

## BDA Source Description Pages

<https://www.bda-online.org.au>**Brisbane & Moreton Bay, Queensland  
Church of England parish registers & civil records of birth & death  
1824-1850**

This collection of datasets comprises full transcripts of Church of England baptisms, marriage and burials for the town of Brisbane and district of Moreton Bay, (part of New South Wales 1824-1859) as well as civil returns of births and deaths, for the following years:

**Baptisms & births 1824-1850****Marriages 1839-1850****Burials & deaths 1824-1850**

By the 1840s the parish catered to an area well beyond Brisbane and Moreton Bay, extending as far as Ipswich, the Darling Downs, the Tenterfield region in New England and a pilot station at Amity Point, North Stradbroke Island. Brisbane's Aboriginal name was Meanjin and the Aboriginal language group for the area is known as Jagera or Turrbal.

**The Moreton Bay penal settlement**

The Moreton Bay penal settlement existed between the years 1824 and 1839. It served as a place where convicts who had committed secondary offences in the colonies were sent as an additional punishment. They lived under a strict military regime controlled by a Commandant at Brisbane at the head of a military garrison.

As well as convicts, the community was made up of free support workers, soldiers, officials and some of their wives and children. The convicts were employed on public works and farming projects. Most were employed by government as there was little or no private settlement in the region up to about 1840. Modern Queensland was part of New South Wales until 1859.

The colony was established when the brig *Amity* sailed from Sydney and landed on 2 September 1824 at what is now the Brisbane suburb of Redcliffe. The party of convicts (who volunteered to go), soldiers, officials, at least two military wives and two children probably numbered around sixty. After two months a decision was made to move the settlement to what is now the Brisbane Central Business District. The local Aboriginal community called the place Humpybong, meaning empty huts, referring to the abandoned settler structures.

Moreton Bay was included in the September 1824 muster for New South Wales, which recorded 33 convicts residing there (Col Sec papers SANSW 4/1775:140a). This figure did not include the military contingent, who were not recorded in civilian musters. The Chronological register of convicts at Brisbane/Moreton Bay 1824-1839 lists 24 serving convicts as the first volunteers. It is possible that the other nine volunteers making the number 33 were emancipists.

The BDA extracts from 40<sup>th</sup> Regiment pay lists allow the identification of the military contingent, led by Lieutenant Henry Miller of the 40<sup>th</sup> regiment, who was accompanied by his wife Jane and two young sons. The soldiers commanded by Miller were Colour Sergeant John Norman, Corporal Robert Hay Thompson and 15 privates. The surveyor John Oxley and government botanist Allan Cunningham also sailed on the *Amity*, but returned to Sydney after their survey and botanical work was complete.

Corporal Thompson was accompanied by his wife who gave birth to a daughter Amity Moreton Thompson on 21 September at Redcliffe. She was the first settler child born in Queensland. On 5 November Lieutenant Miller's wife Jane gave birth to Charles Moreton Miller at the second settlement site. Both babies were baptised at St Philip's Sydney in October 1825 after their parents had returned to Sydney.

In March 1825 Governor Brisbane expressed his policy on the role of the new settlement:

'I have ordered an increased number of constables for the present, with Soldiers and aborigines to accompany them, with a reward of £5 for every Bushranger; these as they are brought in, shall be sent on board the Hulk, and removed as necessary to Mor[e]ton Bay, which I should recommend as the Second place of punishment, viz. Port Macquarie for first [grade] offences; Moreton Bay, for runaways from the former, and Norfolk Island, as the *ne plus ultra* of Convict degradation.' (HRA Ser 1 Vol 11: 553).

[April 1826] By the late arrivals from Moreton Bay, we learn that considerable progress has been made in cultivation, and in general works at the New Settlement. There are now eighty-five acres of arable land; including garden ground, &c, and 200 bushels of maize are among the products of the late harvest. A prison has been constructed at the instance of the late Commandant, who, as a punishment for the refractory prisoners, commonly resorted to solitary confinement, and bread and water diet, in preference to the lash.—He was quite right. Flogging seldom produces any result except rendering the bad still worse, still more hardened, still more indifferent to correction of any sort. The soil and climate are found on trial, to answer fully the expectation of all who thought it suitable for the growth of the sugar-cane, and all tropical productions. The sugar-cane which was planted by the late Commandant six or eight months ago, nourishes most luxuriantly. The tobacco plant does equally well. There are between seventy and eighty prisoners now employed. Their work is very laborious, as on account of the want of working bullocks, all the business of ploughing, harrowing, &c. must be performed by manual labour. Kangaroo, quail, wild duck, &c. are found in such profusion, that one or other of them, we are informed, invariably constituted a dish for dinner at the Commandants' table.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 29 Apr 1826: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37073020>

#### Brisbane Commandants 1824-1842

Source: *The World's News* (Sydney) 6 Feb 1929: 11

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article131484043>):

1824: Lieutenant Henry Miller, 40th Regt.

1824-5: Captain Bishop, 40th Regt.

1825-30: Captain Patrick Logan, 57th Regt.

1830-5: Captain J. O. Clunie, 17th Regt.

1835-7: Captain Foster Fyans, 4th Regt.

1837-9: Major Sydney Cotton, 28th Regt.

1839: Lieutenant George Gravatt, 28th Regt.

1839-42: Lieutenant Gorman, 80th Regt.

In a despatch of May 1826 Governor Darling (*HRA* Ser 1 Vol 12: 318) reported that the settler population of the Moreton was 45 (43 men, 2 women).

The subsequent average number of convicts at Moreton Bay was reported as:

1828: 553

1829: 752

1830: 1,000

1832: 800

1833 700

1837: 700

1839: 94

(Source: *HRA* Ser 1 Vol 15 pp 386, 426; Vol 17 p 147; Vol 19 p 150, Vol 20 p 209).

The 1828 census gives a clearer idea of the settler population in that year. It lists 659 men women and children, both convict and free, with Moreton Bay as their place of residence. The number of convicts in the Brisbane/Moreton Bay district peaked at around 1,000 in 1830, when a garrison of 100 soldiers was stationed there.

From 1829 female convicts were sent to Brisbane for colonial offences. The other major penal settlement at Norfolk Island had no facilities for women. A Female Factory was built outside Brisbane town at Eagle Farm in about 1832, but an earlier version of the factory may have existed in the town as early as February 1829, when the first batch of female convicts ~~of~~ from Sydney landed at Brisbane on the government vessel *Mary Elizabeth*. The Chronological register of convicts at Moreton Bay indicates that a small but steady flow of female convicts from Sydney to Brisbane continued up to 1837.

By 1837 a policy decision had been made to close Brisbane and Moreton Bay as a penal station in order to open the region up for free settlement. In 1838 legislation was passed allowing convicts at Moreton Bay the chance of their sentence being cut short in return for working in irons on the roads in New South Wales for a limited period. The legislation did not apply to female convicts. By May 1839 a contingent of 240 female convicts from Moreton Bay had been sent to the Female Factory at Parramatta, causing significant overcrowding. The male convicts were progressively transferred south from Moreton Bay around 1838-1840 to work on roads and other public works.

The 1841 census indicates that the free and convict settler population of the Moreton Bay District had fallen to just 200, only 24 of them women. Of the 200, 130 were convicts in private employment and one was a ticket of leave holder; 69 were free. Those born in the colony numbered 23 (15 males, 8 females) (*NSW Government Gazette*, 31 Aug 1841 p 1172e). The census did not include the reduced military contingent remaining on duty in and around Brisbane.

From that low point in 1841 the settler population of Brisbane and the Moreton Bay district grew steadily as free immigration and land sales brought waves of new arrivals from Australia and overseas. The population of Brisbane and its suburbs was reported to be 839 in 1846 and 2,543 in 1851 (Source: *Moreton Bay Courier* 6 Dec 1851: 2. <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article3710617>).

Instances of frontier conflict between settler and the local Aboriginal population in the Moreton Bay region are documented on the website 'Some Known Frontier Conflicts in Queensland' (see Sources below). They were initially relatively rare, but escalated from 1842 onwards.

## Clergy

With the exception of an eight month period in 1829, Brisbane had no chaplain from the Church of England or any other denomination during the years 1824-1837. In the absence of a chaplain, a surgeon or military officer in Brisbane and its Moreton Bay hinterland read church and burial services from Anglican prayer books.

The chaplain stationed at Brisbane from 1837 held his post on a semi-formal basis with ad-hoc funding, but from 1838 onwards he sent Sydney authorities regular returns of baptisms and burials (and from 1839 for marriages). The Anglican parish of St John's Brisbane was not formally established and funded until 1843, apparently the date of the earliest official original parish register held in the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane. The earliest Brisbane marriage by an Anglican clergyman on the BDA database took place in 1839.

This dataset has been transcribed from Clergy Returns sent to Sydney Anglican authorities 1829-1850 (with gaps 1830-1836), held by the New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Also included are some births and deaths from civil returns recorded at Brisbane for the years 1832-1836, held by Queensland Archives. A few Brisbane baptism and burial records recorded in the

registers of St Philip's, Sydney (1824-1825) are included in the St Phillip's baptisms dataset. Some or all appear to be baptisms performed at Sydney after military families had returned from Moreton Bay to Sydney. Other arrival, departure and death records are recorded in a separate dataset titled 'Chronological register of convicts at Moreton Bay 1824-1839' (see table above for details).

