

SHAKO

The shako on display is a replica of the military head dress worn by Capt Charles Sturt and Capt Collet Barker of the 39th Dorsetshire Regiment of Foot in 1813. Both men came to New South Wales as convict guards in 1827 having gained their captaincy's while serving in Ireland. Both were inextricably linked to South Australia. Capt Sturt having solved the riddle of the inland river system that led him to the mouth of the River Murray and Capt Barker who explored the Adelaide plains and met an untimely death at the mouth of the River Murray. Sturt's expedition journals and the accompanying account by Barker, served to determine the foundation of South Australia.



Made on request: By Farthingales, Bath, England and donated by Paul Eshmade.

The shako or military hat, originated from the Hungarian name *caskos silveg* (peaked cap) which was a part of the uniform of the Hungarian Hussar of the 18th century. Other spellings include *chako*, *czako*, *schako* and *tshako*. From 1800 onwards the shako became a common military head dress, worn by the majority of regiments in the armies of Europe and Americas. (Wikipeda)



The 1800 the shako was made of leather and was decorated with a large brass plate on the front. This proved too heavy and was changed to a lacquered felt version with the same plate. In front or to the side, and above the black cockade, was a short tuft, coloured according to company. White over red for the centre company, white for the grenadier and green for the light infantry companies. These coloured tufts continued, in various forms and lengths, until the introduction of the last shako. In 1811 a lighter, small version was introduced. This had a raised front similar to the Hungarian casquet and was the shako worn during the Waterloo campaign. During peace time, the troopers began to decorate the shako with feathers and lace for the purposes of social gatherings. By 1843 the authorities had had enough and ordered the removal

of excessive lace from the uniforms and introduced a new shako. Supposedly designed by Prince Albert, the new shako which was called the 'Albert', was almost a reversal to the original shape. It was tall and cylindrical with a leather top and with a peak before and behind.

One could only pity the poor soldier in his uniform with its tightly fitting, long-tailed, scarlet tunic, stiff stock and high-crowned cylindrical shako. It must have been peculiarly unsuitable to the climate of Australia. The Argus Saturday 26 November 1921 p7.



BRITISH IMPERIAL TROOPS IN AUSTRALIA.

During the 18th century the British had a reputation for shipping their social miscreants off shore, primarily to the American colonies. The loss of the American colonies in 1783 as a result the Revolution, forced Britain to look elsewhere. Capt James Cook had given a good account of his exploration of the east coast of Terra Australis in 1770, and to the Government it seemed a suitable location for a penal colony. A colony in the Pacific would ensure convicts had very little hope of returning to England. Britain itself would benefit in terms of trade with the colony and the region particularly China. A series of coastal outposts would also establish a defense and supply chain for the Royal Navy and the merchant vessels.

From the landing of Capt Arthur Phillip and the First Fleet in January 1788, Port Jackson was considered no more than a penal colony. While some trades people and farmers accompanied the first arrivals, the British Government rejected the pleas by Governor Phillip to allow more free settlers of farmers, craftsmen and builders to migrate to underpin the economy of the fledgling colony.

It was after all a convict settlement and the need was greater for convict guards. Thus the British garrisoned it with three regiments of infantry, the 4th, 28th, and 50th foot to guard the 740 or so initial arrival of convicts. While the Regiments were primarily deployed for guard duty they also served to protect the Empires interests in the Pacific region. The settlement of Norfolk Island was a prime example where the tall and straight pine trees, so ideal for ship's masts, required protection from other international fleets who may like to claim the island as their own and thus threaten the security of Britain.

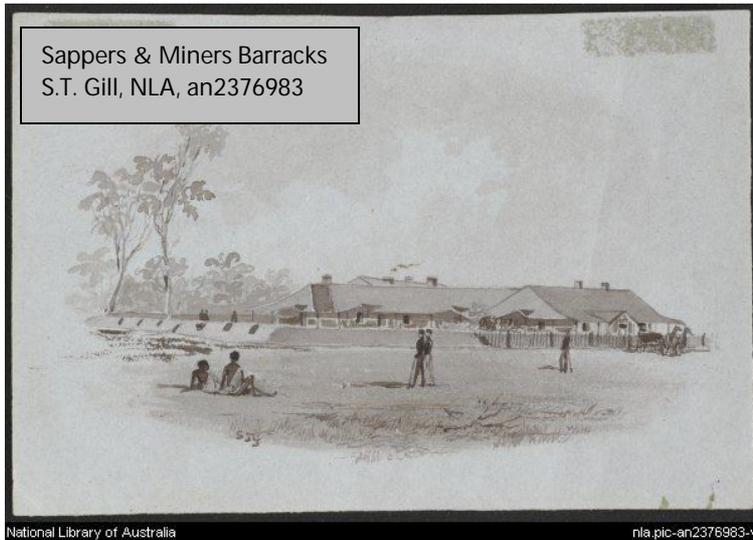
Sydney, however was not held in great favour by the commanding officers. As settlement expanded, with the establishment of more convict settlements in Melbourne, Hobart and Perth, the necessity for the deployment of small detachments for guard duty, had the consequence of making it difficult to effectively administer the troops. (Argus Sat. 26 Nov. 1921 p7) It was estimated by 1850 the population of convicts sent to Australia was 162,000.

South Australia on the other hand was a planned settlement for free men, established on principles of egalitarianism and while the founding fathers rejected any notions of accepting convicts, a military presence for purposes of defense was acceptable. Many of those charged with settling and governing the new Province were indeed military and naval men and as such considered defence of its territory and citizens as important.

Col William Light when surveying and planning his city of Adelaide drew on his military background - siting his city on a raised plateau, each town acre aligned in rows like a military camp, cordoned by four wide terraces and surrounded by defendable parks. While Governor Hindmarsh, a naval captain, had disagreed with Light's choice of site, he too took into account defence considerations, by recommending the capital be sited close to a deep harbour or port to ensure good access for the navy if required. South Australia's second governor, Colonel George Gawler also concurred, encouraging a military presence as a means to maintain the peace, good order and advance the prosperity of the Province.

Initially the only formal military presence in South Australia were the Royal Marines (1836 – 1838) whose ten men arrived with Governor Hindmarsh on the *HMS Buffalo* and were retained as protectors for the settlement and as vice-regal guards. Many citizens however thought they were nothing but "a rioterous, rioting crew who did as they liked, drank when they could and, like the praetorian guards of ancient Rome, would almost have taken control of the colony had not the Governor occasionally tied their ringleaders to a tree for a time to sober the brain and dampen the spirit." It was said that the sly grog keepers were the only mourners when the Marines and Capt Hindmarsh boarded the *HMS Alligator* on 14 July 1838 bound for Sydney.

The arrival of Lt. Edward Frome, R.E. the third appointed Surveyor General aboard the *Recovery* on 19 September 1839, heralded the arrival of fifteen **Royal sappers and miners**. "The party composed chiefly of men from the survey, married with families and well adapted for the service of settlement" (History of the Royal Sappers and Miners 1857 p342) The sappers were barracked in wood and slab huts on the grounds near the present University of Adelaide. Their task was not of a military nature but deployed to assist with surveying the new Province.



