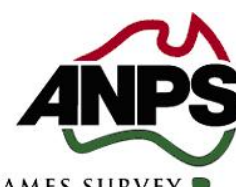


**ESTATE NAMES**  
of the  
**Port Macquarie and Hastings region**  
(1830-1840)





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*Tony Dawson*

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ANPS Placenames Report 3

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## INTRODUCTION

The opening of the Port Macquarie district to free settlers in 1830, less than a decade after its establishment as a penal settlement, surprised few people. As early as 1825 Governor Brisbane, in a letter to the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies, Henry Bathurst, described Port Macquarie as being ‘almost useless as a penal Settlement from the many facilities afforded to the escape of Prisoners by the extension of Settlers along Hunter’s River.’ However, he considered it ‘quite ready for the reception of free Emigrants.’<sup>1</sup>

In 1828 Brisbane’s successor, Sir Ralph Darling, also began pressing the matter and soon afterwards it was taken up with gusto by *The Australian* which strongly promoted opening the district, though only to genuine settlers, not speculators. The newspaper fumed against land ‘jobbing’ whereby well-connected people, advantaged by inside knowledge, could gain the choicest portions, sometimes with the intention of selling them at a substantial profit when the time was ripe.<sup>2</sup> Much of *The Australian’s* little-disguised disdain was reserved for the family of the Colonial Secretary, Alexander Macleay, who, as we shall see, acquired substantial estates in the Hastings region, as they did elsewhere.

To prepare for the entry of free settlers it was first necessary to conduct a thorough survey of the area. That task fell to Surveyor James Ralfe who was assisted by Draughtsman Frederick D’Arcy. Under instructions from Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell they completed surveys of the Hastings, Maria and Wilson Rivers and made their way some distance up their principal tributaries including the Forbes and Ellenborough Rivers, Kings Creek and Pipers Creek, recording, as they progressed, the native names of places they visited.<sup>3</sup> Their data, uncorrected for magnetic variation, were drawn up on a north-south/east-west grid with gridlines at one mile intervals, thereby dividing the area into portions measuring one mile square, or 640 acres.<sup>4</sup> Prospective settlers eligible for free grants of land would be permitted to select up to four portions dependent upon how much capital they had available for agriculture. Settlers not eligible for free grants but wishing to purchase land would be required to apply for portions as they were released by the government.

In July 1830, a notice appeared in *The Sydney Gazette* to say that free settlers would be admitted from the fifteenth of the following month.<sup>5</sup> A good number of people, including several with continuing or former connections to the convict establishment, were well prepared for the announcement, some of them having submitted their applications for land up to two years earlier. Among those whose applications had been received in advance of the notice were Stephen Partridge (Superintendent of Convicts), William Skottowe Parker (former Superintendent of Agriculture), Major Archibald Clunes Innes (former Commandant), and the Reverend John Cross (Rector of St Thomas’ Church).<sup>6</sup> Another applicant, interestingly, was George Wyndham, an early viticulturalist who became one of the best known winemakers in New South Wales. However, he decided not to take up land at Port Macquarie, choosing instead to consolidate his holdings in the Hunter Valley.

Other early applicants included people who had only recently arrived in the colony. Some of them, while not personally acquainted with Port Macquarie, must have received favourable advice and moved with

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<sup>1</sup> *Sir Thomas Brisbane to Lord Bathurst 21 May 1825*. Historical Records of Australia Series 1 Vol 11 p604

<sup>2</sup> *The Australian* 15 April 1829; 21 April 1829; 19 August 1829; 14 April 1830

<sup>3</sup> Surveyor General: Select list of maps and plans, 1792-1886 [State Records NSW (NRS 13870) Item 3813 Plan of Macquarie District/Ralfe & D’Arcy]

<sup>4</sup> Surveyor General: Select list of maps and plans, 1792-1886 [State Records NSW (NRS 13870) Item 3653 Macquarie/Ralfe]

<sup>5</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 31 July 1830 p1

<sup>6</sup> Colonial Secretary: Special Bundles 1826-32: Port Macquarie – opening of settlement [State Records NSW (NRS 906) Ref: 4/4568.2; Minute 30/7365]

remarkable alacrity. William Henry Geary RN, who only arrived in Sydney in April 1830 after delivering a shipload of immigrants to the new colony at the Swan River,<sup>7</sup> had only a few weeks to secure his promise of land before re-boarding his vessel, the *Gilmore*, in order to return her to London. Geary nominated William Skottowe Parker as his agent, authorising him to select the land on his, Geary's, behalf.<sup>8</sup>

Another recent arrival was Edward Waterton, who had been a passenger on the *Gilmore* but had decided not to stay at the Swan River. His name was also added to the list of applicants.

By the late 1830s most of the land along the Hastings River as far as its junction with the Forbes River, as well as a large proportion of that along the Maria and Wilson Rivers and some on Pipers Creek, had been taken up, though the issue of title deeds lagged well behind since official surveys were still continuing. However, most of the owners—or at least those who had not died or sold out by that time—were well ensconced on their estates, whether or not they actually resided there. Many farms were operated by hired overseers and assigned convicts, though the latter were in increasingly short supply as a significant number of the prisoners still held at Port Macquarie were invalids while many of the more able-bodied were required for public works.

One person who took personal charge of his estate, sadly to his cost, was Lieutenant Matthew Mitchell RN, a local magistrate who, in July 1833, while supervising clearing work on his 2560 acre estate, was killed by a falling tree.<sup>9</sup> It seems that Mitchell was partially deaf and did not hear the warning cry as the tree was felled.

Many, though by no means all, of the landowners named their new estates. Some simply took an existing name, either of European origin, such as Mitchell's 'Red Bank', or of Aboriginal origin such as Robert Ackroyd's 'Barombin'. As observed earlier, Ralfe and D'Arcy, when making their surveys of the region, had been meticulous in following Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell's instruction to record the native names of places wherever possible. Many such names were shown on their original plan<sup>10</sup> and several also appeared on Mitchell's famous 3-Sheet Map of the Colony of New South Wales published in 1834. Other grantees who adopted native names for their estates included George Jobling (Goolawa), Charles Robertson Hyndman (Wallibree), and John Maughan (Yeppin Yeppin).

However, most of the names were newly conferred by their proprietors, thereby making their estates more readily identifiable and, at the same time, often providing some insight into the lives and histories of those who bestowed the names. The estates considered in this project are shown on the accompanying map, together with their names and their proprietors. With only one exception (Thrumster), they will be considered in the order in which they appear on the map.

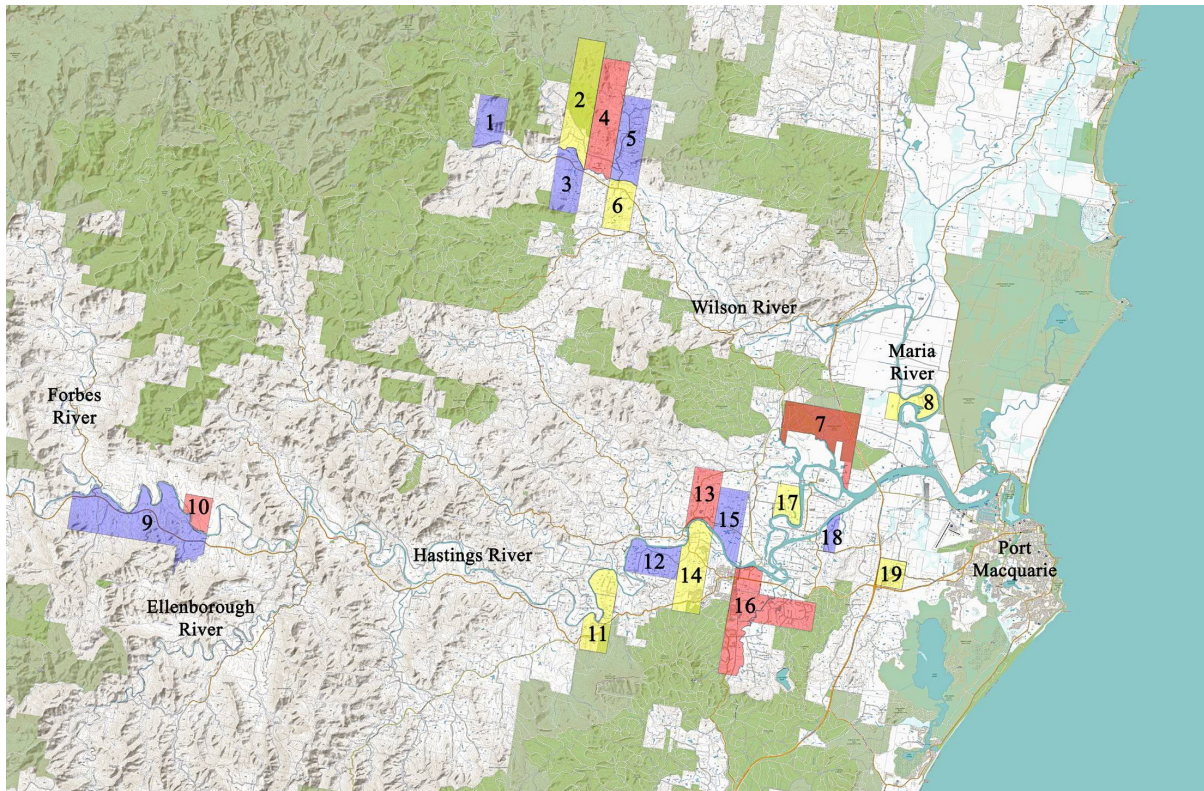
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<sup>7</sup> *The Australian* 16 April 1830 p3