The Rev John Vincent had arrived in New South Wales in 1828 with his wife and four children. He was appointed chaplain to the Moreton Bay settlement in September of that year and arrived at Brisbane with his family on the ship *Isabella* in March 1829. He began to send clergy returns to Sydney Anglican authorities for baptisms and burials he had presided over. Vincent became involved in conflicts with the Moreton Bay Commandant, Patrick Logan which led to his transfer back to Sydney before the end of 1829. Contemporary newspaper reports alleged that Vincent had suffered from bullying by Logan and his men after the clergyman protested against harsh punishments meted out to convicts.

Logan at the time, and for long afterwards, was notorious for the savagery of his punishments until his death in 1831 when he was found brutally murdered near Mount Beppo after becoming separated from an exploration party. Convicts and Aboriginal people were variously suspected to have killed him, but it remains one of Queensland's earliest and longest cold cases. His successor Captain James Oliphant Clunie was regarded as far more moderate.

In May 1837 the Rev Johann Christian Simon Handt arrived in Brisbane with his wife and children with the intention of setting up an Aboriginal mission with support from the Church Missionary Society, an Anglican missionary organisation based in London. He had arrived in the colony in 1831 and had been employed at an Aboriginal mission in Wellington New South Wales. He sent in clergy returns for 2 births (not baptisms) to convict women and 2 burials in 1837.

In 1838 Handt was appointed acting chaplain to the free and convict Anglicans in the Moreton Bay settlement. Though a Lutheran from Prussia, he had agreed to use Anglican liturgy in the New South Wales colony. He held services in the Prisoners' Barracks and in the convict Lumber Yard workshop and storehouse in the vicinity of the corner of modern George and Queen Street Brisbane.

When the penal settlement closed, the Church of England acquired part of the lumber yard site and built (or adapted parts of an existing lumber yard structure)

known as St John's Church of England. It was used as Brisbane's parish church until it was replaced following the completion of St John's Pro-Cathedral in 1854 on a nearby site at Queens Square, William Street (demolished c1904).

Handt also worked closely with a group of German Moravian Church clergy and tradesmen who arrived in 1838 and set up an Aboriginal mission known as Zion Hill (aka Sion Hill) at what is now the Brisbane suburb of Nundah. Their mission had backing from the Sydney Presbyterian Minister and politician John Dunmore Lang and the New South Wales government.

The German missionaries kept their own separate records. The Anglican registers and civil returns contain only one reference to an Aboriginal person: the baptism in 1842 of Edward Petrie Hexton (born 1839), the son of an unnamed Aboriginal woman and James Hexton, the government pilot. Hexton was based at Amity Point, North Stradbroke Island from about 1833, charged with guiding ships in and out of Moreton Bay.

In 1832 Hexton had fathered a child at Brisbane with the English convict Hannah Rigby, who had been sent to Moreton Bay under a colonial sentence in 1830. They separated prior to 1837 when she returned to Sydney on receiving her certificate of freedom. She was sent back to Moreton Bay after being convicted of another theft. Her son (known as James Hexton) was cared for in Brisbane by Dr David Ballow and his wife. James Hexton Jr's detailed reminiscences of his Brisbane childhood, parents and guardian were published in 1909 (see select news items below).

Handt served as chaplain in Brisbane until late 1842, when he was succeeded by John Gregor, a graduate of King's College, Aberdeen, Scotland, who had arrived in Sydney on the *Portland* in 1837. He held the post until he drowned at the German Mission Station, Nundah, in 1848. For several years after Gregor's death a newly arrived clergyman, Benjamin Glennie, and several other ministers shared the Anglican parish work in Brisbane and its surrounding region.

### **Residence of parents of children baptised in the parish of Brisbane/Moreton Bay 1832-1850:**

Albert River (1), Amity Point (1), Balladean (2), Beardy Plains (1), New England (1), Bodumba (1), Bolivia, New England (1), Breakfast Creek (1), Brisbane (174), Brisbane River (7), Brisbane Town (12), Bugrooperim/ Bugroopinn, Logan River

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(3), Canning Downs (6), Clifton, Darling Downs (2), Clifton, New England (1), Cockatoo Creek, Burnett Dist (1), County Stanley (6), Cressbrook (2), Darling Downs (24), Darundur (1), Deepwater, New England (4), Drayton, Darling Downs (9), Dugandan, Teviot Brook (1), Dulhunty Plains (1), Eagle Farm (2), Eaton Vale, Darling Downs (1), Eskdale (1), Forest Brook (1), Fortitude Valley (1), Franklin Vale (2), Glanmire, Darling Downs (1), Glenelg, McIntyre Brook (1), Goomburra, Darling Downs (1), Gowrie (2), Helidon (1), Ipswich (33), Jondaryan, Darling Downs (1), Kangaroo Point (16), Kentucky, New England (2), Kingbah (2), Laidley Plains (1), Lockyers Creek (1), Logan River (7), London\* (1), Long Pocket (1), Mary Vale (1), Maryland (2), Marys Creek (2), Mount Flinders (3), Mount Sion (1), Normanby Plains (2), North Brisbane (15), Oaky Creek, Darling Downs (1), Quarantine Ground Stradbroke [North Stradbroke Island] (1), Ranklins Valley (1), Rosalie Plains, Darling Downs (1), Rosenthal, Darling Downs (3), Ryeford, Darling Downs (1), Sampson Vale (1), Sions Hill [Zion Hill, Nundah] (2), South Brisbane (12), Stanley Creek (1), Tamworth, Peel's River (1), Tarampa (1), Telamon, Logan River (4), Tent Hill (1), Tenterfield, New England (1), Teviot (1), Brook, County Stanley (1), The Peak, New England (1), Town Marie (4), Tulburra (1), Warwick (12), Wivenhoe, Brisbane River (3), Woogaroo, Brisbane (3), Yandilla, Condamine River (1).

\*the residence London was entered for a man aged 29 from London who was baptised

### **Residence of persons buried in Brisbane/Moreton Bay 1838-1850:**

Breakfast Creek (1), Brisbane/Brisbane Town (78), Collington, Stanley Creek (1), Darling Downs (4), Eagle Farm (4), Forguie (1), Fortitude Valley (1), Kangaroo Point (8), Military Barracks (1), Mount Sion (1), New Farm (1), North Brisbane (10), Prisoners Barracks (2), Redbank (1), Sion Hill (6), South Brisbane (6), Woogaroo (1).

### **Stated occupation of fathers of children baptised in Brisbane/Moreton Bay 1838-1850:**

Agriculturalist (1), Assistant Commissary General (2), Auctioneer (2), Baker (6), Blacksmith (10), Brickmaker (5), Bricklayer (10), Builder (10), Bullock Driver (1), Butcher (8), Cabinetmaker (3), Carpenter (31), Carrier (3), Chemist (1),

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Clergyman (1), Clergyman & Missionary (1), Clerk of Petty Sessions (1), Commander (3), Commissary (3), Compositor (2), Constable (1), Cooper (1), Customs House Officer (1), Deputy Assistant Commissary General (1), Druggist (3), Engineer (1), Farmer (4), Fellmonger (3), Gardener (4), Gentleman (4), Government Overseer (1), Government Surveyor (2), Grazier (37), Grazier & Trader (4), Groom (6), Hairdresser (1), House Carpenter (1), House Servant & Cook (1), Innkeeper (5), Joiner (2), Labourer (92), Mariner (4), Mechanic (2), Overseer (9), Painter (1), Paper Manufacturer (1), Pensioner (1), Pilot (1), Plasterer (2), Publican (2), Sailor (2), Sawyer (18), Schoolmaster (3), Servant (6), Settler (3), Sheep Farmer (4), Shepherd (7), Ship Captain (1), Shipwright (2), Shoemaker (9), Shopkeeper (4), Slop Cutter (1), Soldier (23), Solicitor (1), Squatter (1), Stable Keeper (1), Stall Keeper (1), Stockman (1), Storekeeper (16), Surgeon (4), Surgeon & Grazier (1), Surveyor (4), Tailor (2), Tallow Chandler (1), Tinman (2), Tinsmith (1), Vintner (1), Warehouseman (1), Wheelwright (9), Wine Cooper (1), Wool Sorter (1), Wool Stapler (1).

### Clergy Returns

These are copies of the church registers sent by the minister of a parish to Anglican authorities and the end of every year and later transferred to the New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. The earliest clergy return received at Sydney from Brisbane dates from 1829. None survive for 1830-1836.

### BDA transcription & editing

Transcription: Malcolm Sainty.

Editing: Michael Flynn & Malcolm Sainty.

Source page and research: Michael Flynn

### Sources transcribed

#### **Baptisms/Births 1829-1850:**

Half Yearly Return of Baptisms & Births at the Settlement of Moreton Bay 1 Jul 1832 - 30 Jun 1835, Ref DR24307-1, Queensland State Archives.

Baptisms: Clergy returns, Brisbane, Moreton Bay, County Stanley, NSW Registry of BDM Clergy Returns 1829 Vol 13 Reel 5003, 1837-1850, Vols 22-36, Reels 5005-5011.

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### **Marriages 1839-1850:**

Marriages: Clergy returns, Brisbane, Moreton Bay, County Stanley, NSW Registry of BDM Clergy Returns 1839-1850, Vols 23-36, Reels 5005-5011.

### **Burials 1829-1850:**

Half-yearly returns of burials at Moreton Bay penal settlement 1832-1836, Ref DR24308, Queensland State Archives.

Burials: Clergy returns, Brisbane, Moreton Bay, County Stanley, NSW Registry of BDM Clergy Returns 1829 Vol 13 Reel 5003, 1837-1850, Vols 21-36, Reels 5005-5011.

