



BURYING POINT: A TASMANIAN MYSTERY

Burying Point is a small protruding headland on North Bruny Island in Tasmania. The origin of the name 'Burying Point' in cartography is obscure and it has been omitted from many maps even into the present century. This could be explained by almost purely localised usage due to the isolation of the headland and its obscure history.¹

As a placename, Burying Point would appear to be self-explanatory yet, interestingly, neither Burying Point nor its small cemetery are specifically indicated on any maps before the 20th century. These rather intriguing omissions raise questions concerning the date (and identity!) of the first interment in the cemetery, which would perhaps help to shed some light on the headland's original designation as 'Burying Point'.

The lack of any surviving documentation concerning interments at Burying Point presents a challenge in identifying the burials in the cemetery. Oral history from the mid 20th century recorded the presence of 'six or seven'



Burying Point on North Bruny Island, looking northeast across the D'Entrecasteaux Channel. Photo: A. Evans

burials on the Point.² The exact locations of the burials were unknown until recently³ and there was only one wooden grave marker that remained with which to confirm the site of Burying Point as a true cemetery.⁴



Earliest maps

Tasman (1642), Furneaux (1773), Cook (1777) and Bligh (1788) all landed at Adventure Bay on the east coast of Bruny Island,

which provided a welcoming and sheltered anchorage after the rigours of the Southern Ocean. This large bay extends from Fluted Cape to Cape Queen Elizabeth, stretching along the eastern shore of the unique narrow isthmus that joins the two distinct masses of the island. The shores of Adventure Bay were still considered to be part of the Australian mainland until 1792, when an expedition under the command of Bruni d'Entrecasteaux established that a significant navigable passage, the D'Entrecasteaux Channel, ran up the western edge of what was to be known as Bruny Island.⁵

Aboard the expedition's two ships, *Recherche* and *Esperance*, the talented hydrographical engineer C. F.

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From the editor...



Our toponymic researchers have certainly been out and about this month! Their investigations have ranged from Tasmania to Queensland to Western Australia. Jennifer Curl's research into North Bruny

Island's Burying Point involved historical cartography; Robert Forster searched through maritime registers to establish the story of *the Jenny Lind*, introduced by Dale Lehner; and Joyce Miles continued her virtual safari in the North West, for the current instalment of our *Out and About* series.

This issue also brings you Part 1 of an article which analyses the use of Indigenous and Introduced placenames in Australia, and compares their use with the experience of New Zealand and Fiji. This research, by ANPS Director Dr Jan Tent, is an abbreviated and informal version of a *Placenames Report* which ANPS intends to publish later in 2011.

In the meantime, our thanks to all those readers who have now subscribed as Members of Placenames Australia (see the back page if you're still thinking about it!)—and especially to our Corporate Members. Our subscription year begins in July, and existing supporters will find an invitation to renew with this mailout.

— *David Blair*

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Annual General Meeting

... and Placenames Workshop

The 2011 AGM of Placenames Australia will be held in Adelaide on 2nd September. We anticipate that the meeting will begin at 3 p.m., at 77 Grenfell Street. All Supporting Members are cordially invited to attend.

Nominations for the Management Committee (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to five other members) are invited. Please email nominations to the Secretary: (director@anps.org.au) by 1st August 2011.

The meeting will follow a Workshop at the same venue on South Australian placenames, with an emphasis on Indigenous toponymy. We suggest that those who are contemplating joining us for the Workshop and the AGM should contact the Secretary beforehand, to confirm details of time and location.

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The Confusing Story of the *Jenny Lind*

There has been much confusion regarding the naming of a creek and a sandbank near Gladstone. In *Wrecks on the Queensland Coast*, J. Loney says that Jenny Lind Creek and Jenny Lind Bank were named for two different ships of the same name, and the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water uses that information on its website. During the first half of the 19th century Jenny Lind was an internationally famous Swedish soprano and many ships carried the name. In fact another *Jenny Lind*, quite unrelated to the creek and bank, had been wrecked on Kenn Reef off the Queensland coast in 1850. The true story of the naming of Jenny Lind Creek and Jenny Lind Bank has come to light through Robert Forster's research into some of the maritime ventures of his forebears, the Archers, and the following story is an edited version of a paper presented by Robert at an Archer family gathering.

— Dale Lehner



Woodcut of Jenny Lind in the Rockhampton Bulletin, 10 September 1861. Reproduced from *Magic Ships* by Lorna McDonald, with permission.

