



**PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC.  
NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO: 39 MAY - JUNE 2021**



Contact: [parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com) or PO Box 1358 Parramatta 2124  
 PFFF website: [parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au](http://parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au)  
 History: [parramattafemalefactories.wordpress.com](http://parramattafemalefactories.wordpress.com)  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pffriends/>  
 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/parramattafemalefactoryfriends/>



Female Penitentiary or factory, Parramata [i.e. Parramatta], N.S.Wales c1826 by Augustus Earle – nla.pic-an 2818460 National Library of Australia (NLA)

**Patrons:** Meg Keneally & Thomas Michael Keneally AO  
**President:** Gay Hendriksen **Vice President:** Frank Williams  
**Treasurer/Public Officer:** Kerima-Gae Topp **General Secretary/Editor:** Ronda Gaffey  
**Committee:** Minutes Secretary: Lynette Watkins **Membership Secretary:** Cate Whittaker,  
**Tour Coordinator:** Steve Bryant, Anne Mathews, Judith Dunn OAM, Janice Ruse Huntington

**Next General Meeting: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Guest Speaker at 1:00pm -  
 General Meeting at 2:00pm followed by afternoon tea.**  
**VENUE:** Parramatta Female Factory Friends' Rooms, Gipps Yard, 5 Fleet Street,  
 North Parramatta.

Content	Page
President.....	2
Noticeboard/History Corner.....	3
Open Day.....	4
'Our Girls'.....	5
The Research Centre Muster.....	7
Serendipity.....	9

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



## Factory friends

Welcome to your Autumn edition of the newsletter. Our advocacy continues through applications and letters regarding recent changes. Nick Johnston (Project Director - Heritage Core Parramatta North), attended our last general meeting with an update on what has been happening at the site and what the current planning directions are. There has been a considerable amount of archaeological work in the penitentiary yard (third class), north of the original gates, airing yard and central spine. We will share the reports for this when they become available. One of the major dependencies at this time is the next NSW State budget which will be out in June. So watch this space.

It has been an eventful time lately, literally, with a different kind of first. We had our own version of the National Trust of Australia Heritage Festival with a successful open day. It included visitors from Queensland and NSW (Newcastle and Albury) specifically to share in the event at the Factory. We also had a very positive regional response and continued to gather information and lists for the research centre on the day.

The 'first' that I mentioned was the vignette performance in the Third Class/Penitentiary Barracks. This was the first contemporary performance at the factory and in third class. It was a special moment to be both immersed in the ambience of this highly significant building and experience a sense of the time and the lives of the factory women. Kerima-Gae Topp, Ronda Gaffey and Cate Whittaker did a great reading and positive comments followed on the day and later on with social media.

The day also included what has become a regular gazebo showing contemporary versions of Colonial crafts, thanks to Lyn Watkins. The tours were buzzing, led by Steve Bryant and Kevin Dodds. The models of the first and second factory were on display again, courtesy of Anne and Wayne Mathews and thank you to Anne also for the sales table. The Anne Gordon Tearooms were thriving with the latest offerings by Eileen Avery and Pauline Garmonsway. We had our busiest day in the research centre with much interest in the exhibition, the PowerPoints display and many visitors connecting with their family history. This was staffed by Kevin Dodds and myself. Thank you to Paul Turner who acted as a room ambassador and thanks also to Frank Williams, our Covid Marshall who also acted as site ambassador, along with Jacqui White and Margaret O'Hearn who directed visitors to the various locations, answered many questions and promoted our group. Thank you to Kerima-Gae Topp and John Brock for doing such a sterling job with registration and Judith Dunn and Steve Bryant for sprucing up the Bicentenary Commemorative Wall. Lastly, thanks to Janice Ruse Huntington for her hard work in registering the event, to Ronda Gaffey for the poster design and in following up with the numerous gmail bookings for the event and to Kevin Dodds for the Facebook promotion.

