usually include: number, name of accused, offence for which committed, committing magistrate and bench, place of trial, when, court where the trial was held, witnesses, bail, depositions when received, despatched to, when, judge, verdict, sentence and date of sentence or discharge, and remarks; if a gaol sentence was imposed it gives the name of the gaol. Adjournments are included while applications for leave to appeal are noted in red.

With the information contained in these registers it is possible to look for further information in court and prison records and to locate court transcripts in [Series ID 4508](#).

The image below (click for larger image) depicts entries in a Register of Criminal Depositions Received by the Crown Law Office in 1866.

The indexes to Criminal depositions 1861-1885 are now available through the Queensland Government's [Open Data](#) initiative. The [Open Data indexes](#) are available in .csv and .txt format.

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(No. _____)

Prisoner's Name Choo

NUMBER ON GAOL REGISTER 458745 PREVIOUS NUMBER _____

Portrait on Admission.

Where born China

Year of birth 1835

Arrived in the Colony { Ship Yong Yang
 Year 1845

Trade or occupation previous to conviction Labourer

Religion Buddhism

Education, degree of None

Colour of { Hair Black
 Eyes Black

Height 5ft 7 in

Weight { On conviction
 On discharge

SPECIAL MARKS AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

Portrait on Discharge.

<http://archives.qld.gov.au/Researchers/Indexes/Courts/Pages/CriminalDepositions.aspx>



Court records

Brief guide 22

Supreme Court

Criminal and civil sittings of the New South Wales Supreme Court from 1850 to 1856. In 1857 a Resident Judge for Queensland was formerly established under the Supreme Court Act. Initially, the Supreme Court, Brisbane held jurisdiction and was later to be divided into three districts. Registry of

- Northern – Bowen in 1875, transferred to Rockhampton
- Central – Rockhampton in 1896
- Southern – Brisbane in 1857
- Cairns Registry – 1 September 1997

Court of Petty Sessions, 1844 - 1965

Courts of Petty Sessions (CPS) were in existence at the time of Separation from the Colony of New South Wales in 1859. The Court held original jurisdiction in minor criminal offences with right of appeal to the District Court. From 1867 the Court could sit as a Small Debts Court, whose functions are described below. The Court could sit as a Police Court and, during the twentieth century, was also the place where a number of other types of court hearings were held such as the Licensing Court, Children's Court, and Coroners Court.

The Clerk of the Court of Petty Sessions often acted as agent for State and Federal Government Departments on matters unrelated to the justice system. It is not unusual to find records received from a particular Clerk of the Court of Petty Sessions about non judicial matters.

CPS records at Queensland State Archives date from 1844 however, not all districts are represented. QSA holdings vary in quantity and content. Under the *Justices Act Amendment Act 1964* the courts known as Courts of Petty Sessions were renamed Magistrates Courts (see below).

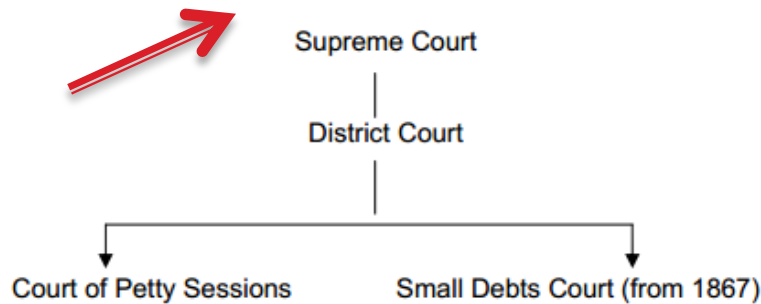
The records of the Courts of Petty Sessions include:

- Aborigines - records of the Protector of Aborigines
- bills of sale
- depositions in criminal and civil matters
- electoral rolls
- issuing of licenses, e.g., hotel, club, billiard, tobacconist, slaughterhouse, timber felling, auctioneer
- lease of Crown land
- Magisterial inquiries (inquests)
- maintenance case files
- minutes of proceedings in various Courts held in the CPS
- registration of firms
- registration of aliens
- unemployment benefits
- writs

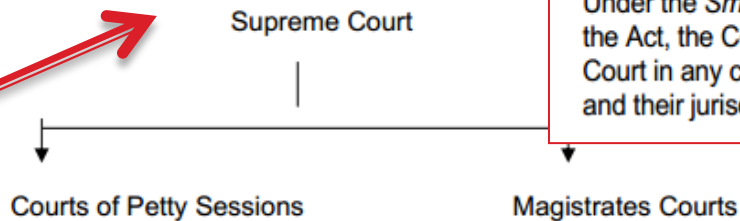


QSA Brief Guide 22 Court Records

Court Structure, 1858 - 1922



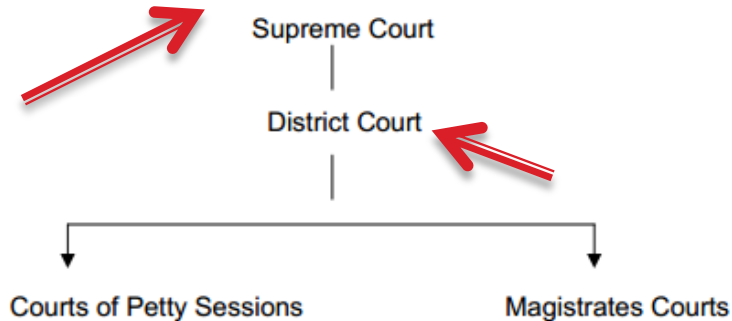
Court Structure, 1922 - 1959



Small Debts Court, 1867 - 1921

Under the *Small Debts Act 1867*, the Court of Petty Sessions could sit as a Small Debts Court. Under the Act, the Court held original civil jurisdiction for claims up to £50, with right of appeal to the District Court in any civil matter involving the sum of £10 or over. Small Debts Courts were abolished in 1922 and their jurisdiction passed to the newly formed Magistrates Court.

Court Structure, 1959 - 1965



- **Children's Court** - set up in 1907 to deal with matters and offences about children under 17 years of age, e.g. applications for care and control, simple offences.
- **Industrial Magistrates Court** - set up in 1915 under the Queensland *Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act* to arbitrate in industrial matters. Appeals went to the Queensland Industrial Court. The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission took over most of the arbitrator functions of the Industrial Court in 1961.
- **Coroners Court** - set up to inquire into certain types of death e.g. violent, sudden or unnatural death, death in prison or mental hospital and later, for disappearances. Inquests are also held in cases of fires and mining accidents.
- **Licensing Court** - set up in 1912 for the issuing of licenses including liquor, victuallers, billiards, bagatelle. In 1935 control of liquor licenses was assumed by the Licensing Commission. Further information on liquor licenses in [Brief Guide 14: Hotel Records](#).

Other judicial or quasi-judicial bodies include Fair Rents Court, Land Court, Local Government Court, Mining Wardens Court, Valuations Court.





