

**AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT**

**INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY**

**Logs of East India Company ships, 1759-1827**

**Reels M1620-M1627**

**India Office Records  
The British Library  
96 Euston Road  
London NW1 2DB**

**National Library of Australia  
State Library of New South Wales**

**Filmed: 1983-84**

## HISTORICAL NOTE

The East India Company was formed in 1600 and its charter gave it a monopoly of all English (and later British) trade east of the Cape of Good Hope and west of Cape Horn. The monopoly began to be challenged in the late eighteenth century, for instance by whaling companies. In 1813 the Company's new charter limited the monopoly to the China trade. The Company ceased to be a trading organisation in 1833 and it was nationalised in 1858.

In the seventeenth century the Company sent about eight ships each year to India, the East Indies and later China. The number grew significantly in the eighteenth century. In 1787/88, for instance, there were 33 sailings, in 1807/8 there were 43 sailings, and in 1827/28 there were 38 sailings.

By the eighteenth century the East Indiamen were not owned by the Company but were built to specifications agreed on between the Company and the managing owners on the understanding they would be hired by the Company. A Principal Managing Owner represented the shareholders in their negotiations with the Company. The owners were responsible for providing the officers and crews. At the end of a voyage the commander of a ship would normally hand over a fair copy of his journal to East India House. After the Company was nationalised, the journals were transferred to the India Office Library.

The East India Company was unenthusiastic about the formation of a convict settlement at New South Wales. The British Government, in an effort to reduce costs, was keen to use East Indiamen to transport convicts to Botany Bay. At first, the Company was sometimes willing to charter convict ships on the return voyage. For example, three of the ships in the First Fleet, the *Charlotte*, *Lady Penrhyn* and *Scarborough*, were chartered and sailed from Port Jackson to China in May 1788. (With one or two exceptions, journals that only cover the return voyages have not been filmed.) After about 1795, a growing number of East Indiamen were chartered to bring convicts, free settlers, provisions and other goods to New South Wales (and occasionally Tasmania). After visiting Port Jackson, the ships invariably sailed to China or India where they loaded tea, textiles and other goods before returning to Britain.

Reference: Anthony Farrington. *Catalogue of East India Company ships' journals and logs 1600-1834* (London, British Library, 1999).

### **Explanatory note**

The Downs is a roadstead in the southern North Sea, lying between the Dover Strait and the Thames Estuary, where ships sailing into or out of the Thames waited for favourable winds. Long Reach is a point near Gravesend, Kent, where East Indiamen traditionally stopped to lighten their loads before sailing up the Thames.

Whampoa, Second Bar and Lintin were anchorages on the Pearl River between Macao and Canton (Guangzhou) used by East Indiamen and other European vessels.

## INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY AND RECORDS

### IOR/L/MAR/B. Ships' journals, logs and related records, 1702-1856

#### Reel M1620

206A: *Coromandel*

Captain Alexander Stirling

Journal, 3 November 1801 – 4 July 1803

Portsmouth (departed 8 Feb. 1802) – Port Jackson (13 June – 23 July 1802) – Whampoa – Lintin – St Helena – Long Reach.

Convicts embarked: 138 men

338F: *Royal Admiral*

Captain Essex H. Bond

Journal, 8 April 1792 – 24 August 1793

Torbay (departed 30 May 1792) – Cape of Good Hope – Port Jackson (7 Oct. – 13 Nov. 1792) – Whampoa – Bocca Tigris – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 299 men, 49 women

338I: *Royal Admiral*

Captain William Wilson

Journal, 8 April 1800 – 9 August 1802

Portsmouth (departed 23 April 1800) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (21 Nov. 1800 – 30 March 1801) – Barrier Island – Tahiti (10 July – 2 Aug. 1801) – Whampoa – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 300 men

9D: *Warren Hastings*

Captain John P. Larkins

Journal, 22 January 1787 – 23 October 1788 (Francis Leigh, Chief Mate)

Downs (departed 13 April 1787) – Bombay – Whampoa – Second Bar – St Helena – Downs.

## **Reel M1621**

86B: *Ganges*

Captain John H. Dempster

Journal, 27 July 1781 – 9 May 1785

Portsmouth (departed 6 Feb. 1782) – Bombay – Madras – Saugor – Benkulen – Batavia (21 Nov. - 4 Dec. 1783) – Whampoa – Second Bar – Simons Bay – Cork – Deptford.

195A-B: *Sovereign*

Captain George Storey

Journal, 11 May 1795 – 24 February 1797

Downs (departed 24 May 1795) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (5 Nov. – 27 Dec. 1795) – Sulu – Penang – Calcutta – Kedgeree – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Cork – Downs.

