



The Commissariat Store and Moreton Bay Penal Settlement

Teacher Pack

Australian Curriculum
History, Year 5

This document has been developed to assist you in integrating a tour of the Commissariat Store into your classroom program, in line with the Australian Curriculum.

Updated by Maryanne Pender and Helen McMonagle. (4 June 2012, Version 2.0)



Royal Historical Society of Queensland

115 William Street Brisbane

Commissariat Store Museum: 10am to 4pm Tuesday to Friday

Phone: (07) 3221 4198

info@queenslandhistory.org.au

Commissariat Store Education Program

The Commissariat Store is an ideal destination for teachers wanting to support their Year 5 History Teaching Program. It is the only publicly accessible convict-built building in Queensland and played a prominent role in the development of the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement. The Commissariat Store's exhibitions and hands-on activity programs provide a unique insight into Queensland's past, with particular emphasis on the convict and colonial periods.

This pack provides information on how the Commissariat Store school tour supports the Australian Curriculum: History, Year 5.

The cost for admission to the Commissariat Store and a guided tour is \$3 per student. There is no charge for accompanying parents and teachers. The tour generally takes a maximum of one hour, however it can be tailored to individual requirements. A bus stop is located at the William Street entrance for added convenience.

A Pre-Tour Activity Sheet is included at the end of this pack – students should complete this activity sheet so they have some knowledge of the Commissariat Store before they arrive for the tour, and can therefore participate more productively in the activities provided by the guide/s.

To book a tour for your class please contact the Commissariat Store Manager on 07 3221 4198.

Curriculum Link

<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Year5>

The Commissariat Store is committed to providing quality educational tours to schools, and an engaging hands-on experience for students and teachers. All tours endeavour to make learning about Queensland's convict past an enjoyable and meaningful experience for students.

The Australian Curriculum: History, Year 5 has been used to tailor tours to Teaching Programs. The tours aim to create a deeper understanding of what students have learnt in class. They will provide answers to the key inquiry questions mentioned on the ACARA website, albeit with a focus on the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement:

What do we know about the lives of people in Australia's colonial past and how do we know it?

Exhibitions and activities give real examples of conditions for convicts and officers in Moreton Bay, creating **empathy** towards these early Queenslanders, and explaining the **significance** of their suffering for students in order to give a **different perspective** to that given in textbooks. Cut-out figures show the clothing the convicts used to wear, and some guides don convict costumes for the tour.

The tour provides **reasons (economic, political and social)** for how and why the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement was created by the British, as well as **how significant individuals shaped the colony**.

How did an Australian colony develop over time and why? How did colonial settlement change the environment?

One activity that is often incorporated into the tour is the "Settlement Game", in which students are given the opportunity to re-create the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement. This assists children in understanding **causes and effects** in the development of the colony and creates an awareness of the difficulties faced by authorities at the time. The activity generates a **different perspective** for the children, due to their taking on the "pretend" responsibilities of creating a functional settlement, as well as the **cause and effect** on the surrounding **environment**.

It also encourages students to **identify questions for an historical inquiry, identify points of view from the past, and use different forms of communication**.

What were the significant events and who were the significant people that shaped Australian colonies?

Significant convict and colonial personalities form the core of the tour, with emphasis placed on Captain Patrick Logan (**Commandant** of Moreton Bay Penal Settlement from 1826-1830, **explorer, officer, builder, geographer**), various **convicts**, and **settlers** (e.g. Andrew Petrie).

Outcomes for Students Taking the Tour

By the end of the tour students will be able to:

- identify the causes and effects of change on the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement;
- describe aspects of the past that are still the same;
- describe the experiences of convicts and officers living in the settlement; and
- name people significant to Queensland's convict past.

If students complete the Pre-Tour Activity Sheet, they will have also identified sources, then located and recorded information on the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement.

Exhibitions on Display

Floor One

Five display cases on this floor contain items from the Society's collection. In general, the exhibitions have a convict or early Queensland theme. Students are shown a selection of items or are encouraged to find particular items relating to the convict period. On this floor we have two trunks containing items for "hands-on" use including convict shackles.

