

FITZROY, ISLAND HARBOUR, KELP LAGOON, PORT PLEASANT, MARE HARBOUR AND SWAN INLET

Fitzroy is named after Captain **Robert FITZROY** who surveyed the Falkland Islands in HMS *Beagle* in 1833 and 1834.

Crown Grant 42 was issued 30 September 1850 to **Messrs Laughlan Bellingham MACKINNON, Philip HAMOND, Robert Nicholas HAMOND** and **Bartholomew James SULIVAN RN** for £64 being 160 acres in Port Pleasant. [CG 42]

On 19 October 1850 **Messrs Laughlan Bellingham MACKINNON, Philip HAMOND, Robert Nicholas HAMOND** and **Bartholomew James SULIVAN RN**, were granted a 20 year lease over Station No 2 Kelp Lagoon for an annual rent of £10 being *“ten thousand acres of land on the south shore of Port Pleasant between the sea and a line from the head of Island Harbour to head of East Cove, Mare Harbour”*. [BUG-REG-2; 38]

On 18 June 1853 **Messrs MACKINNON & Co** leased District 2 between the Kelp Lagoon district and Mount Pleasant and Mare Harbour for an annual rent of £1 and District 3 the east shore of Swan Inlet for an annual rent of £1. The leases were terminated by the purchase of the land in 1859. [BUG-REG-2; 26]

On 13 September 1853 **Messrs MACKINNON & Co** leased District 17 the peninsula between Port Fitzroy and Port Pleasant for an annual rent of £1. The lease was terminated by the purchase of the land in 1860. [BUG-REG-2; 26]

On 24 June 1857 **Robert Christopher PACKE** borrowed £1,000 from John Markham Dean and mortgaged all his estate in the Falkland Islands being his land at Anson, Uranie Bay, Sparrow Cove, Stanley, Port Harriet and Port Pleasant. [BUG-REG-1; 177]

On 20 November 1857 **Laughlan Bellingham MACKINNON, Philip HAMOND, Robert Nicholas HAMOND** and **Bartholomew James SULIVAN** dissolved their partnership formed 29 December 1848 and assigned their property and rights to **Robert Christopher PACKE**. [BUG-REG-1; 168]

Crown Grant 130 was issued 4 January 1859 to **Robert Christopher PACKE** for £64 being Lot 5C containing 160 acres on the shore of Shallow Cove, Port Fitzroy. [CG 130]

Crown Grant 131 was issued 4 May 1859 to **Robert Christopher PACKE** for £64 being Lot 6C containing 160 acres on the shore of Mare Harbour, east of Swan Inlet. [CG 131]

Crown Grant 143 was issued 10 August 1860 to **James LANE** as agent for the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd** for £64 being Lot 7C in Section 18 containing 160 acres near Direction Hill on the shore of Teal Inlet, Island Harbour. [CG 143]

On 16 April 1861 **Robert Christopher PACKE** was granted an occupation licence of Section 15 for 20 years at an annual rent of £10. Being 10,000 acres more or less bounded *“on the North, East & South by Port Fitzroy and Port Pleasant, not including East Island, and bounded on the West by a line from Island Harbour opposite the East end of the Tussac Island therein to the Pass of the Fitzroy River including the Tussac Island in Shallow Cove.”* A right of way was reserved for the use of the public through the district. [BUG-REG-2; 107]

On 16 April 1861 **Robert Christopher PACKE** was granted an occupation licence of Section 16 for 20 years at an annual rent of £10. Being 10,000 acres more or less bounded "*on the East by district No 2 leased to Messrs Mackinnon Hamond, Hamond and Sullivan on the 19th October 1850 and now in the occupation of the said R C Packe; on the South by Mare Harbour; on the East by Swan Inlet as far as Deception Creek and thence by a line drawn North towards Mount Wickham until it cuts the stream which flows from Boundary Pond into Swan Inlet; and in the North by the said stream and by the stream which runs into the head of Island Harbour.*" A right of way was reserved for the use of the public through the district. [BUG-REG-2; 109]