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Brisbane Hospital patient index, 1887-1902
Civic record of South Australia 1921-1923
Croydon Hospital admissions index, 1888-1925
Moreton Bay Miscellaneous Records 1855-1859
Moreton Bay Supreme Court Records 1857-1859
New South Wales Police Gazette 1862-1900
New Zealand Jury Rolls 1842-1862
New Zealand Pensions Granted 1868
New Zealand Prisoners Pardoned 1860-1862
Northern Territory Parliamentary Index 1884-1890
Parliamentary Papers for the Colony of Victoria, 1852-1879
Queensland Criminal Reports 1860-1907
Queensland Miner's Rights and Business Licences 1870-1884
Queensland Miscellaneous Licences 1860-1899
Queensland Police Gazette 1864-1900
Queensland Police Gazette Index 1864-1874
Queensland Timber Licences 1860-1901
Queensland, Australia, Unclaimed Letters 1859-1874
Queensland, Old Age Pension Applicants 1908-1909
South Australia destitute women 1855-1860
South Australian Police Gazette 1862-1900
Supreme Court Brisbane Originating Summons 1901-1906
Tasmania Police Gazette 1884-1900
Tasmania Reports of Crime 1861-1883
Victoria Police Gazette 1855-1900
Wallangarra Quarantine Admission Registers 1918-1919



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Sort By Popularity ▾

TITLE	COLLECTION	RECORDS	ACTIVITY
 New South Wales, Australia, Police Gazettes, 1854-1930	Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills	1,504,131	
 New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849	Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills	277,066	
 Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868	Immigration & Travel	122,459	
 New South Wales, Australia, Registers of Coroners' Inquests, 1821-1937	Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills	218,764	
 New South Wales, Australia, Index to Deceased Estate Files, 1923-1958	Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills	445,416	
 New South Wales, Australia, Gaol Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930	Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills	368,358	
 New South Wales, Australia, Settler and Convict Lists, 1787-1834	Convict, Criminal, Land & Wills	110,103	

<http://search.ancestry.com.au>



Finding local, interstate and overseas folk mentioned in Queensland's historical records

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Police Watchhouse records, Queensland

People Arrested and Victims of Crime

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These records at Qld State Archives are useful for genealogy, especially if you are researching the **'black sheep' of the family** or someone who committed a very minor offence or was a **victim of crime**.

Police Station watchhouse charge books and Court of Petty Sessions police charge bench books often provide **clues to sources for further research** (Court, prison and mental asylum records, criminal depositions, murder files, Police Gazettes and other police records, etc.) Although the registers vary in format, most give **date, town, prisoner's name, aliases, age, occupation, religion, state or country of origin, education level, offence, and how disposed of** (fine or term of imprisonment, or whether sent to a reformatory, asylum etc. or discharged, cautioned, or committed for trial at which court and when). Some show **previous convictions** and **prisoner's signature and property**, and on rare occasions a **physical description**. Some **victims of crime** are named. There are occasional references to **illegitimate children** (I have seen one listing names, addresses and occupations of the child's mother, maternal grandparents and putative father).

Offences include theft, drunk and disorderly, breaking and entering, child (or wife) desertion, having no visible lawful means of support, attempted suicide, being of unsound mind, inciting to riot, beating a horse, assault, murder, supplying opium to an Aboriginal, and being a neglected child. **Children** appear in the records as both offenders and victims.

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Pre-1900 watchhouse records are known to exist for these towns (there may be others):

- Aramac
- Birdsville
- Charleville, 1889-1893 (+ 1901-1904) ([index published](#), and [names are online](#))
- Charters Towers, 1895-1896 and 1899 ([index published](#), and [names are online](#))
- Cloncurry, 1874-1876 and 1887-1891 ([index published](#), and [names are online](#))
- Coolgarra
- Crows Nest
- Croydon (index in progress)
- Dalby
- Goondiwindi (**NEW!**)
- Gympie ([1884-1886 names are online](#), and advice re 1890-1931 index)
- Halifax
- Irvinebank
- Isisford
- Kamerunga
- Kilkivan
- Kuranda
- Leyburn
- Marburg
- Mareeba
- Mount Morgan
- Nebo
- Oakey
- Ravenswood (index in progress)
- Springsure
- Taroom
- Townsville

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Some **1901-1904** records for Adavale, Augathella, Charleville, Cunnamulla, Eromanga, Eulo, Hungerford, Morven, Nocundra, Wooroorooka, Wyandra, Thargomindah and Upper Warrego are in a **consolidated index for south-west Qld** (which includes pre-1900 records for Charleville). The index has been [published](#), and [names are online](#).





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► Criminal and court records

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- ... [Queensland \(2\)](#)
- ... [South Australia \(1\)](#)
- ... [Tasmania \(1\)](#)
- ... [Victoria \(3\)](#)
- ... [Western Australia \(1\)](#)

The Police Gazette of Western Australia

State Library of Western Australia has the Police Gazette of Western Australia 1876-1900 online and fully searchable. Information can be found under various headings: apprehensions; police ... [more](#)

State Records of South Australia

State Records offers online name searching of selected records using the collection search engine, ArchivesSearch. Use the Name Search facility and check out the Special Lists available online link ... [more](#)

Public Record Office Victoria - Court Cases

Resources include:• Index to Certificate of Discharge, Court of Insolvency, Melbourne 1848-1875• Index to Companies and Miscellaneous Applications Files 1884-1922• Index to Court of ... [more](#)

Decisions of the Superior Courts of New South Wales 1788-1899

This site also includes Moreton Bay cases (1850-1859) and Port Phillip District cases (1841-1847). There

www.coraweb.com.au/categories/criminal-and-court-records



To find a Court of Petty Sessions:

- search [ArchivesSearch](#) (the Queensland State Archives catalogue)
- select the exact phrase option from the Using picklist
- type the court name in the search for field, e.g., Court of Petty Sessions Nanango
- click the Search button, and view the results

BG 22



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Shauna Hicks GSQ May 2014



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View Results	Items	38

Matching Series

Series ID	Title / Abstract	Start Date	End Date
11227	Deposition Books and Returns for Statistical Purposes	1/6/1872	10/1/1906
11233	Insolvency Ledger Court of Petty Sessions, Charters Towers record of insolvencies	29/4/1892	31/7/1899
11230	Letters and Circulars Papers received by the Court of Petty Sessions, Charters Towers	1/1/1878	31/1/1905
11226	Minute Book for Workers' Compensation Cases Particulars of cases heard in the Court of Petty Sessions, Charters Towers	28/5/1906	22/12/1916
11240	Minute Books for Small Debts Court Particulars of cases heard in the Court of Petty Sessions, Charters Towers	1/6/1878	17/10/1905
8783	Register of Bills of Sale	14/11/1914	24/2/1960
8784	Register of Tobacco Licences	1/1/1894	31/12/1955
11244	Register of Wine Licences	7/4/1897	2/4/1902



