

THE LEONE INDEX

by

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Although there were more than two thousand people of Italian birth in Victoria towards the end of the 19th century, very little has been recorded of the struggles of these pioneers. They were miners, dairy farmers, charcoal burners, labourers timber cutters, hotel keepers and various other professions, each in his own way contributing to the mosaic of life in our state, yet only a very few family histories have been published or even researched.

Italian and Swiss-Italian men came to Victoria in large numbers during the time of the gold rushes and most of them stayed in Victoria married and raised large families. So if we regard one generation as approximately twenty five years, it is possible that there are fourth or even fifth generation Australian born descendants of these pioneers who may be interested in finding out a little about their original migrant ancestor, and even recording the family history for their own descendants. Indeed, if they are descended from the daughter of an Italian pioneer and do not bear the Italian name, they may be unaware that they actually have any Italian link at all.

The first rule of family research is to start with yourself and go backwards, which means a person wishing to research his or her family must obtain a full copy of their own birth certificate as a starting point. This certificate as well as the marriage certificate of their parents and perhaps the death certificates of various other relatives may already be in the possession of a family member, so people should ask around before they go to the expense of applying to the Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages for copies. At present the price of a copy is around thirty dollars, but an applicant may acquire these copies for half price if they provide the relevant Registration Number from the records.

Genealogical Societies and most Municipal Libraries now have copies of the the Birth, Death & Marriage records for Victoria and other Australian states on Microfiche. Researchers may book the Microfiche reader for an hour at a time at no cost, and then search the files for the relevant entries and copy the down the registration number required. Application forms for certificates are available in all Victorian Post

First Name GIACOMO

Last Name # BOMBARDIERIE

M:1877 WHEELER NO 2740

D:1911 E'HAWK NO 8678

B:c1843 LOMBARDY

DIED AGED 68 YRS PARENTS: JOHAN / ANNIE POLETTI

WIFE : MARY WHEELER D:1911/8692 AGED 52 YRS

PARENTS: WILLIAM WHEELER / MARY SMITH

Notes

BIRTH: 1882/15614	JAMES JOHN		EAGLEHAWK
1885/ 2235	JIMS		"
1886/ 2473	STEFANO		"
1888/19947	ANTONIO		"
1890/12276	JOHANNA LENA		"
1892/22538	MARY		"
DEATH: 1890/ 6937	JOHANNA LENA	2 days	"
1892/12756	JAMES	8YRS	BENDIGO H

First Name PIETRO

Last Name # BOMBARDIERIE

M: HIBBERT

D:1899 MALDON NO 14565

B:c1846

DIED AGED 53 YRS PARENTS: PIETRO / DOMENICA CABAPA

WIFE ANNIE CAROLINE HIBBERT

Notes

LARGE FAMILY:

BIRTH: 1867/22803	JAMES	MALDON
1872/ 9989	MARY CAROLINE	"
1874/23825	MARGUERITA	"
1879/17546	NELLY LOUISA	"
1877/16859	JOHN EDMUND	"
1882/10524	EDMUND ANDREW	"
1884/18303	SARAH FRANCES	"
1886/11662	ALICE CORA	"
1888/13049	PETER ALFRED	"
1890/24792	FRANCIS JAMES	"
DEATH: 1867/10644	JAMES --	MALDON
1894/ 2565	PETER 5 YR	"

