

Hawkesbury Historical Society Newsletter

Newsletter of the Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.

HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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Aim: Hawkesbury Historical Society aims to encourage & preserve the history of the Hawkesbury

Meetings: 4th Thursday, alternate months, 7.30pm-10pm except June and August - 2pm. Hugh Williams Room at the Museum in Baker Street, Windsor

Open to: People interested in the preservation of the history of the Hawkesbury, new members welcome.

Patron: Ted Books

Office Bearers 2021/2022

President: Jan Barkley-Jack

Snr Vice President: Ted Brill Jnr Vice President: Dick Gillard

Secretary: Peta Sharpley Public Officer: Neville Dehn

Treasurer: Heather Gillard Asst. Treasurer: Neville Dehn

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Web Administrator: Dick Gillard

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Bookshop Manager: Heather Gillard

Asst. Bookshop Manager: Neville Dehn

Honorary Auditor: [Vacant] Publicity Officer: [Vacant]

Social Co-ordinator: [Vacant]

Committee members

Neville Dehn, Sean Flavin, Ellen Jordan, Cathy McHardy, Rebecca McRae, Jan Readford and Oonagh Sherrard

HHS Collection Committee

Hawkesbury Regional Museum Manager – Kath von Witt'

Rebecca McRae – Curator; Carol Carruthers and Elissa Blair.

Publications Committee

Jan Barkley-Jack, Ellen Jordan, Cathy McHardy and Jan Readford

MEETINGS

Thursday, 28 April 2022 – 7:30pm

Saturday, 25 June 2022 – 2pm

Saturday, 27 August 2022 – 2pm

Thursday, 27 October 2022 – 7:30pm - AGM

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General Meeting

of the Hawkesbury Historical Society

Thursday, 28 April 2022 – 7.30pm

Hugh Williams Room, Hawkesbury Regional Museum,
Baker Street, Windsor
and via Zoom (details forthcoming)

Please come along and join fellow members for a talk by Philip Tuckerman who will be speaking about the Tuckerman family at Hawkesbury.

Ebenezer Church HERITAGE DAY

Sat 7th May 2022
10am to 1pm

Hear the fascinating pioneer story's
of Australia's oldest church.
Enjoy Ebenezer's popular Devonshire teas.
Join small group walk-and-talks in the
colonial graveyard, to historic tree,
quarry and riverside beach.

Cost: Adults \$20
Children: \$8 if having morning tea,
otherwise no charge

Bookings and prepayment essential

Contact: tedbrill@bigpond.com

02 4579 9235; 0438 777 215



Ted Brill has advised that funds raised from this event will enable Ebenezer – Pitt Town Uniting Church to continue to support people in need in the Hawkesbury. In the recent flood the congregation purchased food for food parcels for isolated families at Wisemans Ferry. Six members on the Sydney side of the river helped pack the parcels for distribution by the SES. The congregation is also a supporter of Helping Hands and the fine work they do in the Hawkesbury district.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April 2022

Hello members and friends,

Your Society's executive committee held a special meeting to consider the organisational aspects of rescheduling the postponed book launch of Annegret Hall's book on Andrew Thompson. Heather Gillard is kindly organising the launch. The date now hoped for, will be that of our current scheduled meeting on Saturday afternoon, 25 June 2022. So keep your eye out for further details. Our General Meeting of that date will follow the book launch, commencing about 3.45pm, so you can make it a double date. Preliminary details are included herein.

The executive committee also considered the need to respond to Hawkesbury City Council's initiative to revitalise the Town Centres of Windsor, Richmond and South Windsor. The group 'Defenders of Thompson Square' had asked for our support to help reinforce the value of the recent reminders of our history currently in Windsor Mall, and this in turn, made me realise we should inform Council that recent research of mine has revealed that the footprint of the original urban area of the district still exists in the street pattern of almost the entire Windsor Town Centre, and so needs Council's consideration in heritage listings and in its signage. The Letter and associated Research Paper sent to Council are reproduced herein.

The existence of the Village has long has been well-known, but its beginnings in mid-1806, its exact location, size and street footprint, have not. For the first time Green Hills Village is seen to have been the sole private initiative of an ex-convict, in total contrast to the government's highly planned town superimposed over it five years later. The man with the drive and initiative to first form an urban area in Hawkesbury, was Thomas Rickaby.

Once a coachman in the employ of British Lord Lonsdale, Rickaby's stealing of some of the

Lord's hay resulted in a 7 year sentence of transportation to NSW aboard the Third Fleet in 1791. Rickaby farmed his 30-acre grant of 1794 and a 20-acre portion on the ridge which he named for his life-time partner, Catherine Smith. Their Inn and residence was near today's intersection between The Terrace and Catherine Street. What else could the Rickaby's call their Inn, but the 'Coach and Horses'?!

Rickaby's activities as Chief Constable were marked by no loss of community goodwill. In the hostilities of cultural conflict, once the European farms displaced and disregarded the original custodians of the land, Rickaby seems to have played no part, even lovingly adopting a half-caste Aboriginal toddler left to die by clan rules. From the reports of the efforts of later Chief Constables, one can assume that Rickaby was also heroic in flood rescues of farmers.

Rickaby's sales were successful. Once storekeeper William Baker followed Rickaby's lead and sold urban-sized lots between Fitzgerald and Baker Streets, the Government Precinct with its 1795 civic square, became part of the 2 kilometre-long village of Green Hills.

Cheers, Jan Barkley-Jack.



Preliminary Notice

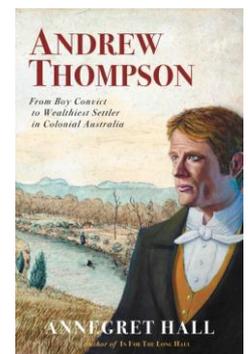
Rescheduled Author Talk
and Book Launch

ANDREW THOMPSON

Annegret Hall

Saturday, 25 June 2022

- 1.30pm Meet at Hawkesbury Regional Museum
- 1.40pm Walk to Thompson Square guided by Jan Barkley-Jack
- 2.00pm Welcome and author talk
- 2.50pm Questions and answers
- 3.00pm Book purchasing, signing and afternoon tea
- 3.30pm Finish



**** Tickets \$5 - will include a lucky door prize and afternoon tea, soon to be on sale through Eventbrite**

Lest We Forget...

