

# Gold in Queensland

State Library of Queensland holds a variety of resources relating to the prospecting, discovery, and mining of gold in Queensland. Online collections, as well as information collections on levels 2 and 3, and heritage collections on level 4, offer a comprehensive range of resources, which document the history and development of gold mining in Queensland.

The following guide provides a selection of the types of materials available, including books, historical newspapers, maps, manuscripts, personal papers and government periodicals, and highlights some key collection items.

## State Library resources

Search in State Library's online catalogue, One Search, with key terms.

For example:

- **Goldfields AND Queensland**
- **Mining AND Queensland**
- **Mining AND Gympie**

\*\* Refine your results by selecting from the options on the results page. Do this by choosing a specific resource type (for example, maps or images), opting to show only online or onsite material, or filtering by subject, such as "Goldmines" or "Gold Diggings".

Relevant journal articles can be found in a number of specialist databases including [Informit Australian Public Affairs Full Text \(APAFT\)](#) and [JSTOR](#).

## Books

- [The Goldfields of Queensland](#) / by William Lees, 1899. **Request to access from level 4.**
- [Mining in Queensland: a descriptive account of the principal gold mines of Queensland with survey plans of the principal goldfields](#) / compiled by C. T. Elmslie, J.P., F.R.G.S., assisted by Alex B. Elmslie, F.G.S.A., 1904. **Request to access from level 4.**
- [Queensland mineral index and guide: with numerous diagrams and tables, and an atlas of 36 maps](#) / by B. Dunstan, 1913. **Request to access from level 4.** \*\* Digital version available
- [The Mining Acts, 1898 to 1930 and regulations and orders in council thereunder, with an index](#) / edited by J.E., 1932. **Request to access from level 4.**
- [Gold, graves and gallows : crimes and calamities on the colonial goldfields](#) / by Tony Matthews, 2002. **Available on Open Access, level 2 G 622.3422 2002 or request to access from level 4.**
- [Gold & ghosts: a prospector's guide to metal detecting and history of the Australian goldfields](#) / by D.W. De Havelland, 1985. **Request to access from level 4.**

## Original Materials

- [George Fisher Evans Diary 1870-1875](#)  
Photocopy of transcript of diary of George Fisher Evans, detailing his life on the north Queensland goldfields at Charters Towers and Palmer River in the period 1870-1875. Also photocopies of transcripts of letters and a report written by him. The report was written to the directors of the Union Jack mining company. **Request to access from level 4**
- [Gympie Goldfields Clippings 1898-1906](#) This collection of newspaper clippings centres on the Gympie Goldfields during the period 1898-1906. Articles cover mining meetings, managers' reports, crushings and dividends. A booklet entitled "Report on the South Glanmire and Monkland Mine, Gympie 18/7/1904" is also enclosed. The cuttings have been attached to the pages of an old Share Register with some entries still visible, c1896. **Request to access from level 4**
- [William and Mary Bartie letters and textiles](#) This collection largely contains letters written by William Bartie to his wife, Mary, while he was working as an itinerant miner between approximately 1871 to 1875. The letters describe his experiences mining in Ournie, New South Wales; gold and tin in Tumburumba, New South Wales; tin in Koetong, Victoria; tin in Stanthorpe, Queensland, gold in the Palmer River goldfield, North Queensland; and gold in Talgai, Queensland. **Collection guide available. Request to access from level 4**
- [North Queensland Mining Clippings 1936-1977](#) This collection consists of one cutting book compiled from the 'North Queensland Register' and other sources. The articles are organised alphabetically by location and relate to: mining activities, the history of the towns, place names and their meanings, gold mining, Aboriginal people, Chinese and Italians. **Request to access from level 4**
- [North Oriental and Glanmire Mining Company Records 1903-1909](#) The business recorded included issuing of shares, operation of the mine, acceptance of managers' reports, purchase of equipment and annual meetings of shareholders. **Request to access from level 4**

## Images and Maps

- [Photographs of gold mines and mining](#) These photographs are from the John Oxley Library's copy print collection. This collection may have been subdivided into specific topics. Identified locations include: Bartle Frere - Batavia Goldfield - Cawarrall - Charters Towers - Clermont - Croydon - Ebagoolah - Gympie - Mount Leyshon - Mount Morgan and district - Mount Shamrock - Mulgrave River - Normanton - Palmer River - Ravenswood - Rockhampton district - Russell River. Large photo identified locations include: Cape River - Croydon - Herberton. **Request to access from level 4**
- [Maytown and Palmer River goldfields photographs 1870-1950](#)  
22 reproductions of photographs and sketches relating to Maytown and the Palmer River goldfields. Includes images of buildings and street views and identities of Maytown as well as mines and mining in the Palmer River district. There are some images relating to Chinese miners. **Request to access from level 4**
- [Queensland Gold](#) Department of Mines, 1988. 1 map and 1 booklet, titled "Queensland gold: a brief commentary." **Request to access from level 4**
- [Sketch map of the Croydon goldfield](#) / compiled by W.S. Haig, c1890. 1 black and white sketch illustration. **Request at level 4 desk. Digital version available.**

## Periodicals

- [Queensland gazetted licences index 1860-1901](#) Reproduction of indexes compiled by the Queensland Family History Society from information that appeared in the Queensland Government Gazette – includes Queensland goldfields miners rights and business licences index 1870-1884. Electronic Media. **See staff at level 3 desk to view; QCFS 929.3943 2005**
- [Queensland blue book for the year ... compiled from official returns in the Registrar-General's Office](#) 1870-1916. The Blue Books contain statistical information and details of the officers of the administrative and civil establishment submitted annually by the Governor of Queensland to the Colonial Office. Queensland Blue Books were issued annually between 1869 and 1916 and give names, positions and salaries of Queensland public servants, including Secretary for Mines, the Mining Warden and Mining Registrar on each mineral field, officers of The Geological Survey and the Government Analyst. **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3; FICHE/B 354.943 que**
- [Charters Towers herald and mining record](#) [microform] 1882-1899. **Open Access, Micrographics, level 3; MFS 0154**
- [The Chinese Australian herald](#) [microform] Holdings: Sept. 1, 1894-Oct. 15, 1897. **Request then collect from level 3; FILM/S 0253**
- [The golden age: Edwardstown & Palmer district mining journal](#) R.J. Morressy; 1876 – 1877. **Request to access from level 4; RBF 994.36 015**

## Other useful resources

- Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation catalogue <https://qldgov.softlinkhosting.com.au/liberty/libraryHome.do>  
The department's Library catalogue provides access to material produced by the department and its former entities. The catalogue contains historical and archival material collected from a variety of sources over the last 100 years.
- [Queensland State Archives](#) Telephone: (07) 3131 7777 Email: [info@archives.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@archives.qld.gov.au)  
Holds permanent records of enduring historical value for the Queensland Government and local governments. Records can include letters, reports, telegrams, photographs, maps, architectural drawings.
- [The Royal Historical Society of Queensland](#) Phone: (07) 3221 4198. Email: [info@queenslandhistory.org.au](mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au)  
The Welsby Library collection is in the process of being digitised and published on the [eHive catalogue](#). Items are accessible online, or email [info@queenslandhistory.org.au](mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au) to view onsite.

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### Need further information?

(07) 3840 7810 | [slq.qld.gov.au/ask](mailto:slq.qld.gov.au/ask)

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