Convict Ancestors: Fascinating & Frustrating

Shauna Hicks

www.shaunahicks.com.au

https://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au

Convict Statistics

- New South Wales 1788-1840
  - Approx 80,000 convicts (85% males, 15% females)
  - Norfolk Island 1788-1814 males & females
  - Norfolk Island 1825-1855 as place of secondary punishment, males only
- Tasmania 1803-1853
  - 332 ships (over 74,000 convicts – 12,500 women)
- Western Australia 1850-1868
  - 43 shiploads of male convicts
- Queensland 1824-1839
  - (2280 convicts) – place of secondary punishment
- Victoria
  - 1803-1804 Sorrento moved to VDL
  - 1826-1828 Western Port moved to Sydney
  - 1844-1849 Port Phillip exiles

Richard Walker

- Indicted 26 Dec 1812 for having a forged 2 shilling banknote in his possession
- Pleaded guilty – sentenced to 14 years
- Acquitted on forging charge
- He was 44 years old, 5 ft 4 ins, grey hair and hazel eyes
- Married with a wife and 5 children - a surgeon and apothecary

The Proceedings of the OLD BAILEY — London's Central Criminal Court, 1674 to 1913

Home | Search | About The Proceedings | Historical Background | Data | The Project | Contact

- Home Page
- Search
- About the Proceedings
- Historical Background
- API
- The Project
- Copyright & Citation Guide
- Contact

ON THIS DAY IN... 1733

A mother and daughter faced being burnt at the stake after having been found with equipment used for coining. **read more**

The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 1674-1913

A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court. If you are new to this site, you may find the Getting Started and Guide to Searching videos and tutorials helpful.

To search the Proceedings use the boxes on the right or go to the Search Pages.

This site uses cookies. See our privacy policy.

February 2018 Update

Several bugs have been fixed and tagging errors corrected. In addition, the following new features have been added: '

SEARCH
the Proceedings

Keyword(s)

Reference No.

Search In
<All Text>

SEARCH

The Proceedings can also be searched in:

552. RICHARD WALKER was indicted for that he, on the 26th of December, had in his custody and possession, a forged 2*l.* bank-note, he knowing it to be forged.

To this indictment the prisoner pleaded

GUILTY.

Transported for Fourteen Years.

First Middlesex jury, before Mr. Recorder.

---

553. RICHARD WALKER was indicted, for feloniously forging, disposing of and putting away, on the 26th of December, a forged, 2*l.* bank-note.

Mr. Knapp, counsel for the prosecution, declining to offer any evedence, the prisoner, of this charge, was

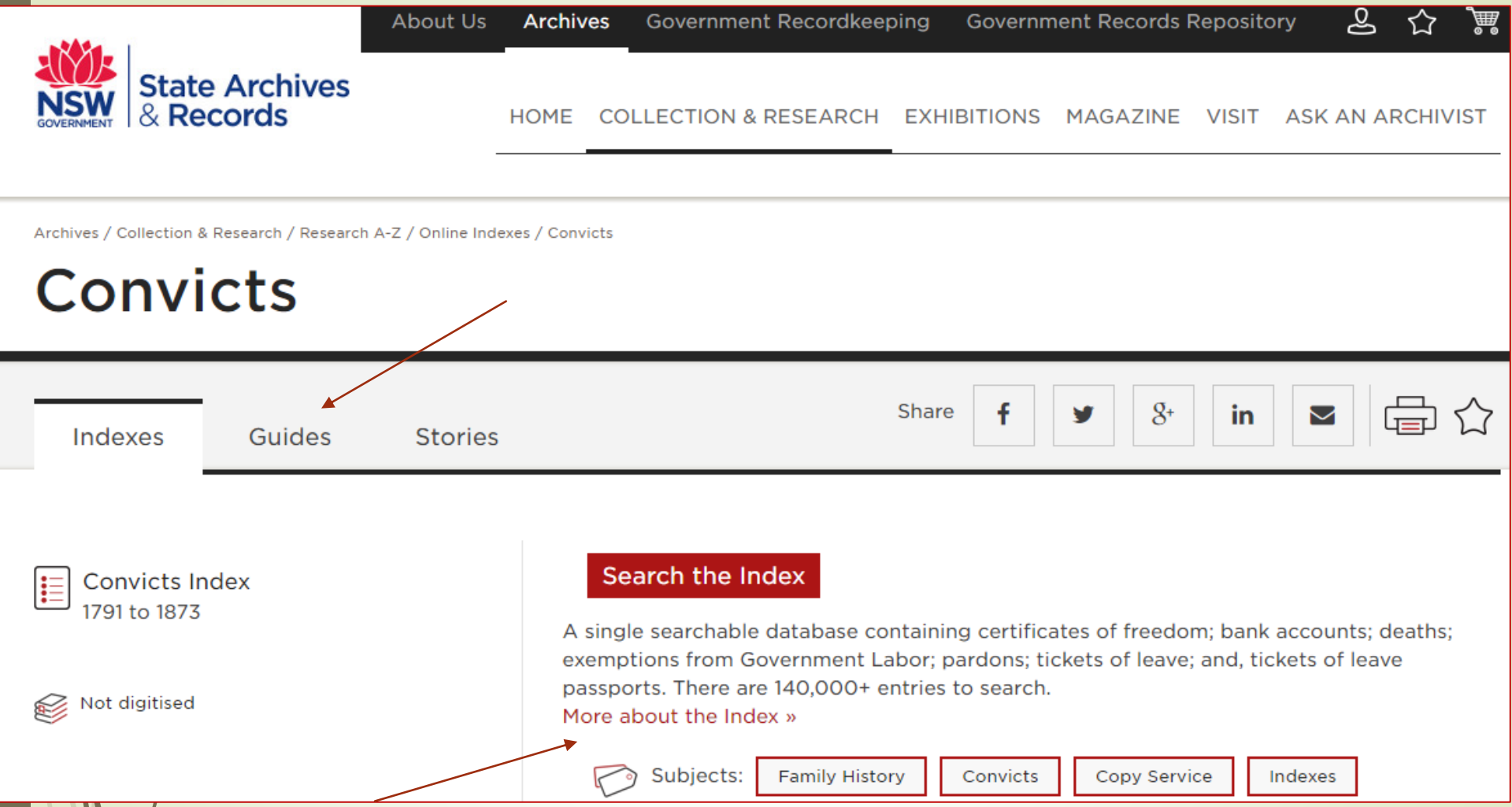
ACQUITTED.

First Middlesex jury, before Mr. Recorder.

www.oldbaileyonline.org

Richard's New Life

- Sailed *Somersetshire* arrived Sydney 16 Oct 1814 - assigned with a group of 50 male convicts to Windsor area
- Wife Mary & 5 children arrived 18 Jun 1815
- Richard received ticket of leave Jul 1815 –appointed clerk at General Hospital
- Next he was a Commissariat Clerk
- 31 Jan 1820 granted a conditional pardon – could not return to England the only restriction
- Certificate of freedom 2 Jun 1827
- Wife Mary died 21 Oct 1823 aged 47
- Richard died 29 Jun 1832 aged 64
- Three children married free persons & daughter Emma married a convict



www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/convicts/indexes

Some records also on Ancestry

WALKER, Richard. Per "Somersetshire", 1814

1814 Oct 25	On list of convicts disembarked from the "Somersetshire" & forwarded to Windsor for distribution (Reel 6004; 4/3493 p.346)
1819 Jan 25; 1820 Jun 24	Clerk. On returns of storekeepers & extra clerks in Commissariat Department (Fiche 3301, 4/1093.2 p.1; Reel 6049, 4/1744 p.373 & 4/1745 pp.1, 2)
1819 Dec 4	Clerk in Commissariat. Petition for mitigation of sentence (Fiche 3201; 4/1860 p.72)
1821 Sep 8	Clerk, Commissariat Department. On list of all persons victualled from H.M. Magazines; with wife & three children (Reel 6016; 4/5781 p.64)

WALKER, Dorothy. Mother of George, Henry, Elizabeth, Emma and Maria Walker

1815 Jun 19 On list of persons on board "Northampton" (Reel 6045; 4/1732 pp.160, 163)

WALKER, Henry. Came free per "Northampton", 1815; son of Dorothy Walker

1815 Jun 19 On list of persons on board "Northampton" (Reel 6045; 4/1732 pp.160, 163)

1824 Sep Memorial (Fiche 3115; 4/1840A No.1013 pp.49-52)

Always look for names of family members too

http://colsec.records.nsw.gov.au

On Thursday an inquest was likewise held at the "Black Dog" public-house, Cambridge-street, Rocks, on the body of Richard Walker, who, the preceding morning, between 9 and 10 o'clock, fell to the earth in the yard at the back of the house in which he lived in the above street. He was carried to bed speechless, and remained in that state until about four o'clock the same day. The jury returned a verdict of—"*Died by the visitation of God.*" In the course of the examination of witnesses, it appeared that a man of the name of Thomas Mosher, a poor cobbler living in the same house with deceased, went, between two and three o'clock, to the shop of Surgeon Hosking, and requested his attendance to the deceased, who had grown worse. Upon being informed that the applicant had no pecuniary means of remunerating him, Surgeon H. declined attending, alleging his "business would not permit him." At this conduct the jury, one and all, expressed their indignation in the severest terms language could convey; as it was their unanimous opinion, that had the assistance required been afforded to the individual now dead, in all probability he would have recovered; and this their opinion they requested the Coroner to represent through the proper medium.

Original Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Sydney Gazette.

SIR,—I cannot allow the aspersion thrown out against my professional character in your report of the Coroner's inquest held on the body of Richard Walker, which appeared in your last *Gazette*, to pass without notice—especially as I consider no Coroner's Jury have a right to call in question the motives of any medical man for not doing what *they* may consider to be his duty.

