

## BDA Source Description Pages

<http://www.bda-online.org.au>**Windsor NSW Ration Book 1812-1818**

This manuscript volume held in the Mitchell Library Sydney is an archival estray (a former government record that fell into private hands) labelled 1812-1822, but actually containing only entries for 1812-1818. In 1914 it was purchased by the library from the Rev James Steele, Presbyterian Minister of Windsor and author of *Early Days of Windsor New South Wales*, published in 1916.

In the early NSW colony each district or town had a government store where Commissariat officials kept records of this kind naming certain persons entitled to receive government support in the form of public rations of food and clothing. Very few of these volumes survive. This one is valuable because (like the Norfolk Island Victualling Book of 1792-1796) it not only lists convicts and free settlers, but also government officials and the names of soldiers, their wives and children. Military families are rarely named in any other muster or census record. Some people were 'on' or 'off' rations (stores) at different times, depending on their circumstances.

This dataset contains 1394 entries, all fully cross indexed with other people mentioned, variant names and aliases, resulting in a total of 1695 entries.

Location of original: Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales, Manuscripts, call number A 803 (Safe 1/ 456) microfilm CY 369.

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For other Victualling Lists included in the BDA see  
<http://www.bda-online.org.au/sources/victualling-lists/>

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