

## TARALGA

The first European to pass through the Taralga district was the explorer Charles Throsby, who, in 1819 journeyed from Cowpastures to Bathurst in search of new grazing lands. His explorations were followed in 1820 by Surveyor John Oxley and Commissioner John Thomas Bigge. At this time Hannibal Macarthur had already established the large pastoral holding, *Arthursleigh*, across the Cookbundoon River east of Taralga. James Macarthur, accompanied by Lachlan McAlister and John Hillas came from *Arthursleigh* c.1824 in search of further pastoral land.

While the original Macarthur *Camden Park* estate was being intensively developed, further grants were successfully obtained through the Colonial Office and land was also bought at Sutton Forest. James' personal land holding in the Taralga area was shared with his brother William. The holding proved very profitable and finally led to the Macarthurs becoming squatters on adjoining land. James was a financier, an astute book-keeper, who modified William's ideas to reality. He assisted William in such schemes as the expansion of vine-growing, for which they had brought back cuttings and seeds from Europe in 1817, and a complicated but effective method of washing sheep before shearing to ensure that the wool would show well in the auction room.

However as an estate overseer he was a vigorous and hard master: While giving his convicts good food and clothing, he worked them for long hours. He had little faith in them, a feeling later reflected in his distrust of the working classes. James also insisted that tenants paid their rents during drought. He acquired much land although did not leave it idle: money and energy were devoted to its improvement, and in the late 1820s he worked out several technical devices including mechanical irrigation. However, his strongest point was a knowledge of the international wool industry, gained in England before 1817 and particularly during 1828-1830 in England and Germany. He knew the strength of the Saxon flocks that were the principal competitors of Australian wool, he understood the financial basis of wool-selling and he imported overseas sheep which he crossbred to improve the quality. Under James Macarthur, wool usually brought the best prices in the Colony. A broad vision and rigorous standards were the striking features of his estate management.<sup>125</sup>

Thomas Howe, T. H. Moore and Thomas H. Scott, also held land in the area by 1829. The 1828 *Census of New South Wales* reveals settlers were in residence in the Taralga area although these numbers were small. Prominent landowners continued to develop their wool producing properties and tenant farmers instigated dairying and agriculture.

The village of Taralga was established as a private town on land donated by James Macarthur. Convict labour was used to clear and develop the land for the Macarthur family and their employees. Orchard Street, named because it traverses

---

<sup>125</sup> Ellis, M. H., 1955. *John Macarthur*, Sydney; Melbourne, A. C. V., 1934. *Early Constitutional Developments in Australia*, Oxford; Watson, F. (ed.), *Historical Records of Australia. Series I. Governors' Despatches to and from England. 1788-1848*, Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament, Sydney.

land upon which the family's orchard was originally planted, now forms the main street of Taralga. By 1843, Taralga village consisted of two houses, an orchard and one small area of land cleared sown to wheat. The occupiers were Thomas Denning, sheep overseer for the Macarthur brothers, and Duncan Rankin, Public Pound Keeper. Thomas Taylor<sup>126</sup> was stripping bark and carting it to town for dwellings being erected in 1852.

By the 1850s significant development had occurred. A National School was opened in 1857 with Mr. Rich as master of 16 students. The Presbyterian Church was built in 1861, followed in 1864, by St Ignatius Catholic Church, now 'old St. Michael's Church'. The foundation stone of old St Luke's Anglican Church was laid in 1866 and the stone of the new church was laid in 1906 by Mrs Macarthur-Onslow. A Wesleyan Chapel [later the Methodist Church] was built in 1868. A Catholic school opened in 1870.

Many of Taralga's extant sandstone and basalt buildings were constructed during the period 1860 -1880. Dairying was a flourishing industry with over 160 farms in the district. Butter factories operated at Richlands, Yalbraith, Myrtleville and Taralga. The population of Taralga has fluctuated over time, from near 100 in 1863 to over 700 by the 1890s. This was followed by depression and a sharp decline.<sup>127</sup> Macarthur's *Richlands* Estate was subdivided for closer settlement in 1910.

#### **ORCHARD STREET, TARALGA, NSW.**

Many of the heritage listed items in Taralga are located in Orchard Street. The streetscape of this village is highly significant for its aesthetic qualities and for the heritage ambiance created by the preservation of so many of the original commercial and residential buildings.



**Figure 168: Orchard Street, Taralga, a significant heritage streetscape.**

---

<sup>126</sup> First European child born in the district at Tarlo, in 1828.

<sup>127</sup> Taralga Historical Society, 2006. *A Snapshot of Taralga's History*, Crookwell Visitor Information Centre.

## TARALGA POST OFFICE

The Taralga Post Office building is locally significant because it represents the expansion of postal and telegraphic services to Taralga and district. In April 2007, the Australian Government Regional Partnerships program with funding of more than \$199,000 assisted the Upper Lachlan Shire Council to purchase and renovate the former Taralga Post Office, transforming it into a Community Service Centre with disabled access.<sup>128</sup>



Figure 169: The Post Office and Court House, Taralga, 1910.<sup>129</sup>



Figure 170: Taralga Post Office.

<sup>128</sup> *Crookwell Gazette*, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

<sup>129</sup> National Archives of Australia, Image: C4076, HN984.

### ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

St Luke's Anglican Church is a dominating heritage building in the village of Taralga. It is highly significant locally for its association with the Macarthur-Onslow family.



Figure 171: St Luke's Anglican Church, Taralga.



Figure 172: The foundation stone laid by Mrs Macarthur-Onslow in February 1906.

### **HOTEL TARALGA [FORMER RICHLANDS HOTEL]**

*Hotel Taralga* was built for Martin Tynan in 1876 as the *Richlands Hotel*. His former residence was adjacent to the hotel in Orchard St. It later became a post office and is now a private residence.



Figure 173: *Hotel Taralga* established in 1876.

### **MISS CROKES' TEAROOMS AND TOM MALONEY'S RESIDENCE, ORCHARD STREET**

Miss Croke's tea rooms occupied the single storey building adjoining the two-storey building was constructed for Tom Maloney, c.1880.<sup>130</sup> These buildings are of local heritage significance for their association with local Taralga identities.



Figure 174: The single storey building was the former 'Miss Croke's Tearooms'.

<sup>130</sup> Information courtesy Ms. Margaret McGregor, Taralga.

### **TARALGA COURTHOUSE [FORMER].**

This two storey stone building dating from the late 1880s is unusual for a courthouse of the period owing to its simple, very straight forward design and lack of auxiliary flanking structures. One of a number of stone buildings in Taralga, the former courthouse with its prominent massing is a feature of the townscape and one which helps to create Taralga's character.

Taralga's former courthouse was constructed in 1887 by contractors, J. P. Pinn and William Thomas. The building is constructed of random coursed local basalt, and quoins are of red brick. Clad with corrugated iron is the hipped roof. At the front there is a verandah with iron roof and timber columns and timber dentil decoration; the central section of the verandah is filled in with weatherboards and a window. There is a weatherboard entry to the side of the courthouse and built onto the rear of the building is a recent cream brick addition. To the rear stands a stone outbuilding with quoins, similar to the courthouse except that it has a gable roof.<sup>131</sup>



Figure 175: The [former] Taralga Courthouse.

---

<sup>131</sup> Bridges, P., 1986. *Historic Court Houses of New South Wales*, Sydney

### **ROYAL HOTEL [FORMER], TARALGA**

The *Royal Hotel*, a large two-storey stone building established in the 1870s is significant to the people of Taralga for its association with hospitality in the town. It was later Dr. Ettie Lyons residence and surgery. Dr Lyons was a highly respected physician and commenced practice in Taralga in 1917.

### **WHITING' STORE**



Figure 176: Whiting's 'new' store at 54 Orchard Street, now a private residence.

### **ARGYLE INN**

The *Argyle Inn* is of high significance locally for its continued operation as a hotel since its establishment in c.1875. Its importance to the community lies in its recreational and social attributes for over a century. The building is an integral part of the commercial and hospitality services of the Taralga village.



Figure 177: *Argyle Inn*, Taralga.

### **GOODHEW BROS. STORE**

Goodhew Bros. Store is highly representative of the local commercial premises in Orchard Street. The Goodhew family name is synonymous with the history of Taralga and district. The building, now adaptively reused as a cafe, is significant for its relative intactness and contribution to the streetscape.



**Figure 178: Goodhew Bros. Store /Cafe, Orchard Street, Taralga.**

### **TARALGA WAR MEMORIAL**

War memorials reflect the search for an appropriate means of expression and are a record of the public fashion and political, social and community attitudes of their time.

In May 1920 the newly formed Taralga Memorial Committee asked the Public Memorials Advisory Board (PMAB) for designs for a memorial and in July a design was forwarded to the PMAB. By June 1921 the local residents had become indignant that the minister concerned had not given his approval, since they needed a monument. This was to result in a visit to Taralga, in August, by architect, John Sulman (later Sir), a member of the Federal Capital Advisory Committee, and Mutch, the minister responsible for the design of memorials. The memorial committee were advised that their design was unsuitable. Sulman prepared a design as shown by a plan in the Government Architects Records, dated September 1921. It shows an obelisk with side walls of granite and a machine gun. The memorial, erected by stonemason J. Turner of Goulburn, was unveiled by the New South Wales State Premier, Sir George Fuller, on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1923, during his visit to initiate the Roslyn-Taralga Railway. The site chosen was on public land in front of the police station and courthouse reserve adjacent to the intersection of main roads from Crookwell and Goulburn.

