

The online images of the Old System Grant Index make it easier for you to research ownership of Old System land and identify associated land title records.

Land and Property Information (LPI) digitised the Old System Grant Register Index as part of a program to conserve and provide better access to land records. The online Old System Grant Register Index provides references to Crown grants from 1792 to 1862.

You can access these records through the Historical Land Records Viewer (HLRV) in the Spatial Information Exchange (SIX) website www.six.nsw.gov.au.

Copies of Old System deeds are available to order and purchase at LPI, Queens Square, Sydney, through LPI authorised Information Brokers – see LPI website for listing www.lpi.nsw.gov.au or the LPI Online Shop <http://shop.lpi.nsw.gov.au>.

What is the Old System Grant Index?

All land in the colony of New South Wales (NSW) was in possession of the Crown until either granted or sold to an individual or organisation.

You can use the Grant Index to find a Crown grant reference number. This number is the one you need in order to locate a grant in the Grant Register.

The Grant Index is a chronological record, in alphabetical order, of the surnames or company names of those who bought or received grants of land from the Crown up to and including 31 December 1862. The Grant Index briefly records the location, area, and portion or allotment numbers (if any) of the land granted and the serial and page numbers of the entry in the Grant Registers.

The Crown grants are bound together in the Grant Register books and are identified by a grant reference number. This number is made up of the serial number of the bound book and the number allotted to each grant which is referred to as the page number.

From 1863 all Crown grants and purchases are recorded in the Torrens Title Purchasers Index.

For more information on the Old System Grant Index and the the Old System Grant Register see our Old System Information and Search Guide on the LPI website www.lpi.nsw.gov.au.

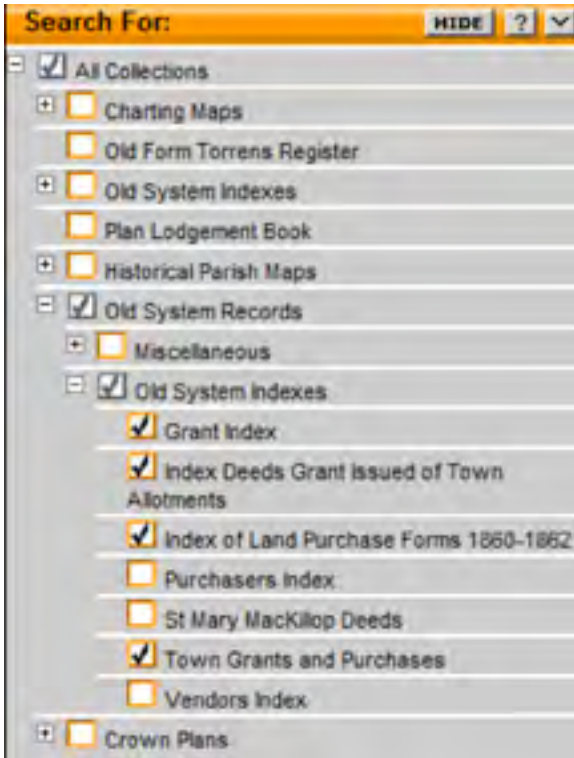
Grant Index Dates

Index/ Volume	Years	
1	1792–1826	Grant Index 1
2	1792–1826	Grant Index 2 – contains only grants and leases of town allotments
3	1827–1831	Grant Index 3 – contains only town grants and purchases
4	1827–1830	Grant Index 4
5	1830–1839	Grant Index 5
6	1839–1847	Grant Index 6
7	1847–1855	Grant Index 7
8	1855–1856	Grant Index 8
9	1856–1857	Grant Index 9
10	1856–1857	Grant Index 10
11	1858–1860	Grant Index 11 – contains only town grants
12	1858–1860	Grant Index 12
13	1861–1862	Grant Index 13
14	1860–1862	Grant Index 14
15	1860–1862	Grant Index 15 – contains land purchaser forms