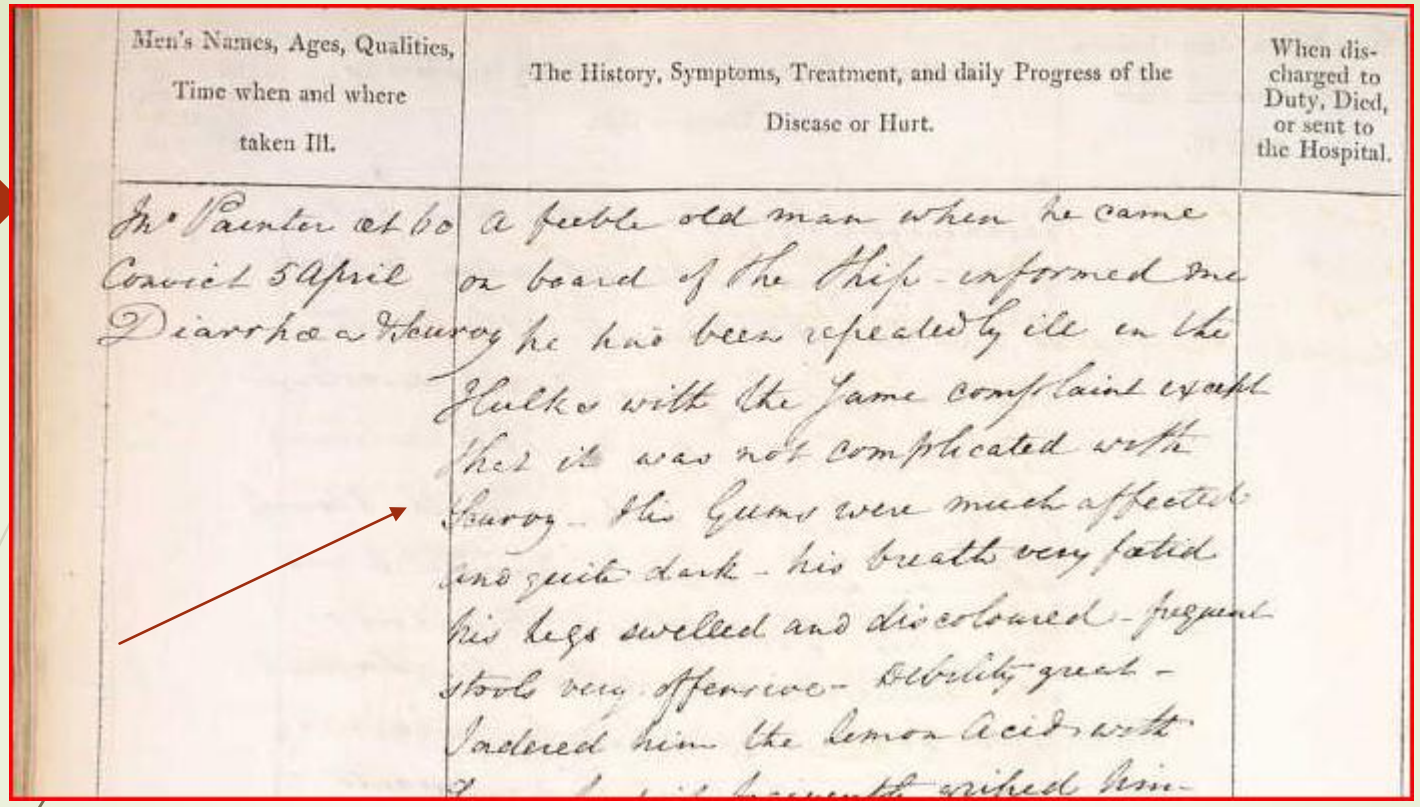
In the first place, I have to state, that although the applicant had no pecuniary means of remunerating me, as stated at the inquest, had it been otherwise, I could not have gone at that time to visit the person, having but a few moments returned from a patient whom I could not have left for any length of time. Finding I was engaged, why could not the messenger have sought other medical assistance? and, moreover, it would have been useless had I gone, as I have heard since that the man was dead before he returned home.

Richard died 29 Jun 1832

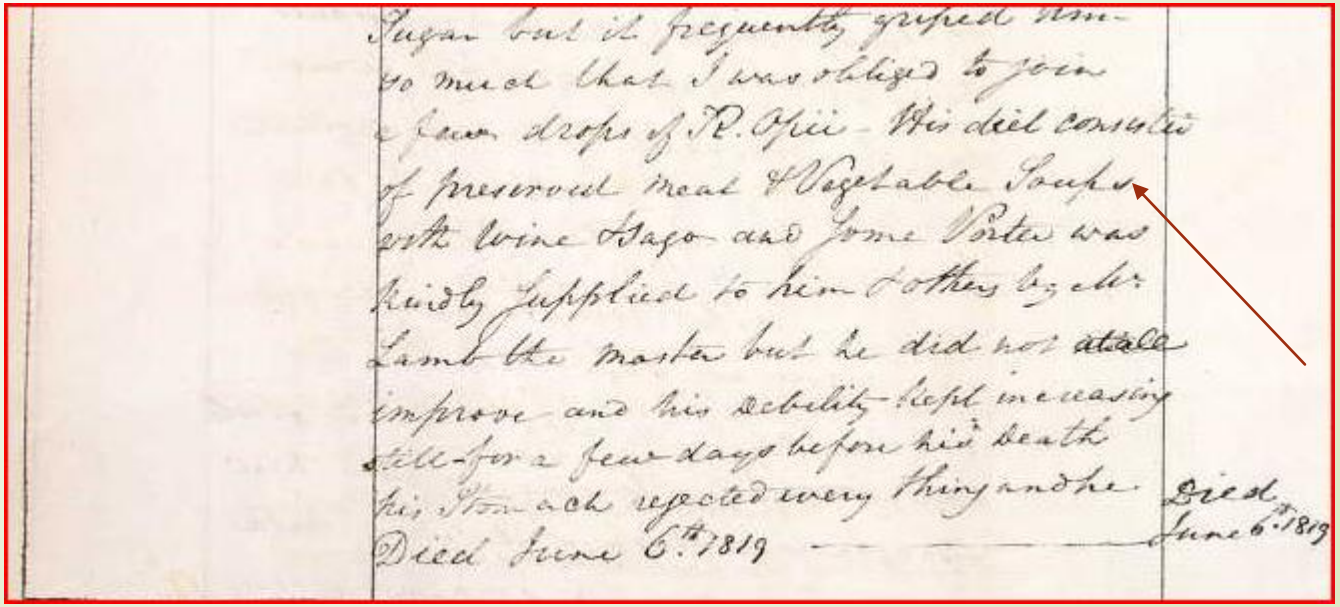
http://trove.nla.gov.au

Samuel Evans

- Born 1792 Chepstow, Monmouth, Wales
- Convicted of having forged notes in his possession - sentenced to 14 years transportation
- Aged 26 years, shoemaker, 5 feet 5 ½ inches, black hair, blue eyes, pale complexion
- Transported on *Baring* in 1819 – voyage of 150 days instead of usual under 130 days – light winds at the Equator
- Forced to land Hobart for fresh provisions & water - health problems with 50-60 convicts with scurvy - 5 deaths



Men's Names, Ages, Qualities, Time when and where taken Ill.	The History, Symptoms, Treatment, and daily Progress of the Disease or Hurt.	When discharged to Duty, Died, or sent to the Hospital.
Mr Painter at 60 Convict 5 April Diarrhoea & Scurvy	A feeble old man when he came on board of the Ship - informed me he had been repeatedly ill in the Hulks with the same complaint except that it was not complicated with Scurvy - His Gums were much affected and quite dark - his breath very fœtid his legs swelled and discoloured - frequent stools very offensive - Debility great - I ordered him the Lemon Acid with [illegible] frequently griped him -	



	Sugar but it frequently griped him so much that I was obliged to join a few drops of R. Opii - His diet consisted of preserved meat & Vegetable Soups with Wine & Sago and some Porter was kindly supplied to him & others by Mr Lamb the master but he did not at all improve and his debility kept increasing still - for a few days before his death his Stomach rejected every thing and he Died June 6th 1819	Died June 6th 1819

www.ancestry.com.au

Ship's Medical journals

It was a small world!

- Samuel Evans first married Mary Ann Crane
- Mary Ann's brother John, 32 years - widower - married Rebecca England, 17 years
- Rebecca arrived free - *Northampton* 1815 as did Emma Walker daughter of Richard Walker
- Emma Walker became second wife of Samuel Evans
- Look for connections between families

Where To Begin – Identify Your Convict

- Marriage and death certificates
- Convict indents
- Surgeons' journals
- Assignment records
- Tickets of leave, Certificates of freedom & Pardons
- Muster & census records
- Colonial Secretary – petitions & correspondence
- Trial records – criminal registers, case papers & newspapers

Online Resources

- Trove
- State Archives & State Libraries - eResources
- Biographical Database of Australia
- CoraWeb
- National Archives UK
- Old Bailey Online
- National Archives of Ireland

- Ancestry.com.au & FindMyPast.com.au

www.bda-online.org.au

Biographical report for Samuel EVANS

Person ID: B#10014020301
Birth: circa 1793 Monmouth MON WLS
Arrival: 1819 NSW per Baring (Convict)
Death: 1830 Sydney NSW AUS

PRINT

Date	Group	Biographical record	Source
1819 Jun		Samuel Evans, Aged: 26 years Born: Monmouth [MON WLS]; Shoemaker, Height in feet/inches & fraction of inch: 5/5 1/2; Complexion: Fair pale; Hair: Black; Eyes: Blue; Court: Assizes, Tried: 30 Mar 1818, at Monmouth [MON WLS], Sentence: 14 years, Embarked from: England; Arrived per Baring (2), Arrival status: Convict 26 Jun 1819, at Sydney [NSW]; Certificate issued: Ticket of Leave number 2574; Repository: SRNSW ref:,. [Biog Item No. 100140203]	Convict Indents & Ship Musters, 1813-1828 ABOUT »
1821 May		Letter Dated: 1821, May 7, 9; Samuel Evans, Ship: Baring, Year: 1819, Sydney NSW AUS; Original Remarks: Re permission to marry at Sydney. [Biog Item No. 140045604]	Colonial Secretary's Papers Index 1788-1825 ABOUT »
1821 May		Samuel Evans, aged 25, Bachelor, Abode: Sydney [NSW AUS], Shoemaker, Signed; & Mary Ann Crane, aged 23, Spinster, Abode: Sydney [NSW AUS], Signed X; married 28 May 1821 Church [NSW AUS], registered St Philips Church of England Sydney [NSW AUS] by Banns by Richard Hill; Witness: Christopher Crane, Signed; Witness: Ann Chenhalls, Signed [Biog Item No. 300031202]	Church Register: NSW Sydney St Philip CE Marriage ABOUT »

