

William Redfern (Jul-Dec 1774, Ireland or Canada – 17 Jul 1833, Edinburgh Scotland)

Convicted of mutiny (but in fact political prisoner). Surgeon (primarily obstetrician) in colonial New South Wales. Labelled Australia's first medical graduate (even though already had Royal College of Surgeons diploma). The west half of the today's suburb of Redfern was granted to William Redfern.

UNFINISHED timeline of William Redfern's life.

1774

Date of birth: most probably July to December 1774

Reliable sources:

- Muster of HMS Standard 1797 - age 22 at 23 Jan 1797.
- Prison record – age 26 at 18 Jun 1801
- Death – age 58 at 17 Jul 1833

Place of birth: Canada

Single source: Muster roll of HMS Standard 1797

Considerable anecdotal evidence suggests place of birth was in northern Ireland, probably Belfast.

1777

Unverified baptism in Trowbridge, Wiltshire. The Wiltshire Historical Society could not find a baptism for Redfern at this or any other date.

1789

Thomas Redfern in apothecary partnership with John Dodd in Trowbridge. 14yo William lived with his older brother.

1795

Quota system introduced to Royal Navy. Each county must provide a certain quota of men and some counties provided financial incentives. May have applied to Redfern.

Dec 1796

The French Republic failed to land troops at Bantry Bay (southern Ireland) to assist the Society of United Irishmen in their republican cause. Tensions between Catholic and Protestant United Irishmen turned murderous when Ulster Presbyterians supported the British.

The Society of United Irishmen was founded in Belfast in October 1791.

19 Jan 1797

William Redfearn [sic] obtained diploma from the Company of Surgeons, London (now the Royal College of Surgeons) as "third mate, any rate" (Error? Redfern was first mate in third rate ship). He gave his address as Old Fish Street.

109 awarded diploma in 1790 and 142 awarded in 1800 (Royal College of Surgeons)

Prior to commission, passed examination of the Company of Surgeons of London. He did not receive the diploma. (Bigge, Appendix Vol 124, p2487)

23 Jan 1797

Joined HMS Standard as Surgeon's first mate (1 of 2 mates in a third rate)

Muster of HMS Standard 1797 uploaded, lists Surgeon and mates before, during and after Redfern.

16 Apr 1797

Spithead mutiny starts.

1 May 1797

Eldest brother Robert is prisoner in Newgate Gaol, Dublin for High Treason. He was transferred 28 April from Belfast.

5 May 1797

HMS Standard's men trained cannon on officer's country (main deck) over pay in arrears. Many ships had not been paid since the start of the French War. Royal Navy pay had not increased for over one hundred years whereas for those on land, pay had increased four-fold.

12 May 1797

The Nore mutiny starts. The Nore is a sandbank at the mouth of the Thames. Unlike the Spithead mutiny, which was primarily over pay and conditions in the Royal Navy, the mutiny at the Nore was more political declaring themselves a "floating republic". Demands included seeking immediate peace with republican France and for King George III to abdicate. The United Irishmen were known to be active at the Nore distributing pamphlets (officially 13% of British seamen were Irish). At this time, Admiral Duncan's North Sea fleet, including HMS Standard (64 gun third-rate), was fully provisioned at Yarmouth ready for blockading Texel.

"The Nore took place as the country faced a threat of invasion of Ireland, with a large naval force gathering at Texel in Holland in preparation for a joint Dutch and French expedition in support of a rebellion led by Wolfe Tone and his outlawed Society of United Irishmen."

15 May 1797

Spithead mutiny ends. The Channel fleet secured a pay and provisions increase promise from the Admiralty and a Royal Pardon from parliament.

26 May 1797

Duncan is asked by Admiralty in secret letters if North Sea fleet would resist mutinous Nore fleet: 'Should they be called upon to act for the purpose of reducing the crews of the ships at the Nore to a state of submission.' Reply: 'I have great pleasure in assuring you that the squadron under my command is perfectly orderly and quiet.'

HMS Cygnet's mutinous message from the Nore is received by HMS Lion and relayed to HMS Standard.

5AM 27 May 1797

Admiral Duncan hoists signal for North Sea fleet to weigh anchor for the Texel.

7PM 27 May 1797

Admiral Duncan hoists signal to stand out to sea. The fleet begin to mutiny. The Admiralty had given orders to sail to Texel, however, the sailors may not have known this and may have thought they were preparing to attack fellow ships at the Nore. The loyal North Sea fleet arrived at the Texel 1 Jun.

29 May 1797

HMS Standard in Yarmouth Roads flying red flag of mutiny with Lion, Nassau, and Belliqueux.

31 May 1797

HMS Standard at the Nore.

5 Jun 1797

HMS Standard and frigate Brilliant (28) were initial (inadequate) force to blockade Thames river commerce.

12 Jun 1797

Ships of the line HMS Standard (64), Agamemnon (64) and Nassau (64) escaped up river and raised blue flags in peace.

14 Jun 1797

Redfern discharged at Gravesend. "Wages to be forfeited for mutiny and rebellion". Taken to Maidstone Gaol (SMH 31/8/59)

15 Jun 1797

The Nore mutiny ends

17-25 Aug 1797

Trial of HMS Standard mutineers on board Neptune. Copy of transcripts uploaded however clear that much of testimony was struck from the record after animosity between Redfern and Court, particularly his ship's captain, Thomas Parr.

(Was Navy aware brother Robert was in prison for treason? And William had very close links to United Irishman?)

Contemporary reports that charges against the Nore leaders were initially treason (republicans) but there was insufficient evidence and charges were changed to mutiny. This was much easier to prosecute and meant authorities would not have to answer any (sensitive) political questions.

23 Aug 1797

Redfern prosecution in court martial

(Redfern accused of hiding two ship's pistols with ammunition in the medical dispensary. He had on his person a seditious letter that was in written in Redfern's hand. He was in possession of printed material i.e. political pamphlets. He attended at least two mutiny Committee meetings. And Redfern had complied with the Committee's order to act as ship's surgeon.)

24 Aug 1797

Redfern defense in court martial

(Redfern denied charges except that of acting as ship's surgeon whose duty he argued was only to treat the sick and wounded. The seditious -and missing - letter more than likely was in Redfern's hand.)

25 Aug 1797

Redfern sentenced to death.

"After reading over the minutes of the evidence and fully considering the same the prisoners were set to the Bar when the Judge Advocate read the sentence finding the charges fully proved against John Burrows, Joseph Hudson, William Redfern and Thomas Lunnis alias Linnes but recommended Joseph Hudson to his

Majesty's clemency on account of his having received a wound in his Majesty's service at St Lucia which deprived him of his senses after having drank strong liquor and William Redfern on account of professional situation leading him more among the Mutineers than the other officers were obliged to be. The Court finding the charges in part proved against Bryan Finn alias Fenn and Joseph Glaves sentenced the former to receive 300 lashes and the latter 250."

'And that the nature of his offence consisted in having verbally advised the leaders of the mutiny "to be more united amongst themselves".' (Bigge's Report on the Colony). It was 'vehemently denied by Redfern' that he had anything to do with the mutinies' delegates (Bigge, Appendix, Vol. 124, p6186)

27 Aug 1797

Of approx 500 Standards, 28 were court martialed, 10 were condemned, and 3 sentenced to hang. The man who led the Standards mutiny, William Wallace/Wallis, shot himself when the ship defected.

