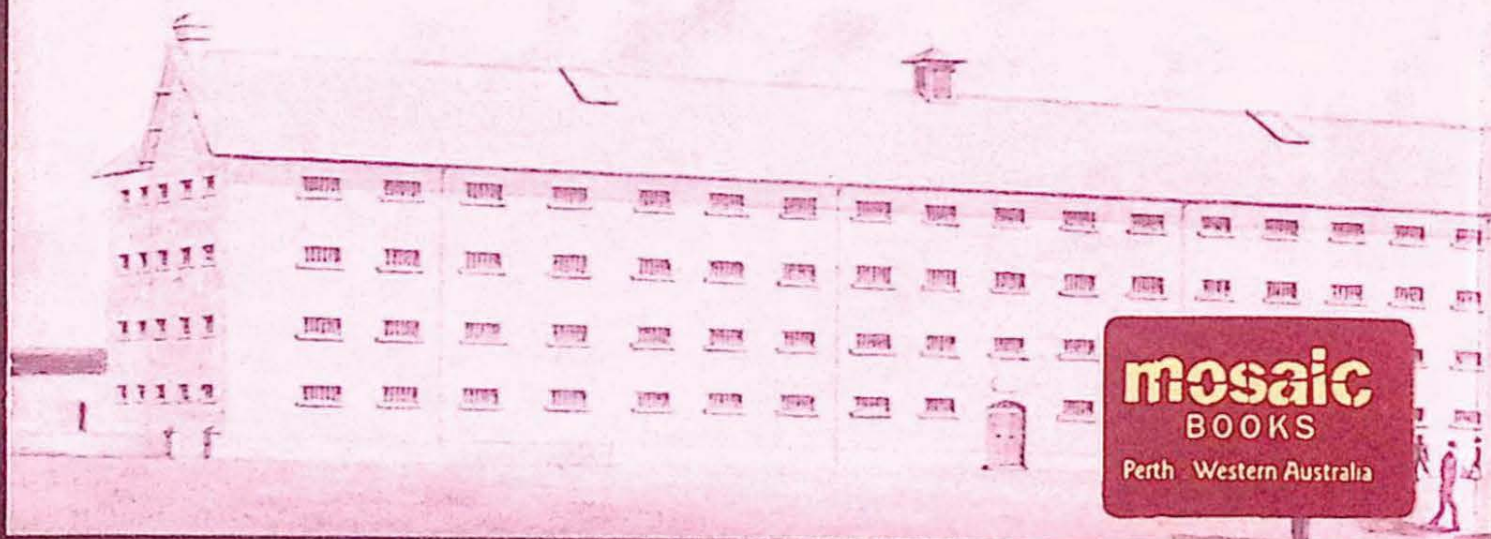
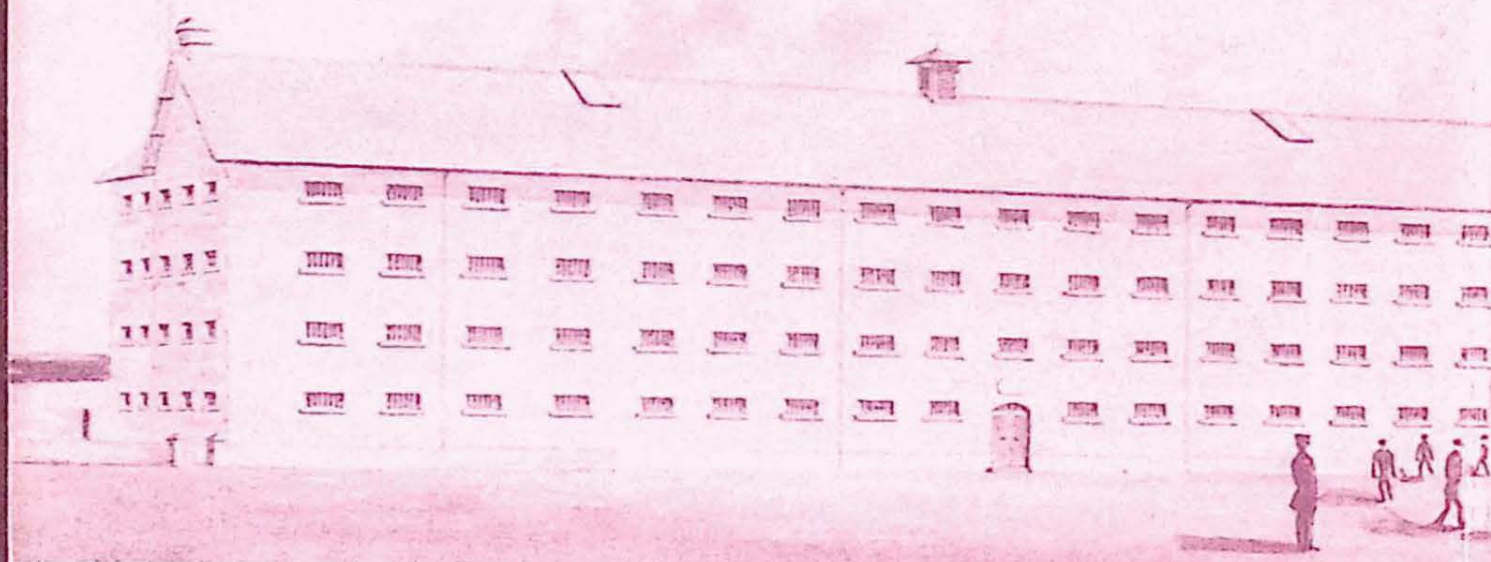