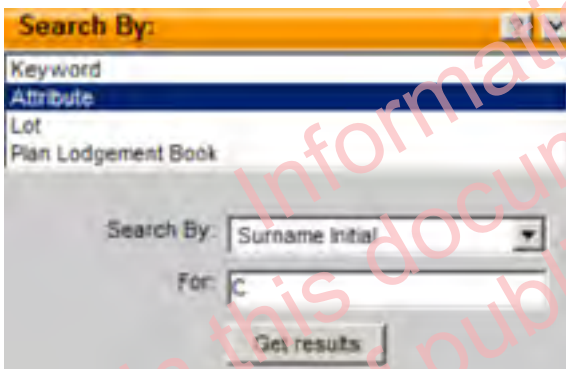
How to access the Old System Grant Index in the HLRV

You can access the Old System Grant Index from the Old System Records collection in the HLRV. Under Old System Indexes you will find:

- Grant Index,
- Index Deeds Grant Issued of Town Allotments, and
- Towns Grants and Purchases.



To search the Old System Grant Register Index select **Attribute** in the **Search By** window and search by **Surname Initial**.



The letter 'C' is used in this example



Each volume of the Old System Grant Index with the surname initial 'C' is displayed.

Select any of the search results to open and view the Grant Index record.

Surname	Location Name	Location	Area			Original No.	Book No.	Page No.	Page
			Ac.	R.	P.				
CLARKE	Thorn.	Botton	50					14	112
CLARKE	No.	Botton	50					14	112
CLARKE	No.	KURRAJONG	100					18	102
CLARKE	Thorn.	ALLER	700					8	178
CLARKE	Thorn.	BLADE	50					11	1
CLAYTON	Thorn.	ROCKY HILL	100					16	23
CLAYTON	Jan.	STRONG HILL	30					1	51
CLAYTON	Jan.	STRONG HILL 2545						3	196

This example shows the grant for William Clarke's 100 acres at Kurrajong. To view Clarke's grant look for Grant Register serial 18, page 102.

Entries in the Old System Grant Index are in alphabetical order of surname. In many instances there will be several entries under the same grantee name. You need to use the area and location of the land to narrow your choices for the correct grant. Even where the current serial and page number is shown in the index, there can still be complications.

If no page number is listed you will need to look for the index (serial number/book) in the Supplementary Index, located in the first few pages of each grant register. Go to the appropriate surname and not the page number written next to the grantee's name.

Early grants rarely show portion numbers, often omit parish and county names, and sometimes refer to a district the name of which has since been changed. Some of the grants predate the allocation of portion numbers and the creation of the 141 counties in 1848.

Earlier land district names used around Sydney may have also been altered since the grant or reallocated to a more distant area.

Handwritten Grant Indexes

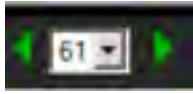
Surname	Location	Area	County	Book No.	Page	
Gibson	Assen	575	C	Guthrie	29	15
Grant	Assen	46	C	Vol of Chapt	29	172
Grant	Dept of	277	C	Sub George	29	245
		277	C		29	271
		277	C		29	299

Handwritten Grant Index

The handwritten indexes are also in alphabetical order of surnames, but sometimes do not quote the current page number. Reference should be made to the Supplementary Index, which lists in alphabetical order all the grantees contained in that register.

Tips

When you open and view a record there may be a number of images. To find the one you are looking for scroll through the images using the forward arrow or backward arrow or skip forward or go back by typing the page number.



Use left or right arrows to go through the pages of results or use drop down arrow to display pages.



Use bottom right arrow to take you back to the search results.

Accessing the supplementary index

The supplementary index may be needed if there is no page listed on the index. There is supplementary index for each of the Grant Registers. In HLRV, the supplementary index is separated by the first letter of the surname. For example, to view the supplementary index on Grant serial/volume number 34 for Robert Innes Allan, search **34-A**.



This provides the correct page number for that Serial. Users can then search on 34-16 to view the required grant.