Redfern was 1 of 59 sentenced to death at the Nore - 29 were actually hanged - out of an estimated 7,500 seamen (HMS Sandwich alone had over 1,500 men in 1797).

2 Sep 1797

Morning Post (syndicated in UK papers including Belfast Newsletter 8 Sep 1797): "The names of the mutineers belonging to the Standard tried on board the Neptune, at Greenhythe are as follow: William Holdsworth, Henry Freeman, John alias Jonathan Davies, Bartholomew Connery, William Jones, Sampson Harris, and Thomas Sael, seamen. Their trial ended on Monday se'nnight, when they all received sentence of death, excepting Sampson Harris, respecting whom the court found the charge proved only in part, and sentenced him to receive two hundred lashes.

On Tuesday se'nnight [Tuesday week] commenced the trial of John Burrows, and Joseph Hudson, seamen; William Redfern, Surgeon's mate; Thomas Lunness, alias Linnes, Sargent of marines; Byran Finn, alias Fenn, and Joseph Glaves, private marines, for a mutiny likewise on board the Standard. The trial closed on Friday, when John Burrows, Joseph Hudson, William Redfern, and Thomas Lunness, alias Linnes, received sentence of death, but the court recommended to his Majesty's mercy Joseph Hudson on account of a wound he received in his Majesty's service in the West Indies, which deprived him of his senses having drank strong liquor; and William Redfern was likewise recommended to mercy on account of his professional situation leading him more among the mutineers than any of the officers. The court found the charge proved only in part against Bryan Finn, alias Fenn, and Joseph Glaves, and sentenced the former to receive three hundred lashes, and the latter two hundred and fifty – The court then adjourned.

No more of the Mutineers are to be tried at Greenhythe. On conclusion of the trial of the people of the Standard, Vice Admiral [Thomas] Paisley struck his flag on board the Centaur, which ship, with the Neptune and some others, is under orders to join the channel fleet."

Report lists 11 condemned with 6 (see above) receiving death sentence.

Aug 1800- Aug 1801

Sutro Library: Series of letters to and from a Thomas Redfern to Sir Joseph Banks.

10 Jan 1801

Likely Wm Redfern

Carlisle Journal: Government report on Cold Bath Fields Prison "Among the abuses, he stated the case of Redfern, which was so atrocious that Aris at first denied it, but when pressed under the testimony of the Surgeon, who had humanity, he was compelled to admit it. This unfortunate man, Redfern, had a piece of cow's udder administered to him as food, which was so bad that the milk was found in it, and proved to be in a state of putrefication; and this statement was corroborated by the Surgeon. But what was the consequence of such complaint and remonstrance? Redfern was taken, and, without any one charge against him, was threatened to be transported, and was sent aboard the hulks.'

1801

"Mr Redfern, in consequence of the Mutiny at the Nore in 1797 was, at his own particular request to Sir Jeremiah Fitzpatrick, the Inspector of the Transport Service, sent to this Colony in 1801. During the passage he assisted the surgeon and kept the journal of the treatment of the sick'. A Letter to the Right Honourable Viscount Sidmouth in Refutation... written by Lachlan Macquarie and printed 1821.

1 Apr 1801

On prison hulk Coromandel, Perseus, or Laurel at Portsmouth. Age 32 recorded incorrectly.

23 May 1801

Historical Papers: Minorca, Canada, and Nile about to leave the Thames for Portsmouth with 208 males and 100 females.

Minorca of 407 tons carrying 104 males convicts

Canada of 403 tons carrying 104 males convicts

Nile of 322 tons carrying 100 female convicts plus their children

The three ships were owned by Messrs F & T Hurry

6 Jun 1801

Wm Redfern 'sent on board the Canada' at Portsmouth.

8 Jun 1801

Historical Papers: Ships get final orders in Portsmouth. Governor King advised to enquire about conduct on route and grant 'Certificates of good Conduct'.

18 Jun 1801

Included with 'mutineers' for transportation on Canada (men), Minorca (men), or Nile (women). Redfern was only from mutineer from HMS Standard. Aged 26

19 Jun 1801

Historical Papers: Ships 'on point of sailing to Port Jackson'. There were free settlers and freight on the three ships too.

Hampshire Chronicle 18 May 1801:"The ships Canada, Minorca, and Nile engaged by government to carry convicts to New South Wales, have been permitted to proceed to China, to bring home cargoes of tea."

21 Jun 1801

Departed England in 'Canada'

Caledonian Mercury 27 Jun 1801: "The whole of the convicts, male and female, embarked in the Minorca, Canada, and Nile transports and which are to fall with West India fleet, to be convoyed by Admiral Montague, have been regularly supplied with every necessity, on a plan superior to any other since, the colony of New South Wales was first established, under the immediate direction of Sir Jerome Fitzpatrick. "

15 Dec 1801

Historical Papers: Arrived Sydney in, most likely in ship 'Canada'

It's thought that later reports of Redfern arriving in Minorca are incorrect. Redfern did infact arrive in one of the Minorca's convoys, one which included the ship Canada.

"Having entered the ship, we were all indiscriminately stripped (according to indispensable custom,) and were saluted with several buckets of salt-water, thrown over our heads by a boatswain's-mate. After undergoing this watery ordeal, we were compelled to put on a suit of slop-clothing. Our own apparel, though good in kind, being thrown overboard. We were then double-ironed, and put between -decks, where we selected such births, for sleeping, &c. as each thought most eligible. The next day, we received on board forty-six more prisoners from the Hulks at Woolwich, and the Canada fifty. The Nile also took on board one hundred women, from the different gaols in Great Britain. The three ships then sailed for Spithead where, on our arrival, the Minorca and Canada had their numbers augmented, from the Hulks at Portsmouth, to one hundred men each. Every thing being now in readiness, we only waited for the convoy to assemble, with which we were to proceed to a certain latitude". - Literary Gazette - From the Memoirs of James Hardy Vaux

Jan 1802

Arrived Norfolk Island

(As at 1800, there were over 600 United Irishmen on Norfolk Island)

2 Feb 1802

Historical papers: King reports 'convicts the healthiest and the best conditioned that ever arrived here, being all fit for immediate labour...which is not yet the case with many of those who came by former ships.' King writes the standards of health fell on the following transports. 101 male convicts arrived on Canada (3 lost). 99 on Minorca (5 lost). 100 on Nile (1 lost). The numbers of free is listed as is the general cargo of the three ships e.g. food, spirits, clothing.

19 Jun 1802

Appointed to act as Assistant Surgeon on Norfolk Island. Granted a conditional pardon the same year by Lieutenant-Governor Joseph Foveaux. Source: Macquarie 28 Jun 1813.

9 Jul 1802

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Redfern sold 48 acres for £160 on Norfolk Island.

(Clearly he was getting financial assistance from Home) 'Not forgotten by family' (Bigge, Appendix)

4 Jun 1803

Sydney Gazette 19 Jun: 'Free pardon' for William Redfearn from Governor Philip King.

1803

Norfolk Is land owner

12 May 1804

Ceased being Assistant Surgeon on Norfolk Island (Dunlop 1928). No explanation?

'In the year 1804, Mr. Redfern was relieved by Mr. Wentworth, but continued to assist him and Mr. Conollan until the month of May 1808.' (Bigge's Report on Colony.)

1805

Sarah Wills (Harding; future mother in law) purchased 30 acres in Redfern suburb for £100. The land was a gift to Mr and Mrs Redfern on their marriage.

