Musters and Lists New South Wales and Norfolk Island 1800-1802


The following has been copied from the published volume, and whilst some of it is not relevant in terms of viewing the Database, it does give the reader a complete view of the data collected, the original records from which it came and other useful and interesting information. Some Appendix tables have not been reproduced here but can be viewed in a copy of the volume in major libraries.

Contents

Preface
Historical Background
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800
Governor King’s Lists 1801
Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802
Method of Collection
Governor King’s Lists 1801
Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802
Statistics
Inconsistencies and Difficulties
Research Value
Unusual and Interesting Entries
Explanatory Notes – Editing Parameters
Method of Checking
  - Settlers’ Muster Book 1800
  - Governor King’s List 1802
  - Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802
Notes on Information in the Main Text
Abbreviations & Bibliography
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 1 - Land & Stock held by Free Settlers 1800
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 2 - Land & Stock held by Officers 1800
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 3 - Persons off Stores c.1801
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 4 - Persons off Stores in 1801
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 5 - Free People off Stores 1801
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 6 - List of Persons c.1801
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 7 - Land & Stock held in 1802
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 8 - List of Convicts allowed to Officers 1800
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 9 - Servants employed by Officers 1800
King’s Lists 1801 - List 1 - List of Free Settlers sent from England in 1801
King’s Lists 1801 - List 2 - (as above) – without Order from Secretary of State
Preface

Twelve years after the colonisation of New South Wales by Europeans, Philip Gidley King became Governor. Determined to institute a number of reforms aimed at reducing the costs of the colony, controlling prices and regulating land dealings, he ordered the collection of annual general musters.

Although the originals of the New South Wales General Musters for 1800, 1801 and 1802 have not survived, a copy of various sections of the Musters are found in the volumes labelled “Settlers’ Muster Book 1800” held by the Parliamentary Library of New South Wales. Other parts of the General Muster for 1801, along with lists recording births, deaths, pardons and executions, were included in despatches sent by Governor King to England. Labelled “Governor King’s Lists 1801”, these Lists and those from the “Settlers’ Muster Book 1800” have been transcribed in the main text.

In order to cover the whole of the colony for the years 1800-1802, it was considered important to include a document recording residents of Norfolk Island as well. No muster collected during those years has survived, therefore, the only available comprehensive document, the “Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802”, has been transcribed in the main text. Although recording only those victualled by the government, approximately three-quarters of the population of Norfolk Island was victualled in 1802, indicating that the majority of people resident in Norfolk Island in that year are included.

These three documents are of immense importance as primary source records. In the early years of the colony, few references were made to ordinary individuals. When references were made, little secondary information was recorded, making it difficult to distinguish one person from another. These documents provide information concerning occupations, land, stock, crops, residence, status, relationships and so on, often with that critical piece of secondary information - the ship of arrival.

These documents were also the bases upon which land, population and economic estimates and projections were made. They reflect patterns of land ownership, population distribution, and employer/employee relationships discussed in contemporary letters and reports.

Much of the information contained in these three documents is not available elsewhere. As a result, for those interested in the early years of the colony of New
South Wales, this volume contains social and biographical information of unparalleled importance.

**Introduction**

**Historical Background**

The first muster or systematic check of the population was taken in February 1788, shortly after the arrival of the First Fleet in New South Wales. From 1795 musters appear to have been held annually, and were usually supervised by the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor and an officer of the Commissary. Musters were the means by which the government counted the population and controlled the convicts. Musters also noted whether individuals were victualled from the government stores or were self-supporting, thereby assisting officials to determine the colony’s ability to support itself without recourse to the public stores.

The purpose of this volume is to bring together documents relating to musters and commissary records taken over the years 1800 to 1802, of which a substantial number have survived. These documents shed light on the early social history of the colony, at the time when few records exist for ordinary people. Sydney’s first newspaper did not commence publication until March 1803, and many individuals who were not recorded in the newspaper or in later records appear in the Lists included in this volume. The Lists also reveal patterns of employment and land use, which are of more general historical interest.

The surviving documents fall into three groups:
- Settlers’ Muster Book 1800
- Governor King’s Lists 1801
- Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800**

The “Settlers’ Muster Book 1800” consists of two manuscript volumes. The label is somewhat misleading as the volumes contain not a complete muster, but a series of nine lists from the period 1800 to 1802.

These Lists appear to have been compiled as a result of growing problems under Governor Hunter’s administration. Hunter, who complained of being hampered by corrupt and conniving officers and free settlers, was regarded as ineffectual and recalled to England. His replacement, Philip Gidley King, arrived in April 1800 and served as Acting Governor until Hunter's departure in September.

King found that disorder, high prices and prostitution were rife in the colony. In addition, the labour of large numbers of convicts victualled from the public stores, was being used by private employers in breach of regulations. One of King’s first tasks was to begin preparations for a general muster by collecting details of all convicts assigned to officers. This information has survived and is found in List 8, located in the second volume of the manuscript. The List is titled “Convicts allowed
to Officers” and dated 1 June 1800. The actual details of these servants are found in List 9.

The General Muster was held in July and August 1800, and repeated in 1801 and 1802. The muster books themselves have since been lost, but information copied or extracted from these musters is found in Lists 1 to 7. These Lists include a sizable proportion of the colony’s population.

King’s attempt to cut government expenditure by compelling officer’s to pay for the upkeep of any more than the prescribed number of convicts, and by introducing a ticket of leave system to take convicts off the stores, appears to have been highly successful. The names of many convicts who were off the public stores by 1801 appear in several of the Lists. The population statistics also reflect the reduced numbers being victualled by the government.

The original of the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 is held by the Parliamentary Library (Ref. Safe 1/104-5). A transcription of the volume was recorded by the Hon. T.D. Mutch and is located in the Mitchell Library (Ref. A4413).

**Governor King’s Lists 1801**

Land and stock returns were an integral part of King’s programme of economic reform aimed controlling prices and regulating the chaotic system of land dealings. His continued efforts to improve the administration of the colony and to keep his superiors informed of his progress are to be found in a series of ten documents known as “Governor King’s Lists 1801”.

Governor King’s Lists were included in Despatch No. 6 of 1st March 1802 and the originals are located in the Public Record Office in London (Ref. PRO CO 201/21 pp.45-57, 64-66 & 115 [AJCP PRO Reel 10]). Five of the Lists record landholders, information that was extracted from the annual General Muster recorded in July 1801.

**Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802**

The third major source document for the period 1800-1802 is the Norfolk Island Victualling Book for 1802. Victualling Books were accounting records used by officials to keep track of persons being issued with government food and clothing rations. The volume was sent to England amongst the Norfolk Island despatches and the original is held in the Public Record Office in London (Ref. PRO CO 201/29 pp.210-225 [AJCP PRO Reel 14]).

Similar records exist for Norfolk Island covering the years 1792-1796 and 1803-1812. The 1802 volume is reproduced here to allow the most comprehensive listing possible of persons living in NSW and Norfolk Island during the period 1800 to 1802.

**Method of Collection**

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800**
Soon after arriving in the colony, Philip Gidley King commenced organising a general muster. Correspondence between Governor Hunter and Acting Governor King discusses the muster.

King wrote to Hunter on the 24th June 1800:

I have the honour to enclose a list of the numbers of convicts victualled from the stores and employed by individuals, as I have been able to collect. I have, sir, been ineffectually employed almost ever since I have been here (now ten weeks) collecting materials for a set of muster books, but for want of information I must give the point up, and have to request your Excellency will be pleased to direct books to be made out, and a general muster to be taken previous to your departure, which I will attend.