Taralga's war memorial is historically important as a record of participation in World War I and an embodiment of the prevailing sentiments and attitudes of its time. The memorial was unusual for the prominent incorporation of a war relic into the design. It is important for its association with John Sulman, architect. In its central position and design it demonstrates the principles of memorial design following World War I. The memorial is important as a place highly valued by the community for symbolic and social associations.

A purely commemorative memorial, the design by John Sulman incorporated a number of elements; obelisk and side walls of local granite, a plinth for the machine gun and a low base with sandstone kerb. Both the dedication and names of those who served, were incised and gilded on the dominant west face of the memorial. This included both the pedestal of the obelisk and the side walls. The memorial is now isolated from its setting, surrounded by a steel safety fence. Outside the enclosure, a single flagpole indicates its ceremonial nature. The area within the fence is covered with white quartz pebbles. The low base now cemented over probably held gravel as well. The adjacent storage shed has been screened by a flowering tree, probably flowering peach. A small area of lavender softens the design's geometry. Sulman's design relied on simple forms and good proportion, essential in a small memorial, where design had been compromised by the inclusion of military hardware. The memorial displays a sense of restraint not achieved in many others; the lack of imagery does, however, reduce its visual impact.



**Figure 179: Taralga's World War I Memorial.**



**Figure 180: Taralga honours its World War II enlisted service men and women with a memorial tree in Goodhew Park [Orchard Street and Court Street].**

### **TARALGA MEMORIAL HALL**

War memorials and war memorial halls, erected in towns and cities throughout Australia following World War I and World War II, were conscious statements of participation, grief and nationalism. World War I was a momentous event in Australia's experience. Participation was to affect many communities and create division over the issue of conscription for a war from which the Digger, or Australian soldier, was to emerge as national hero and custodian of the ANZAC tradition.

Taralga Memorial Hall, in Orchard Street, was erected by Mulwaree Shire Council and funded by a levy on rates. On the north side of the entrance is a polished brown granite foundation stone laid by the Governor General of Australia, the Rt. Hon. Sir William McKell, G.C.M.G., Q.C., on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1952. Over the entrance doors, Mulwaree Shire Council have placed a plaque to commemorate the opening of the hall by Lt. Col. C.G.W. Anderson, V.C., M.C. on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1957.



**Figure 181: Taralga Memorial Hall.**

### **WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH**

This former church building is now adaptively reused as the headquarters of the Taralga and District Historical Society. The building is highly significant locally for its association with the spread of the Wesleyan movement in New South Wales and for its social and cultural ties to the community.

### **TARALGA PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Taralga Public School was established in 1858 in a residence built in 1832 for James Macarthur. A schoolroom was added in 1867. The building continued to be used as a classroom and residence until 1968.

### TARALGA ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Additional items considered by the Taralga and district community as having heritage significance are as follows: Photographs and further historical detail are required. These items include:

- Archaeological Site Complex, 974 Mares Road
- *Lilac Cottage* 28 Orchard Street; originally the store of Henry Best Whiting
- Site of the [former] Anvil Hotel, 26 Macarthur Street
- Slab Cottage, 48 Macarthur Street
- Presbyterian Church, 20-22 Hillas Street
- Presbyterian Church Manse, 87 Macarthur Street
- Pound –Keeper’s Residence, 10 Pound Street
- Cordial Factory, 90 Orchard Street
- Dairy Factory, 4184 Goulburn Road
- Taralga Hospital, 54 Bunnaby Street
- Residence, 33 Orchard Street
- Tynan’s Residence Telegraph office, 26 Orchard Street

### **OVERSEER’S HOUSE, [DENNING], 31 MACARTHUR STREET, TARALGA.**

Thomas Denning and his wife, Martha Gumbleton of Dorsetshire were beneficiaries of the system devised by the Macarthurs to assure a supply of loyal and skilled labour for their holdings. Thomas' parents were transported convicts, and 'old servants' of the Macarthurs. Thomas was trained in wool handling at Camden Park and then appointed stock overseer for the Argyle estate. Martha had been recruited by Macarthur’s agents and assisted to emigrate to the Colony.



Figure 182: The Overseer’s Cottage, originally constructed for Thomas Denning now a private residence.

[Photographs courtesy Rosey Stronach]



Figure 183: The stone building has been restored and maintained by its current owners.

#### **CONVICT FLOGGING TREE SITE, TARALGA.**

Oral history of the village of Taralga maintains that this site was used for the flogging of convicts on the Macarthur estate. To this time no archaeological investigation into the site has been undertaken. Flogging was often administered with a cat-o'-nine-tails, a whip made up of nine pieces of knotted cord. An image from the State Library of NSW, below, shows the more formal approach to public flogging. However it is reasonable to assume that in rural areas, a tree fitted with restraints to hold the convict, would have been used.



Figure 184: The tree purported to be the site of convict floggings on the Macarthur estate, [Taralga].



Figure 185: Hand-coloured etching and aquatint, from *The Suffering Convict* by William Ross, London, 1836.  
(State Library of New South Wales)

### **BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES, TARALGA**

The first Bank of New South Wales in Taralga was established in 1878 in Daniel McAlister's *Anvil Hotel* in Macarthur Street. From 1891 the Bank was located on the corner of Orchard and Court streets, in a purpose built building leased from William Henry Whiting. Then, in 1918, the bank was moved again to premises in Orchard Street before finally becoming established in 1938 in this two-storey red brick commercial building near Goodhew Lane. The name of the Bank of New South Wales was changed to 'Westpac' in 1982. The building, now in private ownership, has been restored.<sup>132</sup>



**Figure 186: The former Bank of New South Wales, Taralga.**

---

<sup>132</sup> Taralga Historical Society Inc., 2008. 'The Bank of New South Wales in Taralga', *Newsletter No. 1*, p.6.

## TARALGA SHOWGROUND - AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

The Taralga Agricultural, Pastoral and Horticultural Association was formed in the spring of 1879, and the first show was held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1880. Due to a lapse of show competition during the war years, the centenary celebrating the association's 100<sup>th</sup> Show was to be held in March, 1986. Foundation president was Lachlan Ross Snr, JP, who held that position for the first five years. He was assisted by J. Voller as Hon. Secretary, J Miller JP., Vice-President, and W. H. Whiting as Hon. Treasurer.<sup>133</sup>

Two previous showground sites were used before the present ground was established in 1914. The first show was held in what was then known as the 'Racecourse Paddock', when 275 entries were received and 500 people were reported to have attended. After the first year, the show moved to the ground known locally as 'The Tip' and from there to its present location. Much of the hand-sawn timber used in the pavilion and the outbuildings was manufactured at Bannaby by Arthur Whipp. It was transported and re-erected on each of the showground sites and, with continued additions and maintenance, remains in use. Due to a lapse of show competition during the war years, the centenary celebrating the association's 100<sup>th</sup> Show was held in February 1986.<sup>134</sup>

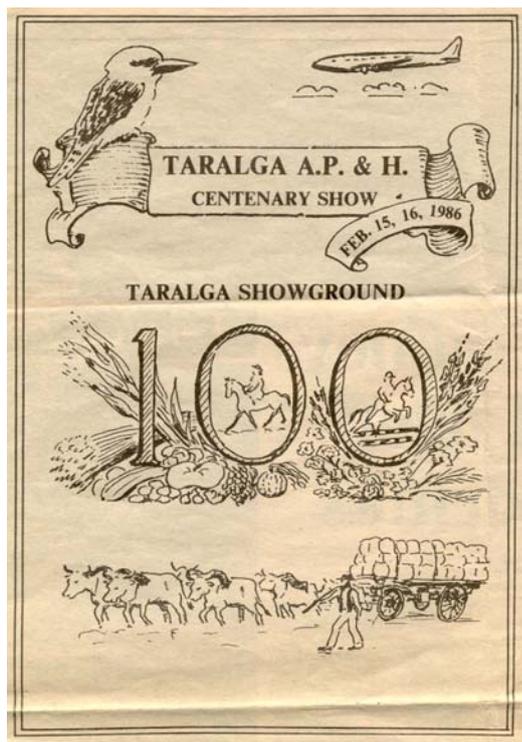


Figure 187: Poster for the celebration of the Taralga Centenary Show.

<sup>133</sup> Mant, G., 1985. *Show People*.

<sup>134</sup> *Town and Country Magazine*, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1986.

## **CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, TARALGA**

The Catholic Church of Christ the King, Taralga is of State heritage significance as an excellent example and highly intact Inter-War Romanesque Church. Its exterior and interior quality of workmanship is outstanding and has the highest degree of integrity. The Church is made even more remarkable for the place and time of its construction in 1934, financially supported by an Irish-Catholic rural community following a period of severe economic depression. The Church is a local landmark and its history and visual prominence serves as a reminder of the churches role in the community. The Church contains a collection of significant moveable objects dating back to the construction of the Church.

The Church of Christ the King was designed by Sydney Smith of Ogg & Serpell, 349 Collins Street, Melbourne on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1933. The architectural drawings were completed by Clement Glancey, Bligh Street, Sydney. The Church was constructed by R. M. Bowcock, Ashfield Sydney in 1934. The Church was completed and furnished in six months.