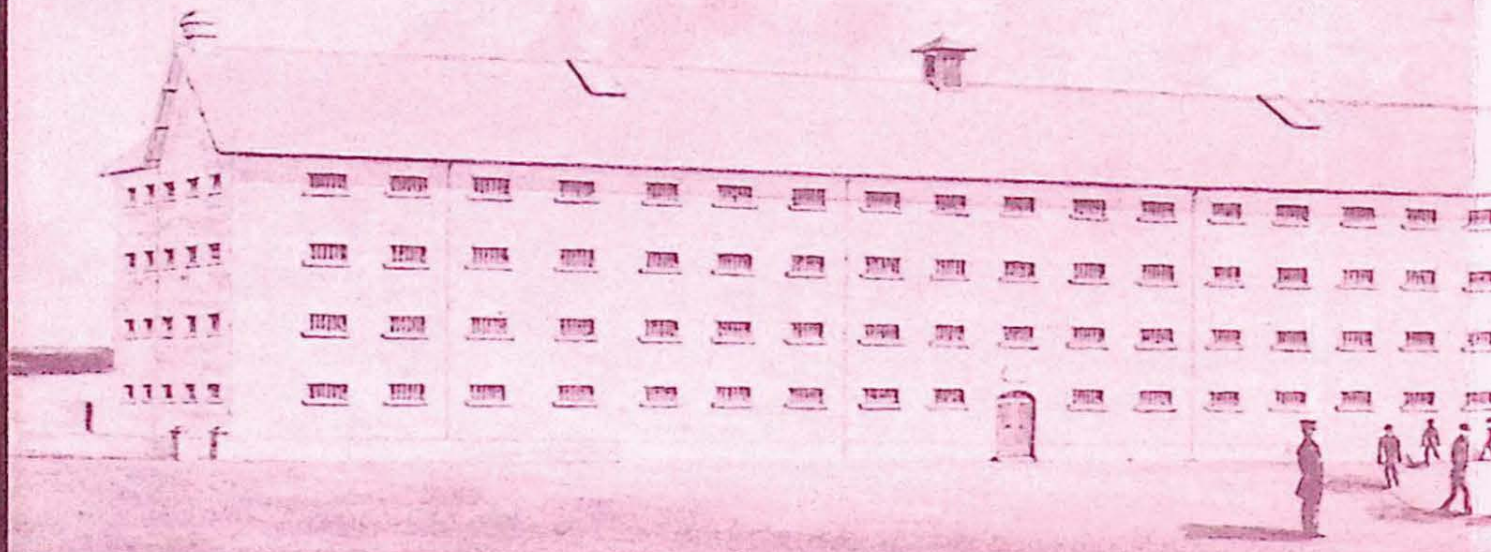