The Streeter brothers

By Michelle Nichols

In 1914, Australia joined her Allies and declared war on Germany. The Australian War Memorial states *“For Australia, as for many nations, the First World War remains the most costly conflict in terms of deaths and casualties. From a population of fewer than five million, 416,809 men enlisted, of which over 60,000 were killed and 156,000 wounded, gassed, or taken prisoner.”* The impact had long term effects on Australia as a nation and on communities at a local level. Two brothers born and bred in Windsor enlisted at the onset of war, with much excitement.

Frederick Alfonso Streeter was born in Windsor in 1891 followed three years later by brother Roy Charles. Their parents, John Streeter and Maria Norris had married in 1872 in Windsor’s St Matthew’s Church of England and made their home in Cornwallis. Over two decades, between 1873 and 1894, the Streeters produced nine children. Maria was the granddaughter of convicts Richard and Maria Norris who farmed in the Cornwallis district. By the time Roy was born the family had moved into George Street, South Windsor.

Around the early 1900s John Streeter experienced financial difficulties, possibly due to the 1890s depression, which resulted in his bankruptcy in 1905. The eldest four Streeter children were baptised in St Matthew’s Church of England, however Maria still retained her family’s connection to the Catholic Church and Roy was educated at the local Catholic School.

The family moved to the inner city in about 1911 although the Streeters had little time to enjoy their retirement with the Streeter siblings losing both of their parents within a month of each other. In September 1913 John Streeter passed away in Sydney Hospital after a short illness. Maria who was living in Annandale, died a month later. She was buried in the Windsor Catholic Cemetery, nearby her Norris relations.

Fred Streeter was employed as a boot operator when he enlisted in September 1914 and embarked three months later, shortly after the first Australian contingent sailed from Australia.

Fred’s younger brother Roy was a labourer when he enlisted in December 1914. He left Sydney in February 1915 and travelled to Egypt on the HMAT Seang Choon. Whilst in Egypt, Roy transferred to the original 3rd Battalion just prior to embarking for Gallipoli.

Page from R C Streeter’s Service Dossier
Courtesy National Archives of Australia

From the onset of the war, the Allies were looking for a safe passage through the Turkish Straits and their objective was to capture the Turkish guns in the Dardanelles. In 1915 the Australian troops were part of this process.

The brothers met up in Egypt whilst training. The troops were subsequently shipped to land on the beaches at Gallipoli which is now known as ANZAC Cove. Fred became ill in early May with a back problem and cold in his kidneys on the 9 May was taken to ‘Gloucester Castle’ a hospital ship situated off the peninsula. By the end of May he was convalescing in Cairo. In the *Windsor & Richmond Gazette* 2 Jul 1915, extracts from a letter from Fred Streeter appeared:

He gives an account of the landing of the Australian troops at Gaba Tepe - the now famous spot - a sandy beach not more than 15 yards long, immediately in front of a steep, craggy rock mountain, about 600 feet high, rising almost sheer from the sea. This feat was performed by boat parties from the troopship, and the landing was made more difficult by the barbed wire entanglements run under water in front of the landing beach. Those who escaped the enemy's fire, and established a foothold had to just slab their way onward. ... Fred fought for eight days in the trenches, and was relieved at the end of that time for 48 hours' rest. During the eight days' fighting he was able to get 'only 28 hours' sleep. His line mates on two occasions were shot down on either side of him and twice while aiming at the enemy he had his rifle smashed in his hands. He was commanded to build a sandbag protection, to shield himself and mate from snipers in the rear. The task was completed to the last bag, which was being raised into position when his mate got a bullet in the shoulder, with the result that the weight fell suddenly on him, and he was removed to the base for a few days' rest with a strained back. At about this time Fred heard of the death of his brother Roy. He also states that of the original ten tent-mates at Liverpool, only four are now alive, including himself.



Private Roy Charles Streeter

Image courtesy of The War Graves Photographic Project
www.twgpp.org

On the 20 May, twenty-year-old Roy Streeter was killed in action on Gallipoli. He was buried by Rev W McKenzie at Shrapnel Valley which was established near the beach exit, south of Anzac Cove in early May. His remains were exhumed in May 1921 and then reinterred in the 4th Battalion Parade Ground which is situated along the ridge between the Cemetery at Lone Pine and Courtney's Post. The combined cemeteries at Gallipoli contain

over 22,000 graves with less than half of these identified. Despite being buried a long way from home, Roy's death was also recorded on his mother's headstone in the corner of the Catholic Cemetery in Windsor. It reads: "In a Hero's Grave on Gallipoli ... killed in action 19 May 1915."

Frederick returned to the battlefield and had a number of narrow escapes including in 1916 when he was wounded in action, with a gunshot wound to his hand. After recovering from his injuries in England, he was redeployed on the Western Front. At the end of the war he returned to Australia and was discharged in 1919.



4th Battalion Parade Ground

Image courtesy of The War Graves Photographic Project
www.twgpp.org

Despite making numerous enquiries, Mary Streeter, Roy's older sister and next of kin, was not informed of the particulars of her brother's death, or his burial place until several years after the war finished. ■

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

For those interested in finding out more about World War 1 soldiers, service records have been digitised and can be accessed via the National Archives of Australia website at www.naa.gov.au

Newspapers have an amazing array of information about those serving in the 1914-1918 conflict.

Many Australian historical newspapers are available online to search via Trove

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>

The Commonwealth War Grave Commission records details of fallen soldiers buried overseas

www.cwgc.org

Local war memorials have been transcribed on Hawkesbury on the Net's Memorial and Monuments register <http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/memorial/>

LEST WE FORGET



...Lest We Forget

Articles, submitted previously, are included again to remember our ANZACS

Submitted by Michelle Nichols



**Private Bentley John Christie,
NSW servicemen portraits**

Courtesy Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW [a871254]

Bentley John Christie was born at Lower Portland on 31 October 1878 and baptised at St. Thomas Anglican Church at Sackville on the 5 January 1879. He was the son of Thomas John Christie and Mary Ann nee Moffit(t). The Christie family farmed in the Lower Portland district. Other children in the family included Albert Leslie born 1873, Frank born in 1876, John Thomas born 1880 and Thomas Jersey born 1893.

According to the *Windsor & Richmond Gazette* 3 May 1918, Bentley, known as Ben, served in the Boer War 1899–1902 in South Africa for a period of about 18 months and also spent about 15 years in the USA.

He enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) in early 1918 when he was almost 40 years of age and was listed as single and a labourer. On his enlistment papers he embarked to fight overseas in June 1918. Following the end of the war he returned to Australia on board the “*Port Denison*” embarking in November 1919. He served as a Private in the 35th Battalion and was discharged in December 1919. It was also recorded that Ben Christie died on the 4 August 1938 “after discharge” although this has not been confirmed. His service records, along with other World War 1 servicemen, have been digitised and are accessible on the National Archives of Australia website at www.naa.gov.au

His brother Thomas Jersey Christie served in the 20th Battalion as a Private but was “gassed during the heavy fighting on the Western front” in the latter part of the war. Additional information about the family can be located in the pages of the local newspapers. Some of these newspapers are available to access on TROVE <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>

Keenly felt on the home front WWI – The loss of the Smith brothers

By Cathy McHardy - March 2015

The loss of several young men from the Currency Creek and Freemans Reach area was keenly felt in the small farming community north of the Hawkesbury River. Three families were particularly affected because three boys from each of the Smith, Kingham and McClennan families had enlisted, and four of these recruits were destined never to return. Two of these casualties, Albert Edward and Walter Charles Smith, were sons of Walter Smith and Eliza Coulter,

and earned a living from their small orchards and mixed farms. These young men and their families could never have imagined the terrifying reality of war they were soon to experience.



Albert Edward Smith (left, who married Lily Packer in July 1915) and his brother Harry, both sons of Walter Smith (snr) and Eliza Coulter. Albert Edward was killed in France in May 1916.

From the collection of Arthur Cooper

A farewell evening was held at the Australian Hall, Wilberforce for Albert Smith together with Harry H Turnbull and Alwyn Farlow (*Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, 1 October 1915). A concert programme was organised by local citizens and speeches were made by dignitaries such as MP for Hawkesbury Brinsley Hall and Cr E T Bowd from Colo Shire Council. A presentation of handsome wristlet watches was made to the young soldiers from the District Patriotic League. Mrs Arthur Daley placed the watch on the wrist of Private Albert Smith. The evening concluded with the singing of the National Anthem and cheers for the soldier lads and their parents.

Born in Rochester, Victoria in 1891, Albert Edward Smith (service no. 3227) was 24 years of age when he enlisted at Warwick Farm, NSW on 9 August 1915. He left behind his new wife, Lily (nee Packer) whom he married just days before he enlisted. Albert joined the 4th Battalion Australian Infantry and departed Sydney aboard the 'Suevic' bound for England on 20 December 1915. After a period of training in England he arrived in Marseilles, France, March 1916.

Albert's tour of duty was destined to be very brief. After spending some time in a French military hospital with mumps during April and early May 1916, Albert was wounded while on active duty 12 May and died the same day. Initially there was confusion about his final resting place, as Rue du Bois Armentieres was listed on the notification of his death which was sent to his widow Lily Smith 'Hillgrove', Freeman's Reach. It was not until 1921 that she received confirmation that a mistake had been made and his burial had taken place at the Rue de Petillon Military Cemetery, in Plot 2 Row B 36. France must have seemed an alien and faraway place to this young widow.

Albert's personal effects were returned to Lily in March 1918, but sadly did not include the wristlet watch he had been presented at his farewell party. She also received a Memorial Plaque and Scroll in 1921. By the time she received the Victory Medal in 1923 she had remarried, to George Hayes.

Albert's older brother Walter Charles Smith (service no. 5764) also enlisted and at 35 years of age was considered old for a volunteer. Walter was born in South Australia in 1881 and as a young man had served in the Boer War in South Africa. He had married Bathia Smith (known as Bessie) in 1906 and a son Tom, was born in 1908.

The *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* of 31 March 1916 reported that a very enjoyable evening was spent in the Freeman's Reach School of Arts on the evening of the 18th March, the occasion being a send-off to Trooper Martin and Privates R T Hibbert, Walter C Smith and Stanley Kingham. Although Trooper Martin was the only one of the four who were able to attend due to training commitments the farewell was still went ahead for their families and to honour of the bravery of the recruits. Apart from a varied musical program, there were a number of patriotic speeches delivered by the president of Colo Shire and several councillors.

Walter had enlisted at Casula, NSW on 15 February 1916 and embarked for England from Sydney aboard the 'Kyarra'

on 3 June, arriving in Plymouth, England on 3 August. Like his brother, he also succumbed to the mumps and spent time in hospital during September 1916. He was promoted to sergeant in the 2nd Battalion Infantry of the Australian Imperial Forces just before he was killed in action in Belgium on 5 October 1917. He was buried in the Ypres Memorial Cemetery.



Walter Charles Smith (jnr) son of Walter Smith (snr) and Eliza Coulter, his wife Bessie with their son Tom who was born in 1908, taken c. 1916 before Walter embarked for England aboard the 'Kyarra'. Walter was killed in Belgium in 1917. From the collection of Arthur Cooper

His widow Bessie received the telegram stating that her husband had been killed, however his rank and service number appearing on the notification were not that of her husband. This discrepancy must have engendered mixed emotions of hope and anxiety in the Smith family. Perhaps it was another Walter Smith who had been killed?

Bessie wrote to Victoria Barracks, NSW seeking clarification and by the end of November 1917 the terrible news had been confirmed. Walter's personal effects were returned in April 1918 and included some local wine labels, a German belt and shoulder straps and other souvenirs of his time in Belgium. She received the Victory Medal in 1923. She also wrote to authorities asking about the circumstances of his death. Perhaps a nurse, doctor or chaplain who was present at her husband's last moments of life could give her some small relief from grief. Official records do not relate whether Bessie ever heard those words of comfort from those who were the last people to see her husband alive.

Resources for researching records of Australian servicemen and women who served in World War I include:

- War Memorials
- Hawkesbury on the Net - <http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/memorial/>
- NSW War Memorials - <http://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/>
- Monuments Australia - <http://monumentaustralia.org.au>
- Hawkesbury Library - www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library/
- National Archives of Australia - www.naa.gov.au
- Australian War Memorial - www.awm.gov.au
- Australian Army History Unit - <http://www.army.gov.au/Our-history/Army-History-Unit>
- Women in wartime - <http://australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/women-in-action>
<http://australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/women-in-wartime>
<http://www.anzacday.org.au/history/ww1/homefront/women.html>

As referenced in the **President's Report** on Page 2:

Hawkesbury Historical Society's letter in response to Hawkesbury City Council's initiative to revitalise the Town Centres of Windsor, Richmond and South Windsor, including Jan Barkley-Jack's Research Paper 'Windsor Town Centre's Exceptional Significance: the site of the Green Hills Village' as it refers to the 'newly discovered evidence' below. See also the images following as referenced in the Research Paper.