The Church of Christ the King is a red brick Inter-War-Romanesque structure approximately 31 metres long and by 12 metres wide. The nave consists of six bays with a large sanctuary at the east and an entry narthex and choir loft at the west of the Church. As a result the Church has a strictly correct liturgically geographical alignment and the sun rises directly through the sanctuary windows and sets directly through the Great West Window. The following description has been provided by Rev. Fr. Dr. Patrick McGavin.

The Romanesque style of the building is established by the asymmetrical massing and use of red brick to create homogeneous heavily textured exterior walls. There are 31 round-headed arched window openings. The western end gable is finished with a raking arches motif. Above the western portico is an impressive sandstone circular or wheel window with sixteen outer surrounding semi-circles, sixteen spoked segments and a circular hub. The architectural elements around the wheel window, the spiral pillars, the semi-circular arches, the sandstone carved oak leaf motifs, are reiterated harmoniously in the front porch beneath the window.

The interior of the Church contains extensive and sometime elaborate plaster work. Each bay has a corded plaster decoration around the full curve of the barrel vaulted ceiling, while Corinthian style capitals are prominent on the pillars and pilasters. Above the sanctuary, there is an impressive life-size Calvary, depicting the Scene 'Woman, behold thy son; son behold thy mother', with the Blessed Virgin and the young and beardless Saint John flanking the Crucified. The sanctuary is generously decked with beautiful cream marble in the altar, elaborate reredos and pulpit - all generously decked with very fine brasswork in massive candlesticks, crucifix, sanctuary lamp, lecterns and votive candle stands.

The free-standing Post-Vatican II altar was introduced without structural alteration of the sanctuary and tastefully matches the original high altar. The altar is flanked with magnificent dioramas of the period depicting Our Lord's apparition revealing the Sacred Heart to St Margaret Mary, and Our Lady's apparition revealing the Immaculate Conception to St Bernadette. Side alters are dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes and St Joseph. There are shrines of St Therese of Lisieux and St Francis Xavier, the two patrons of Australia as a then 'mission country'. Original votive lamps are in place. The original altar rails are preserved in situ. Windows The Church windows consist of six stained glass, seven leadlight and approximately twenty mid-amber yellow double-rolled cathedral glass windows.

The leadlight windows were commissioned and installed before the emergence of 'modern' tastes, the first four by Percy Barnard of Standard Glass Company, Sydney and the last two by Mark B Hill and D. Terry.

This set of six windows all share a very strong common background, colours and style. They capture very well the hagiography of the period and in details locate the work in the religious culture of the period and the place. For example St Patrick's crozier is planted in Ireland, while the nearby Christ the King window has our Lord standing upon Australia. The Solemnity of Christ the King was but newly proclaimed when the Church as erected, St Therese of Lisieux not long canonised and her doctrine flourishing [as but recently manifest in her elevation to the title of Doctor of the Church], St Maria Goretti recently canonised and capturing the period of plentiful vocations to sacred virginity, and Pope St Pius X but recently canonised and his doctrine of frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist suffusing the interior of the Church and its present and unbroken heritage of Catholic spirituality. The glass communicates a great sense of congruence with the entire structure and gives it much brilliance and light.



Figure 188: Church of Christ the King, Taralga.



Figure 189: Detail of exterior of the rose window.



Figure 190: Elegant arches supported by the brick columns.



Figure 191: The Sanctuary with elaborate plaster work.



Figure 192: Church of Christ the King

This church is part of the complex of Catholic buildings heritage significant for their relative intactness as a group.

#### STONEQUARRY GENERAL CEMETERY

Stonequarry General Cemetery, north-west of Taralga, off Golspie Rd, has been in continuous use since 1865. The cemetery features some well-executed marble and sandstone monuments reflecting the mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century prosperity of the district. Significant features include scattered grave plantings of *vinca major*, *muscari*, violets, daffodils, and jonquils. The Cemetery is set in a peaceful location with a sweeping vista of the valley to the east. It is listed on the Register of the National Estate.

## TARALGA RAILWAY STATION



Figure 193: Taralga Railway Station c.1946.



Figure 194: Remains of the platform and track line, Taralga Railway Station, looking towards Rosslyn.

## YALBRAITH

### YALBRAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH [FORMER]

The site of the former Yalbraith Presbyterian Church is now on the private property *Woodbrook*, is considered of heritage significance by the local community for its association with the spread of religious services in rural New South Wales. The remains of the original wooden building may have potential for historical archaeological research.

## GOLSPIE

The following account, with some inaccuracies, was written by Elizabeth Kerr, and published in *The Northern Times*, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009. It is included because of its personal approach to finding the history and heritage of Golspie.

I wrote an article on Golspie, NSW, published by the late Jim Henderson sometime between 1992 and 1994 ... of the history of Golspie, NSW, and its direct connections to Golspie, Sutherland, Scotland.

About 1992, we'd been in Sydney about four years or so and always intended to visit Golspie, NSW.... However, on meeting with a local historian, Judith Matthews, the story that unravelled kept us there talking to her and being taken around by her most of the day.

Firstly, we learned how Golspie, NSW, got its name. Judith's ancestor gained his freedom as a convict from Governor Macarthur [[read 'Macquarie'](#)] before Golspie, NSW, existed. George Murray from Golspie, Sutherland, teamed up with this man (it is thought that George Murray came to Australia a free man) and both these men were granted permission by [Governor] Macarthur to peg out and buy land for sheep farming in the area, which they did for the sum of one British pound per acre of land. The area George Murray and his friend came to near Goulburn – the main sheep/wool centre in NSW then and today – was called 'Cutty Gutty', the aboriginal name of a nearby creek. Further down the track, when there were several families established there, a meeting of the community was called to elect a postmaster with the intention of setting up a postal system for the area. Mail was to be transported by horse from Camden. At the same time this same person was to choose a new name for the community because there were too many similar sounding aboriginal names. George Murray was chosen as postmaster and he chose the name of his home village in Scotland for the new name of the community – Golspie. All mail for the community was then addressed c/o George Murray, Golspie.



George Murray's old home in New South Wales has the original metal name tag - 'Golspie' - on the gate. George married Margaret and they had a very large family, many of whom are still in the area. He died in Golspie, NSW, on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1906, aged 80 years. The mail service ran from 1<sup>st</sup> May 1873 to 21<sup>st</sup> September 1990 before it was closed, with all the mail now being handled through the main centre at Goulburn. Judith, who was the last postmistress as well as local historian, gave us a commemorative envelope stamped with the dates marking 117 years, 4 months, 20 days of the service. This was an exciting piece of memorabilia for us, because of the knowledge that George Murray from our home village started it all.

Judith then took us to the house that George had built. It is the second house he built on the property apparently, because the first house was burned to the ground. We were delighted to see that the little gate still had its metal name tag firmly in place – *Golspie*. There is a photo of the old house, whose current resident was really friendly and welcoming towards us. The photo we were given by him has the house under a light covering of snow, which is very typical of the winter weather in this area. Finally, Judith took us to the graves of George Murray and his wife Margaret in the cemetery nearby. The gravestone clearly states ‘born in Golspie, Sutherlandshire, Scotland’.

#### **SCHOOL OF ARTS, GOLSPIE**

School of Arts buildings are to be found in most cities and towns across Australia. The inspirational reason for their founding was for the intellectual improvement of its members and the cultivation of literature, science and art. However, these buildings, particularly in rural centres, became far more than their Committee members could have envisioned. The ‘School of Arts’ was a meeting place in times of community celebration and natural disaster. It was a venue for theatre performances, private functions and civic meetings.

Golspie’s School of Arts is of high local heritage significance for that reason. It embodies ‘the spirit of community’, and is a recognised place in the lives of Golspie residents.

#### **ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

St Joseph’s Catholic Church, Golspie Road, is recognised by the local community as being of local heritage significance.

#### **ST MARK’S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

St Mark’s Anglican Church, Levels Road, is representative of the importance of religion in 19<sup>th</sup> century rural New South Wales. St Mark’s is of local heritage significance.

## BANNABY

Bannaby is located on the west of the Wollondilly River and east of Taralga and the name is synonymous with the Hillas family.

### ***HILLASMOUNT* [HILLAS FARM AND OUTBUILDINGS]**

An expansive rural homestead complex with the homestead constructed of lathe and plaster. Roxburgh describes the remains of a dairy at *Hillasmount*

... [constructed] not necessarily from long after the establishment of the property in 1826. It is dug less than a metre into the ground and the walls rise out of the excavation in double slabbing with earth packed in between. At the entrance end only there is a stone wall, together with steps leading down into the room. The nature of the roof, which has long since collapsed, is unclear.<sup>135</sup>

*Hillasmount* was occupied in the 1870s by Martha and Matthew Hillas. Members of the Hillas family are buried in Saint Matthew's Anglican Cemetery, Bannaby.

### **BUNNABY HOMESTEAD**

*Bunnaby* Homestead, was constructed by John and George Hillas from 1828-1840.



Figure 195: *Bunnaby* Homestead, constructed by John and George Hillas 1828-1840.<sup>136</sup>



Figure 196: Rear view of *Bunnaby* Homestead.

<sup>135</sup> Roxburgh, R., 1978. *Colonial Farm Buildings of New South Wales*, Adelaide, pp. 54, 59.

