

Further Reading

This is a list of resources found online that were used to help compile the list of convicts. They may also be useful for your own research into convict history or your family tree.

Useful resources

New South Wales State Records – Convict Data Base

<http://srwww.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/searchform.aspx?id=65>

New South Wales State Records – Key Name Search

<http://srwww.records.nsw.gov.au/indexsearch/keyname.aspx>

Trove (digitised newspapers)

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

Convict Records of Australia

<http://www.convictrecords.com.au/>

Irish Convicts to New South Wales 1788 – 1849 Peter Mayberry

<http://members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/cgi-bin/irish/irish.cgi>

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/shipNSW1.html>

Convict Ships Sent to New South Wales (& Tasmania & Norfolk Island 1801 -1849

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/shipNSW2.html>

New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

<https://familyhistory.bdm.nsw.gov.au/lifelink/familyhistory/search?3>

The National Archives (UK) Digital Microfilm - Allows you to search and download some of the most popular records. These files are large (some up to 800 pages) and are currently free of charge to download. Unfortunately they have not been indexed and so you will need to scroll through the pdfs, much as you would when using a microfilm.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/digital-microfilm.asp>

The following series of records on microfilm have been digitised and are available to download as pdf files.

- HO 9: Registers of the convicts in the hulks and a letter book relating to the establishment of the hulks, 1847 to 1849.
- HO 10: Home Office: Settlers and Convicts, New South Wales and Tasmania: Records. Lists of the male and female convicts and former convicts in the colonies.
- HO 11: Home Office: Convict Transportation Registers. Lists of convicts transported in various ships, giving the dates of their convictions.
- HO 40: Home Office: Disturbances Correspondence. Home Office original correspondence, military and other reports, impounded pamphlets and other papers relating to riots, disturbances, and political activities and writings.

Convicts Australia by Jenny Fawcett offers access to many useful online convict indexes even though this site is no longer being maintained.

<http://www.hotkey.net.au/~jwilliams4/cons.htm>

Medical journals and records

Surgeons at Sea – Royal Navy Medical Officers’ Journals (ADM 101) – This project is indexing all the names mentioned in the journals and diaries compiled by the Royal Navy surgeons and assistant surgeons who served on HM ships, hospitals, naval brigades, shore parties and on emigrant and convict ships 1793 to 1880. Digital copies of some of the journals are available online for free including convict ships to New South Wales: *Albion 1828, Eliza 1822, John Barry 1821, Ocean 1817/1818 and Juliana 1838/1829.*

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/surgeonsatsea/>

Ancestry also has hundreds of journals for voyages to Australia. Access to Ancestry is available at any of The Hills Shire Libraries.

Ship's Medical Journals - Ancestry.com has two collections available. Both contain indexed images of the original journals. Access to Ancestry is available at any of The Hills Shire Libraries.

- UK Royal Navy Medical Journals, 1817-1857 (ADM 101). Ships' medical officers were required to keep a record of patients, treatments and outcomes during a voyage. The 671 journals record patient details but they can also include details of other passengers, crew and day to day happenings on board. Most of the journals are for convict ship voyages to Australia but there are 29 journals for emigrant ships 1825-1853.
- UK Surgeon Superintendents' Journals of Convict Ships, 1858-1867 (MT32). There are 11 journals for convict ship voyages to Western Australia 1858-1867. The information varies from journal to journal but can include name, age, crime, sentence, point of embarkation, native country, education, death date, cause of death, sick lists, lists of ship's stores, and day-to-day happenings aboard ship. Crew members may also be mentioned.

Selborne & Headley (Hampshire) Workhouse Riots in 1830 - John Owen Smith's site details some of the personalities associated with these riots. Over 345 men were tried for disturbances in Hampshire before a Special Commission at Winchester 20th-30th December 1830. This site details the 22 who were committed for troubles in and around Selborne and Headley.

<http://www.johnowensmith.co.uk/riot/index.htm>

Trial, Gaol and Transportation Records

The Proceedings of the Old Bailey London 1674 to 1913 - A free digital collection of 197,745+ trials held at London's central criminal court. All names are indexed including victims, witnesses and jurors.

<http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>

Ancestry.com.au - Australia Convict Collection - Offers access to the *England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892*. These registers list those charged with a crime and provide details of the charge, trial and sentence (if convicted) and other outcomes such as transportation or execution.

Access to Ancestry is available at any of The Hills Shire Libraries.