Sappers & Miners Barracks
S.T. Gill, NLA, an2376983

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As the township of Adelaide grew, citizens turned their attention to its defence. It was considered that with 1700 able bodied men a **volunteer militia** should be formed. In early 1840 Governor Col. Gawler gave his consent to the formation of a brigade to be known as the Royal South Australian Volunteer Militia Major Thomas Shuldham O'Halloran was appointed commander. He had a strong military background, his father being Major-General Sir Joseph O'Halloran G.C.B. Bengal Army. He himself had trained at the Royal Military College, served with the 17th Foot during

the whole of the Anglo-Nepal War 1814 -16, the Third Anglo-Maratha War 1817-1818 and elsewhere in India before retiring from his Regiment in 1838 to migrate to South Australia. (SA Advertiser 17/8/1870 p2)

While the formation seemed to be well received in the colony and seventy seven men enrolled, its term of existence was short lived. It became an onerous activity particularly for the rank and file. Volunteers had to pay for their own uniform, (scarlet, piped with blue), horse, fusil (light musket) and bayonet. They were ordered to drill for one hour, three days a week until proficient and stand the risk of fines. The mandatory resignation of W.A. Poulden due to continual drunkenness on duty, set a precedent for further compulsory retirements, which reduced the lower ranks by 50% leaving only two privates in the lower ranks. Subsequently no training drills took place after June 1840. The failure of the Volunteer Militia to adequately form a defensive unit, set the stage for the deployment of Imperial troops in the Province.. The first to arrive were the

2nd/96th Regiment of Foot (15-10-1841 – 16-5-1846)

Known as "The Bend Overs" or The Ups and Downs" they served in Australia from 1841 – 1849 as 26 detachments of convict guards. The headquarter company was established at Windsor, N.S.W. and six detachments were posted to Hobart. In 1843 the HQ was transferred to Launceston leaving in 1849 for Calcutta India to serve under the control of the British East India Company.



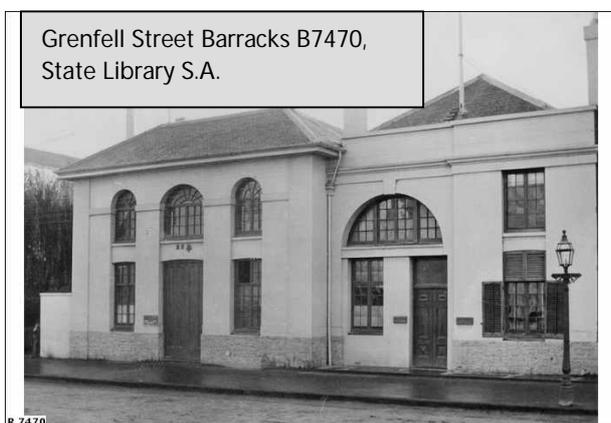
Barracks in Grenfell Street 1841
S.T. Gill, NLA, an2376896

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On **15 October 1841** the *Eudora* arrived in Adelaide from Hobart Town with two companies (84) of the 96th. They arrived with Captain G.V. Butler of, the 96th Foot, Captain Haire 51st, Lieut. Baker 51st and two rank and file of the 51st, Lieut Hugonin, of the 95th, Lieut Sweetenham of the 96th, D.A.C.G. (Deputy Asst. Commissary General) Darling. (SA Register 23/10/1841). It was understood at the time, that the government would send out military parties for the protection of the out-stations. (SA Register 23/10/1841 p2)

They were barracked at Town Acre 105 near the north east corner of Grenfell St. and Gawler Place formerly the stores of August Cook & Co. and the present site of Da Costa Building. The site of the barracks measuring 140 ft frontage and 210 ft deep., A Memorandum of Articles of Agreement in relation to the lease on the barracks indicates the term was for one year from 16 October 1841 for a rent of 600 pounds to be paid quarterly. (GRG24/51/1) The two storey building was renovated with a large upstairs room fitted up with stretchers, sufficient for 100 men. The ground floor prepared for a barrack and mess room and offices with a kitchen erected in the rear. The residence adjoining was adapted for the quarters of the officers. (S A Register 15/10/1841 p3.



Grenfell Street Barracks B7470,
State Library S.A.

The first detachment of Imperial red coats were nicknamed the "Lobsters" by the town boys. They were so riotous that the police force had to be increased to keep them in order. Capt Butler who, for a time, was private secretary to Governor George Grey, was reputed to be very severe in the treatment of his men and it was no unusual circumstance for several soldiers to be under punishment, confined to barracks, banished to knapsack drill and "other bothers" which annoyed them greatly.

They left South Australia on **May 16 1846** aboard the *Brankenmoor* for Launceston Tasmania with Capts. Butler and Twiss, Lieut. Magill, Ensign Griffiths, Dr. De Lisle and 81 rank and file of the 96th. (SA Register 20/5/1846). Others from the Regiment were said to have cleared on 5 May 1858 for Melbourne and Portland on the ship *Burra Burra* thus giving the 96th, if correct, a presence in Adelaide from 1841 – 1858. (SA Register 20/5/1846) Nonetheless given that the same number departed as arrived, it is not known the number of those cleared in 1858.

Two detachments of the 96th Regiment passed through Adelaide at the end of February 1849 (SA Register 25 February 1849), aboard the *Radcliffe* from Launceston en route to India, and departed on **3 March 1849** with military stores, and **196** troops.

Desertion was not uncommon, and the 96th listed three desertions in Adelaide

On 5 January 1843 John Turner, 23 years, deserted in Adelaide. He was 5'7" tall, dark brown hair, brown eyes, born Wolverhampton, formerly a padlock maker. Deserted at the time wearing a fatigue jacket, forage cap and white trousers. The Courier, Friday 24 February 1843

On 1st February 1843 Thomas Wilson aged 22 years, deserted in Adelaide height 5'6", blue eyes, brown hair, born Carlisle County Cumberland, former trade – sawyer, deserted dressed in coat or jacket, fatigue jacket and forage cap, regimental white trousers. New South Wales Government Gazette Friday April 21 1843.

On 25 December 1845 Thomas Wilson aged 27 years 5 months, deserted, Enlisted 12 August 1839 born Ormskirk Lancashire, sallow complexion, dark brown hair and hazel eyes. Labourer, dressed in straw hat and duck trousers, had an Indian ink on his body and the letter "D" under his left arm pit. (SA Government Gazette)

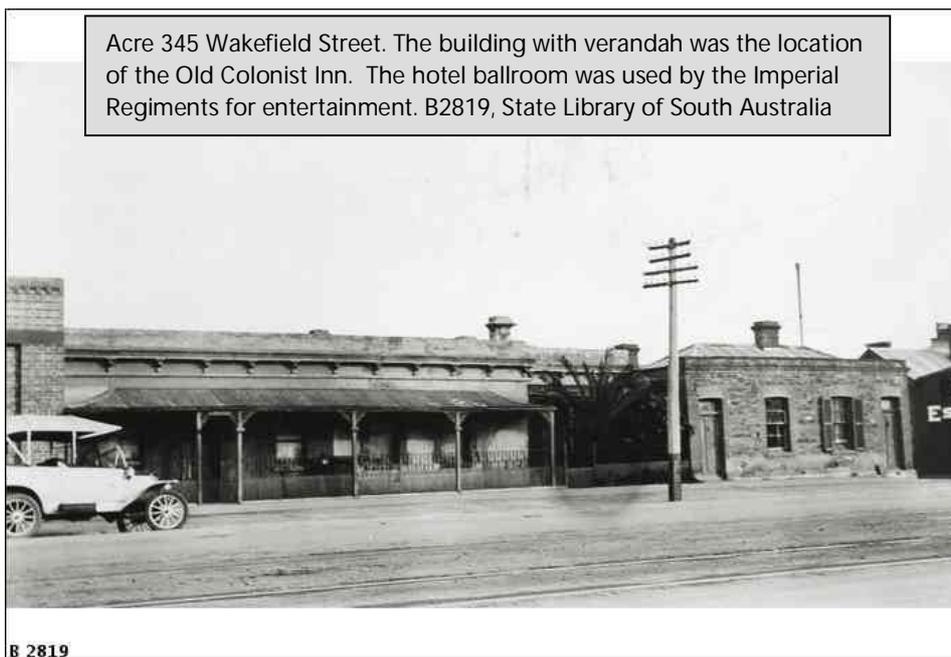
11th Regiment of Foot 3-5-1846 – 13-10-1848

The second Regiment to serve in Adelaide were known as "the Bloody Eleventh". The 11th had served in Sydney in 1845 and transferred to Hobart because of internal discipline problems with the 99th Regiment. The 11th was a popular regiment compared to the 99th and were recalled to garrison in Sydney in response to a public petition in 1846.