<sup>8</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56 [State Records NSW (NRS 907); Ref: 2/7863]

<sup>9</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 5 August 1833 p2

<sup>10</sup> Surveyor General: Select list of maps and plans, 1792-1886 [State Records NSW (NRS 13870) Item 3813 Plan of Macquarie District/Ralfe & D'Arcy]



Map Key	Estate Name	Nomenclator	Acres
1	Glenesk	Magnus MacLeod	1109
2	Glencoe	William Henry Geary	2560
3	Tilbuster Lodge	Margaret Innes	1280
4	Allandale	David Allan	2560
5	Clarefield	William Skottowe Parker	1920
6	Willesbro	William Henry Freeman	1070
7	Irvine	James Munn	2560
8	Killwinning	James Munn	800
9	Yarrows	Archibald Clunes Innes	4595
10	Clunes Leigh	Archibald Clunes Innes	640
11	Huntington	Charles George Gray	1016
12	Rosewood Park	Anne Mary Parker	1280
13	Milo	Thomas Constant Paggett Morton	1267
14	Crosland	William Cross	1920
15	Green Bourne	Edward Waterton	1280
16	Wauchope	Robert Andrew Wauch	3465
17	Hursley	Thomas Caswell	700
18	Mauldon	James Ralfe	300
19	Thrumster	Archibald Clunes Innes	640
-	Bighouse	Hugh & Patrick Mackay	?
-	Coulfintry	Robert Graham & William Mackenzie	?

## GLENESK

<b>Area:</b>	1109 acres (449 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of Wilson River – Portion 5, Parish of Tinebank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Magnus MacLeod
<b>Source of Name:</b>	South Esk River district, Tasmania
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift
	5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Glen Esk Road
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Not registered

### Historical Notes:

Magnus MacLeod was the eldest child of Donald and Catherine MacLeod, born on 30 August 1807 at Talisker on the Hebridean island of Skye.<sup>1</sup> His family had lived at Talisker for two centuries and Donald was the sixth MacLeod tacksman, the name given to a person, usually related to the freeholder, who leased a large portion of the laird's land and derived income from sub-letting parts of it to others. The *tack*, as the leased land was known, was generally considered to be hereditary and was passed on within the family in the same way as freehold title.

During the 1790s Donald MacLeod held a lieutenancy in the army and served in India before returning to Skye in 1800, shortly after the death of his father, Magnus 5<sup>th</sup> of Talisker. He took up the rank of major in a local militia regiment<sup>2</sup> and in 1806 he married Catherine MacLean, daughter of Alexander MacLean 14<sup>th</sup> of Coll, an island to the south of Skye. However, as time passed, and as his family grew and his rent increased, his financial situation slowly worsened to the point that he decided to emigrate to the colonies. Unlike most departing Scots who headed for North America, he chose to go to Van Diemen's Land, perhaps influenced by the fact that his family had connections with another Hebridean, Lachlan Macquarie, who was, at that time, governor of New South Wales.

In June 1820, having sold his lease on Talisker and moved to the mainland, Donald, Catherine and at least two of their children—it is unclear just how many they had—proceeded to the port of Leith where they boarded the *Skelton* bound for Hobart Town. The voyage was largely uneventful apart from Catherine giving birth to another child during the course of the journey.

The *Skelton* arrived at Hobart on 18 November 1820<sup>3</sup> and remained there for six weeks before departing for Port Jackson on 5 January 1821, again with the MacLeods on board. After their arrival in Sydney eleven days later, Donald, accompanied by Catherine and the children, paid a courtesy visit on Governor Macquarie.<sup>4</sup> Their conversation, no doubt, included the matter of the 2000 acres of land that had been

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<sup>1</sup> Donald MacKinnon and Alick Morrison. *The Macleods--The Genealogy of a Clan*. Section II. The Clan MacLeod Society, Edinburgh, 1968.

<sup>2</sup> James Hunter. *Scottish Exodus: Travels among a Worldwide Clan*. Mainstream, Edinburgh, 2007

<sup>3</sup> *The Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter* 18 November 1820 p2

<sup>4</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 20 January 1821 p2

promised to the Major prior to their departure from Scotland. Afterwards, the MacLeods remained in Sydney until towards the end of March when they joined the *Prince Leopold* to return to Hobart.<sup>5</sup>

The weeks spent in Sydney enabled MacLeod to sort out the details of his land grant and soon after returning to Van Diemen's Land he and his family took up their land at Perth, a short distance south of Launceston. The property, for which a full survey description was not published until more than a decade later,<sup>6</sup> was bounded on one side by the South Esk River, named after the Scottish river that flows through Forfarshire (Angus). Donald MacLeod called his estate 'Talisker' after their old home on Skye.

While Major MacLeod and those of his family who had accompanied him were settling into their new home, it seems that Magnus, who would have been almost thirteen years old when the family emigrated, remained in Scotland, apparently with some of his siblings. This is inferred from press reports which mention only three MacLeod children—possibly including the one born during the voyage—being with their parents on the initial voyage. The inference is substantiated by a report that among the passengers arriving at Hobart on 4 October 1825 on board the Australian Company's ship *Triton*, which had sailed from Leith on 21 May, were 'five Children and a Governess of Major McLeod's, of Tallisker.'<sup>7</sup> One was named as Mr Magnus MacLeod<sup>8</sup> and it may, therefore, be reasonably assumed that this was Donald and Catherine's now 18-year-old son, come to rejoin his parents and bringing with him the rest of the family.

The MacLeods' farm was relatively isolated, though no more so than their former home on Skye. Donald built a mill there<sup>9</sup> and commenced both a milling service and a flour supply business.<sup>10</sup> However, other commodities were also retailed there according to one correspondent who labeled Donald MacLeod 'the worshipful grogman at Tallisker' after the Major was fined for selling spirits without a licence.<sup>11</sup> The unidentified correspondent clearly had no love for MacLeod, referring to his former estate as 'a cluster of beetling rocks on a desolate part of the Scottish coast' and to Donald himself as a 'great little man.' Nevertheless, MacLeod, who went to Sydney to plead with government that the liquor had been unlawfully sold without his knowledge and contrary to his consent, seems to have been vindicated.<sup>12</sup>

A greater problem for those at 'Talisker' and the surrounding district was the lack of police. The MacLeods and others were frequently exposed to raids by bushrangers<sup>13</sup> and by 1835 the situation had become so serious that a public meeting was called at which motions were passed to express 'its want of confidence in the promises made by Government' and to establish a subscription fund to form an association 'for the suppression of felonies'<sup>14</sup> – presumably a kind of citizen force or vigilante group. Lesser irritations for the Major included prisoners absconding from service<sup>15</sup> and stock straying on to his property.<sup>16</sup>

Whether it was the difficulties at 'Talisker' or a desire to strike out on his own that impelled Magnus MacLeod to move to the mainland is not recorded. However, in October 1835, after a decade in Van Diemen's Land, he boarded the schooner *Jess* bound for Sydney,<sup>17</sup> taking with him 135 sacks of flour and

<sup>5</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 31 March 1821 p 2

<sup>6</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* 31 October 1834 p4

<sup>7</sup> *Colonial Times and Tasmanian Advertiser* 7 October 1825 p2

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 20 October 1825 p2

<sup>9</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser* 26 October 1822 p2

<sup>10</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser* 19 March 1824 p4

<sup>11</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser* 20 May 1825 p3

<sup>12</sup> *Colonial Times and Tasmanian Advertiser* 26 August 1825 p3

<sup>13</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* 10 January 1829 p2

<sup>14</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* 13 November 1835 p3

<sup>15</sup> *Colonial Times* 11 September 1829 p2; 9 October 1829 p2

<sup>16</sup> *Launceston Advertiser* 13 December 1832 p 394

<sup>17</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 2 November 1835 p2

407 sacks of oats.<sup>18</sup> Within weeks of his arrival he applied to purchase three 640-acre portions of land on the Wilson River at Upper Rollands Plains, two of them situated on the south side of the river immediately west of Margaret Innes' property, 'Tilbuster', with the third on the northern bank of the river adjacent to William Geary's 'Glencoe'.<sup>19</sup> Unfortunately for Magnus, the portions had apparently not been released for sale so shortly afterwards he applied to purchase an advertised portion, Lot 67 of the sale of 9 March 1836. Comprising 1109 acres it lay further up the Wilson River on the northern bank in an area named Cogo, and included what Surveyor James Ralfe had earlier labeled a 'fertile flat'.<sup>20</sup> The purchase price was £277 5s and, after lodging a ten per cent deposit on the day, Magnus paid the balance exactly one month later and the deed was executed on 6 June 1836.<sup>21</sup> He quickly took possession and, perhaps surprisingly, did not name it 'Talisker' as one might have expected, but instead chose to call it 'Glenesk'. Since his family had no known connection with the North and South Esk Rivers in Scotland, it is presumed that the name was chosen to commemorate the location of 'Talisker' on the South Esk River near Launceston.

