

YORK TOWN

a respectable looking village



York Town; a respectable looking village gives a detailed account of the British occupation in 1804 of northern Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). Lieutenant-Governor William Paterson established a township, York Town, with a guard house, barracks, gaol, hospital, store-house, gardens, including a botanical garden, and cemetery. Paterson built houses for the people in his care including one for himself and his wife Elizabeth. This was the third settlement with a lieutenant governor in command that had been established from Sydney, the first being Norfolk Island (1798) and the second Hobart in southern Tasmania (1803).

Until now the exact number of people at Port Dalrymple has not been known nor have all of the names of those at least 205 individuals. Recently discovered documents have revealed details of the trials and achievements of the settlers, of how they survived and continue on to found the town of Launceston. The writers share the story of the people and the settlement until its abandonment; included are biographies of all those known to have been at York Town until 1808. This is followed by the later history of York Town and its neighbours. The book covers over 215 years of history in the Port Dalrymple area. It has 470 pages, has 8 pages of colour illustrations, many maps, an index and an extensive bibliography.

(Contact John Dent to place an order; john.dent@pda.com.au or 0408 133 656)

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