

CARCASS ISLAND, DUNBAR ISLAND, LOW ISLAND AND THE TWINS

Carcass Island is in the north west of the Falkland Islands at 51°18'S 60°34'W and is approximately 4,680 acres.

HMS *Jason*, a frigate of 32 guns, HMS *Carcass* a sloop, and the storeship HMS *Experiment* left England in September 1765 and, sailing via Madeira and the Cape Verde Islands, arrived in Port Egmont 8 January 1766. The expedition under Captain McBride had all the provisions and necessaries, including a ready framed wooden blockhouse, to establish a permanent settlement on Saunders Island.

During February 1766 HMS *Carcass* sounded the harbour and surveyed about the island which now bears her name. Port Pattison was named after her captain.

On 11 December 1850 the American ship *Waldron* under Captain MOORE took fire at sea and was abandoned by the crew between Carcass Island and New Island. The *Waldron* was an American ship of 600 ton on a voyage from Boston to California with a cargo of coals.

On 11 September 1872 Charles HANSEN was granted a Special Lease of Carcass Island, the Jason Islands and other adjacent islands for an annual sum of £20 for a term of 7, 14 or 21 years. The area was described as: *all those Islands known as Steeple Jason, Grand Jason, Elephant Jason, South Jason, Flat Jason, North Fur Island and Carcass Island and other small Islets as delineated by a line of demarcation inscribed on the Chart in the Office of the Surveyor General*. During the continuance of the lease Charles was not allowed to kill a greater number of penguins in the course of any one year that would yield 16,000 gallons of oil and at the end of each year from the date of the lease he was to make a declaration to the Government that he had not killed more penguins than this. During the first year of the lease Manuel PEREIRA was allowed to work out his licence to kill penguins on Grand Jason Island to the amount of 6,000 gallons of oil. Charles was allowed to build upon and stock any one or more of the Islands; provided always that on the termination of this lease the Government would not be liable to pay for any buildings or improvements made by him.

Charles built a shearing shed on Carcass Island in the 1870s. This was later converted into a house and called Valley Cottage.

In 1889 there was a house occupied by Charles HANSEN and his family, an unoccupied cottage and a cookhouse occupied by the schooner *Foam's* crew of 5 men. [H44; 235]

On 4 May 1890 the *Foam* was inside Carcass Reef under reefed sails waiting for daylight when the wind shifted and she drifted ashore. A south west gale a few days later broke her up. [FIM Aug 1890]

In a minute dated 6 February 1891 Governor Kerr wrote: *I am of opinion – looking to the nature of the seal rookeries on the Jason & Carcass group; that it will be expedient in any future lease to include the right of the Seal fishery, and as Carcass Island is the only one in the group which is suitable on account of its safe landing place –as a residence for the lessee, it is not advisable that it should be leased separately as a grazing station, as proposed by the present lessee, in his letter of 20th July 1890*. [BUG/REG/2; 157]

On 12 September 1893 George Melville, the Administrator, granted an Occupation Licence of Carcass Island, the Jason islands and Split Islands to Julia Sarah "Sarah" HANSEN for one year at the same rental as the expired lease. [BUG/REG/2; 287]

On 1 March 1920 Sarah HANSEN gifted her son William Jason "Jason" HANSEN: *one half share of my freehold estate Carcass, Grand and Steeple Jason Islands with all cattle sheep horses buildings furniture and every sort and description of working plant thereon with Schooner boats guns etc etc.*

That he must work the estate to the best advantage and send to me from time to time a detailed account of expenditure and proceeds of my remaining share. ***That*** he will pay one half share of yearly payment on the 30 years freehold payment and of Taxes that are, and others that may be brought into force from time to time.

That he cannot sell any of the above land without my consent he must give me first refusal.
[BUG/REG/8; 321]

Flat Jason, Elephant Jason and South Jason were declared Crown Reserves in 1912 after their leases lapsed.

Sarah left the Falkland Islands 1 April 1920. She died 31 August 1922 and left the other half of her estate to Jason.

In 1929 Jason completed the purchase of Carcass Island, Grand Jason and Steeple Jason and was issued Crown Grants for them 5 April 1929. He then sold Grand Jason and Steeple Jason to Dean Brothers, the owners of Pebble Island, 5 April 1929.