<sup>136</sup> Photographs supplied by Michelle Calvert-Kilburn.

### **BANNABY SHEARING SHED**

Bannaby Shearing Shed established c 1886 is considered of local heritage significance and important to the history of the Bannaby area. It is representative of early wool growing and sheep shearing methods. Early European burials in the district took place on family properties with a number of burials taking place in a gully north of the Bannaby Shearing shed. The only headstone that remains in that gully is that of Barnabas Rix. A notice issued by John Oxley, from the Surveyor General's Office, Sydney, 28<sup>th</sup> April 1821, names Barnabas Rix amongst '... New Settlers, Who Are To Receive Grants Of Land, And Of Old Settlers, Who Are To Have Additional Lands Located For Them In The Year 1821'.<sup>137</sup>



Figure 197: Bannaby Shearing Shed, June 2009.  
[Photograph courtesy Jason Impey]

### **ST MATTHEW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH AND CEMETERY, BANNABY.**

St Matthew's Anglican Church and Cemetery is located at the centre of the district of Bannaby. The cemetery was originally on land owned by the Hillas family. The first burial took place with the death of Matthew Hillas on 30<sup>th</sup> December 1893. The Church was built adjacent to the cemetery in 1898.

St Matthew's is an outstanding example of a church sited to dominate the countryside, so that its graveyard forms a central landscape feature with an Arcadian outlook. At the same time this particular churchyard is unusual in its many solid grey granite monuments contrasting with an unpretentious church building. The cemetery is striking for the absence of sandstone stele and the presence of only one cast iron grave surround. The monuments are mainly crafted from granite. Grave plantings identified included Maybush hedge, cotoneaster hedge, and rose. There are also areas of periwinkle.

---

<sup>137</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 12<sup>th</sup> May 1821.



Figure 198 St Matthew's Anglican Church and Cemetery, Bannaby.



Figure 199: St Matthew's Anglican Church Cemetery, Bannaby.

In 2004, Barry Stephenson compiled a list of those buried in St Matthew's Anglican Church Cemetery:

- Addison, Rose May**, b. 22 May 1891 Bannaby, d. 21 May 1974 Bannaby, par. Alexander Stephenson & Maudena Kew, Headstone  
**Armstrong, Althea Daphine**, b. 1912, d. 10 Aug 1922 Bannaby, par. Bertram S Armstrong & Mary Jane Potter, Unmarked  
**Armstrong, Vera Dulcie**, b. 1905, d. 22 May 1913 Bannaby, par. Bertram S Armstrong & Mary Jane Potter, Unmarked  
**Chalker, Albert Ernest**, b. 21 Jan 1899, d. 7 Aug 1983 Goulburn, age: 84yr, par. John Chalker & Martha Handley, Headstone  
**Chalker, John**, d. 3 May 1905, age: 40yr, par. Edward Chalker & Margaret Munroe, Headstone  
**Chalker, Lily Mandauline**, b. 24 Dec 1905, d. 14 Dec 1974 Bannaby, age: 68yr, par. Alexander Stephenson & Maudena Kew, Headstone  
**Chalker, Malverine**, b. 12 Jun 1883 Taralga, d. 22 Dec 1950 Bannaby, age: 65yr, par. Robert Whipp & Eliza Menzies, Headstone  
**Chalker, Oswald Robert**, b. 29 Jan 1886 Taralga, d. 11 Sep 1972 Crookwell, age: 86yr, par. John W Chalker & Grace Adlers, Headstone

**Chalker, Valma Iris**, b. 27 Aug 1912 Bannaby, d. 15 May 1913 Goulburn, age: 8mths, par. Oswald Chalker & Malverine Whipp, Headstone

**Chalker, Wallace Charles Douglas**, b. 22 May 1903 Tarlo Gap, d. 18 Aug 1988 Narrabeen, age: 85yr, par. John W Chlaker & Grace Adlers, Unmarked

**Chuck, Ellen Mabel**, b. 29 Oct 1901 Goulburn, d. 12 Dec 1901 Bannaby, par. Edward Chuck & Annie O'Connor, Unmarked

**Clack, Amy Florence**, d. 29 Jun 1966 Bowral, age: 72yr, par. Mark Eirth & Emily Whipp, Headstone

**Clack, Cecil Ivor James**, d. 15 Jun 1979 Taralga, age: 62yr, par. Charles Clack & Martha Handley, Headstone

**Clack, Charles**, d. 1 Feb 1923 Bannaby, age: 63yr, par. Charles Clack & Mary Scarbrook, Headstone

**Clack, Henrietta**, b. 1874 Goulburn, d. 9 Jun 1956 Goulburn, age: 82yr, par. Phillip Handley & Letitia Elliott, Headstone

**Clack, Henry**, b. Big Hill, d. 13 Mar 1928 Bannaby, age: 72yr, par. Charles Clack & Mary A Clack, Unmarked

**Clack, John**, d. 11 Sep 1930 Bannaby, age: 73yr, par. Charles Clack & Mary A Clack, Headstone

**Clack, Martha Frances**, b. 1869 Bannaby, d. 19 Sep 1927 Goulburn, age: 58yr, par. Phillip Handley & Letitia Caroline Elliott, Headstone

**Clack, Robert John**, d. 5 Feb 1960 Goulburn, age: 66yr, par. John Clack & Henrietta Handley, Headstone

**Dunn, Gaye**, d. 17 Apr 1995 Wombeyan Caves, par. Colin Kennedy & Pam Rabjohns, Headstone

**Eccleston, Joyce Kathleen**, b. Bannaby, d. 17 Oct 1920, age: 9yrs 6mths, par. Henry J Eccleston & Matilda Walledon, Unmarked

**Fowler, Frank Dale (Linsdtrom)**, b. 7 Oct 1935 Phonex Aurizonia, d. 23 Sep 1997 Goulburn, Plaque

**Gleeson, Beryl**, b. 22 Jul 1929, d. 5 Jan 2001 Wollongong, par. James Richard Archer & Lillian Stephenson, Unmarked

**Handley, Albert Ernest**, b. 1890 Taralga, d. 26 Jun 1946 Goulburn, age: 55yr, par. Phillip Handley & Letitia Caroline Elliott, Headstone

**Handley, Edna Mary Frances**, d. 6 Aug 1961 Goulburn, age: 41yr, par. John Alders & Maria May Fleming, Headstone

**Handley, Ellen Tweedale (nee Malcolm)**, d. 10 Oct 1976 Goulburn, age: 88yr, Headstone

**Handley, James**, b. 23 Jul 1850 Bannaby, d. 13 Feb 1906 Sunny Vale, age: 56yr, par. George Handley & Ellen Stephenson, Headstone

**Handley, Leslie Graham**, b. 10 Feb 1914 Bowral, d. 28 Jun 1998 Crookwell, age: 84yr, par. Albert Handley & Ellen Tweedale Malcolm, Headstone

**Handley, Letitia Caroline**, b. c.1848 Fermanagh Ireland, d. 16 Jun 1930 Goulburn, par. Robert Elliott & Letitia Elliott, Headstone

**Handley, Phillip**, b. 1847 Bannaby, d. 29 Sep 1927 Hanworth, age: 79yr, par. George Handley & Ellen Stephenson, Headstone

**Hillas, Albert Stanley Edward**, b. Parramatta, d. 31 Oct 1932 Bannaby, age: 64yr, par. Matthew Woodward Hillas & Martha Pearce, Headstone

**Hillas, Evelyn Christine Florence**, d. 31 Jul 1952 Bannaby, age: 81yr, par. Matthew Woodward Hillas & Martha Pearce, Headstone

**Hillas, John William**, d. 1 Jul 1923, age: 62yr, par. John Hillas & Eliza Hillas, Headstone

**Hillas, Martha**, d. 22 Mar 1921, age: 77yr, par. William Pearce & Eliza Pearce, Headstone

**Hillas, Matthew Woodward**, b. 1841, d. 30 Dec 1893, age: 52yr, par. George Hillas & Elizabeth Hillas, Headstone

**Hocking, Roger Francis**, d. 14 Sep 2002, age: 59yr, par. Frank Hocking & Dorothy, Headstone

**Jamieson, Eliza Sophia**, d. 7 Mar 1923, age: 85yr, par. William Pearce & Eliza Pearce, Headstone

**Jamieson, Matthew Phillip Arthur**, d. 18 Apr 1948 Cowper's Creek, age: 70yr, par. Phillip Alfred Jamieson & Eliza Sophia Pearce, Headstone

**Jamieson, Phillip Alfred**, d. 16 Jan 1916 Bannaby, age: 63yr, par. Phillip Jamieson & Eliza Matilda Susannah Hillas, Headstone

**Kennedy, Claude Leo**, d. 6 Apr 1949 Bannaby, age: 36yr, par. Colin Kennedy & Olive A Lewis, Headstone

**Lang, William Charles (Bill)**, d. 19 Oct 1999 Taralga, age: 54yr, par. Albert Lang & Nita, Headstone

**Lawson, Grace**, b. 29 Jan 1939 Taralga, d. 10 Aug 1939, par. Bernard John Lawson & Rita Clack, Headstone

**McDonald, Linda**, d. 00 May 1965 Parramatta, age: 79yr, par. Alexander Stephenson & Maudina Kew, unmarked

**McGregor, Gloria**, d. 1977 Perth WA, par. Geroge McDonald & Linda Stephenson, unmarked

**Menzies, Claudia Edith**, b. 14 Nov 1885 Goulburn, d. 20 May 1943 Bannaby, age: 56yr, par. Robert Whipp & Eliza Menzies, Headstone

