

PORT LOUIS NORTH AND MACBRIDE HEAD STATIONS

NB: Various spellings of names are as written in the records. Farming activity prior to 1843 has been omitted as details are already freely available online and the following deals with the development of the 20th century farms.

Port Louis, originally Fort St Louis, was either named after King Louis XV of France or after himself by **Louis Antoine de BOUGAINVILLE** in 1764. Macbride Head was named after Captain **John McBRIDE**, commander of an expeditionary force to the Falkland Islands based at Port Egmont from 1766 to 1767.

The “New Barracks” were built at Anson (Port Louis) in the autumn of 1843. *“This is a large building constructed of stone and lime with brick chimneys, arches, &c. It is situated on the top of the hill, on the west side of the Carenage fronting the north. The south side is loop-holed. In there are doors and windows on the north and east sides. Its site is marked I on the map of the Islands. It contains on the ground floor three rooms on at the east end measuring X, with a loft over it and a staircase leading to it, one large centre room X with a fireplace – one small room X also with a fireplace over these two rooms there is a large loft lighted by a sky light. The house was built in the autumn of 1843, inhabited by the Sappers and Miners until May 1844 when it was used as a Government Storehouse. In May 1847 (all the stores having in the meanwhile been removed) it was allowed to be occupied by Mr Lafones agents – they removed from it in April 1848 when Sejt Hearnden RS&M visited and reported it to be good condition but excessively dirty. 28 September 1848.”* [E1; pg 164]



Barracks Port Louis, 1933 – Luxton Collection, JCNA

On 9 July 1850 **Richard Almond WILLIAMS** purchased 160 acres on the north side of the Carenage at Port Louis being Lot 1B for £65. [CG 41]

On 29 July 1850 the “New Barracks” and the land on which they were built were sold for £150. [E1; pg 164]

In a List of People on Mr Lafone’s Estate dated February 1851 there were 14 people resident at Anson: Don **Lorenzo FERNANDEZ, wife & 5 children; Freanor RODRIGUIZ; Candido MARTINEZ; Victorino TECHUA; Ramiando ILLESCUS & wife; J M SILVA and Juan RODRIGEZ**, all from Montevideo. [H8]

On 31 March 1851 **Messrs MACKINNON, HAMOND and SULIVAN** purchased a 5 year lease of the Mullet Fishery, in Johnsons Harbour, Chabot Creek, and Bougainville Creek in Berkeley Sound for £2. [BUG-REG-2; pg 34]

On 11 March 1853 **Richard Almond WILLIAMS** conveyed Lot 1B as part of the transfer to **Samuel Fisher LAFONE**. Crown Grant 41. [BUG-REG-1; pg 126]

Lot 1B was part of the conveyance by **Samuel Fisher LAFONE** to the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd** on 30 April 1853. Crown Grant 41. [BUG-REG-1; pg 128]

On 31 March 1856 **Robert Christopher PACKE** purchased a 5 year lease of the Mullet Fishery, in Johnsons Harbour, Chabot Creek, and Bougainville Creek in Berkeley Sound for £2. [BUG-REG-2; pg 34]

James LANE, the Colonial Manager of the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd**, went to Port Louis 3 December 1858 with **Governor MOORE**, the stipendiary magistrate **Thomas BROOKE** and **Captain BALFOUR** of the *Siren*, returning on 8 December 1858. He reported that the house there, the barracks of the old settlement, were in good repair and very commodious but at present useless. They had cost the government not less than £800 to build but were purchased by **Richard WILLIAMS** for £150. In right of that purchase the Falkland Islands Company Ltd were entitled to take a lease of 6,000 acres. [FIC/E1; desp 8]

On 30 October 1860 the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd** were granted Crown Lease 14 for 20 years of 6,000 acres for the depasturing of stock for 20 years at an annual rent of £10. Bounded “*on the South by district Number Five leased to R J Packe Esquire and by the waters of Port Louis and Berkeley Sound as far as Duclos Point on the East by Johnson’s Harbour and Chabot Creek on the North by a line from Chabot Creek to 12 o’clock Hill and on the West by a line drawn Southwest from 12 o’clock Hill till it meets district No Five; also Hog Island; as shown on the Charts of the Falkland Islands of record in the office of the Surveyor General; provided always and it is hereby understood that the public shall continue to have a right of free access to the peat bank or Peat ponds on the Eastern side of the Carenage of Port Louis, and to cut and prepare and carry away peat fuel as heretofore accustomed.*” [BUG-REG-2; pg 104]