(Founded in 1956)

Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.

PO Box 293 WINDSOR NSW 2756

ABN 91 099 233 587

General Manager, Hawkesbury City Councillors and Heritage Officer
Hawkesbury City Council
12 April 2022

Re: Windsor Town Centre's exceptional Significance

Hawkesbury Historical Society wishes to congratulate Hawkesbury City Council on its recent and far-sighted decision to recognise and retain items from our more recent past as items of cultural and heritage significance within the Windsor Town Centre. The items of the rotunda and its surrounds, the model water wheel and the 1980s gaslights all represent aspects of the built history of our district of which the community is proud: the strength of an almost 230 year European community spirit, the importance flour mills played in our past and our society's reaching forward to a future beyond candle-light. We heartily support your decision.

In turn Hawkesbury Historical Society brings to your notice the newly discovered facts about the earliest urban aspects of the Hawkesbury district which are also readable within the Windsor Town Centre, dating to the period mid-1806 to December 1810, with the formation of the Village of Green Hills prior to the town itself.

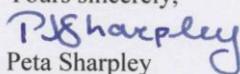
Current research establishes that the village has previously remained under-recognised in its size and its critical importance to the heritage significance of Windsor. This new research is so compelling that we ask it be presented in district heritage listings and signage.

The research which establishes this claim to an urban area in Hawkesbury predating the Macquarie town, is researched by our President, Jan Barkley-Jack, a professional historian. It is referenced to primary sources. This solid research proves the form and footprint of the Green Hills Village remains intact and readable. The scale of the developing streets and the still visible urban sized allotments is what gives the centre of Windsor its character today.

In January 1811 when laying-out Windsor town, Governor Macquarie recognised Green Hills Village as an existing entity of such size, commercial, industrial and residential importance that he left the village intact within it, creating the town on its edges and as an extension.

Hawkesbury Historical Society now urges Hawkesbury City Council to recognise, following in the steps of Macquarie and their decision about recent heritage, that the earliest urban streets and the form of Green Hills Village exist as vital heritage components of our district's story needing to be acknowledged. We attach a copy of the Green Hills Research Paper.

Yours sincerely,



Peta Sharpley

Secretary, Hawkesbury Historical Society

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Windsor Town Centre's Exceptional Significance: the site of the Green Hills Village.
Research paper
Jan Barkley-Jack

The Village of Green Hills newly discovered significance.

Hidden away within the town of Windsor, the importance of its early physical remains under-recognised until I did research for my current PhD thesis, is an area of exceptional significance: the Village of Green Hills.

Whilst the Hawkesbury-Nepean Macquarie towns of Windsor, Richmond, Pitt Town, Wilberforce and Castlereagh have long had recognition of their high heritage significance, the uniqueness of Windsor was understood only from the recognition of an existing village (however vaguely defined), creating two civic squares for Windsor, unlike in all other Macquarie towns.¹ The fact that this earlier village was a sizeable one with around 150 residents and 100 buildings existing prior to Macquarie's input and stretching over almost the whole of the present site of Windsor's Town Centre adds greatly to the heritage complexity of the town's formation. That Green Hills Village initially grew solely from an ex-convict initiative and from ex-convict support, in total contrast to Macquarie's planned towns, adds new dimension to its significance and needs consideration in all heritage interpretations.

When Macquarie set up the township, he did not remove the ex-convict footprint of the village nor its form and fabric, but merely incorporated it complete into his plan of the town. He had Surveyors Meehan and Evans straighten the existing streets and created his town around the edges of the village with an extension of section-blocks reaching to present-day Ham Street in South Windsor, joined to its southern border by 'a great square' (now McQuade Park). Other adjustments to the Village were very minor, like the removal of a few buildings that intruded into the making of the existing unformed tracks straight and uniform.

This research gives the town of Windsor three points of additional heritage value. The first is that it was the existing village which determined the shape of almost the entire central part of Windsor, not Macquarie. This in no way takes credit from Macquarie's vision, but instead highlights his commendable flexibility. It means that today, the village layout retained to a high degree, gives the Town Centre a recognisably older character surviving with its 1806-1810 pre-Macquarie street pattern still readable. The second additional heritage value is the village's strong commercial, industrial and administrative base and fast growing population which existed prior to the formation of the town of Windsor. It came from the flexibility given by the tiny village allotments which were held by freehold possession allowing them to be bought and sold at will, unlike the inflexible 'town grants' under constraints and tied to the

¹ I. Jack, *Macquarie's Towns*, Heritage Council of NSW, Land and Property Management Authority, Bathurst, pp. v, 37.

1 Report: 'Windsor Town Centre's Exceptional Significance', by Jan Barkley-Jack, April 2022, from research contained in Jan Barkley-Jack's forthcoming PhD, 'Understanding Mainstream Community Change can Redefine Leadership Roles in Colonial Australia'.

sale of the owner's farm. The third new value comes from the district's urban beginnings evolving from ex-convict initiatives, not government ones.

The physical presence of the Green Hills Village

Painstaking tracing of a great many allotments sold in the early village, has given clarity to the village presence.² It spanned around 2 kilometres from the edge of the ridge near Palmer Street almost to Tebbutt Street (but following the southern boundary of 'Catherine Farm', a 1798 farm grant given to then ex-convict Chief Constable Thomas Rickaby which cuts diagonally across from the old Hawkesbury Hospital to St Matthew's Anglican Rectory).³

The prior evidence known for the village fabric to date was the watercolours of George W. Evans of 1809 and c.1811 mainly showing the civic square in the Government Precinct.⁴ The confined picture of the village these illustrations portray has contributed to historians underestimating the village's size and importance. They show only a small part of the village buildings in private ownership, namely the small cottages in what are today the western ends of Baker and Fitzgerald Streets. The other proof of the existence by December 1810 of a consequential village comes from comments of Governor Lachlan Macquarie himself in December 1810, when he refers to 'the present village'. In January 1811 in naming the 15 year-old Thompson Square, he commented about the important role Andrew Thompson had played as the Hawkesbury's magistrate and prominent businessman in growing the existing urban village area, but gave no other details.⁵

My research shows the evolution of the village was started privately as the first urban subdivision in Hawkesbury by ex-Chief Constable and ex-convict, Thomas Rickaby. He advertised lots for sale in the *Sydney Gazette*.⁶ The tiny 32 square rod (roughly equivalent to a 1980s block today) allotments had freehold title which could be bought and sold privately with no regulation. Rickaby was one of only two owners of the ridge land in the district's central area; the other owner, Storekeeper Baker, soon followed Rickaby's lead. Rickaby's sales were all confined to his land between Fitzgerald Street and his boundary close to today's McQuade Park, creating two section-blocks on either side of the main track. Baker

² Primary Applications, NSW State Archives and Records, [NSWSA], Kingswood; L. Sabine (ed.), *Old Registers One to Nine: The Registers of Assignments and other Legal Instruments, 1802-1807*, Land Registry Services, NSW Department of Commerce and NSWSA, 2008, DVD.

