



ALEXANDRINA LIBRARY SERVICES

# HISTORY ROOM

NEWS

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by Peter Barclay

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## CAN YOU HELP PLEASE

The History Room has recently received three separate enquiries concerning the location called *The Snake Pit* on the Younghusband Peninsula. These enquiries relate to the origin of the name, the significance of this particular location, and who built the stone building, the ruins of which apparently still exist.

One thought is this stone building was built in the 1870's and belonged to the Dodd or Baker family. Another suggestion is that Chinese settlers who built several wells in the area built the stone building. *The Snake Pit* is close to *Panmuring Point* and on several early maps, three small squares indicating houses/huts are in the vicinity. *Tauwitchere Point* is to the north and to the east over water is *Tauwitchere Island*. *The Snake Pit* is listed as an anchorage spot for *Goolwa Cruises*.

Any help at all concerning *The Snake Pit* would be appreciated. An email to [historyroom2004@yahoo.com.au](mailto:historyroom2004@yahoo.com.au), or a phone call to the Library on 8555 7000 to leave a return contact address or phone number, would be appreciated.

### **ANCESTRY.COM is coming to the Library soon.**

Coming soon to the Library will be a connection to [Ancestry.com.au](http://Ancestry.com.au). This website allows access to Australian and overseas, (particularly England and USA) records that will help in researching the details of your ancestors. To wet your appetite for this wonderful resource, an outline of some of the records available are detailed below.

#### **1841-1901 England, Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands Census**

This census data, along with the English Birth Death and Marriage records, are probably the most used of Ancestry's records for many Australians whose origins are from the United Kingdom.

#### **New South Wales Assisted Immigrant Passenger Lists 1828-1896**

Although many entries have Mr., Mrs., Miss and Master before the surname, the database gives you the Name, Estimated year of Birth, Age, Voyage arrival date and Vessel Name.

#### **New South Wales Unassisted Passenger Lists 1826-1922**

Similar to the database above with the addition of Port of Departure (both overseas and interstate), Port of Arrival and arrival date and vessel name. An entry may not have the estimated birth year and age.

## Australian Electoral Rolls 1901-1936

Electoral Rolls for all but South Australia, are available from 1901 - 1936. Of course, only those people eligible to vote will appear on the lists. For example, a search for *Robert Gordon Menzies (later Sir)* yields the following:

<a href="#">View Record</a>	<b>Robert Gordon Menzies</b>	Male	1931	Victoria	Kooyong	Kew	
<a href="#">View Record</a>	<b>Robert Gordon Menzies</b>	Male	1936	Victoria	Kooyong	Kew	
<a href="#">View Record</a>	<b>Robert Gordon Menzies</b>	Male	1919	Victoria	Kooyong	Kew	
<a href="#">View Record</a>	<b>Robert Gordon Menzies</b>	Male	1924	Victoria	Kooyong	Kew	
	Name	Gender	Electoral Year	State	District	Subdistrict	

Viewing the 1919 record shows Robert Menzies living with his parents James and Kate Menzies, and the 1936 record shows him living with his wife Pattie.

### 1919

5396 Menzies, James, 83 Wellington st., Kew, land owner, M  
 5397 Menzies, Kate, 83 Wellington st., Kew, h. d., F  
 5398 Menzies, Robert Gordon, 83 Wellington st., Kew, barrister-at-law, M

### 1936

9968 Menzies, Pattie Maie, 10 Howard st., Kew, home duties, F  
 9969 Menzies, Robert Gordon, 10 Howard st., Kew, barrister-at-law, M

### Australia, List of Convicts with particulars, 1788-1842

The Database contains various lists of convicts in Australia from 1788 to 1842. The records may include: Name of Convict, trade or occupation, conviction date and place, sentence or term, vessel arrived in Australia on and physical description of the convict.

Three entries for female convicts who arrived in Sydney Cove on the Transport Ship *Umorah 3<sup>rd</sup>* on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August 1824 from Ireland are shown below.

*Amorah 3<sup>rd</sup>* Royal Master

*Master Roll of Female Convicts*

*arrived in Sydney Cove on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 1824 on board the Transport Ship Amorah 3<sup>rd</sup> Capt. Prater from Ireland. Held on board the said Ship on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of said month by Frederick Goulburn Esq. Colonial Secretary by Command of His Excellency.*

*Original number embarked of whom one died on the voyage and one distributed as last? —*

*Prater Surgeon —*

No.	Name	Trade or Calling	Time when taken	Age	Native place	Complexion	Stature	Complexion	Remarks	Signature
23	Jane Armstrong	Sews, Spins, and Washes etc.	County Down	16	County Down	Pale Freckled	5 1/2	Brown hair freckled	Very good	
71	Agnes Lucas	Washer	County Down	17	County Down	Pale Freckled	5	Brown hair freckled	Very good	
107	Mary Ann Lucas	Washer	County Down	17	County Down	Pale Freckled	5	Brown hair freckled	Very good	

The third entry down is for Jane Armstrong and reads as follows:

Trade or Calling, **Sews, Spins, and Washes etc.**; Tried, Where **County Down**, When **August 1820**, Sentence **7** (presumably years); Age **16**; Native Place **County Down**; Height **4'10"**; Colour of eyes, **Grey**, Colour of hair, **Brown**, Complexion, **Pale Freckled**; Remarks, **Pretty, well and unmarried.**

*Happy researching,*

Genealogy help is available by appointment on Thursdays, to guide you through your research. Please phone the Library on 8555-7000 to make an appointment. For comments, suggestions or to receive this newsletter – email [historyroom2004@yahoo.com.au](mailto:historyroom2004@yahoo.com.au) or phone the Library on 8555-7000. Back copies of this newsletter can be sourced on the Alexandrina Council website – <http://www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/site/page/cfm>