**Menzies, William**, b. 22 Dec 1844 Bannaby, d. 5 Oct 1909, par. John Menzies & Elizabeth Tuckey, Headstone

**O'Connor, Christina**, b. 1872 Berrima, d. 27 May 1948 Goulburn, par. Robert Potter & Elizabeth Dawes, Unmarked

**O'Connor, John James**, b. 1895 Bannaby, d. 30 Sep 1957 Bannaby, par. John O'Connor & Christina Potter, Unmarked

**Pearce, Alfred Bruce**, d. 30 Mar 1933, age: 61yr, par. Matthew Pearce & Mary Ann Hillas, Headstone

**Pearce, Alice Maude**, d. 6 Apr 1943, age: 65yr, par. Matthew Pearce & Mary Ann Hillas, Headstone

**Pearce, Emily Constance**, d. 14 Jun 1946 Bannaby, age: 78yr, par. Matthew Pearce & Mary Ann Hillas, Headstone

**Pearce, Herbert Matthew**, d. 17 Jun 1941, age: 75yr, par. Matthew Pearce & Mary Ann Hillas, Headstone

**Pearce, Wallace Percival**, d. 19 Jan 1950, age: 79yr, par. Matthew Pearce & Mary Ann Hillas, Headstone

**Pirie, Allen Russell**, b. 1913, d. 24 Sep 1993 Goulburn, Headstone

**Potter, Elizabeth**, b. 1852 Berrima, d. 25 Sep 1894 Bannaby, age: 41yr, par. James Dawes & Mary Bottom, Unmarked

**Potter, Robert**, b. Sutton Forrest, d. 12 Dec 1918 Goulburn, age: 75yr, par. Robert Potter & Anne Hurley, Unmarked

**Stephenson, Ada Ann**, b. 16 Aug 1875 Bannaby, d. 14 Aug 1964 Goulburn, par. Robert Whipp & Eliza Menzies, Headstone

**Stephenson, Albert Stanley**, b. 17 Sep 1895 Bannaby, d. 19 Jul 1945 Sydney, par. Alexander Stephenson & Maudina Kew, Unmarked

**Stephenson, Alexander William**, b. 23 Nov 1875 Golspie, d. 12 Jun 1928 Bannaby, par. John Patrick Stephenson & Mary Tinnock Cameron, Headstone

**Stephenson, Alexander**, b. 15 Dec 1856 Bannaby, d. 16 Jul 1922 Bannaby, par. Phillip Stephenson & Wilhelmina Nichol, Headstone

**Stephenson, Edith**, b. 24 Sep 1912 Taralga, d. 20 Feb 1933 Bannaby, par. Alexander William Stephenson & Ada Ann Whipp, Headstone

**Stephenson, Irene May**, b. 22 May 1891 Bannaby, d. 23 Dec 1905 Bannaby, par. John Patrick Stephenson & Mary Tinnock Cameron, Unmarked

**Stephenson, Mandina Florence**, b. 17 Sep 1895 Bannaby, d. 15 Jan 1900 Goulburn, par. Alexander Stephenson & Maudina Kew, Unmarked

**Stephenson, Maudina**, b. 01 Jan 1864 River Digging Bathurst, d. 8 Dec 1930 Goulburn, par. John Kew & Maudina Kew, Headstone

**Stephenson, Phillip Arthur**, b. 30 Aug 1899 Taralga, d. 12 Sep 1938 Goulburn,

par. Alexander William Stephenson & Ada Ann Whipp, Headstone  
**Stephenson, Thomas Royal**, b. 4 Jan 1902 Bannaby, d. 1 Feb 1902 Bannaby,  
par. Alexander Stephenson & Maudina Kew, Unmarked  
**Stourton, Patrick Corbally**, b. 14 Aug 1965, d. 13 Oct 2002, Headstone  
**Taylor, William Thomas**, b. 1853 Seven Hills, d. 7 Jan 1926 Bannaby, age: 73yr,  
par. Edward Taylor & Ann Annabus, Headstone  
**Whip, Ann**, b. 07 Dec 1828 South Creek Windsor, d. 13 Sep 1910 Bannaby, age:  
82yr, par. Peter Callaghan & Mary Carrigan, Headstone  
**Whipp, Albert Hercules**, b. 18 Oct 1918 West Wylong, d. 27 Nov 2003, age:  
85yr, par. Alfred Whipp & Marjorie Irene Clack, Headstone  
**Whipp, Alfred John**, b. 01 Jul 1893 Big Hill, d. 29 Dec 1965 Goulburn, age: 72yr,  
par. Thomas Whipp & Mary Jane Ritchie, Headstone  
**Whipp, Aubrey Frances**, b. 6 Feb 1916 Goulburn, d. 14 Jun 1965 Chatswood,  
age: 49yr, par. Alfred Whipp & Florence O'Connor, Headstone  
**Whipp, Edmund Clancey William**, b. 1909 Goulburn, d. 1 Jan 1918 Goulburn,  
age: 8yr, par. William Whipp & Eliza Handley, Headstone  
**Whipp, Eliza**, b. 28 Dec 1841 Bannaby, d. 3 Jun 1927 Bannaby, age: 85yr, par.  
John Menzies & Elizabeth Tuckey, Headstone  
**Whipp, Eliza Alice**, b. 09 Jul 1884 Bullio Flat, d. 17 Jun 1966 Moruya, age: 82yr,  
par. Phillip Handley & Letitia Caroline Elliott, Headstone  
**Whipp, Ester Elizabeth (formerly McKenzie)**, b. Taralga, d. 20 Apr 2000  
Taralga, age: 79yr, Headstone  
**Whipp, Florence**, b. 29 Jan 1893 Bannaby, d. 7 Feb 1947 Goulburn, age: 53yr,  
par. Jack O'Connor & Christina Potter, Headstone  
**Whipp, Henry John**, b. 16 Nov 1921 Goulburn, d. 28 Nov 1985 Goulburn, par.  
Alfred Whipp & Marjorie Irene Clack, Headstone  
**Whipp, Kenneth Keith**, b. 6 Nov 1916 Goulburn, d. 26 Mar 1988 Exeter, age:  
71yr, par. Alfred Whipp & Marjorie Irene Clack, Headstone  
**Whipp, Marjorie Irene**, b. 26 Jul 1895 Taralga, d. 23 Sep 1975 Bannaby, age:  
80yr, par. John Clack & Henrietta Handley, Headstone  
**Whipp, May Maude**, b. 26 May 1879 Taralga, d. 9 Mar 1960 Bannaby, age: 82yr,  
par. Robert Whipp & Eliza Menzies, Headstone  
**Whipp, Raymond Dudley**, b. 20 May 1919 Taralga, d. 1 Jul 1987 Taralga, par.  
Arthur Whipp & Florence O'Connor, Headstone  
**Whipp, Robert John**, b. 04 Jan 1846 Bannaby, d. 22 Jun 1936 Bannaby, age: 91yr,  
par. Robert Whip & Ann Callaghan, Headstone  
**Whipp, Rupert Hodgen**, b. 2 Jan 1916 Bannaby, d. 8 Feb 1939 Goulburn, age:  
23yr, par. Maude May Whipp, & Headstone  
**Whipp, Sarah Ann**, b. 7 Sep 1903 Bannaby, d. 29 Aug 1972 Goulburn, par. John  
Clack & Henrietta Clack, Headstone  
**Whipp, William Thomas**, b. 28 Aug 1880 Big Hill, d. 6 Jan 1973 Moryua, age:  
92yr, par. Thomas Whipp & Mary Jane Ritchie, Headstone.

## RICHLANDS ESTATE

The following description has been provided by Stephen Horn, Canberra.



Figure 200: *Richlands Homestead.*

*Richlands* is a footnote in the renowned history of Captain John and Elizabeth Macarthur and their family, and was established as an outstation a day's ride west of the Macarthurs' main residence at Camden Park. County Argyle in NSW was named by Lachlan Macquarie during his 1820 inspection of newly discovered grazing lands south of Sydney. It comprises a strip of sparsely wooded upland country from the Tarlo River rising to Australia's Great Dividing Range. Richlands homestead is situated on the Range 50 km north of Goulburn, 30 km due west of Bowral and 10 km north of Taralga, at the junction of Oberon and Wombeyan roads.

Under the control of the Macarthur sons, the estate was at its most extensive in the early 1840s and comprised 38,000 acres of prime grazing land including the present township of Taralga and all farmed country to the north. Grain, wool and tobacco were produced with Richlands wheat fetching premium prices in Sydney. The present farm, homestead and 700 acres matches the original 1824 grant to Thomas and Leah Howe that was absorbed to complete the Macarthur holdings in 1838. Richlands farm, with the addition of 600 acres on the west of the road, has been worked continuously by the Twynam family since 1910. Hereford cattle and cross bred sheep are run for meat, with some return from wool and oats.

Shortly after the Howe farm purchase the headquarters of the Macarthurs' Argyle estate was moved from Taralga to *Richlands*. In 1841 skilled convict labourers commenced work on stone offices that commanded a defendable but exposed prominence. The offices were completed in 1844 when Thomas and Martha Denning occupied the attached overseer's residence. Judging by the pattern of Macarthur operations elsewhere, the design imitated family-controlled homesteads in Parramatta and Camden.