Magnus MacLeod might have thought that some of the difficulties he and his family had faced in Van Diemen's Land were now behind him, but he was mistaken. On 9 February 1837, less than a year after he moved to 'Glenesk', three cedar cutters—John Peacock, Charles Somerville and William Lenox—were killed at Cogo by Aborigines thought to be members of the Cowarrall tribe.<sup>22</sup> The Government offered a £40 reward for the apprehension of any of the Aborigines, three of whom—Jackey, Old Parker and



*McIver family at 'Glenesk' - undated*  
[Port Macquarie Historical Society]

Charley—had been identified along with a man with a withered leg. Commenting on the matter, the editor of *The Sydney Gazette* expressed his opinion that 'these savages should be murdered by the Europeans in cold blood',<sup>23</sup> an incendiary statement to make in a newspaper that was generally considered to serve as the government's mouthpiece. Magnus MacLeod might or might not have shared the sentiment; three years earlier, in Van Diemen's Land, he had contributed one guinea to a fund established 'for the

purpose of taking into consideration the great benefit resulting to the island at large from the services of Mr. G. A. Robinson, in the humane and bloodless capture of the Aboriginal natives of the island.' Although

<sup>18</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 10 November 1835 p2

<sup>19</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56 [State Records NSW (NRS 907). Ref: 2/7925]

<sup>20</sup> Surveyor General: Select list of maps and plans, 1792-1886 [State Records NSW (NRS 13870) Item 3813 Plan of Macquarie District/Ralfe & D'Arcy]

<sup>21</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56 [State Records NSW (NRS 907). Ref: 2/7925]

<sup>22</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 31 March 1837 p2

<sup>23</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 1 April 1837 p2

George Augustus Robinson's actions in relocating Aborigines to island reserves during the so-called 'Black War' in Tasmania have since been debated, there is a degree of consensus that he was motivated, at least initially, by feelings of sympathy for the Aboriginal population.

It is also interesting to note that *The Sydney Gazette* later moderated its tone, and in a long article published just a year after the Cogo killings, acknowledged that in relation to the conflicts between Whites and Blacks at Port Macquarie, the former were often the aggressors, and they included not only 'ignorant and unprincipled convicts' but also 'a man entrusted with the administration of the law.'<sup>24</sup>

As Magnus MacLeod came to terms with his situation on the Hastings, the 'Talisker' estate at Launceston was being subdivided into smaller portions, the first of which were offered at auction in November 1836,<sup>25</sup> followed by others over the next two years.<sup>26</sup> Meanwhile, Major MacLeod, with his wife and two daughters, had moved to Sydney<sup>27</sup> where, on 11 April 1838, at their residence on Hunter Street, Donald MacLeod died.<sup>28</sup>

There is not a great deal more to write about Magnus MacLeod's years at *Glenesk*. He cleared and cultivated part of the land, growing maize and, most likely, sugar cane and establishing an orchard. He also had a licence for a stock run at Dondingalong near the Macleay River which was later transferred to another licensee.<sup>29</sup> As to the earlier killings on his property, in 1843, more than six years after the event, an Aborigine with a withered leg, Therramitchie, came before the Maitland Circuit Court charged with the 'wilful murder of John Pocock on the 9th February 1837 at Cogo, by beating him on the head with a stick.' Despite some legitimate doubt over the identification, he was convicted and sentenced to death. He was hanged on gallows erected outside the gaol walls at Port Macquarie, the last act in a most painful episode.

In 1850 MacLeod left Port Macquarie and moved to Victoria where he spent most of the rest of his life. He died at Geelong on in June 1883.

Following his departure 'Glenesk' became the home of Frederick Mackellar, a well-respected doctor whose son, Sir Charles Mackellar, and granddaughter, Dorothea Mackellar, both later became household names. Dr Mackellar died at 'Glenesk' in June 1863<sup>30</sup> but his widow retained the estate for a further three years before putting it up for sale.<sup>31</sup> The property was later occupied by the McIver family, continuing the line of Scottish heritage.

Although 'Glenesk' no longer appears on Lands Department maps and is not included in the Geographical Names Board register, the road that passes through it is known as the Glen Esk Road, and the name, if not its origin, is still well remembered in the Hastings district.

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<sup>24</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 6 February 1838 p2

<sup>25</sup> *The Cornwall Chronicle* 5 November 1836 p3

<sup>26</sup> *The Cornwall Chronicle* 30 March 1839 p3

<sup>27</sup> *The Colonist* 8 June 1837 p7

<sup>28</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 17 April 1838 p3

<sup>29</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 October 1848 p2

<sup>30</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 29 June 1863 p1

<sup>31</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 7 April 1866 p10

## GLENCOE

<b>Area:</b>	2560 acres (1036 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of the Wilson River – Portion 4, Parish of Tinebank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	William Henry Geary
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Unknown
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	Uncertain
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Glencoe Creek
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Creek – Ref. No. 20585

### Historical and Genealogical Notes:

There is considerable uncertainty as to William Henry Geary's origins. According to his death certificate he was born in Kent, England about 1795 and his parents were Colonel William Henry Geary and Louisa Montague.<sup>1</sup> This information was almost certainly furnished by Geary's son, Godfrey Nairne Benjamin Geary, and son-in-law Fitzroy William Henry Somerset, husband of Geary's youngest daughter, Anna Martha.

A different version was recorded in 1973 by Dorothy Edmunds, presumably based in part on information provided by Sylvia de Winton, a great granddaughter of William Geary.<sup>2</sup> Edmunds named Geary's father as Lieutenant Colonel Godfrey William Geary, his mother as the daughter of Robert Montague Esquire, Sub-Sheriff of Derbyshire, and his birthplace as Carlisle, Cumberland. She also cites a letter, purportedly written by Geary in 1859 to his eldest son, Henry Vincent, in which he is said to have written:

Our Coat of Arms is to be found in every book of Heraldry.

There are but two branches of the same family – one in Kent, the other in Cumberland.

Vice Admiral SIR EDWARD GEARY, Commander-in-Chief at the Norse is your immediate ancestor, as your Grandfather was his first cousin, and he again first cousin to SIR WILLIAM of Kent, also an Admiral.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to validate either account of William Henry Geary's birth and familial relationships. No relevant information could be found either in readily available genealogical databases or through contemporaneous sources such as newspapers, journals or directories, publications that rarely failed to mention significant events in the lives of prominent families.

The only Geary of great moment in 18<sup>th</sup> century Britain appears to be Admiral Sir Francis Geary (1709 – 1796) who, in recognition of his services, was created 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet Geary in 1782. Sir Francis, who 'was the descendant of an ancient family, which had been long settled at Aberystwith, in the county of Cardigan' but was possibly born at Cheddington, Buckinghamshire or Areall Magna, Shropshire,<sup>3</sup> was at one point in his

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Justice and Attorney-General Queensland. Register of Deaths: Ref: 1870/B6173: William Henry Geary

<sup>2</sup> Dorothy Edmunds. *Summary of Lieut. W. H. Geary R.N., July 1973*. Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc.

<sup>3</sup> John Campbell. *Naval History of Great Britain, including the History and Lives of the British Admirals*. Vol 6 p185 – 196. John Stockdale, London 1813



career the commander-in-chief at the Nore,<sup>4</sup> at the mouth of the Thames Estuary. It is therefore assumed that he was the person who, in the letter mentioned by Edmunds, was referred to as ‘Sir Edward Geary’, first cousin to William Henry Geary’s father. As to Sir William Geary of Kent, the other notable, if more distant, relative, he was the second baronet and the son, not the cousin, of Sir Francis, and while he twice represented Kent in the parliament he was never a naval officer, let alone an Admiral. All in all, there are too many holes in this particular story, even if it was compiled by William Henry Geary himself—a questionable proposition—, for it to be taken very seriously.