26 Jan 1808

Governor Bligh arrested by Major George Johnston at Government House. Redfern at Norfolk Island, so descendants' stories of being at Govt House during arrest incorrect.

15 May 1808

Returned to Sydney on Estramina ship with unnamed wife (de facto?) and servant.

(Bigge, Appendix, Vol129, p152) the document endorsed "[Redfern] is a dangerous character to Society". (Why?)

1 Aug 1808

Appointed Assistant Surgeon by Colonel Foveaux.

1 Sep 1808

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Assistant Surgeon's certificate.

Surgeon's examination before Thomas Jamison (principal surgeon), John Harris (surgeon of NSW Corps) and William Bohan (assistant surgeon of NSW Corps). Appointed assistant surgeon at General Hospital, Dawes Point under Jamison. And Australia's first medical graduate. Board was convened by Foveaux at Redfern's request.

The General Hospital treated primarily convicts. Civil officers of the Crown were treated by hospital staff in their own homes with government supplies at no cost.

6 Sep 1808

Letter, Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux to Lord Castlereagh: 'The distressed state of the Colony for medical aid and the expression of your Lordship's [Lord Castlereagh] wish to provide such as could be obtained in this country has induced me to appoint Mr William Redfern to act as assistant surgeon. As his skill and ability in his profession are unquestionable and his conduct has been such as to deserve particular approbation, I beg to solicit for his Confirmation.' Dispatch included certificate.

25 Sep 1808

Sydney Gazette: Redfern 'to act as Assistant Surgeon in the Colony, and is to do duty at Sydney'.

24 Feb 1809

D'Arcy Wentworth is Principal Surgeon. Thomas Jamison had been ordered to London to testify in Gov. Bligh saga.

20 May 1809

Colonial Secretary's Papers: 500 acres granted in District of Cabramatta

22 Oct 1809

Sydney Gazette: Redfern letter (16 Oct 1809) to Lieutenant-Governor Patterson is reprinted in full. 'My endeavours to establish the vaccine inoculation with the virus I had the honor of receiving from you, have perfectly succeeded' Redfern infected himself with smallpox: 'a very severe inflammation in my right hand, which commenced the very day after I had received the virus'. And recommended the vaccine 'diffuse it as generally as possible'.

John Savage introduced vaccination in New South Wales in 1803. Public vaccinations available in Sydney Gazette 24 Jun 1804

29 Oct 1809

Sydney Gazette: Redfern has begun smallpox vaccinations for children.

1 Jan 1810

Lachlan Macquarie assumes office. Arrived in Sydney 28 Dec 1809

21 Jan 1810

Sydney Gazette: vaccine offered to public at General Hospital (Dawes Point)

20 Feb 1810

Colonial Secretary's Papers: 'The Governor is also pleased to direct that William Redfern will continue to act as assistant surgeon of the Civil Medical Establishment.'

Mar 1810

NSW population: 11,590. October 1821: 38,778

8 Mar 1810

Letter, Macquarie to Lord Castlereagh: 'I also beg to recommend that Mr William Redfern, who has for some time past been acting as Assistant Surgeon in the Civil Medical Establishment of this Colony with great credit to himself and advantage to the public service, may be confirmed in that situation by a commission from His Majesty'.

3 May 1810

Historical records of NSW: John Macarthur writes from Bath of his daughter to his wife: 'The day I received your letters, Mr Redfern's nephew [Thomas Jnr] came over from Trowbridge, kindly sent by his father [Thomas] with a letter from Mr Redfern to me...I think I need not tell you that if I had as power as I have inclination, Mr Redfern's reward for the service he has rendered Elizabeth (1792-1842) would be as great as the skill he has manifested in discovering and applying an efficacious remedy to her extraordinary disease...whenever Mr Bligh's affair is settled, whatever little interest I may have shall be exerted in his favour.'

30 Apr 1810

Letter, Macquarie to Lord Castlereagh: 'I was very much surprised and concerned on my arrival here at the extraordinary and illiberal policy I found had been adopted by my predecessors...long-trying good conduct should lead to that rank in society which he had forfeited...the greatest inducement that can be held out towards the reformation of the manners of the inhabitants and I think it is consistent with the gracious and

humane intentions of his Majesty...The number of persons of this description whom I have as yet admitted to my table consists of only four [actually three*]..Mr William Redfern, assistant surgeon'

*D'Arcy Wentworth technically free. He volunteered to be transported before he could be convicted of highway robbery.

20 Jul 1810

Redfern requests 12 to 18 month absence to go to England. Denied 'as the service is in much need of qualified persons'.

20 Jul 1810

Macarthur private letter from England to wife: 'Tell him [Wm Redfern] I saw his brother [Thomas] and nephew at Trowbridge, and that I shall feel the greatest pleasure if it should be in my power to aid their exertions to serve him.'

6 Nov 1810 to 12 Dec 1810

Accompanied Macquarie on his inspection tour. Macquarie based himself in Parramatta. Macquarie and Redfern visit and name Airs district.

Macquarie 'the best and finest country I have yet seen, and by far the best eligible, central, and fittest in every point of view for small settlers'. Names the districts Airs 'in honour of my very dear good Elizabeth's family estate'. This same – the Cowpastures - where Governor Phillip's cows wandered to in the first days of the colony

17 Nov 1810

Extract from The Journal of Lachlan Macquarie: "Mr. Meehan in hunting the Wild Cattle had the misfortune to be thrown from his Horse and dislocated his Arm; but Doctor Redfern having come shortly after to his assistance, immediately set his arm again, so as to secure his still preserving and recovering the use of it."

4 Mar 1811

Redfern married Sarah "Sally" Spencer Wills (23 Apr 1796 Middlesex, Eng. – morning of Sunday 10 Jan 1875 'Roke Manor' Hampshire, Eng.). Sarah was the daughter of convicted highwayman Edward Spencer Wills (13 Aug 1778 Middlesex, Eng. – 14 May 1811 Sydney) and Sarah Harding (1 Aug 1776 Middlesex Eng. – 8 Jul 1823 Sydney).

May 1811

Granted 800 acres in the district of Airs (near today's Campbelltown). 'Campbell Fields' named after Mrs. Elizabeth Macquarie nee Campbell. The was complimented as productive land by Bigge in his reports, Dunlop (1928)

1811

D'Arcy Wentworth (principal surgeon (and probably United Irishman, b 1762 in County Armagh)), Blaxwell, and Riley have contract to build "Rum Hospital". They were given exclusive 3-year licence to import 45,000 gallons of rum (price was £2 12s a gallon in Jul 1812).

Redfern was also an investor according to descendants. There is no evidence but seems possible.

26 Jul 1811

Earl Liverpool, Secretary of State, approves appointment to Assistant Surgeon to the Colony with annual salary of £136 17s 6d.

1 Feb 1812

Colonial Secretary's Papers: 'His Royal Highness has also been pleased to appoint William Redfern, Gentleman, to be Assistant Surgeon on the Civil Medical Establishment of the Territory of New South Wales, in the room on D'Arcy Wentworth Esq. promoted.'

11 Jul 1812

Sydney Gazette: residing in Sydney

1813

Redfern took on apprentice James Sheers at no cost, making him the Australia's first medical student. Sheers died in 1814 and was replaced by 14yo Henry Cowper. Cowper completed a 3 year apprenticeship and practiced at least a further 2 years. He was in charge of the hospital in Redfern's absence.

