

A23 William Broughton

First Fleeter, store-keeper, assistant commissary general

Title/rank:

First a servant to Surgeon General White in the First Fleet, then in 1789, a storekeeper in Parramatta. In 1800 he was appointed as store-keeper and acting deputy commissary at Norfolk Island, returning in 1808. In 1814, he was promoted acting assistant commissary general.



Born – date/year:

Baptized in November 1768

Place of origin:

Chatham, Kent, England

Marital status & children:

Formed a relationship with ex-convict Elizabeth Heathorn (alias Ann Glossop) after 1792. The union produced five children. However, in 1809 Elizabeth was massacred in New Zealand en route to England (but her daughter Betsy was spared, and was reunited later with her father). Then in December 1810, he married Elizabeth Charlotte, the widow of Captain Roger Simpson, by whom he also had five children.

Place where lived

While in Parramatta, he received a grant of 30 acres at Concord. In 1795, with three privates in the NSW Corps, he was granted 100 acres at North Brush in the Field of Mars. Named it *Chatham Farm*, after his birth place.

In 1800, he and family moved to Norfolk Island, returning to NSW in 1808. In 1811, he was granted 1000 acres of land near the village of Appin. He called his property *Lachlan Vale*, to the west of Appin.

Role/job:

Broughton was appointed Acting Deputy Commissary in Norfolk Island in 1800. After he returned to Sydney he was appointed as Deputy Commissioner of Stores. In late 1810, Governor Macquarie made him acting commissary and subsequently praised him for his diligence and honesty during his three years control of the commissariat.

In 1809, Broughton was appointed a magistrate. In 1811, he gave valuable evidence to John Bigge on the employment of convict labour, which was well received. He was then promoted to Acting Commissary General in 1814.

Broughton was a large shareholder and had briefly been a director of the Bank of New South Wales and was a supporter of the Benevolent Society. Macquarie wrote of his performing 'faithful, honest, useful and arduous service' for 30 years.

Contribution to Liverpool: Broughton role's as a magistrate and his establishment of his farm *Lachlan Vale* near Appin would have contributed to the Liverpool District in various ways.

Died/age: 22 July 1821 - aged 52

Religion Church or England

Source of info. Kevin Goulding, Member of L&DFHS and also Vivienne Parsons in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 1, (MUP), 1966