John DOOLAN was transferred to the Port Louis establishment in March 1867. [FIC/IW1; pg 223]

On 15 October 1868 **Timothy ROBSON** was granted a licence for £5 to occupy a station at Johnson’s Harbour bounded “*on the West by a line drawn South and by East from Mount Brisbane to the Sean. On the South and East by the Sea Shore. On the North by Volunteer Lagoon and on the North East by a line drawn North West from the head of Volunteer Lagoon to Mount Brisbane.*” [BUG-REG-2; pg 214]

Francis ARMSTRONG, Jose Marie MORAVO, James MILLETT and Casimizo PINAZO, employees of the Falkland Islands Co Ltd, left Lafonia 5 March 1869 to put up the Port Louis corral. [FIC/IW2; pg 1; 114; 117; 132]

On 26 February 1870 **Andrez PETALUGA** was granted a licence for £5 to occupy a station at MacBrides Head bounded "*On the East by the West boundary of Station No 43 running 3 miles South from the sea and MacBrides Head. On the South East by a line drawn 4 miles South West by West. On the West by a line drawn 3 miles North to the sea, and thence on the North by the sea to the starting point at the North West angle of Station No 43, as aforesaid.*" Section 66. [BUG-REG-2; pg 240]

As he has built a house on the station at McBrides Head and stocked it **Andrez PETALUGA** was granted a lease 26 February 1871 for 21 years at an annual rent of £6 in advance for the first ten years and £10 a year for the remainder. The station contains 6,000 acres. [BUG-REG-2; pg 285]

On 17 April 1871 **Andrez PETALUGA** is granted a licence to occupy land in the vicinity of Cape Frehel for the sum of £15. The station was described as bounded "*On the West by Port San Salvador. On the North by the Sea $\frac{3}{4}$ mile East of McBrides Head. On the East by Station No 43 running South four miles. On the South by a line running due West ten and a half miles to the North East corner of Station No 33 and on the South West by Station No 33 containing eighteen thousand 18,000 acres more or less.*" [BUG-REG-2; pg 393]

On 16 March 1872 **Timothy ROBSON and Thomas SHARP** are granted a licence for £15 to occupy Cow Bay Station (Sections 63, 64 & 65) bounded "*On the N by a line starting from the North East corner of Station No 33 running due East to the centre of Cow Bay – on the S E by Station No 51 on the s by Station Nos 50, 14 and land in the occupation of Mr R Greenshields to the starting point reserving one acre at the head of Chabot Creek and containing 18,477 acres more or less.*" [BUG-REG-2; pg 316]

On 17 April 1873 **Andrez PETALUGA** is granted a lease of a station known as Cape Frehel for 21 years at an annual rental of £18 for the first 10 years and £30 for the remainder of the term. Bounded "*On the West by Port San Salvador. On the North by the Sea three quarters of a mile East of McBrides Head. On the East by Station No 43 running South four miles. On the South by a line running due West ten and a half miles to the North East corner of Station No 33, and on the South West by Station No 33, containing eighteen thousand 18,000 more or less, as shewn in the official chart of record, and has built a house upon it and stocked the same in the manner required by the said Amalgamation Ordinance No 6 of 1870.*" [BUG-REG-2; pg 394]

