Introduction

One of the more heavily used sections of the AJCP microfilms by family historians are records created by Britain's Home Office. These records relate largely to convicts, convict relatives and criminal matters.

This class is comprised of copies of out-letters, warrants and pardons from the Secretary of State for the Home Office. Letters include those to Justices of Assize Courts, Sheriffs, Mayors and private individuals who have presented petitions to the Home Office regarding certain prisoners. The letters have been copied chronologically.

The starting tool or finding aid for all users of the AJCP films is the Australian Joint Copying Project Handbooks. However in relation to the Home Office, the Handbook (Part 3) contains very little detail. In 2002, the State Library undertook a volunteer project to make a portion of these records more accessible to the general public. The result was this detailed summary of the contents of the various reels that make up the class of records referred to as HO 13 Criminal Papers. Entry Books. 1782-1874. Thanks go to our volunteer, Jean Turner.

The Home Office Records are divided into a number of classes. HO Class 13 is Criminal Papers and Entry Books. Each class is further subdivided by the individual pieces that make up the group. Each piece is also given a number.

HO 13 refers mainly to people in England. It contains letters concerning inmates of lunatic asylums, movement of prisoners between gaols in England and other matters. Of greatest interest to Australian family history researchers are petitions for pardons, remission of sentence, and from wives asking for permission to join their husbands who have been, or are about to be transported.

The following is a guide to the various reels of film that make up HO13 with details of the coverage of each of the pieces that constitute these films. All reels of film are held by the State Library of South Australia.
AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT
HOME OFFICE 13 CRIMINAL PAPERS
ENTRY BOOKS 1782-1874

CONTENTS:

Reel no. 419 ................................................................. 3
Reel no. 420 ................................................................. 3
Reel no. 421 ................................................................. 4
Reel no. 422 ................................................................. 4
Reel no. 3082 ............................................................... 5
Reel no. 3083 ............................................................... 6
Reel no. 3084 ............................................................... 7
Reel no. 3085 ............................................................... 8
Reel no. 3086 ............................................................... 9
Reel no. 3087 ............................................................. 10
Reel no. 3088 ............................................................. 11
Reel no. 3089 ............................................................. 12
Reel no. 3090 ............................................................. 13
Reel no. 3091 ............................................................. 14
Reel no. 3092 ............................................................. 15
Reel no. 3093 ............................................................. 16
Reel no. 3097A ............................................................ 17
Reel no. 3098 ............................................................. 18
Reel no. 3099 ............................................................. 19
Reel no. 3100 .............................................................. 20
Reel no. 3101 .............................................................. 21
Reel no. 3102 .............................................................. 22
Reel no. 3103 .............................................................. 23
Reel no. 3104 .............................................................. 24
Reel no. 3105 .............................................................. 25
Reel no. 3106 .............................................................. 26
Reel no. 3107 .............................................................. 27
Reel no. 3108 .............................................................. 28
Reel no. 3109 .............................................................. 29
Reel no. 3110 ............................................................... 30
Reel no. 3111 ............................................................... 31
Reel no. 3112 ............................................................... 32
Reel no. 3113 ............................................................... 33
Reel no. 3114 ............................................................... 34
Reel no. 3115 ............................................................... 35
Reel no. 3116 ............................................................... 36
Reel no. 3117 ............................................................... 37
Reel no. 3118 ............................................................... 37
Reel no. 3119 ............................................................... 38
Reel no. 3120 ............................................................... 38
Reel no. 3121 ............................................................... 38
Reel no. 3122 ............................................................... 38
Reel no. 419

Piece no. 4  3rd October 1786 - 25th October 1786
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 5  2nd January 1787 - 19th October 1787
Piece no. 5 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. Index follows page no. 352, and is unnumbered but includes: Free pardons, Pardons conditional, Sentence not to be put in execution, Remissions, Respites, References, Circuit letters, Circuits - Norfolk, Western, Oxford, Midland, Home, Northern, Warrants promiscuous, Letters promiscuous.