26 Jun 1813

Sydney Gazette: 'Wanted immediately, men to fell and burn off the timber on 30 acres'. This is Sarah Redfern's land, part of the present-day suburb of Redfern. He clear felled the land but never cultivated it while it was in his possession.

28 Jul 1813

Macquarie asks Lord Liverpool? for a commission for the Assistant Surgeon 'His talents as a surgeon being far superior to those of any other person of that description in the colony, and perhaps equal to those of the most skillful medical men in any other country. With such talents Mr Redfern unquestionably look forward to filling the highest situation in the Medical Department of New South Wales in regular rotation of seniority.'

14 March 1814

Colonial Secretary's Papers: 'Court of Inquiry to examine...the very great and unusual mortality...ship General Hewitt'.

- General Hewitt (960 ton, owned by G. McTaggart) departed 26 Aug 1813 , arrived 7 Feb 1814 (266 males, 34 died on route)
- Three Bees, from Ireland, departed England 7 Dec 1813, arrived 6 May 1814 (219 males, 9 died on route, 55 survivors in hospital with Scurvy) Destroyed by fire with magazine exploding on Friday 20 May 1814.
- Surry departed 22 Feb 1814. Arrived 29 Jul 1814. 200 males (36 convicts died + captain + surgeon + soldiers and sailors)

29 March 1814

Delivers Lachlan Macquarie's son, Lachlan.

30 Sep 1814

Report on the Health of Transports from Asst. Surgeon Redfern to Macquarie regarding convict transports. In a lengthy and logical report he recommends what ships surgeons need to do to improve and how to making surgeons independent of ship owners improves surgeons. The Commissioners of the Transport Board adopt most recommendations.

Heads enquiry in to high death toll on convict transports Surry, General Hewitt, and Three Bees. 50 of 200 in Surry had died of Typhus including the captain and surgeon. 39 died in General Hewitt of dysentery and typhous. Seven men died of scurvy in Three Bees.

Following this report, the mortality rate on convict transports fell and was maintained at low levels.

Bigge's Report on Colony called Redfern's report 'very accurate'.
See Redfern's full report, uploaded.

25 Apr 1815

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Redfern and others accompanied Macquarie during the first journey over the Blue Mountains Road to Bathurst.

Antill's diary: Antill and Redfern left Sydney 6.30am 25 April and met Macquarie at Parramatta.

May 1815

Sydney Gazette 10 Feb 1816: lost two horses 'when employed on public duty in the new discovered Country'. Antill's diary mentions they lost a few horses.

19 May 1815

Macquarie and party, including Redfern, return to Sydney.

1PM 4 Jun 1815

Sydney Gazette (10 Jun 1815): At Airds, the horse pulling the Redfern's chaise broke the reins. Mr Redfern was knocked in the head unconscious for 'nearly an hour'. Mrs Redfern sent dispatches for assistance. In Sydney, the His Excellency immediately ordered Principal Surgeon Wentworth and 46th Regiment Surgeon J. Forster on the 30 mile journey in one of His own carriages. Arriving at 10PM they found Mr [Charles] Thosby, surgeon [and free settler] in Liverpool, attending Mr Redfern. 'The head had received the chief injury, and fracture could be discovered, the symptoms that ensued seemed to indicate a concussion of the brain. In the course of Monday it was thought safe and advisable to remove him in His Excellency's carriage to Sydney...Mr Redfern mends daily.'

1816

Granted 70 acres by Macquarie adjoining 30 acres owned by his wife. This is the present-day suburb of Redfern.

In early 1834, Redfern's Estate was leased. According to Major Mitchell's survey, the land was approximately bounded today in the north by Cleveland St, in the west by Elizabeth St, in the south by Phillip St, and in the east by Regent St (the old Botany Rd). Redfern's Estate was approx half of today's Redfern suburb.

Wells St, which runs parallel to Redfern St, is infact a typo and should be Wills St.

Mid 1816

Surgeon in charge in new General "Rum" Hospital (present day NSW Parliament House). Most staff were convicts. Surgery was rare – 3 amputations in the first 3 years.

8 Apr 1816

General Hospital officially open for patients, however, patients started arriving July 1816. General Hospital was structurally complete in July 1817.

13 Jan 1816

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Medical Board to examine competency of emancipist William Bland for surgeon. The story goes Bland refused (unlike Redfern) because already qualified as Royal Navy Surgeon (like Redfern) and was therefore refused the appointment to the public service.

22 Sep or Nov 1816

Bank of NSW (now Westpac Bank) proposed at a meeting in Chief Justice John Wylde's chambers. The Bank's goals were to facilitate a sterling currency in the colony (besides rum); to be a public bank with shareholders; and to offer merchants, agriculturalists, settlers with credit and accept deposits.

Governor Macquarie supported the bank and wanted directorship open to convicts. The committee, including Redfern, resisted and insisted directors must be absolutely free.

12 Oct 1816

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Redfern supplied 6573 pounds of fresh meat to Government Stores. He was regularly supplying between 4000-7000 pounds twice a year in 1814-20. This was a significant (and probably primary) source of income at the time.

Govt rations included one pound of meat per person per day.

5 Dec 1816

Historical Papers: Lists all shareholders

Sydney Gazette 7 Dec 1816: Redfern bought 2 of 400 shares worth 50 pounds each in Bank of NSW offer. Expected £20,000 was not raised, but capital of £12,600 was considered sufficient.

8 Feb 1817

Sydney Gazette: Previous day's ballot for 7 directors for Bank of NSW elected Redfern.

22 March 1817

Bank charter to commence business issued.

8 Apr 1817

Bank of NSW commenced operation. The bank leased the house of Mrs Reibey in Macquarie place. Third depositor was William Redfern, £51. 15s. 7d.

12PM 3 Feb 1818

Sydney Gazette 7 Feb 1818: President and two Directors of Bank of NSW elected for ensuing year. John Thomas Campbell re-elected President. Redfern 'was re-elected by a large majority' along with Edward Riley as Directors.

5 Jun 1818

Sydney Gazette (6 Jun 1818): The Benevolent Society of NSW resolves 'that in all cases where medical relief may be requisite, Mr Redfern shall be consulted on behalf of the Society'. Redfern (and wife Sarah) was a generous financial contributor and his brother-in-law Antill was the treasurer. Redfern had been involved with the Society since its inception in 1813 when it was the NSW Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and Benevolence.

The Society is extant in 2015. It is not Australia's first charity as claimed, but is Australia's oldest operating charity.

5 Aug 1818

Redfern in Newcastle when Governor laid foundation stone of Macquarie Pier aka Nobbys Head.

1818

Granted further 1300 acres in Minto. 'Airds' named after Mrs. Elizabeth Macquarie's Scottish family estate.

1818

D'Arcy Wentworth resigned as principal surgeon (5 May 1818) and Macquarie very strongly recommended Redfern for promotion. London instead appointed Royal Navy surgeon James Bowman (14 Apr 1819)

James Bowman was surgeon on the first transport, Mary Anne, arrived (19 Jan 1816), which adopted Redfern's recommendations to the Transport Board. He unsuccessfully applied for a medical position in Sydney 29 Feb 1816. He was instead offered Hobart and declined returning to England. Bowman married John Macarthur's daughter Mary.

Redfern wrote of his 'severe mortifying disappointment – that my most sanguine hopes and best prospects in life are thus utterly blasted.'