1827 Aug		Charles Henry Evans, [child of] Samuel Evans, Shoemaker & Emma Evans; Abode: Sydney [NSW AUS]; Born 19 Aug 1827, Baptised 9 Sep 1827, by Reverend William Cowper, Registered at St Philip's Church of England Sydney, [NSW AUS] [Biog Item No. 300016255] LIST ALL PERSONS »	Church Register: NSW Sydney St Philip CE Baptism ABOUT »
1828 Nov		Henry Jackson, Age: 15, Protestant, Arrived per Friends 1816, Came Free; Apprentice to Saml Evans; Householder; Residence: Princes St [NSW AUS]; Household Return district: Sydney [NSW AUS] [Biog Item No. 110626959] LIST ALL PERSONS »	Census &c: NSW Census 1828 ABOUT »
1828 Nov		James Green, Age: 15, Protestant, Born in Colony; Apprentice; Householder: Saml Evans, Shoemaker; Residence: Princes St [NSW AUS]; Household Return district: Sydney [NSW AUS] [Biog Item No. 110623478] LIST ALL PERSONS »	Census &c: NSW Census 1828 ABOUT »
1828 Nov		Emma Evans, Age: 20, Protestant, Arrived per Northampton 1815, Came Free; Householder: Samuel Evans; Residence: Princes St [NSW AUS]; Household Return district: Sydney [NSW AUS] [Biog Item No. 110620764] LIST ALL PERSONS »	Census &c: NSW Census 1828 ABOUT »
1828 Nov		Samuel Evans, Age: 36, Protestant, Arrived per Baring 2 * 1818, 14 years, Ticket of Leave; Shoemaker; Householder: Samuel Evans; Residence: Princes St [NSW AUS]; Household Return district: Sydney [NSW AUS]; Editor's Remarks: * # Ship & Year: Baring's first voyage 1819 - HO/11/3/131 [Biog Item No. 110620763] LIST ALL PERSONS »	Census &c: NSW Census 1828 ABOUT »
1829 May		Georgiana Evans, [child of] Samuel Evans, Shoemaker & Emma Evans; Abode: Sydney [NSW AUS]; Born 6 May 1829, Baptised 5 Jul 1829, by Reverend William Cowper, Registered at St Philip's Church of England Sydney, [NSW AUS] [Biog Item No. 300016559] LIST ALL PERSONS »	Church Register: NSW Sydney St Philip CE Baptism ABOUT »

Biographical Database of Australia (BDA)

Biographical report for Mary Ann CRANE

Person ID: L#11051739101
Arrival: 1816 per Morley (Came free)

Date	Biographical record	Source
1816 Jan	Mary Ann Crane, Arrived per Mary Ann 19 01 1816; AUS]; Other Remarks: free on permission to marry Samuel Evans - convict - Baring 2. [Biog Item No. 100511446]	Free Passengers NSW Arrivals 1788-1825
1822 Sep	Mary Ann Crane; Arrived per Morley, Arrival status: CF (Came Free); Occupation/Residence &c, Sydney [NSW AUS], Wife of S Evans [Biog Item No. 110404893]	Census &c: NSW General Muster 1822
1825 Sep	Mary Ann Crane; Arrived per Mary Ann 1816, Arrival status: CF (Came Free); Occupation/Residence &c, Sydney [NSW AUS], Wife of Samuel Evans [Biog Item No. 110517391]	Census &c: NSW General Muster 1823/4/5

Helping you trace your family history in Australia and elsewhere

Home | About | Books | Handouts | Quick Sheets | Speaking | Search

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Apps for genealogy on the move
- Archives
- Asylum and hospital records
- Begin your family history
- Birth, death and marriage records
- Blogs
- Bookshops
- Cemeteries
- Child welfare
- Convicts
- Criminal and court records
- Digital books and eResources
- Directories
- Electoral rolls and census records
- India and Sri Lanka (Ceylon)
- Libraries
- Local history
- Maps, places and land records
- Military records
- New Zealand
- Newspapers

Convicts

- Australian Capital Territory (2)
- General (17)
- Hulks (7)
- New South Wales (17)
- Queensland (3)
- South Australia (1)
- Tasmania (12)
- Trial, gaol and transportation records (19)
- Victoria (4)
- Western Australia (4)

Tracing London Convicts in Britain & Australia, 1780-1925

This website allows you to search millions of records from around fifty datasets, relating to the lives of 90,000 convicts from the Old Bailey. Use our site to search individual convict life ... more

The Colonial Secretary's Papers 1788-1825 - New South Wales

State Records of New South Wales (SRNSW), Index to the Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1825 is arranged alphabetically by subject and name. The Colonial Secretary was responsible for the official ... more

Convict Records - Australia

www.coraweb.com.au/categories/convicts

www.digitalpanopticon.org

Search Builder

Find convict life archives and individual records by name and/or keyword, or click 'add more search criteria' to build a customised search by specifying additional personal details, life events, or datasets.

Keywords richard walker

Gender Male

Date Day Month 1810 – Day Month 1815

+ Add more search criteria

Search

Showing 1 to 2 of **2** results

Visualise 2 results | Download 2 results | Cite this search

1. Richard Walker
First appears in 1813.
Colony new_south_wales.

3 records. British Transportation Registers. Newgate Calendars of prisoners for trial. Old Bailey Proceedings.

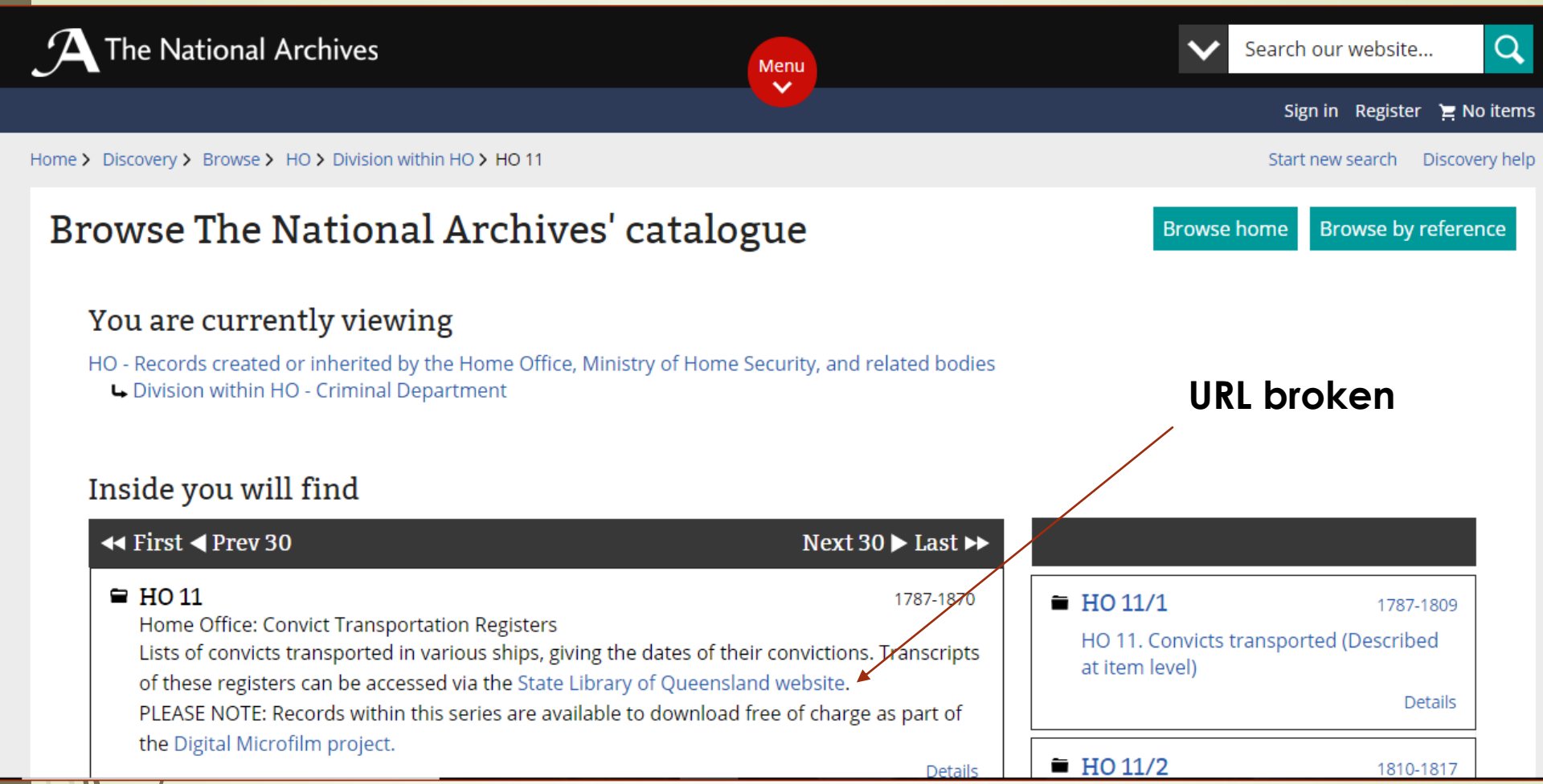
Life archive

2. Richard Walker
Appears in Old Bailey Proceedings on 2nd June 1813.

Charged with royal offences coining. Found no evidence presented.