The offices of rough stone ... forming 2 sides of a small quadrangle consisting of a kitchen and dairy unfinished; 2 comfortable rooms occupied by an overseer his wife and 3 young children, the wife being Martha Gumbleton you may perhaps remember as a girl of 15 or 16 amongst the first batch of the Dorsetshire emigrants, and the husband Thos Denning our principal overseer, born in the service and entirely brought up in it.

By 1845 work had commenced using bricks fired on site on a more conventional late Georgian residence for the new estate manager. George Martyr, freshly recruited from England, married in Sydney before taking up the position in 1848. Like the Dennings before them the Martyrs raised a family at Richlands but in more style, sufficient to accommodate monthly Church of England services. For thirty years from 1860 the homestead was occupied by leaseholders. Amongst them were poet Mary Gilmore's uncle George Cameron, assisted by the Macarthurs to emigrate, who had been a tenant farmer on the estate, and Edwin Hillas Jamieson who was present in 1888 when sparks from the kitchen chimney set fire to the shingle roof on the front residence, doing much damage. By 1890 Elizabeth Macarthur Onslow resumed the lease, and upgraded *Richlands* as a second residence for her grown family. A drive and orchards were planted, an iron roof was built and the house refurbished. An office wall was removed to make a dining room. A telephone was installed in the pantry with an elaborate system of bells and flags to call up servants.

The NSW government resumed the estate and in 1910 broke it up into its 30 previously tenanted farms. Henry Twynam, an engineer from Goulburn, successfully tendered for the homestead block. While raising merinos to support a growing family Henry used his mining experience to construct a gas lighting rig [soon replaced by more reliable tilley lamps] and to build a septic tank to replace the distant outside toilet. Henry also installed windmills above wells which pumped dubious well water up the steep hill to elevated tanks which towered over the house. This required a web of galvanised steel pipes, most of which remain long after both mills have disappeared. Pipes running around the solid fuel cooking stove and into the roof cavity heated water for the bathroom.

Verandah posts were replaced along with roof iron as the need arose. Annual coats of powdery red kalsomine were applied inside. Chimneys were patched with wire. The workmen's entrance to the estate office in Macarthur days [their only contact with the household] was converted to a meat safe. A small shed under the tank stand served for curing and corning, while bacon was smoked by diverting the kitchen chimney into the pantry.

Constance, Henry's wife, added bulbs and berries to the wild assortment of roses, fruit trees, elms, laurels, hawthorn, oak, ivy, periwinkle and cypress that flourished improbably on a windswept hilltop. A further consolation was music: she installed a piano in the front drawing room, which with her Irish family's ormolu furniture precariously preserved the gentility of the Macarthur house. Neither Constance nor Henry lived to see electricity connected. Its coming helped forge a decent modern life and new feeling for place and community in the shell of an anachronistic, but successful experiment in colonial rural settlement.

With her only brother Ted lost on active war service Joan [the eldest daughter] took over the farm. To allow more daylight into the easterly facing front room, she removed large laurels, exposing the brilliant easterly vista. The septic tank was replaced by a less pungent edition. In 1956 Arnie Klassen, an itinerant Dutchman, painted interior timber work in deep pink and light blue. Lennie Walsh re-guttered and installed new galvanised rainwater tanks. The high timber tank stand [which

gave an extravagant head to the bath water] was replaced by a steel version. Built-in cupboards were installed in the kitchen. Lino went down, and vinyl upholstered tubular steel kitchen chairs purchased.

In the early 1960s Joan had the timber passage rebuilt, adding a sunroom at one end. This work was done by Bill Bensley whose ancestors were English farming families sponsored by the Macarthurs. An electric off-peak tank was fitted into the roof and separate shower and toilet partitions added to the bathroom. The kitchen fuel stove had been replaced by a more efficient coke-burning AGA in the 1950s which also heated water. The AGA failed at a crucial moment in family Christmas preparations 15 years later, and was peremptorily replaced by an electric stove. The kitchen, now minus hot water, required a bucket brigade from the bathroom at washing up time. One bedroom was refurbished for an invalid family member. Holidaying youngsters scraped off the kalsomine and applied paint to the walls and ceilings.

In the seventies, Joan Twynam had her neighbour Jim Scott extend the sunroom and add a new laundry, at the expense of the outside meatsafe. Gas hot water was run into the kitchen and a gas stove installed. The two verandah bedrooms and the old nursery were rejuvenated for visiting families. An inside bedroom was renovated for Joan's niece Judith Taylor and her two sons. During the 1981-1982 drought, a bore was sunk a kilometre away with underground lines extended to the house. For the first time water supply was secured, encouraging fresh attention to a garden. In 1988 the house was painted almost heritage green to match the Bicentennial brass plate marking its central place in district history. In 1990 termites destroyed both verandah room floors and a pressed wood floor replaced the original Baltic pine.

With assistance from the NSW Heritage Office, Goulburn master mason George Ranken was employed in 1996 to repair chimneys and the thick stone walls, and arrest rising damp. Useless tanks and masonry stands were removed, the courtyard area levelled and a new garden and lawn laid down. The clear division of the house into early stone offices and later more elaborate manager's residence was exposed. Other work included installation of a rubble drain and rebuilding or re-rendering the eight chimney stacks serving 11 fireplaces. The kitchen floor, destroyed by wet rot, was rebuilt using cypress pine, and peppermint gum bearers grown and milled on the property. Loose dirt was excavated to the original pressed earth level to allow under floor air circulation. The 1950s wiring was rejuvenated, the bathroom was tiled and the toilet directly connected to the bore. Replacement of the 600 sq m of 100 year old roof iron and much-patched guttering and flashings remains to be completed.<sup>138</sup>

---

<sup>138</sup> Peter Freeman Pty Ltd, 1997. *History of Richlands Homestead, Richlands Conservation Management Plan*.

### STRATHAIRD SCHOOL.

For centuries the home of the feudal chiefs of the Clan Macalister has been the Scottish estate of *Strathaird*. Charles Macalister arrived in Australia with his family in 1833. 'Soon after landing in Sydney,' he wrote later, 'my father fell in with his kinsman, the late Captain Lachlan Macalister of the 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, then owner of the *Strathaird Estate*, Argyle, New South Wales'. Within weeks Charles' father went to *Strathaird* fully authorised to act as the first general superintendent and manager of the estate. Charles adds, 'Calling at Clifton, near Picton, then owned by Captain Macalister, my father got his written instructions as to the management of *Strathaird*.'

Wowagin School later known as the 'Strathaird School', opened in September 1879 as a provisional school in a slab building located southwest of where Crookwell Road crosses Wowagin Creek. In January 1882 it became a public school. In about 1899 a new school was built five miles from Taralga on the north side of Crookwell Road.<sup>139</sup> The school building was subsequently destroyed by fire. The present building was erected in 1931. The school building is currently part of a private residence. In May 2005, Mrs Drysdale [born 1906] and who had left the school in 1915 made a visit to the current owners. She believed that the school was burnt down sometime shortly after 1915. Finley McLean has also revisited the school. He attended the school, as did his father and grandfather.<sup>140</sup>

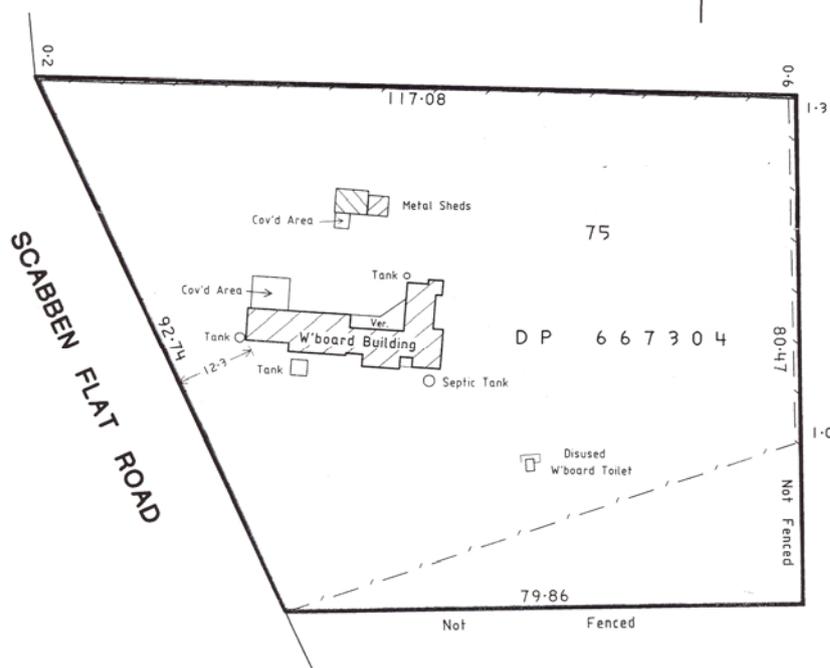


Figure 201: Location of the Strathaird School building.

<sup>139</sup> Taralga and District Schools

<sup>140</sup> Information on Strathaird School courtesy of Robert Jones.