In fact, our first firm knowledge of William Henry Geary comes from 1808 when, as a Midshipman on the Royal Navy’s 14-gun brig HMS *Charger*, he was slightly wounded in an engagement with the Danish fleet off the Danish coast below Kronborg Castle at Elsinore. He was wounded again the following year during the attack on the boom at Fort Lillo in the Walcheren expedition.<sup>5</sup>

The fact that William entered the navy as a midshipman, and not as an ordinary seaman, suggests that he came from a comfortably-placed family, and his naval career substantiates this. He continued his service with HMS *Freija*, a 40-gun 5<sup>th</sup> rate frigate which saw action at the defence of Cadiz in 1812, and four years later he was promoted to Acting Lieutenant on the 20-gun sloop HMS *Tay* commanded by Captain Samuel Roberts.

On 11 November 1816 the *Tay* was wrecked on the Alacranes reef off Campeachy (now Campeche) in the Gulf of Mexico. The ship was carrying a large amount of money, at least some hundreds of thousands of dollars, and perhaps as much as two million. A Spanish corvette, *Vallancy*, came to the *Tay*’s assistance, but a few days later, perhaps having learned about the money, Captain Varines, commander of the *Vallancy*, took Captain Samuel Roberts, his officers and crew prisoner. Eventually, the situation was resolved but in February 1817 a Court Martial was held to look into the circumstances surrounding the loss of the *Tay*. The Court attached no blame to Captain Roberts but one midshipman was dismissed and a few members of the crew flogged for stealing money. William Geary, however, was praised for his efforts, Captain Roberts describing him as ‘an officer of consummate merit, to which no language I am master of can do sufficient justice, but which I trust will nevertheless attract the favourable notice of his superiors.’ The Court added its commendation of Geary ‘whose prompt and officerlike conduct, as officer of the watch when the breakers were first discovered, entitle him to the approbation of the Court.’<sup>6</sup>

Despite these encomiums Geary had to wait for a suitable vacancy to arise before he could gain promotion. In 1821, still as Acting Lieutenant, he was placed in command of HMS *Speedwell*, a 5-gun schooner employed against pirates in the West Indies. His success in this venture earned him a piece of silver plate from the grateful Liverpool underwriters. At last, in 1823, while serving on the *Surinam* on the West India station, his promotion to Lieutenant was confirmed. Geary’s last ship was the *Acorn* which he joined in 1826 but on leaving that vessel he was placed in reserve on half-pay.<sup>7</sup>

Nevertheless it was an experienced seaman who, in 1829, was released by the Admiralty to command the *Gilmore*, a 500-ton merchant vessel contracted to convey Thomas Peel’s 180-strong contingent of emigrants bound for the Swan River with the intention of establishing a settlement there.<sup>8</sup> The *Gilmore* left St

<sup>4</sup> *British Naval Biography: comprising the lives of the most distinguished Admirals, from Howard to Codrington*. 4<sup>th</sup> Edn p361-365. Adam Scott, London, 1853

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Allen. *The New Navy List and General Record of the Services of Officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines*. Parker, Furnivall & Parker, London. 1855; P Benyon. *Index of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Naval Vessels* (online at [www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/C/C.html](http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/18-1900/C/C.html))

<sup>6</sup> *Hampshire Chronicle* 9 June 1817 p2

<sup>7</sup> William R. O’Byrne. *A Naval Biographical Dictionary: comprising the Life and Services of every living officer in Her Majesty’s Navy, from the rank of Admiral of the Fleet to that of Lieutenant, inclusive* p391. John Murray, London 1849

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 9 May 1829; 7 November 1829

Katherine's Dock, London on 18 July 1829, picking up emigrants at Gravesend and Plymouth,<sup>9</sup> then calling at Falmouth before proceeding to the Cape of Good Hope where she arrived on 1 November. Two days later Lieutenant Geary married one of the emigrants, 'a lovely and accomplished female settler, Miss Susan Smythe, youngest daughter of Benjamin Smythe, Esq., of Liverpool.'<sup>10</sup>

Benjamin Smythe, his wife Anne, sons George Douglas and Henry Wilson Hutchinson, and daughters Martha, Anne and 18-year-old Susan were on the *Gilmore* because Benjamin, who had previously worked as a surveyor, engineer and schoolmaster in Liverpool,<sup>11</sup> had been engaged by Peel to make surveys at the Swan River.<sup>12</sup>

The voyage was interrupted for a few days at the Cape while William and Susan enjoyed a short honeymoon. The *Gilmore* then proceeded to Bengal and from there to the Swan River where she arrived on 15 December, the entire journey having taken five months.

Most of the passengers, including all the Smythe family except Susan, disembarked at the new settlement though a few remained with the *Gilmore* for her onward voyage to Sydney. However, the Peel venture ran into severe difficulties<sup>13</sup> and, facing destitution, many of the would-be settlers moved on to other places. In March 1831, Benjamin Smythe sailed to Launceston where he set up in business.<sup>14</sup> Two months later his wife and one daughter, Anne, joined him and launched a Ladies School there.<sup>15</sup> Their other daughter, Martha, went to live with William and Susan Geary in Sydney, and later moved with them to Port Macquarie where, in April 1835, she married Captain William Lonsdale.<sup>16</sup> George and Henry Smythe remained at the Swan River for a year or two until moving to Port Phillip where both were employed as surveyors.

When the *Gilmore* arrived in Sydney 13 April 1830<sup>17</sup> Susan Geary was five months into her first pregnancy, and while she prepared for the birth William was busy planning for their future. On 12 June he wrote to the Colonial Secretary, Alexander Macleay, stating that 'was I not in honor bound to return my ship to her owner in London, I should have no hesitation in giving up the command and remaining here.' He went on to say that his wife and family would stay in New South Wales and 'should his Excellency be pleased to give me a grant of Land Conditionally it would materially benefit my Family as I purpose returning immediately to this Colony.'<sup>18</sup>

Susan gave birth to a son, Henry Vincent, on 3 August 1830<sup>19</sup> but the question of a land grant was still not resolved by 15 October when Geary commenced his return journey to London on the *Gilmore*,<sup>20</sup> carrying

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<sup>9</sup> Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc. *Passenger List Swan River Pioneers 1829 – 1838*. Online at <http://membership.wags.org.au/1829-ships/111-gilmore>

<sup>10</sup> *North Devon Journal* 4 February 1830 p4

<sup>11</sup> *The Repertory of Patent Inventions: and other Discoveries and Improvements in Arts, Manufactures and Agriculture*. Vol.10 p378. T. and G. Underwood, London. 1830

<sup>12</sup> Iain Malcolm Stuart. Smythe family biographies online at [www.academia.edu/1606244/Biography\\_of\\_George\\_Douglas\\_Smythe\\_and\\_William\\_Henry\\_Hutchinson\\_Smythe\\_Surveyors](http://www.academia.edu/1606244/Biography_of_George_Douglas_Smythe_and_William_Henry_Hutchinson_Smythe_Surveyors)

<sup>13</sup> Shane Burke, Peter Di Marco and Simon Meath. *The land 'flow[ing] ... with milk and honey': Cultural landscape changes at Peel town, Western Australia, 1829–1830*. *Australasian Historical Archaeology* 28, 5 – 12 (2010)

<sup>14</sup> *Launceston Advertiser* 4 April 1831 p111

<sup>15</sup> *Launceston Advertiser* 16 May 1831 p157; 27 June 1831 p205

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 13 April 1835 p3

<sup>17</sup> *The Australian* 16 April 1830 p3

<sup>18</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56. [State Records NSW (NRS 907). Ref: 2/7863]

<sup>19</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 7 August 1830 p3

<sup>20</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 16 October 1830 p2

what had earlier been described as ‘one of the most splendid cargoes of Australian produce that ever passed between the Heads’ as well as a number of passengers.<sup>21</sup> However, he must have received a promise of land for he appointed an agent, William Skottowe Parker, the former Superintendent of Agriculture at Port Macquarie. On 5 November Parker wrote to the Surveyor General to say that he had selected 2560 acres for Geary ‘on the North Bank of Wilsons River, Port Macquarie, marked on the map “alluvial flat”, opposite to Mrs Innes’ Grant.’ Parker went on to request that ‘should this situation be approved of that it be called Vincent’s Plain, it being the wish of Lieut Geary.’ The selection was close to Parker’s own estate, ‘Clarefield’.