### **Other sources: Births and deaths at Brisbane/Moreton Bay 1824-1828**

A few Anglican baptisms and burials in the period 1824-1828 were entered in the Anglican parish register of St Phillip's, Sydney on the orders of Archdeacon Thomas Hobbes Scott based on ceremonies performed by local officials or clergy on brief visits. These are included in the St Phillip's Sydney dataset.

### **Other sources: Chronological register of convicts at Brisbane/Moreton Bay 1824-1839**

Copies of Civil returns derived from musters and arrival, departure and death records maintained by the Brisbane commandant for the years 1824-1839 are included in a separate dataset (online on the BDA for the years 1824-1827, with 1828-1839 to be added in future).

See: [https://www.bda-online.org.au/files/COR12\\_Moreton\\_Bay.pdf](https://www.bda-online.org.au/files/COR12_Moreton_Bay.pdf)

## **Select general sources**

Anglican Church Southern Queensland, Records and Archives, Church House, Brisbane Qld

<https://www.anglicanchurchsq.org.au/archives?rq=archives>

James Backhouse, *A narrative of a visit to the Australian colonies*, London: Hamilton, Adams, 1843.

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Louis Radnor Cranfield, 'Early commandants of Moreton Bay'. *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland* Vol 7 issue 2: 385-398, 1964.

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Published in hardcopy in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol 2, Melbourne University Press, 1967.

Jennifer Harrison, *Shackled: Female Convicts at Moreton Bay 1826-1839*, Melbourne, Anchor Books, 2016.

Keith Rayner, 'The history of the Church of England in Queensland, a thesis submitted to The University of Queensland for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Dec 1962'.  
<https://webarchive.nla.gov.au/awa/20190302022728/https://anglicanarchives.org.au/>

J.H.G. Mackenzie-Smith, 'Rev. John Gregor — Like a Lamb to the Slaughter', *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland*, Volume XIV, No 12 August 1992: 517.

'Hannah Rigby', Harry Gentle Resource Centre, Griffith University, Queensland.  
<https://harrygentle.griffith.edu.au/life-stories/hannah-rigby/>

'Offenders, paupers and pioneers: Female convicts and ex-convicts in Queensland post-1839 / Convict women and their families in pre-Separation Queensland. Harry Gentle Resource Centre, Griffith University, Queensland.  
<https://harrygentle.griffith.edu.au/projects/offenders-paupers-and-pioneers/>

Original St John's Church, Brisbane; circa 1890 - 1900; P00114 (Redland Museum)

<https://ehive.com/collections/4500/objects/684848/original-st-johns-church-brisbane>

"THE HISTORY OF THE MORETON BAY SETTLEMENT." The Brisbane 27 Nov 1869: 6. Web. 12 2025 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1302662>

Some Known Frontier Conflicts in Queensland

<https://australianfrontierconflicts.com.au/timelines/some-known-frontier-conflicts-in-queensland/>

State Library Queensland, Colonial Secretary's papers 1822-1877

<https://collections.slq.qld.gov.au/guide/33054/details>

### Select news items & documents

Another Expedition has very recently sailed for Moreton-bay, on the Government Colonial brig Amity, to establish a new Settlement somewhere in its vicinity. The vessel takes prisoners and stores, under guard of a detachment of the 40th Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Butler. The Commandant of the Settlement is Lieutenant Miller, of the 40th. A Storekeeper and other subordinate officers, together with a number of volunteers, compose the Expedition. The Surveyor General (John Oxley, Esq.) and Mr. Cunningham (King's Botanist), proceed on the voyage. It will be the province of Mr. Oxley to fix upon site most eligible for this other new Dependency. In a few years, if we go on as we have done latterly, British Colonies will be planted all along the Eastern and round to the North-west side of this Island.

Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser 8 Oct 1824: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1090352>

Mr. Oxley, accompanied by Mr. Cunningham, the King's Botanist, and Lieutenant Butler, of the 40th, proceeded to examine the Brisbane River, discovered by Mr. O. in December last.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 21 Oct 1824: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37072066>

On Saturday the government cutter Mermaid, Capt. Penson, returned from the settlement at Moreton Bay, after an absence of six weeks and two days. Passengers— Major Lockyer, 57<sup>th</sup> regt. and Lieut. Miller, 40<sup>th</sup> regt. late commandant at Moreton Bay, Mrs. Miller and family, and all the rest of the crew from the wreck of the Royal Charlotte. The cutter was only three days in getting to Moreton Bay, and five in returning.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 20 Oct 1825: 4.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37073357>

The ship Lalla Rookh, having gone into Moreton-bay, and anchored inside of Amity Point, where she landed the stores sent from Sydney for the settlement on the Brisbane River, without any accident, and sailed again from that place for her ulterior destination, clearly proves that vessels of large size can with ease go into Moreton-bay, by the passage at Amity Point; and in a good channel.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 20 Oct 1825: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2184561>

On Monday embarked on board the Government brig Amity, 1 Captain, 1 subaltern, 2 serjeants, and 41 rank and file, of the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment, and 9 women and 13 children, to relieve a detachment of the 40<sup>th</sup> Regiment, under the command of Captain Bishop, at Moreton-bay. Fourteen prisoners also proceed thither by the same conveyance.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 8 Mar 1826: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2185381>

A fine schooner built boat, of about 15 tons burthen, was on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> ult. Launched at Brisbane Town, Moreton Bay.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 30 Mar 1826: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37074163>

A clergyman of the established church, the Rev. Mr. Vincent, has arrived from Ireland by the ship Elizabeth. Mr. Vincent is, we believe, to officiate as chaplain at Moreton Bay.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 16 Jan 1828: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37073288>

...the gross Number of Prisoners at all the Penal Settlements, which are as follows, Vizt.:

Port Macquarie, 532; Moreton Bay, 378; Norfolk Island, 135; Total, 1,045.

Despatch 28 Mar 1828, Governor Ralph Darling to Rt Hon W Huskisson, *Historical Records of Australia* Vol p 72.

Government Order (No 27.) COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, SEPTEMBER 18, 1828. HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, upon the Recommendation of the ARCHDEACON, has been pleased to nominate the Reverend JOHN VINCENT to be Chaplain of the Settlement at Moreton Bay. By His Excellency's Command, ALEXANDER M'LEAY.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 19 Sep 1828: 1.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2191079>

On Tuesday last, the 19th instant, the lady of the Rev. John Vincent, Chaplain of Moreton Bay, of a son.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 21 Jan 1830: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2194351>

Of the three penal settlements, separated from each other by the sea, namely, Moreton Bay, Port Macquarie, and Norfolk Island, the first is now the most populous. Why three expensive penal settlements should still be kept up, when one would be adequate for all purposes, I know not. Port Macquarie is a rich settlement - and all the good land in the present Colony having long ago been swallowed up, the emigrants of late have not known where to get a good farm. I have not yet heard of the treatment of the convicts at Norfolk Island, either as to the measure of the scourging there, or as to the quality and amount of their food and clothing. But as regards food, Port Macquarie has been as ill famed as Moreton Bay. For bad food and severe punishment conjoined, Moreton Bay however stands preeminent. If, Sir, you should ever think proper to call for the returns of the punishments inflicted at Moreton Bay, and the number of deaths which take place there annually, as compared with the amount of the population, the degree of mortality will enable you to judge of the probability of the following tales of woe. But those returns, permit me to suggest to you, must be correct returns. Nothing lost. Nothing forgotten. Nothing mislaid. The following, I offer then as instances of illegal punishment at Moreton Bay. I will prove them on two conditions. 1st, That General Darling, shall first have left the Government of N.S. Wales. 2nd. That of the witnesses I produce, such of them as happen to be convicts (the sufferers themselves in particular) shall not be returned to Moreton Bay, but be sent to some other penal settlement; Norfolk Island for instance. I will not attempt to prove the following cases in a Court of Justice here, exception these two conditions. For first. The minds and bodies of the felons at Moreton Bay are now so utterly broken down and debased, and their wretched situation rendering them incapable of the milder punishment attendant on perjury; and the circumstance of their being again placed under the men against whom their testimony may have to be given, would render it a mockery of justice to attempt to prove....[see link for full letter].

*Sydney Monitor* 17 Jul 1830: 1

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32073900>

In confirmation of what we stated last week respecting a man's being tied up at Moreton-bay, where he died, we have since learnt, that it is reported and believed that the reason of the Rev Mr. Vincent's being superseded at that settlement, was his refusal to bury the man, in question without an inquest being held upon him!

*Sydney Monitor* 3 Feb 1830: 2 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32073191>

Mr. Vincent made a complaint of having had stolen from him some tea and sugar. The suspected thieves, from strong circumstantial evidence, were sentenced to be flogged. Mr. Vincent, a very worthy gentleman, begged them off. The Commandant said, the Rev. Chaplain was not to trifle with him in that manner; accordingly, he not only ordered the men to be flogged, but he directed the triangles to be removed opposite to the house of the worthy and humane Clergymen, whose family accordingly were thus afflicted with the cries of the sufferers. The convict women refusing on one occasion to work at the hoe in the tropical sun of Moreton Bay, their heads were shaven, iron collars were put about their necks with chains attached, reaching from collar to collar; by which they became chained together; men's irons were put about their legs, and they were made to go to Church without their caps, so that their bald heads might be exhibited to the troops, and the Convicts. Thus the House of God was converted into a place of punishment. It wanted but the triangles erected in it to make the profanation complete, and to constitute it a second "convincing ground." Yet the Commandant belongs to a nation which affects great love for the souls of the convicts and aborigines, regard for the honour of the Saviour, and sends Missionaries of all sorts to convert them! And the Government which belauds and cherishes these missions, supports notwithstanding a Commandant in such sort of pranks for four years!