Both officers and the rank and file acquired a reputation for being helpful and well behaved. They provided the city of Sydney with a fire brigade which distinguished itself by putting out large fires including the Ormond House disaster, the blaze which almost destroyed a well-known brewery. When the Regiment was ordered to prepare to return to England more than 100 members applied for discharge but on hearing of the massacre of European women and children at Cawnpore India, they re-engaged for service. The Regiment sailed for England on 23 October 1857. (Microfilm Aust. Military Archives)

The 11th arrived in Adelaide under the command of Capt Robert Webster, Lts J. Rowe and F.D. Bewes. The 90 men, 20 horses and 22 passengers arrived on the *Brankenmoor* from Launceston on **27 April 1846** to relieve the 96th who left on the outgoing *Brankenmoor* in 16 May 1846 headed for Launceston.

Captain Carr had put his vessel into Encounter Bay on 27 April 1846, having been exposed to several days of dreadful weather which saw him put back three times into George Town, Tasmania. On Sunday night they had little hope of being saved, as in their attempts to make Backstairs Passage they ran great risk of being dashed against the lee shore. The troops were landed at Encounter Bay and marched into town. Passenger lists show that Capt Webster arrived with his wife and six children.. (SA Register 2/5/1846 p2a).



The South Australian Register of 25/9/1846 reported only 5 months after the Regiments arrival that the non-coms and privates of the 11th, most of whom were total abstainers, gave at the barracks a tea meeting to their friends 22 September 1846. The hosts evidently were the Garrison duties however must have been taken their toll on some of the Regiment. It was reported that "In January 1847 another drunken riot with

some soldiers of the 11th Regiment occurred at the British Hotel in Pirie Street and but for the timely interference and steadfast conduct of some citizens, would have been attended with serious consequences. Without any ceremony the soldiers forced an entrance, then took off their belts, and commenced assaulting indiscriminately those present. Mr Williams the licensee, a powerful man, set to work right and left, assisted by those of his customers who were not incapacitated from the soldier's assault, and succeeded in 'getting them off' when a picquet was sent from the barracks, and the disorderlies were removed".

Throughout 1847 an additional 36 soldiers of the 11th arrived. from Hobart Town to compliment the 90 rank and file of the initial landing. They also helped account for some of the desertions.

Eight desertions were reported over the three years, most notably three in March 1847 and three over Sept/October 1848. A number took the opportunity to marry before the Regiment was due to be shipped out in early October. The South Australian reported on Friday 10th September 1847 that Capt Webster had to reinforce the message about desertion, drawing the attention of the public to the 25th Clause of the Mutiny Act. "and be it enacted, that every person who shall in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, directly or indirectly persuade any Soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment by fine or imprisonment, or both"

Desertions were a continuing problem for the Regiments

David Collins deserted 6 March 1847 – Born Lancaster aged 25 Years 2onths., Regimental No. 1587, Height 5'6-1/2", stout body, square and rather large, Facial features, round, dark brown hair, grey eyes, heavy brows, flat and rather large nose and mouth, distinguishing features, marked with letter "D" under left arm, deserted in regimentals.

Joseph Denham on 6th March 1847 – Born Lanark aged 28 years Regimental No. 1227 Height 5"6", Body form square and marked with Indian ink, his features were long with light brown hair, grey eyes and heavy eyebrows. By trade he was a weaver.

Lawrence Finnigan 25 September 1848 – Born Parish Castelblaney County Monaghan. Height 5"8" sallow complexion, slender with dark brown hair and grey eyes. He enlisted 29 October 1842 in Dublin. He was a labourer.

John Gregg deserted 6 March 1847 – Born in Dublin. Aged 24 years, Regimental No. 1680 Height 5'8-1/2", slender with small square features, dark brown hair, grey eyes and arched eyebrows, aquiline, small nose and mouth. By trade he was a labourer and speaks like a north of England man.

James McLaughlin 29 September 1846 – Born St Annes County Cork aged 20 Years, height 5'7", slender build, very long features, dark brown hair and grey eyes. He was a labourer and escaped wearing a red jack and black cloth trousers.

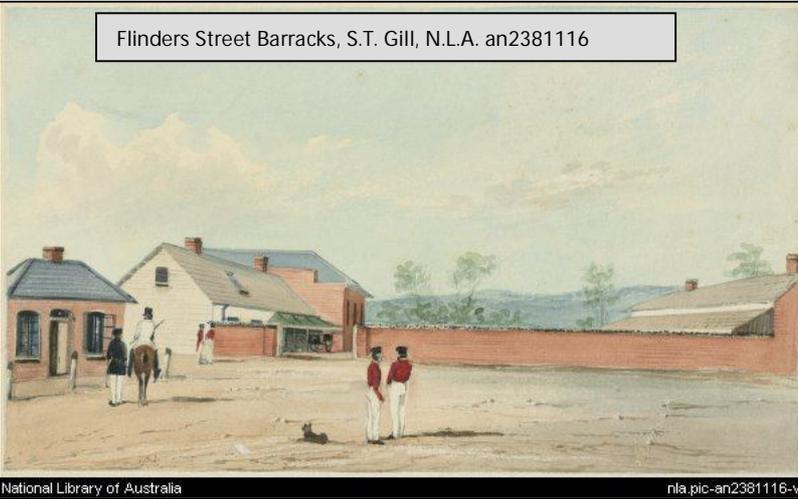
Thomas Reynolds deserted 6 October 1848. Born Parish Phillipstown, Kings County, aged 23 years. Height 5'6-1/2" dark complexion, black hair and dark eyes. Labourer by trade, supposed to have deserted in plain clothes, got married in Adelaide to a person of the name Bland.

Pte. Francis Tormay deserted night of 31 October 1847. Born Kells Town, county Meath, aged 21 years 8 months, labourer. Regimental No. 10 Height 5'6-1/2" Sallow complexion with square and proportionate body, dark brown hair and grey eyes with small mouth. Supposed to have had on a blue shirt, white jacket, white trousers and blue cloth cap. Had been employed as an officer's servant up to the time of his desertion.

Michael Walsh deserted 7th October 1848 Enlisted 24th February 1844 Kilkenny, Born Parish Deansfort, County Kilkenny. Aged 21 years 8 months. Height 5'10", complexion fresh, build slender, brown hair and grey eyes. Labourer. Got married in Adelaide to a person of the name of Melvill.

Capt. Webster, Lieut Rowe and 77 rank and file of the 11th were cleared for Sydney aboard the *Freak* on **13 October 1848**. (SA Register 14/10/1848). It would seem that about 41 soldiers must have remained in Adelaide given the arrival of 36 soldiers in 1847 and the 8 desertions.

