

BDA Source Description Pages

<http://www.bda-online.org.au>**48rd Regiment of Foot****Contents**

History
Records used
Data extracted
Arrival in Sydney
Leaving Australia
Statistics
Reference & Further Reading
Acknowledgements

History:

This British Regiment was first raised in 1740.

Records used:

Original records dealing with the Regiment are held in the War Office series at The National Archives in Kew, England. Some of these records have not been filmed and with the vast quantity of military records it is unlikely that they will be scanned for many years.

Some of the more important records which relate to the Regiment's period in Australia were filmed under the Australian Joint Copy Project and are available in major libraries in Australia. The series from which our project chose to extract data, are the Army Regimental Pay Lists, 25 March 1817 to 24 June 1824 - WO 12/5970 and Muster Roll 25 Feb 1824 to 24 April 1825.

Most are quarterly returns. The men are divided into separate lists according to their rank, and are listed in each return in the same order except when they were promoted or demoted, in which cases they were recorded into their new rank list. The movement of some men caused some confusion for the clerks in their compilation of these records and it is possible that occasional duplication has crept into our dataset.

Additionally, the *1812 Army List* volume was consulted for extra details of the Officers.

Data extracted:

Project Board member Keith Johnson extracted data from each Pay List. Not all the information was extracted, notably the rate of pay for each rank. Items extracted include, full name, rank, previous occupation and previous residence (if recorded); enlistment date and place, the length of service contracted, either 7 or 14 years, the

BDA Source Description Pages

<http://www.bda-online.org.au>

Company(ies) served in, birthplace, ship and date of arrival in NSW, (generally added by the Editors), dates and places of desertion, illness and discharge, if noted. Place of Service (if noted) it can be assumed that most of the men were in Sydney, unless noted otherwise.

The Pay Lists often contained variations in spelling of a soldier's surname between one list and another. Some also had completely different given names. All these variations have been cross indexed into the Database.

The Pay Lists can record the date and place of death of a soldier during the period covered.

Pay details have not been extracted but as an example, the daily rates paid to Non Officer ranks between August and September 1814 were:

	Shillings & Pence & Farthings	
Sergeant-Major	2s.	6d.
Quartermaster-Serjeant	2s.	
Paymaster's Clerk	1s.	4d.
Armourer as Serjeant	1s.	4d.
Drum Major as Serjeant	1s.	4d.
Serjeants	1s.	4d.
Corporals		10d.
Drummers & Fifers	7d.	3
Privates		6d.

Men were paid a higher daily rate if they had served in the Army for longer periods, some Privates were paid 7d. per day, a few 8d. Per day

Arrival in Sydney:

Men arrived in Australia (Sydney and Hobart) mainly as Detachments of guards on convict ships. The main body with the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel James Erskine, arrived on the *Pilot*, *Matilda* and *Lloyds* in July and August 1817. Most departed for Madras. Some men's ship of arrival or departure were noted in the Pay Lists, but it is impossible to ascertain the ship of arrival and departure of all of the men.

Some men arrived on a convict ship after Headquarters had departed in late 1824 and left on the same ship for Madras only weeks later. The Pay Lists do not necessarily indicate that they actually arrived in Australia for a very short period. Some of these men may therefore not be recorded in the Database, as their identity is unknown.

The following is a list of ships detected (mainly recorded in Historical Records of Australia, Series I volumes VIII & IX), which carried men of the 48th Regiment, and also from Shipping Arrivals & Departures, Sydney, 1788-1825 by J S Cumpston, pub. 1977, Roebuck Press.

Ship Arrivals:

BDA Source Description Pages

<http://www.bda-online.org.au>

Pilot	28 Jul 1817		
Matilda	3 Aug 1817	From Cork	Staff of 48th Regiment & 200 troops.
Lloyds	30 Aug 1817	From Cork	200 troops
Dick	3 Sep 1817	From Cork	

HRA records that Matilda, Lloyds & Dick carried 468 NCOs & Privates + 83 women & 58 children - three Divisions of the 48th.

Larkins	22 Nov 1817
Ocean	9 Jan 1818
Guildford	31 Mar 1818
Lady Castlereagh	30 Apr 1818
Minerva	30 Apr 1818
Neptune	5 May 1818
Isabella	14 Sep 1818
Tottenham	13 Oct 1818

Leaving Australia:

Larkins	2 Jan 1818	for Calcutta	
Shipley	31 Mar 1819	for London	
Surrey	25 Jul 1819	for London	
Guildford	10 Oct 1820	for Derwent & England	
Woodlark	10 Feb 1824	for Hobart & England	
Greenock	11 Mar 1824	for Madras	
Sir Godfrey Webster	11 Mar 1824	for Calcutta & Madras	
Portland	1 Dec 1824	for Madras	a Division
Grenada	27 Feb 1825	for Madras	Remainder of the 48th.

Statistics:

Recorded in the Database – 38 Officers & 1128 men. Many would have been married but their wives and children are not named.

References:

Some of the above details have been extracted from:

Dress & Insignia of the British Army in Australia & New Zealand 1770-1870
by R.H. Montague, p.28. Pub. by Library of Australian History, Sydney, 1981.

Shipping Arrivals and Departures, Sydney, 1788-1825
by J.S. Cumpston. Pub. by Roebuck Press, Canberra, 1977.

Historical Records of Australia - Series 1, Volumes VII & VIII. (see under ship names and Regiments – 48th, in their Indexes).

Original Sources used are detailed above under Records Used.

Further reading:

Military Forces in New South Wales - an Introduction - Part 1 1788-1904, 3rd edition

BDA Source Description Pages

<http://www.bda-online.org.au>

by Ralph Sutton, Ken Thompson & Bill Storer. Pub. by The Army Museum Foundation, Paddington, 2000.

Manuscripts in the British Isles relating to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, Editor Phyllis Mander-Jones. Pub. by Australian National University Press, Canberra, 1972.

This volume lists many more references to the 73rd Regiment than can be found in the on-line catalogue of The National Archives, London.

Abbreviations:

HRA - *Historical Records of Australia*.

TNA - The National Archives - Kew, London, England.

Acknowledgements for the dataset:

Keith A Johnson AM - Data extraction from Pay Lists & editing these pages.

Malcolm R Sainty AM - General editing & processing the data.

List of all British Regiments that served in Australia:

(see [Military - British Regiments In Australia](#))

Information Page written by Mal Sainty

Historical resources available from the BDA Shop

<http://www.bda-online.org.au/shop>

For other Military Sources included in the BDA see

<http://www.bda-online.org.au/sources/military/>

These Information pages are copyright. Any request to reproduce them should be directed to BDA.