353A: *Bellona*

Captain Matthew Lloyd

Journal, 24 July 1791 – 29 September 1794

Downs (departed 8 Aug. 1792) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (16 Jan. – 20 Feb. 1793) – Penang – Malacca – Whampoa – St Helena – Galway.

Convicts embarked: 17 women

404R *Prince of Wales*

Captain William Milner

Journal, 10 June 1796 – 18 July 1797

Portsmouth (departed 26 June 1796) – Port Jackson (2 – 24 Nov. 1796) – Macao – Whampoa – Second Bar.

## **Reel M1622**

427A: *Young William*

Captain James Mortlock

Journal, 11 September 1794 – 4 August 1796

Portsmouth (departed 25 May 1795) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (4 - 29 Oct. 1795) – Whampoa – Second Bar – St Helena – Downs.

466D: *Resolution*

Captain Thomas Poynting

Journal, 19 December 1778 – 31 December 1780

Portsmouth (departed: 7 March 1779) – Anjengo – Bombay – Madras – Cochin – Calcutta – Colombo – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Downs.

585H: *Warwick*

Captain James Dewar

Journal, 5 November 1759 – 7 July 1762

Portsmouth (departed 7 March 1760) – Madras – Batavia (13 Nov. – 29 Dec. 1760) – Whampoa – Balambangan – St Helena – Downs.

## **Reel M1623**

215I: *Ceres*

Captain Thomas Hedley

Journal, 22 July 1795 – 20 March 1797

Portsmouth (departed 9 Aug. 1795) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (24 Jan. – 2 March 1796) – Whampoa – Second Bar – St Helena – Long Reach.

14F: *Minerva*

Captain Joseph Salkeld

Journal, 6 August 1798 – 26 May 1801

Downs (departed 6 Aug. 1798) – Cork – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (11 Jan. - April 1800) – Calcutta – Kedgerie – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 165 men, 26 women

77A: *Hercules*

Captain Luckyn Betts

Journal, 2 July 1801 – 5 July 1803

Portsmouth (departed 11 Sept. 1801) – Cape of Good Hope – Port Jackson (26 June – 12 Aug. 1802) – Whampoa – Second Bar – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 140 men, 25 women

314A: *Canada*

Captain William Wilkinson

Journal, 16 May 1801 – 25 March 1803

Portsmouth (departed 21 May 1801) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (14 Dec. 1801 – 7 Feb. 1802) – Whampoa – Second Bar – Timor (4 Oct. 1802) – St Helena – Long Reach.

Convicts embarked: 104 men

334A: *Nile*

Captain John Sunter

Journal, 30 March 1801 – 5 March 1803

Portsmouth (departed 21 June 1801) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (14 Dec. 1801 – 5 Feb. 1802) – Whampoa – Lintin – Amboina – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 96 women

**Reel M1624**

335A-B: *Minorca*

Captain John Leith

Journal, 30 March 1801 – 28 February 1803

Portsmouth (departed 21 June 1801) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (15 Dec. 1801- 7 Feb. 1802) – Whampoa – Macao – Amboina – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 104 men

Note: Some pages very faint.

358B: *Friendship*

Captain Hugh Reid

Journal, 10 May 1800 – 17 July 1801

Port Jackson (departed 10 May 1800) – Malacca – Penang – Culpee - St Helena – Long Reach.

407A-B: *Duff*

Captain: James Wilson

Journal, 21 July 1796 – 31 July 1798

Downs (departed 13 Aug. 1796) – Rio de Janeiro – Matavai, Tahiti (6 – 26 March 1797) – Tonga (10-14 April 1797) – Resolution Bay, Marquesas (5-27 June 1797) – Matavai (6 July – 4 Aug. 1797) - Tonga (18 Aug. – 7 Sept. 1797) – Whampoa – Malacca – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Cork – Long Reach.

420G: *Barwell*

Captain John Cameron

Journal, 26 July 1797 – 17 October 1799

Portsmouth (departed 7 Nov. 1797) – Cape of Good Hope – Port Jackson (18 May – 17 Sept. 1798) – Whampoa – Second Bar – Malacca – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Long Reach.

Convicts embarked: 296 men

**Reel M1625**

27E: *Atlas*

Captain Richard Brooks

Journal, 16 July 1801 – 27 June 1803

Deptford (departed 16 July 1801) – Waterford – Cork – Rio de Janeiro – Cape of Good Hope – Port Jackson (7 July – 7 Oct. 1802) – Whampoa – St Helena – Deptford.