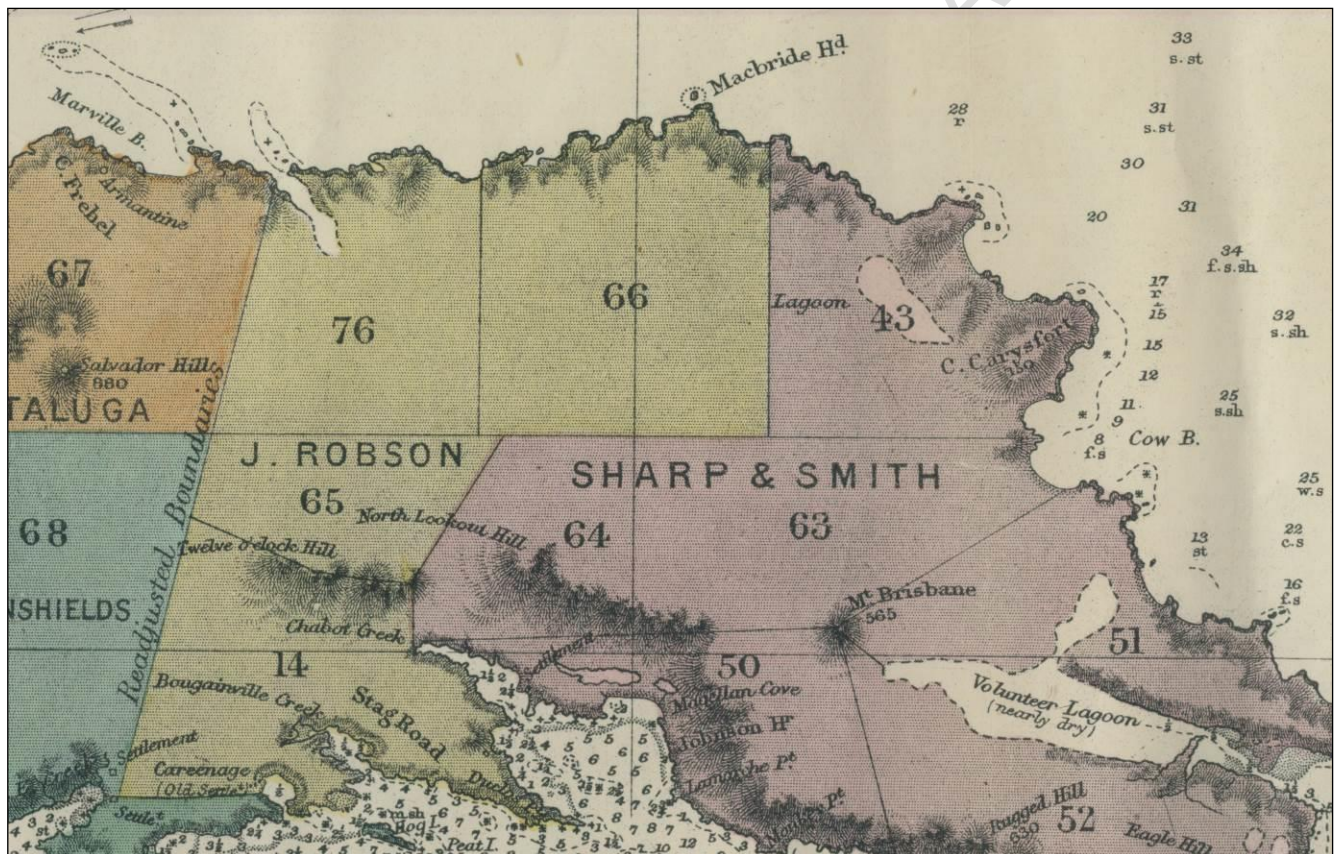
As they have stocked the station and built a house on it **Timothy ROBSON and Thomas SHARP** are granted a lease on 16 March 1874 of Cow Bay Station (Sections 63, 64 & 65) for twenty-one years at an annual rent of £18 for the first ten years and £30 a year for the remainder. Bounded "*On the North by a line starting from the North East corner of Station No 33 (Rincon Grande) running due East to the centre of Cow Bay; on the South East by Station No 51 (Volunteer Point); on the South by stations No 50 (Johnson Harbour) and No 14 in the occupation of the Falkland Islands Company; on the West by land in the occupation of Robert Greenshields to the starting point, reserving one acre at the head of Chabot Creek and containing Eighteen thousand 18,000 acres more or less.*" [BUG-REG-2; pg 330]

As **Timothy ROBSON** had applied to cancel Crown Lease 14 transferred to him by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd and applied for renewal of the lease under the Land Ordinances No 4 of 1871 and No 1 of 1872 a new lease was issued on 1 March 1876 for 21 years at an annual rent of £10; the new lease commencing from 30 October 1875.