A dispatch from 15 Nov 1793 stated 'that the right of succession to the office of Principal Surgeon should belong to the Assistant Surgeon in order of seniority of their commissions'. Redfern was also promised the promotion by previous secretary Viscount Castlereagh after being lobbied by William Pole-Tydney-Long-Wellesley, 4th Earl of Mornington, the Duke of Wellington's cousin, and MP for Wiltshire (Trowbridge).

10 Apr 1819

Sydney Gazette: Redfern successfully amputates Mr May's leg above the knee.

1 Jun 1819

Redfern and Cowper negligent 'in furnishing the supplies required for the use of a large body of fellow creatures at Newcastle'.

27 Jul 1819

William Lachlan "Mac" Macquarie Redfern (27 Jul 1819 Sydney- 30 Jun 1904 Westminster, Eng.) First child with Sarah Wills. Announced in Sydney Gazette 31 July 1819.

26 Sep 1819

John Thomas Bigge arrives Sydney on the same ship as James Bowman.

28 Sep 1819

James Bowman inspects the hospital without Redfern's permission. Reprimanding letter is addressed the following day.

14 Oct 1819

Resigned from Colonial Medical Service.

18 Oct 1819

Resignation letter mentions brother [Thomas Redfern] correspondence with Viscount Castlereagh.

23 Oct 1819

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Redfern has submitted his resignation as assistant surgeon. 'His Excellency cannot help expressing his sincere regret that any circumstances should have occurred that should induce him to retire from the Medical Service of this Colony, to which he has been so great and valuable an Acquisition; and has to express, that he feels particular pleasure in thus publicly bearing testimony, at once to his superior professional skill, steady attention, and active zealous performance of the numerous important duties entrusted to him in different departments of the Civil Medical Establishment in this Territory and its Dependencies.' Reprinted in Sydney Gazette 23 Oct 1819

6 Nov 1819

Personal letter from Lachlan Macquarie to Commissioner Bigge in which he defends the appointment of Redfern to magistrate and praises Redfern in the highest possible terms. Basically says if Redfern's appointment is overruled in London then Macquarie's authority of Governor is undermined and his position untenable. (Mitchell Library)

10 Nov 1819

Bigge's reply to Macquarie.

12 Nov 1819

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Redfern sought Justice of the Peace and instead Macquarie appointed him 'JP and magistrate in the District of Airs, and throughout the Territory of New South Wales.'

Commissioner Bigge wrote to Lord Bathurst in London that Redfern 'displays an irritability, or rather a violence of temper, both towards his inferiors and superiors' and was unsuitable for a magistrate. Redfern was magistrate for just a year. Commissioner John Thomas Bigge was in Sydney 1819-1821 to formally report on the colony. *Report of the Commissioner of Inquiry into the State of the Colony of New South Wales* (1823)

19 Nov 1819

Bigge's second reply to Macquarie. Threatens he is sending dispatches to Earl Bathurst. Had read the news in the previous Gazette.

10 Apr 1820

Redfern was at Campbell Field, Airs.

Apr 1820

King's Court Bench in 1817 ruled persons freed by the Governor's pardon had no civil law rights – 'without power to maintain personal actions or acquire, retain or transmit property'. A Sydney court followed this ruling.

9PM 26 Jun 1820

Bigge interviews Redfern 'Nothing, Sir, but the high respect I entertain for His Majesty's commission could possibly have induced me to listen for a moment to such insulting language.' (Bigge, Appendix, v124, p6199)

10 Jul 1820

Earl Bathurst orders Macquarie to Redfern be removed as magistrate.

9 Aug 1820

Sydney Gazette 5 Aug 1820: Redfern was 1 of 3 Bank of NSW directors. (Did he seek re-election at this meeting?)

9 Nov 1820

Macquarie received and immediately acted on Earl Bathurst's order to removed Redfern as magistrate on order.

Jan 1821

Sydney Gazette 8 Sep 1826: Commissioner Bigge invited others to Govt House debate. Redfern spoke but subject matter not known.

Later newspaper reports give the impression that Bigge was incompetent. General feeling in the colony was 'this gentleman's skill in colonial policy was very small.'

23 Jan 1821

Sydney Gazette 27 Jan 1821: General Meeting of Emancipated Colonists. The Gazette details all their demands and with supporting letter from Macquarie. Redfern was elected chairman and Edward Eager secretary to petition the King on emancipists' rights.

Feb 1821

Bigge departs Sydney.

17 Feb 1821

Sydney Gazette: Supplied 'wool for factory, Parramatta, £5 18s' to the Police and Orphans Fund.

25 Oct 1821

Sydney Gazette 27 Oct 1821: 'William Redfern, Mrs Redfern, and family' and Eager departed Sydney for England on Duchess of York ship to petition the King.

Petition was successful in the form of the New South Wales Act of 1823. Petition was supported by Bigge.

1 Dec 1821

Lachlan Macquarie succeeded by Sir Thomas Brisbane.

7 Dec 1821

Prince of Tahiti, Pomare II, dies. 'Redfern ...found that the patient's end was fast approaching...The British ships in the harbour fired minute guns, recognizing the solemnity of the occasion'.

15 Feb 1822

Lachlan Macquarie departs Sydney.

19 Jun 1822

Bigge's report into the state of NSW accused Redfern of stealing.

'that he had for some time kept a dispensary in the house provided for him by government, near the hospital at Sydney, where he was in the habit of making up and dispensing medicine for his private practice in the town, as well as for those of the civil officers whom he attended'

'Mr. Redfern having had the largest share of private practice in the colony, and having never imported medicine on his own account, it is to be inferred that he partook more largely of the medical stores of government than any other person'

'on the sight of a remarkably well cleared and well cultivated estate, that had attracted my notice in passing through the district of Airds, and which I was informed was his property, had certainly excited in my mind some suspicions of the possible abuse'

10 Aug 1822

"..I know he [Macquarie] will be afraid to publish a reply to the report with his name attached to it...[but] would allow Redfern to defend his administration...[Macquarie] had lodgings in Fludger Street, where Mrs. Macquarie was very ill...[and was] attended by Dr. Redfern". John Macarthur Jnr to Elizabeth Macarthur

18 Aug 1822

"Upon the whole, my dear mother, I cannot but consider the report as candid and fearless, defective in arrangement and embarrassed by detail - but calculated to be of great, immediate and permanent service to the settlements. This is a very general opinion and that the intended reforms will produce a rapid improvement in the society of the Colony and in the value of property." John Macarthur Jnr to Elizabeth Macarthur

25 Aug 1822

John Bull journal (England): Redfern attacked Bigge's methods and Report in a letter. The journal refused to publish the letter, instead published the letter was libellous. Referred to Mr Redfern's -unpublished and lost- book. John Bull was popular in NSW.

6 Sep 1822

Redfern's apprentice, Henry Cowper, passed the Royal College of Surgeons, London exam. Redfern in London.

14 Sep 1822

British Press 17 Sep 1822: In Dublin "Arrived at O'Dienne's Hotel, Sackville-street:... Doctor Redfern from New South Wales

22 Nov 1822

Sydney Gazette: Rumour in colony of Redfern's death in England. Stated this is a hoax.

1823

John Macarthur sold 4 merino and 4 cross-bred rams to Redfern for 70 and 15 pounds respectively (Some Early Records of the Macarthurs of Camden)

7 Feb 1823

Joseph Foveaux Redfern (7 Feb 1823 England – 9 Apr 1830 Sydney) Second child with Sarah Wills.

Joseph Foveaux (1767-1846) had twice appointed Redfern assistant surgeon on Norfolk Island 1801 and Sydney 1812. Probably secured pardon for Redfern in 1803? Foveaux also owned land (present day Surry Hills) adjoining Redfern's land.