³ J. Meehan, Surveyor's Field Notes, NSWSA, 14 June 1809; *Sydney Gazette*, 6 April 1806, ongoing to the 27 April 1806; Land Grant Register 2, p. 247, 6 February 1798, in J. Barkley-Jack, *Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed: a new look at Australia's third mainland settlement*, pp. 235, 237, 283, 437.

⁴ George W. Evans, watercolour, c.1809, 'Settlement on the Green Hills', Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, call no. PXD 388, Vol. 3, fol. 7; George W. Evans, watercolour, c.1811, 'Windsor Head of Navigation Hawkesbury River', Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, call no. SV1B/Wind/6.

⁵ L. Macquarie, *Journals of his Tours in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land*, pp. 32, 42-43, 6 December 1810, 12 January 1811.

⁶ *Sydney Gazette*, 6 April, 1806.

2 Report: 'Windsor Town Centre's Exceptional Significance', by Jan Barkley-Jack, April 2022, from research contained in Jan Barkley-Jack's forthcoming PhD, 'Understanding Mainstream Community Change can Redefine Leadership Roles in Colonial Australia'.

and others who early bought from the storekeeper sold private allotments between Fitzgerald and Baker Streets also creating two section blocks.⁷

The Green Hills Village was in existence as the sole urban space in the entire Hawkesbury district for five years before the town of Windsor was even conceived. Its formation depended entirely on land sales as gradually it evolved as a straggling line of properties along the main track on the ridge (now George Street) and three side tracks (now named Baker, Fitzgerald and Johnston Streets). Most purchasers bought land for a safe haven, a residence untied to a farm but close to the school or work, and built immediately although resales were frequent. Initially most were mainstream, lowly farmers or tradesmen. One of the most unexpected groups holding land in the village by around 1807 was unaccompanied ex-convict women with their children, usually gifted the land when they separated from their farming partners. In essence, most of the early history of the village relates to ex-convict residents.⁸

By 1810 some free-arrival colonial residents like Garnham Blaxcell, Governor King's secretary, had purchased village land. The Reverend Samuel Marsden had investment lots and rich ex-convicts Andrew Thompson and Richard Fitzgerald were freeholders by 1806. Whilst most dwellings and businesses remained lowly, some built grander houses with outbuildings, stables and granaries, since many businesses were paid in wheat. Ex-convict Matthew Everingham's house on Fitzgerald Street was described as shingled, with brick-nogged walls finished with saddle boards and plastered inside and outside and whitewashed. It was a 'sizeable' house worth £110. When Settler William Baker bought Everingham's other dwelling and Inn in 1810 in what became Baker Street, he paid £430 for the property.⁹

Since no mechanism actually existed for title for subdivision of grants, astute purchasers like Richard Fitzgerald insisted on the original owners writing a statutory declaration recording the purchase and payment. Many ownership titles were not sorted until decades later.¹⁰

By 1810 when Macquarie arrived the urban area was quite sophisticated, and he saw a successful village with largely ex-convict residents, thriving on the ridge of the central reach of the Hawkesbury River comprised of businesses, retail shops, industries like Thompson's enormous brewery on South Creek beside today's Palmer Street, around 100 residences, all serviced by a school, chapel, government Store and a government house; these last named located around the unnamed 1795 civic square which he was to name Thompson Square.¹¹

⁷ See J. Barkley-Jack, forthcoming PhD Thesis, 'Understanding Mainstream Community Change can Redefine Leadership Roles in Colonial Australia'.

⁸ See J. Barkley-Jack, forthcoming PhD Thesis, 'Understanding Mainstream Community Change can Redefine Leadership Roles in Colonial Australia'.

