

Western Australia began its life as a free colony in 1829 and it was not until its 21st birthday in 1850 that the convict labour it sought to bolster its flagging economy finally arrived. The 18 year history of its convict past between 1850 and 1868 may be given most attention by historians, but it is important to note that its first taste of convict life was really in 1827 when a small party of soldiers and convicts arrived from Sydney to establish a British presence in the region amidst fears of French occupation. It is even possible that some of the New South Wales convicts found themselves further north in the Swan River Settlement in the years that followed.

Algarkirk Convict Details

Joseph CANT

Of: Algarkirk	Occupation: Labourer	Age: 24
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Crime:

Breaking and entering a certain building of Edward Dean's at Algarkirk, and stealing a coat and a jacket, the property of John Burdall. Breaking and entering a certain building of Samuel Palmer's at Algarkirk, and stealing a pair of boots, the property of Robert Watson, and a pair of boots, the property of Justus Burdall

Place of Crime: Algarkirk	Court: Holland Quarter Sessions	Trial Date: 04/04/1853
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Sentence: 14 Years (7 years for each offence)	Ship: Stag	Destination: Western Australia	Transportation Date: 1855
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Other Remarks:

Also accused of stealing a jacket, a coat and a pair of splats, the property of William Sharp, at Kirton in Holland; but was not tried on this offence. Convicted with John Henry Eason

Stag - This 678 ton barque was built at Sunderland in 1842. It was employed as a convict transport for Western Australia and left London, England on February 5, 1855 bound for the Swan River Colony. She carried the fourteenth of 37 shipments of male convicts destined for Western Australia. The voyage took 107 days and the **Stag arrived in Fremantle on May 23, 1855** with 89 passengers and 225 convicts H.N. Clarke and Jos. Caldwell were the captain and surgeon respectively. There were no deaths recorded on the convict shipping and description lists and 225 convict numbers were assigned for the voyage. Of the 89 passengers mentioned above, all 89 were pensioner guards and their families, the number being made up of 30 pensioner guards, 24 wives, 17 sons and 18 daughters.

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/con-wa15.html>

John Henry EASON

Of: Algarkirk	Occupation: Labourer	Age: 25
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Crime:

Breaking and entering a certain building of Edward Dean's at Algarkirk, and stealing a coat and a jacket, the property of John Burdall. Breaking and entering a certain building of Samuel Palmer's at Algarkirk, and stealing a pair of boots, the property of Robert Watson, and a pair of boots, the property of Justus Burdall

Place of Crime: Algarkirk	Court: Holland Quarter Sessions	Trial Date: 04/04/1853
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Sentence: 17 Years (10 years for the first offence, 7 for the second)	Ship: William Hammond	Destination: Western Australia	Transportation Date: 1856
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Other Remarks:

Also accused of stealing a jacket, a coat and a pair of splats, the property of William Sharp, at Kirton in Holland; but was not tried on this offence. Convicted with Joseph Cant. Eason had a previous conviction for felony at HQS on

The Convict Ship William Hammond 1856 was a late frigate ship with three masts and oak hull. She was built in Sunderland in 1853. The ship picked up convicts from the Thames prison hulks Defence and Warrior, then made her way to Portsmouth and Portland where more convicts embarked. *William Hammond* finally left Plymouth on January 5, 1856 bound for the Swan River Colony and arrived in Fremantle on March 29, 1856 after a passage of 84 days. None of the 250 convicts who had embarked died on the voyage.

John EDGOOSE

Of:	Occupation:	Age:
Algarkirk	Labourer	65

Crime:

Stealing 2 stones weight of hay from the stack of Edward Ulllyatt of Algarkirk, farmer

Place of Crime:	Court:	Trial Date:
Algarkirk	Holland Quarter Sessions	18/10/1831

Sentence:	Ship:	Destination:	Transportation Date
7 Years	Asia	New South Wales	1833

Other Remarks:

He was seen stealing the hay with his son Joel

The *Asia* was built at Aberdeen in 1819. She made voyages to New South Wales with convicts in 1820, 1822, 1825, 1828, 1830, 1832 and 1833. The prisoners who were transported on the *Asia* came from counties and cities throughout England - Gloucester, Surry, Lancaster, Bristol, Cumberland, Middlesex, Kent, London etc., Most were probably held in county prisons or Newgate before being transferred to one of the hulks to await transportation.