Flinders Street Barracks, S.T. Gill, N.L.A. an2381116

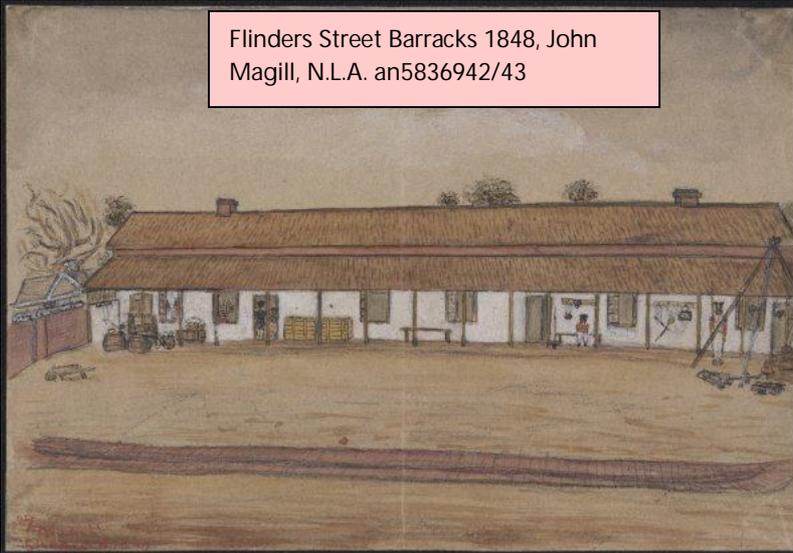


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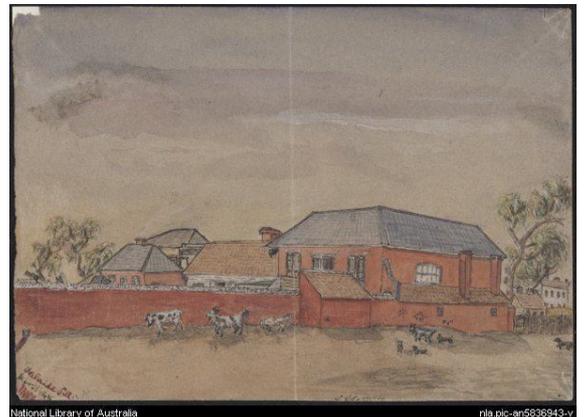
The lease on the Grenfell Street Barracks had by this time expired so the barracks were moved to Town Acre 233 corner of Flinders and Freeman Streets (SA Register 11/10/1842 p2) across from the SA Company's granary. The building was formerly the stores of Messrs Gorton and Andrews but had been converted with considerable additions to offer quarters for 100 men. The barracks included elegant offices, house, capacious cellar, kitchens, yard and excellent well with an inexhaustible supply of pure water. The rent being £250 per annum. (SA Register 27/5/1845 p2).

Flinders Street Barracks 1848, John Magill, N.L.A. an5836942/43



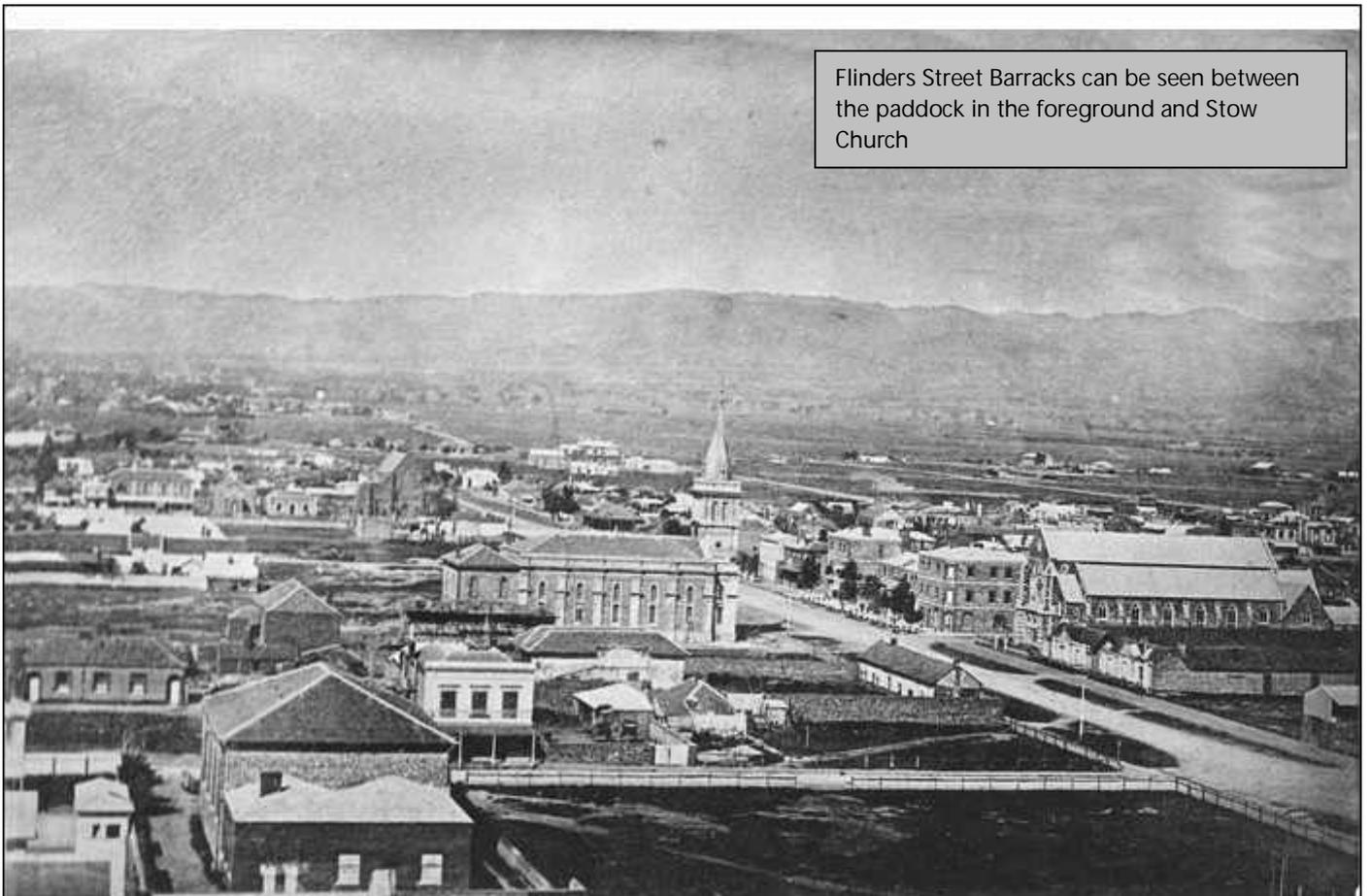
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Flinders Street Barracks can be seen between the paddock in the foreground and Stow Church

99th Regiment of Foot 4-10-1848 – December 1848

Known as the "Queens Pets", the Regiment arrived in Australia in 1842 were deployed in Sydney as three detachments of convict guards. The 99th were garrisoned in Sydney but were very unpopular with the residents. They were widely known for their rough and near mutinous behaviour. They were dispatched to Hobart in 1848 and left Australia in 1856.