On 17 April 1861 the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd** were granted an occupation licence of Section 17 for 20 years at an annual rent of £10. Being 10,000 acres more or less bounded "*on the East by district No 15 leased to R C Packe Esq on the South by Island Harbour on the West by district No 18 this day leased to the Falkland Islands Company and on the North by the Fitzroy River.*" A right of way was reserved for the use of the public through the district. [BUG-REG-2; 111]

On 18 April 1863 **Lieutenant George C MUSTERS RN** was granted an occupation licence of Station 29 north of Swan Inlet for £5. Being 6,000 acres bounded "*on the East by District No 18 leased by the Falkland Islands Company on the North by a line running west for two miles in continuation of the northern boundary of Districts Nos 17 & 18, on the west by a line running from this point due south to Swan Inlet, and on the South by Swan Inlet and the Government Reserve.*" [BUG-REG-2; 126]

On 7 July 1863 **Robert Christopher PACKE** borrowed £500 from **William Rowland PYNE** and mortgaged "*all those freehold and leasehold lands and hereditaments situate on the South side of the Fitzroy River together with all houses and erections thereon... Also 1000 sheep and 200 cattle*" for £500. [BUG-REG-1; pg 246]

On 3 May 1864 **Lieutenant George C MUSTERS RN** was granted a 10 year lease of North Swan Inlet Station at an annual rent of £10. [BUG-REG-2; 46]

As he has built a house on Station 29 and stocked it **Lieutenant George C MUSTERS RN** was granted a lease 3 May 1864 for 10 years. Bounded "*On the East by District No 18 leased by the Falkland Islands Company, on the North by a line running west for two miles in continuation of the Northern boundary of Districts Nos 17 and 18, on the west by a line running from this point due South to Swan Inlet, and on the South by Swan Inlet and the Government Reserve.*" Containing 6,000 acres. [BUG-REG-2; 140]

In March 1868 the **FELL** family are living at Bluff Creek, the **LEE** family at Shallow Cove and the **McGILL** family at Port Pleasant. [H26; pg 45]

Crown Grant 171 was issued 30 November 1869 to **Lieutenant George C MUSTERS RN** for £64 being Lot 17C containing 160 acres north of Swan Inlet being the compulsory purchase on Section 29. [CG 171]

A renewal of the lease of 10,000 acres being Station No 2 Kelp Lagoon was granted to **Robert Christopher PACKE** on 19 October 1870 for 21 years at an annual rental of £16-12-8. Bounded "*On the North by Port Pleasant and Island Harbour on the West by a line drawn due South from the head of Island Harbour to the North East Inlet of East Cove Mare Harbour; and on the South and East by the sea including Pleasant Islands and the Islands in Kelp Lagoon.*" [BUG-REG-2; 293]

The British Barque *Neptune* was a total wreck on the Kelp Islands near Port Pleasant on the night of Good Friday, 11 April 1873. On the morning of 12 April 1873 **Charles TURPIN** was walking on the beach at Port Pleasant when he observed the evident signs of a wreck along the shore. The colonial schooner *Louisa* under **Charles HANSEN** sailed south of the scene of the disaster and found the vessel on the reef. He looked for the crew on the small neighbouring islands with no luck. The remains of three boats were found on the beach and it was assumed that the crew had taken to the boats when the *Neptune* struck the reef. As several charts were found slightly damaged on the beach it was thought that the boats were capsized close to shore and all of the crew perished in the violent surf. **Mr TURPIN** picked up a seaman's pocket book by which it was known that the vessel was the *Neptune* of Shields. Two life buoys were also found among the debris on the beach marked with the name of the vessel. As no bodies were washed ashore it was assumed that they were entangled in the thick tree kelp that lined the shore. [B16; pg 90]

On 23 October 1873 **Commander George C MUSTERS RN** transferred Crown Grant 171, being land situated to the north of Swan Inlet, to **Robert Christopher PACKE**. [BUG-REG-1; 370]