Piece no. 6  3rd November 1787 - 29th April 1789
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 7  28th April 1789 - 8th August 1790
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 8  14th August 1790 - 29th May 1792
Correspondence and warrants

Reel no. 420

Piece no. 9  14th August 1792 - 15th April 1794
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 10  22nd August 1794 - 12th August 1796
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 11  20th August 1796 - 15th May 1798
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 12  7th June 1798 - 17th August 1799
Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 421
Reel no. 421

This volume is continued from reel no. 420

Piece no. 12 17th August 1799 - 27th May 1800
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 13 3rd July 1800 - 18th June 1801
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 14 8th July 1801 - 1st September 1802
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 15 1st September 1802 - 30th December 1803
Correspondence and warrants

Reel no. 422

Piece no. 16 13th July 1804 - 11th July 1805
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 17 15th July 1805 - 11th October 1806
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 18 24th October 1806 - 13th July 1808
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 19 24th July 1808 - 23rd May 1809
Correspondence and warrants

Piece no. 20 23rd May 1809 - 8th May 1810
Correspondence and warrants
Reel no. 3082

Piece no. 21 21st May 1810 - 7th May 1811

Piece no. 21 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Piece no. 22 9th May 1811 - 9th April 1812

Piece no. 22 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Inspector of convicts p. 447

Piece no. 23 16th April 1812 - 7th November 1812
Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3083
Reel no. 3083

This volume is continued from reel no. 3082

Piece no. 23  7th November 1812 - 20th July 1813

Piece no. 23 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. Index follows page no. 352, and is unnumbered but includes:
Free pardons, Pardons conditional, Remissions, References, Respites, Letters promiscuous, Warrants particular, Admiralty, Treasury, Council, Colonial department, Post office, Commander in chief, War office, Law, Ordnance, Navy, Overseers of convicts: -Thames, Portsmouth,
Inspector of convicts, Transport board, Foreign department.

Piece no. 24  22nd July 1813 - 18th November 1813

Piece no. 24 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Hulks: Thames, Portsmouth p. 443,
Customs p. 444

Piece no. 25  26th November 1813 - 1st August 1814

Piece no. 25 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Overseer of convicts:
Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth p. 443

Piece no. 26  20th September 1814 - 4th March 1815

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3084
Reel no. 3084

This volume is continued from reel no. 3083

Piece no. 26 10th March 1815 - 31st May 1815
Piece no. 26 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Overseer of convicts:
Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth p. 452

Piece no. 27 1st June 1815 - 12th March 1816

Piece no. 27 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth p. 446

Piece no. 28 16th March 1816 - 14th September 1816

Piece no. 28 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth p. 480
Inventory for convicts at Millbank p. 481

Piece no. 29 24th September 1816 - 9th October 1816
Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3085
Reel no. 3085

Piece no. 29  12th October 1816 - 6th May 1817

This volume is continued from reel no. 3084

Piece no. 29 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

  Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth p. 477 General penitentiary at Milbank p. 478.

Piece no. 30  7th May 1817 - 30th October 1817

Piece no. 30 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

  Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Gosport p. 481

Piece no. 31  1st November 1817 - 8th April 1818
Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3086
This volume is continued from reel no. 3085

Piece no. 31 8th April 1818 - 6th May 1818
Piece no. 31 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of convicts to receive prisoners:
Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Gosport p. 472

Piece no. 32 7th May 1818 - 26th October 1818
Piece no. 32 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Gosport p. 469.

Piece no. 33 27th October 1818 - 30th June 1819
Piece no. 33 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Gosport p. 465
Reel no. 3087

Piece no. 34  1st July 1819 - 4th April 1820

Piece no. 34 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Gosport, Chatham p. 457

Piece no. 35  5th April 1820 - 6th September 1820

Piece no. 35 contains a number of different types of letters. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Thames, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham p. 472
Governor of the general penitentiary to receive convicts
p. 473.