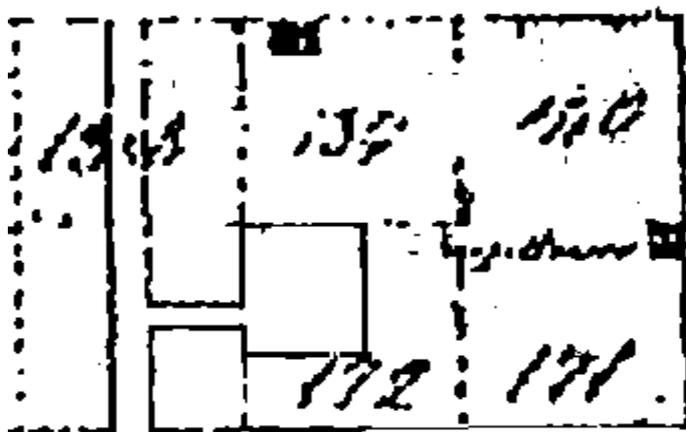
A detachment of the 99th - 70 men strong, arrived under Major G.M. Reeves on **October 4th 1848** in the brig *Freak* from Melbourne (SA Min. J. October 7 1848) replacing the 11th who cleared on the *Freak* 12 October 1848. The 99th served only several months in South Australia before heading for Western Australia in **December 1848**. Two officers and 2 privates arrived aboard the *Augustus* from Hobart Town on 14 December to join their Regiment before clearing. Their commanding officer Major George Marmaduke Reeves later saw action in Indo China in 1860 and was mentioned in Despatches, CB, Medal and Clasps and Distinguished Service Pension.

11th Regiment of Foot January 1849 – 2-8-1854

Another detachment of 11th Regiment of 42 rank and file under Lieut. G.H. Travers arrived in South Australia in **January 1849** with members of the Regiment moving back and forth between Adelaide and Sydney and Hobart Town between 1849 – 1851. Major Moore (11th) was the resident commanding officer at the time.

The Flinders Street Barracks were still in use by the 11th Regiment when a letter written to Capt A.H. Freeling the Colonial Engineer, dated 21 October 1850, conveyed that the lease was due to expire and the Regiment would have to find new accommodation.

In this knowledge, R.G. Bowen offered the Government a portion of Town Acre 172 near the Government Offices in Topham Street, off Weymouth Street which with some additions could be converted into good barracks and apartments.



Weymouth Street

Bowen's plan showed "a Barrack Room which would run the whole length and width. It would be a two storey building with 18 inch thick walls, a roof cornered with slate. The upper Barrack Room would be ceiled with lathe and plaster ceiling to the rafters and properly ventilated and to be 9 feet in height from floor to top of wall. A strong plough and tong'd floor to be laid with substantial joist and supported also through the centre by one row of columns from the Tower Barrack Room. The lower Barrack room was to be 10 feet in height, wooden floors, one

thong flight of gum wood stairs leading to the upper floor. Each room would be fitted with the necessary conveniences for the soldiers and shelves throughout. Cellars, cook house, hospital and a range of apartments on the west side of the Barracks. Whole barracks were to be enclosed by a strong wall not less than 6 feet 6 inches. Three room cottages with shed and at the entrance of the Barracks Yard to be used for the Officers Quarters." (GRG24/51/6)

The Barracks were completed in April 1851 and leased to the Commissariat for three years. The troops taking possession on Monday 14 April under the Command of Capt. Moore of 11th. It was said in the S.A. Register 14/4/1851 p2 "The buildings occupy an enclosed square, the entrance to which is from Topham Street. The main barrack is roomy, substantial stone erection, 20 ft high and 80 feet in length, with cells for prisoners, and store rooms underneath. The different offices and apartments for

the married couples occupy two other sides of the square, leaving vacant a considerable space of ground as a yard. The accommodation is calculated for 100 men.

Movement of troops of 11th Regiment

27/1/1849 arrived *Phantom* from Sydney with two privates of the 11th

14/4/1849 arrived *Scout* from Hobart Town 3 soldiers

15/5/1849 cleared *Emma* for Sydney with seven soldiers of the 11th

11/7/1849 arrived *Emma* from Sydney, with two soldiers of the 11th

22/8/1849 arrived on *Wild Irish Girl* from Sydney, 7 rank and file of the 11th

31/8/1849 arrived *Phantom* from Sydney 4 soldiers of 11th

22/10/1849 arrived on *Wild Irish Girl* from Sydney, 3 privates of the 11th

24/10/1849 arrived *Phantom* from Sydney, soldier of the 11th

29/1/1850 arrived *Lady Denison* from Hobart with a corporal of the 11th and a bugler of the 99th

10/3/1850 arrived *Wild Irish Girl* from Sydney with ten soldiers of the 11th

12/7/1850 arrived *Wild Irish Girl* from Sydney with eleven soldiers.

17/5/1851 cleared the *Alton* for Hobart with money and twelve soldiers, regiment unmentioned and

18/8/1851 arrived the *Alibi* from Hobart with Lieut. Hayman and ten men of the 18th Royal Irish.

On **2 August 1854** Lt. Travers and 42 rank and file were cleared to Melbourne, leaving on the *Sir John Harvey*.

During their stationing, the 11th Regiment saw the revival of a Militia in response to the outbreak of war with the Russians on the Crimean Peninsula in March 1853. The Government and the concerned citizens of Adelaide called for a Volunteer Force to be raised to protect the coastline of Adelaide and by November 1854 the Volunteer Militia was formed with Major Moore gazetted as Col. Commandant of the local troops. Thomas O'Halloran Esq was appointed Lt.-Col. Commanding the 1st Battalion, with Capt Freeling RE appointed Lt.-Col in command of the Artillery and Hon. B.T. Finnis, Colonial Secretary made Lt.-Col of the Staff. (SA Reg. 6/11/1854 p2) Local volunteers were twenty six in number and were enlisted into the mounted rifles, the field artillery and infantry. The Force was only short lived as the cessation of hostilities in April 1856 against the Russians seemed to deem them unnecessary.(SA Reg 17/8/1870)

2/40th Regiment of Foot (A Company) 28-7-1854 – 8-11-1855

Known as "The Excellers" they saw service in Tasmania and Sydney between 1823 – 1829 and Victoria, South Australia and Swan River 1852 – 1860. They were deployed as 16 detachments of convict guards. The 40th boasted a first class military band. The afternoon performances of 'the band of the 40th' on Batman's Hill in Melbourne soon became a distinctive feature of the social life of the town and no public function was complete without the services of these talented performers" (Argus 26/22/1921 p7)

The detachment of 62 rank and file arrived under the command of Capt Blythe and Lieut Messenger, on **July 28, 1854** from Sydney aboard the *Sir John Harvey*. (SA Register 31/7/1854 3c). Members of the 11th Regiment were still deployed in Adelaide serving under the Commander of Troops, Brevet-Major Edward Moore.

Records dated 11 December 1854 (GRG24/51/5) provide an indication of the recompense for officers and rank and file garrisoned in Adelaide –



"Sale of Allowances to Military Guard"

| | |
|--|--|
| Senior Officer in Command | Major Moore 15 shillings per day |
| Asst. Commissary General | W.H. Mortimer 9 shillings per day |
| Col. or Lt. Colonel (none listed in Adelaide) | 10 shillings 6 pence per day |
| Capt's, Paymaster, Surgeons | Capt Vereker 7 shillings 6 pence per day |
| Lts. Adjutants, Assistant Surgeons (none listed in Adelaide) | 6 shillings per day |
| Ensigns (none listed in Adelaide) | 5 shillings per day |
| Staff Sergeant | Sgt Clarke 2 shillings 6 pence per day |
| Colour Sergeants | No. 1, 1 shilling per day |
| Sergeants | No. 4, 1 shilling per day |
| Corporals | No. 4, 1 shilling per day |
| Privates | No. 67 – 6 pence per day |

The 40th Regiment departed on **9 November 8, 1855** by steam *White Swan* for Melbourne. (SA Reg. November 9, 1855 2a) with three sergeants, one drummer and 65 rank and file. Major Nelson and several officers and rank & file remained in Adelaide.