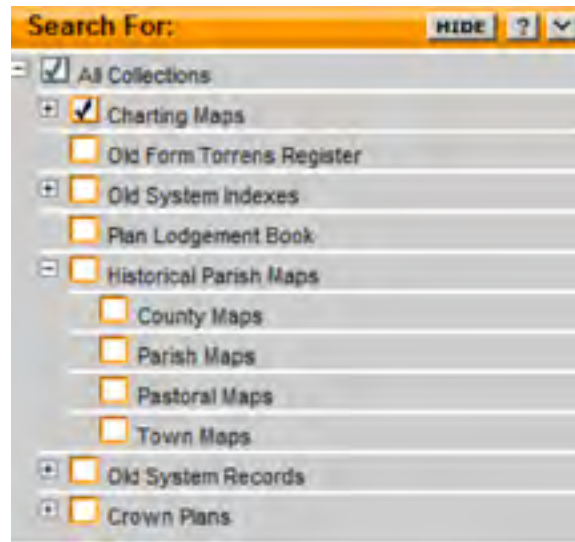
Finding a grantee on a parish map

Parish maps also reference original land grants issued between the commencement of the *Real Property Act 1862* on 1 January 1863 and 1 October 1981 and a reference to first titles issued since 1863.

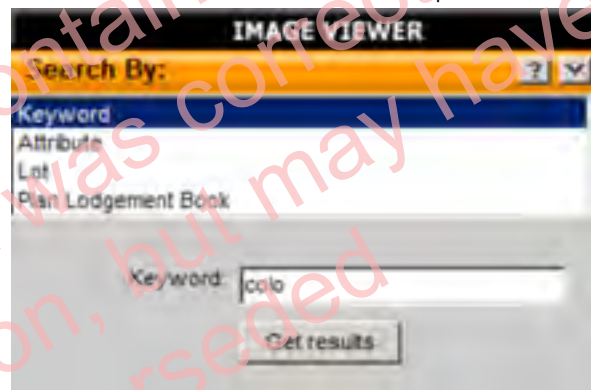
Grantees' names and dates of grants made before 1863 may be shown on the face of the map (marked in the relevant portion) or recorded within a tabulated statement (or schedule) with the portion's number.

Town maps also show grantee particulars of each allotment in a section in separate schedules or within the allotments.

These maps are available through the HLRV from www.six.nsw.gov.au.



You can view the parish maps in the Charting Maps collection, which are the paper reference maps that were in circulation prior to computerisation, or view records in Historical Parish Maps which are the cancelled edition Crown Parish Maps.



Parish of Colo used in this example

The parish map will typically show the name of the grantee and the date of the grant, if before 1863.

On earlier maps the name is on the drawing area. On later parish maps, names are usually on the schedule

A parish map name does not necessarily relate to a location. If you do not know the parish, use the Geographical Names Board's online name search www.gnb.nsw.gov.au. A search by locality or suburb will reveal the parish and county name.

or table that records the portion or allotment, plan number and associated title information.

The grantee name and date of the grant registration found on the parish map can then be searched in the Old System Grant Index to find the associated serial and number of the grant.

For more information about how to search these records see the *Historical Parish Map* fact sheet available on the LPI website www.lpi.nsw.gov.au.

6-3-1835 is the date the grant was registered. A date in the portion table indicates the land was Old System. Torrens Title land has a Volume and Folio number - a reference to the manual title.

39 portion number



52-587 is the Crown plan number for portion 39. Original survey diagram of the parcel of land can be ordered through the Online Shop.

John Tawell original grantee

Knowing the area of 50 acres is useful if multiple grants under the same surname

Using Portion 39 in the Parish of Colo, County of Camden the grantee name on the map face is 'John Tawell'. The 6-3-1835 date in the portion table is the date of the grant registration.

Finding a grantee's name on a manual title

Most manual titles including Old Form Torrens titles and New Form Torrens titles contain grantee details as part of the land description on the first page.