Circumstances combined to slow the *Gilmore’s* voyage to London<sup>22</sup> but she arrived at Deal on 18 March 1831<sup>23</sup> before proceeding to London where Geary helped arrange the sale of the cargo. He left London again on 23 December as a passenger on board the brig *Grecian*, arriving back in Sydney on 18 April 1832 and being re-united with his wife and son after an absence of a year and a half.<sup>24</sup> A few weeks later he was appointed Harbour Master at Port Macquarie<sup>25</sup> and the family came to settle in the district soon afterwards.

It seems that, for the most part, the Gearys’ lives at Port Macquarie were relatively uneventful. In 1833 William was appointed to the magistracy and began to sit on the bench of the local court.<sup>26</sup> He and Susan had a cottage near the flagstaff commanding a fine view of the harbour and the coast to the north,<sup>27</sup> and their family increased with the arrival three more children by 1836. At that point William, who was still on half-pay from the Admiralty, resigned as Harbour Master<sup>28</sup> and spent more time at the farm on the Wilson River which, despite his initial preference for the name ‘Vincent’s Plain’, was called ‘Glencoe’.

Over the years William and Susan probably saw little of the Smythe family though in 1839 Susan’s parents visited Port Macquarie from Launceston, bringing with them the Geary’s eldest son, Henry, who had apparently been spending some time with them.<sup>29</sup> Sadly, local records suggest that a few months after their arrival Benjamin died at ‘Glencoe’ and was buried on the property.<sup>30</sup>

Disturbances to their lives were infrequent, though when they did occur they were often notable. In 1837 a convict going by the unlikely name of Baptist Bagster appeared before Acting Chief Justice Dowling and a Military Jury on a charge of attempting to defraud Geary of £12 8s by uttering a forged note. He was found guilty and sentenced to transportation for life, presumably ending up at Moreton Bay.<sup>31</sup>

In 1841 Charles Fowler, one of Geary’s men, was shot and wounded by bushrangers at Ballengara on his way back to ‘Glencoe’ from Port Macquarie.<sup>32</sup> Then, in 1843, Geary and another Rolland Plains settler, Joseph Richard Middleton, fought a duel, with Surveyor James Ralfe as Geary’s second, and William Mackenzie as Middleton’s second. The reason for the duel is not known but fortunately it ended without injury.<sup>33</sup>

In March 1847, by which time four more children had been added to the family, William Geary was again involved in a legal dispute when the Police Magistrate, William Nairne Gray, was summonsed to appear in

<sup>21</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 19 August 1830, 16 October 1830

<sup>22</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 30 July 1831

<sup>23</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 1 August 1831 p2

<sup>24</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 18 April 1832 p3

<sup>25</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 24 May 1832 p3

<sup>26</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 28 March 1833 p2

<sup>27</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 9 April 1842 p1

<sup>28</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 2 August 1836 p3

<sup>29</sup> *The Cornwall Chronicle* 9 March 1839 p2

<sup>30</sup> Dorothy Edmunds *op.cit.*

<sup>31</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 17 May 1837 p2

<sup>32</sup> *The Australian* 16 November 1841 p2

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 12 January 1843

court on a charge of maliciously destroying fences and forcing his way through William Hayley's farm, 'Clarefield', at Upper Rollands Plains. Geary was one of three magistrates set to hear the case but Hayley's counsel objected to his inclusion on the bench, claiming that Geary himself had done something similar on a previous occasion. However, Geary continued to sit as Gray, the defendant, convinced the other two magistrates, Captains Wauch and Jobling, that the summons was illegal. Consequently, the case was dismissed.<sup>34</sup>

Shortly afterwards, during a visit by Governor Fitzroy to Port Macquarie, Geary, Gray and Wauch were involved in another confrontation when, following the governor's departure from a festive gathering of local notables, Wauch accused Geary and Dr Gamack, the Assistant Colonial Surgeon, of being spies on the conduct of Gray. He went on to say that the information came from Gray himself, which Gray vehemently denied. At this, as the Melbourne *Argus* delightedly explained, 'a general uproar took place, two parties were formed, and fighting, breaking of glasses, &c, &c, ensued, till the police interfered and put a stop to the disgraceful scene.' Gray then sent a challenge to Wauch, which was accepted and a meeting arranged. However, when Major Innes, the town's leading citizen, heard of the fracas he quickly came into town to defuse the situation and nothing further appears to have happened. However, as the *Argus* noted, there was 'no question that all the parties concerned were greatly under the influence of the juice of the grape, which they had been imbibing.'<sup>35</sup>

One reason for tensions being high at that time was that, apart from the colony remaining in the grip of a depressed economy, the convict establishment at Port Macquarie was being broken up, and with the withdrawal of convict labour, running the large estates was becoming far more difficult. Free labourers expected to be paid, something that the estate owners had not had to face previously, and over the next few years a number of them attempted to sell or lease their properties. Geary was more fortunate than some in that his experience as a seaman was still valued. In 1849 it was rumoured that he would be appointed as Acting Harbour Master at Port Phillip during the absence of Harbour Master Captain Bunbury from the colony.<sup>36</sup> This does not seem to have occurred but in October 1851 Geary was appointed Harbour Master at Moreton Bay<sup>37</sup> and moved there soon afterwards to take up his duties. His wife and children followed, though sadly, on 16 October 1852, Susan died at their home on Kangaroo Point.<sup>38</sup> She was only forty-one and left behind five daughters and four sons, the youngest of whom, Douglas, was just three years old when his mother died. William Geary continued his work as Harbour Master until about 1866 when he retired.<sup>39</sup> He died at his home in Adelaide Street, Brisbane on 29 January 1870 aged seventy-five.<sup>40</sup>

After the Gearys left Port Macquarie in 1851 'Glencoe' was at first occupied by Henry Douglass and later by Captain Brownrigg before being sold.<sup>41</sup> The name, however, remained unchanged and although the property has since been subdivided the name lives on in the form of *Glencoe Creek*.

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<sup>34</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 March 1847 p2

<sup>35</sup> *The Melbourne Argus* 23 March 1847 p2

<sup>36</sup> *Geelong Advertiser* 4 August 1849 p1

<sup>37</sup> *The Moreton Bay Courier* 18 October 1851 p3

<sup>38</sup> *The Moreton Bay Courier* 16 October 1852 p3

<sup>39</sup> *The Darling Downs Gazette and General Advertiser* 2 February 1870

<sup>40</sup> *The Brisbane Courier* 31 January 1870

<sup>41</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 23 April 1858 p6

Nevertheless, it remains a mystery as to why Geary called his estate ‘Glencoe’ in preference to the name he first chose, ‘Vincent’s Plains’. The latter would have been easily explicable since ‘Vincent’ was the middle name of his eldest child, and one that might have been conferred in recognition of Admiral of the Fleet John Jervis, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of St Vincent, probably the most distinguished living officer at the time William Geary began his naval career. However, it must be noted that although nothing has been found to associate him with the name ‘Glencoe’, there remain many unanswered questions surrounding his ancestry and heritage, so the answer might lie there. The possibility must also be considered that it was not he who conferred the name, and that maybe during his absence when returning the *Gilmore* to London, someone else decided that it would be a suitable name for the locality. More information on these matters might emerge in the future.

## TILBUSTER LODGE

<b>Area:</b>	1280 acres (518 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of Wilson River – Portion 8, Parish of Cogo
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Margaret Innes (née Macleay)
<b>Source of Name:</b>	‘Tilbuster Lodge’, Godstone, Surrey, England
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift
	5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Tilbusterfield – Rollands Plains Upper Primary School
<b>NSW Geographical Names</b>	Not registered <sup>1</sup>
<b>Board:</b>	

### Historical and Genealogical Notes:

Margaret Innes was the daughter of one of the most powerful figures in the colony, Alexander Macleay, Colonial Secretary of New South Wales from 1825 to 1837 and, later, the Speaker of the first partly elected Legislative Council.