Containing 6,000 acres and bounded "On the South by district No 5 leased to Captain Packe and the waters of Port Louis and Berkeley Sound as far as Duclos Point; on the East by Johnson's Harbour and Chabot Creek; on the North by a line from Chabot Creek to 12 O'Clock Hill; and on the West by a line drawn South West from 12 O'Clock Hill till it meets District No 8; also Hog Island". Station No 14 North of Port Louis. [BUG-REG-2; pg 389]

On 18 April 1876 the **Falkland Islands Company Ltd** conveyed Crown Grant 41 Port Louis Section B to **Timothy ROBSON** for £350 containing 160 acres together with the dwelling houses and all other erections thereon. [BUG-REG-3; pg 49]

On 16 March 1878 **Messrs SHARP & ROBSON** transferred Section No 65 (part of Cow Bay Station) to **Timothy ROBSON** for the remainder of the term of the original lease at an annual rental of £6 for the first ten years (from 16 March 1874) and £10 a year for the remainder of the term. Bounded "starting from N E corner of Section 33 (Rincon Grande) on the North by a Line running East Six Miles and Three quarters, on the East by Section 64 running South 2 ½ miles to the top of a hill 1 ½ miles East from Twelve O'clock Hill, from thence to Twelve O'clock Hill 1 ½ miles, thence to starting Point 5 ½ miles and containing 6000 acres more or less." [BUG-REG-2; pg 398]



Farm boundaries 1883 – part of Hudson Chart, JCNA

On 31 May 1883 6,000 acres of the lease granted 17 April 1873, the MacBrides Head part of Cape Frehel Station, were handed over to **Timothy ROBSON** by **Andrew PETALUGA**. Section 66. [BUG-REG-2; pg 394]

On 2 June 1883 **Alexander PITALUGA** entered into an agreement with **Timothy ROBSON** to grant 6,000 acres being Section 76 off the block of land named Cape Frehel. The boundary of the 6,000 acres taken off the Cape Frehel block to run north and south from the Barrel Valley to what was known as the Standing Man. [BUG-REG-3; pg 175]

On 4 June 1884 **Alexander PITALUGA** granted Section 76, containing 6,000 acres to be taken off the block of land named Cape Frehel, in addition to Section 66 McBrides Head, containing 6,000 acres, already transferred to **Timothy ROBSON** in exchange for Sections 36 and 42 containing 12,000 acres. All land leased from the Crown. [BUG-REG-3; pg 204]

On 16 July 1889 there were 5 houses on Port Louis Station:

HOUSE	VALUE	DETAILS
Port Louis house	£36	Joseph Robson, manager
Cookhouse	£10	Christian SCHMIDT, labourer; Timothy ROBSON, shepherd
Horse Knob house	£6	Unoccupied
Campamento house	£15	Robert HUNTER, shepherd
Muddy Creek house	£12	Alfred King, shepherd
Standing Man house	£10	Unoccupied

[H44; 235]

On 22 April 1890 **Alexander Mackintosh PITALUGA**, as administrator of the Estate of **Andrez PITALUGA** deceased, granted Crown Grant 342 being the compulsory purchase of 160 acres on Section No 66 McBrides Head in terms of a Lease of the said Station from the Crown dated 26th February 1872 for 5/- and also granted Crown Grant 340 being the compulsory purchase of 160 acres on the Eastern Section of Station No 76 Cape Frehel in terms of a Lease of the said Station from the Crown dated the 17th April 1873 for 5/- to **Timothy ROBSON**. [BUG-REG-4; pg 170, 171]

On 1 March 1892 **Timothy ROBSON** was granted an occupation licence of Section No 66 McBrides Head bounded "*On the east by the west boundary of Station No 43 running three miles south from the sea and McBrides Head; on the south by a line drawn four miles south west by west; On the west by a line drawn three miles north to the sea and thence on the north by the sea to the starting point at the north west angle of station No 43 as aforesaid and containing 6,000 acres more or less, (which section of land was transferred to the said Timothy Robson on the 31st day of May 1883 for remainder of the unexpired term of twenty-one years under lease dated the 26th day of February 1871 and which lease expired on the 25th day of February ultimo), at the yearly rent of £20.*" [BUG-REG-2; pg 285]

On 31 May 1893 Section No 66 McBrides Head was transferred to **Timothy ROBSON** for the remainder of the unexpired term of 21 years under the lease dated 26 February 1871. [BUG-REG-2; pg 285]