On 3 May 1874 **Robert Christopher PACKE** was granted a renewal of the lease of Station 29 under the terms of the Land Ordinance No 4 of 1871 and 1 of 1872 for 21 years at an annual rent of £10. Containing 6,000 acres and bounded "*On the East by district No 18 leased by the Falkland Islands Company, on the North by a line running West for two miles in continuation of the northern boundary of Districts Nos 17 and 18, on the West by a line running from this point due South to Swan Inlet and on the South by the continuation of the line running West two miles forming the Southern boundary of Sections Nos 17 & 18 (also leased by the Falkland Islands Company).*" [BUG-REG-2; 325]

On 16 April 1874 the lease of Station 15 Fitzroy was cancelled and a new lease issued to **Robert Christopher PACKE** under the terms of the Land Ordinance No 4 of 1871 for 21 years at an annual rent of £16-13-4. Containing 10,000 acres more or less and bounded "*on the North, East and South by Port Fitzroy and Port Pleasant, and not including East Island, and bounded on the West by a line from Island Harbour opposite the East end of the Tussac Island therein to the pass of the Fitzroy River including the Tussac Island in Shallow Cove.*" [BUG-REG-2; 327]

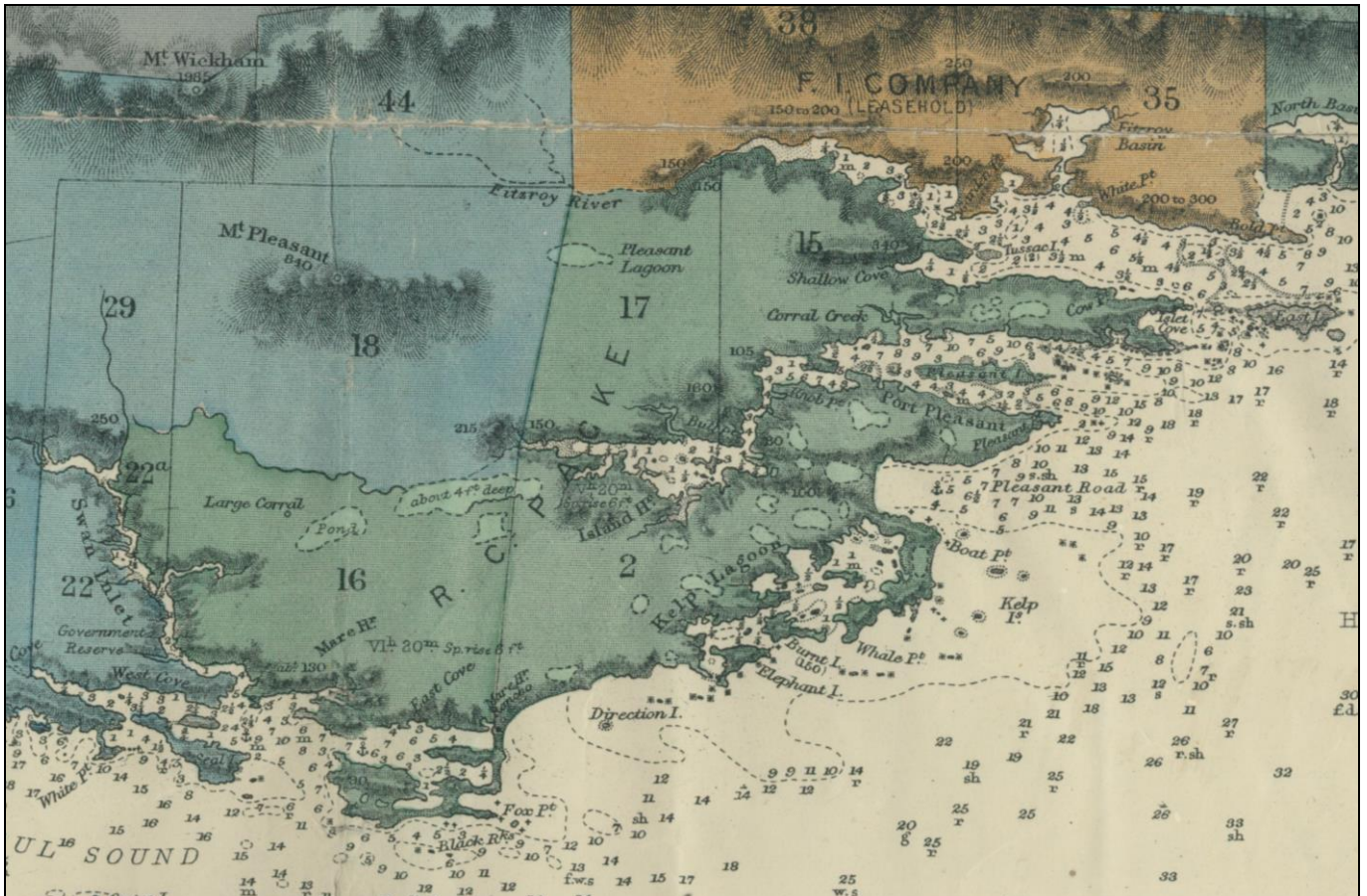
On 16 April 1874 the lease of Station 16 Swan Inlet was cancelled and a new lease issued to **Robert Christopher PACKE** under the terms of the Land Ordinance No 4 of 1871 for 21 years at an annual rent of £16-13-4. Containing 10,000 acres more or less and bounded "*On the East by district No 2 in the occupation of the said Robert Christopher Packe Esq on the South by Mare Harbour; on the West by Swan Inlet as far as Deception Creek and thence by a line drawn North towards Mount Wickham until it cuts the Stream which flows from Boundary Pond into Swan Inlet and on the North by the said Stream and by the stream which runs into the head of Island Harbour.*" [BUG-REG-2; 328]