Hunter replied the next day:

I have received yours, inclosing a list of servants in the employment of officers, civil and military, and others who have had that indulgence. Whether it be a correct statement or not it will be found difficult to determine at this time from the rancour and disregard which has constantly prevailed among the various descriptions of person belonging to this settlement.

The deceptions that have so often been practised upon me, and the very imperfect assistance which I have received ... give me no reason to have any particular doubt of the truth of this list which has been collected for you. I would not at the same time be understood to give it proper credit ... A general muster I am desirous should be made as early as possible, and it has been delayed only on account of the Hawkesbury settlers sowing their ground. It will be a great relief to me if you will attend that muster, as I find much to do in preparing for my departure.

King responded on the 26th:

I received yours with the list of servants &c, and I cannot but lament with your Excellency the consequences "of the deceptions ..." The list of servants was given to the superintendents by the officers, in consequence of a circular letter I wrote for that purpose. The list of names I am ready to produce, and I hope you will excuse my observing how necessary it appears to me that you should, in compliance with your instructions, limit the officers, &c., to their prescribed numbers or obliging them to pay for the excedent, and not to leave this regulation to me to perform on my taking the command, which I apprehend would on every account come better from yourself. But in this you will of course be guided by your own reasons and judgement. No attention of mine will be wanting to make as complete a muster as possible when the books are ready for that purpose.


The List to which reference is made, is probably List 8 “List of Convicts allowed to Officers” of the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800. This is the only List in this volume with a description of contents and is dated 1st June 1800. This List records the number of convicts employed by officers and the location of employment. List 9 actually names the servants employed by officers.
The annual General Muster was recorded in July and August 1800. The following title covering a page of statistics extracted from the Muster describes its collection:

*General Muster of all the inhabitants in His Majesty’s territory of New South Wales, taken by Lieut.-Governor King and other officers, by order of His Excellency Governor Hunter, from the 18th day of July to the 15th of August, 1800, previous to Governor Hunter giving up the command.*

- From HRA Series 1 Vol.2 p.615.

The “Settlers’ Muster Book 1800” includes seven other Lists. The information contained in Lists 1 and 2, which record land and stock held by free settlers, emancipated or expired convicts and officers, was copied or extracted from the General Muster of 1800. Lists 3 to 5 name people who are off the government stores, and appear to have been recorded in 1801. The information was possibly extracted from Commissary records, possibly from the General Muster, or possibly combined information from both sources. List 6 appears to record former convicts and was probably collected between 1800 and 1802. List 7 records land and stock holdings for the whole population and appears to have been recorded in 1802. It was probably copied or extracted from the General Muster of that year.

A more detailed description is included at the beginning of each List in the main text. A summary of a letter written by Acting-Governor King to the Duke of Portland regarding the results of the Muster is found in Appendix 4.

The obvious question arises as to why these documents are the only ones surviving from the general musters and other records of the period, and why they were bound together. The fact that they record details of Governor King’s three main concerns in the early years of his governorship, probably provides the answer. As stated earlier, King was concerned with regulating land, forcing officers to pay for the upkeep of any more than the prescribed number of convicts, and reducing the number of people victualled by government. Three of the Lists record land holdings, three (possibly four) record people off the stores, and two record servants assigned to officers. Perhaps these Lists were bound together as documentary evidence supporting an argument about Governor King’s reforms.

**Governor King’s Lists 1801**

Governor King’s Lists were recorded between September 1800, when he became Governor of NSW, and December 1801. The first five Lists record land, crops and stock, information apparently copied or extracted from a muster in 1801, as the title for these five Lists states:

*List of every Description of Persons holding Lands by Grant or Lease in His Majesty’s Territory of New South Wales with the Quantity of Ground Cropped, Stock &c. as Mustered in 1801.*

The General Muster for the year 1801 was held in July, and Government and General Orders refer to the Muster, as follows:
Government and General Order

20th June, 1801

A general muster of all the male prisoners off and on the stores, also free men of all descriptions (except those who hold ground by grant, lease, or renting), on or off the stores, will be taken at Hawkesbury, Parramatta, and Sydney on Thursday, the first of July, at eight o'clock in the morning. Those at Sydney and its districts are to assemble at the yard of the Orphan House.

Those at Parramatta, George’s River, and its districts at the Court-house, Parramatta. And those at Hawkesbury and its neighbourhood at the Government House there.

The women prisoners and those who are free, of all descriptions, with their children, whether on or off the stores, are to be present at the above places on Monday, 5th July.

The settlers of all descriptions will be mustered as soon after as possible, notice of which will be given.

Any persons not appearing at those musters will be taken up as vagrants and punished to the utmost extent of the law, if free; if a prisoner, they will be sentenced [to] twelve months confinement in the battery gang. And any attempt to impose false accounts of any person, absent or present, will be punished accordingly.

Philip Gidley King
- From HRNSW Vol.4 pp.409-410

Government and General Order

14th July, 1801

A muster of the settlers in and about Hawkesbury will be taken by the Governor on Friday, the 17th inst., at 8 o'clock in the morning, when every person cultivating ground, together with those who hold land by grant or lease, either in their own right, by purchase, assignment, or otherwise, are directed to attend with such grants at the Government House there. In failure whereof the deeds that are not produced will be cancelled, and the allotments revert to the Crown.

Philip Gidley King
- From HRNSW Vol.4 p.442

Government and General Order

18th July, 1801

Several landholders having neglected to comply with the General Orders of the 14th instant, respecting the muster at the Hawkesbury, they are to appear at the Secretary’s office, on Wednesday morning, the 22nd instant. In failure whereof, proper steps will be taken.

Philip Gidley King
- From HRNSW Vol.4 p.443

Government and General Order

22nd July, 1801
A muster of all the settlers and landholders in the neighbourhood of Sydney, George’s River, Concord, Kissing Point, Liberty Plains, &c., will be taken at Sydney on Saturday, the 25th inst., at eight o’clock in the morning, when every person cultivating ground, together with those who hold land by grant or lease, either in their own right, by purchase, assignment, or otherwise, are directed to attend with such grants at the Secretary’s office. In failure whereof, the deeds that are not produced will be cancelled, and the allotments revert to the Crown.

A neglect being noticed in some individuals not appearing, the grants and leases held by non-attendants will revert to the Crown by proclamation, on Monday next, at twelve o’clock.

Philip Gidley King
- From HRNSW Vol.4 p.443

Governor King’s Lists 6 and 7 record convicts with Absolute or Conditional Pardons. Although the information concerning occupation and residence may have been extracted from the General Muster in 1801, the sequence of entries suggests that most of the information was probably extracted from the original registers of pardons.

Governor King’s Lists 8 and 9 record births and deaths in the colony between September 1800 and December 1801. The information was probably collected from returns submitted to Governor King. Governor King’s List 10 records persons tried at the Criminal Courts at Sydney between September 1800 and December 1801. It was recorded by Richard Atkins, the Judge Advocate.

A more detailed description is found at the beginning of each List in the main text. A summary of Governor King’s report on the colony sent in the same despatch is included in Appendix 5.

**Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802**

Victualling records were the means by which officials kept track of those being issued government food and clothing rations. Regularly maintained by necessity, this document records the number of days of rations issued to Norfolk Island residents between 1 January and 31 December 1802.