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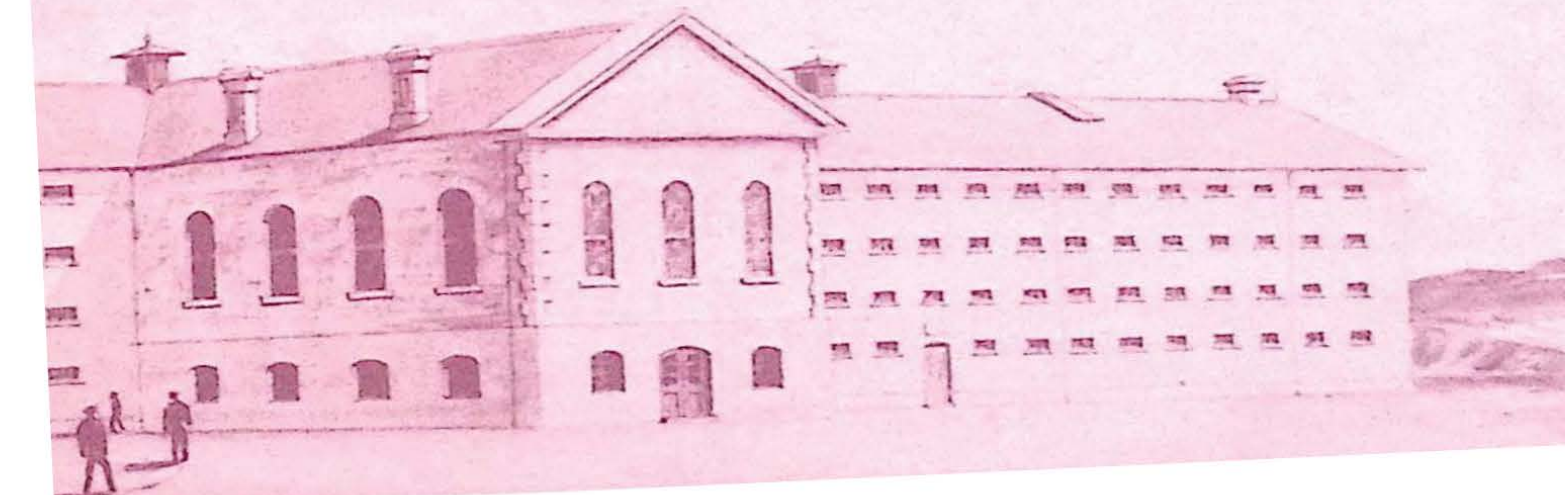
