



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

Information Sheet

Passenger Lists, W.A. Ports

PASSENGER LISTS, W.A. PORTS

Background

The State Records Office of WA (SRO) holds passenger lists for ships sailing to /from WA destinations from overseas and eastern Australian (and other WA) ports, during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The bulk of the records originate from the Fremantle and Albany harbour masters' offices; Albany being the principal mail steamer port for WA during the late 19th Century. Few records for the smaller WA ports have survived, and there are significant gaps in the records for Albany and Fremantle. Researchers therefore may need to contact other Australian and UK archives regarding records of passengers travelling to WA in the 19th century.

N.B. SRO collections are filed under a consignment number (Cons) or an accession (Acc) number.

INDEXES – Passenger arrivals

Arrivals - Fremantle, 1829-1890 - microfiche

In-house indexes (compiled in the 1960s) from Colonial Secretary's Office records (CSO) Land and Emigration Commissioners' ships (1851-1867) [Cons 115], early WA newspapers and miscellaneous archive sources. Most entries do not show the full source of the name, and users therefore need to look at the entry for the ship and voyage in the SHIPS index, 1829-1890 (microfiche) for this information.

CSO records Cons 36 and Cons 115 are on microfilm in SRO. All 19th century WA newspapers can be viewed on microfilm at the State Library of WA.

The **WA Genealogical Society** has compiled the following indexes of passenger arrivals at Albany and Fremantle.

- **Albany - Index of overseas arrivals 1873 – 1899, 1900 – 1925** (microfiche)
- **Passenger Arrivals in Western Australia 1829 – 1890** (to Fremantle from overseas)
- **Passenger arrivals at Fremantle 1898 – 1925** (mainly from overseas ports but potentially from all ports of origin – this index is a work in progress). These can be viewed in digital format at the SRO, and the State Library of WA, but are not accessible online.

On-line indexes The National Archives of Australia has indexed passenger lists of overseas arrivals at Fremantle between 1926 and 1947 (inclusive) on its **RecordSearch** site (<http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/recordsearch.aspx>).

REGISTERS & MANIFESTS – Passengers and crew

Albany - Registers

- Inward passengers from overseas and eastern Australia 1898-1924, Cons 111 (microfilm)
- Outward passengers 1888-1891, 1895, 1903-1923, Cons 110 (microfilm)

The names recorded in these registers are arranged by surname and then in date order.

Albany - Passenger lists

- Crew and passenger lists to and from overseas and interstate ports, Fremantle and other WA outports 1873 – 1932, Cons 108/1-11

Cons 108/1- 6 are on microfilm and comprise lists of passenger and crew on ships arriving and departing from overseas and eastern Australia.

- Cons 364, Albany Police occurrence books, lists passenger arrivals 1883-1894

Busselton

- Shipping manifests, including passenger arrivals and departures, Cons 594/42.
- Water Police records of arrivals and departures; 1873, 1875-76, 1882 1885, 1888-1894, 1896-1903 Cons 3315/1-16. Includes manifests for Hamelin from 1891.

Carnarvon

- 1882-1902 Arrivals and departures in police occurrence books Cons 250/1-10

Dongara

- 1868-c1880 Arrivals and departures in police occurrence books, Cons 417/1-6

Fremantle - Passenger lists held by SRO

- 1829 & 1830 inwards from overseas – see Cons 5000 item 657
- 1851-1867 – emigrants sent by UK Land & Emigration Commission, Cons 115 (microfilm)
- 1876-1877 & 1880-1898 – assisted immigrants, Cons. 503 & 633 (microfilm);
- 1898 -1915 Crew and passenger lists for ships sailing to/from overseas and eastern Australian ports (mainly within Australia), Cons 457 (microfilm)
- 1903- 1915 Crew and passengers travelling between Fremantle and WA ports - Cons 457 (microfilm)

Fremantle - Passenger lists held by National Archives

- 1898- to date– arrivals from overseas. Originals held by National Archives of Australia.
- 1898- 1963 Microfilm copy held by the NAA and the State Library of WA.

These lists include arrivals at Perth airport.

N.B. Online index of passenger arrivals at Fremantle 1926-1947 (inclusive).

Esperance

- 1888-1924 Cons 781/2-3 Names of passengers recorded in Police occurrence books
- 1893-1896 – Cons 113 Register of inward and outward passengers (microfilm).
- 1899-1903 – Cons 782 Arrivals and departure lists (originals).

Convicts and Pensioner Guards

Convicts and the Pensioner Guards rarely appear on standard passenger lists. A printed copy of the individual passenger lists of ships, transporting convicts to WA between 1851 and 1868, can be viewed on microfilm at Cons 128. This record provides a physical description of each convict. These lists can also be viewed online at www.perthdps.com This online source also reveals the names of other passengers, including warders and pensioner guards, who travelled to WA on the convict ships.