The Archers' Queensland Maritime Heritage – A Footnote:

A paper presented by Robert Forster at the Gracemere Sesquicentenary gathering of Archer descendants, July 2003

In 1825 Charles Archer of Scotland moved his family to Larvik, Norway. There were thirteen children, nine of whom later spent time in Australia. Several of the Archer brothers joined forces establishing pastoral runs in Queensland, including two in the Burnett River district, before Charles and William discovered and named the Fitzroy River, further north. In the mid-1850s, along with other brothers including Colin (who had apprenticeship skills as a shipwright), they established their property 'Gracemere' on the Fitzroy where the city of Rockhampton now stands.

Colin, a young man of twenty-three, was given the task of finding a boat in Maryborough and transporting heavy supplies to the Fitzroy River where he would meet a land party ready to settle the run. This he accomplished in the ketch *Ellida*. After the initial trip to the Fitzroy, the main role of the *Ellida* appears to have been as an 1850s water taxi to ferry family and others to and from Port Curtis.

'Gracemere' had been established less than 18 months when a two masted schooner, the *Jenny Lind*, was lost in a gale. In *Lighthouse of Tragedy*, Stuart Buchanan quotes Captain Sherman's report to the Sydney owners:

I am under the painful necessity of informing you of the loss of the *Jenny Lind* on 2 February (1857) in Bustard

Bay, it blowing a heavy gale at the time. I run down to Lady Elliot's Island on the 1st, and hove-to under the fore-trysail, it being thick and rainy; at daylight the same. At 8a.m. saw the land, distance two miles, it still blowing heavy, with squalls. Finding the vessel driving inshore, I run her into a little creek to save the lives of the people; trusting she might go inside the bar, and come to anchor, and get her out again. The first sounding I got was seven fathoms. The vessel struck in four feet of water...

It is clear that the 'little creek' mentioned is the one that became known as Jenny Lind Creek. The Archers saw an attractive business opportunity and decided to salvage the ship. In addition to the convenience of the *Ellida* being available to assist in the repair of the *Jenny Lind*, the decision to salvage the vessel was undoubtedly also influenced to some extent by the partial and total loss of separate shipments of the Gracemere wool clip within a period of four months. The *Sable Chief* was wrecked on rocks off the seaward side of Facing Island on New Year's Eve of 1856, with only some of the wool bales recovered and no loss of life. The *Sea Belle* left Port Curtis on 2 April 1857 and was never seen again.

I found evidence of the Archers' acquisition of the ship in an obscure Government Department history published by the then Department of Harbours and Marine in Queensland in 1986. A quote from the document:

The Schooner *Jenny Lind* was driven ashore at Rodd Bay near Bustard Head and, being only slightly damaged, was purchased by the Archer Brothers and refloated and repaired.

I also found that the Shipping Register showed the *Jenny Lind* was owned in September 1857 by Edward Lotze of Sydney (the Archers' shipping agent), William Archer and Joseph Wilmott, a merchant of Port Curtis. Thus there is no

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...Burying Point

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Beautemps-Beaupre, assisted by Lieutenant Cretin, explored and charted in great detail many features of the Channel, as well as the coastline of Bruny Island. The results were subsequently published in 1807 in the *Atlas du Voyage de Bruny-Dentrecasteaux* and it is here that the earliest representations of the Burying Point headland can be found.⁶



Map from the *Atlas du voyage de Bruny-Dentrecasteaux (1807)* by Beautemps-Beaupre, depicting the newly charted Bruny Island and D'Entrecasteaux Channel (MAP Ra 82, Copy 1, Part 5.)



Detail from the above map showing the location of the headland on North Bruny Island, now known as Burying Point.

Following the settlement of Hobart Town in 1804, mapping of the new colony of Van Diemen's Land was somewhat haphazard, to say the least. This was largely a result of unregulated and inaccurate surveying of numerous land grants, which were often unsystematically bestowed by successive Lieutenant-Governors such as Collins, Davey and Sorell.

More detailed surveying of Bruny Island appears to have

been neglected until 1826, when Thomas Scott (1800-1855), Assistant Surveyor General of Van Diemen's Land travelled to Adventure Bay and South Cape to explore the possibility of exploiting coal seams.⁷ It was during this expedition that he produced a detailed sketch map of 'Barnes's Bay on the North part of Bruny Island'.⁸ Burying Point (circled below) remains unnamed in a detail from Scott's sketch map.



Another detail illustrating the Burying Point headland from the Atlas. (MAP Ra 82, Copy 1, Part 6.)



Detail from Barnes's Bay on the North part of Bruny Island, Thomas Scott, 1826. (State Library of NSW)

The anonymity of the feature in cartography continued, although the survey map of 1839 does reveal a small straight-edged demarcation along the eastern shore of Sykes Cove which encompasses the Burying Point promontory.

