HLRV Fundamentals:

Session 4: HLRV Case Study



1. Tips and tricks

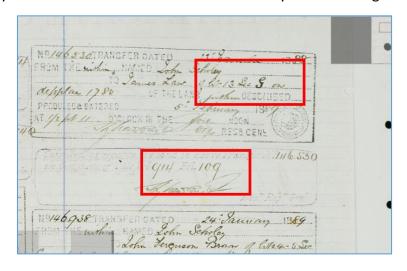
One of the most common challenges in researching land on HLRV is the obstacle of having a volume number above 8497, the cut off point for being digitised and available on HLRV. Below are some useful solutions.

Note: The below solutions are applicable only in certain situations, dependant on both the history of the land in question and the detail recorded in the original documents. If all else fails, you may need to purchase land records through the NSW Land Registry Services list of information brokers: https://www.nswlrs.com.au/Titles-Dealings/Title-Information-(1)/Information-Brokers

1.1 Find the vol-fol using nearby titles

Neighbouring parcels of land may have very different vol-fol numbers. If the land has been subdivided in any way, a new Certificate of Title will be drawn. For title certificates drawn in the mid-20th century and beyond, a new certificate will also be created once the second page of the certificate has been filled with dealings. This can result in a house built in the 19th century, with boundaries unchanged from its original subdivision, having a volume number above 8497. If this occurs, try the following:

- 1: Using the NSW Land registry Services online portal, perform prior title searches for adjoining and nearby parcels of land until a volume number below 8497 is found.
- 2. Find the title in HLRV. Using the prior title information in the top left-hand corner of the first page, follow the chain of titles backwards.
- 3. Looking at the maps included on the title certificate, keep going backwards until a common title certificate is found (a certificate that includes the Lot and section number you are interested in).
- 4. Search the dealings of the title certificate for reference to a sale of the lot and section you are researching. In many cases this will include the vol-fol number you are looking for.



1.2 Using parish maps

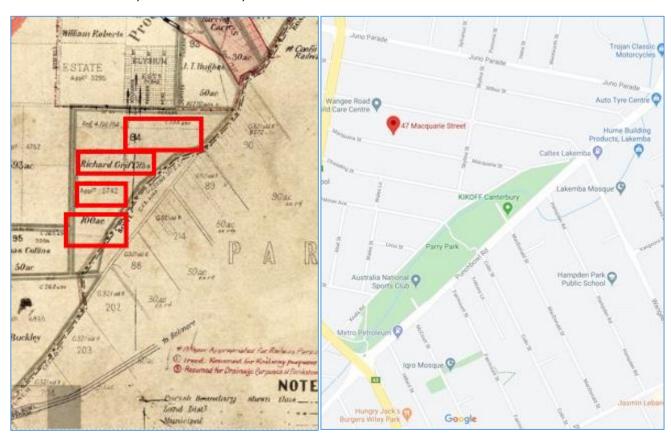
The parish map can often provide title information to enable you to work forwards from the original grant or purchase through to later subdivisions. For more detailed information on using parish maps, consult the webinar available through NSW State Archives & Records:

https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/webinars/mini-webinar-how-to-read-parish-map

1. Find the parish map on HLRV. If you are unsure of the name of the parish in question, do a place name search on the website of the NSW Geographical Names Board:

https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/

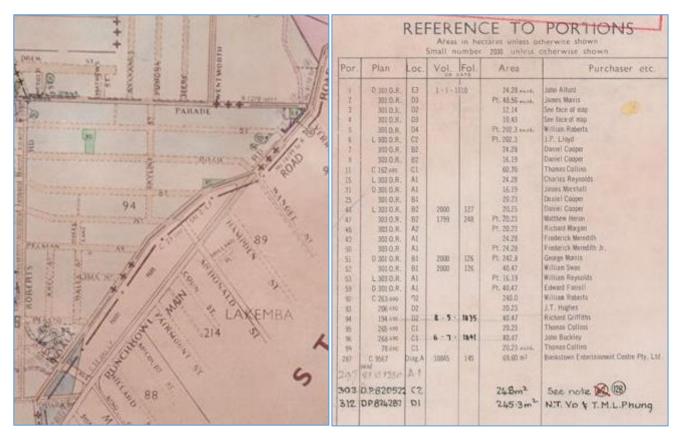
2. Find the land you are interested in. In some cases, this will require a comparison between the parish map and a contemporary map. Look for landmarks such as railway lines, natural features such as creeks and rivers, and if available, street names.