28 May 1823

William Redfern in Newington, London executes Ann's will, widow of Thomas. All property went to William Redfern. The signature matches that on documents from NSW.

16 Jun 1823

The Irishman 4 Jul 1823: William's brother Joseph Redfern advertised leather goods most weeks at his Belfast saddlery. Previous ad said he had just returned from England. This ad said he was patentee for trusses 'recommended by medical gentlemen' and 'will supply surgeons and druggists at wholesale prices'. Did William meet Joseph in England? Robert Redfern and his son probably arrived in England about this time on route to Australia.

27 Sep 1823

Redfern's land at Campbell Town is 4860 acres granted and 1096 acres purchased.

10 Oct 1823

Macquarie to Earl Bathurst

Earl Bathurst refused permission for Macquarie to reply to Commissioner Bigge's Report.

Oct 1823

Redfern quits London and receives parting gift from Lachlan Macquarie. Redfern's description is an 'Ivory toothpick case, with a small magnetic compass on the top, a mirror inside of the lid, and two metallic toothpicks'.

13 Jan 1824

Letter from Sarah Redfern to Lord Bathurst from London: William Redfern temporarily at Island of Madeira for his health. Sails in a few days in Alfred for Aust with Merino sheep and vines. Says need more land granted for their 1400 cattle and 4000 sheep.

19 Feb 1824

Alfred departed London with Sarah Redfern. Departed Madeira 2 April and departed Hobart 9 July.

1 Jul 1824

Lachlan Macquarie dies.

15 Jul 1824

Sydney Gazette (22 Jul 1824): Alfred arrived Sydney with 'Wm Redfern Esq and Mrs Redfern with Masters William and J.F. Redfern'. Also arrived with W.C. Wentworth and Robert Wardell, proprietors of *The Australian*, and Mrs Redfern's cousins, Emily (aged 14) and Selina (aged 13) Willey.

14 Oct 1824

The Australian newspaper starts. Owned by W.C. Wentworth and Dr. Wardell, friends of Redfern.

30 Sep 1824/7 Oct/14 Oct

Sydney Gazette: Wanted, overseers for 'large herd of cattle and flock of sheep...Campbell Field'. Presumably the sheep are those recently from Madeira.

11 Nov 1824/25 Nov/2 Dec/16 Dec/23 Dec

The Australian: 'Wanted immediately. A respectable middle-aged woman to take charge of two children...Campbell Field'.

18 Nov 1824

The Australian: Redfern pledges 200 dollars (Spanish 'Holey' silver dollars) to erect monument to late Gov. Macquarie.

6 Nov 1824

Colonial Secretary's Papers: William Redfern was granted 1000 acres

30 Dec 1824

Sydney Gazette: Redfern accepted (massive) tender for 26,500 lb. of fresh meat at 3 7/8 (3.875) pence per lb.

26 Jan 1825

Sydney Gazette 3 Mar 1825: Phoenix arrived Hobart with 'Mr Robert Redfern and son' in 'Cabin'.

5 Mar 1825

Brother Robert arrives on Phoenix with teenage son William age 19. Phoenix* was carrying Merino sheep. Left the Downs 16 Sep 1824 and stopped at Cape of Good Hope for a week.

*Not to be confused with the convict transport Phoenix.

25 Mar 1825

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Robert Redfern was immediately granted 2000 acres at Bathurst

31 May 1825

Sydney Gazette 2 Jun 1825: WC Wentworth issues writ on behalf of Redfern to claim property.

Sydney Gazette 9 Jun 1825: Forbes refutes Redfern claim in detail.

Case is won in favour of Redfern, 28 Dec 1826

1 Jul 1825

Last will and testament

7 July 1825

Sydney Gazette 14 Jul 1825: 'Phoenix...bound for London direct... Doctor Redfern...The Phoenix has taken to England the largest colonial cargo ever exported.' 'Wood, wool, oil and skins'.

11AM 14 July 1825

Sydney Gazette 30 Jun 1825: 'Fifty English-bred...cows, heavy in calf, selected from Dr Redfern's Herd, well known to some of the best breed of cattle in the colony'.

1 Sep 1825

Sydney Gazette: 'Dr. Redfern, who thought of proceeding to England for the benefit of his health, and for that purpose had taken his passage on the Phoenix, we are pleased to learn is about abandoning his former intention...resuming his practice...generally remembered to have been universal...Redfern would soon have his hands full of business'.

17 Oct 1825

Sydney Gazette: Redfern president of emancipist's dinner

14 Nov 1825

Colonial Secretary's Papers: Redfern purchased 5000 acres, location unknown, probably Bathurst.

24 Nov 1825

Sydney Gazette: Pendergast's farm next to Redfern's was growing: '21 acres of wheat, 8 acres barley, 3 acres potatoes' etc.

27 Feb 1826

Sydney Gazette 1 Mar 1826: Sydney Bank (a third bank) proposed in response to Australian Bank (anti-emancipist bank, opened 3 Jul 1826). Redfern had proposals such as must be sterling currency, £100,000 reserves in London, have its own Act (legislation), and suggested instead working with Bank of NSW (first bank). Quite detailed discussion. Bank never eventuates.

3 Jun/7 Jun 1826

Sydney Gazette: Redfern has resumed professional practice Waple's, Pitt St. Free treatment to the poor Mondays and Thursday 7 to 9 AM.

9 Jun 1826

Monitor: Redfern 'resumed practice, which for so many years he carried on with so much honor to himself, and advantage to the public.'

17 Jun 1826

Sydney Gazette: Dr, Mrs, 'W L Lachlan Redfern, and J Foveaux Redfern' all subscribed to poetry book

28 Jun 1826

Australian: Redfern writes there is native Tahitian at the Rocks with, Fa Fa, " the Elephantis "..." 'such a case must be matter of interest to every medical enquirer, who may not have had an opportunity of seeing the disease in question.'

9 Aug 1826

Australian: newspaper attacks 'Sick-List Institution' and Dr. Bowman 'who never practices in the Town'. Newspaper praises the work of Dr. Redfern and Dr. William Bland.

Saga continues in Sydney Gazette 12 Aug 1826 defending Bowman. Redfern attempted to start similar institution in 1816 and praised his work too. Redfern tells ed. Robert Howe he had contributed to the 'Institution'.

'Sydney Dispensary' is described in RAHS Journal Vol. 11 and History of Hospital 1811-1911

9 Aug 1826

Monitor 11 Aug: Lost: Ivory Toothpick Case...return to house in Macquarie Place...He sets a high value on it, being a present from his late Friend, General Macquarie, on the [Redfern] quitting London for Madeira, in October 1823, on account of ill health. Wm Redfern'.

15 Sep 1826

Monitor: Redfern had a convict (7 years servitude) butler called Healey. Healey's wife lived in and worked for the secretary of Bank of Ireland. John Healy served Redfern with credit between 1824-1827 (The Monitor 12 Jun 1827).

6 Sep 1826

Sydney Gazette: Retired from private medical practice due to poor health.

25 Oct 1826

Australian: Husband and convict wife forged certificates with Dr. Redfern's signature, with which gentleman the prisoners stated they had lived for some length of time. Upon this recommendation...'
(Redfern is widely known and respected?)

28 Dec 1826

Sydney Gazette 30 Dec 1826/6 Jan: Redfern and others won case against Forbes. Represented in Supreme Court by WC Wentworth and Dr Wardell.