**Statistics**

**New South Wales**

The original volume of the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 included a table of statistics - see table entitled: “Statement of the Numbers victualled from His Majestey’s Stores at Parramatta and Toongabbee, the 12th July 1800”

Various statistics were extracted from the General Muster for 1800. The following tabulations of these statistics - see table entitled “Result of General Muster - were included in Historical Records of Australia Series 1 Vol.2 pp.615-617:
It is interesting to note that two of these tables record the distribution and occupations of free people and convicts “not holding ground ... and supported by the Crown”. The original lists from which this information was extracted do not appear to be included in the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800. Lists 3, 4 and 5 record people “off the stores”, and therefore not supported by the Crown, and List 6 (purpose unclear) does not include occupations.

Norfolk Island

Few statistics are available for Norfolk Island during this period. The Historical Records of Australia, Series 1 Volume 3 p.70, include a statement of the settlement of Norfolk Island as at 13 March 1801. The Historical Records of New South Wales Vol. 4 p.519, records the population of Norfolk Island at 16 September in 1801 as 977. As the Victualling Book records 724 names this suggests that approximately 75% of those on Norfolk Island were on stores. No statistics have been located for 1802 or early 1803.

Inconsistencies and Difficulties

In the collection of musters and returns, factual errors inevitably occur. Some would be the result of hazy recollection and some the result of a deliberate intent to mislead; for others the clerk must be held responsible. To preserve the integrity of the original documents, these mistakes have not been corrected.

As this volume consists of a number of different lists, inconsistencies and difficulties tend to be specific to each particular List. As such, problem areas have been discussed in the description preceding each List in the main text.

Research Value

The three documents included in this volume are of immense research value. Covering the years 1800 to 1802 they provide references to ordinary individuals in the colony at the period likened to the “dark ages” where records for these people were concerned. These were the years prior to the commencement of the first newspaper in the colony, the Sydney Gazette, in March 1803; prior to the collection of parish records in many remote areas, as the only established churches were St Philip’s, Sydney, and St John’s, Parramatta; and prior to the collection of the 1806 General Muster for New South Wales, the first complete general muster still surviving. When references to ordinary individuals were recorded, in these years little secondary information was included, making it difficult to distinguish one person from another.

Although these documents are not comprehensive, they do provide information about a large proportion of the people in each settlement. In addition, by including documents for both New South Wales and Norfolk Island, this publication covers the whole of the colony immediately prior to the establishment of the settlement at Van Diemen’s Land in 1803.
The information recorded in these documents includes details of ships of arrival, occupations, relationships, land and residences. Its value as a research tool is shown in the following examples.

Many early vital events - births, deaths and marriages - were not associated with religious ceremonies, because of distance from a church, or lack of availability of a minister of the appropriate religion. In some cases where ceremonies did occur, the parish clerk may have omitted to record them. Governor King's Lists 8 and 9, listing births and deaths in the colony recorded by civil authorities between September 1800 and December 1801, fill in a number of these gaps.

The convict transport *Indispensable* was one of the early arrivals with an inaccurate indent (Ref. AO SZ115), making it difficult to determine the names of those who really did or did not arrive. Jane Duncan is recorded in the indent as a convict aboard the *Indispensable* but no reference to her has been found in the colony in any other record than List 5 in the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800. Without this record the conclusion would have been reached that she probably had not arrived in the colony. Martha Allott is recorded in List 3 of the same volume, as a convict living in Sydney with William Strong. She is not listed on the Indent nor is she located in any of the musters from 1806 onwards. Although it is possible that her ship was recorded incorrectly in the List it is very likely that she was one of the unindented convicts aboard the *Indispensable*.

*Mary Flynn* (*Kitty* 1792) was one of a number of that name in the colony by the year 1800. She does not appear in any of the general musters from 1806 onwards, making it difficult to determine any relationships. However the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 (List 3) records that she was living with J. Burcham, thereby proving that she was the Mary Flynn who with James Burcham had a child baptised in 1796.

The first three Lists included in Governor King’s Lists refer to land and crops held by free settlers. As few records refer to those arriving free in the early years of the colony, these Lists are very significant. List 1 refers to free settlers “sent by Order of Government”, an important phrase as it suggests that correspondence concerning permission to travel to the colony should be available in England. One such free settler was John Kennedy who travelled to the colony aboard the *Sovereign* with his sister Elizabeth More Kennedy, later the mother of explorer Hamilton Hume. List 3 refers to free settlers from discharged marines, soldiers and sailors, another group whose arrival generally went unrecorded in the early records. Included in this List were Owen Cavanagh and Isaac Tarr from the *Sirius*, the flagship of the First Fleet.

Few records in the early years list the names of individuals leaving the colony, although historians suggest that at least 10% of convicts left the colony. Information contained in King’s Lists 6 and 7 fill some of these gaps. These list the present status or occupation (presumably in 1801) of convicts who had received absolute and conditional pardons. For many of the entries, “Dead” or “Gone to England” is noted. Catherine Hagharty (*Kitty* 1792), the mistress of Richard Atkins, Judge Advocate, and mother to their daughter, is recorded in King’s List 6 as having received an absolute pardon from Governor Hunter and gone to England.
A number of the Lists refer to land, stock and crops and enable individuals and their land to be traced for a period of three years. Robert Forrester, the First Fleeter from the Scarborough, can be traced through these Lists, as shown in the Table below. Each List supplies some similar information providing confirmation of identity, as well as additional information not available in the other Lists. In this way, a very clear picture of Robert Forrester’s arrival, acquisition of land, farming details, and family is produced.

Contemporary records discuss the change in ownership of large numbers of grants in the 1790’s, some the result of debts or difficulties experienced by free and convict settlers, some the result of officers’ desires to amass large tracts of land. However, few of the actual transactions were registered in the land records, making it difficult to trace ownership of land. The Settlers’ Muster Book refers to a number of land transactions in Lists 1, 7 and, in particular, List 2, and probably provides the only reference to many of these transactions. List 2 records the land held by officers at the time of the 1800 General Muster, and, if purchased, the name of the original grantee. Clearly, much of this land was purchased from convict or free settlers. The attempts by officers to amass large tracts of land are clearly demonstrated in the entries for Lieut Thomas Hobby. Along with other grants of land, by 1800 Hobby owned five grants at Concord purchased from settlers, four of which were granted on the same day in 1794.

Few records have survived for Norfolk Island in the years between 1797 and 1801, so the Norfolk Island Victualling Book for 1802 is one of the first comprehensive documents for the Island after that “black hole”. In recording dates of arrival and departure, this volume clearly shows the people who were residing in Norfolk Island and on stores prior to 1802, and often enables the ship of arrival or departure in 1802 to be determined. Dates of death noted here are often recorded in no other document. Some entries refer to people noted in various of the other lists. Thomas Douglas, who sold to Mr John Harris a grant at Concord received in 1795 (Set-Hers’ Muster Book List 2), is recorded as a private in the Military Department at Norfolk Island and on rations for the whole of 1802.

**Unusual and Interesting Entries**

The different information recorded in each of the Lists generates a variety of unusual and interesting information. The settler in 1800 (Settlers’ List 1) with the most stock and growing the most crops was, John Stogdell who had 140 pigs, 450 sheep, 160 goats, 16 oxen, and 13 horses, with 278 acres of wheat sown and 50 acres of maize to be sown. He was also agent for “Captain Melville and E.A. Clark”, which probably explained the large numbers. Stogdell did not long survive the Muster. Governor King’s List 8 records that he died on 5 March 1801 aged 38.

