

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** PR00775

## Bignell, Margaret Annie

(1853 - 1940)

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**Born** 23 January, 1853, New Norfolk Tasmania Australia

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**Died** 30 October, 1940, East Brunswick Victoria Australia

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**Occupation** Pharmacist

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### Summary

Margaret Annie Bignell was the seventh daughter of William and Elizabeth Blyth, of Hobart. She became Victoria's first registered female pharmacist, and one of the first women pharmacists to conduct her own business in the state, carrying on her husband's pharmacy in Lygon Street, Carlton, after his death in 1897. She was known for apprenticing women, and was an activist for the recognition of women pharmacists. Two of her daughters entered the profession. She was a subscribing member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, and a founding member of the Women Pharmacists' Association, formed in 1905 to promote the interests of women pharmacists.

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Book

Victorian College of Pharmacy: 125 Years of History, 1881-2006, Bomford, Janette, 2006

### Archival resources

#### W L Crowther Library

[Anne \[i.e. Ann\] Blyth - Mrs Bignell \[Photograph\]](#)

#### Public Record Office Victoria, Victorian Archives Centre

[Pharmacy Board of Victoria](#)

#### State Library of Victoria

[Records. \[manuscript\].](#)

### Author Details

Janet Butler

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