Looking to our next event, our Riot Day, I have some great news. Our Patron Tom Keneally AO, has agreed to allow us to call our associated key note speaking event, the Tom Keneally Annual Lecture. His response, in his natural humility was, "I would be honoured". He will be our first speaker of course and it will have an Irish flavour! Please contact us if you would like to be involved with this year's *It's A Riot*, on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

All the best,  
Gay Hendriksen



## NOTICEBOARD

\* The next Meeting is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June with guest speaker, Dr. Mary Casey, Director, Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage - at 1:00pm.

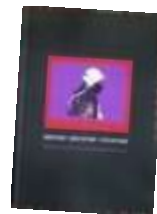
The General Meeting is at 2:00pm followed by afternoon tea. Please note PFFF is registered COVID-19 safe.

\* The PFFF Bicentenary Book, *History-Herstory-Ourstory* is on sale at the Friends Rooms, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month or by email order to: [parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com)

The book costs \$40 - postage & packaging is extra. A wafer is also available for \$25 - this contains a pdf version of the book, Female Factory women lists, videos and photographs of the 2018 Bicentenary Event.

\*The CD of songs especially commissioned for the Bicentenary, is also available. Cost is \$15 plus p&p \$3.75 Please email your order to [parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com) - subject line - "CD Order".

\*Annual 2021-2022 PFFF Membership fees are due on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 - payment by cheque made out to *Parramatta Female Factory Friends Inc.* - post to: PO Box 1358, Parramatta 2124 or by direct deposit BSB: 633 000 Account: 151 276 763 - a reminder from our Treasurer - please put your name on the Eftpos payment so we know who you are. Thank you.



## HISTORY CORNER - 200 YEARS AGO - 1821

by Ronda Gaffey

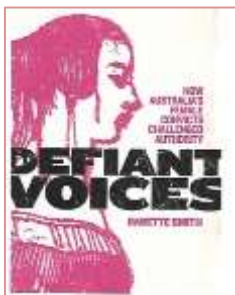
In Britain in 1821: 5<sup>th</sup> May, *The Guardian* newspaper known as *the Manchester Guardian*, was established; on 28<sup>th</sup> May a *National Census* was taken - it was the first to measure age distribution, revealing half the population of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, was under 20; in April-May, artist John Constable completed his painting, *the Hay Wain*; 19<sup>th</sup> July George 1V was crowned; Elizabeth Fry and others found *the British Ladies Society for Promoting the Reformation of Female Prisoners*.

In the Colony of NSW in 1821: 3<sup>rd</sup> February - *Brisbane* was commissioned as the next governor to Macquarie; in March, the penal settlement of *Port Macquarie* was established; Commissioner Bigge returned to England, having completed his report; in October, the foundation stone laid by Macquarie for *the new chapel of St. Mary* near the barracks and convict garden; five Thwaites & Reed clocks arrived in Sydney - gifts to the colony marking the ascension of George 1V - one clock, destined for the Parramatta Female Factory & Barracks, was eventually installed in 1827.

Reference:  
[en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org) accessed 12/5/21

## GUEST SPEAKER: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL - BABETTE SMITH

by Janice Ruse Huntington



At the PFFF General Meeting in April, Babette gave an enlightening and interactive session on her new book, *'Defiant Voices How Australia's Female Convicts Challenged Authority 1788-1853'*. The research for this book has brought about another perspective to the character and behaviour of women convicts and it includes a chapter dedicated to the Parramatta Female Factory.

Congratulations to Babette on the publication of the book. It is beautifully produced with rich colour plates and photographs of convict women. It is a 'must' for anyone interested in colonial female convictism and research.

*Distracted by a focus on sexuality and gender, researchers have missed how loudly the voices of women convicts ring out from history's page. In 'Defiant Voices', Babette Smith reveals their use of shouting, wailing and singing, dancing and mockery as weapons in a war of attrition against authority.*

*So successful was the women's challenge, that one despairing official pleaded for punishment, 'to deter them from conducting themselves in the heedless, careless unruly manner in which they delight to do at present. At the crime class they sneer, at the washtub, they laugh and the cells, they ridicule.*

Image: Front cover Text: Back Cover:  
DEFIANT VOICES: HOW AUSTRALIA'S FEMALE CONVICTS CHALLENGED AUTHORITY 1788-1853 pub. April 2021, National Library of Australia.