The officers generally had larger numbers of livestock than the free or convict settlers and the interests of John Macarthur are already reflected in the Muster. Settlers’ List 2 records Capt McArthur (sic) with 600 sheep, 100 cattle and 10 horses. Major Foveaux had 1027 sheep.
In 1801 Simeon Lord was the settler with the largest amount of land. Governor King’s List 4 records him with 420 acres, and holding 5 horses, 12 horned cattle, 120 sheep, 3 goats and 50 sheep. Joseph Foveaux (Governor King’s List 5) was the officer with the largest amount of land, having received grants totalling 2020 acres on which he ran 1250 sheep. John McArthur (sic) had received 320 acres in grants and had purchased 1610 acres (total 1930); he also owned 16 horses, 136 horned cattle and 970 sheep.

In 1802, the year in which Settlers’ List 7 appears to have been recorded, Thomas Laycock was the largest landholder recorded, holding 1070 acres, and large numbers of livestock. However for many of the entries, the List records “as last year” or “as last year plus ...” and in this way omits details for a number of the large landholders including John Macarthur.

In 1800 Captain George Johnston and Judge Advocate Richard Atkins were the officers with the largest number of servants. Each had 16 servants, all supported by government stores. Major Foveaux and the acting Commissary, James Williamson, had 15 servants each. Governor King did not approve of the large numbers of servants held by officers. His letters summarised in Appendices 4 and 5 show that he quickly reduced these numbers.

A number of interesting occupations are recorded in Settlers’ Lists 4 and 5. David Batty was a Hatmaker, James Tommons a Salt Maker and Owen Tierney a Mat Maker. Edward OHara was a Soap Boiler, Michael Geary a Lath Splitter and William Green a Limeburner. Elias Nathan was employed at the Billiard Room.

**ROBERT FORRESTER - 1800 to 1802**

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**Explanatory Notes**

**Editing Parameters**

page 12

In publishing the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800, Governor King’s Lists 1801 and Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802, the main aims were:

a) To reproduce an accurate copy of each volume;

b) To print the information in a single line entry format in a single volume;

c) To produce an index to aliases and to other persons mentioned in the volumes;

d) To produce the same information on magnetic tape for phototypesetting, academic research and other purposes.

As stated earlier, any factual errors in these volumes have not been corrected, so as to maintain the integrity of the original documents.

Each entry has been allocated an exclusive reference number to aid in identification. The number consists of five characters, two alphabetical and three numeric. The first letter refers to the document in question, as follows:

A - Settlers’ Muster Book 1800
B - Governor King’s Lists 1801
C - Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802

The second letter refers to the List in question, as follows:
A - List 1
B - List 2
C - List 3
D - List 4
E - List 5
F - List 6
G - List 7
H - List 8
J - List 9
K - List 10

The letter “I” was omitted due to possible confusion with the number ‘1’. Letters were used to refer to the List number instead of the List number itself, so that the List reference is a distinct component of the reference number, and to reduce the number of characters needed.

The three numbers following the two letters refer to the position of the entry in the original document. For example, AF003, refers to the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800, List 6, Entry 3.

**Method of Checking**
Each volume was processed in a different manner and will be described accordingly.

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800**
For data entry purposes, a reader-printer copy of this volume was made from the microfilm of the original held by the NSW Parliamentary Library. Part of this volume was input to computer project volunteers, but the difficulties involved in reading the handwriting, as discussed below, forced the Editor to input the remainder.

The transcribed entries were corrected against the photocopy and the corrections input onto computer. The various Lists were then corrected against the original volume in the Parliamentary Library, using the following publications as cross reference sources: *Land Grants 1788-1809* (R.J. Ryan), *The First Fleeters* (P. Fidlon & R.J. Ryan), *The Second Fleet Convicts* (R.J. Ryan), *The Third Fleet Convicts* (R.J. Ryan), *Sydney Cove: 1793-1795* (John Cobley) and *Sydney Cove: 1796-1800* (John Cobley). Without these indexed lists it would have been very difficult to determine the spellings of names, ships of arrival and details of land grants for many of the entries in this volume.

The computerised transcription was compared with T.D. Mutch’s transcription of the same volume. Permission to view the original of Mutch’s transcription was generously provided by the Mitchell Library. Where differences occurred, the original volume was checked again and where necessary the entries were checked for validity against other sources. Project volunteer Michael Flynn provided considerable help with difficult entries.

Interestingly enough, Mutch omitted List 6 from his transcription, perhaps as its significance is unknown. Without that knowledge the List provides little information. Mutch also omitted all entries that were crossed out. These entries have been included in this transcription, as significance can often be attached to the position of such entries in the List or the fact that they have been crossed out.

A number of problem areas arose in transcribing this volume. Deciphering the handwriting was very difficult as no attempt had been made to record the entries in a neat and well-formed style. Many entries were scribbled with no clear distinction between the majority of letters. Furthermore, some of the Lists changed scribes mid-stream, making it difficult to determine indistinct letters based on previous patterns of letter formation.

Corrections were frequently made by overwriting. As a result, it is often difficult to decipher the correct information from the mistake and in some instances, difficult to decipher anything at all. To complicate matters, the type of ink and paper used caused blurring of the letters, making the deciphering of overwritten letters even more difficult.

In addition, in many instances the ink had faded so badly that, when combined with the poor-quality handwriting, it was very difficult to determine anything at all. In these instances, almost all the entries were deciphered by comparing the entries with information from a number of different sources.

**Governor King’s List 1801**
Photographic copies of the various Lists were provided by the Society of Australian Genealogists for data entry. These were input and checked by volunteers, corrected onto computer then checked again by the Editor.

The writing was very clear in the majority of the Lists making transcription a relatively easy task. However in one List, the page had crumpled at the bottom preventing a clear reproduction on the microfilm, and in another List some of the information had been caught in the spine. Mollie Gillen kindly checked these entries in the Public Record Office, London.

**Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802.**

Photocopies of this document and the other Norfolk Island Victualling Books were kindly lent to the Project by contributor Jim Donohoe to assist with data entry. This document was input by staff member Colleen Nicolls, and checked and corrected twice by the Editor. The writing was very clear in this document as well, making transcription relatively easy.

**Notes on Information in the Main Text**
The main text consists of twenty different Lists: nine Lists forming the Settlers’ Muster Book, ten Lists forming King’s Lists, and the one List covering the Norfolk Island Victualling Book. The contents of each List are thoroughly described at the start of the List in the main text. See the Contents Page for the location of each List.

**Notes on the Index**
The Index includes an entry for every person recorded in the main text. It was extracted from the main text by computer so is identical in terms of spelling and reference numbers. The contents are thoroughly described at the start of the Index. It is important to read these notes before using the Index.

**Notes on Appendix 1 - Additional Information**
Appendix 1 contains information that was too long to be included in the main text. It was replaced by an asterisk in the main text and is located using the subject’s reference number in the appendix.

**Notes on Appendix 2 - Occupations: Numbers of Men and Rates of Pay**
Appendix 2 reproduces a List of occupations, numbers of men employed and rates of pay as recorded in the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800.

**Notes on Appendix 3 - Occupations: Description**
This appendix reproduces a List of occupations and descriptions as recorded in the Settlers’ Muster Book 1800. No headings or other information was attached.

**Notes on Appendix 4**
This appendix contains a summary of a letter written by Acting Governor King to the Duke of Portland regarding the results of the 1800 General Muster.

**Notes on Appendix 5**
This appendix contains a summary of a report on the colony written by Governor King and sent with the despatch containing Governor King's Lists.

**Notes on Appendix 6**
Appendix 6 includes tables of statistics extracted from the various Lists included in this volume.

**Notes on Appendix 7**
This appendix includes population statistics extracted from the Norfolk Island Victualling Book for 1802.