Series ID	Title	From	To
11228	Returns	1/6/1872	30/6/1873
11227	Deposition Books and Returns for Statistical Purposes	1/6/1872	10/1/1906
11238	Deposition	1/10/1872	30/4/1873
11224	Warrant Book	5/10/1874	23/12/1925
11230	Letters and Circulars	1/1/1878	31/1/1905
11240	Minute Books for Small Debts Court	1/6/1878	17/10/1905
11251	Register of Country and General Publicans	18/4/1882	6/1/1886
11249	Registers of Billiard and Bagatelle Licences	1/5/1882	2/7/1902
11250	Registers of Licensed Auctioneers and Commission Agents	12/12/1882	31/12/1953
11248	Register of Wholesale Wine and Spirit Merchants	3/1/1883	31/12/1903
11234	Correspondence, Financial Statements and Related Papers in Cases of Insolvency and Intestacy	28/5/1884	17/5/1901
11236	Record Book for Small Debts Court	5/3/1885	19/1/1926
11246	Registers of Proceedings in the Licensing Court	6/4/1886	4/6/1913
7383	Deposition Books	14/4/1886	31/12/1893
11243	Bench Record and Summons Books	6/3/1890	30/11/1943
11229	Chronological Register of Bills of Sale	1/1/1892	30/11/1914
11237	Alphabetical Register of Bills of Sale	1/4/1892	31/1/1916
11233	Insolvency Ledger	29/4/1892	31/7/1899
11222	Papers Relating to Ravenswood Gold Mines Limited and to Mt Wright Gold Mines, Ravenswood	1/1/1894	31/12/1935
8784	Register of Tobacco Licences	1/1/1894	31/12/1955
8786	Stock Mortgages Register	28/11/1894	24/3/1930
11244	Register of Wine Licences	7/4/1897	2/4/1902
11247	Register of Clubs	3/5/1900	3/1/1901
11231	Registers of the Registration of Firms	1/1/1903	31/12/1933
11226	Minute Book for Workers' Compensation Cases	28/5/1906	22/12/1916
11239	Plaint Books, Small Debts Court and Magistrate's Court	16/7/1906	21/9/1942
11223	Registers of Maintenance Cases.	1/1/1907	31/12/1937
11225	Register of Fines	2/5/1907	1/1/1944
8785	Bench Record and Summons Books	12/4/1910	31/12/1964
11245	Registers of Applications under the Liquor Acts	2/4/1913	5/12/1922
11242	Debt Attachment Books	16/8/1913	7/7/1942
11232	Register of the Issue of Writs of Fieri Facias	5/6/1914	18/4/1922
8783	Register of Bills of Sale	14/11/1914	24/2/1960
11235	Correspondence Respecting Allowances for Jurors and Witnesses	1/1/1920	31/12/1937
8787	Register of Crop Liens	10/10/1922	7/1/1924
11241	List of Actions, Magistrate's Court	26/1/1926	27/3/1934
10079	Register of Slaughterhouse Licences	22/11/1963	31/12/1964

BUT this is number of series for Charters Towers if you do agency search

To find a Court of Petty Sessions:

- search [ArchivesSearch](#) (the Queensland State Archives catalogue)
- select the exact phrase option from the Using picklist
- type the court name in the search for field, e.g., Court of Petty Sessions Nanango
- click the Search button, and view the results

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Search for

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Using

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Results grouped by category. Click 'View Results' to see each set of records.

Search Results Summary

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Agency Search Results

Click on the required Agency title/abstract to view its details and see a list of Series.

Matching Agencies

Agency ID	Title / Abstract	Start Date	End Date
663	Court of Petty Sessions, Beenleigh Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	1/7/1869	31/12/1964
2330	Magistrates Court, Beenleigh The Magistrates Court is the local court where all criminal and many civil cases first enter the court system.	3/4/1922	Current

Series Search Results

Click on the required Series title/abstract to view its details and see a list of Items.

Matching Series

Series ID	Title / Abstract	Start Date	End Date
11025	Deposition and Minute Books Particulars of cases heard in the Court of Petty Sessions, Beenleigh	1/1/1871	31/12/1910

Agency Details



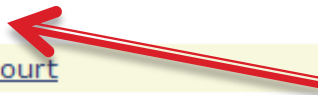
Click on the series title to view series details.

Agency ID	663
Title	Court of Petty Sessions, Beenleigh
Agency Type	Magistrates Court
Start Date	1/7/1869
End Date	31/12/1964
Date Notes	N/A
Abstract	Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases. Go to Description...

Series

[\[hide\]](#)

Series ID	Title	From	To
11021	Record Book of Small Debt Cases	1/1/1871	30/6/1881
11025	Deposition and Minute Books	1/1/1871	31/12/1910
11026	Judgment Book, Small Debts Court	1/6/1885	30/4/1901
11023	Plaint Book of Small Debts Court	1/6/1885	31/3/1915
7663	Bench Record and Summons Books	4/2/1911	27/3/1958
7668	Record of Liquor Licence Applications	25/11/1935	24/3/1943
7667	Registers of Liquor Licences and Licensed Premises	25/11/1935	31/12/1964
7664	Register of Tobacconists' Licences	1/1/1938	31/12/1950





James Street, Beenleigh ca 1887 – Court House on the left
Image Local Studies Library, Gold Coast City Council



24 Oct 1887
Beenleigh

Witness statements also
very useful

In the depositions
This afternoon I took a walk to the station and saw Adam Johnston & a labourer working in the garden. I saw the ^{body} lying down from the Cunningham. Just on Sunday morning last at 6 o'clock in the morning, she came back again in about half an hour and dropped at the Cunningham's feet. I went over to the feet and asked her what had happened. She told me with the English man, I had a piece of stick in my hand that I had found the fire, I walked past her, there was a piece of stick behind her and the stick touched her and she fell on her back. She being out that I hit her, I said I said did, I told her that, I said, that was the first plan for her, I told her this was no plan for her with the English man.

By the Court: Now would not in the Cunningham - I said Adam Johnston, I said I saw her before me this
At any of 1887 at Beenleigh
Adam Johnston R. L.

Adam Johnston
Witness



Case is dismissed

Adam Johnston R. L.

4 Nov 1887
Beenleigh

By the Court

246
my husband and I are not living together. I have never lived with him since the warrant was taken out on Sunday night he asked for a shilling and I said I had no shilling to give him (my sewing machine was stolen between 3.45 o'clock on Monday morning last). I suspect my husband for taking it. I bought ^{and paid for} the machine myself. You did not offer me maintenance. You said he would stop with the children if I would clear away. I said I did not hear anything about rations. I said I would stop and take care of the children. I did not tell you to go up the line and change ^{your} name and I would follow you up in a month. I did not tell you to come as a boarder and change your name. I told you to sleep in your own tent. I did not tell you I didn't want meat from you. I have not lived with any man. You never caught any man with me last Tuesday fortnight. I thought he told I was living in
Maria Johnston

Taken and sworn before me
this fourth day of November 1887 at Beenleigh
Adam Johnston R. L.



- ▶ In September 1886 Maria summoned Adam for maintenance at Ipswich where he was ordered to pay 10s a week. His brother became surety for him but Adam absconded.
- ▶ Maria Johnston and John Bolton arrived in Beenleigh in January 1887 and lived in tents along the Southport railway line.
- ▶ In June 1887 Adam Johnston was arrested for disorderly conduct.
- ▶ On 24 October 1887 Maria summoned Adam for assault and the following day Adam stole his wife's sewing machine.
- ▶ On 3 November 1887 Maria summoned Adam for maintenance and he was advised to pay 12s a week.
- ▶ Adam was charged with wife desertion and bound to pay 12s a week and two sureties of £15 each or in default six months imprisonment.
- ▶ After he was sent to gaol, Bolton and Maria moved to Pimpama and were living there in January 1888.
- ▶ The Rev Mr Martin claimed that Adam was living with another woman and that he was not quite right in his mind.





www.archives.qld.gov.au/Researchers/CollectionsDownloads/Documents/BG34Police.pdf

Police gazettes

Brief guide 34

This brief guide provides the main series of records about police gazettes held at Queensland State Archives.