Parramatta Psychiatric Centre, records storage room 1975.

Originally Female Penitentiary c1823-1826 (3<sup>rd</sup> Class or crime class)

Source: *Design For Convicts* by James Semple Kerr -  
National Trust of Australia NSW & Australian Society of Historical Archaeology pub. 1984

A NATIONAL TRUST of AUSTRALIA HERITAGE FESTIVAL EVENT -  
THE PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY UNLOCKED - FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021  
The Third Class Sleeping Quarters and Penitentiary c1823-1826



There was a special treat for everyone attending the Open Day on 7<sup>th</sup> May. PFFF were able to negotiate public access to this exceptional heritage building from the Factory period and to hold our first 'theatre' event, *'Let Their Voices Be Heard'* devised by Ronda Gaffey, comprising readings from contemporary newspapers, letters and character vignettes.

For Ronda, Cate and I, it was a truly emotional experience and a great privilege to bear witness to the lives of these women in this place where they were held.

To walk in the women's footsteps, was just so special and we thank the NSW Department of Planning personnel for making it possible.

Kerima-GaeTopp



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Sleeping Quarters & Penitentiary

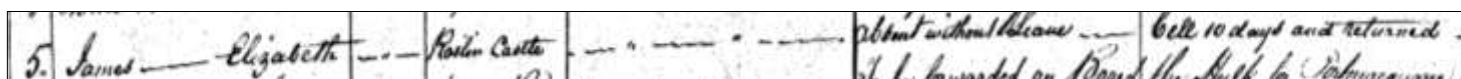
Photography: Gay Hendriksen

For the women who embarked the convict ship *Roslin Castle*, the hardship of transportation is well exemplified. Women had been transported to London from numerous county gaols during very cold weather; they were secured in heavy chains and seated on the outside of coaches. When they arrived in London, many were suffering frostbite and chilblains and needed care to regain their health before their departure. The voyage to Port Jackson was not without drama - the ship's main mast and mizzen top mast had been lost in a squall, the ship leaked and the women's bedding was constantly wet<sup>1</sup>.

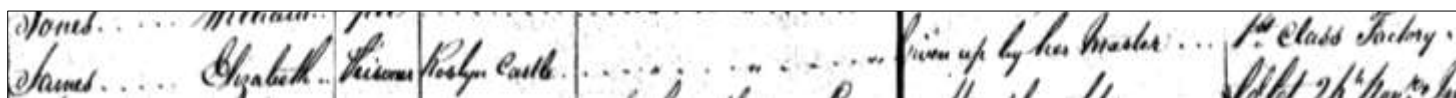
Once in the colony, life for some women was unsettled with a number of the *Roslin Castle* women being charged with rioting at the Parramatta Female Factory in 1831 and sent to Newcastle. Elizabeth James was one of those women - once landed her life became a litany of assignments, reassignments, absconding and subsequent punishment<sup>2</sup>.

**Elizabeth James** was born in Glamorganshire, Wales. She was baptised 9<sup>th</sup> December 1804, daughter of Lewellin and Margaret James. She was convicted in Glamorgan Quarter Sessions on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1829 for ‘stealing money’. Elizabeth had 2 previous convictions and was sentenced to 7 years transportation. She was one of 128 women who embarked the convict ship *Roslin Castle*, departing The Downs on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1830. The ship arrived in Port Jackson on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1830 after a voyage of 118 days<sup>3</sup>.

The muster roll describes Elizabeth as age 26, reads, Protestant, and single; a laundress and all work; 4 feet 11<sup>3/4</sup> inches; a pale and pock pitted complexion, brown hair and brown eyes, cast inward in right eye, top point of right little finger injured; to be assigned to Geo. Innes.