**Abbreviations**

Most abbreviations are peculiar to the particular List in which they occur, and are described at the start of each List in the main text. The following abbreviations are only those generally used.

**Titles**
- Capt - Captain
- Cpl - Corporal
- Lt - Lieutenant
- Maj - Major
- Sgt - Serjeant

**General**
- ? - Unsure of accuracy of word immediately preceding
- (?) - Unsure of accuracy of phrase immediately preceding
- [?] - Unintelligible word or phrase
- - See Appendix 1

**Index**
- A - Alias
- S - Subject
- X - Other Person

**Bibliography**

**Manuscripts**
- Governor King’s Lists 1801 (PRO CO 201/21)
- Muster and Census Records. Information Leaflet No.28 (Archives Office of NSW)
- Musters 1800-1802 (Transcription by T.D. Mutch of Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 at Mitchell Library A4413)
- Norfolk Island Victualling Book 1802 (PRO CO 201/29 [Reel 14]) Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 (Parliamentary Library Safe 1/104-5)

**Publications**
- *Historical Records of Australia* Series 1 Volumes 2 & 3
- *Historical Records of New South Wales* Volume 4
- Cobley, J. *Sydney Cove: 1793-1795*, Angus & Robertson, Australia, 1983
- Cobley, J. *Sydney Cove: 1796-1800*, Angus & Robertson, Australia, 1986
Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 1

Land & Stock held by Free Settlers, & Emancipated or Expired Convicts 1800.

Although without a title on the original document, this List clearly records details of land and stock held by free settlers (mainly former soldiers) and convicts who had been emancipated or whose sentence had expired. A note on the original signed by David D. Mann, an employee in the office of King's secretary, reads:

_Taken at Each Settlement by His Excellency Governor King in July and August 1800_.

This indicates that the information contained in the List was obtained from the General Muster of the colony taken during those months. It appears likely that the List was a copy of the information actually recorded in the Muster, although it is possible that the information was extracted from the Muster and recorded in a different form or sequence.

The following columns of information are included in List 1:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Date of Settlement. Generally refers to the date of a land grant or lease. In most instances it was not noted in entries where land was acquired in some other way.

3. Name. As recorded in the original, with the exception that abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form and titles generally abbreviated.

4. Sheep or Hogs. The livestock noted in this column includes all the smaller animals such as sheep, pigs/hogs and goats. The abbreviations for each animal are the abbreviations recorded in the original. Where no reference to an animal has been noted next to a number in that field, it generally appears that the animal referred to is a pig or hog (eg. AA023 - 7S 35 2G). Where pigs have been referred to in the entry, it appears that the unidentified animal is generally a goat (eg. AA020 - 13P 3). The abbreviations in the original are interpreted below:

_E - Ewe(?)_
G - Goat
H - Hog
L - Lamb (?)
P - Pig
S - Sheep

5. Cattle or Horses. The livestock in this column includes all the larger animals. The abbreviations used in the original are interpreted below:
C - Cattle
F - Foul (?)
H - Horse
M - Mare (?)
X - Ox

6. Wheat Sown. Includes the number of acres of wheat and other crops sown. All acres appear to be for wheat unless otherwise specified. Entry AA065 (55 100) may refer to 55 Wheat and 100 Barley. Abbreviations are as follows: B - Barley

7. Maize to be Planted. Includes the number of acres of maize and other crops to be planted. All acres appear to be for maize unless otherwise specified. Abbreviations are as follows: B - Barley; Cld - Cleared

8. On or Off Store. Reference to the “Store” deals with victualling or the provision of food. Those marked as “On” are being victualled by the commissary, the government section dealing with the supply of rations. Those marked as “Off” are self-supporting. This column refers to the subject of the entry, the settler.

Five entries use the notation “On C”, one ‘On Clk”. The latter probably suggests that the subject is “On Stores” because he is a “Clerk”, a government position and therefore victualed by the government. It may be that “On C” has the same meaning, or means “On Commissary”, although the latter involves a redundancy as “On” means “on the commissary”.

9. Men On or Off Store. Refers to the number and victualling status of the men, other than the settler, who are on the settler’s land. Generally these men would be employees or assigned convicts. Where the victualling status is given without a number, it probably indicates one person only.

10. Women On or Off Store. Records the number and victualling status of any women on the settler’s land. “Women” would include wives, concubines, housekeepers and so on.

11. Children On or Off Store. Records the number and victualling status of any children on the settler’s land. These children are not necessarily those of the settler; they could belong to one of the other adults on the land.

12. Where Situated. Refers to the location of the land held by the settler. Abbreviated names have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.
13. How Acquired. Lists the means by which the settler acquired the land. “Grant by Purchase” indicates that the settler purchased land granted to another person.

14. Claims on Government. Any claims on the government regarding stock and implements are noted here.

15. Quantity of Wheat to Return to Government. “Bushels” of wheat are probably the quantities being referred to here. The amount may refer to a repayment of an advance or loan owed to the government.

16. Remarks. This column covers any additional information noted in the original or comments by the Editor. All information from this column has been replaced with an asterisk in the main text and will be found in Appendix 1.

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 2**

**Land and Stock Held by Officers in 1800**

While this List is without a title on the original manuscript, it clearly refers to land and stock held by civil and military officers. Dates of settlement recorded in the List indicate that it is contemporary with List 1 and therefore recorded at the General Muster in July and August 1800.

It appears likely that this List is a copy of the information actually recorded at the Muster, although it is possible that the information was extracted from the Muster and recorded in a different form or sequence. The following columns of information are included:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Date of Grant. Refers to the date of the original land grant or lease.

3. Name and Occupation. Records the name and occupation of the officer. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form and titles generally abbreviated. Many occupations were abbreviated in the original; these have generally been recorded in full in the transcription for purposes of clarity.

4. Sheep or Hogs. The livestock noted in this column includes all the smaller animals such as sheep, pigs/hogs and goats. The abbreviations for each animal are those used in the original and denote the following: G - Goat; H - Hog; P - Pig; S - Sheep.

5. Cattle or Horses. The livestock noted in this column includes all the larger animals. Abbreviations are as follows: C - Cattle; H - Horse; M - Mare (?); X - Ox

Entry AB055 includes the abbreviation “G”. Could this be a mistake for C” for ‘Cattle” or “0” for ‘Oxen” (which has been abbreviated to “X” in the transcription to reduce
confusion with the number “0”)? Could it be that it refers to goats and should be included in the previous field?

6. Persons from whom grant or lease purchased. Records the means by which the land was acquired. “In his own right” indicates that the land was granted or leased directly to the subject of the entry.

7. Number of Acres in Each Grant. All land sizes are acres unless otherwise stated. Abbreviations are as follows: ac - acres; ft - feet; rds - rods.

8. Number of Acres Cultivated. As recorded. “Grazing Fm” stands for “Grazing Farm”.

9. Where Situated. Refers to the location of the land. Abbreviated place names have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

10. Wheat Sown. Records the number of acres of wheat and other crops sown. All acres appear to be for wheat unless otherwise specified. Abbreviations are as follows: B - Barley; T - Oats; W - Wheat.

11. Maize to be Planted. Includes the number of acres of maize and other crops to be planted. All acres appear to be for maize unless otherwise specified. Abbreviations are as follows: B - Barley; C - Corn; M - Maize; T - Oats.

12. Claims on Government. Any claims on the government regarding stock and implements are noted here.

13. Remarks. This column covers any additional information noted in the original or comments made by the editor. All information from this column has been replaced with an asterisk in the main text and will be found in Appendix 1.

Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 3

Persons Off Stores c.1801

This List bears no title or description of contents, and no column headings. It appears, however, that Lists 3 and 4 may be part of the same sequence: List 3 includes ticket numbers 320 to 611, while List 4 includes ticket numbers 1 to 319. Although the layout of the two Lists is slightly different, the type of information recorded is very similar. For this reason, the headings from List 4 covering columns that are not self-explanatory, namely “No. of Ticket” and “With whom or why allowed to be off”, have been attached to List 3 as well.

An analysis of the entries contained in List 3 provides a clearer indication of the purpose in recording the List. List 3 contains 298 entries of which 30% record males and 70% females. This is a very high proportion of females, particularly considering the low proportion of females in the colony at the time. Approximately 75% of the subjects arrived after 1795, and 13% between 1801 and 1803. Of this last group, 32 arrived aboard *Earl Cornwallis* in June 1801, four aboard *Nile* in December 1801 and
another four trickled through on three ships between June 1802 and March 1803. Nine people (seven female) are recorded as “Came Free”.

If the headings are correct, this List appears to be one of serving convicts, primarily females, who were off the stores, although the inclusion of free people creates some confusion. Governor King introduced a system of “Tickets of Leave” early in 1801, by which convicts, who had served a specified portion of their sentence, were allowed to work for themselves rather than the government and so were taken “off the stores”. The references to “Off [the stores]” and “No. of Ticket” suggest that this is a List of people with tickets of leave.

The List appears to have been recorded in 1801, but used as a working document until 1803. Many of the convicts recorded in the List would have been expired convicts by 1802, indicating that if these Lists were recorded in 1802 they would have been recorded in List 5 rather than Lists 3 or 4. In addition, the last ship to be well represented was the Earl Cornwallis which arrived in June 1801. However, the inclusion of eight people who arrived between December 1801 and March 1803 suggests that the List was used as a working document until much later.

It is interesting to note that Governor King, in his discussion of “Convicts Off the Store” (See Appendix 5), refers to 611 male and 261 female convicts who were off the stores. The last ticket number recorded in Lists 3 and 4 is 611! However, this is probably only a coincidence. Although the information contained in the Lists suggest that the main body was recorded in 1801, the person with entry number 611 was a female who arrived on the Glatton in 1803. In addition, Lists 3 and 4 contain considerably fewer than 611 males and considerably more than 261 females.

It appears unlikely that Lists 3 and 4 were copied from the General Muster for 1801, although it is possible that they were extracted from the Muster in conjunction with other information. Government and General Orders record that different areas and sexes were to be mustered on different days, suggesting that the information would be recorded in distinct groups within the muster books. However, these Lists combine areas and sexes apparently at random, and in some instances couples are recorded consecutively and bracketed. As it is likely that couples would go off the stores at the same time, it suggests that this document was probably extracted from either a ticket of leave register or commissary records, or both.

The following information is included:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Ship. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Names have been transcribed as recorded in the original with the exception of abbreviated given names which have been extended to their full form.
4. No. of Ticket. The ticket number referred to in this column is probably a ticket of leave.

5. Where Resident. Abbreviated residences have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

6. With whom or why allowed to be off. Provides an explanation as to why the subject is off the stores. The information in this column includes occupations, employers and spouses.

7. Remarks. Records comments from the Editor.

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 4**

**Persons Off Stores in 1801**

Although without a title, this List appears to be part of a sequence formed by Lists 3 and 4. List 3 includes ticket numbers 320 to 611, while List 4 includes ticket numbers 1 to 319. The layout of the two Lists are slightly different, however the contents are very similar.

Approximately 80% of the entries in List 4 refer to males and 20% to females. Approximately 80% of the entries are for people who arrived between 1796 and 1800, with none arriving after November 1800. Most entries record serving convicts, however, as with List 3, a few entries record those who arrived free.

This information suggests that List 4 primarily refers to male serving convicts who were off the stores. It appears to have been compiled in 1801. As the subject of the entry was off the stores, the “No. of Ticket” probably refers to a ticket of leave. The fact that the columns in Lists 3 and 4 were organised differently suggests that List 3 was compiled at a different and probably later time. The inclusion of a few free people again creates confusion.

The introduction to List 3 provides more details about the nature of Lists 3 and 4. The following information is included:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Ship. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Names have been transcribed as recorded in the original with the exception of abbreviated given names which have been extended to their full form.

4. Trade. Occupations have been transcribed as recorded, with some standardizations where spellings were inconsistent.

5. Where Resident. Abbreviated residences have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.
6. R1. This column and the following have no headings in the original. The only information recorded in each is an “R” and probably refers to rations. No entries have an “R” in both columns. The significance of the two separate “R” columns will probably never be known.

7. R2. See above.

8. No. of Ticket. The ticket referred to in this column is probably a ticket of leave.

9. With whom or why allowed to be off. Provides an explanation as to why the subject was off the stores. Information in the column includes references to “permission” as well as employers and spouses.

7. Remarks. This column includes any additional information found in the original and comments by the Editor.

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 5**

**Expired or Emancipated Convicts and Free People Off the Stores in 1801**

Although without a title or description of contents, the headings and type of information found in the List indicate the nature of the contents and enable a title to be determined.

Approximately 60% of the entries in List 5 refer to males and 40% to females. In addition, approximately 80% of the entries refer to persons who arrived before 1796, with no entries for people arriving after November 1800. The entries note “Who with or why allowed to be off”, with most recording “Expired” or “Emancipated” and some “Came Free”. This suggests that List 5 primarily refers to ex-convicts and free people who were off the stores. It was probably compiled in 1801.

Historian T.D. Mutch writes of the List:

> This is apparently a list of time expired convicts off stores in 1801 plus women who came free with transported husbands.

It is possible that the List was copied from the entries recorded in the General Muster, however this seems unlikely as males and females, who were mustered separately, are interspersed in the List. It is possible that the List was compiled from information extracted from the Muster, however, if this is the case, the List would appear to be incomplete. Of the 633 entries recorded, 615 resided at Sydney, eleven at Concord, three at Kissing Point, two at Parramatta, and one each at Prospect and the Hawkesbury. There must have been considerably more people living in places other than Sydney who had arrived or become free and were not holding land. It is possible that the List was determined from Commissary records, or from Commissary records combined with information from the General Muster.

The entries contain the following information:
1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Ship. Refers to the subject's ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Names have been transcribed as recorded in the original with the exception of abbreviated given names which have been extended to their full form.

4. Trade Occupations have been transcribed as recorded, with some standardizations where spellings were inconsistent.

5. Where Resident. Abbreviated residences have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

6. No. of Ticket. The ticket referred to in this column may refer to a certificate of freedom.

7. R1. This List contains two columns without headings, in the manner of List 4, however the second column was not used in this List, so was not included in the transcription. The only information recorded in the column called “R1” is an “R” and probably refers to rations.

8. With whom or why allowed to be off. Provides an explanation as to why the subject was off the stores. The column generally records the subject as either expired, emancipated or free and occasionally includes an employer or spouse.

9. Remarks. This column includes comments recorded by the Editor.

Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 6

List of Persons c.1801

This List presents a particular problem, being a list without a title or description of contents, nor do the headings or contents assist in determining its purpose.

The headings are ‘No.”, “Name” and “New or Old”. Occasionally additional information such as the ship of arrival is noted. Nearly 75% of the entries refer to males and 25% to females, a proportion approximately in line with the population distribution at the time. The ship of arrival was recorded for only thirteen entries out of 936, and all of the these ships arrived in the years before 1795. The location of the ship of arrival for others in the List, supports the suggestion that the List primarily consists of early arrivals in the colony.