1/12th Regiment of Foot 4-11-1855 – 11-4-1858

The 12th were nicknamed "The Old Dozen". They arrived in Sydney 1854 with one company going to Van Dieman's Land and the second division, consisting of two companies arrived in Melbourne.

Under Lieut Saunders, five sergeants, four corporals, one drummer and 55 rank and file, the 12th. arrived by the steamer *White Swan* from Melbourne on **November 4th 1855** (SA Reg 5/11/1855 2a) Capt Vereker and his wife and one private arrived separately aboard the *Havilah* on **9th December 1855** (Observer 15/12/1855) while another contingent arrived Monday **14th January 1856** aboard the steamer *White Swan*, 330 ton, from Melbourne. Passengers included Lieut. Cole in the saloon; one corporal, 33 privates, 4 women, 11 children in steerage (SA Reg. Tues. 15/1/1856). On 13th April 1856 a further three soldiers arrived in steerage from Melbourne aboard the *Havilah* (SA Reg. 14/4/1856) bringing the force to 92 men.

Officers were greeted into polite Adelaide society and were a welcome addition to gala functions. The Queen's Birthday celebrations in May 1857 was no exception with the 12th Regiment joining the Volunteers of the Adelaide Artillery in the Royal Salute and feu de joie in honour of the occasion. Immediately following, Major Nelson (40th), Commanding Officer, Capt Vereker (12th) Lieut. Saunders (12th) and Ensign Williams (12th) were amongst guests to attended his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief's levee and in the evening Lady MacDonnell's grand ball at Government House. It was a vice-regal event, "the entire suite of rooms was thrown open, from the library to the new ball-room – the latter being used for dancing for the first time. Dancing commenced at 10 o'clock, and continued with spirit till the early morning" (SA Reg. 14 May 1857 p2).

At the Opening of Parliament a month earlier, the guard of honour appointed to await the arrival of His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief was commanded by Lieut. Saunders (12th) while Major Nelson and officers of the 40th Regiment formed the guard of honour between Government House and Parliament. (SA Reg. 22 April 1857)

The 12th Regiment departed for Melbourne under Capt Vereker by the steamer *Havilah* on **11 April 1858** with Dr Styles of 40th, Lieut. Saunders, five sergeants, four corporals and 78 privates. While three soldiers of the 40th cleared on the *Burra Burra*. (SA Reg. 12/4/1858 2f).

2/40th Regiment of Foot (A Company) 10-4-1858 – 10-10-1863

According to a letter dated 24 July 1857 from Capt Blyth to His Excellency the Governor, headquarters had been requested to increase its military to full strength of 110 men (GRG24/51/6). Thus another sojourn for 40th occurred in 1858 when a detachment of 99 arrived by the steamer *Havilah* on **10 April 1858** (Adel Times 10/4/1858 2a) again under the leadership of Capt Blyth.

Major T.L.K. Nelson as Commander of Troops greeted the Regiment's return. (GRG24/51/10) and made use of the additional force for deployment away from barracks. Within the month, on 1st May, Lieut. A.R. Moller, one sergeant, two corporals and twenty men were ordered to Robe in the south east to deal with the arrival of numerous Chinese, trying to make their way to the gold fields in Victoria. They returned from Guichen Bay to barracks on 6 July 1858. GRG24/51/11 & 12. Nelson also posted thirteen sappers to barracks at Dry Creek in October 1858, placed under the command of Capt W.H. Freeling R.E.. (GRG24/51/16)

A Military Report on Colonial Defence submitted to the Governor dated December 1858 named "Effective State" listed the following:

Capt F.S. Blyth Commanding troops (Major Nelson was absent on leave from 1 November – 30 November in Victoria leaving on the steamer *Burra Burra* on 19 October 1858). GRG24/51/17

Lieut. A.M. Moller

Ensign D.A. Lucas

D.A.C.G. Monk

Commissarial Clerk A. Ewing

Barracks Sgt. J. Clarke

77 men in all – 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 3 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 69 Privates and 2 Privates in confinement, 5 in hospital and 1 absent without leave.

The 40th Regiment were cleared from Adelaide at various times for Melbourne:

7 September 1858 T.A. Corbett, Purveyor to HM Forces in cabin aboard the *Admella*

16 September 1858 two soldiers aboard the *Admella*

19 October 1858 Major Nelson boarded the *Burra Burra*

3 January 1859 Major Nelson arrived on the *Burra Burra* from Melbourne

27 January 1859 seven soldiers left aboard the *Admella*

8 February 1859 two soldiers left aboard the *Admella*

In 1859 the S.A. Volunteer Militia was re-formed under the command of Major Nelson who was appointed General Superintendent of Volunteers. The following year he received orders to proceed to Melbourne to see active service in New Zealand. He was cleared from Adelaide on 25 April 1860. (SA Reg. 25/4/1860) with Lt. Blyth assuming commanding in his absence. (South Australia Register 2 May 1861)

Colonel Commanding: Captain Frederick Samuel Blyth, 40th Regiment, Commanding Her Majesty's troops in South Australia.

Staff Adjutant: Captain James Hesketh Biggs, JP (late Captain 49th Regiment)

Lt and First Sub Inspector – Lieut. Horatio Lloyd Williams (late Lt. 96th Regiment)

Staff Clerk – Mr Edward C. Longson

Drill Instructors with the rank of Staff Sergeants – James Simmonds, William Nathan Hunt, George Slater, Joseph Young, William Fraser, Terence O'Carroll.

SA Volunteers accounted for 474 officers and ranks. The force included the Strathalbyn Cavalry, the Adelaide Cavalry, the Adelaide Artillery, No. 2 Scotch Company (Infantry), Port Adelaide Infantry and No. 3 Adelaide (Infantry). (SA Advertiser Friday 27 July 1866 p3)

Many years later Blyth was commended in the SA Register with "the energy and perseverance by which this gallant officer succeeded in establishing a thoroughly efficient defensive force in the colony are too well remembered to require special notice"(SA Reg 17/8/1870)

It was not only the Volunteer Militia that called for men to do military service. The Maori Wars in New Zealand demanded new recruits. In Adelaide, Captain Hunter engaged forty men to serve in the New Zealand's Waikato Militia on the lure of military glory and prospective small farms. (3 years service entitled men to a grant of 300 acres of land (SA Reg. 23/1/1864p2) Many were from the trades with wives and families. (SA Register 28/1/1864 p2) and were expected to depart on the Aldinga on 30 January 1864. (SA Register 28/1/1864 p2,3) However of the forty, barely a dozen turned up at the Adelaide Railway Station for the embarkation at the Port. (SA Reg. 2/11/1920p6) The most noted recruit was Adelaide Solicitor Walter Vernon Herford. Former member of the Kent Rifles and the Adelaide Rifles he joined the 3rd Waikato Regiment as Captain. Within a week of his arrival Herford sought permission to join the storming party at Orakau. Scrambling up a trench embankment he was shot in the head, just above the eyebrow. His eye required removal and while appearing to recover, within 3 months his health made a fatal turn. The autopsy revealed the bullet had lodged in the back of his skull where a fatal abscess had formed. (SA Reg 29/5/1888) He died on 28 June 1864 at Otahu New Zealand aged 36 years with his wife, who had accompanied him to the battle zone, by his side.