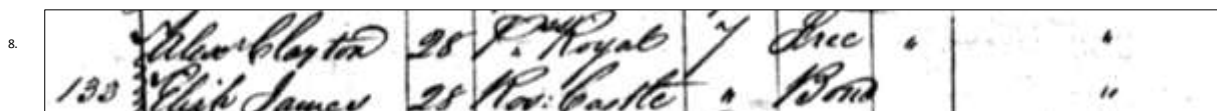


Two months after arrival, Elizabeth was listed as ‘absent without leave’ and was returned to the factory to serve 10 days in the cells (5<sup>th</sup> August 1830)<sup>4</sup>. Three months later, Elizabeth was in 1<sup>st</sup> Class at the Parramatta Female Factory having been given up by her master (entry for 29<sup>th</sup> October 1830)<sup>5</sup>.



There is an entry for Elizabeth James dated 5<sup>th</sup> March 1831, ‘sentenced to 3 years - Penal Settlement for Mutinous Conduct and riot in the Female Factory at Parramatta’<sup>6</sup>. Her conduct in gaol was noted as ‘orderly’ and in August, she was reassigned and sent to private service to Alexander Phelp, a baker in Pacific Street, Newcastle. One month later, on 30<sup>th</sup> September, Elizabeth was returned from assignment to Newcastle Gaol by the Newcastle Bench<sup>7</sup>.

In April 1832 Elizabeth James applied to marry William Barton, a widower per *Morley* 1829. The application was denied since William had declared on arrival that he was married with 4 children. A month later, Elizabeth applied to marry Alexander Clayton per *Princess Royal* 1823, (free by servitude). They married ‘with the consent of the governor’ on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1832 - both signed with their mark (X)<sup>8</sup>. Elizabeth is listed as ‘laundress’ and living with ‘husband’ in July 1832<sup>9</sup>. No further reference can be found for Alexander Clayton.



For the next few years, life for Elizabeth was far from settled. An entry for 27<sup>th</sup> March 1833, has Elizabeth at Port Macquarie<sup>10</sup>. An entry in the Bench Book Police Office, Port Macquarie, for 19<sup>th</sup> August 1833, shows Elizabeth James per *Roslin Castle* and Bridget Sweeney per *Edward*, servants of Mr Ackroyd, ‘guilty of absconding and sentenced to 14 days in cells each - Sweeney to be returned to the government at the request of her master’.

Six months later, in 26<sup>th</sup> May 1834, Elizabeth James and Ellen Gillies per *Buffalo*, are found guilty of ‘absconding from the Factory’ and sentenced to 14 days in the cells each<sup>11</sup>. Sometime in 1834, Elizabeth had been reassigned to Major Innes and absconded yet again. She was sentenced to 14 days in the cells and was to be returned to her master<sup>12</sup>.

An entry for 14<sup>th</sup> April 1835 in the Monthly Returns for Port Macquarie Penal Settlement (1835-1836) lists Elizabeth James per *Roslin Castle* as ‘absconded from the factory’ - having been absent from the factory ‘since February 24<sup>th</sup>’. In the Monthly Return for 31<sup>st</sup> August 1835, Elizabeth is noted as ‘discharged’ (assigned) however it seems that this assignment also failed for her. In the Government Gazette dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 1835, she was reported as ‘a runaway, apprehended during the week’.

An entry for 31<sup>st</sup> August 1836 shows Elizabeth was reassigned however a month later, on 30<sup>th</sup> September, she appears in the Monthly Return of Female Prisoners in the Factory Port Macquarie as, 'received from assignment'.

In the General Muster of 31<sup>st</sup> December 1837, Elizabeth is shown at Port Macquarie and assigned to CLD Fatterine (?). Elizabeth was by this time, aged 33.

In 1839 (16<sup>th</sup> December), there is an application to marry for Elizabeth James aged 35 per *Roslin Castle* aged 35, ('free') and Jonathan Hunt aged 25 ('Ticket of Leave') per *Lady Harewood*. The marriage was approved however no record of marriage has been found<sup>13</sup>.

13.