Convicts embarked: 151 men, 28 women

27F: *Atlas*

Captain Thomas Musgrave

Journal, 15 December 1801 – 12 January 1804

Downs (departed 20 Feb. 1802) – Cork – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (30 Oct. 1802 – 8 Jan. 1803) – Whampoa – Macao – St Helena – Cork – Deptford.

Convicts embarked: 208 men

56B: *Marquis of Wellington*

Captain George Betham

Journal, 20 June 1814 – 3 February 1816

Portsmouth (departed 1 Sept. 1814) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (27 Jan. – 2 April 1815) – Whampoa – Second Bar – Batavia – St Helena – Portsmouth.

Convicts embarked: 200 men

73B: *Henry Porcher*

Captain John Thomson

Journal, 3 June 1825 – 8 October 1826 (Archibald Morris, Chief Mate)

Dublin (departed 5 Aug. 1825) – Port Jackson (3 – 31 Dec. 1825) – Whampoa – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 176 men

78A: *Guildford*

Captain Magnus Johnson

Journal, 14 June 1811 – 21 Nov. 1812

Portsmouth (departed 4 Sept. 1811) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (18 Jan. – 30 March 1812) – Calcutta – Saugor.

## **Reel M1626**

88A: *England*

Captain John Reay

Deck log, 21 Oct. 1826 – 6 July 1827

Downs (departed 6 May 1826) - Port Jackson (21 Oct. 1826 -) – Whampoa.

174C: *Alexander*

Captain James Normand

Journal, 8 February 1802 – 18 December 1803

England (departed 28 April 1802) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (16 Oct. 1802 – 2 Jan. 1803) – Colombo – Bombay – St Helena – Downs.

176B-D: *Providence*

Captain Andrew Barclay

B: Journal, 7 June 1810 – 17 October 1812

C-D: Journal, 14 May 1811 – 17 October 1812 (Forrest Hamilton, Chief Mate)

Portsmouth (departed 7 Sept. 1810) – Cork – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (2 July – 19 Oct. 1811) – Whampoa – Second Bar – Simons Bay – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 140 men, 41 women

184G: *William Pitt*

Captain John Boyce

Journal, 4 May 1805 – 7 August 1807

Falmouth (departed 10 Aug. 1805) – Cork – Madeira – San Salvador – Cape of Good Hope – Port Jackson (11 April – 25 June 1806) – Whampoa – Penang – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 120 women

## Reel M1627

222J-K: *Ocean*

Captain John Mertha

J: Journal, 15 February – 27 October 1803

K: Journal, 26 August 1804 – 15 October 1805

Portsmouth (departed 25 April 1803) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Phillip (7 Oct. 1803 - 30 Jan. 1804) – Port Jackson (24 Aug. – 3 Oct. 1804) – Whampoa – Macao – Malacca – St Helena – Downs.

Note: Some pages very faint.

254A-B: *General Graham*

Captain William Watson

A: Journal, 12 June 1811 – 18 May 1813 (William Bendall, Chief Mate)

B: Journal, 3 July 1812 – 16 May 1813 (William Rainbett, Second Mate)

Downs (departed 4 Aug. 1811) – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (29 Jan. – 29 March 1812) – Whampoa – Malacca – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Downs.

Note: Some pages very faint.

261H-I: *Mary*

Captain David Lachlan

Journal, 16 September 1811 – 12 August 1813

Portsmouth (departed 26 November 1811) – Madeira – Rio de Janeiro – Port Jackson (5 May – Aug. 1812) – Malacca – Calcutta – Point de Galle – St Helena – Downs.

312A: *Rolla*

Captain Robert Cumming

Journal, 4 November 1802 – 5 November 1804

Cork (departed 4 Nov. 1802) – Port Jackson (12 May – 20 Sept. 1803) – Whampoa – Second Bar – Malacca – St Helena – Downs.

Convicts embarked: 127 men, 37 women

365A: *Perseus*

Captain John Davison

Journal, 1 November 1801 – 22 August 1802

Portsmouth (departed 12 Feb. 1802) – Rio de Janeiro – Cape of Good Hope – Port Jackson (arrived 4 Aug. 1802).

Convicts embarked: 113 men

786A: *Indefatigable*

Captain John Cross

Journal, 7 June 1812 – 9 June 1814

Lizard – Hobart (19 Oct. - ) – Port Jackson (7 Dec. 1812 - ) – Cape of Good Hope – St Helena – Blackwall.

Convicts embarked: 200 men

Note: Some pages very faint.