

William Bloomfield Douglas



Date of Birth: 25 September 1822

Place of Birth: Aberystwyth Wales

Parents: Richard W C Douglas and Mary Douglas

Spouse: Married Ellen (née Atkinson) in Northumberland 25 April 1848 (she died 1887)
3 sons, 5 daughters
Married Annie (née McDonald) 31 January 1899

Military Service: Joined Royal Navy January 1842
Captain's Steward HMS *Wolverine*
Resigned September 1842 in Hong Kong

Employment History: Skipper of clipper ships in the China Sea
Participated in expeditions against pirates Sarawak 1843-1844. Based ashore 1844-1852
Naval Officer and Harbour Master Adelaide SA from 1854
Collector of Customs from 1858
Master of Trinity House and Chairman of the Harbour Trust (surveyed Kangaroo Island and Backstairs Passage 1858 and mouth of the Murray River 1859)
First President Marine Board 1860-1870
Served on Immigration Board, as Inspector of Distilleries and Stipendiary Magistrate
Appointed Government Resident of the Northern Territory 27 April 1870 to June 1873

Subsequent Career: Recruited in Singapore for NT goldfields 1874-1875
Acting Police Magistrate Singapore 1874-1875
Second Police Magistrate Singapore 1875-1876
Acting Government Resident Selangor 1876-1880 (heavily criticised by 1879 inquiry)
Transferred headquarters to Kuala Lumpur in 1880 but was asked to resign soon after
British North Borneo Company 1882-1887
Department of Marine and Fisheries Nova Scotia 1893-1906
Died in Halifax Nova Scotia Canada 5 March 1906

Memorials: Douglas Street Fannie Bay
Douglas Peninsula (which later reverted to its earlier name of Cox Peninsula)