## CHATSBUY

In 1809 Charles Cowper was brought to New South Wales by his father, William Cowper, who had been appointed assistant chaplain. At the completion of his private education, Charles entered the Commissariat Department at 18 and in 1826 was appointed secretary to the Church and Schools Land Corporation. As an official he was granted 1280 acres (518 ha) in the County of Argyle in 1827 and a further 1280 acres (518 ha) in 1830. By 1852 he had acquired by grant or purchase large estates in Argyle. As a 'tenant of the Crown' he held approximately 20,000 acres (8100 ha) in Argyle and 47,000 acres (19,020 ha) in the Lachlan pastoral district at *Chatsbury*.

As a pastoralist and politician, Cowper knew how the Colony's labour problems had worsened after the abrupt ending of transportation to New South Wales. Cowper's political outlook changed in the 1840s. Originally a moderate conservative, as befitted a pastoralist with High Church sympathies, he was brought through the council and the railways into close touch with liberal Sydney merchants, such as Robert Campbell, John Lamb and Thomas Mort and professionals including Robert Lowe and James Norton. Without immediately losing his political standing with the important landholders, he found his own views becoming steadily more liberal.

In 1843 at the first elections under the new Constitution, Cowper stood for the County of Camden, announcing that his political principles were moderate and that he was a member of the Church of England. The Macarthur family, which was powerful in the electorate, supported the Roman Catholic, Roger Therry. After a bitter contest Cowper was defeated but won election for the County of Cumberland against James Macarthur. In the Legislative Council Cowper established himself as a most active man of business. When he resigned in 1850, he had sat on eighty-three select committees and presided over twenty of them.

Cowper had opposed district councils, supported bicameralism, advocated some parts of the squatters' case for land reform, argued against the financial powers of the executive, introduced bills for the registration of births, baptisms, marriages and burials, opposed the separation of the Port Phillip district, maintained the exclusive right of the Church of England to establishment in the Colony (a view that he later abandoned) and supported church schools so strongly that he became known as 'Member for the Church of England'.<sup>141</sup>

---

<sup>141</sup> Ward, J.M., 1969. 'Cowper, Sir Charles (1807 - 1875)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 3, Melbourne University Press, 1969, pp. 475-479.

### CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN CEMETERY

Located adjacent to the remains of a demolished early twentieth century church, the Christ Church Anglican Cemetery at Chatsbury is a pleasant cemetery situated amongst irregular rows of large radiata pines within a sparse pastoral landscape. This cemetery is significant as it indicates the changing needs of the local community, reflected in the short period of active burials, and the more recent demolition of the church and sale of the materials for a more secular use.

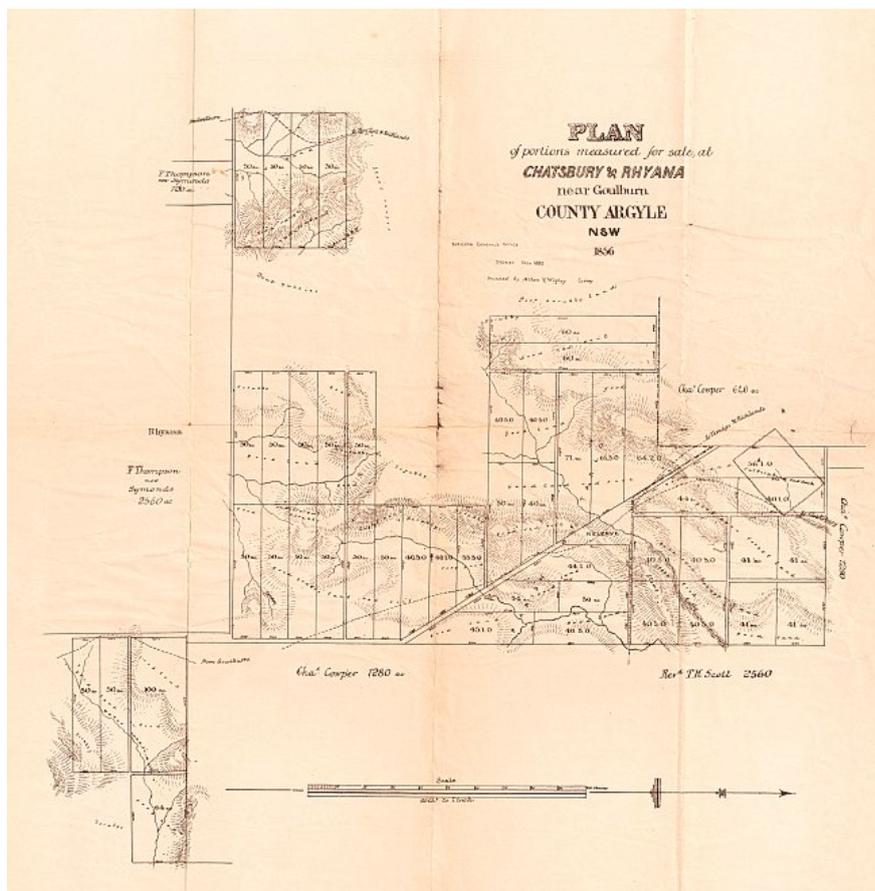


Figure 202: Land held by Charles Cowper at Chatsbury. *Plan of portions measured for sale at Chatsbury & Rhyana near Goulburn, County Argyle NSW*, Surveyor Generals Office, Sydney. 1856.<sup>142</sup>

<sup>142</sup> National Library of Australia, Ferguson Collection, Map F 801.

## BURRA LAKE

### BURRA LAKE SCHOOL

The first Burra Lake School opened in a slab building as a provisional school in July 1881 in the corner block of land originally owned by the Hugh McKenzie family. In 1916, after Burra Lake gained public school status, the building was relocated to 'Croke's land' because there were more children of school age in that area.<sup>143</sup>

Information received from Max Keith indicates that his father, Ross Keith, attended the school at both these locations. In 1925 Neil Halloran became principal. Halloran was innovative. He established the Junior Farmers Club and constructed, along with the assistance of many others, a contour 'map of the world'. This concrete map could be filled with water to give the children a picture of oceans, continents and mountain ranges across the world.

Max Keith also advised that the school closed in 1950, re-opened again in January 1952 and was finally closed in August 1955. The teacher in charge at the time of the school's closure was Tony Sherlock. The surnames of pupils attending in 1955 were: 'Croke, Keith, Moloney [Maloney] and Walsh'. Other families in the locality included: 'Craig, Emery, White, Wright, Cusack, McPaul, Marshall, McKenzie'.

The Burra Lake School is currently the subject of restoration by its owners.



Figure 203: Burra Lake School.<sup>144</sup>

---

<sup>143</sup> Pers. comm.. Mr. Max Keith, 2009.

<sup>144</sup> Photos of the Burra Lake School supplied by Georgina Campbell.



Figure 204: Map of the world cast in concrete in the Burra Lake School grounds.



Figure 205: Burra Lake School, 2008.

## CULLERIN

Cullerin, located between Breadalbane and Gunning was a vibrant local community with its local public school taking an active part in the area's development. The area now comprises several major rural holdings including *Fairview, Springvale, Wandella, Faybri, Illawambra.*

The Cullerin Road, formerly the Hume Highway until 1993, is the scenic drive over the range including the Cullerin Loop, the highest point on the road and railway between Sydney and Melbourne, where the road and railway wind in two large loops to accommodate the gradient.



Figure 206: Cullerin Public School c. 1935.

## TARLO

The first European child born west of the Cookbundoon Range was Thomas Taylor Jr, born at Tarlo in 1828. In 1856 E. G. Bennett had drawn up a plan of portions for a village reserve and by 1860 Tarlo had a population of about 400 persons. At the same time nearby Myrtleville had a population of about 100, with all the essential elements of a village in place, including a store, post office, flour mill, school, hotel and butter factory.

In 1928 the film 'Around the Boree Log' presented the poems of John O'Brien [Monsignor P.J. Hartigan 1879-1952] in moving pictures. It was filmed partly in the Tarlo area and many local people took part in the various scenes.

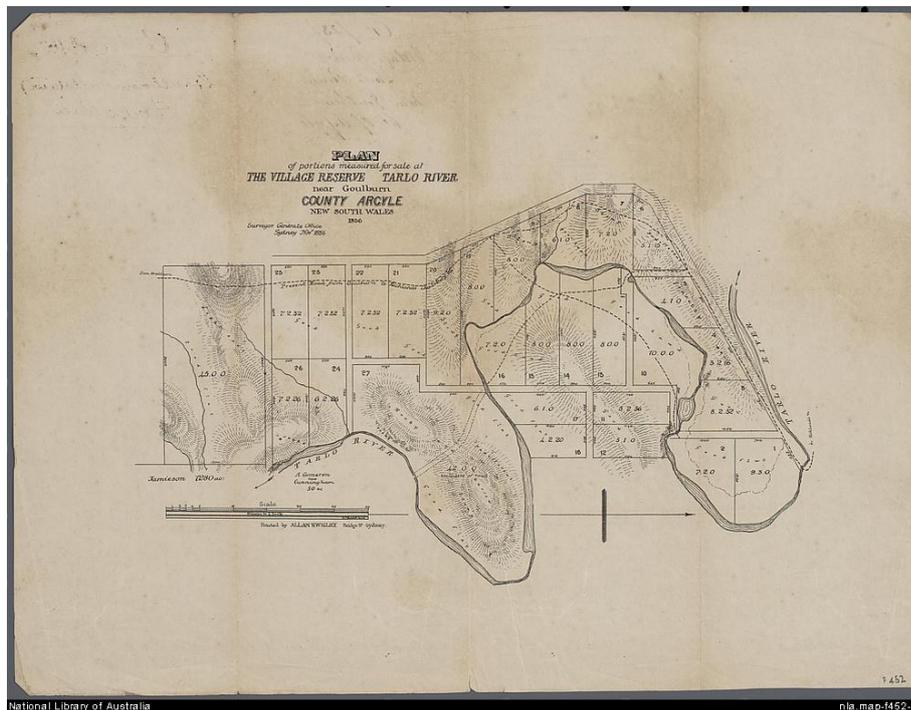


Figure 207: Bennett, E. G. Plan of portions for sale at the village reserve Tarlo River County Argyle, 1856.<sup>145</sup>

<sup>145</sup> National Library of Australia, Ferguson Collection F 452.