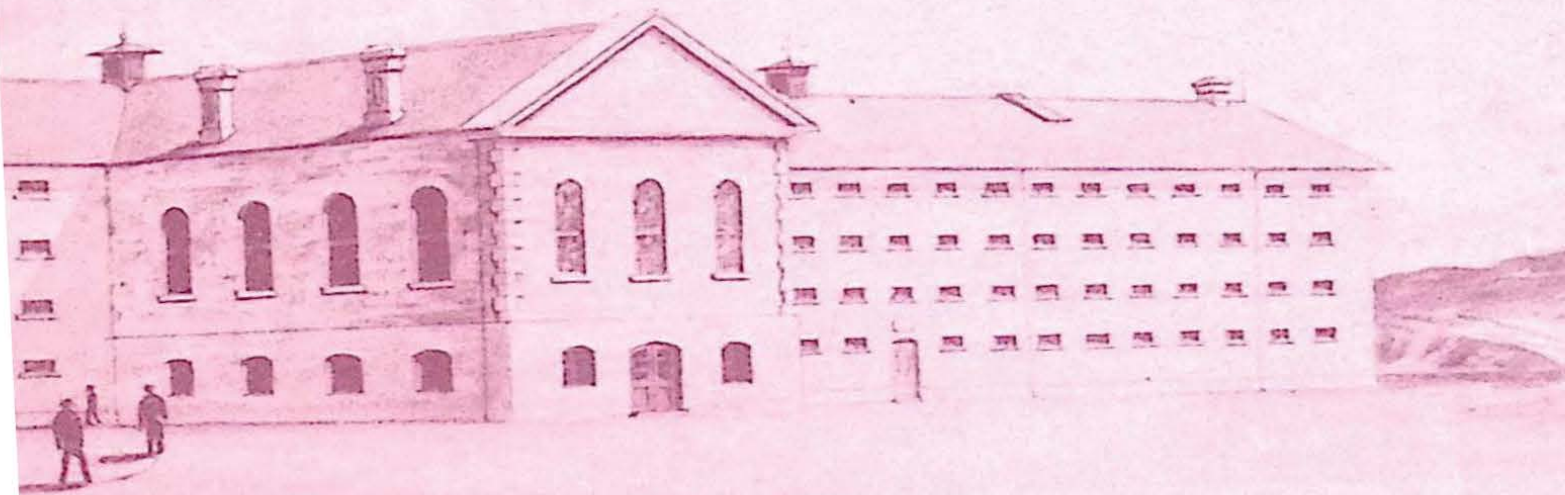
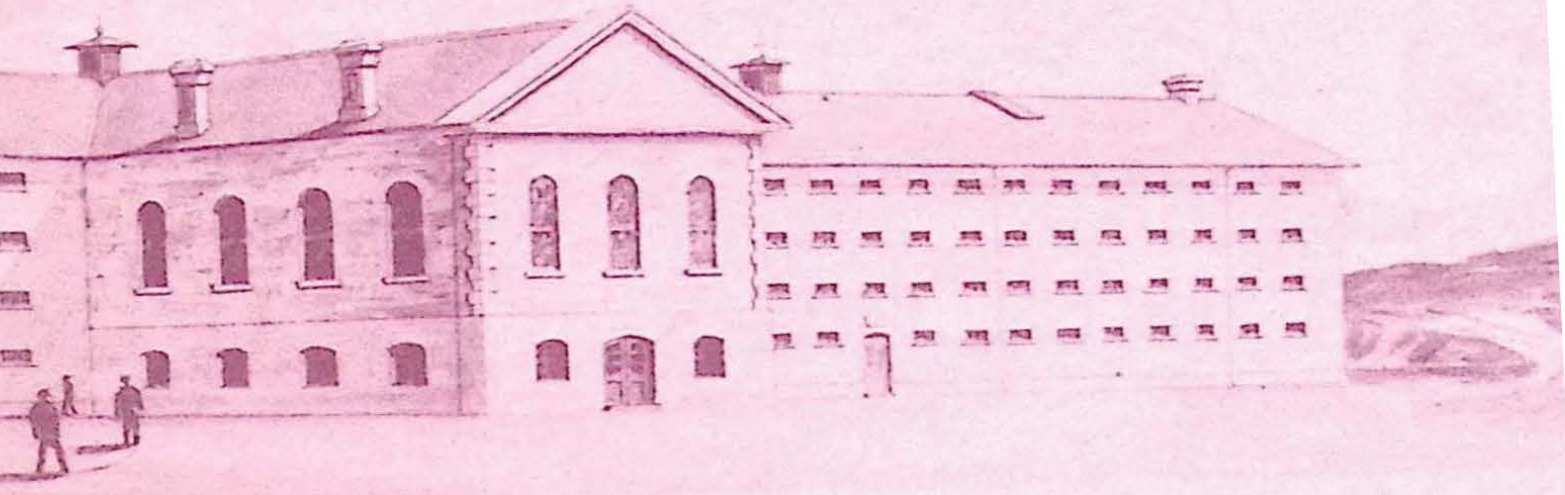
1850–1887