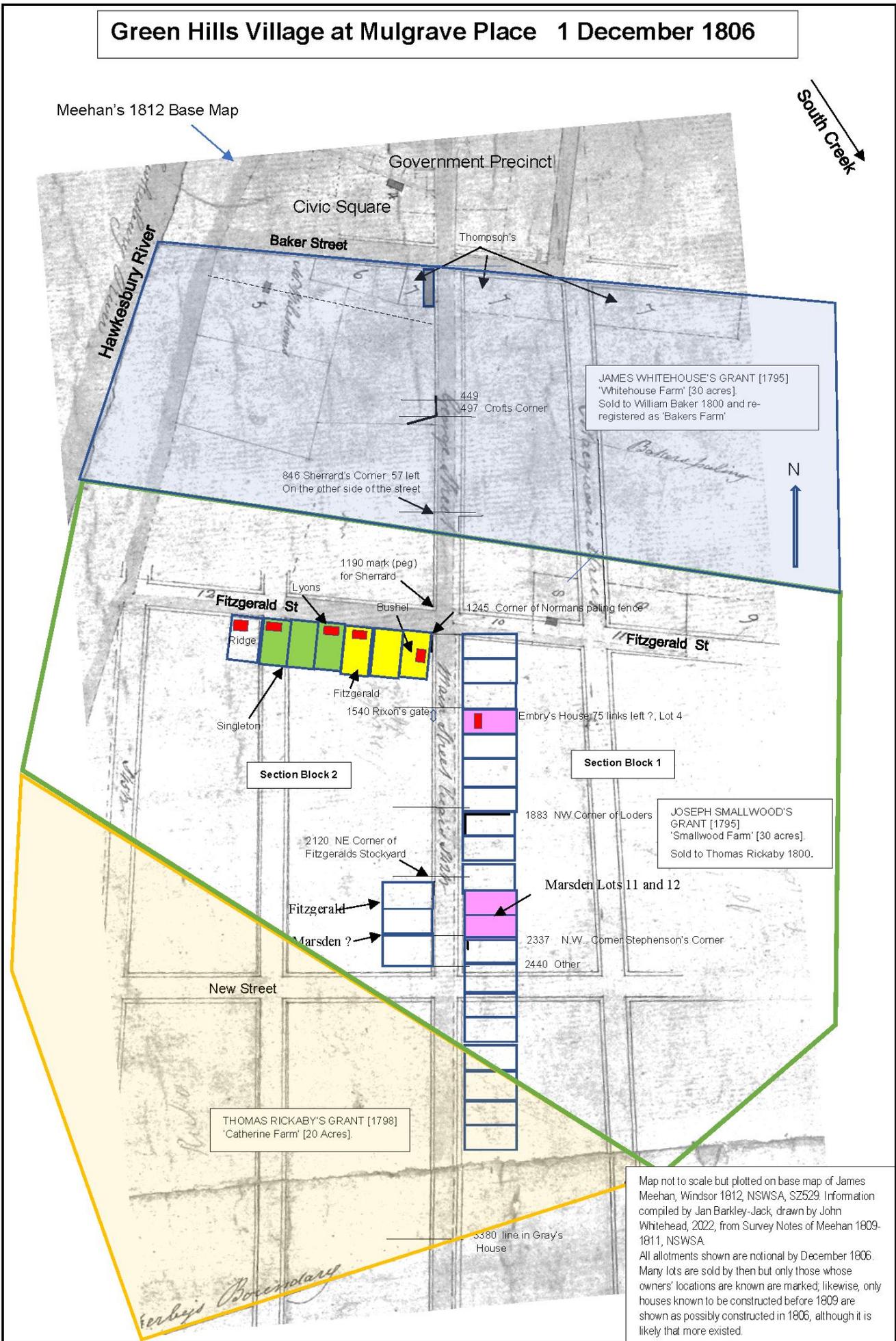
⁹ Primary Applications 38633, 36853 [G. Blaxcell]; Sabine (ed.), *Old Registers*, Book 5, p. 95 entry 663 [S. Marsden to Jenkins]; Map of Windsor, 1812, NSWSA, SZ529 [A. Thompson]; Primary Applications 19127, 20100, 17626 [R. Fitzgerald]; *Sydney Gazette*, 14 September 1806 [R. Fitzgerald]; Sabine (ed.), *Old Registers*, Book 5, p. 244 entry 1036 [M. Everingham]; Primary Applications 36853, 38633, [M. Everingham].

¹⁰ Primary Application 20100; *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, 11 November 1893.

¹¹ See J. Barkley-Jack, forthcoming PhD Thesis, 'Understanding Mainstream Community Change can Redefine Leadership Roles in Colonial Australia'; Macquarie, *Journals*, p. 42, 12 January 1811.

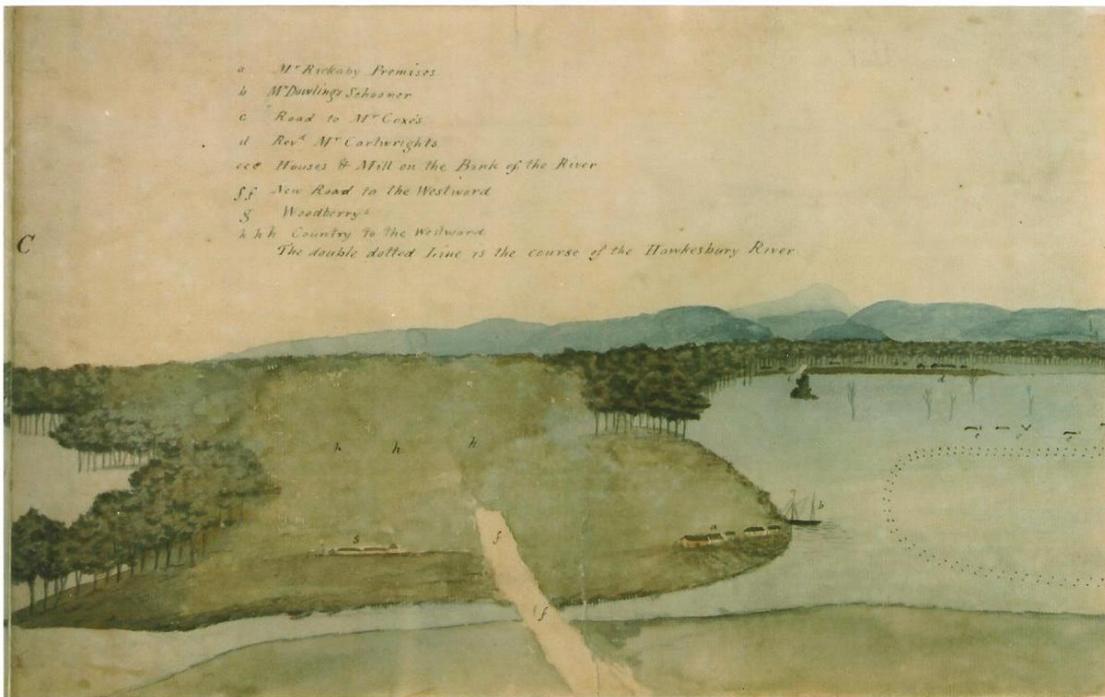
3 Report: 'Windsor Town Centre's Exceptional Significance', by Jan Barkley-Jack, April 2022, from research contained in Jan Barkley-Jack's forthcoming PhD, 'Understanding Mainstream Community Change can Redefine Leadership Roles in Colonial Australia'.

Green Hills Village at Mulgrave Place 1 December 1806



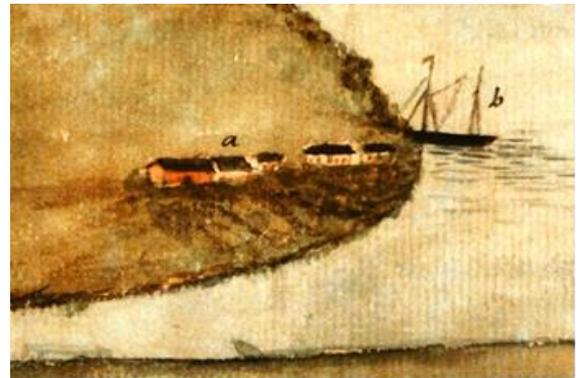
Green Hills Village, 1 December 1806. Map: Jan Barkley-Jack and John Whitehead, in process of development, 2022. Copyright.