Alexander was born in Ross, Scotland and grew up in Caithness where his father, William Macleay, served as Provost of Wick and deputy-lieutenant of the county. However, in 1786, nineteen-year-old Alexander moved to London where he entered into a partnership with wine merchant William Sharp. In 1791 he married Elizabeth Barclay and their first child, William Sharp Macleay, was born the following year.<sup>2</sup>

Over the next twenty two years Elizabeth had sixteen more children including Margaret who was born in 1802. Although five of the children died while still in their teens, and another two in infancy, ten offspring survived to adulthood, placing considerably financial pressure on the family. Alexander was lucky in that he was relatively secure, having joined the public service and becoming Secretary of the Transport Board in 1806. He also became well known and respected for his distinguished work as an entomologist and collector, and as a fellow and secretary of Linnaean Society of London.<sup>3</sup> The family’s principal residence was in Queen Square, Westminster, but they also had a country seat near Godstone in Surrey. Its name was ‘Tilbuster Lodge’ and Alexander purchased it in about 1807.<sup>4</sup>

Unfortunately for Alexander, the Transport Board was abolished in 1817 and with it went his job. Matters got worse when he lost money in the collapse of his brother’s bank in Scotland, so the offer of appointment as Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, with the prospect of a large house in Sydney and an annual salary of £2000, came as a heaven-sent opportunity to be relieved of his financial woes. It also solved a problem for the man who made the offer, the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies, Lord Bathurst, who had been pestered by the friction between the then Governor of New South Wales, Sir Thomas

<sup>1</sup> *Tilbuster* is the registered name of four places in the Armidale Dumaresq region of New England – Tilbuster (Locality, Ref: 58925), Tilbuster (Parish, Ref: 58926), Tilbuster Creek (Ref: 58927), Tilbuster Ponds (Ref: 58928). The names are derived from the station established by brothers Henry and William Dumaresq, the latter of whom married Christiana Susan, second daughter of Alexander Macleay and sister of Margaret, the wife of Archibald Innes.

<sup>2</sup> Derelie Cherry. *Alexander Macleay : from Scotland to Sydney*. Paradise Publishers, Kulnura, N.S.W. 2012.

<sup>3</sup> *The Annals and Magazine of Natural History, including Zoology, Botany, and Geology*. Vol. 5 Second Series p 415-416. R. and J. E. Taylor, London. 1850.

<sup>4</sup> *Morning Post* (London) 22 May 1807

Brisbane, and his Colonial Secretary, Frederick Goulburn. Replacing the former with Sir Ralph Darling and the latter with Macleay would, Bathurst hoped, make his life a little more peaceful.<sup>5</sup>

Alexander was fifty-eight years old when, accompanied by his wife and six unmarried daughters, he left Portsmouth on 24 August 1825 on board the *Marquis of Hastings* bound for Port Jackson.<sup>6</sup> Arriving in Sydney in early January 1826 the Macleays soon settled into colonial life. Within a year or two they were comfortably ensconced in their large home at Elizabeth Bay, and in addition to his work as Colonial Secretary Alexander became president of the Benevolent Society and the Sydney Dispensary, as well as vice-patron of the Agricultural Society. He maintained his interest in natural history and encouraged the collection of specimens for a museum which he was intent on establishing. In pursuit of this aim he secured government funding though not everyone approved of spending public money on this kind of enterprise. Edward Smith Hall, a free settler who had arrived in the colony in 1811 and had received plenty of indulgences from government without great benefit to the public,<sup>7</sup> was especially critical. In a long letter to Lord Goderich, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which he told how he thought public money ought to be spent, Hall wrote:

Of the Colonial museum I know nothing. It has never been published to the Colony to my recollection as being in existence. I consider it a sort of imposition on the public. Zoology is a matter of taste, & gentlemen ought to conduct its details as they do their taste for chemistry (a much more important science), at their own private expense or by subscription. This expense was entailed upon the Colony when Governor Darling expended the public money according to the taste of his particular friends, and denying to Mr. M'Pherson, the Collector of Internal Revenue, the clerks requisite for carrying on his most important duties. I never saw the museum, and question if any thing worthy of the name be to be found in the Colony. It is attributed to the influence of Mr. M'Leay, who seems disposed to gratify his particular taste for Zoology at the public expense.<sup>8</sup>

Nevertheless, funds continued to flow and when the Committee of Superintendence of the Australian Museum and Botanical Garden was formed in 1836, Alexander Macleay was appointed as one of the ten members along with other eminent people including John Jamison, Phillip Parker King and Charles Sturt.<sup>9</sup>

By then, however, things had changed in the Macleay family. In 1829 Margaret, in a ceremony attended by the governor and other dignitaries, married Major Archibald Clunes Innes, a former commandant at Port Macquarie and, at the time, the Police Magistrate at Parramatta.<sup>10</sup> In March 1830 Innes resigned his appointment at Parramatta<sup>11</sup> but when Port Macquarie was opened to free settlement later that year he accepted the position of Police Magistrate there at a salary of £2000 a year. With their new financial independence Archibald and Margaret moved to Port Macquarie and began to acquire a number of large estates including the fabled Lake Innes Estate where they built a magnificent home.

In consequence of her marriage, the government awarded Margaret a 'marriage portion' of 1280 acres. She selected a spot on the south bank of the Wilson River at Upper Rollands Plains, then called Crotty's Plains, and named it 'Tilbuster Lodge'. Possession was authorised in January 1831 but when the deed of grant was

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<sup>5</sup> 'McLeay, Alexander (1767–1848)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mcleay-alexander-2413/text3197>

<sup>6</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 5 January 1826 p2

<sup>7</sup> M. J. B. Kenny, 'Hall, Edward Smith (1786–1860)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hall-edward-smith-2143/text2729>

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 6 October 1832 p2

<sup>9</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 18 June 1836 p4

<sup>10</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 17 October 1829 p3

<sup>11</sup> *The Australian* 5 March 1830 p4

formally issued almost two decades later in 1849 it was, by convention, made out to trustees William Sharp Macleay, Margaret's brother, and William Dumaresq, her brother-in-law.<sup>12</sup>

'Tilbuster Lodge', more usually known simply as 'Tilbuster', did not stand in isolation. Archibald Innes purchased portions on both its eastern and western sides to form what was, in effect, a single estate. The land to the east of 'Tilbuster' was known initially as 'Wallaby Hill' though the two names seem to have been used interchangeably for parts or all of the estate. In 1853 when 'Tilbuster' was offered for lease it was said to be 'generally known as *Wallabie Hill*'.<sup>13</sup> About 150 of the 1280 acres were under crops—wheat, maize and tobacco—while there was a seven room cottage, a fenced garden and orchard, an overseer's house, store, stables, barns and a flour mill. The farm was a substantial property.

When Margaret Innes named her estate 'Tilbuster Lodge' she was harking back to the country house in Surrey where she spent many of her early years. There was also a hint of a reference to the Macleays' ancestral home of Caithness where early maps showed many places with names ending in *-buster*,<sup>14</sup> the etymology of which is not known. Such places included Libuster, Okbuster, Robuster and Trumbuster, the last of which was later shortened to *Thrumster* and was the home of Major James Innes, Archibald's father.

In researching the name *Tilbuster* it was initially thought that Alexander Macleay, when he acquired the house at Godstone, must have named it for a place he already knew. However, this proved false when it was discovered that at least three maps of the County of Surrey published in the mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> century and pre-dating Macleay's interest in the area, show *Tilbuster Hill*. The earliest of these, produced by Robert Sayer, was published around 1760, a few years before Alexander Macleay was born.<sup>15</sup> The name also appeared on Antonio Zatta's map published in 1779,<sup>16</sup> and Thomas Kitchin's in 1786,<sup>17</sup> the year Macleay moved from Scotland to London. It is therefore assumed that the house derived its name from the hill well before Macleay's arrival there.

It is worth noting that Tilbuster Hill, which is the highest hill in East Surrey and one which, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, attracted attention because of its unusual geology,<sup>18</sup> was sometimes shown as *Tilburstow Hill*.<sup>19</sup> This could suggest some relationship to the village of Burstow around twelve kilometres to the south west but what that relationship might be is unknown.

Hence, while we have a coherent explanation of why Margaret Macleay chose to call her property *Tilbuster Lodge*, the origin and meaning of the name remain elusive.

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<sup>12</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 35/487 – 490

<sup>13</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 November 1853 p6

<sup>14</sup> see, for example, the following maps: *Cathenesia descripta ex magna ejusdem charta quam lustravit et descripsit Timoth. Pont.* Robert Gordon, 1642; Timothy Pont & Joan Blaeu. *Cathenesia*. Blaeu, Amsterdam. 1654; Herman Moll. *The Shires of Caithness and Sutherland. With Strath Navern which is Part of Sutherland Shire*. Bowles & Bowles, London. 1745.