Last Name

First Name

# BOLLI	ANTONIO				
# BOMBARDIERIE	ANGELO	B:c1848 BARS	M:	PABST	
# BOMBARDIERIE	GIACOMO	B:c1843 LOMBARDY			D:1876
# BOMBARDIERIE	GIOVANNI	B:c1826 LOMBARDY	M:1877	WHEELER	D:1911 E'HAWK
# BOMBARDIERIE	JAMES				D:1873
# BOMBARDIERIE	JIM		M:	KAY	
# BOMBARDIERIE	JOSEPH		M:	WILLIAM	
# BOMBARDIERIE	MARGRETTA	ITALY	M:1879	CROTTI	
# BOMBARDIERIE	PIETRO	MALDON	M:1893	HILL	
# BOMSTRA	EMMA	B:c1846	M:	HIBBERT	D:1899 MALDON
# BONA	DOMENICO	B:c1856			D:1888 PRAHN
# BONA	DOMENICO	ITALY	M:1889	RIGHETT	
# BONA	ELIZA LOUISA	B:c1824			D:1888 S'HURS
# BONA	EVAN		M:1888	PERRY	
# BONA	MARY	B:c1799	M:	TRANTER	
# BONATTI	CHARLES	B:c1836		nee ARTHUR	D:1875 WALHAL
# BONA VIA	CESARE				D:1877
# BONAZZI	AGOSTINO		M:	CARANZI	
# BONAZZI	BARTOLO		M:	PANIZZA	
# BONAZZI	SIMONE	B:c1851 ITALY			D:1874
# BONDIETTO	BASILIO	B:c1811 ITALY			D:1876
# BONELLA	ALEXANDER		M:1859	KEMBER	

Offices and may be posted in to the Registry in Queen Street Melbourne or application maybe made in person during normal business hours.

One Australian of part Italian heritage has worked with the Victorian records for the last two and a half years extracting those names which appear to be of Italian origin. The records are not always clear, some years are very blurred and at times the incorrect spelling of some Italian names is quite confusing and even comical, if it was uncertain whether a name was Italian, Spanish or some other nationality it was decided to include it just in case. All of the information has been stored on a computer and the alphabetical index of the data base is at present being processed onto microfiche, and hopefully will be acquired by organizations as a companion to the main microfiche records.

As most Italian migrants in the 1800's were male, a man who wished to marry had to chose from the available female population which was mainly of English, Scottish and Irish origin, in the majority of marriages Italian-Irish combination was the most common. So persons of Anglo-Saxon or Irish descent may wish to consult this index if they had a great aunt or distant cousin who married an Italian last century.

INFORMATION SHOWN ON THE LEONE INDEX

The index shows varying information on individuals, the most information shown is the full name of a person, place and year of birth, year of marriage and the first seven letters of the surname of the spouse to enable identification of particular family groups, year and place of death, age given at death has been used to approximate the year of birth. However in many cases some of these facts are unknown, there may be as little as an entry of death, especially prior to 1865.

INFORMATION ON THE MAIN DATA BASE

Marriage records show names of both parties and in most years, the place of birth of each party, however in an effort save time in many cases only the place of birth of the Italian party has been recorded in this index. The full name of the spouse is recorded on the data base although only the first seven letters of the name appear in the index. It should be kept in mind that many women being married were in fact widows, and their legal name at time of remarriage was that of their former husband not their maiden name. Not all marriages appear in the records, but a search of the registers gives the year and place of

birth of the children of various couples, and most couples in those days produced a child within the first year or two of marriage, which gives a rough idea of when they married.

Birth entries show name and place of birth of child name of father and maiden name of mother. Noting the birth places of children of one family can show whether the family lived in one location or moved frequently, often following the gold strikes.

Deaths have been included along with all details shown on the microfiche: e.g. place of death, names of both parents of the deceased if known, also age at death, from which an approximate year of birth has been estimated.

As a result we have an alphabetical index of approximately 3500 family data sheets, some have only one entry, while others have full family details including year of marriage, births of children, deaths of various family members and in later years the marriage of adult children, each entry includes the Victorian Registration Number if possible, please refer to examples provided.

As this is an alphabetical listing, a researcher need check only once to find all entries pertaining to members of the particular family being researched. The microfiche records are very faint and/or blurred in many years particularly the early 1880's, and it is possible * that some names have been overlooked, also the spelling of foreign names is inaccurate in many cases. In fact some people, especially those with the christian name of Giuseppe were registered under "G" instead of the relevant surname.

If you are researching and wish to do all research yourself, this index will lead you straight to the family required, showing the year of marriage or death so that you can check the records yourself to acquire the relevant registration number in order to obtain the certificate at a reduced price. However, if you are interested in a family which appears in this index and wish to save time, you may write to the address provided including a stamped, self addressed envelope and for a small fee family data will be provided.

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