These records can be found in [ArchivesSearch](#) (the Queensland State Archives catalogue).

Historical police gazettes are a very useful source of information for genealogists and local historians. These gazettes hold details of matters reported to police throughout Queensland and copies are available at Queensland State Archives from 1864.

The Police Gazettes contain information on topics such as:

- persons apprehended
- prisoners tried at the District and Supreme Courts
- complainants
- deserter's from His Majesty's Service
- escaped prisoners
- persons suspected of committing offences
- prohibited immigrants (ship's deserters)
- personnel changes in the Police Force including discharges
- wife and child deserters
- missing persons
- prisoners discharged from custody
- summons and warrants





Queensland Police Gazette.

Containing Information received in cases of Felony, and of Misdemeanor, and against Receivers of Stolen Property, reputed Thieves, and Offenders escaped from custody, with the time, place, and circumstances of the Offences, and description of those who are not known; the appearance, dress, and other marks of identity, with every particular which may lead to their apprehension; and a Description, as accurate as possible, of Property that has been Stolen, Horses, &c.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

VOL. XXXII.]

SATURDAY, 4TH MAY, 1895.

[No. 20.

RETURN OF PRISONERS TO BE DISCHARGED FROM HER MAJESTY'S PRISON, ROMA, DURING THE MONTH OF MAY, 1895.

Name.	Where Tried.	Date of Discharge.	Offence.	Sentence.	Native of	Age.	Stature.	Make.	Complexion.	COLOUR OF		Remarks.
										Hair.	Eyes.	
Adam Johnson	Roma	1895. 2 May	Threatening language	1 month's imprisonment or £2 fine	Ireland	51	5 6½	Medium	Fresh	Light-brown	Hazel	A long scar on right side of head; small flesh lump behind right ear; minus two front teeth upper jaw; bald.
Charles Fritchard	Charleville	6 "	Larceny	3 months' hard labour	England	28	5 2½	ditto	Fair	ditto	ditto	Two large burn marks on left arm.
Charles Smith	St. George	11 "	Riotous conduct	2 months' hard labour	Canada	44	5 2	Stout	Sallow	Dark-brown	ditto	Two moles on left breast; several old scars on head; scar under left eye; cross on left forearm near wrist.

Archives Search - Basic Search

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any of the words ('all' search)
the exact phrase

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Sort the results by title, ID number or date

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Search Results Summary

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View Results	Agencies	189
View Results	Series	72
View Results	Items	237

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Matching Series

Series ID	Title / Abstract	Start Date	End Date
8167	<u>Bench Books</u> Court proceedings held at the Police Court, Nanango	19/4/1859	9/11/1906
9489	<u>Bench Record and Deposition Book</u> Cases brought before the Court of Petty Sessions, Kilkivan	9/12/1887	12/5/1900
818	<u>Bench Record and Summons Book</u> Court of Petty Sessions, Crows Nest	13/7/1944	15/3/1968
860	<u>Bench Record and Summons Book</u> Kept by the Court of Petty Sessions, Hopetoun and Kilcoy	30/4/1901	2/9/1931
7163	<u>Bench Record and Summons Book</u> Kept by the Court of Petty Sessions, Marburg	16/7/1919	28/9/1948
267	<u>Bench Record and Summons Books</u> Court of Petty Sessions / Magistrates Court Gladstone record of court proceedings	23/12/1919	27/2/1968
787	<u>Bench Record and Summons Books</u> Cases brought before the Court of Petty Sessions, later the Magistrates Court, Thursday Island	1/1/1904	1/1/1971
824	<u>Bench Record and Summons Books</u> Kept by the Court of Petty Sessions, later the Magistrates Court, Mungindi	17/12/1907	17/7/1946
861	<u>Bench Record and Summons Books</u> Cases brought before the Court of Petty Sessions, later known as the Magistrates Court, Toogoolawah	27/2/1929	1/12/1979



Agency ID	Title / Abstract	Start Date	End Date
622	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Adavale</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	12/7/1883	31/12/1964
623	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Alpha</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	29/6/1887	31/12/1964
1498	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Aramac</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	4/3/1871	31/12/1964
624	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Arrilalah</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	3/6/1887	15/2/1922
625	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Atherton</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	1/11/1906	31/12/1964
626	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Augathella</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	13/3/1883	31/12/1964
628	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Ayr</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	6/7/1883	31/12/1964
627	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Ayton</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	8/10/1886	24/1/1899
660	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Babinda</u> Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	1/10/1923	31/12/1964
661	<u>Court of Petty Sessions, Barcaldine</u>	30/12/1886	31/12/1964



Description

ESTABLISHMENT:

Under the First and Second Charters of Justice (proclaimed in 1787 and 1814 respectively under the authority of Imperial Act 27 George III) justices of the peace appointed by the Governor were granted summary jurisdiction to hear petty criminal matters in the first instance without a jury.

The powers of justices of the peace and of police magistrates to sit as petty sessions were ultimately codified in the New South Wales Acts of 1835 (2 Victoria 2) and of 1850 (14 Victoria 43). This latter New South Wales Act ultimately formed the basis of the Queensland "Justices Act of 1886", which legislated for the appointment by the Governor in Council of districts for the holding of courts of petty sessions. The Court of Petty Sessions, Forsyth was proclaimed by the Governor in Council on 28 July 1911.

Under the "Justices Act Amendment Act 1964", from 1 January 1965 onwards: all courts of petty sessions districts were deemed to be magistrates courts districts, all places previously appointed for the holding of courts of petty sessions were deemed to be places for the holding of magistrates courts, all clerks of petty sessions were deemed to be registrars of magistrates courts.

FUNCTIONS

Under a number of further Acts, the establishment of a place for the holding of a court of petty sessions was deemed to establish a number of further courts, for example, magistrates courts, fair rents courts, small debts courts. This agency definition will however be concerned purely with the court of petty sessions sitting as this court.

Courts of petty sessions had petty criminal jurisdiction and jurisdiction for summary actions of ejectment between lessors and lessees. Petty criminal jurisdiction is a complicated matter of law involving numerous Commonwealth and State statutes but can be briefly described as jurisdiction over summary trials of simple offences and committal proceedings for indictable offences sent to the Supreme Court.

In practice, if not in statute, courts of petty sessions were divided into three courts: police court (prosecutions commenced by police), summons court (prosecutions and proceedings for ejectment commenced by private prosecutors) and traffic court.

PORTFOLIO CONTROLLING:

Attorney General 29 Jul 1911 - 22 Oct 1919

Minister of Justice 22 Oct 1919 - 7 Apr 1920

Attorney General 7 Apr 1920 - 14 Nov 1957

Minister for Justice and Attorney General 14 Nov 1957 - 31 Dec 1964

NOTE:

Magistrates Courts were already in existence when Courts of Petty Sessions ceased to operate in 1964 and they took over most of the functions formerly carried out by the Petty Sessions Courts.

Basic agency description



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the exact phrase

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Results grouped by category. Click 'View Results' to see each set of records.