On 17 April 1874 the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd** exchanged 6,000 acres of the 10,000 acres leased by them in District 17 Port Pleasant with **Robert Christopher PACKE** for Section 29 containing 6,000 acres. The 4,000 acres remaining in district 17 to be amalgamated with District 18 in the occupation of the Company. A new lease of Station 17 was issued to **Robert Christopher PACKE** under the terms of the Land Ordinance No 4 of 1871 and 1 of 1872 for 21 years at an annual rent of £10. Containing 6,000 acres more or less and bounded "*On the East by district No 15 in the occupation of Robert Christopher Packe Esquire on the South by Island Harbour; on the West by a line running North East from the head of Island Harbour to the*

Eastward of Mount Pleasant Lagoon till it cuts the Eastern Boundary of Section No 44; and on the North by the Fitzroy River.” [BUG-REG-2; 328]

William Rowland PYNE released the mortgage on the lands south of Fitzroy River 14 July 1875. [BUG-REG-3; 39]

On 27 May 1875 **Robert Christopher PACKE** transferred his lease of Station 29 dated 3 May 1874 to the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd.** [BUG-REG-2; 325]



Farm boundaries 1883 – part of Hudson Chart, JCNA

In the Hudson Chart of 1883 a rancho (small hut) was shown on the point at Mare Harbour and a large corral in section 16.

On 17 June 1889 there were 11 houses on Vere PACKE’s property:

HOUSE	OCCUPANT	VALUE
1	Vere PACKE, manager	£35
2	A FLEURET, butcher	£15
3	H PATTERSON, assistant butcher	£12
4	T DETTLEFF, shepherd	£10
5	H KELWAY, shepherd	£10
6	Unoccupied	
7	H CLETHERO, foreman	£20
8	H RUMMEL, shepherd	£10
9	Unoccupied	
10	J PECK, gaucho & shepherd; O FLEURET, gaucho & shepherd	£10
11	H HOLLEN, shepherd; F HOLLEN, shepherd; M NELSON, cook	£10

[H44; 235]

The *St Mary* struck the reef opposite Kelp Lagoon at 9.30pm on 10 August 1890. The crew landed at Fitzroy. The Master, **Jesse T CARVER**, remained on board and was found dead two days later. The *St Mary* was launched at Phippsburg, Maine in 1890. She was a wooden square-rigger, with three decks, 240 feet in length and weighing 1,942 tons and 242 feet long and was en route from New York to San Francisco. The *Castalia* arrived in Stanley with salvaged goods on 26 August 1890. At the end of September 1890 severe weather set in and the wreck was broken up and the *Castalia* proceeded again to pick up anything worth the trouble. An auction was held on 10 October 1890 of the some of the articles saved and high prices were realised. [FIM Sep 1890; Oct 1890-B]

