

BDA Source Description Pages

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

Convict indents and ship musters 1829-1849

From 1830 onwards, arrival musters for convict ships to Sydney were printed in large bound volumes. It is thought that about 30 copies of each yearly volume were printed and distributed to the District Magistrates who could use them to identify convicts and make annotations in blank columns for their use. The Mitchell Library in Sydney has an incomplete set, all with no annotations. (Mitchell Library ref ML F365.944025/1).

Method of Data entry

Each entry ran right across a double folio page measuring 75cm. Transcriptions have been based on the printed versions, (with the exception of 1829) which are much easier to read than the original manuscript volumes. For most years the printed entries are listed in a different order to the manuscript version.

Because of the length of time needed to capture every detail for each convict, the details in the column "Particular Marks or Scars Remarks" have not been transcribed at this stage but "yes" has been added if there were any in the original manuscript.

The printed and manuscript versions held by State Records New South Wales should be consulted for this information as well as for a complete catalogue of Bound Manuscript Indents (NRS 12188) and Annotated Printed Indents (NRS 12189).

See www.records.nsw.gov.au and www.ancestry.com.au.

For more information on convict indents and ship musters see:

[Convict indents and ship musters: general introduction](#)

[Convict indents and ship musters 1787-1812](#)

[Convict indents and ship musters 1813-1828](#)

BDA Update 5: November 2017

This BDA update means that records of convicts on all ships landing at Sydney (and many to Hobart, directly or indirectly) are now online up to and including 1838 with the exception of 1830 which will be added in the next update. Additional details of Tasmanian and Norfolk Island convicts will be added in the future.

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1829 indent / ship muster contains 3724 convicts of whom 45 were Waysiders (they never reached Australia). With others mentioned within an entry also indexed (including spouses, parents, siblings and children), and aliases, the total number of entries in this dataset is 7185.

1830 indent / ship muster soon to be added to BDA

1831 indent / ship muster contains 2878 convicts. With others mentioned within an entry also indexed (including spouses, parents, siblings and children), and aliases, the total of entries in this dataset is 3571.

1832 indent / ship muster contains 3236 convicts.

1833 indent / ship muster contain 4212 convicts. With others mentioned within an entry also indexed (including spouses, parents, siblings and children), and aliases, the total of entries in this dataset is 4993.

1834 indent / ship muster contains 3236 convicts.

1835 indent / ship muster contains 3695 convicts.

1836 indent / ship muster contains 3918 convicts.

1837 indent / ship muster contains 3582 convicts. With other people mentioned in 1832, 1834, 1835, 1836 & 1837, the total entries is 20,001.

1838 indent / ship muster contains 3139 convicts.

Acknowledgements

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Books, CDs and historical resources available from the BDA Shop

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

For other Convict Indents and Ship musters included in the BDA see

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

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