DICTIONARY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIANS
VOLUME IX

RICA ERICKSON AND GILLIAN O'MARA

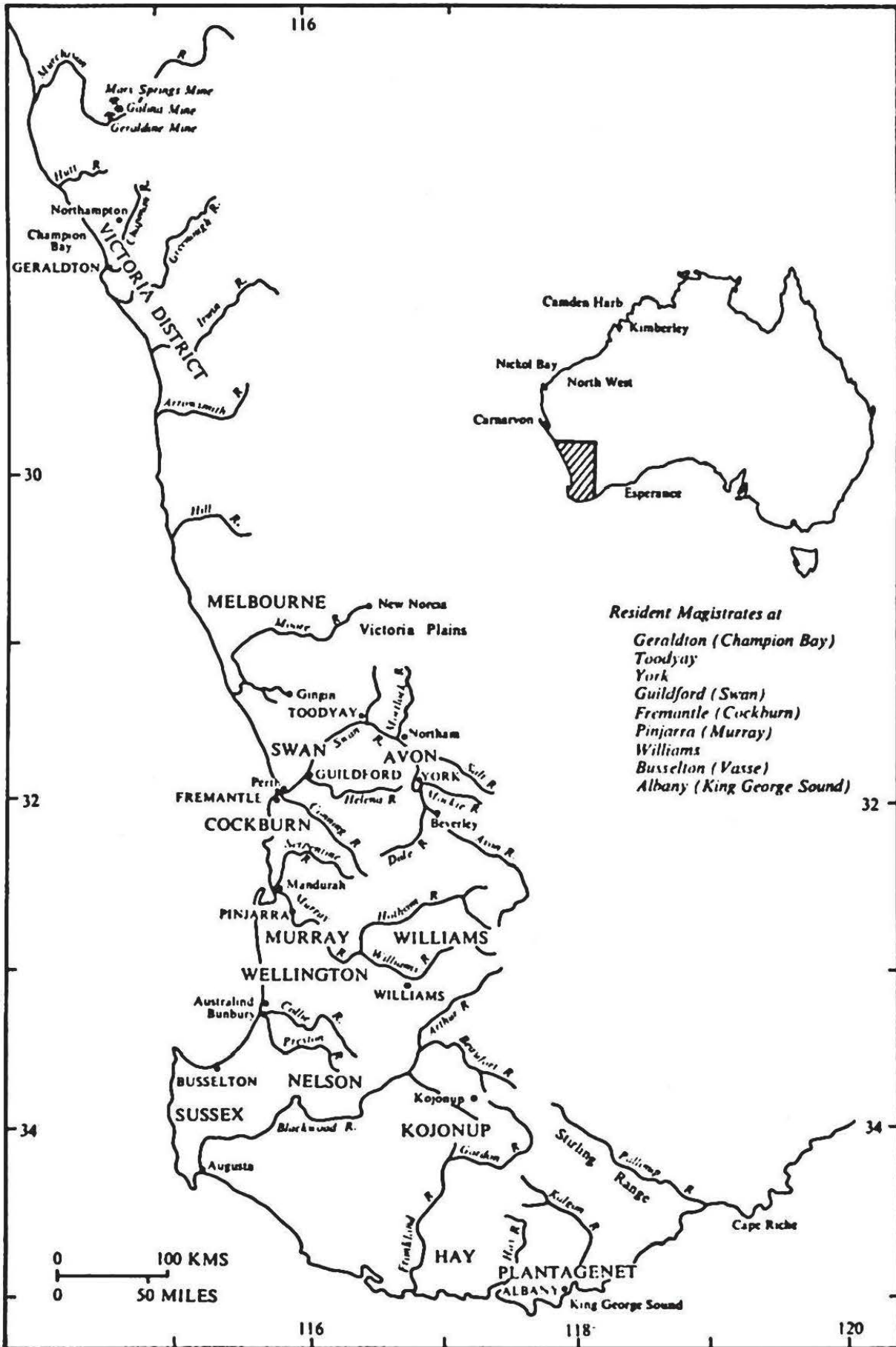


mosaic
BOOKS
Perth Western Australia



SWAN RIVER COLONY 1850-1868

Showing Land Districts and Towns where Resident Magistrates were Located.



CONVICTS
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WESTERN
AUSTRALIA

1850-1887

DICTIONARY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIANS
VOLUME IX

CO-AUTHORS

RICA ERICKSON AND GILLIAN O'MARA



UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA PRESS

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It should be noted that this book is Volume IX of the series previously known as the *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians*, and now called the *Dictionary of Western Australians*.

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INTRODUCTION

Convicts in Western Australia 1850–1887 is a revision of *Bond*, one of three volumes in the series *Dictionary of Western Australians 1829–1868* published in 1979 as working copies. *Bond* was the only unrevised volume when the series was revised and enlarged for publication in 1988, as the *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians, pre-1829–1888*. The delay in revising *Bond* was caused by the large amount of information which became available.

Extensive and painstaking research into this additional information has been done by Gillian O'Mara, as co-author, who in 1990 compiled a booklet *Convict Records of Western Australia: A Research Guide*, published by Friends of Battye Library. This booklet, in effect, acts as a reference volume for the present work.

The publication of *Bond* in 1979 was facilitated when the Public Record Office in London, through the Australian Joint Copying Project, included the convict records for release to each of the State Libraries. The decision to publish the convicts' names at that time was not taken lightly, because hitherto these records were not open to the public, and some descendants of these men regard that period of our history as very sensitive. However, due respect should be given to these convict arrivals.

No female convicts were sent to Western Australia, but the 9,500 or more male convicts who were transported were matched by an equal number of free immigrants, including (by special request) a preponderance of young single women. More than 1,000 of these men had families, including those of de facto relationships. The population exploded almost fivefold during the transportation period 1850–1868, despite the loss of about one-third of the ex-convicts and many others to more favoured parts of Australia.