On 14 November 1891 **Robert Christopher PACKE** was granted an occupation licence of Station 2 Kelp Lagoon containing 10,000 acres more or less for 21 years at an annual rental of £33-6-8. Bounded “*on the North by Port Pleasant and Island Harbour, on the West by a line drawn due South from the head of Island Harbour to the North East inlet of East Cove, Mare Harbour, and on the South and East by the sea, including Pleasant Island and the islands in Kelp Lagoon.*” [BUG-REG-2; 293]

The Danish Barque *Bertha* was wrecked between Fox Point and Direction Island on 11 October 1892. The *Bertha* was en route from Costa Rica for Europe with a cargo of cedar and rosewood and had left Punta Arenas on 30 June 1892. She was heavily damaged near Cape Horn and made for the Falkland Islands. On 10 October 1892 they were 8 miles off Cape Pembroke Lighthouse but could not beat up into Port William through the loss of the mizzenmast and damaged state of the rigging. The master, **Captain HANSEN**, ran her ashore on the 11th during a gale as he feared that she would not survive it. The *Bertha* was sold by auction to the Falkland Islands Company for £120. [FIM Nov 1892]



Wreck of the *Bertha* – FIC collection, JCNA

Robert Christopher PACKE, age 69 and late Captain 34th Regiment, died 5 November 1893 at Upper Norwood. [FIM Jan 1894] He left his lands in Fitzroy and Port Louis to his nephew, **Vere PACKE**.

In 1920 the manager’s house at Corral Creek was valued at £740 and the shanty at Island Harbour was valued at £222. Rat Castle at Fitzroy was valued at £38. It was a small two

roomed building. Early occupants were **William GOODWIN** and his family. [FIC/ZD2; pg 74, 75, 77; J T Clement]

On 3 March 1921 the **Hugh HARDING** of the Falkland Islands Company Ltd reported to the London Office that he had discussed with **Mr DEAN** the question of the best use to be made of much of the property about Sullivan House and that he agreed in main with the proposals to 1. Take down one glass house in the garden and ship it to Fitzroy for re-erection on the north side of the manager's house to allow for entrance to all three living rooms independently. 2. Ship a stable and one of the cottages near Sullivan House to Fitzroy; the cottage to be utilised as an annexe to the cookhouse which wasn't large enough to accommodate all the men. [D13; pg 627]

On 9 March 1921 **Vere PACKE** appointed a power of attorney to convey Crown Grants 6, 18, 19, 20, 24, 40, 42, 130, 131, 171, 235, 236, 234, 253, 285, 293, 360, 195, 254 to the Falkland Islands Company Limited. [BUG-REG-8; pg 393]

The *Gwendolin* made a trip to Fitzroy in October 1921 with sundry material collected from Sullivan House including the glass house. The carpenter at Fitzroy erected it as a conservatory during off times and by March 1922 it was completed. [D13; pg 705, 788]



Top: Fitzroy house and conservatory, April 1929 – Hamilton Collection, JCNA

On 6 February 1922 **Vere PACKE** conveyed his holdings on East Falkland, including Fitzroy, to the **Falkland Islands Company Limited** in exchange for 3,500 fully paid £1 shares in said Company. [BUG-REG-9; pg 27]



Fitzroy woolshed – Hamilton Collection,

In 1928 the Fitzroy woolshed, supplied by William Bain & Co Ltd, was built at a total cost of £5,048. [FIC/ZD1; pg 24]

The Fitzroy cookhouse, valued at £400 when conveyed in 1921, burnt down in 1930. [FIC/ZD1; pg 19] Rat Castle was empty so it was used as a temporary cookhouse until a new cookhouse was built. The new cookhouse was completed in 1931 at a total cost of £1,110. [FIC/ZD2; pg 75]



New cookhouse being built at Fitzroy – photo FIC collection, JCNA

In 1930 **Tom GILRUTH**, a cadet, moved into Rat Castle. At that point the amenities consisted of a cold water tap, a large iron kettle and a large peat grate. The toilet was outside. [J T Clement]

At Fitzroy in 1955 the Gardener's House, a bungalow, and the settlement bungalow, Robertson's House, were built at a total cost of 1,548-19-7 each. [FIC/ZD2; PG 83].