<http://search.ancestry.com.au/search/grouplist.aspx?group=auconvicts>

Judges' Reports on Criminals (1783-1830) – Available through the National Archives (UK) Catalogue, these reports include original letters and reports from judges on cases and criminals plus petitions for commutation of sentence or free pardon.

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C8911>

Ireland-Australia Transportation Database (1791-1868) - Online index to a series of records held by the National Archives of Ireland. In 1988 the Archives presented Australia with a set of these records, on 105 reels of microfilm, as Ireland's Bicentennial gift to Australia. This set of records is held by the National Library of Australia, State Library New South Wales, Society of Australian Genealogists and the Kiama Family History Centre.

<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy1/genealogy-records/ireland-australia-transportation-records-1791-1853/>

Bedfordshire Gaol Register 1801-1901 - This ongoing project currently has 1801-1879 (with gaps) available. New updates are added on a weekly basis. Details given vary but can include name, age, hair colour, height, crime, dates of committal and trial, sentence and means of disposal e.g. release, death, transportation etc.

<http://apps.bedfordshire.gov.uk/grd/>

Victorian Crime and Punishment - Database of over 20,000 prisoners from Bedford, Huntingdon, Cambridge and Ely gaols. Digitised images of original archive material and photographs are included where available. There is background information on the gaols, life inside a nineteenth century prison and the justice system.

<http://vcp.e2bn.org/>

Index to the Last Farwell: Devon Convicts Transported to Australia 1782-1821 - by Jack Walton. This list includes names of 574 Devon convicts.

<http://genuki.cs.ncl.ac.uk/DEV/DevonIndexes/LastFarewell.html>

Down County Museum's online database of 400+ Gaol Convicts - Held in Down gaol plus the details of 1300+ convicts from County Down who were transported to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land.

<http://www.downcountymuseum.com/>

Inveraray Jail, Argyll, Scotland - The *Prison Database* provides extensive details on those who were transported.

<http://www.inverarayjail.co.uk/our-history/prisoner-records/>

Family Search - Free, searchable *Historical Record Collections*. The record collections for the *United Kingdom and Ireland* include:

- Kent, Quarter Sessions and Court Files, 1600-1883
- Ireland, Prison Registers, 1790-1924

<https://familysearch.org/search/>

Lancaster Castle Convict Database - Lists those tried and sentenced at Lancaster Assizes including those transported to Australia. The database lists name, age, trial date, offence and sentence.

<http://www.lancastercastle.com/convict-database>

Lincolnshire Convicts to Australia, Gibraltar and Bermuda - This site has an online database which details all Lincolnshire convicts known to have been transported between 1788-1868.

<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/residents/archives/family-history/lincolnshire-convicts-transported/>

York Assizes 1785-1851 Index - This is an index to records held in York Reference library of prisoners brought to trial at York Assizes.

<http://www.yorkfamilyhistory.org.uk/resources/york-assizes/>

National Library of Wales - Crime and Punishment Database - Database about crimes, criminals and punishments included in the gaol files of the Court of Great Sessions in Wales (1730-1830).

https://www.llgc.org.uk/sesiwn_fawr/index_s.htm

State based records

New South Wales

Indexes Online - Convicts - State Records New South Wales includes a combined convict database search (120,000+ entries) which currently includes:

- Certificates of Freedom, 1823-1869
- Convict bank Accounts, 1837-1870
- Convict Death Register, 1828-1879
- Recommendations for Convict Pardons, 1826-1856
- Tickets of Exemption from Government Labor, 1827-1832
- Tickets of Leave, Certificates of Emancipation and Pardons, 1810-1819
- Tickets of Leave, 1810-1875
- Ticket of Leave Passports, 1835-1869

Other indexes available include:

- Convict exiles, 1846-1850
- Applications to marry, 1825-1851
- Pardons 1791-1825, 1837-1841.
- Other indexes that may relate to convicts include Bench of Magistrates (1788-1820) and the Colonial Secretary Index (1788-1825).

<http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/research-topics/convicts/convicts>

Irish Convicts to NSW (1788-1849) - Database on the Mayberry Homepage by Peter Mayberry.

This database contains details of:

- Irish State prisoners
- Convicts who were tried in Ireland
- Convicts who were tried outside Ireland whose native place was in Ireland
- Irish military men who were tried inside or outside Ireland whose native place was in Ireland
- A few non-Irish convicts arriving on Irish convict transport ships

There is also detailed information on Irish rebel convicts.

