

BENSON, John

Variations :

Alias : Marshall, Bartholomew, Duffey

Ship	Date arrived (Sydney)
Recovery	18 December 1819

Shipping indent(s)

Fiche	Page	Reel	Shelf	Type
642	455	394	4/4006	Bound

Trial (place, date)	Prev conv	Offence	Sentence
Southampton Lent Assizes 2 March 1819		Burglary	Life (death R)
Notes: Source = bound indent: and PRO London, Home Office, Criminal Registers, HO27/17 [reel 2762]			

Age	Marr/S	Child'n	Relig	Educ	Native place	Country
26					Pools	Eng
Notes: Source = bound indent						

Trade or calling	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes
Servant	5'8qrt	Fair sallow	Dark flaxen	Grey
Notes: Source = bound indent				
Other arrival info (eg ships musters & papers): Alias Marshall, alias Bartholomew, alias Duffey. Source = SR. Ships Musters and Papers – Recovery 1819, 2/8275 p29 [reel 2427].				

Assignment

Dec 1819 to Mrs Baker at Windsor, Sep 1823 to Mr Webber [Tocal] – see Col Sec below	
Feb 1824 to Thomas Boardman, Sep 1824 to JL Platt – see Col Sec below	
July 1834 to John Reddall, 1835 to George Brown – see 'other' below	
At Tocal: 1823	Tocal occupation:

Freedom (year, details)

<b>T.O.L.</b>	
<b>C.P.</b>	

Colonial crime &amp; secondary punishment

Date	Offence	In service of	Punishment
1821 Nov		(Windsor)	Transported to Newcastle, 3 years
1823	Riotous conduct		2 months Gaol Gang
1823	Threatening to strike overseer		25 lashes
1823	Absent		50 lashes & Gaol Gang
1824	Refusing to work	JL Platt	25 lashes
1828	Stealing corn in Gov stable		14 days treadmill then road gang
1834 July	Attempt to sell stolen tools	John Reddall	50 lashes
1835 May	Absconding and assault	George Brown	6 months iron gang
1837	Runaway	G Brown	

Sources: see Col Sec below, and 'other' below

Colonial Secretary's correspondence

<b>1819 Dec 30</b> On list of convicts disembarked from the "Recovery" and forwarded to Windsor for distribution – assigned to Mrs Baker at Windsor (CSLS 4/3501 p.145, reel 6007)
<b>1821 Nov 7</b> On list of prisoners transported to Newcastle per "Sally" 7 November 1821 with a three year sentence by the Windsor Bench 12 October 1821 (Reel 6008; 4/3504A p.30)
<b>1823 Feb; 1824 Dec</b> On monthly returns of prisoners punished at Newcastle (Reel 6023; 4/1718 pp.163-4, 197) - <b>details as follows:</b> <i>NSW Colonial Secretary, Monthly Returns of Punishment, Newcastle 1810-25.</i> Feb 1823, 25 lashes, threatening to strike his overseer. Dec 1824, in service of JL Platt, 25 lashes for refusing to work at his master's farm.
<b>1823 Sep 11</b> Convict servant of Mr Webber. To be victualled from the Store at Newcastle for six months (Reel 6011; 4/3509 p.230) – <b>details as follows:</b> request that Mr Webber and his six convict servants be victualled from His Ms Store at Newcastle for six months from 11 Sep 1823. The six were

Stephen Hower (Mary 3), Jno Waggoner (Minerva), JD Cooper (Atlas), Rich'd Clarke (Providence), John Benson (Recovery) and Wm Shields (Surry)  
**1824 Feb 9** On monthly return of convicts assigned in the Counties of Northumberland and Durham; to Thomas Boardman (Reel 6028; 2/8283 p.77)  
**1824 Sep 11** On monthly return of convicts assigned in the Counties of Northumberland and Durham; to J L Platt (Reel 6028; 2/8283 p.93)

## NSW Census/musters

1822	Govt employ, Newcastle
1823-25	Govt employ, Newcastle
1828	(Bensen), Road Party-16
1837	Age 45, Master: George BROWN, Illawarra

## Colonial marriage

Date	Place	To whom	BDM index reference

Permission to marry:

## Death

Date	Place	Age	BDM index reference

## Timeline

Date	Event
1819	Arrived Sydney
1821	Transported to Newcastle
1823	Assigned to Webber at Tocal
1824	Assigned to Boardman and then Platt
1828	In Government road party
1834	Assigned to John Reddall, Illawarra
1835	Assigned to George Brown, Illawarra

## Other (source, details)

SR. Sydney Gaol Entrance Book 1819-1823, 4/6360 [reel 850]. John Benson, Recovery, admitted to Sydney Gaol 16 October 1821, committed by Windsor Bench, for three years at Newcastle.

SR. Register of Convicts at Newcastle against whom complaint lodged, from 14 July 1818 [COD 120]. 1 Feb 1823, John Benson, riotous conduct. Sentenced to 2 months in Goal Gang.

SR. Register of Convicts at Newcastle against whom complaint lodged, from 14 July 1818 [COD 120]. 4 Feb 1823, John Benson (Recovery), threatening to strike with an axe, sentenced to 25 lashes. (It was his overseer who was threatened – see Col Sec above).

SR. Register of Convicts at Newcastle against whom complaint lodged, from 14 July 1818 [COD 120]. 18 November 1823, John Benson (Recovery), absenting himself from \*\*\*, sentenced to 50 lashes and Goal Gang.

SR. Sydney Gaol Entrance Book 1825-1828, 4/6430 [reel 851]. John Benson, Prisoner [no ship stated] admitted 22 November 1826 [crime record is missing, as part of page is damaged], not guilty, disposed 30 November to P\*\*\* [unreadable].

SR. Colonial Trials and Court Records, Benches of Magistrates, X821, 1827-28 [reel 660]. Sydney Bench, 3 Sept 1828, John Benson convicted of stealing corn in Government stables. Sentenced to 14 days treadmill and sent to a district road gang. [Note: no ship was given but there were only 2 John Benson convicts in NSW, the other arriving in 1797 with no mentions in Col Sec index for re-offences. Also, the 1828 Census shows John Benson (Recovery) in a road party.

Wollongong University Archives, Wollongong Police Court/Bench of Magistrates records. 30 July 1834 John Benson, Recovery, assigned to John Reddall, attempting to sell tools he did not own, 50 lashes.

Wollongong University Archives, Wollongong Police Court/Bench of Magistrates records. 16 May 1835 John Benson, Recovery, assigned to George Brown, absconding and assault, 6 months iron gang.

NSW GG 5 April 1837 p291. Benson George, Recovery (1), 44, Poole, servant, 5' 8 qrt, dark fallow comp, dark flaxen hair, grey eyes, from G Brown Illawarra since March 24. [There is only one Benson on the Recovery (1), that is John Benson. The age and details given in the runaway notice match the indent details for John Benson and he was assigned to G Brown, Illawarra previous and subsequent to this].

## Keywords

Newcastle, treadmill, lashes, gaol gang, road party, mystery, iron gang

**General information**

Research on Tocal's convicts was undertaken by Brian Walsh. Please do not email or upload this document without acknowledgement.

For further information see the book *Voices from Tocal –Convict Life on a Rural Estate* by Brian Walsh, available from [www.tocal.com](http://www.tocal.com)

For contact details see [www.tocal.com](http://www.tocal.com)

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