

John William Grundy, 2891, *Sea Park*

Researched by Marcia Watson

Known as Henry Grundy; his correct name may be John Henry Grundy.

Probable census entry:¹

1841 census, No 2, 6th Jenkinson Court, Manchester, Lancashire.

John Grundy, 65, carpenter, not from the county

Mary Grundy, 55, not from the county

Henry Grundy, 15, clk [clerk], from the county.

Probable parents:

John Grundy, widower, of the parish and town of Manchester, joiner, and Mary Lee, of the parish and town of Manchester, spinster, were married by Banns on 25 December 1823. Both signed the register.

The following two convictions may be those of the convict who came to Western Australia.

Lancashire County General Sessions, Salford, Greater Manchester, 1 September 1845.

Henry Grundy, 19, can read and write well, convicted of larceny and sentenced to 2 months.

Liverpool Boro Sessions, 14 December 1846.

John Henry Grundy, 22, can read and write well, convicted of fraud, sentenced to 5 months.

The newspaper reported: On Monday, John Henry Grundy was committed for trial for having obtained the sum of £5 from Mrs Farnsworth, publican, Cleveland-square, by fraudulent representation.² Cleveland Square is in Liverpool.

Lancashire County Sessions, Liverpool, 11 August 1847.

John Henry Grundy, 22, can read and write well, convicted of forging and uttering a forged order for the payment of money, sentenced to 18 months. Some records say he was sentenced to 12 months, and others say to 18 months.

The newspaper reported: John Henry Grundy, who pleaded guilty to a charge of having forged a request for £5 with intent to defraud Mary Bakewell, at Manchester, received twelve months' imprisonment and hard labour.³

The Central Criminal Court, Thursday 12 April 1849.

883. John William Grundy, feloniously forging and uttering a request for £10, with intent to defraud Joseph Baxendale and others; having been before convicted: to which he pleaded GUILTY. Aged 24. Transported for Fifteen Years.⁴

The Newgate Registers show that John Henry Grundy, 24, clerk, committed 29 March 1849, charged with feloniously forging and uttering a request for the sum of £10, with intent to defraud John Scholes. He pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court on 12 April 1849 and was sentenced to 15 years' transportation. The 6th Session of the Central Criminal Court began on Monday, 9 April 1849. He had been previously convicted at Kirkdale and had received an 18-month sentence.

Jno Hy Grundy, 24, 5'5" tall, fresh complexion, light brown hair, grey eyes, slender, a clerk, and from Ashton under Lyne.^{5,6}

¹ The National Archives (TNA) UK, HO107/580/15

² Liverpool Albion, 21 December 1846, p6

³ Liverpool Albion, 23 August 1847, p3

⁴ Old Bailey Proceedings Online (www.oldbaileyonline.org, version 9.0) April 1849. Trial of JOHN WILLIAM GRUNDY (t18490409-883). Available at: <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/record/t18490409-883?text=grundy> (Accessed: 24th June 2026).

⁵ TNA UK, HO77/56

⁶ TNA UK, PCOM2/211

Instructions were issued on 27 April 1849 to remove 114 prisoners, including Jno Henry Grundy, from Newgate Prison to Millbank Prison; however, John was not removed to Millbank until 17 January 1850.⁷

Between Newgate Prison and Millbank Prison, John's name changed from John Henry Grundy to John William Grundy. From now on, the convict records show him as John William Grundy.

While at Millbank Prison, he had a visit from Mr John Lee of Brunswick Street, Liverpool, who was probably a relative. John was transferred to Shorncliffe Prison in Kent on 26 February 1850. Shorncliffe Prison was an extension of Millbank Prison.

On 21 October 1851, he was removed to Dartmoor Prison in Devon. His character was good, and he was Protestant.⁸

John William Grundy boarded the *Sea Park* on 27 December 1853 for the voyage to Fremantle, Western Australia.⁹

In Western Australia, the convict records show him as John William Grundy. Locally, he was known as Henry John Grundy.

⁷ TNA UK, HO13/96, p400

⁸ TNA UK, PCOM2/30, PCOM2/138

⁹ TNA UK, HO8/118