Search Results Summary

	Category	Matches
View Results	Agencies	11
View Results	Series	24
View Results	Items	148



Agency ID	Title / Abstract	Start Date	End Date
2112	Circuit Court, Gympie Circuit Courts were the Supreme Court on circuit in towns other than those where judges resided	12/7/1922	30/4/1959
1503	Court of Petty Sessions, Gympie Held original jurisdiction in minor criminal cases.	9/1/1868	31/12/1964
838	District Court, Clermont District Courts deal with serious indictable offences and civil disputes.	18/11/1865	31/3/1922
2206	District Court, Gayndah District Courts deal with serious indictable offences and civil disputes.	14/11/1865	20/3/1869
843	District Court, Gympie District Courts deal with serious indictable offences and civil disputes.	20/3/1869	31/3/1922
10741	Land Commissioner, Gympie Administered sales, selections and leases of Crown land	13/12/1869	9/12/1991
1284	Licensing Authority, Gympie Responsible for granting and review of liquor licences	1/1/1886	21/2/1913
1286	Licensing Court, Gympie Responsible for granting and review of liquor licences	21/2/1913	25/11/1935
1314	Magistrates Court, Gympie The Magistrates Court is the local court where all criminal and many civil cases first enter the court system.	3/4/1922	Current
1407	Mining Warden, Gympie Responsible for making decisions regarding mining leases and tenures	1/10/1874	18/3/1999



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john finn

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The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933) (about)

Tuesday 1 September 1903

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of 8



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Finn Family in QLD

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John Finn

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ALLEGED ARSON* OÁSB.

At the South Brisbane Police Court yesterday, before Messrs. - W. Yaldwya, P.M., T. Austin, and E. Alien, J.J.P., a middle-aged man named **John finn** Jerw appeared in custody charged with wilfully and unlawfully setting fire to a dwelling, house in Hampstead-street, Woolloom-gabba, last Sunday morning. Sub-inspector Geraghty conducted the prosecution. Constable Coman stated that at about 7.30 on the morning of the 30th instant 1M saw defendant in Balaclava-street, Woolloomgabba, when he said to ttrm, "Where did you sleep last night?" He replies,

MAURICE BALDWIN, Hon. Secretary,

ALLEGED ARSON CASE.

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ALLEGED ARSON CASE.

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ALLEGED ARSON IN SOUTH BRISBANE.

At the South Brisbane Police Court on Tuesday, before Messrs. W. Yaldwyn, P.M., and J. Austin, J.P., a middle-aged man named John Finn appeared in custody charged, on remand, with wilfully and unlawfully setting fire to a dwelling-house in Hampstead-street, Woolloongabba, on the morning of the 30th August. Mr. B. Papi appeared for defendant, and Sergeant Ryan prosecuted on behalf of the police. Constables Colman and Martin gave evidence as to finding marks of hob-nailed boots on the ground surrounding the house, and to taking plaster of paris casts of the impressions. One of these casts corresponded with the right boot of defendant. Emily Corrie, a married woman, living next door to the house lately occupied by defendant, and which he is charged with setting fire to, deposed to seeing a man enter the front gate of the property and try to wrench the gate off. He went away, returned, and subsequently went away again. She could not identify the man. During that night a fire occurred in the house next door to her residence. Evidence was also given by Mary Nolan and Mary Finn, and, on the application of the police, defendant was remanded till next Monday.

Brisbane Courier
10 Sep 1903

Brisbane Courier
15 Sep 1903

SOUTH BRISBANE.

At the South Brisbane Police Court yesterday, before Messrs. W. Yaldwyn, P.M., and T. Austin, J.P., evidence was taken in the case of Frederick Whittaker, charged with stealing fish valued at 7s., the property of John Leiber. Accused was further remanded till 17th instant, bail being extended. John Finn, on remand, charged with having wilfully and unlawfully set fire to a dwelling-house in Hampstead-street, Woolloongabba, on 30th August, was discharged after further evidence had been taken.

Brisbane Courier
1 Sep 1903

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED ARSON.

Fire Brigade Prevents a Conflagration.

Finn Charged With Firing the House.

Police Court Proceedings.

Last week John Finn was charged with wilfully and unlawfully setting fire to a dwelling house in Hempstead-street, Woolloongabba. The house is the property of Sub-inspector Burke. It would appear that on Saturday night, August 21, just one week after the bailiffs had been put in, Finn came down to Brisbane, as was usual with him at the end of each month, and, presumably, not finding his family at the house (in fact the place was still empty) he went to Mrs. Nolan's place, and, after seeing his family had some dinner, went away, and later on in the evening he returned and stayed at the house for about half-an-hour, leaving about 7 o'clock. About half-past

awakened by a noise, and found that the house next door was on fire. In reply to Mr. Papi this witness said that although the house had been empty for a week, the gates were not locked, but she had not seen anyone in the yard, and the Fire Brigade did not go there. A Mrs. Rasmussen, a widow, living on the other side of the house, gave evidence as to the fire, but she does not appear to have seen anyone about the place. The evidence of Constables Coman and Martin was to the effect that Coman arrested Finn early on the Sunday morning. About 3.30 a.m. on Sunday, August 30, in consequence of something he was told, Coman went to the house in Hempstead-street and found that a fire had recently taken place there. He examined the place and took possession of a piece of wire, a piece of burnt straw which looked as if it was a piece of hat material, and two pieces of burnt wood. Martin had previously visited the house about 2 a.m., when he found the place open, but no one about, and on going inside found the floors covered with water, and every appearance of a recently extinguished fire. He thought

THE FIRE HAD ORIGINATED IN ONE OF THE ROOMS.

in a corner by the brick chimney. Coman and Martin then went to Mrs. Nolan's house, where they saw Mary Finn, and subsequently they found Finn himself about 7.30 a.m. Coman asked him where he had stopped that night, and Finn replied, "Nowhere." In reply to further questions, Finn said he had come from Ipswich on the previous day, arriving in Brisbane about 10 o'clock in the morning, and about 3 o'clock in the afternoon had gone to Mrs. Nolan's, where he had dinner. He had stayed there some time, and had then gone to meet the 5.30 train from Ipswich. He did not know what time it was when he came back, but the shops and hotels were closed. He went to Nolan's verandah and went to sleep, and he woke up very cold. He then went for a walk round the cemetery, and told the constables he had not long been back. Coman took him into custody, and with Martin, about 9.30 a.m. went back to Mrs. Nolan's, where they saw Mary Finn, and obtained from her a pair of boots and an overcoat. They then went to the house in Hempstead-street, and Coman made an examination of the ground in the yard, where he discovered several

MARKS OF HOB-NAIL BOOTS.