Date	Name	Age	Ship	Residence	Dept. of Transportation	Chief of Convicts Dept
Nov 29	Robert Spence	25	Lady Harewood	14	14	Spence
	Elizabeth James	35	Roslin Castle	7		Spence

Given her multiple assignments and repeated absconding, one cannot help but wonder about Elizabeth. Her resistance to a life of repeated assignment and her return to the factory system and the inevitable punishment, sustained over a period of six years, was quite extraordinary.

After such a turbulent life following her transportation, there was a positive outcome for Elizabeth - her Certificate of Freedom was granted on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1854 which was 24 years after her arrival<sup>14</sup>. She would have been aged 50.

References:

- <sup>1</sup> [https://www.freesettlorofelon.com/convict\\_ship\\_roslin\\_castle\\_1830.htm](https://www.freesettlorofelon.com/convict_ship_roslin_castle_1830.htm) by Jenni Willett accessed 12/5/21
- <sup>2</sup> Our Girls - unpublished work sourced from original papers State Archives & Records NSW by Anne Mathews and Beth Matthews
- <sup>3</sup> ibid
- <sup>4</sup> SR Reel 851 Sydney Gaol & Entrance Book SARNSW
- <sup>5</sup> SR Reel 755 Sydney Gaol & Entrance Book SARNSW
- <sup>6</sup> Newcastle Gaol Entrance Book - entry 499 SARNSW
- <sup>7</sup> Our Girls-unpublished work, sourced from original papers, SARNSW by Anne Mathews and Beth Matthews
- <sup>8</sup> NSW Marriage Registration #1832 1190 Vol 16
- <sup>9</sup> Convict & Employers List 1828 - 1844 1832 Convict Records SARNSW
- <sup>10</sup> Bench Book, Police Office Port Macquarie SARNSW
- <sup>11</sup> Bench Book, Police Office Port Macquarie SARNSW
- <sup>12</sup> ibid
- <sup>13</sup> New South Wales, Australia - Registers of Convict Applications to Marry 1826-1851 SARNSW
- <sup>14</sup> Entry for Elizabeth James No. 54/0042 New South Wales, Certificates of Freedom 1827-1867, SARNSW

14.



Image: Artist unknown: Early Port Macquarie Settlement

CERTIFICATE OF FREEDOM.

No. 54/42  
 Date First May 1854

✓  
 Prisoner's No.... 203/30  
 Name..... Elizabeth James  
 Ship..... Roslin Castle (1)  
 Master..... Ferguson  
 Year..... 1830  
 Native Place..... Brynau, Glamorganshire  
 Trade or Calling... Launderess & mill work  
 Offence..... Stealing Money  
 Place of Trial... Glamorgan 2<sup>d</sup> J.  
 Date of Trial.... 20<sup>th</sup> Octo<sup>r</sup> 1829  
 Sentence..... Seven years  
 Year of Birth.... 1804  
 Height..... 4 feet 10 3/4 inches  
 Complexion.... Pale & good natured  
 Hair..... Brown  
 Eyes..... Dark brown  
 General Remarks. Cast in ward in right  
 Eye - scar on the top of  
 little finger of right hand

(delivered)

## THE RESEARCH CENTRE MUSTER

It has been a busy time since the last muster. We have continued to receive donations of books for the Centre, all gratefully received. We have started populating our computers with information and lists for researchers and are in the embryonic stages of developing vertical files with information about the women. If you have something that you think is relevant and useful to any of these three areas of resource please send an email or talk to us at one of our meetings or events.

We continue to receive inquiries about women in the factory. With more profile for the centre on Facebook, we have also been receiving interest in factory visits and people sharing their information about the factory and their ancestors.

We had the first in our workshop series in April. This was on first steps in your family history, which was well delivered by Kevin Dodds and even the experienced family historians who attended, were busily taking notes and picking up some further handy hints.

The Parramatta Female Factory Friends National Trust Heritage Festival Open Day proved to be a great success. The Research Centre was buzzing with interest in descendants sharing their stories and we were able to capture these with permission to retain in our files for visiting researchers. There was also interest in the displays including the PowerPoints, a nice addition to the physical displays and a popup display of contemporary samples of oakum, flax, merino wool (from descendants of original flocks) string and cloth (wool, linen and linsey woolsey), all made according to research or original material of the time. The book and computer resources also garnered interest.