Monitor 13 Jan 1927: Mentions Redfern's merinos.

1827

Chartered a vessel to import sugar from Mauritius? Rum?

14 May 1827

Sydney Gazette: 'Mr Maziere of Pitt St, as the agent of Dr Redfern, of Campbell-field, effected sales during the last week, of that Gentleman's sheep and cattle, to the amount of £25,000'.

2 to 3 million pounds in 2015 money.

Australian 18 May: 5 lots of £5,000 pounds each. Each had 1000 sheep, 400 horned cattle, two brood mares, one gelding and four working bullocks.

8 Jun 1827

Monitor: Redfern is debating the duty on importing spirits. Includes colony's history of rum and says Bigge shutdown the rum industry.

2 Jul 1827

Sydney Gazette: 'William Redfern stated that he formed one of the five partners who traded under the firm of Eager and Forbes'. They sent goods in to London.

Gazette 22 Jul 1824: 'The co-partnership under the name Eager and Forbes expired 30 June 1824. Wm Redfern'

Mr Thomas Raine (failed 1829 £25,000?) is shipping wool direct to London (confirmed in Brit newspapers) and is associated with the Bank of NSW. High turnover of ships of 400-600 tons. Also is importing Merinos. Eager and Forbes handled the earlier consignments and probable handles Redfern's goods.

11 July 1827

Australian: Redfern was at Parramatta funeral of D'Arcy Wentworth. Included obituary.

16 Jul 1827

Monitor 17 Jul 1827: Redfern makes case for his election for bank directorate. Stated that he had to resign previous director because 'my Estate at Airds was a distance too great according to the [bank] charter.'

11AM 21 Jul 1827

Gazette 23 Jul: Redfern unanimously elected as Bank of NSW director.

Gazette 12 Sep: Howe? wrote 'Redfern proves a valuable acquisition in the Bank of NSW. For assiduity, punctuality, and scrutiny, the Doctor is not surpassed'.

31 Aug 1827

Sydney Gazette: Redfern subscribed to British Farmers Magazine. This was an annual, specialist farming publication. Clearly he still had an interest in farming despite his recent sell-off.

7 Nov 1827

Gazette: Redfern is attempting to install Thomas Wills (brother in law) in the role of cashier. R. is pushing for criminal charges against the present cashier, A.K. Mackenzie. Long and opinionated article in the Gazette. Mackenzie was not dismissed.

8 Nov 1827

Monitor: Bank of NSW dropped Macquarie's charter for completely new charter. Newspaper argued out of touch and the two banks 'are like two monied Jews'

Monitor also says Gregory Blaxland (of Blue Mountains fame) and Redfern have been 'endeavouring to produce [wine] grapes' for many years.

Gazette 9 Nov 1827: Detailed the Bank of NSW meeting. Quite heated.

Australian 9 Nov 1827: more of the same.

Tipperary Free Press 16 Apr 1828: Bank of NSW...high words ensued between Dr Redfern and Mr Daniel Cooper...such an uproarious meeting, it is observed, was scarcely ever witnessed...Dr Redfern, who made several charges against him, and it appears that the Dr. was desirous to bring in his brother [Robert] and oust Mr A. K. Mackenzie from the situation'.

22 Nov 1827

Sydney Gazette that incited Redfern.

23 Nov 1827

Horsewhipping

26 Nov 1827

Gazette: Howe makes his case about 'outrageous assault'.

The Monitor: Horse-whipped Sydney Gazette editor Robert Howe for criticism of Bank of NSW, suggesting the bank's demise and possibly for abuse of Horatio Wills. Howe and wife in return beat Redfern.

Robert Howe's 15yo apprentice was Horatio Spencer Wills, younger brother of Sarah Redfern. Young Horatio was AWOL twice, once in 1826 and once 1827, and Robert Howe printed warning:

"H. S. Wills, an apprentice in my employ, is continually neglecting his work and otherwise conducting himself in an unbecoming and disrespectful manner: This is to caution all persons at their peril from harbouring, encouraging, employing or secreting the said, or any other of my apprentices, on pain of rigid prosecution". Horatio Wills sought harbour at the Redfern's property at Campbell Fields in 1827 and was later sentenced to 28 days gaol for his absence.

Robert Howe drowned fishing in the harbour in 1829 and his widow afterward managed the paper. She appointed Horatio Wills as editor at least until 1832.

30 Nov 1827

Gazette: Court summons

7 Dec 1827

Gazette: Howe is publishing hearsay about Redfern's misconduct at the Bank of NSW.

13 Dec 1827

Monitor: Bank of NSW meeting with Howe and Redfern in attendance.

Australian 14 Dec: more of the same.

Gazette 14 Dec: more...

17 Dec 1827

Gazette: Multiple anonymous letters on Bank of NSW. One writes Redfern owns 'a fourth' of the bank. 25%? Howe gives impression that shareholders are unhappy.

19 Dec 1827

Gazette: More about Redfern's -alleged- misconduct with promises to a Daniel Cooper (Redfern's neighbor).

20 Dec 1827

Monitor: invites Dr Redfern to start a new newspaper using their presses.

1828

Birth of William Redfern Antill at Campbelltown. Son of Henry Colden Antill and Eliza Wills (Sarah Redfern's sister)

21 Jan 1828

Gazette 23 Jan: Detailed account. Jury retired for 20-30 minutes and Redfern was fined £50.

Gazette 1 Feb: insinuates Redfern's long-time ally JT Campbell, now a magistrate, influenced the outcome of the case. Macquarie and his secretary, Campbell, were always generous to R.

Gazette 15 Feb: Wills v Howe.

The Australian 23 Jan: Detailed account. 'Doctor Redfern immediately drew out of his pocket his cheque-book, and satisfied the judgement.'

Monitor 24 Jan: Rex v Redfern, Fifty pounds.

Apologised to Mrs Howe and she attacked Redfern with her umbrella (SMH 16/10/1926)

23 Jan 1828

Australian: 'It appears that Bathurst has the greatest number of sheep...The twelve largest proprietors at Bathurst are thought to be Sir John Johnson, Sir John Wylde, Mr. Terry, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Cox, Mr. Redfern, Mr. Hassall, Messrs. Aspinall and Browne, Mr. Icely, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Paliner, Mr. Lowe - who appear to have among them 81,500 sheep, 14,750 cattle, and 1,020 horses.'

31 Jan 1828

Monitor: speculates that Wentworth, Wardell, Redfern etc. will start a third bank called 'Macquarie Bank' in honour of LM

6 Mar 1828

Codicil to last will and testament.

9 Mar 1828

Gazette 10 Mar: departed previous day to London on the Orelia – Dr. Redfern. Also a Mr McDowell (brother in law?) R. does not return to Australia.

11AM 31 March 1828

Gazette 19 Mar: Redfern has resigned as Bank of NSW director.

23 Apr 1828

Monitor: Detail on Gregory Blaxland and Redfern importing Madeira wine grapes.

12 Jul 1828

Monitor: Detail on Redfern 'junta' in the Bank of NSW.

25 Jul 1828

Gazette: Howe still banging on about his court case v. Redfern

28 Nov 1828

Gazette: John Gunning and James Gallagher stole a heifer with Dr Redfern's brand at Bathurst on 2 Jul 1828. They subsequently stole an ox '...animal we killed...we might as well take it for the dogs, as Dr Redfern had so many cattle he would not miss one or two.' Both guilty and sentenced to death.