The importance of the convict presence cannot be ignored. Colonial criminal statistics, the demographic impact of the convicts, their economic contribution, and their effect on colonial life are but a few of the aspects of our history yet to be assessed, though tentatively explored in other publications. The basic data in this work, combined with those in the Battye Library's Western Australian Biographical Index, offer opportunities for study in this absorbing area of our nation's history.

Rica Erickson, Gillian O'Mara
1994

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many people have given generous support to this specialized survey of the convict era in Western Australia. Grateful thanks are extended to correspondents, too numerous to name, whose letters included valuable information on expirees, their families and their careers.

Special thanks are due to members of the staff of the Alexander Library Building, particularly those of the State Archives, the J.S. Batty Library of West Australian History and the Humanities and Social Science Branch. Without their utmost cooperation this project could not have been completed.

Members of the Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc. were also enthusiastic supporters, the Convict Group being most active. Those named here are representative of others who gave help. Special mention must be made of Graham Bown who spent many hours assisting Gillian O'Mara to conquer the intricacies of the computer and the program, that field of technology so valuable to researchers. Brian Croker gave information and inspiration, while Jan Goodacre allowed access to her valuable records. Sheryl Milentis and Norma Fripp assisted with information to the Western Australian Biographical Index.

Mention must be made also of those who assisted in 1987 at a seminar and workshop on convicts held at Fremantle, which became a model for several others, resulting in enthusiastic attendances by a keenly interested public. On that occasion, apart from the authors the speakers were Sister Mary Albertus Bain, Alan Cresswell and Barry Booth, each of whom scanned their files to enrich ours.

Fellow committee members controlling the Western Australian Biographical Index project are commended with gratitude for their confidence that this work would be brought to a happy conclusion.

Last, but not least, gratitude is expressed to the University of Western Australia Press for continued support in publishing works in this series.

GUIDE TO USING THE BOOK

Structure of the Entries

This dictionary contains entries on transportees, colonial convicts and reconvictions from 1 June 1850 to 16 March 1887. Most entries contain only some of the following information. A sample of a complete entry contains:

Name of convict and alias	TROTT Thomas (Henry Thomas)
Individual convict number	(11)
Date and place of birth or baptism	bp23.10.1823 Boston Lincoln
Date, place and cause of death	6.5.1910 Bunbury old age
Marital status on arrival in colony	Unm
Occupation on arrival	boatman mason
Literacy and religion	lit Meth
Sentence place, date	conv Lincoln Ass 6.3.1847
Crime	stealing & assault with others
Previous conviction	prev conv
Length of sentence	15yrs
Name of ship transported in	arr <i>Scindian</i>
Date of arrival at Fremantle	1.6.1850
Date and place of ticket of leave	TL3.12.1850 Fremantle
Date and place of conditional pardon	CP1.5.1856 Bunbury
Date and place of conditional release	CR13.4.1857 Northam
Date and place of remission certificate	Cert of Rem10.11.1860
Date and place of certificate of freedom	CF10.11.1860
Date and place of expiration of sentence	Exp6.2.1863 Bunbury
Districts known to have worked	Irishtown, Serpentine
Occupations in colony	mason builder
Permission to marry and date (BPP, AJCP and CSR records)	Granted permission to marry 1/2yr return 31.12.1853
Marriage, date	Mar Ellen MEADE 15 & 25.8.1851
Religion and place	C/E RC Fremantle
Reconviction place and date	Reconv Fremantle WA 20.3.1854
Parents' names	Hodson & Maria nee BARKER
Parents' abode	Boston
Kin	Relatives' name and abode

Other comments
Descendants/researchers known

Brother of James (3408)
*

All dates are by day, month, year.

This information is set out in the following way:

TROTT Thomas (Henry Thomas) (11) bp23.10.1823—6.5.1910 Bunbury—Unm mason, lit Meth, conv Lincoln Ass 1847 stealing & assault with Benjamin BARKER and John RAISON (64) 15 yrs; arr *Scindian* 1.6.1850 TL3.12.1850 Fremantle Exp6.2.1863; Serpentine, Bunbury. Granted permission to marry 1/2yr return 30.6.1852. Mar Ellen MEADE C/E 15th & RC 25.8.1851 Fremantle. Recony WA 20.3.1854 break & enter 1yr; Fremantle. Son of Hodson & Maria nee BARKER of Boston Lincoln. Brother of James (3408)*.