Panel C-D

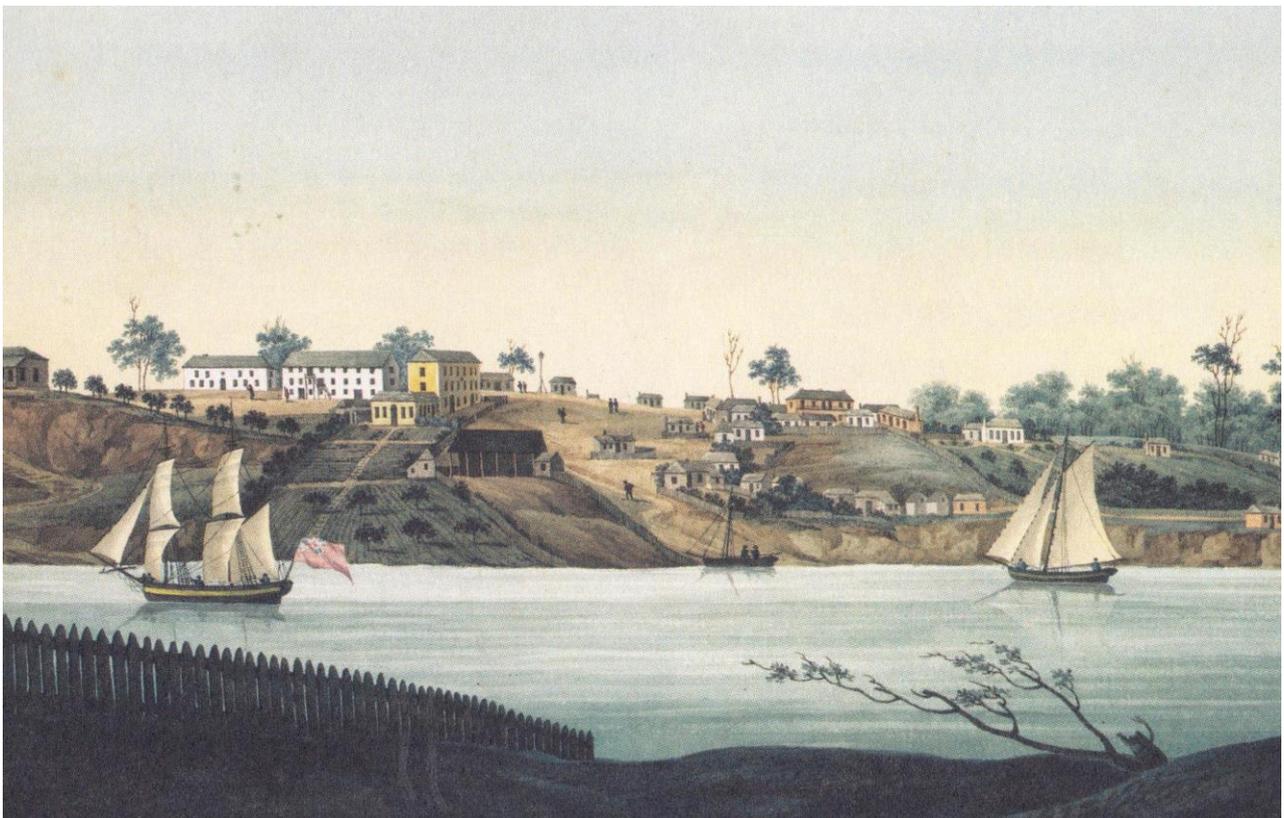


Showing a flooded Riverview Shopping Centre Car Park and George Street heading west from there, running beside Rickaby's residence and 'Coach and Horses' Inn or the ridge towards the future site of St Matthew's Anglican church.

Anon, watercolour, 1816, panorama in four panels, 'Sketch of the inundation in the neighbourhood of Windsor...2 June 1816', Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, call no. PX*D 264.



A close up of Rickaby's Resident and Coach and Horses Inn pictured above (Right).



G.W. Evans (attributed), watercolour, c.1809, 'Settlement on the Green Hills', Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, call no. PXD 388, Vol. 3, fol. 7.

The D'Emilio Family

By Arthur Cooper

The D'Emilio family lived in Glossodia from around July 1948 to mid-1950. The property they were living on was on the corner of Creek Ridge Road and Lamrock Avenue. The Jenkins family lived on the property for a long period before D'Emilio's.

The D'Emilio family had sold the property and had moved into Windsor before Joe Cooper and his family came to live opposite on the southern side of Creek Ridge Road in October 1950.



Jack D'Emilio in the citrus orchard on the Creek Ridge Road property.

[Courtesy of Tina Dal Mas nee D'Emilio]

As part of my research about families who lived in the Glossodia area, I interviewed Tina Dal Mas (nee D'Emilio). Tina was telling me about her father, Jack D'Emilio. Jack needed a piece of farm machinery for a special purpose to use on his farm and in his orchard. Jack drew up plans and made sketches for a scoop that he could pull behind his tractor. This scoop could scrape up soil, lift a load of soil and with the use of the tractor's hoist, then carry the load to another site and spread it out. This would be ideal for topsoiling an orchard, the scoop could also be used as a farm trailer.

Jack took his drawings and design to Ernest Arthur Buttsworth who was better known as Pat Buttsworth. Jack told Pat Buttsworth that if he can make this scoop for him he could have the patent. Jack got his scoop made and Pat Buttsworth created a successful side to his business by manufacturing Buttsworth Earth Scoops.

Pat made changes and improvements as time went by. The scoop he made for Jack D'Emilio had the wheels on the outside of the chassis.

One of Pat's early scoops now owned by John Miller who lives in Joshia Road Freemans Reach has the wheels on the inside of the chassis and more towards the back.



One of Pat Buttsworth's early scoops he made and now owned by John Miller.

This scoop has a metal tag attached to the chassis that has on it the words:

**“E.A. BUTTSWORTH,
WELDING ENGINEER,
GEORGE ST, WINDSOR”.**



The tag on one of Pat Buttsworth's scoops now owned by John Miller at Freemans Reach.

When the D'Emilio family sold out and moved into Windsor, the scoop was left on the property. The next to move onto the property was the Malligan family. I can remember Charles Malligan using the scoop to top soil his orchard.

