

Tracing the history of a property can be very rewarding. Discovering 'Who's been sleeping in your house' gives you a sense of place and connectedness with your home and neighbourhood.

### Things you can do from home:

- Look at the Title of the house and any other paperwork which may hold 'clues'
- Search the Land Department website for further documents
- Search the Mine Shaft database from the Lands Department website
- Look carefully at the structure of the house for clues as to the era the house was built and renovations done
- Check with neighbours, talk with the locals
- Read local histories – how does the house fit into its landscape or surroundings

### At the Library:

- Check local 'house history books' (see below for more details)
- Check local heritage studies
- Search Parish land maps
- Search Local Rates databases
- Search directories and electoral rolls
- Search the Goldfields Image Library
- View aerial photographs
- Search for more details about the people who have lived in the house

## Resources

### Identifying House/building styles

Browse the shelves at Call No. 728 (Architecture, House and Period Styles)  
Borrow books by Laurie Burchell, Ian Evans, Ian Stapleton, and Peter Cuffley

### Bendigo Houses and Buildings

There are a number of books about Bendigo's historical buildings. Some are available for loan; some are only available to view in the library. Please see the library staff for further details.

"So now you see it...A year in the heritage of Bendigo" by M. Butcher and W. Gregson  
A book which details some of Bendigo's residential homes. Call No. 720.994 BUT

"Bendigo historic buildings" by M. Butcher and G. Flanders  
Call No. R 728.099454 BUT

**"Lands guide" by P. Nelson and L. Alves Call No. 331.1 NEL ;**  
A comprehensive resource for accessing records relating to Crown land in the State of Victoria.

## Local Heritage Studies

Available from the Goldfields Research Centre or online via the City of Greater Bendigo

[www.bendigo.vic.gov.au](http://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au)

Eaglehawk and Bendigo Heritage Study / G. Butler & Associates

Heathcote – Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study

Ironbark Heritage Study

Marong Heritage Study

Former Shires of Mclvor & Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study

## Parish Land Maps

Parish maps record the first transfer of government (crown) portions of land to named individuals. From crown grant, the original owners would probably have sold or sub-divided the land. To find subsequent changes in ownership, the parish maps will provide information to help you to get hold of records kept at the Land's Department or at the Public Records Office of Victoria. Some parish land maps are held at the Goldfields Research Centre and some can be found online through the Public Records office and Land Data (see below for web addresses).

## Rates

The Goldfields Research Centre has the Bendigo and Eaglehawk Rates on a searchable database.

Bendigo Rates from 1856 – 1903 (this indexing project is ongoing)

Eaglehawk Rates from 1855 – 1899

The Bendigo Rates are available to search online at [www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/e-resources/familyhistory](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/e-resources/familyhistory)

## The Bendigo Regional Archives Centre

BRAC has available the original Council Rates books from the City of Greater Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Marong, and Strathfieldsaye Shires. Rates from the boroughs of Raywood and Heathcote are available and also some rates from the Mclvor Shire.

BRAC also has available other Bendigo Council records which may be of interest.

## Online Resources

[www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au) – Goldfields Library. Click on Services – Goldfields Research Centre  
- Goldfields Library. Click on eResources – Family and Local History – Historic Rates

[www.brac.vic.gov.au](http://www.brac.vic.gov.au) – Bendigo Regional Archive Centre

[www.bendigo.vic.gov.au](http://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au) – City of Greater Bendigo

[www.prov.vic.gov.au](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au) – Public Records Office of Victoria

[www.landata.vic.gov.au](http://www.landata.vic.gov.au) – Purchase property information

[www.natstrust.com.au](http://www.natstrust.com.au) – Victorian National Trust

[www.trove.nla.gov.au](http://www.trove.nla.gov.au) – National Libraries gateway into their digitised collections;  
Newspapers, photos, maps, archives and more.

[www.oldhouses.com.au](http://www.oldhouses.com.au) – Ian Evans World of Old Houses