It is unknown what the significance, if any, of this visible

boundary could be. It is possible that this area was deemed available for public use. The sheltered rock ledges and small beaches along this shore would have provided very convenient and relatively safe landing, loading and anchorage facilities for small watercraft.⁹ Scott's 1826 sketch map would seem to support this as it contained detailed depth soundings taken directly off the rock shelves below the Burying Point cliff and continuously along the shorelines.



Detail from 1839 Survey map of Bruny Island. Burying Point and the map demarcation are circled.

A map drawn in 1850 by a local inhabitant, John Gresley, indicated that the area around Burying Point was becoming more populated, with six named households marked between Sykes Cove and the head of Simmonds's Bay.



Map drawn in 1850 by John Gresley of the area around Burying Point (circled) and nearby cottages. (In possession of the Bruny Island Historical Society)

A clearly defined track linking the cottages (indicated by a dotted line) appears to have been the main route between the settlers in this area and passes close to the Burying Point headland.

Burying Point – a cemetery not on the maps

As previously mentioned, the absence of any mention of the

cemetery at Burying Point is intriguing. The cemetery may have been associated with St Johns Church, situated further up over Lodge Hill. In 1845, Richard and Hannah Pybus had a land grant drawn up, donating a parcel of land within their holding to be used for the purposes of 'Church, Chapel, Schools, Dwellinghouses or Burial ground'.¹⁰

The exact date of construction of the church is unknown but it is marked on Gresley's map of 1850 (see above). Unfortunately very little information has been found regarding this church and all of its records now appear to be missing or destroyed. It is mysterious that Gresley notes the presence of the church yet does not acknowledge the existence of a cemetery nor indeed Burying Point on his rather detailed map.

It is highly probable that most of the Burying Point cemetery interments were convict burials that were unmarked and unregistered. This corresponds with a practice found elsewhere on Bruny Island and throughout Australia.¹¹ The location of the cemetery on what was essentially the Pybus' land could suggest that these burials were associated with the family and their labourers, although at present this cannot be confirmed.

A possible American connection

Although the date of the first interment at Burying Point and the origin of its name are yet to be determined, an interesting clue may lie in Salem, Massachusetts in the United States. The "Old Burying Point" cemetery on Charter Street in the centre of Salem is the oldest burial ground in the city, the earliest interment dating from 1637. It is well known for its many intricate and imaginatively carved headstones and contains the grave of one of the original Puritan *Mayflower* settlers who landed in America in 1620 as well as some of the prominent participants in Salem's infamous Witch Trials (1629). Located barely 200 metres from the old waterfront

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Detail from the Pybus' land grant to the Church in 1845. Burying Point is on the far left of the map.

Indigenous and Introduced

Apart from toponymy, one of my other areas of research interest is varieties of English. I have recently been researching indigenous loanwords in Fiji English, New Zealand English and Australian English. From the early 16th to the mid 19th century, English was transplanted to the four corners of the globe, and became an extensive and prolific borrower of words and toponyms from indigenous languages. The Englishes of Fiji, New Zealand and Australia are typical examples. Indigenous loanwords comprise one of their most distinctive features, and are regularly used to express national identity

Normally, toponyms are not included in studies of loanwords, even though, strictly speaking they are of course words borrowed from another language or languages. I decided to take a detour from my study of general loanwords and investigate indigenous toponyms. This entailed trawling through the national gazetteers of Fiji, New Zealand and Australia. Fiji has some 13400 named places in its gazetteer, New Zealand some 13800, and Australia more than 322,000. The percentage of indigenous named places in each of these gazetteers is shown in Table 1. In this article I will concentrate on named places in Australia.

Table 1

Named places with indigenous name elements	Percent
Fiji (Fijian)	96.8
New Zealand (Māori)	33.2
Australia (Aboriginal)	28.2

Category Issues

Before we continue, I need to deal with the issue of toponym vs named place. Gazetteers list places that have a toponym attached to them. Hence there are many places with the same toponym (e.g. there are 549 *Sandy Creeks* in the 2006 National Gazetteer of Australia). Therefore, there are two statistics to consider. The figures in this article are based on named places, not on individual toponyms.

There are also numerous toponyms that appear to be introduced but are in fact anglicised indigenous names. These include: *Cammeray*, *Tom Groggin*, *Gibber Hill*, *Big Bommy*. Then there are names that are often considered to be indigenous, but are in fact introduced, e.g. *Goanna Bay* (from *iguana*), *Emu Bay* (from Portugese *ema* 'ostrich'), *Cockatoo Dock* (from Dutch *katetoe* from Malay *kakatūa*). So, a little care must be taken when classifying toponyms as introduced or indigenous.