He took impressions of them in plaster of paris. On the Monday at the watchhouse Martin showed Finn the boots and overcoat, and he said they belonged to him. On Sep-

tember 2, in consequence of what they had been told the two constables again went to the house in Hempstead-street, and took more plaster of paris impressions of imprints of hob-nailed boots. The different plaster casts were all produced, and some detail evidence as to the similarity of the boots produced with the plaster casts was given. In reply to Mr. Papi, Coman said he had known Finn for two years before he arrested him, and that was how he knew where he lived. Mr. Nolan's house was about half a mile by the road from Finn's late residence. When he took the plaster casts of the footprints the ground was hard, but there had been heavy rain during the night, and there was no doubt but that the impressions had been made during the previous 24 hours. The big gates were open, and anyone could go in and out without hindrance. The house had been empty about a week before the fire, and the fire brigade had been there before he arrived. Constable Martin, under cross-examination, said he would swear the plaster cast was a facsimile of the

UNLIKE AN INCENDIARY

as it is possible to imagine, and followed the evidence with the closest attention. The evidence on Tuesday went to show that on August 29, the day of the fire, Finn came down from Bundamba, and to Mrs. Nolan's house. This was about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Finn was a little the worse for liquor at the time, and Mrs. Nolan and his eldest daughter upbraided him for coming home in that state. They then told him that he should look after his children more, and informed him of how the bailiffs had been put into the Hempstead-street house, and the furniture seized and taken away, and that his family had found food and shelter from Mrs. Nolan. Finn was naturally very much upset at the direful news, and commenced crying. His daughter then got him some dinner, and advised him to go and get a bed at some boarding-house. After having his meal, Finn went away, leaving at Mrs. Nolan's his clothes, which included a pair of boots and an overcoat. He returned between 6 and 7 o'clock the same evening, and after a few minutes' conversation left saying he was going to see if a piece of wire he had put across the garden in Hempstead-street was still there. He took with him his overcoat. Before leaving he asked his daughter to go with him to see a house at Stanley Bridge on the following morning. This was

THE LAST THAT THE WOMEN SAW OF HIM

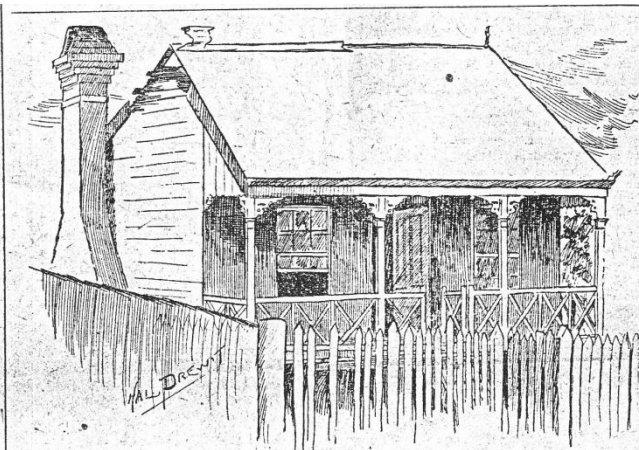
until the Sunday morning, about half-past six, when his daughter saw her father at Mrs. Nolan's, and when she asked him



MISS MARY FINN.

tember 2, in consequence of what they had been told the two constables again went to the house in Hempstead-street, and took more plaster of paris impressions of imprints of hob-nailed boots. The different plaster casts were all produced, and some detail evidence as to the similarity of the boots produced with the plaster casts was given. In reply to Mr. Papi, Coman said he had known Finn for two years before he arrested him, and that was how he knew where he lived. Mr. Nolan's house was about half a mile by the road from Finn's late residence. When he took the plaster casts of the footprints the ground was hard, but there had been heavy rain during the night, and there was no doubt but that the impressions had been made during the previous 24 hours. The big gates were open, and anyone could go in and out without hindrance. The house had been empty about a week before the fire, and the fire brigade had been there before he arrived. Constable Martin, under cross-examination, said he would swear the plaster cast was a facsimile of the

"Finn was a little the worse for liquor at that time"



THE HOUSE IN HEMPSTEAD STREET.

where he had been, he replied that he had been on the veranda for some time. Previous, however, to this, about a quarter past four o'clock, Mary Finn had been seen by Constables Coman and Martin. She told her father that they had been to the house looking for him, and he said he would go and see them and find out what they wanted. Before leaving he changed his boots. A Mrs. Emily Corrie said she lived next door to the house in which the Finn's had lived, and had known them for ten months. On August 29 she was on her veranda waiting for her husband to come home, when she saw a man coming from the direction of a paddock on the opposite side of the street. It was dark but she did not see the man's face, neither did she know him at all. All she could say was that he had an overcoat on and was wearing a dark hat. The man went into the gate of the empty house, and into the back, returning to the front he pulled up a few plants, which he threw into the road. He then

TRIED TO PULL OFF THE FRONT GATE

but did not succeed. Leaving the house, he re-crossed the road, but at once returned and opened the big gates, also trying to pull them off, but failed to do so. The man then went away. During the night she was

boot. He could see certain nail marks missing, but he admitted he was not an expert. He was on his oath, and

HE THOUGHT IT WAS A FACSIMILE.

He was not there until after the fire, and could only say what he had heard. He did not see the fire. The daughter, Mary Finn, in giving her evidence, also stated that the family had been living in the house in Hempstead-street, which was the property of Sub-inspector Burke, for the previous 12 months, and that her father, who was working at Bundamba, only came home once a month. On August 22 the bailiffs had seized all the furniture in the house for rent. Her father was away at the time. He had not then been home for three weeks. This completed the evidence given on Tuesday, and Sergeant Ryan asked for a remand until to-morrow, September 14, as some of his witnesses were unable to be present until then. The bench granted the remand, and allowed bail in £80 and one surety of a similar amount.

Strange, but any amount of men remain single because they object to keeping another man's daughter, while they have no objection whatever to keeping another man's wife.

Brisbane Truth

NORTHERN SUPREME COURT.

("Townsville Star," May 18.)

(Before His Honor Mr Acting Justice Paul.)

IN CHAMBERS.

Swales and others v. Smyth—Summons for appointment of manager and receiver. Mr Havard for plaintiffs. Order—J. C. R. Boyce to be appointed receiver and manager as per summons, for 15 days from this date. Power of receiver and manager limited as per order in Taylor v. Neate, with liberty to apply by motion on 31st instant to continue. Notice of this application and terms, and that there is a motion to be moved on 31st instant to continue the appointment, may be sent by wire signed by the Registrar of the Supreme Court, Townsville. Costs of this application to be costs in the cause.

In re John Trevaskis, of Charters Towers, cyanider. Petition for adjudication in insolvency in forma pauperis. Mr Havard (town agent for Mr W. F. R. Boyce) for petitioner. Order—As prayed. Fees remitted. Statement, 5th June; first meeting, 6th June. Mr C. S. Norris, Official Trustee, to be trustee.

In re Joseph Alfred Wall, of Townsville, laborer. Petition for adjudication in insolvency in forma pauperis. Mr F. Milford for petitioner. Order—As prayed. Fees remitted. Statement, 30th May; first meeting, 31st. Mr C. S. Norris, Official Trustee, to be trustee.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF QUEENSLAND.

TOWNSVILLE.

IN INSOLVENCY.

In Forma Pauperis.

MR ACTING JUSTICE PAUL.

JOHN TREVASKIS of Charters Towers, in the Colony of Queensland, Cyanider, was adjudged insolvent in forma pauperis on the 17th day of MAY, 1899. The first meeting of creditors will be held at the Principal Registry, Supreme Court, Townsville, on the 6th day of JUNE, 1899, at Eleven O'clock in the Forenoon.

UNTIL the Election of a Trustee, all persons having in their possession any of the effects of the insolvent, must deliver them and all debts due to the insolvent must be paid to Mr Charles Sydney Norris, the Official Trustee in the estate. Creditors must forward their proofs of debts to the Official Trustee.

