

BDA Source Description Pages

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40th Regiment of Foot

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History:

This British Regiment was first raised in 1717 known under the names of successive Colonels but became known as the 40th Regiment of Foot from 1782. The 40th spent most of its tour of duty in Tasmania with one company at Sydney, and Moreton Bay.

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 December 1823 to 24 December 1828 - WO 12/5338 & 9.

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.

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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 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 March and June 1824 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		7d

Men were paid a higher daily rate if they had served in the Army for longer periods, 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 starting in 1823. 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.

The following is a list of ships detected (mainly recorded in *Historical Records of Australia*, Series 1), which carried men of the 3rd Regiment, and also from *Shipping Arrivals & Departures, Sydney, 1788-1825* by J S Cumpston, pub. 1977, Roebuck Press, Canberra. and *Shipping Arrivals & Departures Tasmania 1803-1833* by Ian Hawkins Nicholson, pub. 1983, Roebuck Press, Canberra.

Ship Arrivals: Some in Sydney and others in Hobart.

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Albion List	15 Nov 1823	from London & Derwent	1 man in Pay
Isabella	16 Dec 1823	from Cork	
Medina	29 Dec 1823	from Cork	
Castle Forbes	15 Jan 1824	from Cork	
Sir Godfrey Webster	17 Jan 1824	from London & Derwent	
Asia	3 Feb 1824	from London & Derwent	
Adrian List	11 Jun 1824	from London & Cape	1 man in Pay
Prince Regent	15 Jul 1824	from Cork & Rio	
Countess of Harcourt List	24 Jul 1824	from Downs & London	34 men in Pay
Phoenix (a number of men)	8 Aug 1824	from Portsmouth & Hobart	
Chapman List	17 Aug 1824	from England & Hobart	36 men in Pay
Mangles	27 Oct 1824	from Portsmouth	
Minerva	19 Nov 1824	from London & Cape	
Princess Charlotte	1 Dec 1824	from Derwent	
Anne & Amelia	2 Jan 1825	from Cork	1 Officer
Cumberland	21 Apr 1825	from Derwent	
Amity	21 Apr 1826	from Moreton Bay	a detachment
Andromeda	29 Mar 1827	from Hobart	2 Officers

Several other convict ships arrived in the above period but the name of the Regiment to which the guard belonged is not recorded.

Leaving Australia:

Cumberland	26 Mar 1825	for London	probably invalids
Guildford Division	19 Jan 1829	from Hobart to Bombay	180 men - last

It is likely that other detachments left on other ships.

Statistics:

Recorded in the Database – 35 Officers & 832 men. Many would have been married but their wives and children are not named. An additional 4 officers and 50 men are recorded in our Database because they are in the Pay Lists but appear not to have actually arrived.

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

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by J.S. Cumpston. Pub. by Roebuck Press, Canberra, 1977.

Historical Records of Australia - Series 1 (see under ship names and Regiments – 40th, 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 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.

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

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