Colonial convictions are not always given a number but their entries are on the same pattern, as follows:

ANDERSON George (James) (7614) 1829—Unm sawyer, lit Prot, conv Usk Sess 22.3.1858 rob & wound life; arr *Clara* 13.4.1864 TL13.6.1864 CF7.4.1868. Recony WA 6.10.1881 3yrs (10,316) Age 48—Unm sawyer, speaks French. Kin Sarah TAYLOR St Phillips Bristol.

Abbreviations and Terms

acc	accidentally	Co	County
ag	agricultural	conv	convicted
AJCP	Australian Joint Copying Project	Crt	Courts
ARL	Argyllshire	C/Scot	Church of Scotland
arr	arrived	CSO	Colonial Secretary's Office
Ass	Assizes	CSR	Colonial Secretary's Returns
asyl	asylum	Diss	dissident
BKM	Buckinghamshire	emb	embarked
bp	baptized	ENG	England
BPP	British Parliamentary Papers	est	establishment
CAN	Canada	forg	forgery
CCC	Central Criminal Court	Frem	Fremantle
C/E	Church of England	gen	general
chd	child	GLS	Gloucester
chn	children	griev	grievous
CHS	Cheshire	Grk	Greek

h/	house	rob	robbery
hosp	hospital	Rvr	River
illit	illiterate	SA	South Australia
kin	relative	SCT	Scotland
lab	labourer	SDUR	Survey Department Unofficial Received
LIN	Lincolnshire	Sess	Quarter Sessions
lit	literate	SFK	Suffolk
LND	London	SOM	Somerset
M	Married overseas	SRY	Surrey
Mar	Married in colony	sup	superior
MDX	Middlesex	svt	servant
Meth	Methodist	TAS	Tasmania/Van Diemens Land
MGY	Montgomeryshire	UK	United Kingdom
MON	Monmouthshire	Unm	Unmarried
nat	natural	VIC	Victoria
nr	near	viol	violence
NS	Nova Scotia	W	Widowed
NSW	New South Wales	WA	Western Australia
NZ	New Zealand	WABI	Western Australian Biographical Index
poss	possibly	Wesl	Wesleyan
Pres	Presbyterian	WLS	Wales
pris	prison	WOR	Worcestershire
Prot	Protestant	YKS	Yorkshire
QLD	Queensland	yrs	years
RC	Roman Catholic		
Reconv	Reconvicted		

Notes Regarding Convict Records Held by the Library and Information Service of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia

A. Convict Registers

Archive Note 358 (AN358) should be consulted for a complete listing of registers concerning the convicts and convict establishment. The records microfilmed as Acc 1156 R Series need to be consulted. A microfiche index to these records (compiled by the Convict Group of the WA Genealogical Society Inc.) is useful in locating much of the information profile.

B. Shipping Lists and Convict Indexes (Acc 128)—Microfilm

A total of forty-three ships brought convicts to Western Australia. These men were listed numerically by their convict number, and chronologically by date of the ship's arrival. Reconvictions and colonial convictions were added separately. By 1864 the date of sentence was added. Information for each convict included number, name, age, physical characteristics, occupation, marital status and number of children. Those who died on the voyage are named and these lists are useful for determining the actual number of men who were transported to this colony. These shipping lists sometimes give information which may be lacking in the registers.

Apart from the shipping lists, other index volumes contain:

Estimates of the Convict Finance Board 1859–1862

Royal Engineers Dept Estimates of Convict Services 1857–1861

Physical Descriptions List of Convicts 1–10377

Return of Prisoners on *Minden* from Various Prisons and Hulks

Return of Prisoners on *Mermaid* from Various Prisons and Hulks

Return of Prisoners on *Scindian*

Return of 84 TL Holders Entitled to CP

Return of 6 Courts Martial Prisoners Entitled to CP

Crew List of *Minden*

Correspondence Index 1854–1880

The information contained therein is only as accurate as the person giving the details and the clerk's hearing. Most records were verbally exchanged and accents have accounted for misspellings of names, and for variations in ages in particular.