“New” is symbolised with an “N”; “Old” is left blank. “New” does not appear to refer to new arrivals in the colony as eleven of the entries with a ship of arrival also had an “N” and these ships were from the early years. It does not appear to refer to new additions to the List (for any reason) as the notation is spread throughout the List. “New” could possibly indicate that it was a new copy of an older list with anyone still
eligible to be on the list noted with an “N” (or vice-versa), although there is no evidence to support this hypothesis.

It is reasonable to surmise, however, that this List may be connected with Governor King’s major concern: the removal of persons unnecessarily included in the public victualling books. As the List primarily records early arrivals in the colony, suggesting that they would be free by 1800, it is possible that the List served as a working document, recording people off the stores at a given time, or over a given period. The notation “New” could have been used to indicate the people who went back on stores for some reason. It is also possible that the opposite was the case, that these were free people who were on the stores and the notation “New” signified that they had gone off the stores. Of the possible explanations, the former appears the most likely.

If the true purpose of the List could be determined, it would take on an added significance, however it is possible that this will never be known.

The entries contain the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Number. This number was recorded in the original. It would be impossible to say whether the order and numbering of the entries had a special significance, or whether the number was merely recorded for counting purposes.

3. Name. Transcribed as recorded with the exception of abbreviated given names which have been extended to their full form.

4. New or Old. The symbol “N” is used for “New; “Old” is left blank. The significance of this notation is unknown.

5. Ship. This column refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized. This information was included in the remarks column in the original, but was recorded as a separate column in the transcription for purposes of clarity.

6. Remarks. This column includes any additional information contained in the original and comments by the Editor.

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 7**

**Land and Stock held by Free Settlers, Officers or Expired or Emancipated Convicts in 1802**

This untitled List records land and stock held by all landholders in the colony. Dates of land grants ascertained from information included in the List, suggest that it was recorded in the middle of 1802. It is possible that it was a copy of the landholders section of the General Muster, or that the information was extracted from the Muster.
Unlike Lists 1 and 2 which separate officers from other settlers, this List includes both officers and other settlers.

The following information is recorded:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Ship. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form and titles generally abbreviated.

4. Land How Held. Describes the means by which the settler acquired the land. Abbreviations are as follows: G - Grant; L - Lease; P - Purchase; R - Rent.

5. Where Settled. Records the location of the land held by the settler. Abbreviated place names have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

6. Acres Cleared. Records the total number of acres cleared for each settler.

7. Acres in Wheat. Records the number of acres of wheat and other crops sown. All acres appear to be for wheat unless otherwise specified. Abbreviations are as follows: B - Barley; T - Oats; W - Wheat.

8. Acres to be in Maize. Records the number of acres to be planted in maize.

9. Total Acres Held.

10. How Free. Refers to the status of the settler. Abbreviations are as follows: CF - Came Free; CFM - Came Free Marine; E - Emancipist; F - Free; P - Prisoner; S - Soldier.

11. Livestock - Horses Male. This column and the following nine record type and sex of livestock.

12. Horses - Female.


15. Sheep - Male.

16. Sheep - Female.

17. Goats - Male.
18. Goats - Female.


20. Hogs - Female.


22. Grain in Hand - Maize. Records bushels of maize held by the settler.

23. On or Off Store. Reference to the “Store” deals with victualling or the provision of food. Those marked as “On” are being victualled by the government; those marked as “Off” are self-supporting. This column refers to the settler.

24. Women On or Off Store. Records the number and victualling status of any women on the settler’s land. “Women” would include wives, concubines, housekeepers and so on.

25. Children On or Off Store. Records the number and victualling status of any children on the settler’s land. These children are not necessarily those of the settler; they could belong to one of the other adults on the land.

26. Servants On Stores. This column includes any servants on the settler’s land being supported by government stores. Abbreviations for this column and the next have been transcribed as recorded in the original, and appear to denote the following: F - Free; G - Government; P - Prisoner.

27. Servants Off Stores. Includes any servants on the land being supported by the settler rather than by government stores.

28. Remarks. Records any additional information noted in the original or comments by the Editor. All information from this column has been replaced with an asterisk in the main text and will be found in Appendix 1. Note: Some of the entries crossed out may have been the previous holders of that land.

Information to be found in Appendix 1.

**Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 8**

List of Convicts allowed to Officers &c. for their Domestic Purposes, who are Supported by the Public, as Delivered to Lieut. Governor King June the 1st 1800

This List is the only one in this volume to include a title, and contains the following information:
1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.
2. Name. Records the name of the Officer. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form and titles generally abbreviated.

3. Quality. Refers to occupations and organisations. Some abbreviations have been extended to their full form for purposes of clarity.

4. Number of Servants and Where Employed. This information has been transcribed as recorded in the original. Abbreviations appear to denote the following: H - Hawkesbury; L - Liverpool; P - Parramatta; S - Sydney.

5. Total Number of Servants. This column is used in instances where the employer had servants at different locations.

6. Remarks. Contains any other information included in the original. This information has been replaced with an asterisk in the main text and is located in Appendix 1.

Settlers’ Muster Book 1800 - List 9

Servants Employed by Officers in 1800

Although without a title, this List records servants employed by officers and other settlers in the colony. Several dated notes included by the employers indicate that the List is contemporary with the General Muster of July and August 1800.

It appears likely that the List was initially recorded in May 1800 when Acting Governor King collected the details regarding servants to officers recorded in List 8. It is certain that the List was amended at a later date. Many entries were crossed out, indicating that the servant was no longer employed by the master, and often a notation was included regarding the present whereabouts of the servant. Judge Advocate Richard Dore is recorded as having a servant called William Lyndsay. Added to this entry was the following information: “On a charge of felony tried and sentenced 26 May 1800. In his stead received Brian Burns ... 23 July 1800 - R. Dore”. Captain George Johnston is recorded as having a servant called John Fox. Added to this entry is the note that he is dead. Parish Records show that he died in July 1800.

The following information is recorded:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Officer’s Name. Records the name of the employer. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form and titles generally abbreviated.

3. Quality. Includes occupations and organisations. Some abbreviations have been extended to their full form for purposes of clarity.

4. Servant’s Name. Records the name of the employee. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form and titles generally abbreviated.
5. Status. Records the status of the servant, namely convict, free person or discharged soldier.

6. Remarks. Includes other information noted next to the servant, such as the servant’s position, or current residence if no longer employed as a servant.

7. Other Information. Includes additional information contained in the original and comments by the Editor. Where entries have been crossed out it appears that the servant is no longer employed by the subject, so the information contained in columns 6 or 7 generally refers to the servant’s current status, residence or employment.

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King’s Lists 1801 - List 1

List of Free Settlers from England sent by Order of Government, with the Quantity of Ground Cropped, Stock &c. in 1801, including those received by the Canada, Minorca and Nile.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices. The numeric component of the Reference Number is the same as the number recorded against each entry in the original.

2. Ship Came In. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Records the settler’s name as found in the original, with the exception that abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

4. When Settled. Refers to the date of acquisition of the land.

5. How Acquired. No information has been included under this heading in this List, however the column was included as the layouts of King’s first four Lists are the same.

6. Number of Acres Held. Records the total number of acres held by the settler.

7. Number of Acres Cleared. Records the total number of acres of cleared land held by each settler.

8. Number of Acres in Wheat and Maize. Records the number of acres of wheat and maize sown.

9. By Whom Settled. Records the name of the Governor granting the land.
10. Quality and Quantity of Stock - Horses. The following columns record livestock and have been transcribed as found in the original.