Many indigenous names in Australia are transferred from other regions in the country (e.g. every state and territory boasts places that carry the names *Wallaby* and *Kangaroo*). Often these transferred indigenous names also have

corrupted spelling or pronunciation, making it difficult or impossible to determine their origin. These toponyms can therefore be considered as being 'introduced'. However, my interest in this paper is not in whether indigenous toponyms are truly local or have been transferred; rather, it lies simply in determining the ratio of indigenous names to introduced names.

Methodology

Gazetteers are very useful tools for the toponymist. Apart from the gazetted named places themselves, they provide information on such matters as:

- the unique identification codes for each named feature
- the state or territory where the feature is located
- variant names
- the type of feature (e.g. STREAM, BAY, LOCATION etc.)
- whether the name is authorised
- latitude and longitude
etc.

This information can then be put to a number of interesting and useful purposes. For instance, it can be a source for investigating and determining:

- place-naming practices
- the most commonly named geographic feature types
- the most commonly used placename specifics
- the number of duplicate placenames
- the number of dual-named features (e.g. *Uluru/Ayers Rock*)
- the syntactic structure of placenames (see my article 'The' placenames in the December, 2009 ANPS newsletter)
- the topography of a region
- the cultural significance of specific geographic features
- settlement history and patterns

I classified the named places in the Gazetteer in the following manner:

- 1 **Wholly Indigenous** (i.e. no introduced generic or specific element at all, e.g. *Wollongong*, *Aryillarlarg Billabong*)
- 2 **Introduced** (i.e. no indigenous generic or specific element at all, e.g. *Perth*, *Sandy Bay*, *Kosciuszko*)
- 3 **Blend** (i.e. indigenous specific + introduced generic, e.g. *Gunnamatta Bay*, *Gidgiegalumba Creek*; introduced specific + indigenous generic, e.g. *Sturts Billabong*, *Box Cowl*, *Chambers Warrambool*; blended name, e.g. *Bowraville*, *Malleeland*, *Big Badja*)
- 4 **Dual name** (e.g. *Mount Ngumadj* / *Mount Mciver*, *North Head* / *Yacaaba Head*)

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Named Places in Australia

Results

I have often asked geographers, toponymists and members of the Committee for Geographical Names of Australasia (CGNA) how many indigenous placenames they estimated Australia had. The answer I generally receive is between 60% and 70%. As Table 1 shows, the exact opposite is true. It does vary from region to region, however. Table 2 (Section 1) shows that NSW has the most named places with an indigenous name element, whilst NT, Tasmania and the ACT have the least with 0.3%. As for the number of named places with an indigenous element *within* a state/territory itself (Table 2, Section 3), SA, WA and NSW have around 30%. Tasmania has by far the least with 3.9%. This reflects Tasmania's appalling colonial history and the genocide of its indigenous people. Tasmania does have indigenous toponyms but the vast majority were introduced from the mainland. The ACT, given its small size and limited number of placenames, ought to be commended for having 23.9% of them with an indigenous element (see Section 3).

Table 3 shows the number of named places in Australia that have introduced vs indigenous names. As can be seen the vast majority are introduced (71.8%). Dual-naming is becoming more and more common in all states and territories, and it is hoped that the small percentage of dual names will increase substantially in years to come. The dual naming process is often the first step in changing a named place with an introduced name to one with an indigenous name. There is a very small percentage of named places that have an introduced specific and an indigenous generic. Most have localised usage. The most common indigenous generic is *Billabong*. Others include *Yarp* 'lake' (in WA), *Bombora* (*Bommy*), *Cowal* 'swampy hollow' (in NSW), *Warrambool* 'stream' (in NSW), *Vari* 'stream' (in SA, only with indigenous specifics). One interesting point is the use of the generic *Cowal*. It is used in NSW as a generic for the features 'SWAMP', 'STREAM', 'LAGOON', 'LAKE' and 'WATERHOLE'. However, it is also

used as a specific, as in *Cowal Swamp*, *Cowal Creek*, *Lake Cowal*, *Cowal Lagoon*.

One of the main questions that came to mind when I was conducting this analysis was: 'Are certain features more likely to receive an indigenous name or an introduced name?' The answer is generally, 'Yes, in a few cases'. Table 4 lists those features.