*Sydney Monitor* 14 Aug 1830: 2 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32074048>

The system of rewards and punishments adopted by Captain Clunie at Moreton Bay, they say gives general satisfaction to all classes of persons on the establishment, which is now in a quiet state, proving that the continual and severe floggings of Captain Logan were superfluous.

*Sydney Monitor* 26 Jan 1831: 3 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32074864>

We understand that the commander of one of the Government vessels has been dismissed, for having, as is alleged, aided in introducing spirits into the female

factory at Moreton Bay. He is succeeded by Mr. HYNDMARSH, brother of the two gentlemen of that name in the Commissariat.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 15 Dec 1832: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2209900>

By private letters that have reached the colony, we learn that clergymen have been nominated for the purpose of officiating at the penal establishments. If this has emanated from the ARCHDEACON, it is creditable to him, for at Moreton Bay, and Norfolk Island, there are upwards of a thousand men who derive no religious instruction, a state of things which ought to be remedied. At Port Macquarie, with a small population, there is a chaplain whose services might be very usefully transferred to either of these penal colonies, and a catechist substituted for him.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 23 Jul 1833: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2213084>

during the last year or two, the settlement of Moreton Bay has been undergoing the process of depletion; a large proportion of the convicts formerly at that settlement having been removed either to Sydney or to Norfolk Island. The whole number of persons now at Moreton Bay does not amount, we believe, to more than 350.

*The Colonist* (Sydney) 24 Dec 1835: 1.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article31717415>

In your despatch of the 28th February, 6, 1832, No. 30, you stated your concurrence in opinion with the Archdeacon, as to the absolute necessity of stationing a Minister of Religion at Norfolk Island and Lord Ripon, in a despatch of the 25th December 1832, No. 148, suggested a mode by which he hoped immediate provision might be made for stationing one of the chaplains then in the colony at each of the penal settlements of Norfolk Island and Moreton Bay, so long as a large convict population should be collected there. I regret to find that this arrangement could not be carried into effect. In the same Despatch,

Ripon recommended to your serious consideration the practicability of breaking up the establishment at Moreton Bay, which you had yourself previously contemplated. As I hope that measures may have been taken for carrying this recommendation into effect, it may now, I presume for granted, that the services of a Minister of Religion will be required only for one penal settlement. Fully agreeing with you as to the necessity of such an appointment, I have used every endeavour to find a clergyman of the Church of England qualified for the office by character, and that missionary spirit which you justly think of such importance, and at the same time willing to undertake it but I regret to inform you that I have not been successful.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 16 Jun 1836: 4.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2204896>

The Govt. schooner Isabella takes about 30 prisoners to Moreton Bay. The Rev. Mr. Handt, also goes down to that Settlement by her as a Missionary; his intention being we understand to settle among the natives to the Northward of the bay. She sails on Sunday next.

*Sydney Monitor* 5 May 1837: 2 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32155865>

Passengers by the Isabella for Moreton Bay- Rev. Mr. Handt, servant and 3 children; Mr. Mayo, planter; Mrs. Robinson; and 1 serjeant, and 12 rank and file as a guard to 30 male prisoners under sentence.

*Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 9 May 1837: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2210797>

THE GERMAN MISSION TO THE ABORIGINES... It cannot be denied that even in Great Britain there are comparatively few persons of the requisite ability and devotedness to the Missionary cause to undertake a mission to the Aborigines of this territory, and this will doubtless afford a sufficient explanation of the frequent abandonment of this department of Missionary exertion by those who have heretofore engaged in it in this colony, and of the still more frequent attempts to conjoin the office of a Missionary to the black natives with that of a

third or fourth rate colonial grazier. However individuals may deceive themselves, or may attempt to deceive the Christian public, it is nevertheless an undeniable fact that two such flocks as black men and Merino sheep cannot be tended by the same shepherd. And accordingly when we hear of the spare rams or wethers, and the fine wool from the flocks of the Rev. Mr. THRELKELD, Missionary to the Aborigines at Lake Macquarie, being for sale at Maitland, and when we hear also of the grazing establishments that are kept up in connexion with the missions to the Aborigines at Wellington Valley and Port Phillip, under the pretext of their being so kept up for the benefit of the natives, we ask for no further explanation of the uniform failure of all such unhallowed attempts to join together what God has put asunder. The German Mission to the Aborigines at Moreton Bay, under the superintendence of the Synod of New South Wales, will be conducted somewhat on the principles of the Moravian Missionary settlements in Greenland, South Africa, and the Nicobar Islands in the East Indies. It will consist of the Rev. EDWARD WILHELMSCHMIDT, a regularly ordained clergyman of the Prussian Church, educated at the Universities of Hallé and Berlin, and the Rev. CHRISTOPHER EIPPER, a native of the Kingdom of Wirtemberg, educated at the Missionary College of Basle in Switzerland and ordained conjointly by the Lutheran and Presbyterian ministers of the German and French Protestant Churches in the City of London. The Protestant portion of the kingdom of Prussia has till lately been divided between the Reformed, or Presbyterian, and the Lutheran communions, the Royal Family being of the Reformed or Presbyterian Church. Recently, however, there has been a union effected between these bodies which now form one Church, and in the other Protestant States of Germany as well as in France, there has also been a gradual approximation of the two communions for a considerable time past, insomuch that ministers of the one are often cordially received and settled as their pastors by congregations belonging to the other. Indeed the form of worship is almost, if not exactly, the same in both communions, and their doctrinal standards very nearly coincide. The admission of German Protestant clergymen of the right stamp, coming out to discharge the duties of Missionaries in this colony, into the Colonial Presbyterian Church, is therefore a matter of easy arrangement, and of equal benefit to both; as it ensures efficient superintendence under a regular ecclesiastical organization on the one hand, while it places the Missionaries on the same level quo ad sacra with the other colonial clergy, and relieves them from the humiliation of receiving their commissions or instructions, as is most preposterously the practice in Missionary Societies generally, from a Committee of Laymen. In addition to the two ordained ministers abovementioned, both of whom are married, and accompanied by their wives, the following Catechists or Assistant Missionaries are to be attached to the mission, to be employed in

whatever way may appear conducive to the advancement of its general and important object, the Christianization and civilization of the Aborigines of Australia, viz.:—Peter Niquet, stonemason and bricklayer, and his wife Maria... August Rodé, joiner and cabinetmaker, and his wife Julia. Leopold Zillmann, blacksmith, and his wife Clara. A. W. F. Hartenstein, weaver, and his wife Christina. Gottfried Hausmann, butcher and cook, and his wife Wilhelmina. Gottfried Wagner, shoemaker. Ludowig Dógé, gardener. Theodor Franz, tailor. Christopher Albrecht, shoemaker and bookbinder. Mr. Moritz Schneider, who was also attached to the mission in the capacity of medical attendant and assistant missionary, and whose zealous attention to the sick was not less conspicuous than his character as a Christian man and missionary was exemplary and devoted, was unfortunately seized with typhus fever after the arrival of the vessel, and died at the Quarantine station after a short illness; his wife DOROTHEA being left to lament his loss, and to proceed with her countrymen to their destination at Moreton Bay .All these catechists or assistant missionaries had for some time been under, training for the work to which they had voluntarily devoted themselves as missionaries to the heathen, in a missionary institution superintended by the Rev. JOHN GOSSNER, pastor of the Bohemian Church, in the city of Berlin.

*The Colonist* (Sydney) 10 Mar 1838: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article31720572>

A number of Germans, who recently came by the *Minerva*, will proceed in the Government schooner *Isabella* to Moreton Bay, as Missionaries, where they will remain for some time. The following passengers will go in the *Isabella*, Dr. and Mrs. Ballow, Mr. Spicer, Mr. Lowry, Master Peteries, 16 convicts and a military guard.

*Sydney Monitor* 19 Mar 1838: 2

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32159426>

On landing we were agreeably surprised by an invitation from Major and Mrs. Cotton, to make their house our abode, till our quarters were prepared; the Rev. Mr. Handt received us at the Wharf, and conducted us to the Commandant's