CHAS. S. NORRIS,
Registrar.

W. F. R. BOYCE,
Solicitor for Insolvent,
Charters Towers.
Town Agents—
HOBBS AND HAVARD,
Solicitors,
Townsville.

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Saturday 20 May 1899 ▶

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ▶ Friday 19 May 1899 ◀



THE WEATHER FORECAS[?]. (By Telegraph.) BRISBANE, August 31.

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) Saturday 1 September 1900 p 4 Detailed lists, results, guides

... China-men were struck ouu The Wif - dwonion case of Mary Tro vas'vis v. John Treva-skis, was struck out. ... 242 words

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Lists

Trevaskis family SA & QLD just added

Tagged (None yet)

Trevaskis

Comments (None yet)

Electronically Translated Text

Why may this text have mistakes?
How to correct this text?

Fix this Text

No corrections yet

THE WEATHER FOBECABfe

(By Tfrtograph.) !

HRI SB AXE. August :U .

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At the Police Court ou Friday, be
fore the P.M., Robert Close was fined

NORTHERN MINER. SATURDAY

NEWS.

THE WEATHER FORECAST.

(By Telegraph.)

BRISBANE, August 31.

Again fail, of the weather, as pre-
dicted over a large area. Nevertheless,
thunderstorms, with abundant rain,
and comparatively hot weather, often
reported; moderate seas.

At the Police Court on Friday, be-
fore the P.M., Robert Close was fined
£1 or seven days for using obscene
language. In the case of Sick Chew
v. Ah Fat, being found in a common
gaming house, in which Mr Boyce ap-
peared for the complainant, and Mr
Cochran for the defence, the complaint
was dismissed, the complainant to pay
£2 2- professional costs and 10/-
interpreter's fee, in default levy and
distress of 14 days. In the similar
case of Sick Ch w y, Foo Kee, in which
Mr Boyce appeared for the complainant
and Mr Cochran for the defendant, the
complaint was dismissed, the complain-
ant to pay £2 2- costs, in default levy
and distress of 14 days. Lee Jock
proceeded against by Sick Chew on a
similar charge, was fined 5/- with £2
2- costs, in default levy and distress,
or 14 days, 24 hours being allowed for
payment. Mr Boyce appeared for the
complainant and Mr Cochran for the
defendant. Several other similar cases
against Chinamen were struck out.
The wife desertion case of Mary Tre-
vaskis v. John Trevaskis, was struck
out, there being no appearance of the
complainant.

REPORT.

August 31

The following
were yarded
yesterday and 31

6 per 100lb.

Full branches
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papers say, as what neighbors says to

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"john trevaskis"

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The wife desertion case of Mary Tre-
vaskis v. John Trevaskis, was struck
out, there being no appearance of the
complainant.

NOTICE.

I WILL not be responsible for any
Debts contracted by my wife from
this date.

JOHN TREVASKIS.

August 3, 1901.

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Saturday 3 August 1901 ▶

Originally found while
looking at microfilm
for a death or funeral
notice for John's
mother

POLICE COURT.

THURSDAY, 30th JUNE.

(Before Mr. F. P. Parkinson, P.M.)

At the Police Court on Thursday morning, two inebriates pleaded guilty to drunkenness, and were discharged.

Mary Trevaskis sued John Trevaskis for assault, but there was no appearance of either party, and the case was struck out.

Lottie Thick sued Arthur Gorley, wages; adjourned to the 1th July.

The Inspector of Slaughter Houses proceeded against John Greig for a breach of the Slaughtering Act.

Mr. R. Wynn Williams appeared for the prosecution. There was no appearance of defendant, and the case was heard ex parte.

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Friday 1 July 1904 ▶

POLICE COURT.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16.

(Before Mr. F. P. Parkinson, P.M.)

At the Police Court on Friday, Mary Trevaskis sued John Trevaskis for assault. Mr. W. F. R. Boyce appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. S. N. Johnson (Johnson and Francis), appeared for the defendant, who pleaded guilty and was fined 10/-. 3/6 costs of Court, and £1/1/- professional costs, in default seven days.

F. Jones, licensee of the Club House Hotel, was granted leave of absence for two weeks, Mrs. Lydia McGrotty in charge.

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Saturday 17 December 1904 ▶



POLICE COURT.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10th 1905.

(Before Mr. E. Eglinton, P.M.)

Child Desertion.

At the Police Court on Thursday, Mary Trevaskis proceeded against John Trevaskis, the lawful father of two children, namely Norah Trevaskis, aged nine years, and John Trevaskis, aged nine weeks, on the ground that he had left them without adequate means of support. Defendant pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay the sum of 15/- per week for twelve calendar months, the first payment to be made forthwith, and afterwards fortnightly.

POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, 24th JULY, 1905.

(Before Mr. P. W. Pears, P.M.)

At the Police Court on Monday morning, two offenders pleaded guilty to drunkenness, and were discharged. John Trevaskis for the same offence was fined 5/- or 24 hours in the lock-up.

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Tuesday 25 July 1905 ▶

The Northern Miner (Charters Towers, Qld. : 1874 - 1954) [about](#) ◀ Friday 17 March 1905 ▶

FATAL MINING ACCIDENT.

CHARTERS TOWERS, Jan. 18.—John Trevaskis was killed in the monkey shaft of the Day Dawn Gold Mines to-day. A bracman accidentally pushed a truck into the shaft, and it fell on Trevaskis, who was 50ft. below, and killed him.

The Brisbane Courier (Qld. : 1864 - 1933) [about](#) ◀ Friday 19 January 1906 ▶



Daily Southern Cross 26
Apr 1865

I HEREBY CAUTION any Person TRUSTING **CHARLOTTE MOORE**, as I will not be responsible for any Debts incurred by her, she having left her home without any provocation.

ADAM MOORE.

Auckland, April 25, 1865.

THIS is to give notice that, my Wife, **CHAR. LOTTE MOORE**, having left her home and family seven weeks ago of her own accord, I, **ADAM MOORE**, her Husband, will NOT be **ANSWERABLE** for any **DEBTS** she may incur on and after this date.—**ADAM MOORE.**—March 8, 1867.

Daily Southern Cross 9
Mar 1867

Evening Post
19 Aug 1881

Adam Moore, aged 63, sued his three sons to support him. It transpired in evidence that they were all born prior to his marriage. The magistrate decided the plaintiff had no right, as the law did not recognise illegitimate children.

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Gaol records
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Naturalization records
Professions and Occupations

Quarter Sessions Cases, 1824-37

The case papers are numbered and arranged chronologically. The papers usually include the name of the of the person tried, date, place, verdict and sentence. They generally contain the indictment which gives a statement of the crime and circumstances.

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About the Index

The papers also often include depositions, which are the sworn statements of the accused and/or witness(es) which were given before the police or magistrates.



Acknowledgement: The case papers for each person tried have been indexed by **Mrs Joan Reese** and this is the basis of the Quarter Sessions Index 1824-37. State Records wishes to acknowledge this work.