<sup>15</sup> *A Modern Map of Surrey*. Robert Sayer, London. c.1760

<sup>16</sup> *Provincia di Surrey di Nuova Projezione*. Antonio Zatta, Venice. 1779

<sup>17</sup> *Surrey drawn from an actual survey and regulated by astronomical observations*. Thomas Kitchin, London. 1786

<sup>18</sup> Edward Charlesworth. *The Magazine of Natural History*. New Series Vol. 3 p399. Longman, Orme, Brown, Green, and Longmans, London, 1839

<sup>19</sup> Ordnance Survey Maps of England and Wales, First Series 1856, Sheet 6



**ALLANDALE**

<b>Area:</b>	2560 acres (1036 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of Wilson River – Portion 3, Parish of Tinebank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	David Allan
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Family name
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	7 Eponymous 7.1 Person 7.1.1 Other
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	<i>Alendale</i> – a farm occupying part of the original estate
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Not registered

**Historical Notes:**

David Allan was born in Scotland c.1780 and joined the army in September 1807 when he was appointed ‘Assistant Commissary of Stores, Provisions, and Forage to the Forces.’<sup>1</sup> He took charge of the stores in Heligoland, a group of islands off the German coast then in the possession of Britain,<sup>2</sup> but in 1813 he was appointed as Deputy Commissary General for New South Wales.<sup>3</sup> Allan and his family arrived in Sydney on the *Fortune* in June that year,<sup>4</sup> and he served as Deputy Commissary until 1819 when he was replaced by Frederick Drennan.<sup>5</sup> In 1817 Governor Macquarie granted him 2200 acres at Red Point near Port Kembla<sup>6</sup> which he later sold to Richard Jones and William Charles Wentworth.<sup>7</sup>

Following his replacement Allan took his family back to Britain, and after the death of his wife, Sophia, at Lambeth in 1821,<sup>8</sup> he spent most of his time at Portobello near Edinburgh where, in 1826, he married Elizabeth Rennie.<sup>9</sup>

Allan returned to Sydney in 1829 and on 17 September that year he received a promise of land from Governor Darling.<sup>10</sup> Allan selected four adjoining 640-acre portions on the Wilson River as a primary grant, but although possession was authorised on 21 April 1831 no evidence has been found to indicate that he ever resided there, or even visited the district. ‘Allandale’ later became one of the many properties for which the Colonial Secretary requested further particulars so that deeds could be issued, and when the case was heard by the Court of Claims in 1841 Allan’s attorney requested that the deed of grant be made out to the mercantile firm Hughes & Hosking which, presumably, had purchased the property from Allan.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *The London Gazette* 1 September 1807 #16061 p1142

<sup>2</sup> Bernard T. Dowd, 'Allan, David (1780–1852)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/allan-david-1695/text1829>

<sup>3</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 19 June 1813 p1

<sup>4</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 12 June 1813 p3

<sup>5</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 16 January 1819 p1

<sup>6</sup> Surveyor General: Register of land grants and leases 1791 – 1924 [State Records NSW (NRS 13836) Ref: 7/447, Register 2, Page 139]

<sup>7</sup> Dowd *op cit*

<sup>8</sup> *The Scots Magazine and Edinburgh Literary Miscellany* – New Series Vol. 88, Part 2 for 1821, p620

<sup>9</sup> "Scotland, Marriages, 1561-1910," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XYMY-1VF>), David Allan and Elizabeth Rennie, 14 Jun 1826

<sup>10</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 28 May 1839 p4

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 13 July 1841 p4

David Allan died at Paddington in 1852<sup>12</sup> and it is assumed that ‘Allandale’ was simply named after him. However, we should remain aware that the name was not unique to the property at Upper Rollands Plains. By the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the name was used in other parts of Australia, from the Parish of Allandale in the Hunter Valley to a place near Port Fairy and another near Perth. In Britain, there was an Allandale in Northumberland and one in Stirlingshire, while during the 1830s the Allandale estate in Berwickshire was the home of the Mackay family, three of whom we meet when looking at another Port Macquarie estate, ‘Bighouse’. Hence, while it has not been possible to find a connection between David Allan and any place named *Allandale* other than that on the Wilson River, we cannot rule out the possibility that when used there it could have been a transfer of an earlier name.

‘Allandale’ subsequently passed to The Bank of Australia which subdivided the land and, for a few years from 1850, offered portions for sale.<sup>13</sup> The name, in a variant form, *Alendale*, remains that of a farm presently occupying the southern part of the original site.

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<sup>12</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 27 April 1852 p3

<sup>13</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 7 December 1850; 30 July 1851 p4

## CLAREFIELD

<b>Area:</b>	1920 acres (777 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of Wilson River – Portion 2, Parish of Tinebank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	William Skottowe Parker
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Unknown
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	Undetermined
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Clarefield-Dungay Creek Road
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Not registered

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

William Skottowe Parker was born about 1800, the second son of Richard Neville Parker of Passage West, Cork, Ireland, and his wife Margaret.<sup>1</sup> The Parker family had established itself at Passage West during the early part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and William's great-grandfather, Harding Parker, had been High Sheriff of Cork in 1727 and Mayor in 1740. In later years William's father also became Mayor of Cork.

William's mother was the daughter of John Skottowe of Chesham Park, Buckinghamshire, a former governor of St Helena who held that position from 1764 to 1782.<sup>2</sup> Both Margaret and her sister Catherine, who married Richard Neville Parker's elder brother Harding,<sup>3</sup> began their lives in St Helena during their father's term as governor.

Nothing has been discovered concerning William Parker's upbringing but, given the prominence of his family in the Cork community, one must assume that he received a good education and moved in the higher social circles.

Parker arrived at Port Jackson on 31 July 1823 on board the ship *William Penn* which had sailed from Cork towards the end of December the previous year carrying 'provisions and numerous passengers for Port Jackson.'<sup>4</sup> At first he appears to have regretted his decision to migrate, for less than a month after his arrival a notice appeared in *The Sydney Gazette* to the effect that he intended to leave the colony 'by an early Opportunity'.<sup>5</sup> However, on 1 September 1823 he accepted appointment as Superintendent of Agriculture at the penal settlement of Port Macquarie.<sup>6</sup>

Over the next few years he seems to have attended to his duties diligently and, following the discovery of Rollands Plains in 1824,<sup>7</sup> established a new government farm there, including a sugar plantation. However, he often failed to see eye-to-eye with the military commandants, and his independent attitude to authority resulted in disagreement over several issues including his agricultural practices.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sir Bernard Burke. *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry of Ireland (new edition)*, p551-552. Harrison & Sons, London. 1912.

<sup>2</sup> T. H. Brooke. *History of the Island of St Helena from its discovery by the Portuguese to the Year 1823*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edn. p277-279. Kingsbury, Parbury and Allen, London, 1824

<sup>3</sup> Burke *op cit*

<sup>4</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 3 July 1823; 7 August 1823

<sup>5</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 21 August 1823

<sup>6</sup> Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788 – 1825 [State Records NSW. Ref: 4/3509 pp196-8]

<sup>7</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 25 November 1824 p2

<sup>8</sup> relevant items in Colonial Secretary: Main series of letters received, 1788 – 1826 [State Records NSW (NRS 897) – see online index for details]; Frank Rogers. *Port Macquarie – a History to 1850*. Hastings District Historical Society. 1982

In February 1826 William's younger brother, Henry Harding Parker, who had arrived on the *Hooghly* in April 1825 and had unsuccessfully sought the position of Principal Superintendent of Agriculture at Moreton Bay,<sup>9</sup> joined William as Assistant Superintendent of Agriculture at Port Macquarie. But William's problems with the authorities continued and in 1828, after he had twice overestimated the annual grain yield, an inquiry was held into various matters connected with the management of the settlement.<sup>10</sup> In the wake of the inquiry William was dismissed and Henry was appointed as Superintendent, a position he held until the Agricultural Establishment was closed in 1832.

By then, however, William Parker had established his own farm. After receiving a promise of land from Governor Sir Ralph Darling on 22 April 1829 he made a selection on the south side of the Wilson River and was given possession on 27 September 1830.<sup>11</sup> Unfortunately, it transpired that the same land had been selected by Mrs Margaret Innes, the wife of Major Archibald Innes, so Parker made a new selection on the opposite bank of the river and on 1 January 1831 was allowed to take it up as a primary grant in lieu of the earlier one.

Parker called his estate 'Clarefield' and built a house there, making further improvements with the help of assigned men. He was still unmarried, perhaps not surprisingly in view of the fact that Port Macquarie, where he had lived for almost a decade, had only recently been opened to free settlement and there was a dearth of eligible women to become the wives of gentlemen settlers. However, relief was in sight when the Hayley family, including four teenage daughters, came to live in the district.

