



Brunswick Community History Group Research Guide

Last updated 21 November 2021

Our collection specialises in the history of Brunswick and covers the geographical area between Moonee Ponds Creek in the west, Merri Creek in the east, Brunswick Road in the south and Moreland Road in the north.

Most of our collection is paper-based. It is made up of material donated by family members and other interested individuals and groups over the 38 year period since the History Group was established in 1983.

Making the most of our research collection

At the moment the collection is unavailable for direct consultation, but we are happy to respond to research queries from BCHG members and others.

Submit your research query here. [\[insert link to the research form\]](#) Our research officer will contact you once your query has been received. Don't forget to tell us what you know already so we don't spend time looking for material you already have.

We are building our collection, which currently includes images, maps, pamphlets, publications, research notes.

We have a growing number of information files on people, streets, places, parks and reserves, local businesses, school, churches, sporting and social clubs, events.

Other useful resources

Moreland City Libraries has a comprehensive guide to undertaking local and family history in the area.

<https://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/exploring-moreland/libraries/learn/local-and-family-history/>

Moreland City Libraries Local History Catalogue

<https://moreland.libero.com.au/libhist/WebOpac.cls>

The Local History Catalogue contains many local resources and has some interesting images, maps and auction posters relating to Brunswick. It also holds a small number of digitised publications.

TROVE collection. <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

You can consult a vast array of online newspapers and other resources using TROVE. If you are looking for local Brunswick newspapers, the *Coburg Leader* is online for the period covering 1890 to 1913 and the *Brunswick and Coburg Star* and *Brunswick and Coburg Leader* cover 1914 to 1921. Local newspapers outside of this period are available on microfilm at the State Library of Victoria.

Victorian Birth, Death, Marriage indexes are available at
<https://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/research-and-family-history/search-your-family-history>

Electoral rolls

Ancestry has digitised electoral rolls from 1903 until 1980. (Ancestry Library Edition is available free to Moreland City Libraries patrons but must be accessed on site at one of Moreland's libraries.)

Public Record Office of Victoria (PROV) <https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/>

PROV's online collection <https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/explore-collection/online-collections>

This vast collection includes shipping records and wills and probates. Victorian wills, probate papers and letters of administration up to 1925 can be read online.

Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust Deceased Search

<https://www.gmct.com.au/deceased>

This database lists all people buried or cremated at Fawkner and Coburg Cemeteries.

Researching the history of your house

When researching the history of your house, start with what you know and work backwards. Talk to your neighbours and collect stories about the street and the people who lived in it. Make copies of photographs and documents and make a written note of everything as you go.

Move on to the Public Record Office of Victoria's guide to researching a historic home.

<https://prov.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/Historic%20Home%20no%20bleed%20flipbook%20V1.0%20AJ%2020150504compressed.pdf>

Read Laurie Burchell, *Recognising house styles 1880s -1990s*, City of Coburg, Coburg, 1991. (Available at Brunswick Library Local History Room)

Estate subdivision maps (many available as a digital download from the State Library of Victoria website) <https://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/mapsforlocalhistory/suburban>

Maps and other resources such as Sands and McDougall Street Directories are available as digital downloads from the State Library of Victoria website:

<https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/search-discover/explore-collections-format/maps/maps-melbourne-city-suburbs/mmbw-plans><https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/>  