

# How to search the Torrens Purchasers Index

The Torrens Purchasers Index assists researchers to find land ownership details between 1863 and 1971 by searching on a surname. It is a useful tool for obtaining title details for Torrens title land when only the name of a reputed owner (or lessee) and an approximate date of ownership (or lease) is known.

You can access these records through the [Historical Land Records Viewer \(HLRV\)](#)

### What is the Torrens Purchasers Index?

Established when the Torrens title system began in 1863, the Torrens Purchasers Index is a key resource for finding when a person or corporation:

- became the owner of Torrens title land,
- became the holder of a registered lease over Torrens title land or,
- received a grant of Crown land (From 1863 onwards land grants and purchases were recorded in this index as a replacement for the Grant Index).

The Torrens Purchasers Index also lists land resumptions and documents that record a name change to the registered owner of Torrens title land.

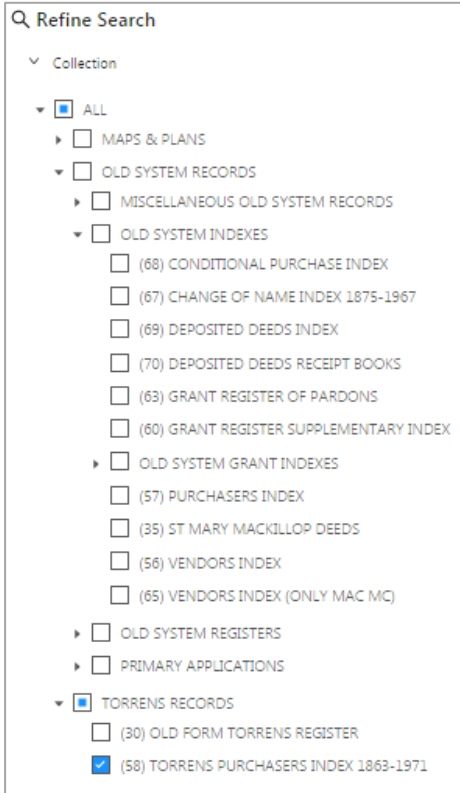
Each index entry provides:

- the full name of the person or corporation being registered as the owner or leaseholder of the land
- title details (the Volume and Folio number of the manual title) at the time of the transaction
- a dealing number which is the reference to the document register on the land title and is usually a number preceded by an alphabetical letter prefix
- the nature of the document with reference to a letter code i.e. T, L, or G that shows that this is a transfer, lease, grant etc.
- the location of the land in terms of parish, county and locality.

## Accessing the Torrens Purchasers Index in the HLRV

To access the Torrens Purchasers Index in the HLRV:

1. Select the **'Torrens Records', 'Torrens Purchasers Index 1863-1971'** in the HLRV collection tree.



Q Refine Search

Collection

- ALL
  - MAPS & PLANS
  - OLD SYSTEM RECORDS
    - MISCELLANEOUS OLD SYSTEM RECORDS
    - OLD SYSTEM INDEXES
      - (68) CONDITIONAL PURCHASE INDEX
      - (67) CHANGE OF NAME INDEX 1875-1967
      - (69) DEPOSITED DEEDS INDEX
      - (70) DEPOSITED DEEDS RECEIPT BOOKS
      - (63) GRANT REGISTER OF PARDONS
      - (60) GRANT REGISTER SUPPLEMENTARY INDEX
      - OLD SYSTEM GRANT INDEXES
      - (57) PURCHASERS INDEX
      - (35) ST MARY MACKILLOP DEEDS
      - (56) VENDORS INDEX
      - (65) VENDORS INDEX (ONLY MAC MC)
    - OLD SYSTEM REGISTERS
    - PRIMARY APPLICATIONS
    - TORRENS RECORDS
      - (30) OLD FORM TORRENS REGISTER
      - (58) TORRENS PURCHASERS INDEX 1863-1971

2. In the top search bar, under **'Attribute'**, select and search by **'Surname Initial'** and enter the first letter of the surname you are searching for in the 'search' box. Initials 'E' are used in this example.



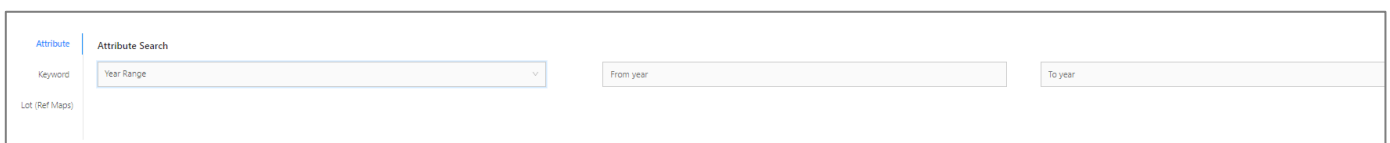
Attribute | Attribute Search

Keyword: Surname Initial

Lot (Ref Maps)

Search: E

3. Each book of the Torrens Purchasers Index and subsequent years for all surnames beginning with 'E' are displayed in the search results. Select any of the search results to open and view the Index record in the image viewer.
4. You can further refine the results by performing an **'Attribute'** search using **'Year Range'** and enter the known year range of purchase.



Attribute | Attribute Search

Keyword: Year Range

Lot (Ref Maps)

From year

To year

## Finding and viewing a name in the Torrens Purchasers Index

The Torrens Purchasers Index is organised alphabetically, within chronological periods. For instance, the first books in the index cover transactions occurring between 1863-1867, with each book covering a portion of the alphabet.

When you open and view a record there will be a number of images, as in the original hard copy index. To find the required page scroll through the images using the 'jump to image' button or scroll through the image tiles at the bottom of the image viewer.

By looking up a name and date in the Torrens Purchasers Index you can find a title reference.

The following index extract shows the Torrens Title for Eliza Eades is Volume 949 Folio 207 following registration of Transfer instrument number 157531.

NATURE OF INSTRUMENT.		No. OF INSTRUMENT.	REGISTER BOOK.	
			Vol.	Folio.
T	<i>Eades Eliza</i> part of Lots 11 & 12 Sec 30 of North Parramatta	157531	949	207 ✓
T	<i>Eades Emma</i> doe Eades Eliza	157531	949	207 ✓

## Accessing the Torrens Title Register

Torrens Titles up to Volume 5048 can be viewed in [Historical Land Records Viewer \(HLRV\)](#) under 'Torrens Records', 'Old Form Torrens Register' collection.

All Torrens Titles are available to purchase through NSW LRS [authorised Information Brokers](#) or in person at NSW Land Registry Services

## Torrens Title Register enquiries after June 1971

Owner enquiries relating to title or leasehold from 1 June 1971 onwards can be made through NSW LRS [authorised Information Brokers](#) or in person at NSW Land Registry Services

To comply with NSW legislation you will be required to verify your identity and agree to terms regarding acceptable use of the owner inquiry before the search will be conducted.

## More information and searching support

For more information on the Torrens Purchasers index and Torrens Title System see our [Torrens Title Information and Search Guide](#)

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

**NSW State Archives and Records** – [www.records.nsw.gov.au](http://www.records.nsw.gov.au)

**State Library of NSW** – [www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

### Disclaimer

This information is correct at the date of publication; changes after the time of publication may impact upon the accuracy of the material. June 2019.

### Copyright

© Copyright of New South Wales through NSW Land Registry Services. This copyright work is licensed under a Creative Commons Australia Attribution 4.0 license, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/4.0/legalcode>