Gay Hendriksen  
Co-ordinator - PFFF Research Centre



### Horrendous Hulks (the plight of female convicts on board the floating prisons)

Have you ever thought of the female convicts and what they faced in England and its notoriously overcrowded prison system? A little research shows how they languished for months in gaols and only the lucky boarded convict ships from the courts and police holding cells. Most females were sent to a prison awaiting the government to arrange for the assignment of a convict ship for transportation to a colony.

Following the American War of Independence, there was a decline of living standards throughout England and Ireland. The British Government decreed through legislation of the Hulks Act of 1776, a severe mode of punishment short of death as required by the Transportation Act of 1718. The legislation changed the status of prisoners from confined to gaol to servants of the crown or their service of the State. In effect all prisoners now became slaves to do the crown's bidding. The Hulks Act now provided a means to efficiently house prisoners on board decommissioned ships and have them so packed as to overcrowding.

The ships were de-masted and all accoutrements for sailing were removed and so to make room for more convicts, the galley and internal cabins were removed and a makeshift galley, stores and laundry were constructed on the fore or aft decks.

Women were sent most often to awaiting ships at the point of departure and sometimes languished for months on board a convict ship and sometimes with other decks housing male prisoners. There were only a few all female ships such as the infamous *Lady Juliana* - however there were women housed on a specific hulk at Portsmouth – *the Dunkirk*.

The Hulks Act stipulated that women were incapable of heavy labour (where men would work from dawn to dusk – dredging the rivers by hand, building docks, boats, ships and carrying cargo), and women were required to work in houses of correction – factories where they would beat hemp to make ropes, making ropes, making cotton and linen and other factory-type work.

Conditions on board the hulk ships were notoriously poor and inhumane. Wooden beds were 36" wide by 5' long with usually three or four per bunk. The female prisoners were issued a prison cloth uniform (no undergarments or warm outer garments) and given a plate and a cup. Their minimal personal effects were stored in a small box or a bag below decks. Apart from factory work, the female convicts were kept below decks and were not allowed any visitors in case the visitor smuggled keys or tools to help them escape.

Sewerage was an issue with a bucket shared amongst a deck so many urinated or defecated on the floor. The stench from the boats was so powerful that it has often been described as assailing the senses when arriving at the docks. The waters were so putrid surrounding the hulks, that one dare not fall into the water.

The diseases on board the hulks were rife and many died from cholera, dysentery and typhus - some even died from starvation, such was the poor rationing as food in gaols was often supplemented with donations and such donations were not made to the hulks. As a result, about a third of male convicts on hulks died so the Hulks Act was amended to improve rationing and medical conditions yet the mental anguish on board the floating prisons had broken many spirits.

Prison hulks were replicated in a number of colonies including Australia and there were prison hulks in Sydney and Hobart. All I can say is that receiving 7 years gaol for a petty crime, then to survive the dimly overcrowded and impoverished prison system, then boarding a putrid hulk for months or years (some male convicts actually spent the whole 7 years aboard a hulk) and then surviving the Atlantic in usually a leaky wooden ship to arrive in Australia only to suffer further with a class based prison system, is a testimony to those who survived.

Kevin Dodds  
Researcher PFFF Research Centre

References:

[Convict Hulks | The Digital Panopticon www.digitalpanopticon.org/Convict\\_Hulks](http://www.digitalpanopticon.org/Convict_Hulks) accessed 17 May 2021.