Single record

www.digitalpanopticon.org

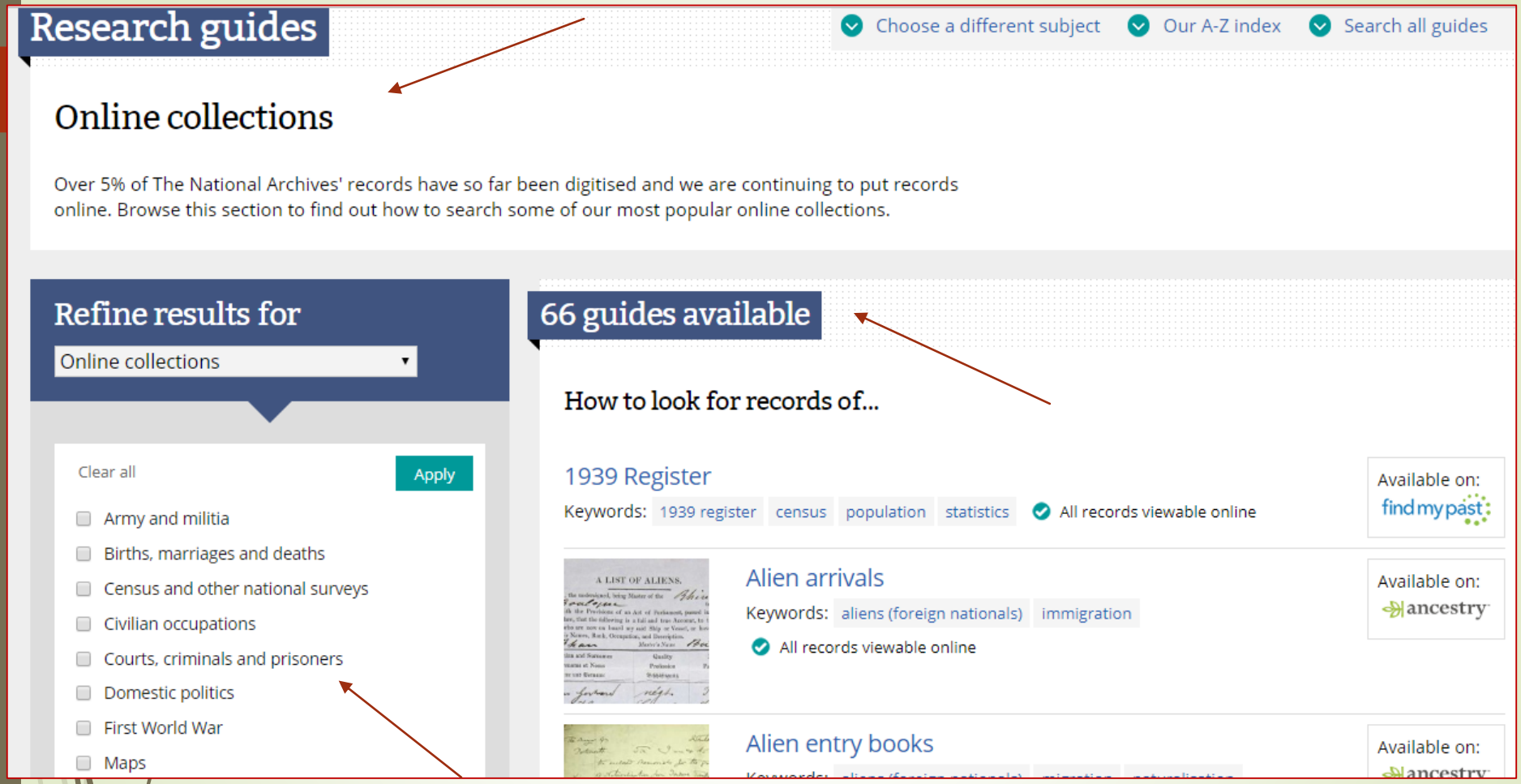


URL broken

http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/browse/r/h/C8875

www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/family-history/convicts

Use this link for SLQ



www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/?letter=&search=&research-category=online

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

eResources

Indexes, databases, full-text ejournals, subject guides, websites

User ID:

Family name: Login

Not registered? get a library card

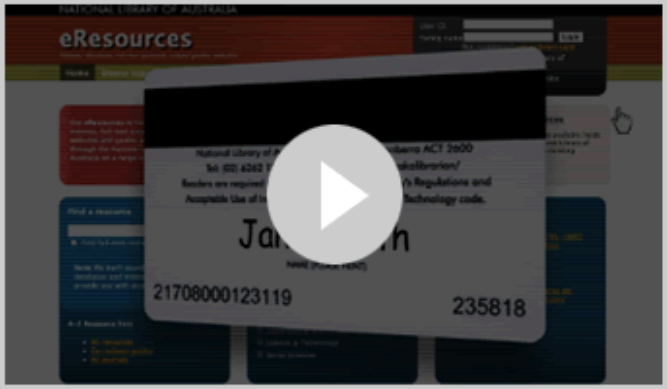
Your location is outside the National Library of Australia. Resources you can access:

Free

Home | Browse topic categories | A-Z Resource lists | Feedback | Help

Not sure how eResources works?

Watch our screencast



Use **eResources** to locate indexes, full-text ejournals, websites and guides available through the National Library of Australia on a range of topics.

Freely available resources

Websites freely available to anyone over the Internet

Licenced resources

Databases available by logging in with your library card

Onsite resources

Resources available inside the National Library of Australia building

www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources

7. **Eighteenth Century Journals: Newspapers and Periodicals 1685 - 1815**

Adam Matthews: This service brings together rare journals printed between 1685 and 1815, illuminating all aspects of eighteenth-century social, political and literary life. Many are ephemeral, lasting only for a handful of issues, others run for several years. Topics covered are extremely wide-ranging and include: colonial life; provincial and rural affairs; the French and American revolutions; reviews of literature and fashion throughout Europe; political debates; and London coffee house gossip and discussion. The titles chosen have been screened carefully against other eighteenth century resources (many available at the National Library of Australia) to ensure minimal overlap. Available for document delivery to Australian libraries.

22. **Nineteenth Century British Library Newspapers (parts I and II)**

Gale: The 19th Century British Library newspapers collection contains full runs of 48 national, regional and local newspapers. Titles were specially selected by the British Library to best represent nineteenth century Britain, from business to sport, from politics to entertainment and the arts. The collection focuses on newspapers from London, the English regions, home country newspapers from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, and titles in specialist areas such as Victorian radicalism and Chartism. Titles were selected to reflect the social and political developments of the times in which they were published. The original collection was augmented by the release of Part II, which includes an additional 22 regional newspapers, further expanding the geographical, social and political range of titles available. Cross searchable with other Gale products via the Gale NewsVault. Available for document delivery to Australian libraries.

12. **Irish newspaper archives**

Irish Newspaper Archives Ltd: Irish Newspaper Archives is the largest online database of Irish newspapers in the world. The archive dates from 1763 to the present and includes a mix of out of print titles and current titles, providing word-searchable access to articles or full pages. Titles include the Irish Independent (1905 - current), The Freeman's Journal (1763-1924), the Connacht Tribune (1909-2007), the Leitrim Observer (1924- Jan 1976), the Meath Chronicle (1897- April 2005) and the Southern Star (1892-2006). Available for document delivery to Australian libraries.

30. **Times Digital Archive [1785-2006]**

Gale Group: The Times Digital Archive has millions of articles from the London Times. The entire newspaper is captured, with all articles, advertisements and illustrations/photos divided into categories to facilitate searching. Cross searchable with other Gale products via the Gale NewsVault.

www.nla.gov.au

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

Home About Site news Statistics Tags Help Forum Contact us

It's free and it only takes a minute Sign up Login

Trove

Find and get over 575,163,318 Australian and online resources:
books, images, historic newspapers, maps, music, archives and more

20,763 searches this hour

Search

Available online Australian content In my libraries

Advanced search

Learn about Trove

A guide to Trove
How to correct newspaper text
How to order a copy of an item

Contribute

Join the community that's organising and improving this information resource.

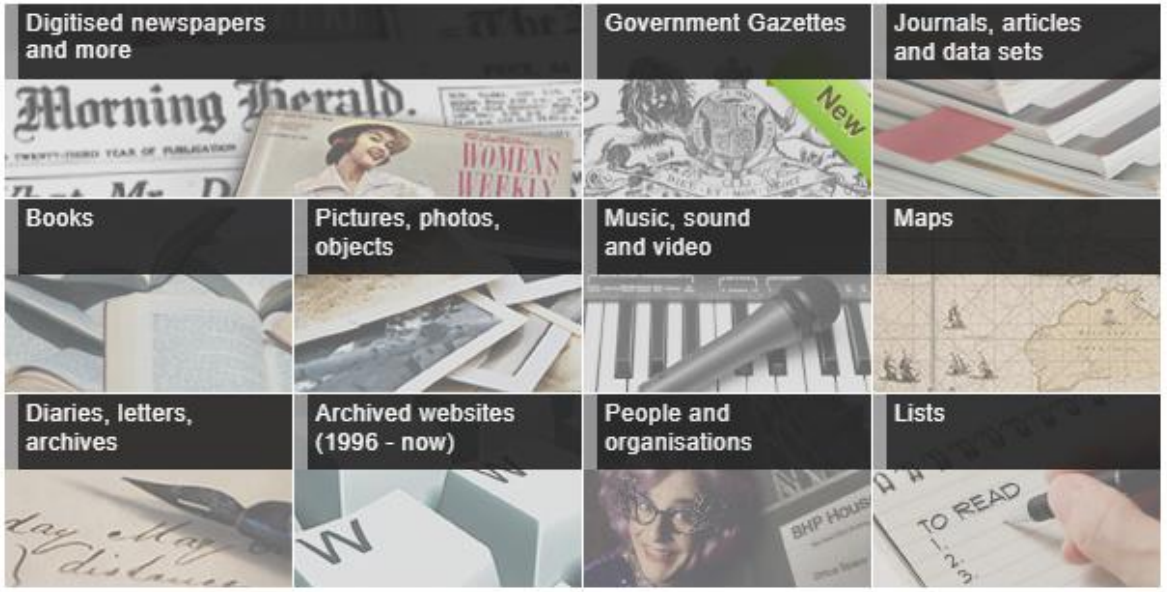
9,258 newspaper text corrections today
1,084 images from users this month
21,230 items tagged this week
4,334 comments added this month
63 works merged or split this month
771 lists this month