There are over 6000 entries to search. The Index contains entries for the following areas:

- ▶ Bathurst Nov 1832-Aug 1836
- ▶ Campbelltown Jul 1828-Aug 1836
- ▶ Liverpool Nov 1824-Jan 1828
- ▶ Parramatta Feb 1825-Aug 1836
- ▶ Maitland Feb 1830-May 1836
- ▶ Sydney Nov 1824-Jul 1837
- ▶ Newcastle Aug 1826-Feb 1829
- ▶ Windsor Nov 1824-Aug 1836

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Archives in Brief 32 - Quarter Session records

This Archives In Brief provides a brief overview of the major sources held by State Records that relate to the Courts of General and Quarter Sessions (generally referred to as Quarter Sessions) in New South Wales. Additional records may be identified in Archives Investigator under Quarter Sessions, Clerk of the Peace and Court of Criminal Appeal.



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[Decisions of the Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Superior Courts](#)

Currently decisions 1824-1843 are available. Subject and case indexes are available plus an index to legal cases in Tasmanian newspapers.

[Link: Decisions of the Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Superior Courts](#)

www.coraweb.com.au/categories/criminal-and-court-records/tasmania



Decisions of the Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Superior Courts

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SCTAS Home

This site was created to publish many of the hidden nineteenth century records of the superior courts of Tasmania. The site begins with the first decisions of the newly established Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land, which first sat in 1824. We will add to the collection in batches of one historical year at a time.

The cases have been chosen by Stefan Petrow and Bruce Kercher, from the surviving newspaper and archival records of the courts. For a description of our selection and editing policies, see the [Introduction](#).

This site matches the collection of [New South Wales cases](#) of the same period, which is online. Our aim is to encourage comparative legal history, to show the many ways in which English law was received, rejected, altered and replaced in the Australian colonies.

News

November 2010: we have now published Alex Castles' [index to legal cases in Tasmanian newspapers](#).

October 2006: we have just published an important 1838 [speech](#) by Robinson, Protector of Aborigines.

As at February 2005, we have now put 1843 cases online.

April 2004: we have now published the surviving records of pre-1850 appeals from the Australian colonies to the [Privy Council](#) in London. Concentrating on the unreported decisions of the Privy Council, these records are taken from the office of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and from the National Archives in Kew, London.

We have also begun placing further cases online, from the *Colonial Times*. We have completed these to the middle of 1835, including corrections to the Subject Index.

FINDING CASES [Subject index](#) [Case index](#) [Castles Index to Newspaper Law Reports](#)

www.law.mq.edu.au/research/colonial_case_law/tas/site/sctas_home



death, proof of [R. v. Hibbill](#), 1836

debt recovery [Fereday v. O'Connor](#), 1832; [Rowlands v. Pendlebury](#), 1833; [Russell v. Condell](#), 1833; [Abbott v. Rowlands](#), 1843

deed, consideration [Orchard v. Curtis](#), 1833

deed, fraud [Orchard v. Curtis](#), 1833

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delays in court [R. v. Solomon](#), 1829

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double jeopardy [R. v. Smith \(No. 1\)](#), 1843

dower [Lord v. Birch](#), 1838

drunkenness [R. v. Ryley](#), 1824; [R. v. McMahon](#), 1833; [R. v. Wilks](#), 1833

drunkenness, defence of [Dunn v. Stynes](#), 1830

drunkenness, effect on contractual capacity [Salter v. Oakes](#), 1831

drunkenness, no defence [R. v. Buckley](#), 1824

duelling [R. v. Kermode and Hood](#), 1824; [In re Sinclair](#), 1827; [R. v. Lewis](#), 1834; [R. v. Rowlands \(No. 1\)](#), 1836; [Gregson v. Arthur](#), 1837; [R. v. Gregson](#), 1837

dwelling house, damage to [Stewart v. Cheyne](#), 1842

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Decisions of the Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Superior Courts

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R. v. Kermode and Hood [1824]

duelling - gentlemanly conduct - Van Diemen's Land, petition for independence - new trial - law reporting

Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land

Pedder C.J., 10 June 1824

Source: *Hobart Town Gazette*, 11 June 1824 [1]

Thursday. - His Majesty's Attorney-General rose to exhibit an Information against William Kermode [2] and Samuel Hood, Esquires, for having endeavoured to incite William Talbot [3], Esquire, to fight a duel. The first party was charged with having written the challenge, and the other Gentleman was accused of having conveyed it. The Attorney-General then moved, on an affidavit from Mr. Talbot, that the said William Kermode & Samuel Hood, Esquires, might be ordered to attend before the Court *instanter*, and give sureties to keep the peace for 12 months, towards the said William Talbot, Esquire, who was apprehensive of otherwise receiving from them, not only insult, but also injury. A citation, directed to those Gentlemen, was therefore issued, and shortly afterwards they entered the Court, when the Attorney-General took occasion to express his confirmed regret, that any cause for the present proceedings should exist, -- that misconceptions should create wrath, -- and that wrath should seek its pleasure in the violation of law. But it was his solemn duty to guard the public peace, and he trusted he never should be found neglectful of it, however high in society those might rank, against whom it might be necessary for him to act. - It was on oath that the Gentlemen cited, and now standing before that Court, had done an act which directly infringed the laws of both their country and God; which likewise tended to bereave all private discourse of toleration, and enkindle the fires of discord in a community, which being small, might, he thought, be entirely united and amicable. He therefore considered himself bound to require the recognizance of each accused party, to appear and plead to the said information, in the sum of £500, and surety from each to the amount of £1000, to keep the peace towards the said William Talbot, Esquire, during 12 months. On these being furnished, the parties withdrew.

www.law.mq.edu.au/research/colonial_case_law/tas/cases/case_index/1824/r_v_kermode_and_hood



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Court Records



Public Record Office Victoria holds the records of many Courts. The most commonly accessed court records are:-

- Supreme Court of Victoria (VA 25490) 1852-ct
- Registrar of Probates (VA 2620) 1960-ct
- Master in Equity, Supreme Court (VA 2624) 1852-1948
- County Court (VA 686) 1852-ct
- Court of Insolvency, Melbourne (VA 2304) 1871-1928
- Licensing Court of Victoria (VA 2955) 1917-1954
- Children's Court (VA 4597) by 1942-ct*
- Melbourne Children's Court (VA 4190) 1907-ct*
- Coroners Courts (VA 2263) 1840-1986

*Many of these records will be subject to closure under S9 of the Public Record Act 1973.

There are also other types of court records held by PROV and the most valuable of these to researchers are:- Divorce records, Wills and Probation Administration Files and Civil Court Records.

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PROV also holds the records for many courts in various localities throughout Victoria. To discover what records are available for a particular court (e.g. Sale), click on the "Advanced Search" box under "Searching" in our [Online Catalogue](#) select the Agency button, type "Sale" in one of the fields and click on "search" and a list of Sale Agencies will appear. Select the link for Sale Courts (VA 4009). A page will be displayed which allows you to discover all the Sale Court records held by PROV.

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Exact phrase	<input type="text"/>	
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Date Range	From <input type="text"/> To <input type="text"/> eg: 1932	
Which are	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical <input type="checkbox"/> Digital	
Location	<input type="checkbox"/> North Melbourne <input type="checkbox"/> Ballarat <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
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Conclusion

- ▶ Ancestors could be either criminal or victim
- ▶ Prepare to be shocked (or don't look!)
- ▶ Remember the context of the times in which they lived
- ▶ Lots of ways to find the records – think laterally
- ▶ Have fun and happy searching