Jason died 21 January 1952 and his widow Daisy sold Carcass Island to the partnership of Bertrand and Monk. Monk sold his share to Cecil and Catherine "Kitty" BERTRAND in 1954.



Valley Cottage 1996 - JCNA

The higher part was built by Jason Hansen when he got married for him and Daisy to live in. Cecil and Kitty Bertrand put a bathroom in and had the wash house, workshop and meat house added on. The extra bedroom on the north side was put on by Riley short.

There is a small cemetery to the north-east of the settlement with two graves in it. The first marble headstone reads:

Thy Will Be Done. Sarah The dearly beloved wife of Charles Scott who died November 10th 1904 aged 41 years. A good wife and affectionate mother. Sincerely and tenderly regretted.
There is also a wooden cross for Sarah Scott with just her name on it.
The second marble headstone reads:
In loving memory of Charles John Henry Hansen who died 9th June 1934 aged 64.

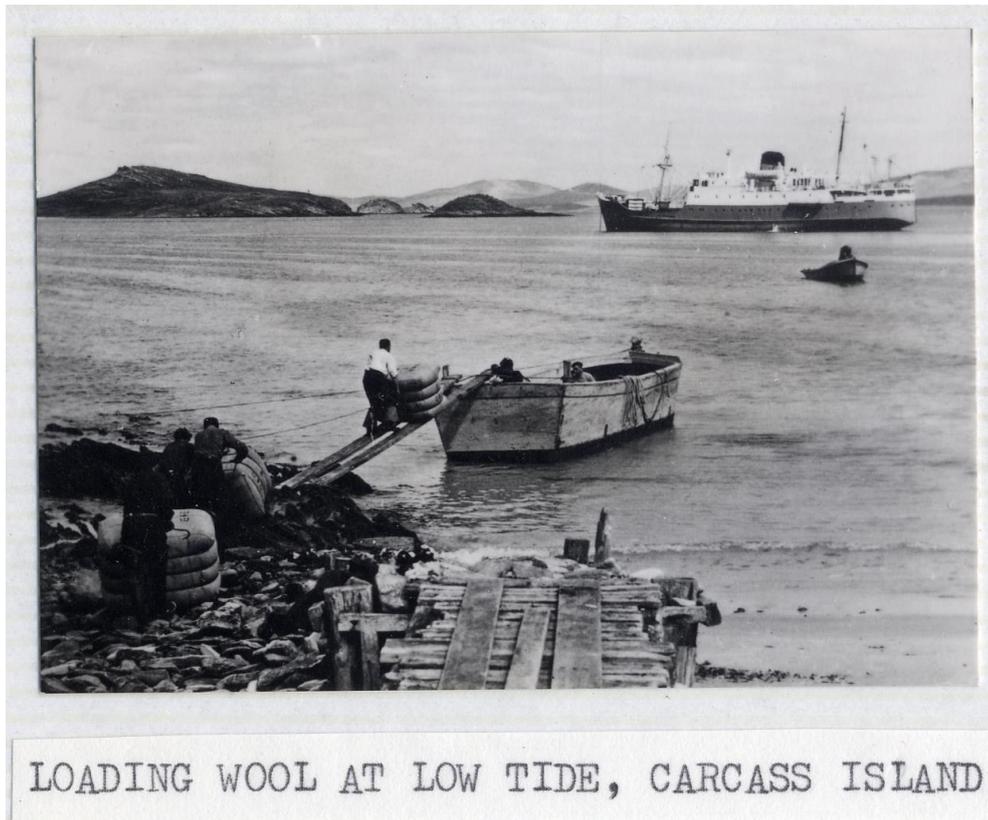


Tryworks (boiler) circa 1991 - JCNA



CARCASS ISLAND SETTLEMENT

FIC Collection - JCNA



LOADING WOOL AT LOW TIDE, CARCASS ISLAND

FIC Collection - JCNA

By May 2008 Dunbar Island was owned by Hugues Delignières and Marie Paul Guillaumot. The farm size is 12,500 hectares.