Connect to others with similar interests on the Trove forum

News

No new news items available

Find Trove on



Trove spotlight: The Australian WOMEN'S WEEKLY 1933 – 1982

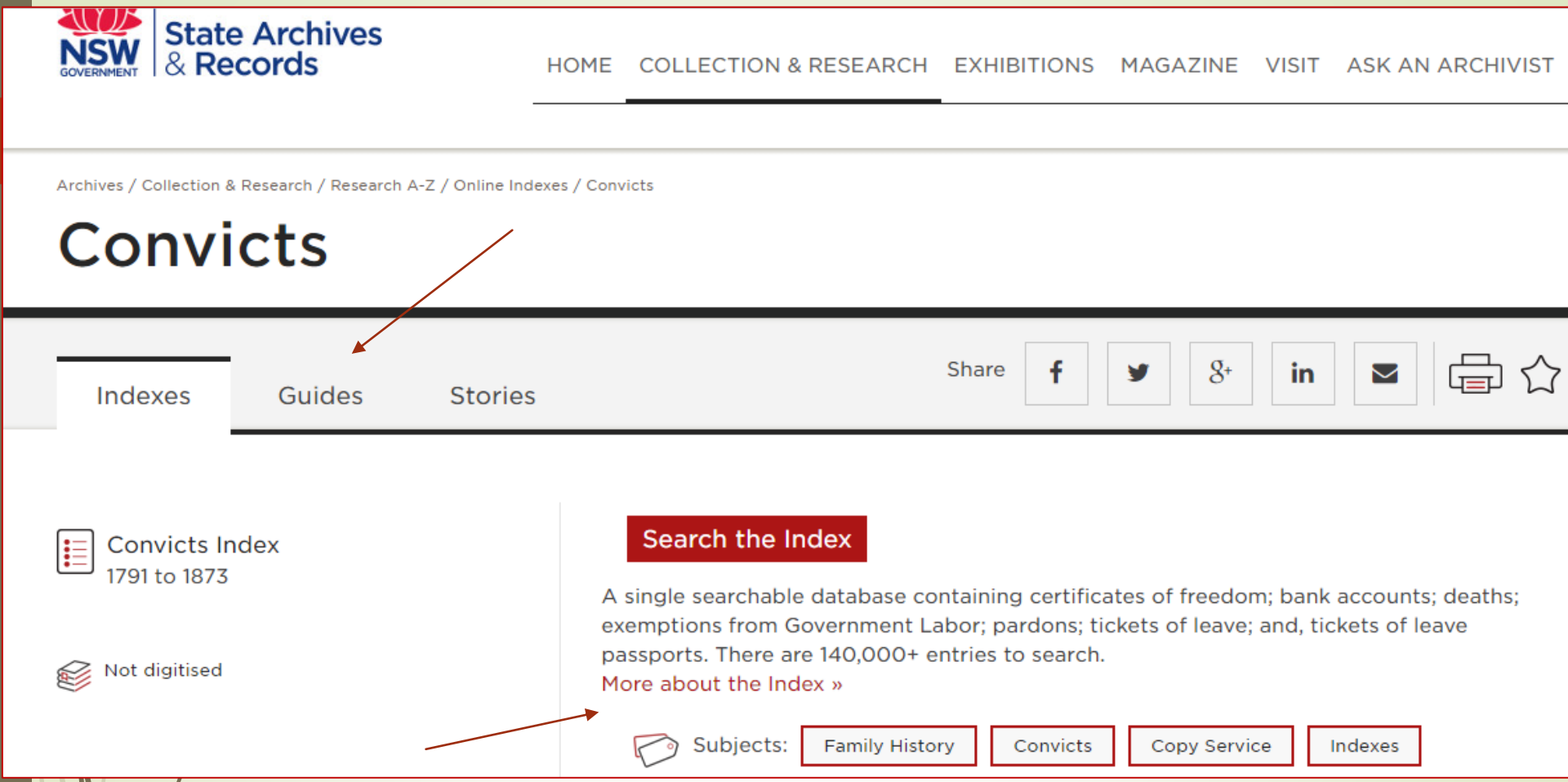
http://trove.nla.gov.au

WALKER.—October 29, at his son's residence, Norton-street, Ashfield, Henry Walker, aged 83 years 9 months, a resident 71 years of the colony, and one of the oldest residents of Ashfield; beloved husband of Mrs. H. Walker; beloved father of Mrs. A. Reid, of West Maitland; beloved father of Mrs. C. Smith, of Ashfield; beloved father of Mr. John H. Walker, of Wallsend, stationmaster; beloved father of Mrs. A. Tounted, of Newtown; beloved father of Mr. Alfred Walker, of Golden Grove, Sydney; beloved father of Mr. William P. Walker, late of Queensland; and the beloved father of Mr. George A. Walker, of Ashfield. After a long and painful illness.

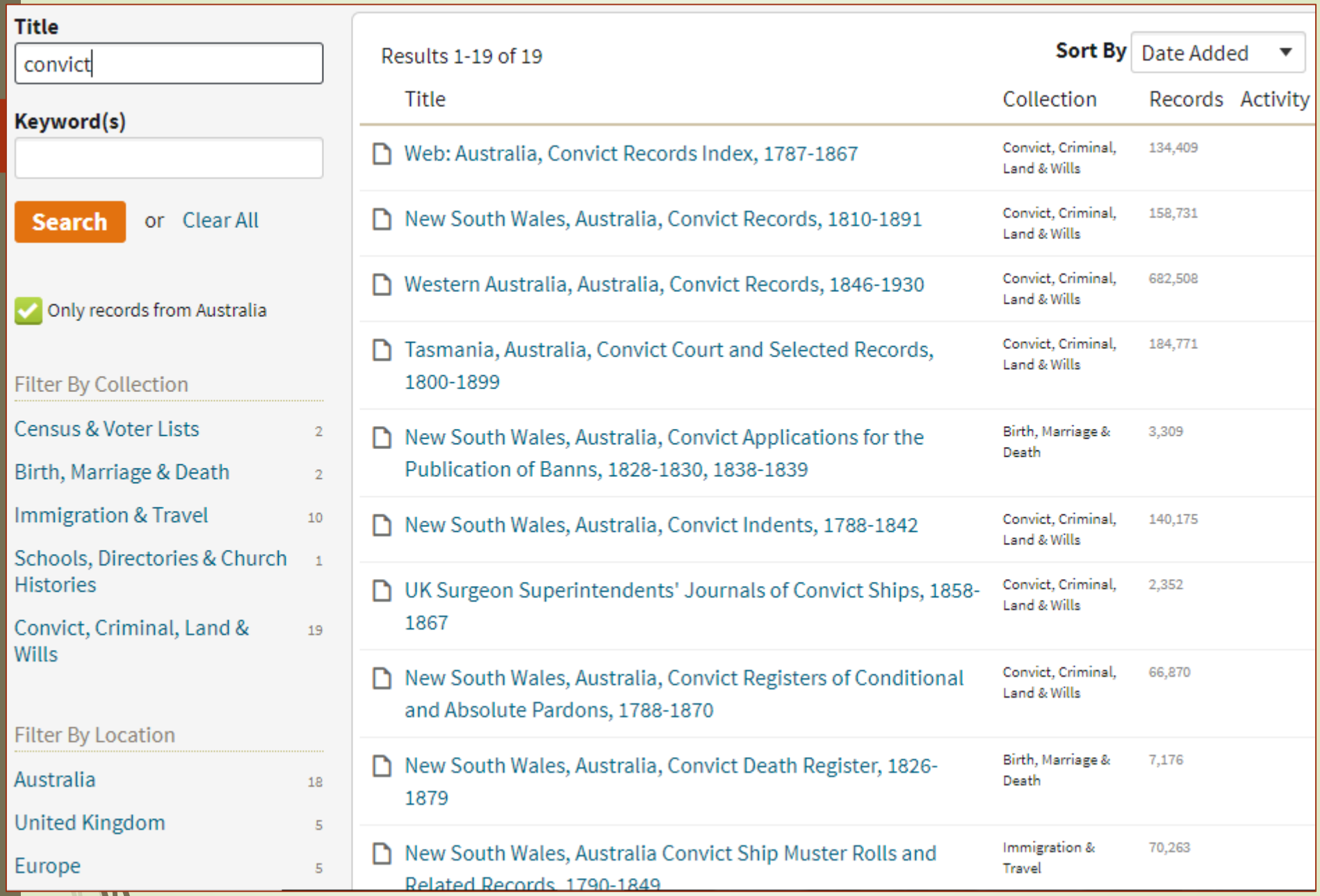
We saw him fading day by day,
And saw him pass away;
We nursed him with the tenderest care,
But could not make him stay.

Put in by G. A. W.

Evening News (Sydney, NSW : 1869 - 1931) / Mon 12 Nov 1883 /



www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/convicts/indexes



https://search.ancestry.com.au/search/cardcatalog.aspx

Before transportation

From 1788 to 1868 over 160,000 men, women and children were punished with transportation to Australia. On this page you will find links to information on the life of convicts before their arrival in Australia and their journey to Australia.

Convict life

Although they were servants, as they were needed to ensure a productive economy, convicts had a measure of power. They were given a ration of food and clothing as set out in official regulations.

