

Crime and Punishment

Convicts were transported as punishment for crimes committed in Britain and Ireland.

The American colonies were the main destination for convict transportation in the 18th century. However, this came to an end with the American War of Independence (1775-1783).

In 1785 New South Wales (Australia) was identified as the place for a new British Penal colony.



BRITISH EMPIRE CRIMINALS SHIPPED TO PENAL COLONIES