## MYRTLEVILLE

By 1860 Myrtleville had a population of about 100, with all the essential elements of a village in place including a store, post office, flour mill, school, hotel and butter factory.

### **MYRTLEVILLE FLOUR MILL**

The Myrtleville flourmill is significant locally for its association with the growth and development of the area and for its service to the rural community.

### **HILLCREST**

*Hillcrest* is highly significant locally for its association with the Barry family.

### **MYRTLEVILLE SCHOOL**

Myrtleville School is of high cultural heritage significance as the first school established in Myrtleville. It is important for its association with the education of children in rural NSW in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>146</sup>

## ROSLYN

The poet Dame Mary Gilmore was born at Roslyn, 16 km south-east of Crookwell, in 1865. The settlement was, at that time, known as 'Cotta Walla'. Her father, a property manager and building contractor, is said, by his daughter, to have translated the legends and songs of the Wiradjuri people into Gaelic and English.

When the Roslyn railway station opened in 1902, facilities were put in place for the Taralga branch line, although this line was not opened until 1926. The Roslyn station and facilities were removed after 1975.

Roslyn is one of the significant areas of Upper Lachlan Shire undertaking restoration of remnant vegetation. Wildlife corridors linking with conserved remnants and bushland are being restored.<sup>147</sup>

### **ROSLYN WAR MEMORIAL HALL**

The Roslyn War Memorial Hall is highly significant locally and is an integral part of the history and heritage of Roslyn. It has exceptional community value and is dedicated to those members of the Roslyn area who served, and those who gave their lives in the service of their country in World War I and World War II. It has continued in use as a focal point of community activity and is of importance for being the venue for social contact in this rural area.

## CURRAWHEELA

### **ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CURRAWHEELA**

St John's is considered by the local community at Curraweela as being culturally and socially important and of heritage significance to the area.

---

<sup>146</sup> Moon, W. J. and L. S. 1960. *Centenary of the Public School at Myrtleville, N.S.W.* 20 June 1960.

<sup>147</sup> Natural Heritage Trust Envirofund, 2002-03.

## POMEROY

Lt. Thomas Woore [1804-1878], engineer and naval officer, settled near Goulburn in 1839 on Pomeroy Station. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1835 in the Scots Church, Sydney, he married Mary, daughter of John Dickson and in February they left for Britain. Woore returned to New South Wales in 1839, was made a magistrate and purchased land at Pomeroy on the Wollondilly River.

Woore conducted surveys into railway construction in New South Wales. In May 1846 the government refused to have a survey made of the proposed railway line and Woore, on his own initiative and at his own expense, examined possible routes. He reported the results to a public meeting in Sydney in August. Insufficient funds were raised for a detailed survey, so he volunteered to do it on condition that his expenses be met and that any company subsequently formed should pay him 'proper remuneration'. He completed the work by 1848, although it was criticised and his efforts were deprecated in many quarters.

When the Sydney Railway Co. was formed Woore vainly applied for the post of engineer and was refused payment for the preliminary work. He accepted the harsh treatment stoically and in 1849 prevented a group of Goulburn residents from forming a rival company. In 1858 Woore asked the government, which was using his plan, for compensation but although the select committee on his railway services recommended an award of £1500 it was not accepted by the Legislative Assembly. In 1866 he petitioned parliament and in 1871 £1500 on the estimates was reduced to £1. In 1876 he published *Errors in the Great Western Railroad New South Wales*.

In 1866 Woore was member of a commission to report on the Sydney water supply, when he was the first person to propose a dam on the Warragamba River. Woore notes descriptions of the Sydney wetlands written in December 1829 and again in 1834 in a letter written to the Commission on Water Supply to Sydney and its Suburbs in 1869.

I rode from Sydney to Botany Bay, keeping the swamps principally on my left hand. There was then only one path between those places, which wound about over the sand hills. Our object was to visit the spot on which the unfortunate La Perouse and his companions were last known to have refitted their ships - the place where the monument has since been erected: but we were disappointed in this not being able to cross a stream that ran out of the swamps into the bay, although we were on horseback.... It had been somewhat swollen by late rain, but there was evidence of a copious stream at all times.<sup>148</sup>

His daughter Annie married William Busby 1813-1887] the pastoralist son of John Busby, the engineer, and brother of James Busby.<sup>149</sup>

---

<sup>148</sup> Abbott, G. J. 'Woore, Thomas (1804 - 1878)', 1976. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 6, Melbourne University Press, pp 439-440.

<sup>149</sup> *Thomas Woore - Papers, 1765-1948*, State Library of NSW MLMSS 2

### **POMEROY MILL**

Woore was the instigator of one of the later district flour mills to go into service. He built the Pomeroy Mill in 1870. This substantial stone two storey building provided for both water and steam powered operation. The mill was operated primarily by steam power. When the mill was in use, the main road to the planned Village of Pomeroy crossed the river about 50 metres downstream, which rendered the mill most accessible. It is known that the mill did not operate for a long period, mainly due to the lack of local grain.

The site is potentially one of the most significant industrial archaeological sites in New South Wales. It is highly probable that further research on the site would increase the understanding of engineering technology in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Figure 208: Pomeroy Mill**

**Pomeroy Mill is one of the most potentially significant industrial archaeological sites in New South Wales.**

**DISCLAIMER**

Any representation, statement, opinion or advice, expressed or implied in this report is made in good faith but on the basis the authors are not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person for any damage or loss whatsoever which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking or not taking (as the case may be) action in respect of any representation, statement, or advice referred to above.



NSW GOVERNMENT  
Department of Planning

Please complete and bind into the front of your report (if appropriate) and/or return to the Heritage Office.

## PERMISSION FOR USE OF WRITTEN MATERIAL

**Description of material:** The report, *Upper Lachlan Shire Community Heritage Study 2007-2008*

**Name of author:** Dr Jennifer Lambert Tracey

**Name of copyright owner:** Upper Lachlan Shire Council

**Use of material** - the Heritage Office requests permission to use the written material described above in the State Heritage Register (SHR), in publicity related to the project and on its website.

The SHR is published online at [www.heritage.nsw.gov.au](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au). Images published electronically as part of the State Heritage Register will be limited to a resolution unsuitable for publication-quality printing.

The Heritage Office will include the creator's preferred form of acknowledgment on the same page as the published image.

The Heritage Office will acknowledge the source of material in all instances.

**Form of Acknowledgement:** (Courtesy, Upper Lachlan Shire Council)

**License term:** In perpetuity (i.e. no time limit specified)

**The person or organisation listed below warrants that it is entitled to grant the licence.**

**I confirm that I have sought and obtained permission from any and all third parties to use their material.**

Signed on behalf of company/organisation (if applicable) – Not applicable

**Upper Lachlan Shire Council**

Signed by *(please print the name of the person authorised to sign)*

John K Bell, General Manager, Upper Lachlan Shire Council

Signature John K Bell Date 25 / 5 / 09



Please complete and bind into the front of your report (if appropriate) and/or return to the Heritage Office.

## PERMISSION FOR USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS OR IMAGES

### Description of material:

All photographs included in the report titled *Upper Lachlan Shire Community Heritage Study 2007-2008*, excluding those identified in the *Study* as being held in the State Library of NSW, the State Library of Victoria or the National Library of Australia, and whose publication copyright remains vested in these organisations.

### Photographer's Name:

Dr Jennifer Lambert Tracey

### Name of copyright owner:

Upper Lachlan Shire Council

**Use of material** - the Heritage Office requests permission to use the images described above in the State Heritage Register (SHR), in publicity related to the project and on its website. The SHR is published online at [www.heritage.nsw.gov.au](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au). Images published electronically as part of the State Heritage Register will be limited to a resolution unsuitable for publication-quality printing.

The Heritage Office will include the creator's preferred form of acknowledgment on the same page as the published image.

The Heritage Office will acknowledge the source of material in all instances.

### Form of Acknowledgement:

Photograph courtesy Upper Lachlan Shire Council

**License term:** In perpetuity (i.e. no time limit specified)

**The person or organisation listed below warrants that it is entitled to grant the licence.**

**I confirm that I have sought and obtained permission from any and all third parties to use their material.**

Signed on behalf of company/organisation (if applicable) – Not applicable

### Upper Lachlan Shire Council

Signed by (please print the name of the person authorised to sign)

John K Bell, General Manager, Upper Lachlan Shire Council

Signature John K Bell Date 25/5/09