

WILLIAM GUNN

William Gunn (1800-1868) was born in Ireland, the eldest son of Lt. William Gunn, whose younger son, Donald Campbell Gunn, also settled in Tasmania. William Gunn was a lieutenant in the Bourbon Regiment and arrived in Hobart in December 1822. He received a grant of 400 acres of land in the Sorell district. He was given occasional command of soldiers searching for bushrangers and in 1825 was wounded by a shot from one of Brady's gang and had to have his right arm amputated. In 1824 he was appointed superintendent of convicts at Birch's Bay (Channel). He was superintendent of the Prisoners' Barracks in Hobart from 1826 until 1846 when he was transferred to Launceston. He was appointed a justice of the peace in 1836 and served as a police magistrate in Launceston from 1850 until 1868. He married Francis Hannah Arndell at Sorell in 1829 and had six daughters and three sons, including William later Warden of Brighton, and James Arndell Gunn M.H.A.

LETTERS AND PHOTOCOPIES

- 1 Forage allowance 21 June 1824
 Note signed by George Arthur, Lt. Gov., authorising forage for Lt. Gunn, in charge of a military party.
 (photocopy mounted on card) RS.71/1
- 2 Tribute 18 Jul. 1827
 Letter to Lt. William Gunn from a committee acknowledging 'your patriotic exertions against the bushrangers' with subscriptions amounting to £341 . 10 . 9, signed by William Bedford, J. H. Hamilton, Anthony Fern Kemp, John Lakeland, William Kermodé, W. Sorell, Alfred Stephen, Jocelyn Thomas.
 (photocopy mounted on card, in 2 pieces) RS.71/2
- 3 Draft of reply to above letter 19 Jul. 1827
 (photocopy mounted on card) RS.71/3
- 4 Notes c 1824-1827
 Photocopies of endorsements on documents, including a list of names of ? convicts and ships, and note of supplies of flour, meat tea, sugar.
 (4 photocopies mounted on 2 pieces of cardboard) RS.71/4

5 Letter 31 Oct. 1849

From William Gunn, superintendent of convicts, Launceston, to J.S. Hampton, Comptroller General, giving a summary of his appointments since his arrival in 1822, in reply to a request from the deputy commissary general, whose attention had been drawn to the large amount of the emoluments required for the superintendent of convicts at Launceston, which office might no longer be needed.

(4 papers, filed by tape, stamped 'Comptroller Gen.' RS.71/5

6 Forage, etc. 18 Dec. 1849

Statement of forage, fuel, candles and water drawn by Mr. Gunn and a note from the deputy commissary general, Launceston.

(2 papers, stamped 'Comptroller Gen.') RS .71/6

7 Notes on pay and allowances of Mr. Gunn 1849

(2 papers)

RS.71/7

8 Police Magistrate 1850

Memo to H.E. Sir William Denison recommending W. Gunn for appointment as Police Magistrate as he was no longer needed as superintendent of convicts in Launceston; he would still be entitled to a pension.

(2 papers)

RS.71/8

9 Letter 30 May 1850

From William Gunn to J.S. Hampton - the additional office of Police Magistrate would mean much increased responsibility but he was confident of being able to perform both duties.

(1 paper)

RS.71/9

PRINTS

10 Drawing of William Gunn c 1825-6

Photograph (made 1896) of a chalk drawing of William Gunn

(1 photo)

RS.71/10

11 Photograph of William Gunn c 1867-8

Both photographs were sent by Ronald Campbell Gunn to his sister Jessie Simmons with a note (copy with photos) in 1896

(1 photo)

RS.71/11