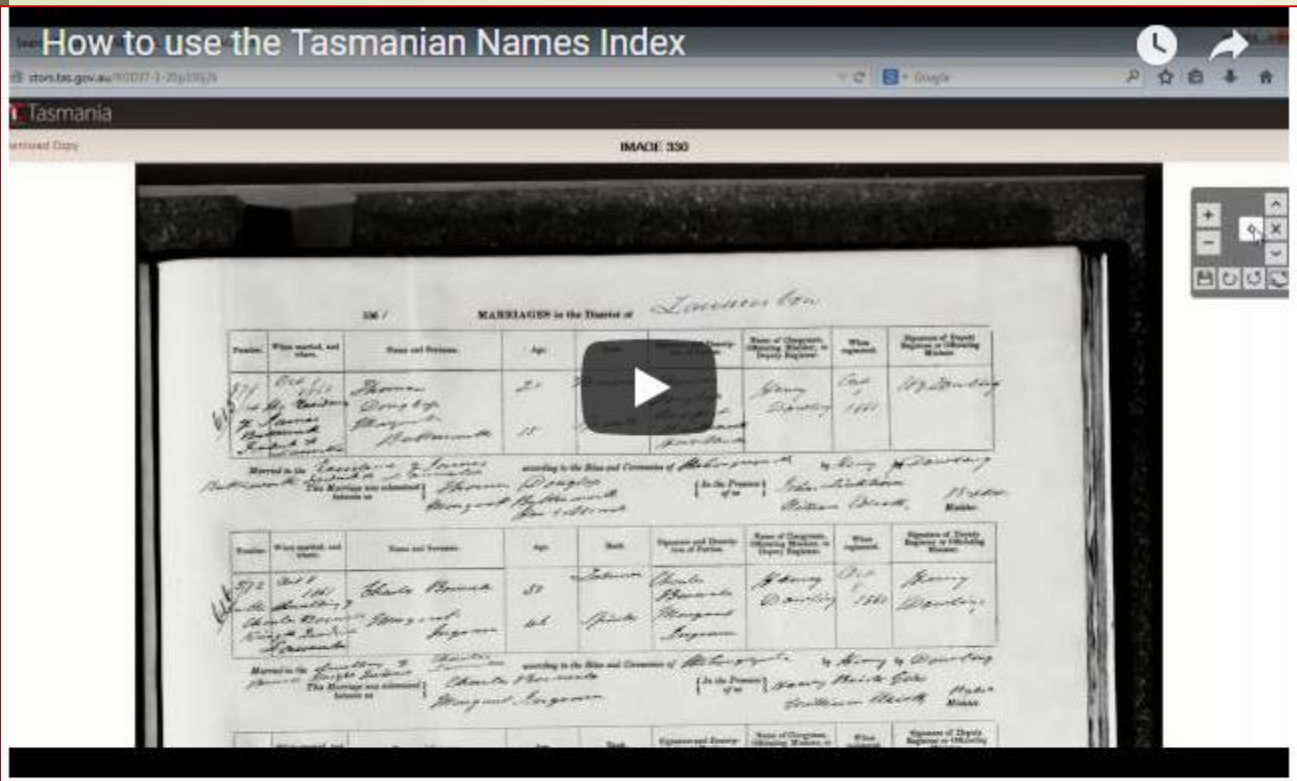
Freedom

The first freed convicts in VDL were those who arrived in 1803. The better behaved of them were given land. Those who were free by the 1860s did not fare so well. The period in which freedom was given made a difference to later prospects.

Founders and Survivors Storylines

Founders and Survivors Storylines tells an extraordinary story about the making of modern Australia based on the world heritage-listed convict records of Tasmania.

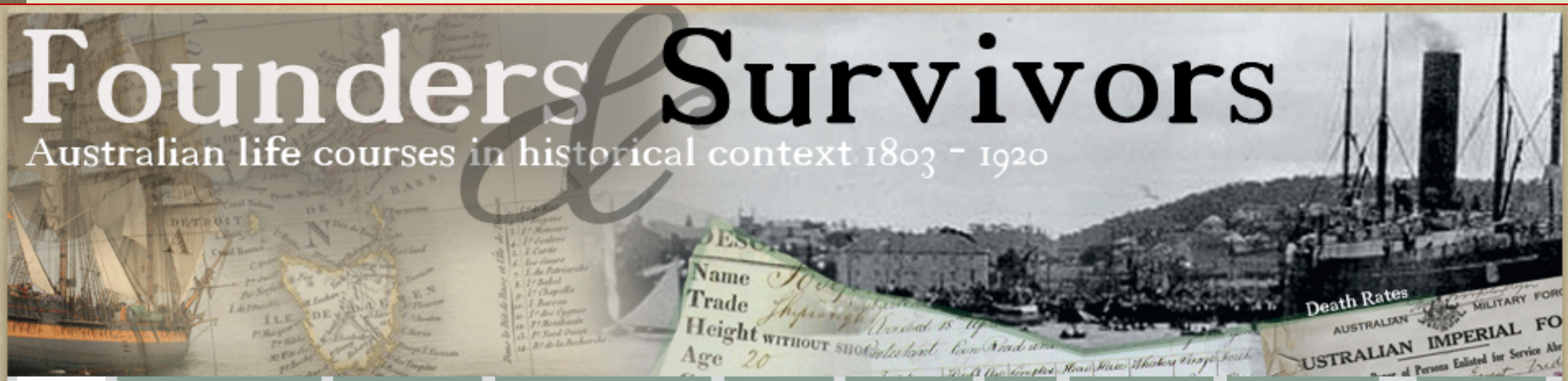
www.linc.tas.gov.au/convict-portal/Pages/convicts.aspx



Use the Tasmanian Name Index to search records from the following sources:

- Arrivals (19th Century). Passengers and ships arriving, mainly in Hobart. Contains surnames A-N, O-Z to be added.
- Bankruptcy (1821-1928). Documents from cases of bankruptcy and insolvency.
- Births (1803-1933). People born in Tasmania including some baptisms collected by the Registrar General (1900-1933 baptisms only).
- Census (1837-1857). Householders in the 1840s and 1850s, not complete for all districts.
- Convict permissions to marry (1829-1857). Convicts applying to marry free people or other convicts.
- Convicts (1803-1893). Convicts transported to Tasmania and those convicted locally through the convict system.
- Court (1830-1845). Supreme Court. Minutes of proceedings in criminal cases*
- Deaths (1803-1933). People who died in Tasmania including some burial records collected by the Registrar General (1900-1933 burials only).
- Departures (1817-1867). People leaving Tasmanian ports, mainly Launceston.

www.linc.tas.gov.au/family-history/Pages/default.aspx



Home | Search convicts | Search site | Become involved | Forums | About Us | FAQ | Contact us | My account | Research

Search for a Convict

User links

Publications

User login

Username or e-mail: *

Password: *

Log in

Founders & Survivors is a partnership between historians, genealogists, demographers and population health researchers. It seeks to record and study the founding population of 73,000 men women and children who were transported to Tasmania. Many survived their convict experience and went on to help build a new society.

This website is best viewed using Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox as your browser. Some things do not display properly using Internet Explorer.

A notice to Friends of Founders & Survivors from Janet McCalman:

We regret that owing to worsening technical and security problems we have had to close part of the FAS website to public use. You can still search for a convict and read the transcriptions of his/her records, but, at present, ONLY REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS can access the Community Contributed material. You can still access the FAS newsletter 'Chainletter' via the website. WE ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS. When the project is transferred

www.foundersandsurvivors.org

Public Record Office Victoria

About us | Explore the Collection | Recordkeeping for government | In the community | What's on | Koorie services | FAQ | Contact us

Collection ▼ | Enter collection search terms here | Advanced Search

Assisted passenger lists

(1839-1871) Record Series Number (VPRS): 14

Home > Explore the Collection > Passenger records and immigration > Assisted passenger lists

www.prov.vic.gov.au

Vessel	Arrived	Port	No of Exiles
Royal George	16 Nov 1844	Melbourne	21
Sir George Seymour	Mar 1845	Geelong	176
Stratheden	27 Jan 1846	Melbourne	51
Maitland	10 Jan 1847	Melbourne	291
Thomas Arbuthnot	4 May 1847	Melbourne	289
Joseph Somes	24 Sep 1847	Geelong	248
Marion	27 Jan 1848	Melbourne	292
Anna Maria	23 Jun 1848	Geelong	156
Eden	21 Feb 1849	Geelong	199

Justice, crime and law

Navigate to...