Table 3

Toponym class		Number	Percent
Introduced		231359	71.8
Indigenous		37790	11.7
Blend	Indigenous specific + Introduced generic	52693	16.4
	Introduced specific + Indigenous generic	146	.04
Dual name		187	.1
Total		322175	100

Table 4

Feature type	% indigenous names
CLAY PANS	67.3
GAS FIELDS	52.4
PARISHES	54.1
ROCKHOLES / GNAMMA HOLES	86.5
SOAKS	64.1
SPRINGS	56.3
FORESTS	49.8
WATERHOLES	49.3

Table 2

Section 1		Section 2		Section 3	
State	Percent named places in Australia	State	Percent named places with an Indigenous name element in Australia	State	Percent named places with an Indigenous name element within each state/territory
NSW	25.0	NSW	27.2	SA	33.1
Qld	19.5	SA	19.2	WA	31.9
SA	16.3	Qld	18.6	NSW	30.8
WA	15.9	WA	17.9	Qld	26.9
Vic	13.0	Vic	12.3	Vic	26.9
Tas	6.2	NT	3.7	NT	26.7
NT	3.9	Tas	.9	ACT	23.9
ACT	.3	ACT	.2	Tas	3.9

...Indigenous + Introduced

There are some interesting points to be made here. Notice how ROCKHOLES, SOAKS, SPRINGS and WATERHOLES generally have more than 50% indigenous names. This perhaps highlights the immense significance of these natural features to the indigenous culture and survival. It is also heartening to note that PARISHES which were designated and named early on when an area was settled by the British, were more often than not bestowed with an indigenous name. Although there are only 82 GASFIELDS in the National Gazetteer, more than half (43) have been given indigenous names. The number of gasfields is small so it is not possible to say whether this statistic holds any significance. GASFIELDS are a relatively new feature on the landscape, and thus one might hope that in this day and age new features are given indigenous names.

Another reasonable assumption we might be tempted to make is that natural features have a higher ratio of indigenous names than non-natural features. This, as it happens, is not so: natural features with indigenous names comprise 21.1%, whilst 33.6% of non-natural features have indigenous names. This surprising statistic begs to be investigated; and I shall return to it in a future issue, along with a comparison of our Australian experience with those of Fiji and New Zealand.

□ Jan Tent

¹ The order in which the states and territories are listed is determined by the highest to lowest percentage.

² I have also listed 'Forests' and 'Waterholes' because almost half of these have an indigenous name.

Out and About... with Joyce Miles

Wanderings in the North West

Western Australia is vast. It occupies a third of Australia's land mass and yet has a population of only just over two million, most of whom live in or near its principal cities. It features some of the most remote and spectacular landscapes and is known internationally for its glorious displays of wildflowers. Within the region are pioneer towns, former goldrush towns, pearling towns, modern industrial towns, tourist resorts, small settlements—all with interesting histories, some of which are revealed by their names. The following from the north-west of the State are a few examples.

WHO WAS TOM PRICE?

Many towns are named for people—early settlers, pioneers, politicians or those of note. **Busselton, Wilberforce, Mitchell, Darwin** and many others have just the surname of the person concerned. Why then are the given name and the surname used in the naming of **Tom Price**?



Tom Price is one of the four towns in the Shire of Ashburton, some 1600km from Perth. Situated on the edge of the Hamersley Range at 747m above sea level, it claims to be the highest town in Western Australia¹. Unlike many Australian towns whose history goes back to the days of early settlement, Tom Price was not established until the 1960s. It is both young in age and its population of some 4,200 consists mainly of young families. It owes its existence to iron

ore mining. Large iron ore deposits were detected from aerial surveys of the area carried out in 1952, but no action could be taken as the Australian Government had imposed an embargo on all iron and steel exports. This was lifted in 1961 and exploration went ahead. The vice-president of the American Company Kaiser Steel, Thomas Moore Price, arrived from America and appraised the deposits and not only convinced his associates that mining in the area would be profitable, but he played a major role in persuading both the State and the Federal Governments to grant permission for both mining and exporting iron ore. Tom Price returned to America but unfortunately died shortly after receiving the news that a massive iron ore deposit had been discovered on the nearby mountain. Mining began in 1964 and the following year the Rio Tinto Southern Mining Company commenced building on what was formerly Banjima Aboriginal land, a town to service the needs of the growing workforce. This was named **Tom Price** after nearby **Mount Tom Price** (left), a name which had been chosen by the mining company to honour the man who played such a large part in the foundation of the local industry.²

Had the pattern been followed of just using a surname as a placename 'Price' would not have been very impressive. By using both names we have a placename worthy of the man who played such a significant role in the founding of a mining industry which today claims to exploit one of the richest iron ore deposits in the world.

