



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Culture and the Arts**
State Records Office of Western Australia

Information Sheet

Memorials

Memorials are true copies of conveyances: transfers of land, mortgages, leases, changes of name, wills etc. Under the Registration of Deeds Act of 1856 a conveyance is validated by the lodgement of a memorial of the document with the Registrar of Deeds who endorses, registers the memorial and binds it in book form.

Summary

1. Check Alphabetical **Index to Memorials (Cons 1802)** under surname to obtain a page number.
2. Check page number obtained in step 1 in appropriate volume of the **Nominal Index to Memorials (Cons 1804)** to obtain a book and memorial number (roman number and arabic number)
3. Using book and memorial number obtained in step 2 select appropriate reel of the **Memorials of Deeds (Cons 1800, vols 1- 22, and Cons 5713, vols 23 - 28)** to see a copy of memorial or the Registers of Memorials (Cons 1801) to see a summary or precis of the registered dealing. Copies of the memorials or summaries of memorials can be made from the microfilm.
4. If name of person is not known but area and location number are, check the **Land Indexes to Memorials (Cons 1803)** to obtain a book and memorial number, then follow step 3

The records can be located under their Consignment Number in the State Records Office Microforms area. To look at any particular memorial the researcher will need to access several series of records in the following order:

Alphabetical Index to Memorials (WAS 419, Cons 1802)

This series consists of two reels (Abb-Kel and Kem-Z) covering the period 1832 onwards. The index is arranged alphabetically by surname, but no christian names are provided. Under each surname found is a page number or a 4/number. The page number refers to the page number in the Nominal Index to Memorials (WAS 421, Cons 1804) and the **4/number refers to an entry in the Index to Names changed by Licence or Deed Poll (WAS 419, Cons 1799)**.

Nominal Index to Memorials (WAS 421, Cons 1804)

This series consists of four reels (A-D, E-L, M-S, T-Z) covering the period 1832 onwards. Once you have ascertained the page number from the Alphabetical Index to Land Memorials you consult that page number in the appropriate reel of the Nominal Index to Memorials. On each page is a list of surnames, with the christian names also provided. Next to the name of each person is listed all the memorials

taken out by that particular person. This listing is in the form of a book number followed by a memorial number. The book number is given in the form of a roman number over an arabic number eg XIII over 64. However, the arabic number is not necessary to find the memorial, only the roman number (book number) and the memorial number.

Memorials of Deeds (WAS 417, Cons 1800, Cons 5713)

The memorials are arranged in Registers covering the period 1832 - 1995. The Register numbers correspond with the roman numbers provided in the Nominal Index to Memorials (ie Vols 1-22 in Cons 1800 are the same as Books I - XXII). So, to see any particular memorial, convert the roman number into an arabic number and select the reel which has that volume number and memorial in it (please note that there can be many microfilm reels for each Register). A full copy of each memorial is provided.

Registers of Memorials (WAS 418, Cons 1801)

The volumes contained in this series are a summary or precis of the registered dealings described above in Memorials of Deeds. Volumes 1-22 in this series correspond to Volumes I-XXII of Cons 1800. They list memorials in number order and provide information such as memorial number, date and time of registration, nature and object of deed, names of witnesses, pecuniary or other consideration, description of landed property, names of persons delivering memorials and remarks.

Land Indexes to Memorials (WAS 420, Cons 1803)

It may be that the name of the memorialist is not known, thereby making an approach through the name indexes impossible. However, it is possible to search for a memorial if the area and location number are known. There are three separate indexes relating to Country, Town and Suburban allotments. Under various Country areas and districts or Towns are listed location numbers in rough alphabetical then number order (please note that some location numbers area a letter of the alphabet ie location P, while others have a number ie location 336). Next to each location number is listed the book and memorial numbers of each memorial taken out on that particular location. An enrolment number may precede the book and memorial numbers. This is a reference to the original Title Deed, a copy of which is located in the State Records Microform area. (Please ask at the Desk for assistance.) Deeds are filed in Enrolment order by Country (C) or Town (T).

The following towns and districts are represented:

Country (Reel : Avon, Canning, Cockburn Sound, Hay, Helena, Kent, Kojonup, Leschenault, Melbourne, Murchison, Murray, Nelson, Perthshire, Plantagenet, Sussex, Swan, Victoria, Wellington, Williams.

Town (Reel: Albany, Augusta, Beverley, Bridgetown, Bunbury, Busselton, Cossack, Cunderdin, Denison, Dongara, Fremantle, North Fremantle, Geraldton, Gingin, Granville, Guildford, Kelmscott, Kojonup, Lynton, Newcastle (Toodyay), Northam, Northampton, Nullagine, Pakington, Peel, Perth, Pinjarra, Rockingham, Roebourne, Shellborough, Toodyay, York.

Suburban (Reel: Albany, Augusta, Bejording, Beverley, Busselton, Denison, Fremantle, North Fremantle, Geraldton, Kelmscott, Kojonup, Lynton, Newcastle, Northam, Perth, Pinjarra, Roebourne, Toodyay West, Wonnerup, York.