A new house was built at Island Harbour in 1956 at a total cost of £4,381-11-5; the original shepherd's house was built prior to the Falkland Islands Company Limited purchasing Fitzroy Farm. [FIC/ZD2; PG 73]

The assembly hall at Fitzroy was built in 1957 at a cost of £1,484-13-3. Central heating was installed in 1967. [FIC/ZD2; PG 72]

SOME EARLY RESIDENTS OF ISLAND HARBOUR

1874/1876 to circa 1892:

William CLEtheroe (also known as CLITHEROE and CLEthero) and **Frances CLEtheroe née ATKINS**. They must have moved to Island Harbour sometime after the birth of their second child, Edith on the 21st November 1874 and before the birth of their third child William 10th August 1876. Two of the four children of William and Frances were born at Island Harbour. They were:

1876 August 10	William James
1880 April 10	John Richard

William and Frances were still in the Island Harbour area in 1892 when their daughter Alice died of pneumonia on the 1st December 1892 at Fitzroy.

Circa 1893 to 1914:

John McKAY and **Mary McKAY née KERR**. They came to the Falkland Islands from Tarbet on the Isle of Harris to work for Vere Packe. Their daughter Minnie married James McGill 18 September 1905 and James and Minnie had a son John born at Island Harbour 5 June 1906.

John and Mary returned to Scotland in 1914 but descendants of their children are still in the Falkland Islands.

SOME PEOPLE BORN AT FITZROY (TO 1916)

- 1871 Nov 05 Thomas GOODWIN to John GOODWIN, shepherd, and Janet Goodwin formerly COPELAND
- 1872 Jan 20 Margaret PATTERSON to George PATTERSON, shepherd, and Sarah Patterson formerly STEWART at Fitzroy River
- 1872 Oct 11 Janet McGILL to William McGILL, shepherd, and Isabella McGill formerly WRIGHT
- 1873 Feb 05 Elizabeth GOODWIN to John GOODWIN, shepherd, and Janet Goodwin formerly COPELAND
- 1873 Aug 30 Maryann DOUGLAS to Thomas DOUGLAS, shepherd, and Annie Douglas formerly TENNANT
- 1875 Aug 13 Margaret DOUGLAS to Thomas DOUGLAS, shepherd, and Annie Douglas formerly TENNANT
- 1877 Apr 28 Walter DOUGLAS to Thomas DOUGLAS, shepherd, and Annie Douglas formerly TENNANT
- 1877 Dec 20 Elizabeth Frances ATKINS to Richard ATKINS, labourer, and Isabella Atkins formerly WINGRAVE
- 1879 Sep 02 Alice Maude ATKINS to Richard ATKINS, labourer, and Isabella Atkins formerly WINGRAVE
- 1881 Jul 02 Catherine Forbes MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1881 Aug 02 Margaret McLEAN to Archibald McLEAN, shepherd, and Agnes McLean formerly SUTTER at Hillside, Fitzroy
- 1882 Sep 18 Ann Dunnet MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1884 Jan 25 Helen Peterina MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1885 Dec 27 William MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1888 Jan 01 John MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1889 Mar 22 Archibald MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1890 Jul 28 Magnus Alexander MacLEAN to Peter MacLEAN, shepherd, and Catherine Dundas Dunnet Maclean formerly HENDERSON
- 1904 Oct 27 Peter KIDDLE to Albert John Stephen KIDDLE, foreman, and Margaret Ann Kiddle née MCKAY
- 1906 Sep 13 Stephen Noah KIDDLE to Albert John Stephen KIDDLE, overseer, and Margaret Ann Kiddle née MCKAY
- 1916 Aug 09 Olive Hilary FELTON to Roy Stanley FELTON, sheep farmer, and Muriel Harriet Felton née DUROSE