



Army Museum of Tasmania

Anglesea Barracks
HOBART

Information Sheet No 11

British Regiments in Van Diemen's Land 1803 – 1870

Initially settlements in Van Diemen's Land (VDL) and New South Wales (NSW) were made with two objectives in mind, to deprive other countries, particularly France, of the land known as New Holland and to develop a penal colony.

The role of protector of the new colony, administrator, judge, jury, architect, turnkey and works supervisor fell on the British soldier.

During this period the number of soldiers stationed in VDL varied from a mere handful of the below listed regiments to a full regiment of about 400 all ranks.

Regiment	Territorial Titles	Period of Service
102 nd Regt.	New South Wales Corps	1803 – 1810
	Royal Marines	1804 – 1812
73 rd Regt.	2 nd Bn. Royal Highlanders	1810 – 1814
46 th Regt.	2 nd Bn. Duke of Cornwall's Light Inf.	1814 – 1818
48 th Regt.	1 st Bn. Northampton Regt.	1817 – 1824
3 rd Regt.	East Kent Regt.	1823 – 1825
40 th Regt.	2 nd Bn. South Lancashire Regt.	1825 – 1830
57 th Regt.	1 st Bn. Middlesex Regt.	1825 – 1831
39 th Regt.	1 st Bn. Dorset Regt.	1828 – 1829
	Royal Staff Corps	1826 – 1829
	Royal Veterans Company	1826 – 1829

63 rd Regt.	1 st Bn. Manchester Regiment	1830 – 1834
17 th Regt.	Royal Leicestershire Regt.	1830 – 1832
4 th Regt.	Royal Lancashire Regt.	1831 – 1832
21 st Regt.	Royal Scots Fusiliers	1832 – 1840
50 th Regt.	1 st Bn. Royal West Kent Regt.	1834 – 1839
	Royal Engineers	1837 – 1870
51 st Regt.	1 st Bn. Kings Owen Yorkshire Light Inf.	1838 – 1847
96 th Regt.	2 nd Bn. Manchester Regt.	1840 – 1849
11 th Regt.	1 st Bn. Devonshire Regt.	1846 – 1848
99 th Regt.	2 nd Bn. Wiltshire Regt.	1843 – 1856
12 th Regt.	Suffolk Regt.	1855 – 1856
40 th Regt.	1 st Bn. South Lancashire Regt.	1859 – 1863
14 th Regt.	West Yorkshire Regt.	1866 – 1869
18 th Regt.	2 nd Bn. Royal Irish Regiment	1870

Not all were stationed at Anglesea Barracks. As the colony developed soldiers were stationed across VDL on locations that required as few as three men to other places such as Port Arthur that required as many as Regiments normally rotated UK – Australia/NZ- India- UK. They did not arrive as one body and it would often take two to three years to dribble soldiers out as guards on convict transports which had varying numbers of convicts to guard.

In 1811 Governor Lachlan Macquarie