

**My Place Website – Timeline Overview**  
**1810s**

Decade Years	Decade Summary	Decade Key Event	Decade Snapshot
<p><b>1810s</b></p>	<p>From 1810 to 1821, Lachlan Macquarie (1762–1824) ruled the New South Wales colony as the last autocratic governor. Macquarie replaced Governor William Bligh (1754–1817), and was the first military governor. He was accompanied by his own regiment that replaced the rebellious New South Wales Corps. His vision for the colony involved transforming it from a penal convict establishment to a society more reflective of British lifestyles. Macquarie believed that through reforming convicts, implementing a public works program and the establishment of legal and commercial institutions, the New South Wales colony, and in particular Sydney, would become more like European cities. On 1 February 1811, he appointed John Oxley (1784–1828) as surveyor-general of New South Wales and requested that survey tracks of land be used for farming by free settlers.</p> <p>In 1818, Macquarie was the first governor to give official recognition to Anniversary Day (later known as Australia Day) marking the 30th anniversary of the arrival in the colony and he decreed it a public holiday. Governor Macquarie ordered a salute of 30 guns to be fired from the Battery at Dawes Point and in the evening gave a dinner at Government House for civil and military officers. His wife, Elizabeth Macquarie, hosted a ball that followed the dinner. This day later became known as Foundation Day. Indigenous Australians saw the British migrating to their country as an invading army taking over their land and many refer to this day as survival day or invasion day.</p> <p>In 1814, Matthew Flinders (1774–1814) published his book, <i>A Voyage to Terra Australis</i>, which suggested that the continent be called 'Australia' rather than New Holland.</p>	<p><b>History and Politics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor Lachlan Macquarie</li> <li>• The Bank of New South Wales</li> <li>• Emancipists</li> </ul> <p><b>Society and Culture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First contact</li> <li>• Sports</li> <li>• Landowners</li> <li>• Escaped convicts</li> </ul> <p><b>Science and Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public works</li> <li>• Crossing the Blue Mountains</li> <li>• Food supply</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrations were held on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the colony.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samuel Marsden resigned from the magistracy, and in the <i>Gazette</i> of 28 March 1818 it was announced that his services were dispensed with.</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular mail service started operating between Hobart Town and Launceston.</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Benevolent Society of New South Wales was formed under Government Macquarie's patronage.</li> </ul> <p><b>November</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lantern was lit for the first time at the Macquarie Tower lighthouse at South Head.</li> <li>• John Oxley names Castlereagh, the Liverpool Plains and the Peel River, and crossed the Great Dividing Range to reach Port Macquarie.</li> <li>• The legendary Aboriginal tracker, Bundle and another Aboriginal man, Broughton, accompanied Charles Throsby on an expedition south.</li> </ul>

	<p>Governor Macquarie supported this change of name and recommended it to the Colonial Office.</p> <p>Between 1810 and 1820, the European population of the colony increased after the Napoleonic Wars (1804–1815) when many of the troops returning from the wars were unemployed and turned to crime to survive. Once charged and sentenced for somewhat petty crimes, they were transported to New South Wales as the English prisons were overflowing. During this time the number of free settlers tripled, and by the end of the decade, the free settlers had outnumbered the convicts. However, the majority of the Australian population was still Indigenous.</p> <p>The decade saw the first attempts at assimilating Indigenous people into the European population. Indigenous people were moved to mission stations and institutions to be taught European ways, and to be used as cheap labour.</p> <p>During the decade Van Diemen's Land was administered by three officers: Lieutenant-Governor David Collins (1756–1810), Major Thomas Davey (1758–1823), and Colonel William Sorrell (1775–1848). In 1810, the <i>Derwent Star and Van Diemen's Land Intelligencer</i>, Australia's second newspaper and the first in Van Diemen's Land, began publication. In 1813, the settlement of Hobart began. Captain James Kelly set out to circumnavigate Van Diemen's Land and made important observations about the resources of the west coast.</p> <p>When Governor Macquarie left the colony in 1821, Sydney was a well-laid out town of fine buildings with named streets, Royal Botanical Gardens and a post office. He had overseen crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth. This exploration opened up vast pastoral lands for sheep, cattle and agriculture. The colony began to export commercial shipments of wool to</p>		
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	England and this commodity would dominate and enrich the country in monetary terms for a long time.		
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