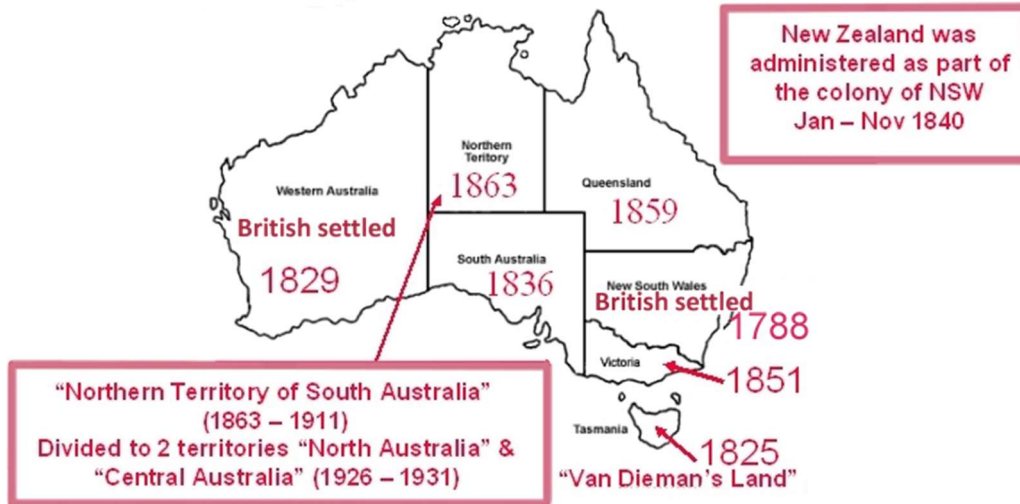


Australian Births, Deaths & Marriages

The colony of New South Wales was established 27 January 1788, covering all land east of 135° and between 10°37' to 43°39' south – including the eastern half of the Australian continent and most of New Zealand. The western half of Australia was known at the time as New Holland. The Swan River settlement (later became Western Australia) was settled in **1829**.

Australian states were part of New South Wales until



Notes

- Before civil registration (of births, marriages and deaths) use church records (of baptisms, marriages and burials). There is generally more information in a civil certificate than a church record, but not always.
- Also check relevant state government archives offices' websites for records of divorces, probates and wills, which may include details of births, marriages and deaths.
- Some large genealogy societies have collections of donated BDM certificates.

Australian Capital Territory (A.C.T.) - Civil registration began 1 January 1930

Office of Regulatory Services – www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/births-relationships-and-deaths

- Online historic Marriage & Death Indexes (from 1930)

New South Wales – Civil registration began 1 March 1856

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages – familyhistory.bdm.nsw.gov.au/

- Certificates are official legal documents, cheaper if you know the index numbers
- Some NSW marriage certificates in 1860s & 1870s have some fields blank (eg parents' names) that are present on the corresponding church record.

Agents' transcriptions (of both civil registration certificates and early church records) are cheaper than certificates but not legal documents. Could order 'check and verify' before paying for full transcription. Agents will put you in touch with others ordering same certificate.

- Joy Murrin – PO Box 278 Oatley, NSW 2223 – joymurrin.com.au
- Marilyn Rowan - PO Box 38 Menai Central 2234 – nswtranscriptions.com.au
- Turtle Consolidated Services – PO Box 144 Kurrajong, NSW 2758 – <https://home.iprimus.com.au/lturtle/>

Northern Territory – Civil registration began 24 August 1870

(Dept of the Attorney-General & Justice) Births, Deaths & Marriages –

nt.gov.au/law/bdm/apply-for-birth-death-or-marriage-certificate

Searchable on Ancestry.



Queensland – *Civil registration began 1 March 1856*

Historical Index Search – <https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au>

Registry of Births, deaths and marriages – www.qld.gov.au/law/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces

- Queensland certificate registration prefixes B(Brisbane), C (Country), M (Marine – at sea), F (WWI), S (WW2)
- Queensland has no transcription agents, but online PDF historical copies are cheaper than printed certificates (but are not legal documents).

South Australia – *Civil registration began 1 July 1842*

Registry of BDM – www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/births-deaths-and-marriages

Genealogy SA – genealogysa.org.au/component/hikashop/product/5-transcription

(Transcriptions, cheaper than official certificates)

Tasmania – *Civil registration began 1 December 1838*

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages – www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home

Libraries Tasmania, Indexes to Tasmanian records (including BDM & divorces) –

https://libraries.tas.ent.sirsi.dynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names/

FamilySearch – familysearch.org (certificates freely available to 1938)

Victoria – *Civil registration began 1 July 1853*

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages – bdm.vic.gov.au

Victorian place names abbreviations – zades.com.au/gandd/index.php/geelong/gdlocat/gdlcbdm

- Can immediately download 'uncertified images' (copies) more cheaply than printed historical certificates.
- Marine index for BDM on board international & coastal ships bound for Victorian ports.

Western Australia – *Civil registration began 9 September 1841*

Registry of BDM – www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments-of-justice/online-index-search-tool

'Reverse' Western Australia Marriage lookup – www.wamarriage.info

Other sources of Australian BDM

Ancestry.com.au – ancestry.com.au/search/categories/ausbmd/

(free to use at libraries & genealogy societies)

Australian Cemeteries – www.australiancemeteries.com.au

Australian Cemeteries Index – austcemindex.com

Find a Grave – findagrave.com

Find My Past – search.findmypast.com.au/search-australia-and-new-zealand-records-in-life-events-bdms (many BDM indexes, free to use at libraries & genealogy societies)

Ryerson Index – ryersonindex.org/search.php (index to newspaper death notices)