The next owner of the property was Nic Malouf and his family. I can remember Nic making good use of the scoop to top soil his orchard and as a trailer to move things around the farm.

ORAZIO (JACK) D'EMILIO

Frustration at the lack of appropriate farming equipment prompted one-time Glossodia farmer, Orazio Giuseppe "Jack" D'Emilio to take matters into his own hands.



During the 1950s, the Italian migrant designed an innovative scoop to go behind his tractor.

With the workings of the piece of desired machinery in his mind, Jack allegedly asked Buttsworth in Windsor to make the scoop, and allowed the business to have the patent.

Advertisements in the April 18 edition of *The Gazette* in 1956 show Jack's scoop was indeed produced, named as the Buttsworth Scoop and sold to other farmers in the district.

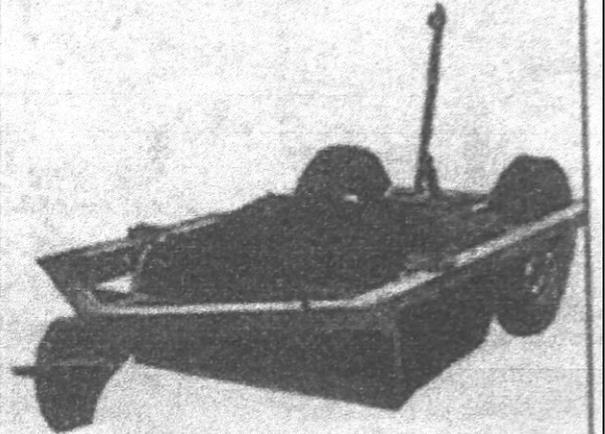
After some time, Jack moved to Windsor where he worked as a builder. He also had a farm at Ebenezer where he grew oranges and grapes.

Jack died in 1992.

Buttsworth Earth Scoops

The best money can buy

Proved — and Improved



To suit your Tractor

E. A. BUTTSWORTH

98-102 Macquarie Street,

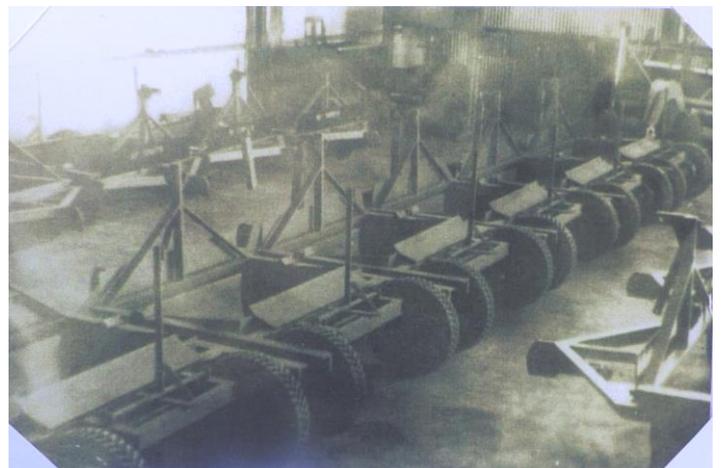
WINDSOR, N.S.W.

Page courtesy of Neil Renaud

The current owners of the property now are the Azzopardi family who came to Glossodia in 1994. I wish to thank them for allowing me to take photographs of the first scoop Pat Buttsworth made.



The first scoop made by Pat Buttsworth for Jack D'Emilio, now owned by the Azzopardi family.



This photograph has been copied from a calendar issued by Buttsworth Industrial Supplies, 7-9 Walker Street, South Windsor.

Photograph courtesy of the Azzopardi family, Glossodia.



Awards: Pat Buttsworth (on the left) at the Orange Field Days. Photo: Buttsworth Industrial Supplies.
[Courtesy Neil Renaud]



Jack and Milly D'Emilio on the wedding day of their daughter Rena with Twin Tina as bridesmaid.
[Courtesy of Mavis Cassanelia nee Hutchison]



Former teacher, Claude Price with the D'Emilio twins, Rena and Tina



Cecilia D'Emilio who was born in Porto Torres (Sardinia, Italy) on 5 August 1912 and who died at Sutherland NSW on 17 October 1989.



Mrs D'Emilio (left) with Mrs Price, wife of Claude Price, the school teacher from 1945-1952 taken in the yard of the teacher's residence in Creek Ridge Road.
[Courtesy of Tina Del Mas nee D'Emilio]



The home which was built by Tom Gregory and occupied by the Gregory family up until 1929 during the time of ownership of the D'Emilio family.

I often wondered if the scoop was still on the property. One day while driving along Lamrock Avenue in 2020, I was thrilled to see, just inside the fence, the remains of Jack D'Emilio's scoop. The wheels had been removed, otherwise it was basically intact.



The first scoop now at rest

All photos supplied were reproduced with permission.

More information can be found in Arthur Cooper's books, *Glossodia: A Peep into the Past*, and *Around Currency Creek*.

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W. DAY,
Watchmaker & Jeweller,
FRANCIS-ST., -RICHMOND,
 One Door to Right from Station-st.

REPAIRS left at Messrs. Woodhill and Co., Richmond and Kurrajong, and Mr. T. Chalmers, Kurrajong, will receive every attention.

Marble Clocks called for.

ALL WORK GUARANTEED.

Hawkesbury Herald, Friday 18 March 1904 (Trove)

Hawkesbury Regatta !!
 SPORTS AND PICNIC.

TO BE HELD AT

Lower Portland,

—on—

SATURDAY Next, APRIL 1

Steamer ST. ALBANS leaves Windsor Wharf 8 a.m.

" KINGSLEY leaves Peat's Ferry at 7 a.m.

Return fare 4/-

Mangrove at 8 a.m.

Return fare 3/-

Wiseman's Ferry 11.30

Return fare 2/-

Steamer ACME leaves McDonald Wharf.

RYDE BRASS BAND IN ATTENDANCE.

Refreshments at Reasonable Prices.

SCULLING RACES. FOOT RACES, &c.

Amusements for All!

J. R. JAMES, } Hon.
 G. A. VAUGHAN, } Secs.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette, Saturday 1 April 1893 (Trove)

A. C. STEARN,
Ophthalmic Optician, George-st.,
Windsor.

Sight Tested Free. Spectacles Sold. 25 per cent. below Sydney prices. Satisfaction guaranteed by sending your age.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette, Saturday 23 April 1910 (Trove)

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