

THE PANORAMA OF THE PUNCHBOWL:
 SYDNEY COVE IN THE MACQUARIE ERA, CIRCA 1814



MONOGRAM. *The mysterious initials with their grape-vine surround. The "B" at the base is more faded than the other letters.*

GOVERNMENT HOUSE. *The first building on the site was a pre-fab brought out with Governor Phillip, but over the years this became a vast and rambling building. There were so many known additions and extensions to the building that it is possible to date views of Sydney quite accurately where Government House is clearly pictured. Although rather distorted, the fence line in the lower left of the image would be the fences that once enclosed the gardens of Government House. The original house is now the site of the Museum of Sydney on Bridge Street.*

MILITARY BARRACKS. *The original military barracks in Sydney (the parade ground centred on what is now Wynyard Park). It was from this building that the rebellious New South Wales Corps marched in 1808 to arrest Governor Bligh at Government House. It was not until the 1840s that work on Victoria Barracks in Paddington began.*

SYDNEY COVE. *This beach was originally the head of the Cove, and is of course now the reclaimed land of Circular Quay. Most of the land on this side of the Cove was associated with Government House. Ships were often careened on this strand (see, for example, the Lesueur engraving of Sydney in 1802, in the Baudin account).*



DRY STORE. *Painted yellow by order of Bligh. The Chinese artist has rather fudged this because the original building actually sat adjacent to Government Wharf. The Dry Store had been completed in late 1790, a large building with a hipped roof and a dormer window. It was on the site of what is now Sirius Park.*

GOVERNMENT WHARF/TANK STREAM. *This area has caused a little trouble for the Chinese artist of the Punchbowl. The Dry Store is set too far back from the water, and it is not at all clear (as it is in the 1811 Eyre view, for example) that the Government Wharf split the Cove, and that the mouth of the Tank Stream and a second small beach is in fact behind this point of what looks here like unbroken land.*

BILLY BLUE'S COTTAGE. *William "Billy" Blue was transported to Sydney in 1801, convicted of stealing raw sugar. Possibly born in Jamaica, he may have been a freed African-American slave from New York. Appointed harbour watchman by Macquarie, who built this small cottage for him, he became the "Commodore" of a fleet of harbour ferries.*

ORPHAN SCHOOL. *Established by Anna Josepha King in 1800 for "girl waifs". Just behind the School is the original ST. PHILLIP'S, with the unusual tower. The parish was begun by the First Fleet chaplain Richard Johnson in 1788, and the stone church was built in 1810. The present building was completed on the site in 1856. Johnson's King James Bible is still at St. Phillip's.*



SECOND GOVERNMENT OR "MILITARY" MILL. *The large white building to its lower right is the GEORGE STREET GAOL, which was established by Governor Hunter in 1796, burned down soon after, and was rebuilt in white-washed sandstone in 1800. The site of public executions in the city for many years, by 1835 it was all but derelict, and was abandoned in favour of the new Darlinghurst Gaol, which had its first intake in 1841.*

COMMISSARIAT. *The main storehouse for foodstuffs, liquor, and other goods. In Macquarie's time the Commissariat was being phased out in favour of a more open market. It is on the site of the present Museum of Contemporary Art. The open ground to the left of the Commissariat was where the original hospital had been established by Surgeon General John White of the First Fleet. An original pre-fabricated building had, over the years, been much added to, and there was a small jetty which is not clear on the Bowl (marked as "Cale du Roi" on the 1819 Freycinet map).*

JAMES UNDERWOOD'S HOUSE. *The large building with the red front. Underwood was a prominent Sydney ship-builder and merchant, having arrived as a convict on the Third Fleet in 1791. In later life he owned the Sydney Distillery (near Rushcutters Bay).*

ISAAC NICHOL'S WAREHOUSE. *Nichols, another Third Fleeter, became a prominent merchant (despite a rather crooked attempt in 1799 to send him to Norfolk Island for dealing in stolen property; Matthew Flinders was one of the naval officers on the bench convinced of his innocence). His large house near the hospital wharf was also the site of his shipyard.*



"FORT PHILLIP". *On the site of the first windmill in Sydney (which is not clearly shown here). The Fort was begun in 1804, to protect from invasion and civil unrest alike. Started with great fanfare, the building was never completed (the price of real estate in what was fast becoming the rather fashionable Rocks district was too high).*

DAWES POINT BATTERY. *The first permanent fortification in Sydney, on the site of the observatory set up by First Fleeter Lieutenant William Dawes. Dawes was a keen student of the local Aboriginal tribes, sent home in some disgrace for refusing to take part in a punitive raid mounted by Governor Phillip in retaliation for the death of his gamekeeper. Dawes later served in Sierra Leone and Antigua.*

ROBERT CAMPBELL'S HOUSE. *A Scottish merchant and a member of Campbell & Co., the Calcutta-based firm which sent their first cargo to New South Wales in 1796. Robert settled in Sydney in 1800, was hit hard by his support for Bligh, and spent most of the 1810s in relative poverty, before restoring his fortunes by about 1820.*

CAMPBELL'S WHARF. *Now Campbell's Cove at the north end of the Overseas Passenger Terminal, the Wharf was one of the mainstays of Sydney trade, part of a complex which included Campbell's house and warehouses.*