References

¹ http://www.ashburton.wa.gov.au/community/townsites/tom_price.html

² Tom Price Visitors Centre; <http://www.smh.com.au/news/Western-Australia/Tom-Price;>

Ian Murray and Brian Goodchild, *A Gazetteer of Perth Suburbs and Western Australian Towns*, 2003, p.156-157

DAMPIER

With the development of the iron ore industry at **Tom Price** came the need for infrastructure and in the 1960s the Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd (now a wholly owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto) built the railway from the town and developed the new port of **Dampier** overlooking Hampton Harbour, 20 kms from the regional centre of Karratha¹. The name **Dampier** has a considerable history. In 1688 an Englishman, William Dampier, landed on the north-west coast (the first Englishman to do so), but thought little of the territory and left. In 1699 Britain, interested in this new land's potential, commissioned Dampier to return. He did so in *HMS Roebuck*, but, failing to find a supply of fresh water, once again left the area unimpressed. Nevertheless, his subsequent accounts of his travels generated interest in further exploration². In 1801 the French explorer, cartographer, naturalist and hydrographer, Nicholas Baudin (1754-1803) was selected to lead an expedition to map the coast of Australia. He had two ships, the corvette *Le Geographe* and *Le Naturaliste*. He was accompanied by scientists, naturalists and the cartographer-surveyor Louis-Claude Desaulces de Freycinet aboard *Le Naturaliste*. After some initial work together in Geographe Bay, the two ships lost touch for some weeks, but eventually met in Timor³. There is some question as to who named **Dampier Archipelago**. According to Keith Morris, the group of islands was named in 1801 by Baudin in the *Geographe*⁴. However, the *History of Country Towns Names* records 'The island group through which he (William Dampier) sailed was named "**Dampier Archipelago**" by Captain Louis Freycinet in 1803'.⁵ Subsequently, the new town of **Dampier** took its name from the nearby archipelago named in honour of the first Englishman to land on the Australian continent. The name was gazetted in 1972.⁶

References

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- ³ ADB online. Authors: Leslie R. Marchant, J.H. Reynolds.
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- ⁵ <http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au/corporate.nsf/web/History+of+Country+Towns+Names>
- ⁶ Ian Murray and Brian Goodchild, *A Gazetteer of Perth Suburbs and Western Australian Towns*, 2003, p.92

NEWMAN

To the south-east of **Tom Price** is another iron-ore mining town – **Newman**. It takes its name from nearby **Mount Newman**, named by surveyor W.F. Rudall in 1896 after the explorer Aubrey Woodward Newman who died while on a mapping expedition just before he reached the area in 1896¹. In 1957 Stan Hilditch, a veteran prospector, discovered rich iron deposits on nearby **Mount Whaleback** (so named on

account of its shape). It is now said to be the world's largest single open cut iron ore mine².

Newman was built in the 1960s by the Mount Newman Mining Company for its employees, but now has an elected council. It is the administrative centre of the Shire of East Pilbara and a service town for nearby settlements. In June 2001 the railway link from **Newman** to **Port Hedland** (452km north) handled the world's longest freight train of 682 ore cars hauled by eight locomotives which stretched for 7.353 km³.

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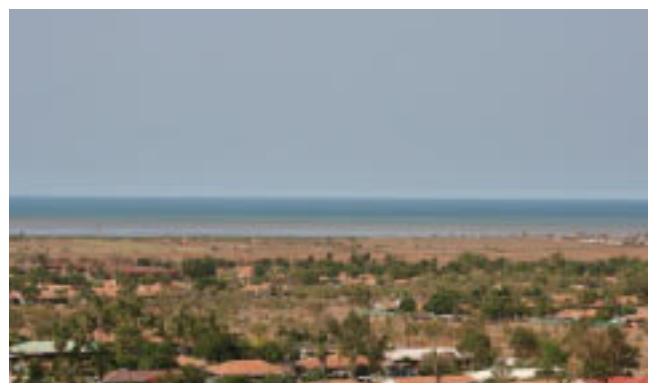
- ¹ Ian Murray and Brian Goodchild, *A Gazetteer of Perth Suburbs and Western Australian Towns*, 2003, p.138
- ² *Amazing North Travel Guide*, 28th ed., 2010, pp.224, 226
- ³ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newman_Western_Australia

KARRATHA

Such was the expansion of industry in this north-west region that in the late 1960s a new town was developed in the Pilbara district adjoining the port of **Dampier** to accommodate the expanding workforce of the Hamersley Iron company, Dampier Salt and, later, the petroleum and liquefied natural gas operations of Woodside's North West Shelf Venture¹. It was necessary to establish an administrative centre for local businesses, government departments and the Shire of Roebourne and hence **Karratha** was established². Several names were suggested for the new townsite, but the one chosen by the Nomenclature Advisory Committee and approved by the Minister for Lands in 1968 was that of the pastoral station from which the land had been acquired. **Karratha** is recorded as an Aboriginal word meaning either 'soft earth' or 'good country'³.