Piece no. 36  7th September 1820 - 15th February 1821

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3088
Reel no. 3088

This volume is continued from no. 3087

Piece no. 36  21st February 1821 - 30th April 1821

Piece no. 36 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Hulks: Thames, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham p. 470
Bethlem p. 471, Penitentiary p. 471

Piece no. 37  1st May 1821 - 30th November 1821

Piece no. 37 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Bethlem p. 476, Penitentiary p. 476

Piece no. 38  3rd December 1821 - 12th April 1822

Correspondence and Warrants

This volume is continued on Reel no. 3089
Reel no. 3089

Piece no. 38 13th April 1822 - 24th May 1822

This volume is continued from reel no. 3088

Piece no. 38 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


_Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Chatham_ p. 466
Bethlem Hospital p. 467

Piece no. 39 25th May 1822 - 27th January 1823

Piece no. 39 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


_Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Gosport, Chatham_ p. 466 Bethlem Hospital p. 467

Piece no. 40 27th January 1823 - 2nd July 1823

Piece no. 40 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of Convicts to receive prisoners

_Thames, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Chatham_ p. 455 Bethlem Hospital p. 456

Piece no. 41 8th July 1823 - 24th July 1823

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3090
Reel no. 3090

This volume is continued from reel no. 3089

**Piece no. 41 24th July 1823 - 7th February 1824**
Piece no. 41 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of convicts to receive prisoners:
  *Woolwich, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Chatham* p. 471.

**Piece no. 42 4th February 1824 - 21st July 1824**
Piece no. 42 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

  *Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich* p. 476.

**Piece no. 43 21st July 1824 - 25th November 1824**
Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3091
Reel no. 3091

Piece no. 43  26th November 1824 - 18th January 1825

This volume is continued from reel no. 3090

Piece no. 43 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Piece no. 44  19th January 1825 - 24th June 1825

Piece no. 44 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich p. 419.

Piece no. 45  28th June 1825 - 9th September 1825

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3092
Reel no. 3092

This volume is continued from reel no. 3091

Piece no. 45 9th September 1825 - 13th December 1825

Piece no. 45 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of convicts to receive prisoners:
   Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich p. 415.

Piece no. 46 17th December 1825 - 12th June 1826

Piece no. 46 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of convicts to receive prisoners:
   Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich p. 423.

Piece no. 47 13th June 1826 - 18th December 1826

Piece no. 47 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of convicts to receive prisoners:
   Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich p. 413.

Piece no. 48 20th December 1826 - 16th February 1827

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on reel no. 3093
Reel no. 3093

Piece no. 48  16th February 1827 - 24th May 1827

This volume is continued from reel no. 3092

Piece no. 48 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich, Bermuda p. 423

Piece no. 49  22 May 1827 - 23 October 1827

Piece no. 49 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich, Bermuda p. 427

Piece no. 50  29th October 1827 - 22nd April 1828

Piece no. 50 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.

Superintendent of Convicts to receive Prisoners
Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich, Bermuda p. 423
Reel no. 3097A

Piece no. 51  21 April 1828 - 23rd October 1828

Piece no. 51 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Chatham, Woolwich, Deptford, Bermuda p. 436

Piece no. 52  21st October 1828 - 22nd January 1829

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on Reel no. 3098
Reel no.3098

This volume is continued from Reel no. 3097

Piece no. 52  22nd January 1829 - 10th April 1829

Piece no. 52 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Bermuda, Chatham, Dephoresd, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Woolwich, Devonport, Gosport p. 434

Piece no. 53  10th April 1829 - 13th August 1829

Piece no. 53 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Bermuda, Chatham, Dep--ford, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Woolwich, Devonport, Gosport p. 435

Piece no. 54  14th August 1829 - 8th February 1830

Piece no. 54 contains a number of different types of letter. Each type of letter has its own alphabetical name index. These indexes begin on the pages listed below.


Bermuda, Chatham, Devonport, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Woolwich p. 426

Piece no. 55  8th February 1830 - 9th April 1830

Correspondence and warrants

This volume is continued on Reel no. 3099