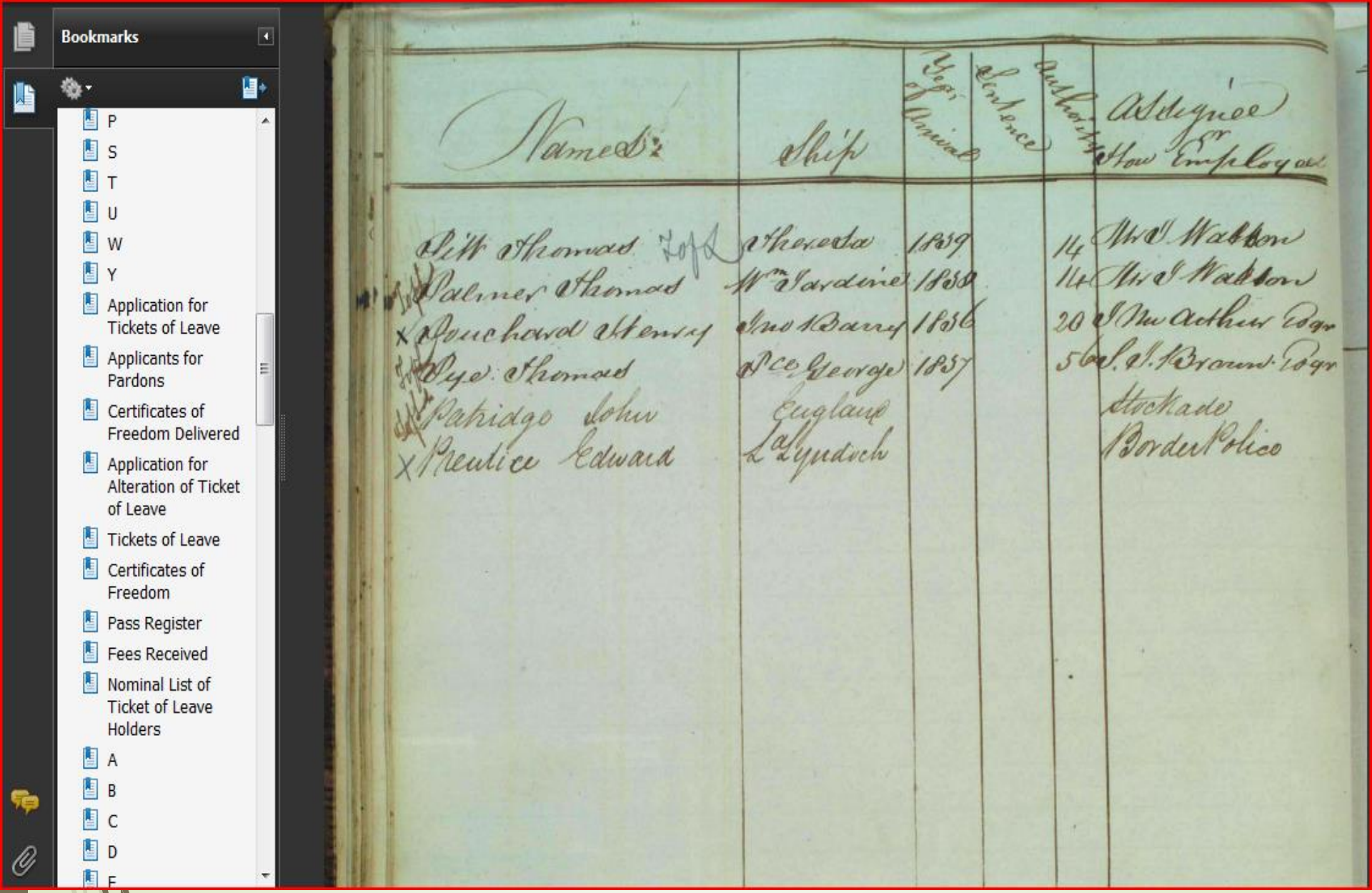
Register of convicts, 1842 – 1854

VPRS 110/P0

Notification of exiles, 1844-1849

VPRS 89/P0

www.prov.vic.gov.au



www.prov.vic.gov.au

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

STATE RECORDS OFFICE OF western australia

Site map | Accessibility | Contact us

Search... Search

Go to whole of WA Government search

Contact
Phone +61 8 9427 3600
Opening Hours: Tue – Fri 10am – 4.30pm

ABOUT US NEWS AND EVENTS STATE RECORDKEEPING ARCHIVE COLLECTION STATE RECORDS COMMISSION

Home › Archive Collection › The Collection

ABORIGINAL RECORDS
ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS
BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES
COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE RECORDS
CONVICT RECORDS
COURT RECORDS
EDUCATION AND SCHOOL RECORDS
HARBOUR AND SHIPPING RECORDS
HOSPITAL AND HEALTH RECORDS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS
MAPS ONLINE
MINING RECORDS
PASSENGER LISTS AND IMMIGRATION RECORDS

CONVICT RECORDS

The Swan River Settlement had been in existence for twenty years when it took the unusual step of electing to become a British penal settlement in 1849. Eager Home authorities accepted the offer and quickly dispatched the barque Scindian, which arrived in Gage Roads on the 1st June 1850 with a cargo of 75 male convicts aboard. This was to be the first of 43 shipments of convicts to the colony over an 18 year period.

Although a total of 9,925 convicts were officially transported during this period, it is estimated that some 500 of these were local prisoners intermixed with the transported convicts.

www.sro.wa.gov.au/archive-collection/collection/convict-records

Dead Reckoning

How to find your way through the genealogical jungle of Western Australia

Government Archival Records: A-C

- Aboriginal People
- Adoption
- Agriculturalists
- Aliens
- Apprentices
- Asian People
- Audit Department Employees
- Bankruptcy
- Births, Burials or Deaths & Marriages
- Cemeteries
- Census Returns
- Child Evacuees & Migrants
- Coal Miners
- Colonial Secretary's Office

Dead Reckoning > Government Archival Records > A-C > Convicts

printer friendly

Convicts

The records of the Convict Establishment (see Agency 442) provide a wealth of information on convicts, both those transported from England and those convicted in Western Australia. Many of these records are detailed in Gillian O'Mara's Convict Records of Western Australia: a research guide (929.1072 OMA) and as a first step to tracing convicts in Western Australia this book should be consulted, as it sets out how to search records in Western Australia and England.

Sketch by William Stone - Convicts at Work 1867

Among the most useful records are the Convict Lists and Registers (ACC 128), the Occurrence Books for various convict working parties (ACC 1156/Occ 1-27), Registers of Casual Sick, Medical Registers and Journals, the Convict Registers (ACC 1156/R1-R33) and Receipts and Discharges of Prisoners (ACC 1156/R&D 1A-9B). Explanations and detailed listings of these records can be found in Convict Records of Western Australia: a research guide, AN 358 and Agency 442. Also of use are the Supreme Court records (see Agency 44 and Order in the Court) as many Supreme Court records relate to convicts.

Some Colonial Office despatches (ACC 41) list convicts in shipping consignments by their name, borough and date of

Convicts to Australia

A Guide to Researching Your Convict Ancestors

Another Perth DPS Project www.convictcentral.com

Search These Lists Online:
* All the Convict Ships
* WA Convicts
* WA Pensioner Guards
* NSW Convict Women
* Convict Tales

Home | Research Guide | Gangs | Censuses & Musters | Serendipity | Links | Bibliography | Glossary | Claytons Convicts | Quiz | Project

Index

Search

* "The definitive site for Convict Research on the World Wide Web" *

* Use Search Box above to search the entire Site *

Most family historians in Australia regard a convict in their ancestry as enormously desirable. "Convicts to Australia" is intended to guide, inform and entertain those just starting the hunt as well as the more experienced researcher. The site is a 'work in progress' and data is being added regularly. We hope your convict research is made easier by our efforts and above all we hope you have FUN. Although **feedback and suggestions** are welcome, unfortunately we are unable to answer individual questions and research requests.

What's New

W.A. - Vimeira 1865 (We're systematically expanding the WA Convict pages with trial details & physical descriptions.)

Research Guide

An overview of Australian settlement and convict transportation. Helpful hints for convict researchers on a wide range of themes.

Timeline

A year-by-year account of the settlement of Australia and convict transportation at a glance. Gives perspective to a confusing period.

Convict Ships

Chronological Lists of all the Convict Transports sent from England. Includes Alphabetical Lists of the First, Second and Third Fleet convicts.

Bound for W.A.

English, Irish, Scottish and military convicts transported to Western

N.S.W. Women

Convict Women arriving in New South Wales from England, Ireland

http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts

Convicts to Australia

A Guide to Researching Your Convict Ancestors

Another Perth DPS Project

Search These Lists Online:
* All the Convict Ships
* WA Convicts
* WA Pensioner Guards
* NSW Convict Women
* Convict Tales

Links

Contents:
Indexes & Lists
General
New South Wales
Victoria
Tasmania
Western Australia
South Australia
Research Guides
Convict Ships
Background Info

More links in:
Serendipity

Indexes and Lists of Convicts

National Archives of Ireland - Transportation Records, 1788-1868. Searchable database of many Irish convicts transported to Australia, compiled from transportation registers and petitions to government for pardon or commutation of sentence.

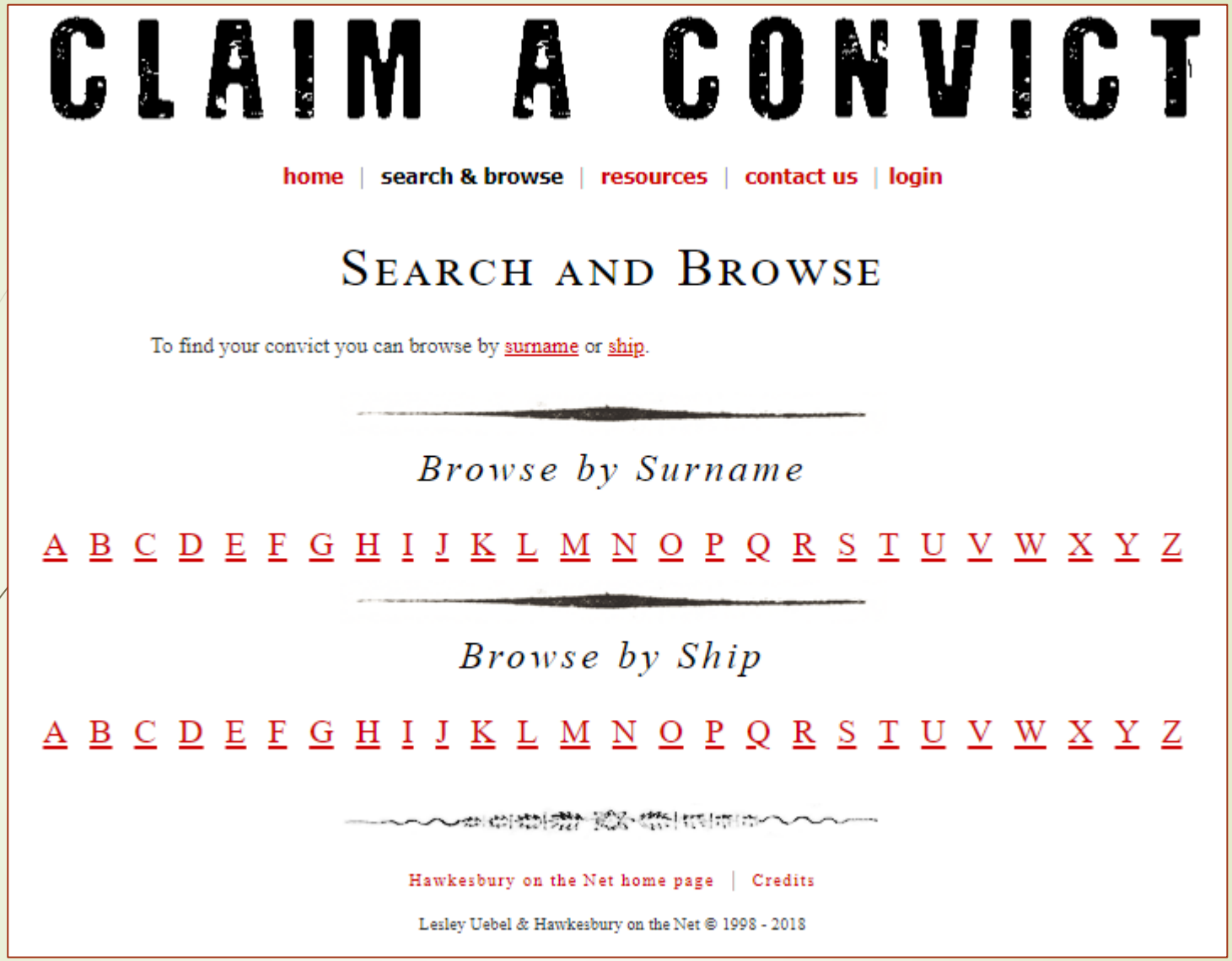
The Proceedings of the Old Bailey London 1674-1834. A fully searchable online edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing accounts of over 100,000 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court. Hint: Use Advanced Search and select "Transportation" in the Punishment field. Includes **Crimes Tried at the Old Bailey**: Explanations of Types and Categories of Indictable Offences.