Joseph HOLLOWAY

Of:	Occupation:	Age:
Algarkirk / Sutterton	Labourer	n/a

Crime:

Assaulting John Murphy of Boston, linen draper, and stealing a quantity of Irish linen cloth

Place of Crime:	Court:	Trial Date:
Sutterton	Holland Quarter Sessions	06/04/1826

Sentence:	Ship:	Destination:	Transportation Date:
7 Years	Speke	New South Wales	1826

Other Remarks:

The crime was committed with John Jackson, alias James Morris, who had been convicted of the crime on 13 January 1825

John MORTON

Of:	Occupation:	Age:
Algarkirk	Labourer	24

Crime:

Stealing an live pig, the property of Joseph Pearson of Algarkirk, farmer

Place of Crime:	Court:	Trial Date:
Algarkirk	Holland Quarter Sessions	03/01/1832

Sentence:	Ship:	Destination:	Transportation Date:
7 Years	Emperor Alexander	Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land)	1833

Other Remarks:

He had been accused of stealing a sow and 5 pigs

Thomas SNELL

Of: Algarkirk. **Occupation:** Labourer **Age:**

Crime:

Stealing 4 live fowls from Edward Hallam of Algarkirk, farmer. He was also accused of stealing 5 fowls from Lydia Archer of Algarkirk, single woman, but was not tried on this offence. Previous conviction for felony in July 1827

Place of Crime: Algarkirk **Court:** Holland Quarter Sessions **Trial Date:** 15/07/1828
Sentence: 7 Years **Ship:** John **Destination:** New South Wales **Transportation Date:** 1829

James STRONG

Of: Algarkirk **Occupation:** Labourer **Age:** 32

Crime:

Stealing a quantity of oats, the property of Edward Booth, farmer

Place of Crime: Kirton **Court:** Holland Quarter Sessions **Trial Date:** 14/10/1823

Sentence: 7 Years **Ship:** Lady East **Destination:** Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) **Transportation Date:** 1825

Other Remarks:

The stolen property was found in Strong's house

Lady East Sailed on 4th November, 1824 Arrived 9th April, 1825 at Van Diemen's Land

Average sentence: 8 Years | Life sentences: 58 | Passengers: 211

John WEEKLY

Of: Algarkirk Sutterton **Occupation:** Labourer **Age:** 31

Crime:

Stealing 30 bushels of potatoes, the property of John Thompson Fossitt and another; stealing 30 bushels of potatoes, the property of a person or persons unknown.

Place of Crime: Sutterton / Algarkirk **Court:** Holland Quarter Sessions **Trial Date:** 03/04/1848

Sentence: 7 Years (and 1 month) **Ship:** William Jardine **Destination:** Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) **Transportation Date:** 1852

Other Remarks:

Weekly was sentenced to 1 month imprisonment with hard labour at the same court for stealing 35 bushels of potatoes, the property of John Armstrong, and stealing 35 bushels of potatoes, the property of a person or persons unknown

John WESTMORELAND

Of: Whaplode / Sutterton **Occupation:** Labourer **Age:** 35

Crime:

Killing a sheep with intent to steal the carcass

Place of Crime: Sutterton **Court:** Holland Quarter Sessions **Trial Date:** 26/06/1848

Sentence: 10 Years **Ship:** Rodney **Destination:** Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) **Transportation Date:** 1850

Other Remarks:

He was tried with Charles Lefevre, who received the same sentence, and Abel Westmoreland, who was acquitted. Ann Lefevre was sentenced to 7 years transportation for receiving stolen mutton

Ann LEFEVRE

Of: Sutterton **Occupation:** **Age:** 44

Crime:

Receiving 20lbs of mutton, the property of George Kirkby, knowing it to have been stolen

Place of Crime: Sutterton **Court:** Holland Quarter Sessions **Trial Date:** 26/06/1848

Sentence: 7 years **Ship:** Stately **Destination:** Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) **Transportation Date:** 1849

Charles LEFEVRE

Of: Wigtoft / Sutterton **Occupation:** Labourer **Age:** 19

Crime:

Killing a sheep with intent to steal the carcass

Place of Crime: Sutterton **Court:** Holland Quarter Sessions **Trial Date:** 26/06/1848

Sentence: 10 Years **Ship:** Aboukir **Destination:** Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) **Transportation Date:** 1852

Other Remarks:

He was tried with John Westmoreland, who received the same sentence. Ann Lefevre was sentenced to 7 years transportation for receiving stolen mutton