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Census of NSW November 1828 – Land & Stock

Full details of the Census are located at Census of New South Wales November 1828 (http://www.bda-online.org.au/files/MC1828_Muster.pdf) on page 2 of which is a link to Table 10 which gives the totals of acres and livestock.

This dataset contains full details from the back of the Household Returns which contained:-

District where Situated
Name of Farm
Name of Proprietor or Tenant
Total Number of Acres
Acres Cleared
Acres Cultivated
Live Stock (Horses – Horned Cattle – Sheep)

Some of the Household Returns included other stock such as that of Alexander Berry who had 200 pigs. These details have been incorporated into this dataset by the editors Sainty & Johnson who checked the extant Household Returns of which it is estimated only a quarter still survive at SRNSW. Total 3476 people + 633 others mentioned.

Notes on Land & Stock

There were many discrepancies between the PRO (now TNA) and SRNSW Lists copies relating to land and stock. Three important aspects of these should be noted:

- 1. The Land and Stock listed under any particular reference entry may not belong to the subject person but may belong to his employer or landlord. In many cases it is obvious from the employment status of the primary entry, i.e. shepherd, that the 5000 sheep listed under his reference number in fact belong to his employer. In BDA Source Description Pages http://www.bda-online.org.au Page 34 of 60 http://www.bda-online.org.au/files/MC1828_Muster.pdf other cases it is not as clear, e.g., J0287 David Jenkins, do the 35 Horned Cattle belong to Jenkins, the Fencer, or to B1443 Mr Bloomfield? The Household Return sometimes clearly indicates that some stock is owned by an employee.
- 2. The Land and Stock listed under the primary entry reference number may not be the total of his/her holding. In cases where a person had more than one property, or

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was an absentee landlord or employer, his/her property may be listed under the names of his employees. This may be determined by calling up the Household. Besides making it possible to completely list a person's employees, it should fully record his total Land and Stock holdings.

3. Where a Household Return no longer exists, the land and stock of the householder may not be in the District of his abode and could be split between several properties in different districts. Further research is therefore required to determine where exactly holdings were located. The PRO List often wrongly indicated that a person held 1000 acres and 300 cattle in Sydney whereas an extant Return indicates that his holding was in a named country district.

Information Page written by Mal Sainty

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