House. Next day being Sabbath we attended service at the Prisoner's Barracks, where Mr. Handt reads part of the Church of England service and delivers a discourse. Since the German brethren have come up we have service of our own in their abode, which took place the next Sabbath as most of them had come up on Tuesday, the 3rd April, Mr. Nique, his wife and Mr. Doge, being detained on board the schooner for the reason above stated, until the 11th.... After this long digression, I return to give you an idea of the place we are now in. The settlement of Brisbane Town is situated in the left bank of the river, about twenty-five miles from its mouth; and contains at present the Commandant's house with a fine garden, the Commissary's house, wherein also Mr Handt lives, and the Court House, in one row from east to west enclosed, and in front against the river; this is continued by the Military Barracks and yard, the Lumber-yard, enclosed by brick walls and ends with the Military aid Prisoner's Hospital, and the Doctor's house, which is the last. The bank of the river is here pretty steep; down at the Wharf is the Commissariat Store-house and yards, and some huts for the crews of the small vessels, which are chiefly used in discharging the cargo of the Government vessels and loading them again. Between the Lumber-yard and the Barracks goes a road to the northward, on the left side of which is the house for the Commissary Clerk and the Superintendent of the convicts; then comes the Prisoner Barracks, which, with the Female Factory at a small distance, comprises the whole town. It is pretty well situated, but badly supplied with water, and the houses are so placed as to prevent the sea-breeze coming into the room, which would be very desirable. The soil is the richest ever saw, and the climate as much as I heard others say, very mild, yet warm enough for the production of every tropical plant. There is a Botanical Garden here belonging to Government, which was once in a flourishing state, but is now almost a wilderness, for want of labour. There are some out stations for sheep and cattle on the other side of the river, Redbank, Cowper's Plains, and Limestone – the latter at a distance of twenty-six miles from the settlement up the river, which has been explored for two hundred miles from its mouth. We were soon aware that the settlement itself was not the place for us to settle, as there the blacks would not be expected to make out the difference between us and other white people, and by its distance from the Bay we should lose all the facilities which it affords in the intercourse with the several tribes ; and whilst it is our intention to proceed by degrees to the northward, we should, by pitching our tents at this spot, be turning to the west. There is, moreover, Mr. Handt, as a stationary minister to the prisoners, doing as much as he can for the natives; and although there is no fear of collision as long as the natives continue in their present wretched condition, yet it is desirable to have, at least for our own part, a distinct sphere of labour assigned. With these views, in which the Major and Mr. Handt entirely

concur, we shall, soon after the vessel is gone, proceed to a spot at a distance of seven or eight miles from here to the northward, and a few miles from Eagle Farm, - the present female factory, and formerly an agricultural establishment, - so as to be nearer the Bay, and yet not out of the reach of protection from the settlement, where we intend to erect temporary buildings, and to cultivate a little ground, till a longer acquaintance with the place and the blacks shall either justify our choice or direct us to a more eligible spot. I trust that from what I have now stated you will be led to coincide with our intentions. To go farther away from the settlement at present is impractical, and would be folly indeed; for though two or three tribes in the immediate neighbourhood are friendly and inoffensive, it is only fear of our fire-arms which has made them so. Farther remote tribes would immediately begin stripping every one that approaches them clothed, and resistance might easily provoke them to spear you.

*The Colonist* (Sydney) 12 May 1838: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article31720946>

The German mission to the heathen had proceeded to Moreton Bay, near to which settlement it is for the present located. Besides the two ordained Missionaries, Schmidt and Eipper, there is a bricklayer, a carpenter, a tailor, a shoemaker, a blacksmith, and a gardener, as lay Missionaries, on the plan of the Moravian Missions, which have done more real good than all other modern Missionaries together.

*The True Colonist Van Diemen's Land Political Despatch, and Agricultural and Commercial...* (Hobart) 8 Jun 1838: 4.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article203146156>

An Act for the Conditional Remission of Sentences of Convicts transported to Norfolk Island and Moreton Bay, and to enforce the conditions thereof. "WHEREAS it is expedient for the Public Service in New South Wales, that Convicts transported under sentence of the Colonial Courts, or under commutation thereof, to Norfolk Island or Moreton Bay, whose conduct has been good since their removal to either of such places, should obtain a remission of their sentences, or terms of transportation, upon condition of working in irons on the roads or public works within the located parts of the said Colony, for a

limited time ; and whereas the power of keeping to hard labour in irons, within such parts of the Colony, those Convicts whose Colonial sentences or terms of transportation it may please His Excellency the Governor to remit, as aforesaid, requires to be confirmed by law : Be it therefore enacted, by His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, with the Advice of the Legislative Council thereof, that when, and as often as, any Convict under sentence of transportation of any competent Court of the said Colony, or whose sentence shall have been, or may hereafter be, commuted to that of transportation to Norfolk Island or Moreton Bay, for seven years, shall have served one year of such sentence or term of transportation; and as often as any Convict under a like sentence or commutation thereof for fourteen years, shall have served three years; and as often as any Convict under a like sentence or commutation thereof for life, shall have served five years, and the said Governor shall, in his discretion, see fit to remit the remainder of the sentence or term of transportation of such Convict as aforesaid, upon condition of working in irons in the located parts of the said Colony, for any shorter period of time than the unexpired remainder of any such sentence or term of transportation, and not more than three years in the whole ...

*New South Wales Government Gazette* 14 July 1838: 537.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article230386784>

The Factory [Parramatta]. — This establishment, already overflowing to repletion, has received a reinforcement of two hundred and forty women, who have been received from Moreton Bay, consequent on the breaking-up of that settlement. The whole of these women are under colonial sentences, and consequently, unless pardoned, which would be a gross violation of justice, must remain inmates of the factory until some new mode of punishment can be devised.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 23 May 1839: 2. <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article36859396>

The Sophia Jane, steamer, returned from Moreton Bay yesterday, and has brought up with her Major Cotton, his Lady and family, Lieutenant Hillier, 28th regiment, Mr Parker, Superintendent of Stock, Mr White, Mr Spicer, Mr Hallan, Mr Sheridan, Mr and Mrs Cox, and four children, fifty-seven female prisoners,

and twenty-five children, twenty-three soldiers, three women and three children, and nineteen male prisoners; also, a vast collection of birds, &c., and a package of curiosities for the British Museum.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 23 May 1839: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article36859396>

BIRTHS. At Moreton Bay, on the 16th of May, the lady of Robert Dixon, Esq., of the Surveyor-General's Department, of a son. Same day, the lady of the Rev. J. Handt, of a still-born child. DEATH. On the 13th May, at Moreton Bay, Mr. Joseph Paget, Commissariat Clerk, after a lingering illness.

*Sydney Herald* 4 Sep 1840: 2. <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12865532>

Moreton Bay District. In answer to some enquiries, made by Mr. Jones, at the meeting of Council on Thursday last, His Excellency stated, that he had not as yet received any instructions from the Home Government, which would empower him to throw open for sale, the lands in the Moreton Bay District. His Excellency further added, that he had never refused permission to any respectable individual to occupy the lands in question. In consequence, however, of the disgraceful occurrences which had taken place at the M'Leay and the Clarence, he (His Excellency) had determined to prohibit cedar cutters from squatting in the Moreton Bay- country. Within a circuit of fifty miles round Brisbane town no stations had been permitted to be formed because the squatters, as soon as the district was thrown open, would have to be removed, and also because the Commissary required the lands, within that limit, for the pasturage of his flocks and herds.

*Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* 6 Sep 1841: 2

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32190583>

At MORETON BAY there are 200 souls; 176 males, and 24 females. Of the males, 45 are free, and of the females 22. The bond males number 131; 1 holds a ticket-of-leave, and 130 are in Government employment. There are two bond females.

*The Australian* (Sydney) 7 Sep 1841: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article36852695>

On the 21st June last, at Brisbane, Moreton Bay, by the Rev. J. C. S. Handt, Deputy Assistant Commissary General Kent, to Marjory, only daughter of the late John Ballow, Esq., Montrose, North Britain.

*Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser* (Vic) 8 Aug 1842: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article226509437>

MORETON BAY. THE very high rate which has been given by the Sydney land speculators for the allotments lately sold at Brisbane, has created considerable surprise amongst those who have come down here with the intention of making Moreton Bay their future homes; in fact, the prices given for some of the allotments (none of which are in a very commanding site for business) has entirely put a stop to all building speculations for the present, much to the detriment of the numerous mechanics who have been for some time waiting for the land sale. No doubt the late purchasers have ere this found out that they have burnt their fingers, so there will be some chance of the next sale going off at reasonable prices. Business is very dull just now, and will continue so until the shearing time, when the arrival of the wool teams will cause a stir in the settlement. The blacks are still very troublesome about Darling Downs, one shepherd had been killed and other severely wounded by them a short time.

*Sydney Morning Herald* 26 Aug 1842: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12409237>

We are happy to find, from the following, circular, the object of which we beg to recommend to the Christian public, that there is now a zealous and acceptable minister of the Gospel about to be settled in this important locality [Balmain]. The Rev. Mr. Handt's recent situation at Moreton Bay is now occupied by the Rev. J. Gregor, of turn-coat notoriety. The chief difference between these, two ministers is that Mr. Handt preaches the Gospel, which Mr. G. neither does nor ever did.

*Colonial Observer* (Sydney) 6 May 1843: 1004.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article226359896>

MELANCHOLY EVENT. From the Moreton Bay Courier, which arrived by yesterday's overland mail, we obtain the melancholy death by drowning, of the Rev. John Gregor, A.M., the English Episcopalian Minister at Brisbane, occasioned by cramp seizing that unfortunate gentleman while bathing at the German Missionary Station. Mr. Gregor, it will be recollected, left the Presbyterian Church, of which he was an ordained clergyman, some years since, and received ordination anew at the hands of the Bishop of Australia. Many of our readers, we dare-say, will recollect the cutting epistle addressed by the Rev. Dr. Lang, to the Rev. John Renegade Gregor, when this occurred.

*Melbourne Argus* 11 Feb 1848: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4763206>

With respect to the pilots, we are informed that instead of ten women being kept by the pilot and his croppies, that there is a village of blacks, men, women, and picaninnies, who when fish and other food is scarce, are fed from the pilot's flour cask, and a boat with oars and harpoons is left at their disposal to catch turtle and dugong when they please; half of his crew, when on duty, is composed of black fellows, who get a full ration for their services from the Government; and it is a well established fact, that the blacks on Stradbroke Island are the quietest and honestest in the colony, and look upon Jemmy Hexton as a father, or rather, commandant of the island, upon which he has had his residence the last fifteen years.