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- ² *UBD Western Australia Country Road Atlas, Karratha*, 12th ed., p.258
- ³ <http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au/corporate.nsf/web/History+of+Country+Town+Names>



Karratha, W.A.

...Burying Point

district of Salem, it is likely that the cemetery would have been a familiar place to the whaling ships' crews that called into the once bustling port. It was therefore already well known and nearly two hundred years old by the time Bruny Island was being settled in the 1820s. So was Burying Point on Bruny Island named after the cemetery in Salem? And why?

The connection between the New England region on America's east coast and Tasmania is particularly strong and dates from the earliest days of Hobart's settlement.¹² American sealing ships are recorded as sailing into Hobart as early as 1807.¹³ Surviving ships' logs from the nineteenth century indicate frequent and regular contact while navigating around the Pacific and Indian Oceans between the crews of American ships out of Salem, Boston, Bedford and Nantucket and those out of Hobart. They traded news, gossip, letters, food, grog, wood and water, sometimes even insults! The whaling industry peaked in Tasmania in the mid 1830s, by which time Hobart had surpassed Sydney as the primary whaling port, especially for ships out of New England ports such as Salem and Boston.¹⁴

From early accounts of the 1820s to the 1840s, the D'Entrecasteaux Channel was certainly a major thoroughfare for all ships travelling up to Hobart. Captain James Kelly, a whaling ship owner and captain in Hobart, claimed the first land on North Bruny Island in 1818.¹⁵ In true entrepreneurial spirit, he and his family conducted a lucrative trade in fresh provisions from his farm, selling produce to the numerous ships' crews entering the Channel and Storm Bay who were willing to pay high prices after months at sea.¹⁶ The coastline of Bruny Island would have therefore been well known to visiting American whaling and trading ships, which would have utilised its many sheltered coves and bays as a welcome anchorage especially on the western side of the island (the site of Burying Point).

The likely and frequent visitation of the area around Burying Point by many ships from New England adds weight to the theory that its name sprang from a connection with Salem, Massachusetts. The term 'burying' is not a common designation in British nomenclature of the period, usually being substituted by 'burial' or 'cemetery'.¹⁷ This theory of American association also raises the question as to whether a crewmember from one of these visiting American ships was interred at the Burying Point cemetery, prompting its initial title. Further inquiries into this hypothesis are continuing.

□ Jennifer Curl

NOTES

¹Burying Point is now situated on land that is part of *Murrayfield*, a 4097-hectare grazing property that has been owned by the Indigenous Land Corporation (South Australia) since 2005. Permission for access must be obtained from the property's manager via the Bruny Island Historical Society.

²Gray, F.O., 1978, *Further Recollections of North Bruny Island*.

³In May 2007, members of the Bruny Island Historical Society identified five burials from the distinct outlines of burial pits, which had been created by the mixing of soil layers during the initial excavation and subsequent refilling of the graves. Unfortunately, human bone had been discovered on the surface of the Burying Point cemetery in mid-2009. The existence of six graves was archaeologically confirmed in January 2010 when an emergency exhumation of the small cemetery was undertaken. The cliff face surrounding the burials was continuing to severely erode and after extensive consultation between the owner of the property (ILC), the Kingborough Council, police and the Bruny Island Historical Society, it was decided to move the visible and threatened burials approximately 50 metres inland.

⁴The only grave with a marker that lasted into the present century is that of James Wilkins, buried in 1864. The headboard was retrieved by the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery in Hobart in January 2010 for conservation and storage. For more information about James Wilkins (1854-64), consult the "Burials" folder in the Bruny Island History Room, Alannah.

⁵The separation of Tasmania from the rest of the Australian continent was not determined until 1798 when Bass and Flinders circumnavigated the island and passed through Bass Strait.

⁶This can be accessed from the National Library of Australia website <http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-ra82>

⁷G. H. Crawford, 1967. 'Scott, Thomas (1800 - 1855)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 2, MUP. pp 429-430

⁸'Sketches. 1822. *Van Diemen's Land, 1822-1847/drawn by Thomas Scott*'. Collection of the State Library of NSW, PXB216, No. 26.

⁹Most supplies and livestock were shipped in by barge and unless there was a small jetty or the animal was particularly valuable, stock was often unloaded over the side into shallow water and guided to shore.

¹⁰'Barnes's Bay Bruny Island Foundation' document, 11845, NS 1038/2.

¹¹Five unmarked convict graves are recorded near St Peter's Church near the Variety Bay Pilot Station, North Bruny Island that was built with convict labour in 1845-6.

