

Sarah Morris *

POLICE NUMBER 342 ¹	LITERACY read only
TRIAL DATE 31 August ² 1840	AGE ON EMBARKATION 18
TRIAL PLACE Lancaster (Salford) Sessions of the Peace	AGE ON ARRIVAL 20
OFFENCE stealing silk handkerchiefs	HEIGHT 5' 1¼"
SENTENCE 7 years	COMPLEXION fresh
GAOL REPORT convicted before, bad, single	HEAD oval
PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS once 6 months for stealing waistcoat pieces	HAIR red
SURGEON'S REPORT quiet	VISAGE long
ON THE TOWN no	FOREHEAD high
MARITAL STATUS single	EYEBROWS red
CHILDREN 0	EYES hazel
FAMILY	NOSE straight
NATIVE PLACE Manchester, England	MOUTH medium
TRADE ON EMBARKATION frame tenter	CHIN round
TRADE ON ARRIVAL housemaid, wash, iron, plain needlewoman	MARKS scar under left cheek bone

c1822	Born at Manchester, Lancashire, England. ³
31 August 1840	Tried at Lancaster Sessions of the Peace, Salford, Lancashire, England indicted for larceny in stealing silk handkerchiefs; sentence 7 years transportation. ⁴
5 April 1841	Departed Woolwich, England on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
19 July 1841	Arrived at Hobart on the <i>Rajah</i> . ⁵
c24 July 1841	Upon arrival at Hobart, sent to Launceston for assignment. ⁶
31 December 1841	Mustered in the service of Mr Stieglitz, Avoca. ⁷
12 March 1842	Charged at the Police Court, Longford by her master Mr E Archer with uselessness; returned to Government. ⁸
29 April 1842	Returned to the Crown from the service of Henry Steiglitz, Campbell Town district. ⁹
28 July 1842	At Launceston Female Factory in a state of pregnancy vide return of the Assistant Superintendent of Convicts. ⁴
10 August 1842	Son (unnamed) Morris, illegitimate, born at Launceston Female Factory; mother Sarah Morris; informant Robert Pearson, Superintendent, Female House of Correction. ¹⁰
11 August 1842	Charged at Launceston Female Factory with misconduct in having an illegitimate child; sentence 6 months probation in the Crime Class at Launceston Female Factory, to commence when the child is weaned. ⁴
13 March 1844	Classified as a 3 rd class probation pass-holder; gazetted 15 March. ¹¹
28 March 1844	Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by her mistress with insolence this morning; in the service of Mrs Solomon, Liverpool Street, Hobart; reprimanded and discharged. ¹²

¹ TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.38 No.342 [image 40] (Sarah Morris); TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.234 [image 120] (Sarah Morris); ML, CY 1282 p.151 (Sarah Morris); ML, CY 1197 p.155 (Sarah Morris); ML, CY 958 p.442 (Sarah Morris)

² Trial month given as March on Embarkation List (ML, CY 1197 p.155 (Sarah Morris)), but August on Assignment List (ML, CY 958 p.442 (Sarah Morris)).

³ TAHO, CON19/1/1 p.234 [image 120] (Sarah Morris)

⁴ TAHO, CON40/1/8 p.38 No.342 [image 40] (Sarah Morris)

⁵ AJCP, ADM 101/63 *Rajah*

⁶ ML, CY 1282 p.142 (Sarah Morris); ML, CY 1274 p.260 (Sarah Morris)

⁷ AJCP, HO 10/51 p.381 No.342 (Sarah Morris)

⁸ TAHO, LC362/1/5 (Sarah Morris)

⁹ TAHO, LC83/1/6 p.95 (Sarah Morris)

¹⁰ TAHO, RGD33/1/23 1842/1090 Launceston (male Morris)

¹¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 15 March 1844 p.306 (Sarah Morris)

This biography supplements our book *Patchwork Prisoners* available from www.researchtasmania.com.au.

- 15 May 1844 Charged at the Police Court, Hobart by her mistress with neglect of duty and insolence on Saturday 11 May; in the service of Mrs Solomon, Liverpool Street, Hobart; sentence 3 months hard labour at Cascades Female Factory, Hobart.¹³
Statement of witness Mrs Solomon:
The prisoner is my servant and she is perfectly aware that the house of work should all be done on Friday and I do not allow anything to be done on Saturday, she neglect to do her work, and on asking to be allowed to go and see her child¹⁴ I refused, she became very insolent and said she could demand to go once a month.¹³
- 31 July 1844 Hired in private service as a probation pass-holder to Elizabeth Solomon, Liverpool Street, Hobart.¹⁵
- 17 September 1844 Ticket of Leave granted; gazetted 19 September.¹⁶
- 31 August 1847 Free by servitude; Certificate of Freedom available for collection.¹⁷
- 3 January 1848 Certificate of Freedom issued; gazetted 11 January.¹⁸

¹² TAHO, AC480/1/1, 28 March 1844 (Sarah Morris)

¹³ TAHO, AC480/1/1, 15 May 1844 (Sarah Morris)

¹⁴ Her son must have been removed from Launceston Female Factory to the Hobart nursery or Queen's Orphan Schools. However, there is no record of this child in the Queen's Orphan Schools records.

¹⁵ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 9 August 1844 p.940 (Sarah Morris)

¹⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 19 September 1844 p.1143 (Sarah Morris)

¹⁷ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 3 August 1847 p.793 (Sarah Morris)

¹⁸ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 11 January 1848 p.50 (Sarah Morris)