*Sydney Morning Herald* 23 Feb 1847: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12892043>

ELECTORAL LIST FOR THE TOWN OF  
BRISBANE, DISTRICT OF MORETON

## BDA Source Description Pages

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

BAY, COUNTY OF STANLEY, FOR 1848.

NAME. QUALIFICATION. WHERE PROPERTY SITUATED.

Adams, Thomas Freehold Kangaroo Point and New Farm

Ballow, David K. House and Brisbane Freehold

Binstead, Arthur Household ditto

Bow, David ditto ditto

Byrne, George ditto ditto

Bruce, John ditto ditto

Boyland, Thomas ditto South Brisbane

Bunton, David ditto ditto

Cannan, Kearsey ditto Brisbane

Cannan, Richard Household Kangaroo Point and Garden

Connelly, John Household South Brisbane

Connelly, William ditto ditto

Coley, Richard J. ditto Brisbane

Clarke, William ditto ditto

Campbell, John ditto Kangaroo Point

Cairncross, William ditto Brisbane

Corbett, Timothy Freehold ditto

Davidson, Robert Household Kangaroo Point

Douglas, Robert ditto ditto

Duncan, W. A. ditto Brisbane

Dowse, Thomas ditto ditto

Eldridge, Ambrose ditto ditto

Edmondstone, G. Freehold Brisbane

Ede, Francis Household ditto

Fitzpatrick, Wm. Freehold N. & S. Brisbane

Frazer, Thomas Household ditto

Graham, Andrew ditto South Brisbane

Gray, Thomas ditto Brisbane

Grenier, Thomas ditto ditto

Graham, John ditto South Brisbane

Goode, Jacob ditto ditto

Harris, John Freehold ditto

Isaac, Henry Edw. ditto Kangaroo Point

Jones, Richard Freehold New Farm

Kent, William Household Brisbane

Kelly, John ditto Kangaroo Point

Kinchella, Thomas ditto South Brisbane

## BDA Source Description Pages

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

Lord, Edward ditto Kangaroo Point  
Le Breton, G. S. ditto Brisbane  
Lynch, Henry ditto ditto  
Lyon, Arthur S. ditto ditto  
Little, Robert ditto ditto  
Liddiard, Joseph ditto South Brisbane  
McConnell, John Freehold New Farm  
McConnell, David ditto ditto  
McConnell, Fred. ditto ditto  
McCabe, John Household South Brisbane  
McIntyre, Alex. ditto ditto  
Mowbray, Thomas ditto Kangaroo Point  
Moore, William ditto Brisbane  
Montefiore, Fred. ditto ditto  
Ocock, John ditto South Brisbane  
Orr, John ditto ditto  
Power, Michael ditto ditto  
Powers, James ditto Brisbane  
Peattie, David ditto ditto  
Pacey, Patrick ditto ditto  
Peatrie, Andrew Household Brisbane  
Peterson, Daniel ditto South Brisbane  
Pickering, William Freehold Brisbane  
Pendergast, John ditto South Brisbane  
Richardson, John Household Brisbane  
Rowland, Robert ditto South Brisbane  
Reid, James ditto ditto  
Reilly, Phillip ditto Kangaroo Point  
Sheppard, John ditto Brisbane  
Sheehan, William Freehold ditto  
Skyring, Daniel ditto ditto  
Sutherland, James Household ditto  
Swan, James ditto ditto  
Sparkes, Wm. J. ditto ditto  
Smith, Richard J. Freehold Kangaroo Point  
Smith, J. P. Household Brisbane  
Stewart, William ditto Kangaroo Point  
Thornton, William ditto Brisbane  
Tucker, G. S. ditto South Brisbane  
Tremen, Henry ditto Brisbane

## BDA Source Description Pages

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

Welsh, P. William ditto South Brisbane  
Warder, James ditto Kangaroo Point  
Wickham, J. C. Freehold Eagle Farm  
Williams, John Household South Brisbane  
Wright, Alex. ditto Brisbane  
Watson, George ditto Kangaroo Point  
Total number of Electors. . . . 83

*Moreton Bay Courier* (Brisbane) 22 Apr 1848: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article3709606>

Population of Brisbane and Neighbourhood. We understand the following to be the amount of population in Brisbane and its immediate neighbourhood, as ascertained by the census collectors, viz.: Township: North Brisbane, 1240; South Brisbane, 425; Kangaroo Point, 269; arrivals by vessels, 169 total, 2103: Suburbs: North Brisbane, 318; South Brisbane, 127; Kangaroo Point, 89 total, 534 : Out stations, etc. ; Logan, Cowpers Plains, &c, 168; Pine River, Moghill, &c, 243: sawyers, 34 - total, 387: Commissioner's District on the Logan, 68 - Grand total, 3150. *Moreton Bay Courier*, March 29.

*Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser* 9 Apr 1851: 2.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article684784>

The first Church of England in this colony was a carpenter's shop belonging to the Government of New South Wales, which was granted for the purpose. This building was now used in St. John's School. Archdeacon Glennie, who was the second Church of England Pastor at Brisbane, built the simple church on the Point on a piece of land granted by the then Government Resident, Captain Wickham.

*The Queenslander* (Brisbane) 4 May 1872: 3.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27270828>

An Old Identity.

The following peculiar claim was received at the Lands Office lately, addressed to the Hon. C. B. Dutton:—

"12 Eldon street, Warrington [England], March 19, 1889. Sir,—I humbly beg to lay before you the following statement : I was born at Moreton Bay in the year 1824 (September 21), being the first European born in that settlement, I being a daughter of Robert Hay Thompson, at that time a soldier in H.M. 40th Regiment, and received a grant of land of 500 acres during my natural life from Sir Thomas Brisbane, who at that time was Governor of the colony. I was baptised under the name of Amity Moreton, the former being the name of the brig which carried over the first detachment from Sydney to Moreton Bay, and the latter from the name of the colony. I left Moreton Bay with my parents, accompanying the regiment to India in 1829, my father dying in that country in October, 1833, and I have never since visited the colony. I have made application to the Colonial Secretary and the Agent-General in this country, the former of whom directed me to apply to the Legislative Government direct, with a view of discovering how the property has been disposed of. Another grant was made about the same time to the first male infant born in Moreton Bay, whose name is Moreton Miller, and who, I believe, is, or was recently residing on the grant, his father being an officer in the 40th regiment. "I would also beg to state that I was advertised for in the year 1851 by orders of General Briggs or Biggs, who at that time was governor of the colony. I was taken from Moreton Bay to Sydney and christened in the old church, St. James, in that place in April or May, 1825. Mr. Oxley, who afterwards became Surveyor-General, was the gentleman who surveyed and laid out the property. I am now getting into years, and probably shall never see my native place again, and I should therefore take it a great favour if you will kindly cause inquiries to be made as to the validity of my claim, and trusting you will excuse the liberty I am taking in writing to you, and that you will kindly favour me with a reply at an early date, I beg to subscribe myself your humble obedient servant, AMITY MORETON WRIGHT, nee Thompson." The directions of the Minister are that the applicant should be informed that there is no record in the survey office of any land being granted to her. In the early days of the colony it is probable that such a promise may have been given, but it scarcely can be considered that such a claim can now be recognised at the present time, especially in the absence of any documentary evidence.

*The Telegraph* (Brisbane) 20 Jun 1889: 5.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article174771079>

EARLY EAGLE FARM. Captain Foster Fyans, of the 4th Regiment, who had been stationed at Norfolk Island, was appointed successor to Captain Clunie. The new Commandant followed very closely on the lines laid down by his predecessor, and nothing of very great importance appears to have occurred until the last year of his rule—1837. As before stated the penal factory was re-quired for other purposes than a home for in-corrigible women, and as a result of his search for fresh fields and pastures new Captain Fyans hit on Eagle Farm Flats and brought them prominently into notice by establishing a female depot there.\* Quarters were speedily erected for the eighty-odd women. The stockade was formed in this fashion: Surrounding the quarters was an ordinary close fence, and this again was enclosed by a "wall" of 20ft. saplings, pointed at the top, and securely fastened. Although by this means herded together and directly under observation, the task of keeping such an unruly mob in anything like order was one of which the guardian could scarce be envied. Eagle Farm afforded plenty of scope for the operations of the women, and in due course maize, vegetables, and other crops were nourishing in such a manner as has certainly never been known since. The better class who were not employed in the officers' quarters were kept busy washing and mending the loads of clothes which were conveyed to Eagle Farm weekly on an extremely ancient-looking waggon drawn by a bullock.

\*This 1892 account is mistaken as the Eagle Farm Factory existed in December 1832 and Fyans arrived 1835, but the general description of the establishment may derive from oral recollections of elderly Brisbanites in 1892.

*The Queenslander* (Brisbane) 30 Jan 1892: 223.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19820890>

[extract from timeline of Brisbane history]

1824.

September 2.— Settlement founded by Oxley at Redcliffe.

September 12.— Convicts landed at Redcliffe.

November 4.— Penal Settlement removed from Redcliffe to Edenglassie — the first name given to Brisbane.

1825.

September 1.— Major Lockyer left Sydney in the Mermaid for Moreton Bay.

September 6.— Lockyer arrived in the Bay.

November .— Captain Logan appointed Commandant Moreton Bay.

1827.

May 14.— 300 prisoners located at Moreton Bay.

1828.

— Prisoners' barracks, military barracks built, date of completion undiscoverable.

September 18.— Rev. J. Vincent appointed chaplain.

1830.

April 17.— Pop. Moreton Bay, 1000 convicts, 100 soldiers....

October 9.— Captain Logan left Settlement on an exploring trip.

October 17.— Captain Logan last seen alive by his men.