[Convict hulks | Sydney Living Museums www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/convict-hulks](http://www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/convict-hulks) accessed 17 May 2021

[List of British prison hulks - Wikipedia www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_British\\_prison\\_hulks](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_British_prison_hulks) accessed 17 May 2021

[The Botany Bay Medallion » Blog Archive » CONVICT TRANSPORTATION – THE HULKS ACT & HOW THE MIND-SET OF SLAVERY CAME TO AUSTRALIA](#) accessed 17 May 2021

[Lady Juliana \(1777 ship\) - Wikipedia](#) accessed 17 May 2021

[The Floating Brothel, Sian Rees © 2002, New York, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition](#)

[3. The Prison Hulks - Transported Convicts to Australia \(google.com\)](#) accessed 17 May 2021

[HMS Dunkirk \(1754\) - Wikipedia](#) accessed 17 May 2021

[Prison hulk \[picture\]. \(nla.gov.au\)](#) accessed 17 May 2021

Figure: Former HMS *York* was converted into a 'hulk' to house the overflow of convict prisoners.

ANMM Collection [00005539](#). [www.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/anmm-data/blog/00005539.jpg \(1020x690\)](http://www.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/anmm-data/blog/00005539.jpg) accessed 17 May 2021

---

## Through the Keyhole - Inquiry on the question of who is Catherine Armstrong

The team received a request for information on a Catherine Armstrong, who may or may not have passed through the Female Factory. There were two women of this name known in the resources available to us, however other factors do not match as yet for the enquirer.

The enquirer was also interested in any information available on what might have happened to her two children after she died in 1832. Whilst not strictly a Factory research mission, further research is required on what might be the fate of the children, possibly left 'homeless' at the ages of 8 and 6 years in 1839, when their father died.

With the benefit of a publication on Australian Education 1788-1900 donated to the team resources, some possibilities have been eliminated. Other options continue to be researched in the background, which will add to the team's ability to assist with information on Factory women and their children for future enquiries.

While researching Catherine Armstrong born Cavan County, Ireland, sentenced to 7 years, transported on the Ship *Mariner* in 1825, we added another Catherine Armstrong to our list. It was discovered there was another Catherine Armstrong, born Sligo, Ireland, transported per *Francis & Eliza* in 1815, and was sent to Government Factory at Parramatta (1st Factory in Prince Alfred Square).

In the 1822 Census she was married to E. Stanton, and free by servitude. The 1825 Census shows that Catherine was employed in the Parramatta Female Factory, and in 1828 Census she was working at Castle Hill for Timothy Donohue. Her story spans both factories, a fitting discovery for this Bicentennial year of the women moving from one factory to the other.

Janice Ruse Huntington and Lyn Watkins  
Researchers - PFFF Research Centre



And this month, there are more unexpected discoveries and serendipitous moments to report!

In a previous lifetime in the music industry, I managed a musical duo called the Johnson Brothers (Luke and Richard). In 1981 they released their version of the Eric Bogle song 'No Man's Land Gallipoli'. Surprisingly, the brothers were proven descendants of the Reverend Richard Johnson, who married James Ruse and Elizabeth Perry in 1790. In fact, Reverend Richard Johnson signed for Elizabeth Perry, as James Ruse could sign his own name.

Another person who played a role in James' life was McDonnaugh, who was charged with stealing a smock frock and two pairs of trousers from James Ruse in 1790. He was sentenced to receive 200 lashes and wear an iron collar for six months. In the 1990s I had a friend named McDonough who was very proud of his Australian history and whilst there has been no attempt to connect to the 1790 McDonnaugh, it is not a common name, and I cannot help but ponder...

Janice Ruse Huntington

At a recent talk by Ronda Gaffey at Hambledon Cottage, my ears pricked at the mention of *Princes* and *Cumberland Street* in the Rocks. It turns out that one of my forbears Robert Woodley (per *Larkins* 1817) was living in Cumberland Street around 1824 and so was Ronda's great, great grandfather James Templeton (per *Hercules* 1802). Both men had landholdings in Princes and Cumberland Streets in the 1820s. In 1826 Robert was living in a substantial stone house, in Cumberland Street, 'with a commanding view of the Harbour'<sup>1</sup>.

With a little detective work from John (Ronda's brother), maps were found in the City of Sydney Archives which pinpointed exactly where both men had property in Princes Street - they were in fact, diagonally opposite each other.