11. Horned Cattle.

12. Sheep.


15. Number in Family - On Stores. Reference to the ‘Stores” deals with victualling or the provision of food. Those marked as ‘On Stores” are being victualled by the government.

16. Number in Family - Off Stores. Those marked as “Off Stores” are self-supporting.

**King’s Lists 1801 - List 2**

List of Free Settlers from England who have Arrived and been Discharged from different Ships without any Order from the Secretary of State, with the Quantity of Ground Cropped, Stock &c. in 1801.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices. The numeric component of the Reference Number is the same as the number recorded against each entry in the original.

2. Ship Came In. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Records the name of the settler. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

4. Date of Grant. Records the date of acquisition of the land.

5. How Acquired. Includes details of land acquired in other ways than by a grant.

6. Number of Acres Held. Records the total number of acres held by the settler.

7. Number of Acres Cleared. This column records the total number of acres of cleared land held by each settler.

8. Number of Acres in Wheat and Maize. Records the number of acres of wheat and maize sown.

9. By Whom Settled. Records the name of the Governor granting the land.
10. Quality and Quantity of Stock - Horses. The following columns record livestock and have been transcribed as found in the original.

11. Horned Cattle.

12. Sheep.


15. Number in Family - On Stores. Reference to the ‘Stores” deals with victualling or the provision of food. Those marked as “On Stores” are being victualled by the government.

16. Number in Family - Off Stores. Those marked as “Off Stores” are self-supporting.

**King’s Lists 1801 - List 3**

List of Settlers from Discharged Marines, Soldiers of the New South Wales Corps and from His Majesty’s Vessels serving on this Station, with the Quantity of Ground Cropped, Stock &c. in 1801.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices. The numeric component of the Reference Number is the same as the number recorded against each entry in the original.

2. Ship Came In. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Records the name of the settler. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

4. Date of Grant. Records the date of acquisition of the land.

5. How Acquired. Includes details of land acquired in other ways than by a grant.

6. Number of Acres Held. Records the total number of acres held by the settler.

7. Number of Acres Cleared. Records the total number of acres of cleared land held by each settler.

8. Number of Acres in Wheat and Maize. Records the number of acres of wheat and maize sown.

9. By Whom Settled. Records the name of the Governor granting the land.
10. Quality and Quantity of Stock - Horses. The following columns record livestock and have been transcribed as found in the original.

11. Horned Cattle.

12. Sheep.


15. Number in Family - On Stores. Reference to the “Stores” deals with victualling or the provision of food. Those marked as “On Stores” are being victualled by the government.

16. Number in Family - Off Stores. Those marked as “Off Stores” are self-supporting.

King’s Lists 1801 - List 4

List of Settlers from Convicts whose Terms of Transportation have expired or emancipated, with the Quantity of Ground Cropped, Stock &c. In 1801.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices. The numeric component of the Reference Number is the same as the number recorded against each entry in the original.

2. Ship Came In. Refers to the subject’s ship of arrival in the colony. Abbreviations have been extended to their full form and spellings standardized.

3. Name. Records the name of the settler. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

4. Date of Grant. Records the date of acquisition of the land.

5. How Acquired. Includes details of land acquired in other ways than by a grant.

6. Number of Acres Held. Records the total number of acres held by the settler.

7. Number of Acres Cleared. Records the total number of acres of cleared land held by each settler.

8. Number of Acres in Wheat and Maize. Records the number of acres of wheat and maize sown.

9. By Whom Settled. Records the name of the Governor granting the land.
10. Quality and Quantity of Stock - Horses. The following columns record livestock and have been transcribed as found in the original.

11. Horned Cattle.

12. Sheep.


15. Number in Family - On Stores. Reference to the “Stores” deals with victualling or the provision of food. Those marked as “On Stores” are being victualled by the government.

16. Number in Family - Off Stores. Those marked as “Off Stores” are self-supporting.

King’s Lists 1801 - List 5

List of Every Civil and Military Officer (including Storekeepers and Superintendents) in His Majesty’s Territory of New South Wales [?] with the Quantity of Ground Cropped, Stock &c. as Mustered in 1801.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Appointment. Records occupation or rank of the officer.

3. Name. Records the name of the officer. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

4. Number of Grants. This column and the following three cover grants and leases in the subject’s own name.

5. By Whom Given. Records the name of the Governor granting the land. Abbreviations are as follows: G - Grose; H - Hunter; P - Phillip.

6. Date of First Grant. Records the date of acquisition of the first land granted to the officer.

7. Number of Acres. Records the total number of acres granted to the officer.

8. Number of Acres Purchased from Settlers &c. Records the total number of acres purchased by the officer.

9. Total Number of Acres Held. Records the total number of acres held by each officer, whether obtained by grant or purchase.
10. Number of Acres Cleared. Records the total number of acres of cleared land held by each officer.

8. Number of Acres in Wheat and Maize. Records the number of acres of wheat and maize sown.

9. By Whom Settled. Records the name of the Governor granting the land.

10. Quality and Quantity of Stock - Horses. The following columns list livestock and have been transcribed as found in the original.

11. Horned Cattle.

12. Sheep.


15. Number of Convicts Assigned. Refers to the number of convicts assigned to the officer.

16. Remarks. Any additional information contained in the original.

King’s Lists 1801 - List 6

List of Convicts who have Received Absolute Emancipations in His Majesty’s Territory of New South Wales.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices. The numeric component of the Reference Number is the same as the number recorded against each entry in the original.

2. Name. Records the name of the convict. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

3. By Whom Pardoned. Records the name of the Governor issuing the pardon.

4. Remaining in the Colony and Employment. Records the occupation and residence of those alive and residing in the colony.

5. Dead or Left the Colony. Records details of those that are dead and the destination of those who have left the colony.

King’s Lists 1801- List 7
List of Convicts who have Received Conditional Emancipations in His Majesty's Territory of New South Wales to Remain in the Colony during the Term for which they were Sentenced.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices. The numeric component of the Reference Number is the same as the number recorded against each entry in the original.

2. Name. Records the name of the convict. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

3. By Whom Emancipated. Records the name of the Governor issuing the pardon.

4. Remaining in the Colony and Employment. Records the occupation and residence of those alive and residing in the colony.

5. Dead or Left the Colony. Records details of those that are dead and the destination of those who have left the colony.

Note: The asterisk has the following meaning - Sentence Absolutely Remitted on Condition of Enlisting in New South Wales Corps.

King's Lists 1801 - List 8

General Return of Births in the Territory of New South Wales from 1st September 1800 to 31st December 1801.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Name. Records the name of the child born. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form. Dashes indicate that no given name was recorded.

3. When Born. Records the date of birth.

King's Lists 1801 - List 9

General Return of Deaths in the Territory of New South Wales from 1st September 1800 to 31st December 1801.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.
2. Name. Records the name of the person who died. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

3. When Died. Records the date of death.

4. Age. Records the age or age group of the deceased.

King's Lists 1801 - List 10

List of Persons tried before the Criminal Courts at Sydney in His Majesty’s Territory of New South Wales from 28th September 1800 to 31st December 1801 with their several sentences &c.

This List contains the following information:

1. Reference Number. Allocated to each entry to serve as a link with the index and appendices.

2. Name. Records the name of the person tried. Abbreviated given names have been extended to their full form.

3. When Tried. Records the date of trial.

4. For What Crime. Records the crime for which the subject was tried.

5. Sentence. Records the initial sentence received.

6. Executed/Pardoned/Respited.Records the final sentence or outcome.

7. Remarks. Any additional comments contained in the original.

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