October 28.—His body found.

1831.

December.— Captain Clunie appointed Commandant Moreton Bay.

1835.

— Captain Foster Fyans appointed Commandant Moreton Bay.

1837.

August .— Arrival of first steamer in Moreton Bay, the James Watt, bringing Petrie family.

November 5.— Governor Bourke expressed himself as favourable to closing Moreton Bay and of reducing the number of Prisoners to 300 — all short sentence men.

1838.

March .— German mission established: eleven men, eight women, eleven children.

1839.

May 21.— Convict settlement broken up.

July 1.— All convicts except thirty-nine men removed.

1842.

January 27.— News received in Settlement that. Moreton Bay would be thrown open to free-settlers.

November 14.— Captain Wickham appointed police-magistrate.

*The Queenslander* (Brisbane) 17 Dec 1892: 1171.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19829947>

ST. JOHN'S PRO-CATHEDRAL, A RETROSPECT. The history of the Church of England in Queensland has been made largely since St. John's Pro-Cathedral was dedicated, now about fifty years ago. The edifice shortly to be pulled down is not

old, reckoned by the years of churches in Europe. It can be considered old only in relation to the age of institutions in Queensland, but viewed as it is to-day, it bears unmistakable evidences of the ravages of time. Though there were chaplains in the purely convict days, the first Church of England clergyman appointed to minister in Brisbane was Rev. John Gregor, M.A., of King's College and University, Aberdeen, who came to Brisbane with Captain J. C. Wickham, R.N. The latter was appointed Police Magistrate of Brisbane in 1843, and subsequently held office as Government Resident, living at Newstead. Mr. Gregor originally was a Presbyterian minister, and had been officiating in the Hunter River district, in New South Wales, but before coming to Queensland, he was admitted into the Church of England, and ordained deacon and priest by Bishop Broughton, the first Bishop of Australia, and afterwards Bishop of Sydney. There was no Church of England church in Brisbane when Mr. Gregor arrived. He himself lived for a while in a cottage in what is now Albert-street, and for some time he held services in the room in which the Police Magistrate held his court.

THE EARLIER CHURCH OF ST. JOHN. The first building used exclusively for divine worship was a little brick structure which until a year or two ago stood immediately behind the Longreach Hotel. This edifice had been erected for a carpenter's workshop, and had neither architectural pretensions nor spaciousness of accommodation to recommend it. Such as it was, it was lent by the Government to be used as a church, and when it had been altered and furnished in a manner suitable for the purpose, it continued to be so used until the first portion of St. John's was erected. The late Canon Glennie, in some interesting notes, which he contributed to the Parish "Chronicle" (1889), wrote, "Forty years ago, the little brick building which was honoured with the title of St. John's Church, stood in a small plot of ground, enclosed by a low brick wall, the entrance being in Queen-street. The door was in the middle of the east wall. The altar was at the north-east end by a simple rail. The corner toward Queen-street was curtained off, to serve as a vestry; in the other corner stood a prayer desk and pulpit, sent from Sydney by Bishop Broughton. Seats facing the altar were placed on both sides of the church, a passage being between them." Most of those who gathered Sunday after Sunday in that unpretentious edifice have passed away, but there are some, such as Mr. John Hardgrave, who was married there in 1850, who well remember the simplicity of the services and the plainness of the surroundings. The earliest entry in the baptismal register at St. John's Church bears the date 29th January, the first marriage 28th April, and the first burial 19th February, 1843. The population of the whole of the Moreton district then was only 217, and that of the Darling Downs 335. Mr. Gregor remained in sole charge, occasionally extending his visits as far as the Darling Downs and New England, until the beginning of 1848, when he was drowned

while bathing in a waterhole at what was then called German Station, but is now known as Nundah. Episcopally speaking, Brisbane, and indeed the whole of Queensland, was under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Newcastle. Bishop Tyrrell, the first Bishop, arrived in New South Wales on 16th January, 1848, shortly after Mr. Gregor's death. Clergymen of the Anglican Church were scarce at that time, and the new Bishop found himself unable to supply Mr. Gregor's place till the March following. The Rev. Benjamin Glennie, B.A., was appointed. He was ordained deacon in St. James' Church, Morpeth, on 19th March, and he arrived in Brisbane by the steamer Tamar on 25th. Among his fellow-passengers were Messrs. Kinchela, William Archer, James Taylor, and Walter Gray. On his arrival Mr. Glennie was welcomed by Captain Wickham, and taken to his house at Newstead.

*Brisbane Courier* 23 Jul 1904: 12. <https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article19292078>

THE OLDEST LIVING WHITE NATIVE. The honour of being the oldest living white man born in Queensland belongs to Mr. James Hexton, who was born in Brisbane on September 25, 1832 in a little cottage then occupied by his parents on the site of the present General Post Office. He was not the first white child born in Brisbane, for Sarah M'Cann, whose father was a colour-sergeant in the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, was born a few months before him. This child afterwards became Mrs. Graham, and has now been dead for some years. Tom Petrie, of Murrumba, North Pine, whose interesting reminiscences of the early days were published in the "Queenslander" a few years ago, was born some time after Mr. Hexton, so that the latter is the oldest living native of the State. Mr. Hexton's father was a native of Waterford, Ireland, and his mother was born in Liverpool, England. The former had previously been a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, and fought under Nelson, receiving a severe wound in the head at Trafalgar. Part of his skull had to be removed, and replaced by a silver plate, which he wore to the day of his death. After serving with Nelson he was on a British man-o'-war (his son thinks the Rattlesnake), which formerly brought convicts to Australia. Finally, getting tired of a seafaring life, he decided to settle down in the colony, and was appointed by the New South Wales Government as the first pilot in Moreton Bay, at Amity Point. The pilot's crew consisted of prisoners, who were selected for their good character. The blacks were numerous and hostile, and in order to protect the pilot and his staff a military station was established at Dunwich. The guard was changed every two or three days, but the soldiers had to walk from Dunwich to Amity, and from the latter place to the former. One of the pilot's

children was born in England, another in New South Wales, and the third—James— as stated, was born in Brisbane. When the youngster was taken down to Amity he proved his venturesome spirit by being washed out to sea several times on the surf. This so frightened his mother that she decided to send him up to town to the care, of Mr. Ballow, who was then Government Health Officer, and resident surgeon of the Brisbane Hospital, which positions he occupied from 1838 to 1850. Dr. Ballow lies buried in the cemetery at Dunwich, and on his tombstone is an eloquent epitaph, showing how he met his death in the fearless discharge of his duty while attending an immigrant ship quarantined in Moreton Bay. A fatal outbreak of typhus had occurred, and carried off about forty of the passengers, as also the ship's surgeon. Dr. Ballow went to Moreton Bay to take the place of the dead surgeon, and succumbed to the disease in less than a month. Mr. Hexton's memory goes back to the time when there were no streets in Brisbane—all big paddocks. The block now bounded by George, Queen, Albert, and Elizabeth streets was called the "Soldiers' Garden." This was cultivated by the prisoners, who were chained together in gangs. The area within the boundaries of George, Mary, Albert, and Elizabeth streets was known as the "Commissary's Garden," and was cultivated in the same way. At the corner of Mary and George streets was the stockyard where the cows were milked and butter made for the military officials. The Government slaughter yard was at the corner of what is now Elizabeth and Albert streets, and the Rev. James Hanley, the Roman Catholic priest, lived in a little cottage on the Elizabeth-street front. The Anglican clergyman lived in William-street, in a cottage built for him, which was afterwards occupied as an office by the Colonial Secretary. The site between George, Mary, Albert, and Margaret streets was a vacant paddock, in which the military officers kept their horses. Between Albert-street and Creek-street were several paddocks, in which maize was grown and cultivated by the chain gang. (The corn was converted into meal for hominy at the old Windmill (now the Observatory). All the prisoners worked in chains, and when a boy young Jimmy was often asked by a poor wretch to procure from his mother a piece of rag to bind round his ankles to prevent the iron rings from cutting into the flesh. On the western side of Adelaide-street the land was uncleared forest. The land on each side of Albert-street, from Margaret-street up to Elizabeth-street—afterwards called Frogs' Hollow—was then called the Swamp." Here wild ducks were numerous, and afforded good sport with the gun to the officials. A creek joined the swamp near Margaret-street, and followed a tortuous course to the river near the Post Office. A plank with, a hand-rail spanned the creek near where Edward-street now is. The track of the first racecourse in Brisbane circled this swamp. The horses started near the present Queensland Club Hotel in Mary-street, and raced down the hill and over the swamp to near the present