- 3. Look at the map face to find information such as portion number, name of grantee/purchaser, and primary application number.
- 4. Consult the map's schedule- this will in some cases provide a vol-fol number. In other cases, it may list a date which will help you narrow down the surname search on the Old System Grant index to the correct date range



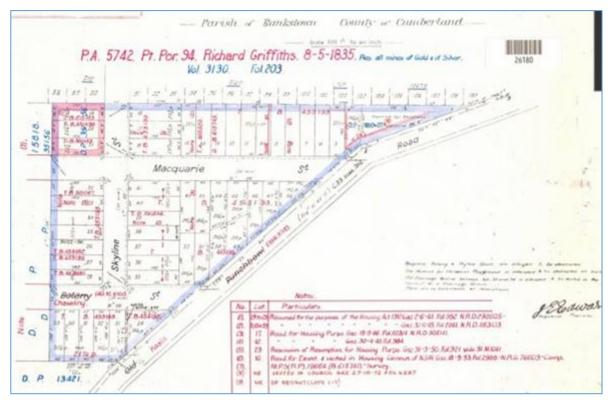
5. If the schedule does not provide the required information, other map series on HLRV, such as the LTO Charting Maps, may provide more current information. These maps may also list street names not included on the original parish maps.

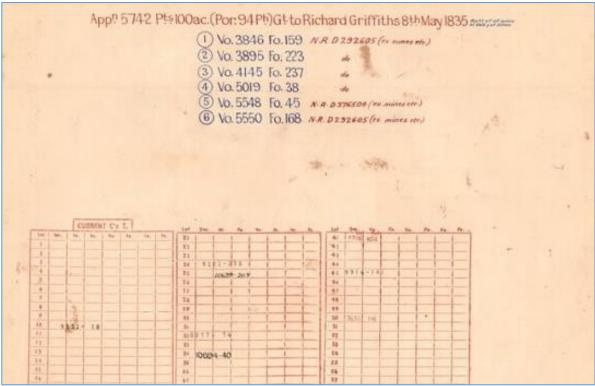


1.3 Deposited plans

When available, on HLRV deposited plans can provide valuable information, and may include details such as the following:

- Torrens Title references (vol-fols)
- NSW government gazette notices
- Primary application numbers
- Estate names
- New DP numbers





2. Resources

The Torrens Purchaser's Index can be used when you know the name of the purchaser, and an approximate date, but do not know the exact location and/or title reference of the land.

2.1 The State Library of NSW catalogue

https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/

The State Library of NSW catalogue includes many items that may be relevant to your research, including the following:

- Subdivision posters (for best results search for <u>"Suburb/Place name" AND subdivisions</u>)
 https://guides.sl.nsw.gov.au/maps/subdivision_plans
- Photographs/pictorial material https://guides.sl.nsw.gov.au/picturescollections
- Maps https://guides.sl.nsw.gov.au/maps
- Manuscript items <u>https://guides.sl.nsw.gov.au/manuscripts</u>

Note: Access to original materials requires a gold Special Collections card. Requests for Special Collections should be submitted with at least five business days' notice through our Access to Special Collections request form:

https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections/ask-librarian/access-special-collections-request

2.2 Public libraries

The HLRV, NSW Land Registry Services website, and most other online information, relates to the sale and transfer of land. For the best information on the history of your house, consult the Local Studies team at your local public library. Local Studies collections typically include some or all of the following:

- Rate books and valuation lists
- Building registers
- Maps and plans
- Photographs
- News clippings
- Heritage/conservation reports
- Miscellaneous archival material

2.3 NSW Geographical Names Board

www.gnb.nsw.gov.au

Use the NSW Geographical Names Board to find out parish and county information for the land you are researching. The Geographical Names Board can also assist in expired place names which can often be found on county, parish and town maps. Consult the Historical List of Place Names for NSW for details:

https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/publications/place names book

2.4 Trove

https://trove.nla.gov.au/

Trove is a versatile and comprehensive resource for historical research. In terms of land and house history, the digitised newspapers and government gazettes are the most useful sources. Using the information collected from HLRV land records, try the following searches:

- Names of individual purchasers/vendors/grantees
- Street addresses
- Estate/subdivision names
- Deposited Plan/Primary Application/Torrens Title certificate numbers (often found in Government Gazette notices and proclamations)

2.5 Six Maps

https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/

Six Maps is the mapping portal provided by NSW Spatial Services. Included are a range of maps, and the ability to search by specific address to find lot and deposited plan information. For house history, Six Maps can be used as a tool to compare current maps with a 1943 aerial map (Note: this feature is largely restricted to the greater Sydney area).

2.6 Dictionary of Sydney

https://home.dictionaryofsydney.org/

Provides detailed and reputable information about the history of various Sydney landmarks, addresses and areas.

2.7 Australian Dictionary of Biography

http://adb.anu.edu.au/

Provides biographical information relating to prominent Australians. Many early settlers and NSW landholders are included.