<http://members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/>

Free Settler or Felon – A database of over 167,000 convicts, settlers, townsfolk, bushrangers, innkeepers, soldiers and land owners. Areas covered include Newcastle, Maitland, Paterson, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Raymond Terrace, Dungog, Morpeth, Wollombi, Central Coast, Murrurundi, Scone and more.

<http://www.jenwillets.com/index.htm>

Tocal's Convicts 1822-1840 - This extensive site provides detailed information on 150 convicts who were assigned to the Tocal estate in the Hunter Valley of NSW at some stage during their sentence. It also details Tocal's Irish rebels and English rioters plus much more.

<http://www.tocal.com/homestead/vandv/index.html>

From Terra Australis to Australia - An online collection by the State Library of New South Wales that includes a First Fleet archive with access to 450+ original documents and illustrations.

http://www2.sl.nsw.gov.au/archive/discover_collections/history_nation/terra_australis/index.html

Arrivals in Sydney on the First, Second and Third Fleets can be found on Patricia Downes Australian Pioneers site.

<http://members.pcug.org.au/~pdownes/>

Convict Trail Caring for the Great North Road includes a detailed history of the road built (1826-1836) to connect Sydney with Newcastle and the Upper Hunter Valley. There is a database of convicts who worked on the road plus a location list of the road gangs and details of the overseers.

<http://greatnorthroad.com.au/>

Queensland

Queensland State Archives - Indexes include:

Convict/Prisoner indexes:

- Chronological register of convicts at Moreton Bay 1824-1839

<http://www.archives.qld.gov.au/Researchers/Indexes/Pages/Default.aspx>

The British Convict Transportation Registers 1787 – 1867

<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/family-history/convicts>

South Australia

Convicts Transported from South Australia 1837-1851 - This index by Graham Jaunay lists convict's name, crime, date and sentence.

<http://www.jaunay.com/convicts.html>

Convict Expirees arriving from other colonies - On Family History South Australia's *Persons Lost and Found 1838 to 1915 database* by Maureen Leadbeater. This database has been compiled from South Australian Police Gazettes and early SA Government Gazettes.

<http://www.familyhistorysa.info/sahistory/deserters.html>

Tasmania

Founders & Survivors - 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. The site is searchable by name with links to digital images if available.

<http://foundersandsurvivors.org/>

Female Convicts of Van Diemen's Land Database - Aims to record all female convicts who spent time in Van Diemen's Land. This site also offers access to an extensive collection of lists relating to female convicts.

<http://www.femaleconvicts.org.au/>

Tasmanian Convict Record Abbreviations - Includes names, occupations and place names plus other useful information.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~austashs/convicts/conabbrev.html>

Indexes of Tasmanian Convicts includes a Tasmanian Convict Index, permission to marry, conditional pardons, free males who became prisoners and assignment lists.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~austas/convictsdw.htm>

The Cascades Female Factory Historic Site - The Cascades Female Factory was officially opened in 1828. It was the female equivalent of Port Arthur housing female convicts and children.

<http://femalefactory.org.au/>

Victoria

Public Record Office Victoria Prisoners and Convicts - Resources include the Register of Convicts, 1838-1852, with details of convicts in the Port Phillip District. The Register, Police Magistrate, Portland, 1840-1853 includes, amongst other things, particulars of Ticket of Leave holders and a list of convicts who had obtained their freedom.

<http://prov.vic.gov.au/research/prisoners-and-convicts>

The Westernport Settlement 1826-1828 (Corinella VIC) - John Graham's list of military personnel, convicts and civilians involved in this experimental settlement.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswgdhs/westport.htm>

Western Australia

Western Australian Convicts 1858-1868 - On the Perth DPS Convicts to Australia site. There is detailed information on transportation to Western Australia plus full convict lists for all the convict transports to Western Australia. These include physical descriptions and trial details.

<http://www.convictcentral.com/>

Fremantle Prison - Convict Database - This database is searchable by surname or ship. A search returns detailed information on the convict including ship and arrival date, alias, birth date, marital status, occupation, literacy, religion, sentence details, crime and ticket of leave date.

<http://www.fremantleprison.com.au/Pages/Convict.aspx>

State Records Office of Western Australia Convict Records - Details of records held including the downloadable indexes by Anne and Bruce Buchanan and a series of convict related letters in the correspondence of the Governor of Western Australia 1851-1858.

<http://www.sro.wa.gov.au/archive-collection/collection/convict-records>