‘Perish or Prosper’
at the Hyde Park Barracks

Teacher resource kit with links and references for convict research

Students analyse these sources during ‘Perish or Prosper’ at the Hyde Park Barracks, and they are made available here for teachers to use in extension activities.

This kit is designed to enable teachers to compile a range of sources for students to investigate the experience of convicts upon their Departure from their home, their Journey to NSW, the Reaction to Arriving, and their ‘Australian Experience’ – which we have interpreted as what happened to them in the years that followed their forced migration to New South Wales. They can then use them to develop their own inquiry questions, and pursue further research about that particular convict.

Curriculum Links:

Stage 5 History (NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum)
The making of the Modern World
  • Depth Study 1a: Movement of Peoples (1750-1901)

The list of sources and references provided is not exhaustive, and some of the materials are unavailable online. Much of the material provided is only accessible thanks to the digitisation of valuable collections held at other institutions, notably the State Library of New South Wales. All materials should be appropriately referenced and permission sought for use if necessary.
Convict – Robert Mason

Departure

Written sources: Letters written by Mason prior to and after his transportation to NSW.
- Search item: 92M95/F2/8

Or enter link below:

Category: Agricultural riots of 1830: personal letters
- Letters ‘3-7’

Link to pictorial source:
Online collection of Winchester Museums
- [www.winchestermuseumcollections.org.uk/index.asp?page=item&mwsquery=%7Bcollection%7D=%7Bart%7DAND%7Bidentity%20number%7D=%7BWINCM:A.135%7D](http://www.winchestermuseumcollections.org.uk/index.asp?page=item&mwsquery=%7Bcollection%7D=%7Bart%7DAND%7Bidentity%20number%7D=%7BWINCM:A.135%7D)

Journey

Book reference:
Search:
Eleanor – 1831

Online reference:
Diary of the Eleanor’s surgeon-superintendent; detailing events and conditions while at sea.
[jenwilletts.com/convict_ship_eleanor_1831.htm](http://jenwilletts.com/convict_ship_eleanor_1831.htm)

Reaction to arrival

Search item: 92M95/F2/8

Or enter link below:

Category: Agricultural riots of 1830: personal letters
- Letter ‘10’

*Sydney Cove from Fort Macquarie* c1835, watercolour attributed to Frederick Garling.
- Other depictions of Sydney during the 1830s can be substituted if this image is not readily available

Australian experience

Shipping record of Eleanor, 1831
- National Archives Australia: not available online

Diary kept by Robert Mason while in NSW: Transcribed by Martin Hodgkinson (2013), period September 1, 1831 to January 22, 1837 – not available online.
Convict – William Noah

Departure

William Noah’s diary, A Journey to Sydney in New South Wales in 1798-1799 and A few remarks of the County of Cumberland in New South Wales, 1798-1799

- Search ‘Manuscripts, oral history & pictures’: William Noah
- Digitised copy acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=411771

Journey


To access this source online sign up for access to use the State Library of New South Wales ‘e-resources’ and search Newspapers.

Search: Newspapers
Database: 17th-18th century Burney Collection Newspapers (Gale)
Find: Hillsborough, On: 1800, June, 5
By publication title: Albion and Evening Advertiser

Book reference:

Reaction to arrival

A Journey to Sydney in New South Wales in 1798-1799 and A few remarks of the County of Cumberland in New South Wales, 1798-1799. William Noah.
- State Library of New South Wales collection (online as per reference above)

Pictorial source:
- The State Library of New South Wales collection has numerous searchable images of Sydney during the first decades of settlement.

Australian experience

Sydney Gazette; and NSW Advertiser articles retrieved in 2014 using Trove – trove.nla.gov.au/

**Convict – Thomas Watling**

**Departure**

Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History & Antiquarian Society


**Journal article:**


**Link to document currently available through:**


**Journey**

**Book reference:**


**Reaction to arrival**

*Letters From An Exile At Botany Bay, To His Aunt In Dumfries-Giving Particular Account Of The Settlement Of New South Wales, With Customs And Manners Of The Inhabitants.*

- Currently available online through the State Library of New South Wales:

**Australian experience**

**Paintings attributed to Thomas Watling:**

Natural History Museum, ‘First Fleet Collection’, – search ‘Thomas Watling’

- *Bittern*, 1792-7
- *Nanbree* c1792-97

State Library of New South Wales, ‘Manuscripts, oral history & pictures’ collection

- *View of Sydney Cove* c1794-1796
- Drawings of plants of New South Wales (drawings on p.238 signed by Watling)
Convict – Peter Killeen

Departure

Book reference:

**University College Cork, Ireland – Multitext Project in Irish History**

Ireland: society and economy, 1815-1870
- Section 3 – Agricultural crisis and industrial decline
- Link currently available through: [multitext.ucc.ie/d/Ireland_society_and_economy_1815ndash1870](http://multitext.ucc.ie/d/Ireland_society_and_economy_1815ndash1870)

Journey

Book reference:
- Chapter 10: The Voyages 1821-1840, p.233.

**Newspaper article:**


**Reaction to arrival**

Book reference:
*Adventures of a guardsman by Charles Cozens*. Published, London 1848, p.111.
- Searchable online through [books.google.com.au](http://books.google.com.au)

**Pictorial source:**
*Convict Barrack, Sydney, N.S.Wales G W Evans* (attrib), c1820, State Library of New South Wales.

**Australian Experience**

**Newspaper articles:** [trove.nla.gov.au/](http://trove.nla.gov.au/)

*Sydney Gazette; and NSW Advertiser*

*The Mercury* (Hobart, Tasmania. 1860-1954),

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