In Old Form Torrens Register title Volume 2500 Folio 20 the land was originally granted to John Osborne on 19 October 1831. The top left hand corner shows Primary Application No 12255 which is the 'packet' of documents used in the conversion of this land from Old System to Torrens Title.

The Old Form Torrens Register (titles from 1863 to 1961) can be viewed on the HLRV at public terminals at State Records NSW, State Library of NSW or at LPI Queens Square, Sydney.



Both the Old Form and New Form Torrens titles can be purchased through the LPI Online Shop <http://shop.lpi.nsw.gov.au>. or from authorised information brokers – see LPI website for listing www.lpi.nsw.gov.au.

If you are starting your search from a current address you will need to search back until you find a manual title.

More information on how to search using a current street address, in the LPI Online Shop, can be found in the Historical searching page under **HLRV support**.

Old System Grant Register

The Grant Registers contain a mixture of handwritten copies and typed or written extracts of the original grants. The Grant Registers were originally grouped in various series such as Land Purchases, Town Purchases and Special Grants etc. They were given distinguishing letters or numbers in that series or referred to by the year of the grant e.g. 1861 Land Purchases.

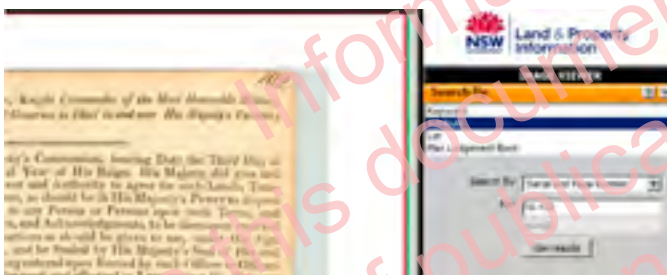
Copies of grants from the Old System Grant Register are available to purchase from LPI, Queens Square Sydney.

How to access the Grant Register in the HLRV

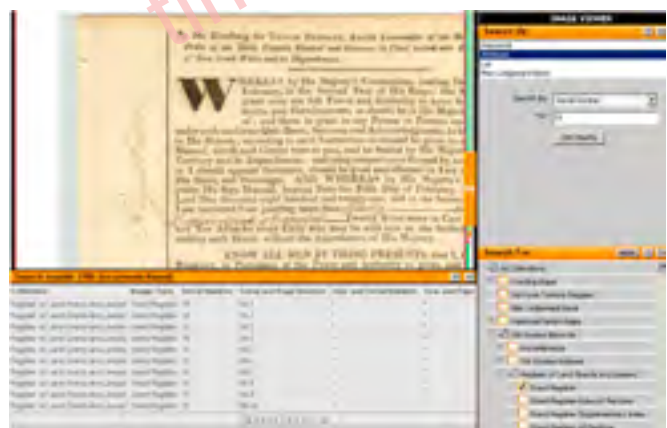
Once the serial and page number is found in the Grant Register index, HLRV can be used to search and view the Grant, Grants can be searched by the following attributes:

- serial number
- serial and page number
- year and serial number.

To use the previous example the grant for William Clarke, found in the Grant Register Index, can be searched by serial and page number, 18–102.



Alternatively, the whole Grant Register volume can be viewed by searching on serial 18.



Tips

The Grant Register was compiled from various sources. As a result, some of the original books had an old serial/volume number on the middle of the spine. Some of these numbers were referenced in older documents. However, the Grant Register volumes were later renumbered.

The Grant and supplementary index refer to the current serial. To aid search and discovery of the grants, a finding aid listing both old and new serial numbers can be viewed on the HLRV landing page.

More information

For information on the Old System Grant Register and Old System Grant Index see the *Old System Information and Search Guide* and other search guides on the LPI website www.lpi.nsw.gov.au.

Further assistance with family and local historical searching can be sought from:

State Records

The **Western Sydney Records Centre (WSRC)**
143 O'Connell Street
Kingswood (original archives and microform)

www.records.nsw.gov.au

State Library of NSW

Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

www.sl.nsw.gov.au