The St Helena Prison features in the exhibitions. There is a common misconception that convicts were imprisoned there, however, it was a high-security colonial prison which did not open until 1867.

Ground Floor

Models at 1:72 scale depict the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement in 1838. Students are able to see the physical layout of the settlement and will gain some appreciation of the design of buildings of that period as well as an idea of their locations relative to today's Central Business District (CBD).

The floor is laid with numbered square panels representing the grid reference used by the Queensland Museum when it conducted an archaeological dig in the building.

Information on the history and features of the building, including details of, and materials used in construction is available at www.queenslandhistory.org.au.

Links to Related Activities

Many schools develop a day-tour to the CBD heritage precinct, incorporating a visit to the Commissariat Store with a walking tour of “convict” Brisbane offered by the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre (BUEEC). For further information on the walking tour, contact BUEEC on either (07) 3552 7111 or admin@urbaneec.eq.edu.au.

Other tours that can be linked with a visit to the Commissariat Store include (with contact number):

Parliament House	07 3406 7562	www.parliament.qld.gov.au
Old Government House	07 3138 8005	www.ogh.qut.edu.au
Queensland Police Museum	07 3364 4013	www.police.qld.gov.au
Queensland Museum	07 3840 7555	www.qm.qld.gov.au
Queensland Maritime Museum	07 3844 5361	www.maritimemuseum.com.au
Newstead House	07 3216 1846	www.newsteadhouse.com.au
Miegunyah	07 3252 2979	www.miegunyah.org
Boggo Road Gaol Museum	07 3846 7423	www.boggoroadgaol.com.au
Museum of Brisbane	07 3403 6363	www.museumofbrisbane.com.au

Pre-Visit Activity: Comprehension

Moreton Bay Penal Settlement (Brisbane)

In 1823, John Oxley, on the “Mermaid”, was sent by Governor Brisbane to find a site for a Penal Settlement for those convicts who had committed another crime since being sent to New South Wales. This included convicts who had escaped and been re-captured. As a punishment for committing the second crime, the site was to be far away from Sydney.

On arriving in Moreton Bay, Oxley found three European men: Pamphlett, Finnegan and Parsons. They had been shipwrecked on Moreton Island seven months earlier. Pamphlett showed Oxley the mouth of a large river which Oxley explored and named the Brisbane River.

In 1824, under Commandant Miller, a group of 29 convicts volunteered to go to Moreton Bay. By volunteering, the convicts hoped to have their sentences reduced.

Commissariat Store

Supplies such as food were sent with this group and following groups. After 1829, the stores were housed in this Commissariat Store: its main function in Moreton Bay was to supply provisions to the Penal Settlement.

Captain Patrick Logan, the third commandant, decided to build a Commissariat Store of stone. The store faced the Brisbane River and backed onto William Street. The supplies arrived at the Commissariat Store by ship.

During the construction one convict assaulted another convict who later died. The attacker was convicted of murder and hanged at the gallows in Sydney.

Construction of the building commenced in 1828 and was completed in 1829. The building is in use today as a museum.

Using the information on the previous page please answer these questions:

1. Who was sent to find the site for another Penal Settlement?

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2. Why did Oxley give the name Brisbane to the river he discovered?

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3.,.....Finnegan and Parsons were shipwrecked on

4. Why did some convicts volunteer to be sent to Moreton Bay?

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5. In each settlement what name was given to the building that housed the food and other supplies?

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6. Which of the Commandants who were in charge of Moreton Bay ordered buildings to be constructed of stone?

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7. What is one reason why the front of the store was facing the river?

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8. What year was the building completed?

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Answers

1. John Oxley
2. The river was named after Governor Brisbane
3. Pamphlett. Moreton Island
4. They hoped to have their sentences reduced
5. The Commissariat Store
6. Captain Patrick Logan
7. Supplies for the Penal Settlement were delivered to the Commissariat Store by ship. This was the only way to transport them.
8. 1829

We hope you and your students can join us at the Commissariat Store Museum for an educational and enjoyable experience.

If you have any enquiries please contact Ms Christina Michie, Commissariat Store Manager on 07 3221 4198.

The Museum is located at 115 William St, Brisbane and is open from 10am to 4pm, Tuesday to Friday.