Early in 1863 Blyth received orders to serve in New Zealand, leaving in command Major Bowdler. It was not long before he, Lts Moller and Lucas and fifty rank and file were ordered to New Zealand, boarding the *Nightingale* on **10 October 1863** (SA Reg 10/10/1863 2a) They embarked for action, leaving behind their wives and children. The families were not left unaided when a public subscription was organized and funds distributed through the Soldiers' Wives Relief Committee (SA Reg. 17/8/1870)

"For three years after the removal of the 40th, the Commissariat Department represented the military branch in the colony. It was under the charge of Acting Commissary General R.D. Ross for about three months before he was ordered to New Zealand. During his absence, which extended over two years and nine months, Commissariat Clerk Joseph Clark acted for him, under the supervision of the Colonial Treasurer". It was not until the end of 1866 that the position of affairs in New Zealand enabled some portion of the soldiery to obtain their release from active service and seek stations elsewhere. No less that two full companies were billeted in Adelaide" (SA Reg 17/8/1870)

2nd/14th Regiment of Foot 5-11-1866 – 31-1-1870

The 14th "Calvert's Lot" or "The Rugged and Tough" had three battalions with two serving in Australia. The second battalion arrived in 1867 and were deployed as convict guards.

The Government made application for a company of regulars to serve in Adelaide. In October 1866 information was received that two companies of the 14th Regiment were expected from New Zealand. The plan was to accommodate them in the old mounted police barracks to the rear of the Destitute Asylum, but given there very poor condition it was hoped that the government would make them suitable for the troops.

Immigrants on arrival, had been housed in the buildings and had left it in a filthy state. "The stench from the buildings was horrible, and all around the premises there was an air of disorder and neglect which was highly discreditable to the authorities...The rooms which are now occupied as offices, and which were originally built for the aborigines' school under the management of Mr Moorhouse, are

literally falling to pieces, and to prevent their tumbling down the outside walls have been shored up by heavy pieces of timber. Inside there are large crevices which may be useful for lighting and ventilating purposes, but which are exceedingly unsightly, and in winter must make the rooms very cold. The plaster has fallen off in several places and altogether the premises are in the most dilapidated condition".(SA Register 10/4/1866p2)

The government spent something like £2,000 on renovations and a considerable portion of the buildings formerly used by the destitute children was set apart for the troops. One company occupying these buildings and the other company allocated the old Barracks. The room formerly used for the education of the destitute children was being prepared for the children of the married men. (SA Register 2/2/1867 p2)

The Novelty arrived in Adelaide from Auckland on **5 November 1866** with Brevet Major Vivian and Capt Fairtlough, Lieut. Swanson, Ensigns Churchward and Bame, Dr Bennett, seven sergeants, seven corporals, four drummers and 160 privates of the 14th.

While the old barracks had been upgraded for the 14th Regiment it was said "the manner in which families are huddled together in barracks is simply disgraceful...according to regulations only sixteen men out of the two companies here would be entitled to have wives, but there are twenty-one married men in them and the accommodation provided for them was wretched in the extreme. In the old barracks there are six moderately-sized rooms, one of which is used for official purposes. The three which face the south, and which are fearfully hot, are occupied by five families. The first room we entered had two families – two privates and their wives and eleven children, all crowded together in one room, where they live night and day....The next room was almost as bad. Here again were two families, embracing thirteen souls...These rooms were hot as an oven, filled with flies, which had settled on the faces of poor sleeping babies, and altogether wore an air of great discomfort.. Opposite the barrack gates there are four dilapidated cottages, into which some of the married soldiers have been put... A few more families are housed in the Sappers' cottages on the Park Lands." It was commented that "indeed the very stables at the Barracks are more comfortable and wholesome than some of the room in which men, women and children are huddled together" (SA Register 2/2/1867 p2)

The Register records their on **13/8/1867** departure by the *Haversham* for Hobart Town of Major Vivian, Capt Fairtlough, Lieut Churchward, Ensing Barnes, Dr Bennett and 182 rank and file.

1st/50th Regiment 9-8-1867 – 1-4-1869

Known by many nicknames "The Gallant Fiftieth", "The Blind Half Hundred", "The Dirty Half Hundred" or "The Devils Royals". They served in Sydney, Norfolk Island, Tasmania and Adelaide, deployed as 13 detachments of convict guards".

A detachment of 232 strong under Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. Francis Gilbert Hamley arrived from New Plymouth New Zealand by the barque *Haversham* on **August 9th 1867** (SA Reg. Aug 10 1867 2a) with Col Hamley, Capts Fyler and Clarke, Lieuts. Turner, Fleury and Allardice, Ensigns Taunton and Considine, Surgeon O'Owen in order to replace the 14th when they returned to Tasmania.

The three companies of the 50th Regiment were now housed in better accommodation, the soldiers having made great improvements however the cottages outside the barracks being used by families still had to contend with much discomfort. There were as many as thirteen families yet they had no running water. To obtain water they had to walk up hill to the Barracks a distance of more than 250 yards. The SA Register 23/1/1868 p2 commented that the Government could solve the problem by simply putting in an iron pipe to connect the cottages permanently to the water supply at the Barracks.

Lt. Col. Hamley, as senior officer in command of her Majesty's forces, had seen military duty in Mauritius, South Africa, Ceylon and New Zealand. He also had considerable administrative experience as Quartermaster General in Mauritius and then aide-de-camp to his relative Sir William Gomm, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius and position he held through successive Governors 1847 – 1851 (The Mercury 10/3/1868 p3). Thus at the time of Governor Sir Dominick Daly's death, Hamley was selected to take his place and was sworn in as Acting-Governor on February 20, 1868. An office he held for just over a year. (Chronicle 2/11/1895 p19.20) The Regiment was cleared by the steamer *Himalaya* on **1st April 1869**.(SA Reg 2/4/1869 2e)

14th Regiment 23-3-1869 – 31-1-1870

The 14th Regiment returned to Adelaide from Hobart Town on Saturday **23 or 29/3/1869** aboard the *Racer*, 702 tons, with Major Vivian, Capt Wilson, Lieut Whidbourne and Churchward, Surgeon Gibson, Colour Sergeants Quigley and Clarke, Sgts Murray, Cherry, Johnson, Cullen, Macready and Surry and 147 rank and file of the 14th. Buckinghamshire Regiment. (SA Register 30/3/1869)



Claude Hamilton

They were stationed only for 10 months and were cleared for Melbourne on **31 January 1870**) The SA Register of 1/2/1870 notified the sailing of the *Claude Hamilton* for Melbourne with the officers and 160 men of the 14th and mentioned their unseemly behavior alongside the ship. They were known in Adelaide as the rowdy 14th. A gentleman at the time, remembers one soldier who got drunk at the intersection of Rundle Street and Gawler Place, took off his belt, and holding it by the middle, attacked the police and others with the buckle ends.

During 1860s married soldiers lived in rented houses, some in a row of houses at the corner of Pulteney Street and North Terrace, opposite Chalmers Church, and were allowed to work at their trades, bootmakers etc.

2nd /18th Regiment 30-1-1870 – 17-8-1870

Known as "Paddy's Blackguards" they saw service in Tasmania, Sydney, Victoria and South Australia. The 2nd was formed mainly from volunteers from the Irish Militia, began to arrive from N.Z. from 4 July 1863 with the last of the battalion to leave in February 1870.