2 Jan 1829

Monitor: Mrs Redfern at Campbell Field had horse accident. Dr Bland 'set off with the utmost speed'.

27 Jan 1829

Gazette: Ship from London to Sydney delivers linen, wine, cutlery, and saddles. Wm Redfern is in London?

9 Apr 1830

Son Joseph Foveaux Redfern dies 'aged 7 years'. Drowned?

Monitor: 'At the residence of Mrs Redfern in Pitt St.'

5 May 1830

Monitor: Letters received, Dr Redfern in the best of health. 'The doctor is studying at Edinburgh, where he intends taking out a degree.'

10 Nov 1830

Gazette 13 Nov: Robert Redfern court summons for 22 Jan 1831 for alleged insolvency. WC Wentworth on behalf of William Redfern.

Monitor 2 Feb 1831: 'Redfern was declared insolvent to the amount of £2,000. The Insolvent stated that his embarrassments arose out of the serious depreciation of the price of live stock during the last four years.'

8 Feb 1831

Gazette 10 Feb: Meeting of creditors 22 Feb 1830 for the purpose of choosing trustees.

1831

Unverified report that Redfern wrote residence Londonderry, Northern Ire. on enrolment at University of Edinburgh.

9 Jul 1831

Gazette: Mrs Redfern at Campbell-field is advertising for six shepherds at Mount York, Bathurst.

Gazette 31 May 1832: Mrs Redfern at Campbell-field is advertising for twelve shepherds at Mount York, Bathurst. Free or emancipists will receive twenty pounds per annum plus weekly rations.

12 Dec 1831

Sydney Herald: A fire lit by aborigines in the bush destroyed 'a valuable field of wheat, belonging to Mrs Redfern, at Lower Minto.'

13 Apr 1832

Monitor 21 Apr: Redfern bought 1250 acres of Crown Land for £320 in County Georgiana.

17 Jul 1832

Monitor 21 Jul: Lost, Red Morocco Notecase, on Campbell-town Rd, 3x 5-pound Bank of Australia notes. 5 pounds reward. Mrs Sarah Redfern.

August 1832

Only known portrait of Redfern by George Marshall Mather

6 Mar 1833

Sarah Redfern and servant leaves on Norfolk ship for London. Gazette 12 Mar corrected from 'and child' to 'and servant' and apologized.

13 Apr 1833

Monitor: Tells story of the failure of Redfern's Madeira grapes and what happened to the vine dressers.

17 Jul 1833

Died in Edinburgh, Scotland. Aged 58

19 Jul 1833

Monitor 31 Jan 1834: Sarah Redfern arrived in Edinburgh.

23 Jul 1833

Buried at Old Churchyard, Princes St. Edinburgh. Or "New" Calton Burying Ground. No headstone found in 1928 search. Arthur Jones found headstone in 1990s.

'Redfern, William, formerly Surgeon, from No. 18 Lothian Street, is buried in the New Ground, in the grave purchased for his Executors by Mr David Walker. Age 58. Diseased not given.'

Lothian St is at the University of Edinburgh nr Royal College of Surgeons

6 Aug 1833

Northern Whig 5 Aug 1833: DIED 'At his house, 18, Lothian street, Edinburgh, on the 17th ultimo, Dr William Redfern, brother to Mr. Joseph Redfern, of this town. Dr. Redfern had lately returned from the Colony of New South Wales.'

13 Aug 1833

Gazette 15 Aug: Wm. Redfern (or agent) purchased 1280 acres of Crown Land in Bathurst.

23 Oct 1833

Caledonian Mercury 21 Oct 1833: "Auction of household furniture at No. 18 Lothian St (Dr Redfern's) on Wednesday 23d October. Comprising...all new within four years."

1 Dec 1833

Caledonian Mercury 23 Nov 1833: "Private library of books, Double gun by Jos. Manton [high-quality game shotgun], and effects of the late Dr. Redfern, by auction...opposite the College, on Monday first and succeeding day, comprising upwards of 2000 Volumes in Medical, Classical, and General Literature."

24 Dec 1833

Gazette: First news of Redfern's death reached Aust.

Gazette 26 Dec: 'As a professional man, the abilities of Dr Redfern were highly respectable; as a private individual, those who were connected to him by ties of blood deeply lament a firm, liberal, and affectionate friend.'

20 Mar 1834

Gazette 6 Feb: 'Auction...in Lots...that most valuable Grant of Land, known as the late "Dr Redfern's Estate," containing 100 acres, more or less, bounded on the North by one of the new streets projected by Major Mitchell, and recently advertised in a Govt Order, running from Upper Elizabeth St to the Parramatta Rd, in the rear of Cleveland House and Gardens, and Govt paddocks; on the west by the Botany Rd; on the south by the Waterloo and Mount Lachlan Estates; and on the east by a portion of the original Surry Hills Grant, the property of Daniel Cooper Esq. The situation of this Estate is not to be excelled by any in the vicinity...'

Gazette 8 Mar: More detail. And refers to surveying published in Govt Gazette 18 Feb

11AM 3 and 4 June 1834

Gazette 10 May: Auction of Estate of Dr Redfern at Campbell Field, Airds. Lists inventory of property e.g. furniture, crockery, 400 Saxon ewes, 2 Pure Saxon rams, 50 dairy cows, a few choice mares...

12 June 1834

Gazette 6 Jun: Previous auction took two days. Another auctions of 'forty superior horses, mares, fillies, and foals'.

24 Jun 1834

Sarah Redfern nee Wills marries James Alexander (1800 Barony, Glasgow – 29 Jul 1877 London, Eng.) in Lanarkshire, Scot.

1841

SLNSW: 'Map ...showing the Estates of the Late Dr Redfern' Shows 4700 acres on Cox's River.

12PM 24 Feb 1842 public auction postponed to 12PM 16 March

Sydney Herald: 3 Jan 1842

100 acres at "Redfern Estate" at the back of Cleveland House

(detailed description of 8 sections totaling 302 lots for auction in Sydney Gazette 10 Feb 1842)

11362 acres Bathurst (land occupied by Margaret Watt's family. Redfern's sister)

6296 acres Campbell Fields

4700 acres Cox's River

270 acres Cabramatta

57 acres Emu plains

3 acres in Liverpool town

1 acre North Geelong (land occupied by Wills family. Redfern's in-laws)

8000 sheep including pure merinos

3 Hereford bulls plus cows and horses

WLM Redfern was in Sydney. Sarah Alexander (late Redfern) was in Scotland.

'He left 23,190 acres (9385 ha) in New South Wales, including 6296 (2548 ha) at Airds and 11,362 (4598 ha) at Bathurst.'

5 Jan 1921

SMH: John Lusby (b. 20 Jun 1837 d.6 Dec 1933) wrote his father was given birth cert for Wm Redfern's two sons, marriage cert, bills of sale etc. I still retain in my possession. Described the history of the Redfern suburb in detail. Lusby wrote a memoir and it was donated to the State Library in 1946.

16 Oct 1926

SMH: Letter about Dr Redfern by Grand Niece of Robert Howe.

1936

Play written round the life of William Redfern by John Antill (foreword) and daughter Rose Antill (play). Major Henry Colden Antill of the 73rd Regiment was Macquarie's Aide-de-Camp. Antill and Redfern with brothers-in-law with Antill marrying Sarah Wills' sister. Antill and William Charles Wentworth were in charge of Redfern's properties in his absence c1830-33.

End