

REGIONAL WINNER

LAND TASMANIA

Land Records Digitisation Project

What was the problem?

Land Tasmania is the custodian of a significant volume of historic land records which are held onsite at the Department's primary location in Hobart CBD. These records are part of the live Registry of Deeds, The records are referenced to ensure that the vendor has a valid and legal title to convey the purchaser, and are used on a daily basis by conveyancers and solicitors, as well as the general public and Land Tasmania staff.

The more convenient and instant access to these records is in line with modern practices in a digital world, and also supports genealogical and other historical research.

What were the key outcomes?

The project delivered online access to over 1.5 million additional land records which were previously only available in person at a single location.

How did you address it?

Planning commenced in early 2017, with digitisation commencing in December 2018. The project is part of a digitisation program which has seen Land Tasmania convert a large proportion of paper records to digital over the last two decades, with the majority made available online to industry and the Tasmanian community. As the records concerned are still required to support conveyancing and surveying work on a daily basis, the project had to develop strategies to maintain access to the records during their digitisation off-site. This required the project to work with a diverse range of internal and external stakeholders, including solicitors, conveyancers, staff, digitisation service providers, software developers, the general public, the Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office, as well as the Minister. Land Tasmania has invested over \$800k for digitisation and software development services, in addition to resourcing the core project team of 3 FTEs.

For more information about this project or to contact Lands Tasmania please visit their website:
<https://www.thelist.tas.gov.au>.