On Sunday **30/1/1870** the *Claude Hamilton* arrived from Melbourne (via New Plymouth New Zealand) with the officers and 92 men of the second battalion of the 18th Regiment under the command of Lt. Col. James Harwood Rocke. The Government Gazette Extra-Ordinary of 13 May 1870 was pleased to note a change in Government with the Hon. Augustine Stow MLC replacing the Hon. John Tuthill Bagot MLC as Chief Secretary and the appointment of new Ministers. His Excellency the Governor was pleased to appoint Lieutenant-Colonel James Harwood Rocke, 18th Royal Irish Regiment, to be a member of the Honorable Executive Council.

They only remained in Adelaide 6 ½ months due to the general withdrawal of Imperial Regiments from Australia and were cleared on the *Aldinga* on **17/8/1870** for England via Melbourne with a detachment of seventy six men of the 18th, 13 women, 28 children, Col. Rocke, Capts Biggs and Thacker, and Ensign Burnaby.

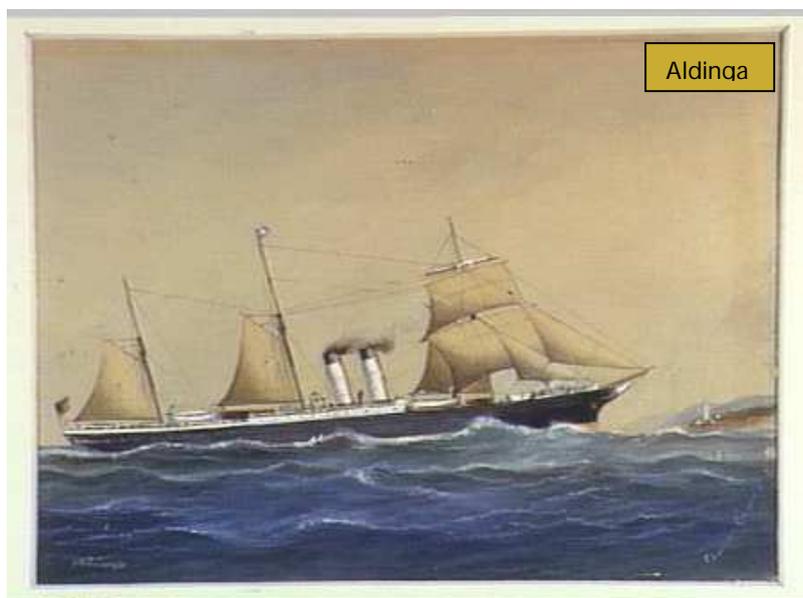
FAREWELL TO THE LAST REGIMENT

Governor Sir James Fergusson made a farewell speech at Government House gates when the main body marched from the barracks to pick up the gate guard. His Excellency the Governor, Fergusson, wearing his uniform as Colonel of the Ayrshire Militia, accompanied by all the Ministers, and attended by the Private Secretary addressed the troops. "I cannot find it in my heart to let you quit this colony – the last detachment of the queen's troops which perhaps will ever be stationed here – without a word. .."I am happy to note how well you have upheld the character of the British Army and of your regiment by your orderly and soldierlike behaviour. The 2nd Battalion of the 18th will be ever and only remembers here with pleasure and regard ... In the name of the colony I now bid you farewell". After rounds of applause for both the Governor, the Regiment and the Queen, the troop marched to the Railway Station where friends assembled to bid them farewell on the midday train bound for Port Adelaide. (SA Register 18/8/1870)



The strength 1/8/1870 was one field officer, two captains, one subaltern, one surgeon, six sergeants, two corporals, four drummers and ninety four privates, four of whom were sick in hospital, twelve men of the 14th and 50th were in prison and twelve at the out station of Dry Creek. During the last two nights thirty men deserted from the barracks and one from the train at Alberton.

So departed the last Imperial troops. The South Australian Register commented at the time "With the removal of the military one of the few tangible evidences of a continuing connection between Great Britain and her Australian provinces will disappear". (SA Register 17/8/1870 p5)



A month later an auction was held on Wednesday 14th at the Barracks by Parr & Luxmoore to sell "All the Stores, Material, Barrack Furniture, implements, utensils and munitions of war. (SA Register 10/9/1870 p8)

| ARRIVAL DATE | REGIMENT | EX PORT | DESTINATION | COMMANDER | SHIP | NUMBER |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|
| January 1836 | Royal Marines | England | Adelaide | Gov. Hindmarsh | HMS Buffalo | 10 |
| 1838 | Royal Marines | Adelaide | Sydney | Gov. Hindmarsh | HMS Alligator | 10 |
| 19 September 1839 | Royal Eng. | England | Adelaide | Lt. Frome | Recovery | 15 |
| 15 October 1841 | 96 th | Hobart | Adelaide | Capt Butler & | Eudora | 84 |
| 27 April 1846 | 11 th | Launceston | Adelaide | Capt Webster, | Brankenmoor | 90 |
| 16 May 1846 | 96 th | Adelaide | Launceston | Capt Butler | Brankenmoor | 81 |
| 4 Oct 1848 | 99 th | Melbourne | Adelaide | Major G.M.Reeves | Freak | 70 |
| 13 Oct 1848 | 11 th | Adelaide | Sydney | Capt Webster | Freak | 77 |
| December 1848 | 99 th | Adelaide | Western Aus | Major G.M. Reeves | | 70 |
| Jan 1849 | 11 th | Sydney | Adelaide | Lt. G.H. Travers | | 42 |
| 25 Feb 1849 | 96 th | Launceston | Adelaide | Col. Cumberland | Radcliffe | 196, |
| 3 March 1849 | 96 th | Adelaide | Perth enroute to India | Col. Cumberland | Radcliffe | 196 |
| 28 July 1854 | 2/40 th | Melbourne | Adelaide | Capt Blythe | Sir John Harvey | 62 |
| 2 August 1854 | 11 th | Adelaide | Melbourne | Lt G.H. Travers | Sir John Harvey | 42 |
| 4 November 1854 | 12 th | Melbourne | Adelaide | Lt. Saunders | White Swan | 65 |
| 8 November 1855 | 2/40 th | Adelaide | Melbourne | Capt Blythe | White Swan | 69 |
| 14 January 1856 | 12 th | Melbourne | Adelaide | Lt Cole | White Swan | 34 |
| 10 April 1858 | 2/40 th | Melbourne | Adelaide | Capt Blythe | Havilah | 99 |
| 11 April 1858 | 12 th | Adelaide | Melbourne | Capt Vereker | Havilah | 99 |
| 10 October 1863 | 2/40 th | Adelaide | Auckland | Major Bowdler | Nightingale | 50 |
| 5 November 1866 | 2/14 th | Auckland | Adelaide | Capt Vivian | Novelty | 178 |
| 9 August 1867 | 1/50 th | New Zealand | Adelaide | Col E.G.S. Hamley | Haversham | 232 |
| 13 August 1867 | 2/14 th | Adelaide | Hobart | Capt Vivian | Haversham | 182 |
| 1 April 1869 | 1/50 th | Adelaide | England | Col. E.G.S Hamley | Himalya | 232 |
| 27 March 1869 | 2/14 th | Hobart | Adelaide | Major Vivian, | Racer 702 tons | 147 |
| 30 January 1870 | 2/18 th | Melbourne | Adelaide | Lt Col Rocke | Claude Hamilton | 92 |
| 31 January 1870 | 2/14 th | Adelaide | Melbourne | Major Vivian | Claude Hamilton | 147 |
| 17 August 1870 | 2/18 th | Adelaide | Melbourne | Col Rocke,, | Aldinga | 67 |