It is a fascinating connection - the families lived in and had properties in *Princes Street* and *Cumberland Street* which were in the Gipps Ward, in the County of *Cumberland* and years later, in the 1950's, Ronda and I were living at the opposite ends of *Cumberland Road* - Ronda at the Auburn end and me at the Berala end (and, in the County of *Cumberland*)!

It is interesting how vice-regal names have endured since Maquarie's time.

BY MR. R. C. PRITCHETT,  
On Tuesday, the 20th of February, if not previously Disposed  
of by Private Contract,  
**T**HAT valuable Two-story Stone Dwelling HOUSE, containing eight rooms, bakehouse and loft, about three-quarters of an acre of ground, with a well of pure water, abundantly supplied in the driest season, situated in Princes-street, Sydney; for eligibility of situation it requires no comment, commanding an extensive View of Sydney Cove, and Darling Harbour. For the convenience of Purchasers, it will be Sold either altogether or in Lots --- Terms, One-half the Purchase Money down, the remainder in Six Months. Security on the Premises.---For further Particulars, apply to the Proprietor, Mr. WOODLEY, on the above Premises.

Anne Mathews

Ronda writes: By the time of his death in 1849, James Templeton owned 5 stone and shingle cottages in the Rocks. These were bequeathed to his wife Sarah Scott per *Elizabeth* (1828). My maternal grandmother, who was a granddaughter of James and Sarah, was living at a relative's house at 105 Princes Street when she married in 1900.

By the late 1920s, Princes Street had been resumed to make way for the southern approach to the Harbour Bridge.



The Argyle Cut c1853: NLA  
the first bridge over the 'cut' is Cumberland St  
Princes Street is the second bridge in the distance



Princes Street c 1880s

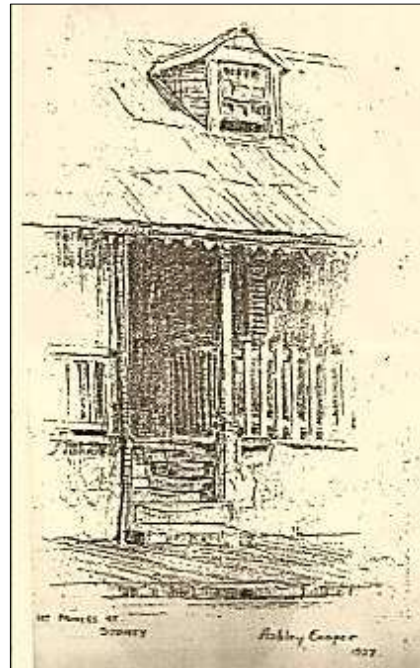


Princes Street - Rocks Resumption c1901 -1920

Reference:

<sup>1</sup>The Sydney Gazette & Advertiser (1803-1842), 04.11.1826 p.1

James Templeton of Sydney (Merchant)  
 do make this my last will & testament viz  
 That my funeral shall be conducted in the  
 most frugal manner, & that as soon after  
 as possible all my just Debts shall be paid  
 That I hereby give Demise and Bequeath  
 unto my wife Sarah (who arrived in the  
 Ship Elizabeth the 4<sup>th</sup> by the name of Sarah  
 Scott) all and singular, the Property & my  
 full Possession of what ever Houses, lands,  
 Hereditaments, Tenements, Monies, Debts  
 or the Savings & such in my name, or  
 Debts due to me: to be held & enjoyed by  
 her, for the purposes herein after mentioned  
 Whereas my said wife has borne to me  
 five Children, Namely: William, George



107 Princes Street, the Rocks:  
 Drawing, 1927  
 by Ashley Cooper SLNSW

Extract: Last Will & Testament of James Templeton - bequeathing his houses, and lands to his wife Sarah Templeton who arrived *per Elizabeth* as Sarah Scott.

POSTSCRIPT: Ronda writes: My house deed has the property identified as in 'the Parish of Petersham, in the County of *Cumberland*' - so the family connection is not lost!

Woolcot - Clarke's Map dated 1854  
 City of Sydney Archives  
 Showing Princes and Cumberland Street  
 south of Argyle Street.