C. Colonial Office Despatches

Official government despatches to and from England include half-yearly returns from the Convict Establishment in Western Australia—the two major sources being the Colonial Secretary's Returns (correspondence) microfilmed as CSR Acc 36, and the Colonial Office (England) CO18 AJCP Handbook Part 2. Further sources are in Archive Note 24 (AN24) and the Colonial Office Despatches indexes held by State Archives under headings, such as Poor Relief, Paupers, and correspondence from Resident Magistrate of the several districts in the Colony (covered also in CSR Acc 36). Knowledge of the specific period of time is needed for easy and fruitful research. When more than one man has the same name, the convict's number is essential for accurate identification.

D. The Convict System (British Parliamentary Papers)

These printed papers held in the Rare Book Collection at Dewey No 343.2 are a summary of the records of the half yearly returns as Annual Reports of Convict Establishments in Australia (inclusive of Western Australia). The AJCP CO records are more informative.

E. Expirees Leaving the Colony from the Port of Albany

State Archive Acc 318 is an alphabetical list of convicts by name, number, date of departure from the colony with the ship's name and destination, as well as the name of the ship on which he had arrived.

F. Ticket of Leave Registers

Ticket of leave registers detail the working history of Ticket of Leave men employed in the colony. Most give the district, the employer's name and abode, date of employment, pay rate, kind of work, date of discharge, and sometimes a physical description. There are registers for:

Perth	Acc 1386	Microfilm	<i>(Also a microfiche index compiled by the Convict Group)</i>
Swan	Acc 1171	Volume	
Toodyay	Acc 1156 R6	Microfilm	

G. Home Office Records (AJCP)

The AJCP Handbook Part 3 index of HO27 allows for access when the English and Welsh county of the trial is determined. The listings of convicts are recorded chronologically within each county. Convictions in Scotland can be obtained through Prison Commission Records under the AJCP P.Com 2, and for Irish convicts through the Irish Transportation Records.

H. Irish Transportation Records

The Irish Transportation Registers (TR) give name, age, date of trial, judge or magistrate's name, name of ship and date of departure. The computer index gives access to the correct microfilm. If a Petition was made from the prisoner or his relatives, more than one record may appear, and can be enlightening on social and economic structures. Fenian Notes and Photographs are a separate section in this series.

I. Reconvictions

Reconvictions when tried in the Supreme Court are indexed chronologically under the Consignment and Record Series (CONS 3422) by trial number, name, whether Free, TL, CP, Exp etc., crime, date of trial, verdict, sentence. The records should be cross-referenced with CSR Acc 36.

J. Births, Deaths and Marriages

Civil registration commenced in 1841. The records are held by the Registrar General's Office, who has indexed on microfiche:

Birth	1841-1905
Marriage	1841-1930
Death	1841-1953

These need to be cross-checked with church records for baptism, marriage and burial, as these events were not always registered.

K. Rica Erickson's Collection (Western Australian Biographical Index Files)

This collection contains the files which were used in the compilation of the *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians* with supporting paperwork, documents and research. Manuscript Note 1217 (MN1217) is the index to the microfilms commencing with Acc 3710A/1 Alphabetical Listing, Acc 3754A Laskey's Notes, and continuing through family trees, church transcripts, shipping arrivals and departures, CSO, poor relief, SDUR, newspaper records. Acc 3780A/ comprises Convict Files which give details of work record and are listed alphabetically by convict surname. These WABI microfilms are particularly useful for biographical information.

Readers are advised to consult the complete series of the *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians, pre-1829-1888* as listed below:

Vols I-IV	A-C, D-J, K-Q, R-Z pre-1829-1888	<i>Rica Erickson</i>
Vol. V	Asian Immigrants to WA 1829-1901	<i>Anne Aitkinson</i>
Vol. VI	Aborigines of the Albany Region 1821-1898	<i>Neville Green</i>
Vol. VII	Aborigines of New Norcia 1845-1914	<i>Neville Green and Lois Tilbrook</i>
Vol. VIII	Aborigines of the Southwest Region 1829-1840	<i>Sylvia Hallam and Lois Tilbrook</i>

and forthcoming volumes in the continuing series on Aborigines.

L. *Convict Records of Western Australia: A Research Guide* by Gillian O'Mara

Gillian's guide covers a wider range of records available for convict research and should be used following the guideline step by step.

The preceding notes A-L are a selection of the most useful registers. Detailed information can be gained by checking the State Archives Archive Notes (particularly AN358) for convict establishment records, but Courts, Police and Colonial Office Despatch indexes should be used, as should the updated Consignment and Record Series (CONS).