Metropolitan Hotel, and thence across to where St. Stephen's Cathedral now stands. Here they turned and came along into Elizabeth street, recrossed the swamp at its upper end, and thence home to the starting point. Fences were of course removed where necessary, and afterwards re-erected by the convicts. Dr. Ballow introduced the first thoroughbreds into Brisbane—a stallion named Minto and a mare named Fanny. Petrie's garden occupied the space between Creek-street and the present Custom House, with a frontage to Eagle-street on one side and the river on the other. A convict called "Old Tom." Who had been sent out for body-snatching, was installed as gardener. Mr. Hexton says this old chap was "a perfect terror," and that the Petrie family hardly dared enter the garden if old Tom was present. Between George-street and the present Town Hall stood the Post Office, the lock-up, and the quarters of the lock-up keeper and the Chief Constable. There was a vacant allotment between the Town Hall and the convicts' barracks, in which the police kept their horses. The ground bounded by Queen, Edward, Elizabeth, and Creek streets (site of the present Post and Telegraph offices) was set aside as a female factory, but the female prisoners were accommodated at Eagle Farm. Here a stockade, consisting of ti-tree saplings 20ft. high, spiked on to stout timbers, had been erected, with cells running round the inside walls. The women, like the men, had to perform hard outdoor labour in the field or farm, or at fencing, but Mr. Hexton says they were spared the terrors of the lash. The rocky spurs of the hills between the Hamilton and Breakfast Creek then dipped into the river, and these rounded promontories were removed by female convicts, and a road formed wide enough for a dray to pass. The male prisoners, however, built the bridge over the Creek, which structure fell into the stream in 1856. Dr. Ballow, as health officer, visited the establishment at Eagle Farm once a fortnight, and the boy Jimmy was always allowed to accompany him. The lad was a favourite with the soldiers, and was often the bearer of missives from them containing tender messages of love and sympathy to the 'ladies' in the stockade. These letters, unknown to the doctor, he carried in his shirt, and was rushed by the expectant recipients as soon as the doctor was out of sight. Provisions were sent down to the Eagle Farm establishment by means of a bullock dray, drawn by five bullocks. The latter were not yoked, but harnessed like horses—four in front and one in the shafts. The driver was a convict named Tom Brooks, who had named his cattle according to Scripture—such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, etc. But although Tom went to the Bible for names for his team, he did not when he wished to revile them go to the same Book for his language, but vituperated in the cardinal fashion which has obtained since oxen were first used by Englishmen for haulage purposes. Mr. Hexton has seen scores of prisoners flogged under the archway of the old barracks in Queen-street. It was not an uncommon thing for thirty or

forty to receive flagellation between 8 and 10 in the morning. The men were strapped to the triangles so that they could not move, and the blood used to splash on to the walls of the arch, while the cobblestone floor upon which the convicts stood was wet with human blood. This was a terrible time in the history of Brisbane, and Mr. Hexton shudders at the horror of the sickening scene every time it recurs to his memory. From 50 to 100 lashes were generally administered, 50 on the back and 50 on the breach. The doctor and the chief constable were always present, and if the former saw that the prisoner was getting too weak to receive the whole of his punishment his release was ordered. Sometimes the triangle was drawn in a hand-cart by prisoners to the maize field, where the chain gangs were working, and the man in charge of the gang (generally another convict) would be asked by the Commandant if he had any complaints to make. If the answer was in the affirmative, as it invariably was—perhaps, for some trifling act of disobedience in refusing to work faster when ordered to do so, or for making a grimace at the convict overseer—the unhappy man was called out of the gang, the triangle was erected, and the punishment inflicted. No protest or excuse was permitted. Mr. Hexton has known men who were about to be flogged merely on the capricious charge of the overseer to protest with the word, "but." "Give him 50 more for opening his mouth," roared the brutal Logan. After the flogging the men's shirts were replaced, and they were compelled to resume work in the gang. Every ear of corn has heard the swinging "swish" of the lash as it descended on the naked back of the trembling victim, and has heard the groan of anguish or of rage that followed the stroke. Every hillock of maize has been hoed to the accompaniment of blasphemous curses from the unhappy wretches whose backs were black with the festering sores caused by the knotted and supple thongs of the "cat." In South Brisbane dense jungle scrub fringed the river from the present Dry-Dock to the cemetery—wider here, narrower there, in agreement with the contouring of the forested hills. A road was cut through the scrub—along the line of the present Stanley-street—from Russell-street to the Boggo-road. and thence to Cooper's Plains, where Dick Allen and Ben Wright had charge of the Government cattle. The scrub contained pine and other useful timbers, which were felled and drawn to pits excavated in the scrub by the convicts, where it was cut into boards and beams for building purposes. The prisoners, says Mr. Hexton, hauled the logs to the pits by means of ropes, and if fifty men were not enough to move a log another fifty would be hitched on—logs that a team of bullocks would buck at. The sawn timber was drawn by the prisoners on hand-carts to town. Many of the men preferred to work in the scrubs rather than in the corn-fields, as they were allowed plenty of time, and when they tired they were permitted by the sentry to rest. At night all the prisoners returned to the barracks, and were chained to the floor. A number

of ringbolts were fixed at intervals along the flooring boards, and to these the leg-irons were attached, and when once fastened down the prisoners had to remain until released in the morning. At Bundamba was the "Old Ploughed Station," where cattle required for the establishment were killed, and where a number of prisoners were employed in the production of corn, potatoes, and other crops. There were also a number of convicts at Ipswich—then called Limestone, from the limestone hills in the neighbourhood. On one of the hills a limekiln was erected, and half a dozen convicts and an overseer were engaged in burning lime for the buildings in Brisbane. Mr. Hexton was a young man when Mr. Gregor [drowned] and Mrs. Shannon were murdered on the old Northern-road at Stoney Creek. When Dr. Ballow, the Government medical officer, accompanied by Chief Constable Fitzpatrick and District Constable Murphy, went out to investigate they found the murdered woman on the floor of the kitchen, with her little baby girl, still alive, lying on her breast. This baby was adopted by Mrs. Petty, and was afterwards married to a man named Sinclair at Warwick. The murder created a feeling of consternation in the settlement, and the New South Wales Government offered a reward of £50 for the apprehension of the murderer, dead or alive. About a month afterwards one of the murderers—a notorious criminal named Milbong Jimmy—turned up at a sawyers' camp on Doughboy Creek, having previously swum the river from the Eagle Farm side. The sawyers—Joe Liddard and his mate, nicknamed "Quart Pot," whose real name Mr. Hexton has forgotten—were at breakfast when the blackfellow arrived, and the latter demanded food. "You wait a bit," said Joe, "you some directly." But Milbong Jimmy was impatient, and said he must have it at once. He endeavoured to enter the hut, when a struggle ensued, and the blackfellow struck the white man a heavy blow with a waddy. Joe rushed into the hut for his gun, and shot the native in the jaw. The latter was running away, when the sawyer's dog stopped him. He was placed on a dray and conveyed to Brisbane, but was dead on arrival. The body was conveyed across the Russell-street ferry, and on reaching the North tide a rope was placed round his neck, and willing hands dragged the body to the top of Queen-street, where the head was removed for the dispenser in the hospital, a man named Nicholls. Mr. Hexton believes that at one time there could not have been less than 1000 male convicts in Brisbane, and 700 females.

*The Queenslander* (Brisbane) 7 Aug 1909: 22.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article21829655>

ECHOES OF THE PAST ANGLICAN CHURCH MEMOIRS (By "Gooragooby" Dalveen.)  
A noted corner, forming an essential element in the history of a number of early residents of the Darling Downs, is about to undergo changes, made necessary by modern progress. I refer to one of Brisbane's oldest and most historic structures—the Longreach Buildings—at the corner of Queen-street and North Quay. Tradition affirms that this property, owned by the Anglican Church, was always a busy centre, and as early as the period extending from the year 1824 to that of 1839—in the days when a penal settlement functioned at Moreton Bay—was a place of some importance. In those distant days of a century ago this corner, property comprised "The Settlement" lumberyard, in which stood a carpenter's shop and a store, and continued as such until the year 1842, when the convicts were removed. In that year the lumber yard was leased to the Bishop of Australia, and later, by deed of grant from the New South Wales Government, the property was transferred to the Anglican Church. In 1842 the old carpenter's shop on the property became the first Church of St. John the Evangelist in Brisbane, and continued as same until, about 1854, when the Church was transferred to close on the site of the present day Executive Building. The old carpenter's shop then reverted from a Church to a school, and continued as such for a number of years. The second St. John's Church, consecrated in 1854, then became the Cathedral Church of the Diocese, and remained so until pulled down in 1904. This site is now marked by a white marble slab, let into the pavement in the gardens, in front of the Executive Building between the Queen's statue and the Maxim gun taken from the Boers at the Vet River in 1900. This slab bears the words: "Here stood the altar of the Cathedral Church of St. John, 1854-1904."

*Warwick Daily News* (Qld) 10 Aug 1935: 8.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article177393988>

ECHOES OF THE PAST MAINLY BRISBANE MEMOIRS By "Gooragooby," Dalveen.)  
Published statements this week to the effect that the proposition to build a new general post office in Brisbane is likely to be shelved for the time being, reminds the writer that Jas. Hexton was born at Moreton Bay settlement (now Brisbane), on September 25, 1832, in a little cottage occupied by his parents on the site of the present day post office. He was the first white boy born in Brisbane, but not the first white child, as Sarah McCann, whose father was a Colour-Sergeant in the 17th Regiment, was born a few months before Hexton. The Rev. John Gregor, who was appointed second Church of England chaplain at Moreton Bay, arrived

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at "The Settlement"—now Brisbane—by the steamer Shamrock, in January, 1843, and conducted his first burial service on February 16, of that year, when Brisbane's first postmaster (William Whyte) was laid to rest. Mr. Whyte was clerk of the bench also, and was succeeded as postmaster by Mr. George Millar Slade. The last child to be christened by the Rev. Gregor was Mary Louisa, daughter of Sir Robert Ramsay Mackenzie and Louisa his wife, on January 21, 1848. On the following day Mr. Gregor was drowned whilst bathing at German Station, Nundah. [Note: a number of other settler children were baptised before James Hexton and Sarah McCann]

*Warwick Daily News* (Qld.) 3 Apr 1937: 7.

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article177405026>

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Information Page written by Michael Flynn 2025.

For more detailed information about the different types of church registers and for the list of other church registers included in the BDA see:

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