Lancaster Castle - Convicts Sentenced at Lancaster and Transported to Australia. Lists the names and known details of many of the convicts who were sentenced at Lancaster, with further names being researched. The Lancaster Castle Project Team would like to hear from **Australian Families** who are descendants of these transportees.

Lincolnshire Archives: Convicts of Lincolnshire. The Lincolnshire Archives database of transported convicts has now been expanded to include all convicts known to have been transported to Australia, Bermuda and Gibraltar between 1788-1868 (just under 2000). In addition to basic information including the convicts' names, places and dates of trial and shipping details, over half the convicts also have additional information about their crimes, etc, on the on-line database. Complementing this database are surname indexes of convict aliases and the victims of the crimes. Any comments will be appreciated by the archivist in charge of the database at **Lincolnshire.Archive@lincolnshire.gov.uk**.

Transportation of Convicts from Nottingham. The convicts on this list were tried at Nottingham Borough Quarter Sessions Court, which tried less serious offences. Includes date of trial, sentence and crime.

http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/list.html



www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/search.php

Australian Joint Copying Project

- 10,000 reels of microfilm – held NLA, State Libraries & via interlibrary loan
- Colonial Office - correspondence
- Home Office – convicts – criminal papers, Old Bailey sessions, transportation registers, musters
- Admiralty – convict ship medical journals
- Miscellaneous – personal papers
- Some parts also online now via Ancestry, Findmypast and National Archives UK

British Convict transportation register made available by the State Library of Queensland

Shauna Hicks Cooroy May 2018

www.convictrecords.com.au

Irish Transportation Registers

- 1988 bicentennial gift to Australia from Ireland
- Irish convicts 1788-1868
- 105 rolls microfilm
- Online index
- Transportation registers, petitions and cases, reference files

Introduction
Getting started
Genealogy records
Introduction
Births, marriages and deaths
Census returns
Tithe Applotment Books and the Primary (Griffith's) Valuation
Wills and

Genealogy records

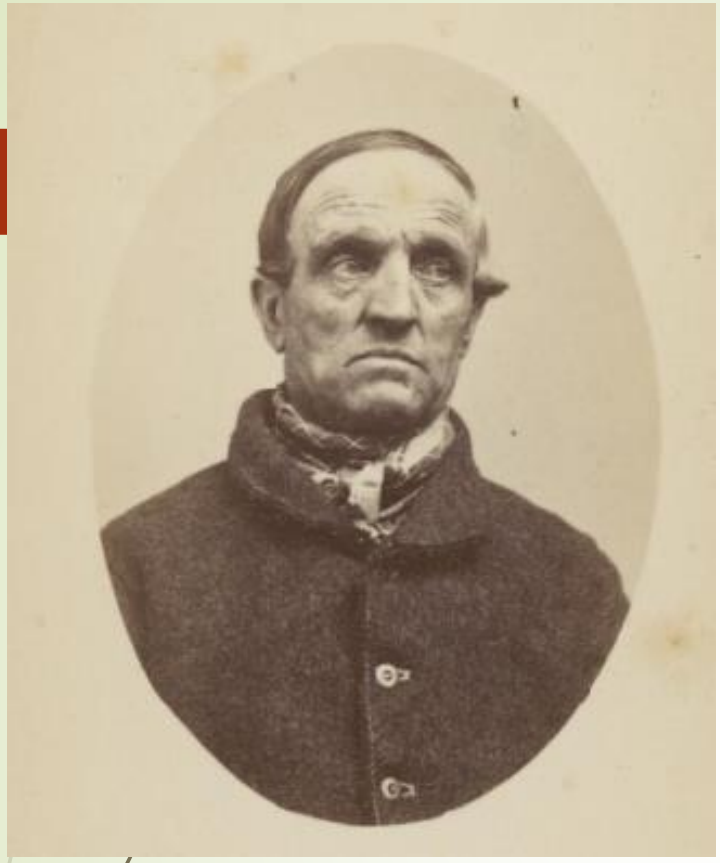
Ireland-Australia transportation records (1791-1853)

The fire in the Public Record Office complex in the Four Courts during the Irish Civil War (1922-1923) resulted in the severe damage and destruction of records. Although not all records from the Chief Secretary's Office in Dublin Castle survive, especially from the period before 1836, sufficient material has survived to make the transportation records held in the National Archives a major source for Australians researching Irish convict ancestors. Penal transportation to Australia (and later to Bermuda or Gibraltar) covered the years 1791 until 1853 when the sentence of penal transportation was commuted to a prison sentence in Ireland.

For information on transportation sources, please consult the following pages on our site:

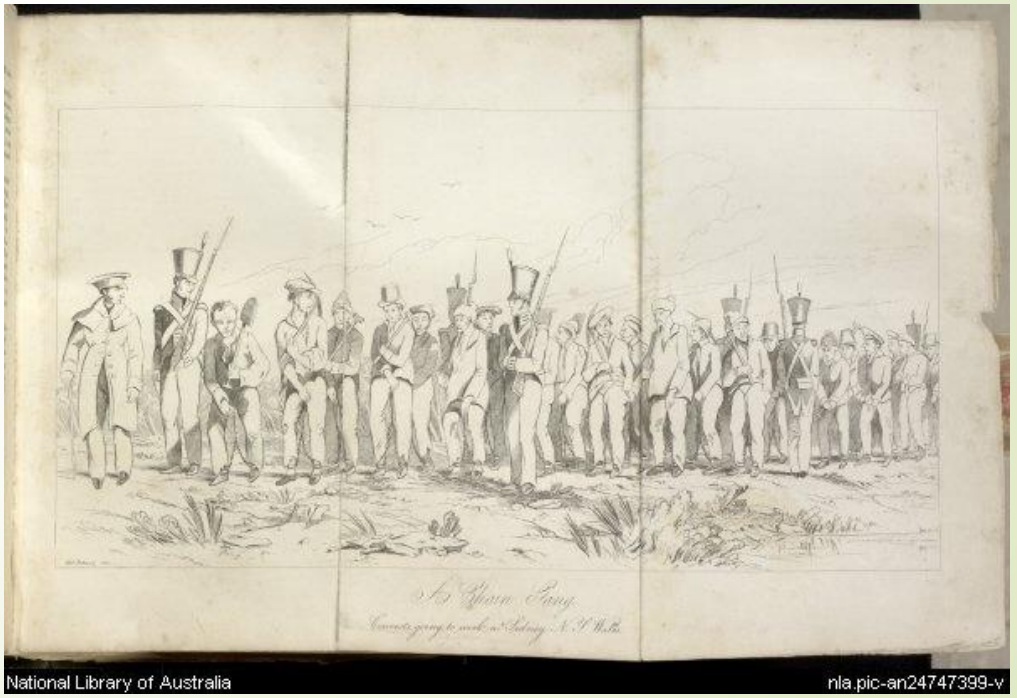
- Ireland-Australia transportation database (.pdf version)

www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy1/genealogy-records/ireland-australia-transportation-records-1791-1853



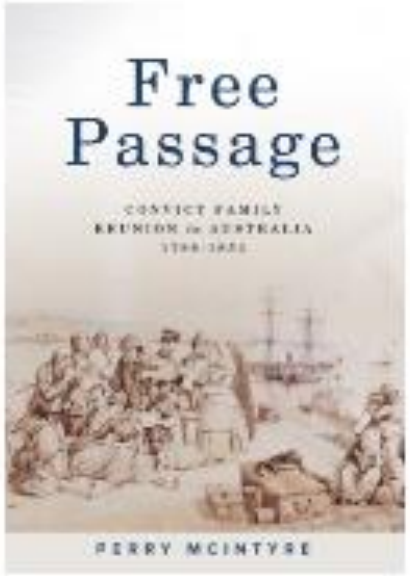
John Appleby, per Candahar, taken at Port Arthur, 1874 - National Library of Australia portraits

https://trove.nla.gov.au



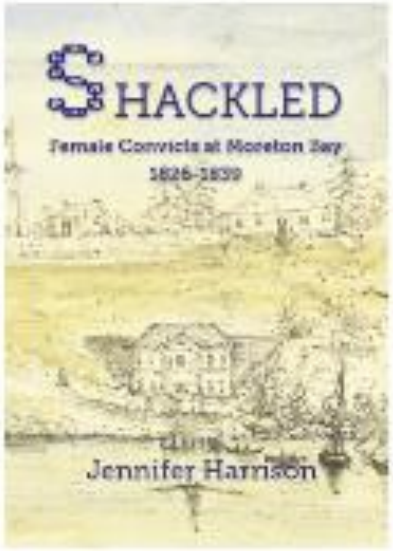
Bibliography - Books

- Alison Alexander, *Tasmania's Convicts: How Felons Built a Free Society*, 2010
- Charles Bateson, *The Convict Ships 1787-1868*, 1974
- Alan Brooke & David Brandon, *Bound for Botany Bay: British Convict Voyages to Australia*, 2005
- Babette Smith, *Australia's Birthstain: The Startling Legacy of the Convict Era*, 2008
- Liz Rushen & Perry McIntyre – Anchor Books



Free Passage
Convict Family
Reunion in Australia
1788-1852

$34.95 inc GST



Shackled: Female
Convicts at Moreton
Bay 1826-1839

$34.95 inc GST

http://anchorbooksaustralia.com.au

Conclusion

- Only highlighted online resources
- Much more in archives & libraries
- Read widely & remember to look at references & bibliographies
- Use interlibrary loans
- Keep up with new resources