¹²New England region in northeastern United States comprises the states of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

¹³The first British settlement in Tasmania was in 1803 at Risdon Cove. In October 1807, *Topaz*, out of Boston, landed rum and gin in Hobart after spending a week anchored somewhere in Adventure Bay, taking on wood and water. (From Nantucket Historical Association, Ships' Logs Collection, Log 105, Reel 17:206, Reel 45 Negative: 136; Reel 151:161 Negative; MF)

¹⁴G. Blainey in *The tyranny of distance: how distance shaped Australia's history*, (21st edition, 2001): 116-118

¹⁵Present day Denne's Point on North Bruny was known as Kelly's Point until the 1840s.

¹⁶K. M. Bowden, 1964. *Captain James Kelly of Hobart Town*: MUP.

¹⁷Interestingly, there is 'Burial Ground Point' across the Channel at Southport, associated with the convict probation station operating in the 1840s.

...Jenny Lind

doubt that the *Jenny Lind* of the creek was repaired and set sail once more, serving the owners for five years mostly trading between Port Curtis and Sydney before disaster struck again in September 1862.

The collected Archer Papers, which are held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, revealed evidence of the second misfortune. A file reference in the collection entitled 'Account of the voyage and wreck (of the *Jenny Lind*) by the Archer family' proved to be a little misleading. It was, in fact, a series of letters to William Archer from well known local Gladstone identities at the time. They dealt with the second and total wreck of the *Jenny Lind* seven miles to the south of Gatcombe Head, at the entrance to Port Curtis, on a detached reef off Seal Rocks. As with the earlier Jenny Lind Creek, this time she was to immortalise her final demise by giving her name to the Jenny Lind Bank.


Thus the creek and the bank were named for the same ship, contrary to the long-held belief that they were named for two different ships of the same name. The fact that the *Jenny Lind* was wrecked twice certainly clouded the issue. I conclude with an appropriate quote from Colin Archer, who had returned to Norway. In a letter to Sandy Archer in July 1863 he says, 'I was sorry to hear that old *Jenny Lind* was wrecked after all her narrow escapes. It must have been very near the spot where she went ashore before. I expect to hear by next mail that Willie [William Archer] had bought the wreck and made a lot of money out of the transaction as usual.'



Jenny Lind Bank is indicated in this extract from Navigation Chart AUS819. Jenny Lind Creek is off the chart, due east of Rodd's Harbour.

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Placenames Puzzle Number 38

"We shall not cease from exploration...."
(T.S. Eliot)
The clues reveal placenames relating to explorers (disregard spelling)
E.g. (NT) Author of *On the Origin of Species* Darwin

1. (SA) Bach's was on a G string; neck of land almost surrounded by water
2. (SA) Commemorated in the flower emblem of South Australia
3. (WA) Henry VIII for example; a noise – perhaps of Music
4. (WA) The constituent of caviar, "from End to John o' Groats"
5. (NT) The royal house to which Mary Queen of Scots belonged; area set aside for cars
6. (VIC) UK Prime Minister deposed in 2010; originator of the penny post in UK
7. (VIC) He donated the first of his public libraries to Dunfermline, Scotland
8. (NSW) Institutions dealing in money, fairly large settlement
9. (QLD) President of the USA 1961-63

10. (QLD) Tennyson's came "from haunts of coot and hern".... "and men may come and men may go, but I go on for ever"; small tracts of land surrounded by water
11. (QLD) Hinged means of exits from rooms
12. (QLD) A stupid person (Coll.), smaller than a city
13. (TAS) A fish of the perch family – can be freshwater or spiny finned marine; not crooked
14. (QLD/VIC) Polly who should have chosen more wisely when warming her feet
15. (QLD/WA) He published a street directory for Sydney
16. (ACT/SA) To boil, bake or roast for example
17. (ACT/NSW) 19th/20th century Australian poet and prose writer noted for depicting bush life (e.g. *While the Billy Boils*)
18. (ACT/QLD) Family name of Dame Nellie Melba
19. (ACT/VIC/WA) Large area of rural land full of very tall trees and undergrowth
20. (ACT/SA/VIC/WA) Relating to the British £

Joyce Miles

ANSWERS: 1. Eyre Peninsula 2. Stuart 3. King Sound 4. Footscray 5. Stuart Park 6. Brown Hill 7. Carnegie 8. Rankbourn 9. Kennedy 10. Brook Islands 11. Daves 12. Durburn 13. Bass Strait 14. Flinders 15. Gregory 16. Cook 17. Lawson 18. Mitchell 19. Forrest 20. Stirling

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