



Pilot Station, Bulwer, Moreton Island, Q'ld.

SIGNAL SERIES.

*Amity Point on North Stradbroke Island was set up as Moreton Bay's first Pilot Station in 1825. On August 1848 Amity Point Pilot Station moved to Bulwer, and from 1848 to 1909 pilots at Bulwer guided ships into the channel.*

**CASE: GSAF ND-0138**

**DATE:** Unknown but prior to 1909

**LOCATION:** Moreton Bay, Queensland, Australia.

**NAME:** Lieutenant Hexton

**DESCRIPTION:** He was the first pilot in Moreton Bay. He was a lieutenant in the Royal Navy and had fought under Nelson.

**NARRATIVE:** While on duty he accidentally fell into the water and was killed by a shark.

**SOURCE:** The Brisbane Courier, Thursday January 28, 1909, page 4

**History Recalled.**

Amongst the pensions approved by the Home Secretary this week was one to James Hexton, 76 years of age, and who has lived all his life in Queensland. Hexton is said to be the first male white child born in Queensland, and he saw the light in the home of Dr. Ballow, whose house stood on the site of the present Supreme Court. Hexton's father was a lieutenant in the Royal Navy; he fought under Nelson, and was the first pilot in Moreton Bay, but while on duty he accidentally fell into the water, and was eaten by a shark. Dr. Ballow lies buried in the cemetery at Dunwich, and on his tombstone is an eloquent epitaph, showing how he met his death in the fearless discharge of his duty while attending an immigrant ship quarantined in Moreton Bay. A fatal outbreak of typhus fever had occurred, and carried off more than 25 passengers, and the ship's surgeon. Dr. Ballow, who was the Government Medical Officer, went to Moreton Bay to take the place of the dead surgeon on the ship, and became a victim of the disease.