William Hayley of Carshalton, Surrey married Caroline Foxton at the Parish Church of Waltham Abbey, Essex in 1811.<sup>12</sup> Their first child, William Foxton, was born in 1812 and more children followed – Amelia (b.1817 and baptised Mary),<sup>13</sup> Frederick (b.1818),<sup>14</sup> Charlotte (b.1820),<sup>15</sup> Fanny Foxton (b.1821),<sup>16</sup> Helen (b.1824)<sup>17</sup> and Edmund Walter Scott (b.1826).<sup>18</sup> William Hayley was a stockbroker and, presumably, successful but his luck ran out when he was indicted for fraud and faced trial at the Old Bailey on charges of uttering forged certificates for an Association established in London with the aim of working mines in Peru. At the trial, held June 1831, William was found guilty and sentenced to seven years transportation.<sup>19</sup>

Hayley was one of 178 male convicts who sailed from Portsmouth in November 1831 on the convict ship *Portland*. However, unlike most prisoners for whom transportation meant separation from their families, he had the luxury of knowing that his family, apart from his eldest son, then a medical student, were accompanying him, Frederick as a cabin boy and the rest as free persons, their passages paid, no doubt, by William.<sup>20</sup> The *Portland* arrived in Sydney towards the end of March 1832, and afterwards—it is not known

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<sup>9</sup> Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788 – 1825 [State Records NSW. Ref: 4/1803 pp.43-51]

<sup>10</sup> *Historical Records of Australia* Series 1 Vol. 14 p517

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 28 May 1839 p4

<sup>12</sup> London and Surrey, England: Marriage Bonds and Allegations 1597-1921 (accessed via [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com))

<sup>13</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Hackney St John, Register of Baptism, p79/jn1, Item 029

<sup>14</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Hackney St John, Register of Baptism, p79/jn1, Item 029

<sup>15</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Lambeth St Mary, Register of Baptism, p85/mry1, Item 351.

<sup>16</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Lambeth St Mary, Register of Baptism, P85/mry1, Item 352.

<sup>17</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Banstead, Register of Baptism, DW/T, Item 2272.

<sup>18</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Hackney, Register of Baptism, p79/wh, Item 001.

<sup>19</sup> Old Bailey Proceedings Online ([www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org).) June 1831, trial of William Hayley (Ref No t18310630-291).

<sup>20</sup> NSW Convict Indents 1788-1842 (accessed via [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com))

exactly when—the Hayley family moved to Port Macquarie where they resided on Surveyor James Ralfe's estate, 'Maulden', near Sancrox.

It appears likely that the move was occasioned by William being assigned to Ralfe, though no documentation has been found to support this. However, he was at 'Maulden' when he received his Ticket of Leave in 1836,<sup>21</sup> and shortly afterwards 19-year-old Amelia married William Parker at St Thomas' Church, Port Macquarie.<sup>22</sup> Two days later Amelia's sister, 16-year-old Charlotte, married James Ralfe at St Philip's Church in Sydney.<sup>23</sup>

That same year, the Hayleys' eldest son, William Foxtan, having completed his studies, made the journey from England to New South Wales where he established medical practices at Queanbeyan and Goulburn until his death in 1878 at the age of 66.<sup>24</sup> How much contact he had with his parents and siblings during his years in the colony is not known.

By 1837 there were eleven prisoners assigned to William Parker at Port Macquarie.<sup>25</sup> The farm appears to have been prosperous but William and Amelia's marriage did not last long, coming to a sad end when William died at 'Clarefield' in November 1839 'after a long and painful illness.'<sup>26</sup> He was portrayed 'an old inhabitant, much respected and regretted.' Only thirty-eight when he died, he was hardly old, though he had spent sixteen years in Port Macquarie and had been there almost from the beginnings of the settlement. After his death his estate passed to his wife but the deed of grant, when eventually issued in 1840, was made out to a Sydney solicitor, Charles Henry Chambers, who was to act as trustee.<sup>27</sup> The deed confirmed the name of the grant as *Clarefield*.

Although Amelia Parker was nominally in charge of the farm, it was her brother Frederick who, initially, dealt with the practical side of things as her father was still domiciled at 'Maulden'.<sup>28</sup> In September 1840 Frederick was fined £30 for selling liquors without a licence, and was also indicted for offering a bribe to the police, presumably in return for them turning a blind eye to his sly grog business.<sup>29</sup>

In April 1842 'Clarefield' was offered for lease. It was described as a:

well-built Verandah Cottage containing five rooms, detached kitchen, and offices, laborers' cots, barns, three-stall stable, coach-house, piggeries, good garden, and NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY ACRES of excellent Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Land, TWO HUNDRED ACRES of which are fenced in, and in a high state of cultivation.<sup>30</sup>

'Clarefield' was said to be in the centre of a rich agricultural district

celebrated for its fertility, the neighbourhood is eminent for distinguished residents connected with the landed interests, and this Estate from its importance must always give its possessor great influence in the County of Macquarie

<sup>21</sup> Principal Superintendent of Convicts: Ticket of leave butts, 31 March 1827-31 December 1875 [State Records NSW (NRS 12202); Ref: 4/4105]

<sup>22</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 12 September 1836 p3

<sup>23</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 29 August 1836 p2

<sup>24</sup> *Evening News* 19 September 1878 p2

<sup>25</sup> N. G. Butlin, C. W. Cromwell, K. L. Suthern (Eds.) *General Return of Convicts in New South Wales 1837*. Australian Biographical & Genealogical Record in association with the Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney. 1987

<sup>26</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 25 November 1839 p2

<sup>27</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 60/135

<sup>28</sup> Index to the 1841 Census [State Records NSW: Ref: X949 Return No. 52]

<sup>29</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 28 September 1840 p4

<sup>30</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 7 April 1842 p3

The lease was taken up by William Hayley who, presumably with the rest of his family, moved from ‘Maulden’ to join his son and widowed daughter at ‘Clarefield’. Their lives there, at first, seem to have been untroubled apart from an incident in 1843 when, during Surveyor Ralfe’s absence from ‘Maulden’, an assigned servant named Taylor plundered his house for valuables, tied up his wife, Charlotte, and threatened to go to ‘Clarefield’ to shoot her brother Frederick. Fortunately, Taylor did not carry out his threat and instead made his way to the Manning district.<sup>31</sup>

However, things turned serious in 1846 when the Hayleys entered into a prolonged dispute with two of their neighbours, William Nairne Gray and William Henry Geary, over access to their properties. Gray, the Police Magistrate had the lease on ‘Allandale’ on the western side of ‘Clarefield’, while Geary, a local magistrate, owned ‘Glencoe’, immediately beyond ‘Allandale’. In the first incident Geary issued a warrant for the apprehension of Frederick Hayley, accusing him of obstructing a road. Frederick appeared before the Police Magistrate but was discharged.<sup>32</sup> Subsequently, the Police Magistrate himself was charged by William Hayley who accused him of cutting down fences at ‘Clarefield’, forcing his way through the paddocks and assaulting him—Hayley—with an axe.<sup>33</sup> Given Gray’s position and the earlier involvement of Geary, it was not possible for the matter to be dealt with locally and it eventually came before the Supreme Court of New South Wales. The details will not be recorded here but make amusing reading.<sup>34</sup>

In May 1847, with the dispute still in full flight, Amelia re-married.<sup>35</sup> By a strange quirk of fate her new husband, George Douglas Smythe, was William Geary’s brother-in-law. He was a government surveyor at Port Phillip and the newly-weds soon left for Melbourne. At some point they were joined at their home in St Kilda by Frederick Hayley who in 1857, at the age of thirty-eight, died suddenly when he ruptured a blood vessel during a fit of coughing.<sup>36</sup> George Smythe died the following year, leaving Amelia a widow for the second time.<sup>37</sup> She died at St Kilda in 1865.<sup>38</sup>

How long William and Caroline Hayley stayed on at ‘Clarefield’ is uncertain but by 1855 they had moved to the Cooks River district<sup>39</sup> where William died in June 1860.<sup>40</sup> Caroline survived him by less than four months, dying in October the same year.<sup>41</sup> It is worth recording that their three sons enjoyed successful careers, though Frederick, as we have seen, died at a relatively young age. William Foxton was highly regarded for his work as a doctor in the Goulburn region<sup>42</sup> while Edmund Walter Scott achieved prominence as a pioneer in the sugar industry in the Clarence district.<sup>43</sup> However, obituaries published after their deaths made no mention of their parentage, their father’s misdeeds, or time spent at Port Macquarie.

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<sup>31</sup> *The Australian* 25 January 1843

<sup>32</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 4 August 1846 p2

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 16 March 1847 p2

<sup>34</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 23 August 1847 p2

<sup>35</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 12 May 1847 p3

<sup>36</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 4 September 1857 p1

<sup>37</sup> *The Argus* 21 June 1858 p4

<sup>38</sup> *The Argus* 3 October 1865 p4

<sup>39</sup> *Empire* 9 June 1855 p5

<sup>40</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 27 June 1860 p1

<sup>41</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 17 October 1860 p1

<sup>42</sup> *Queanbeyan Age* 11 September 1878 p2

<sup>43</sup> *Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser* 6 March 1888 p3; 3 November 1894 p8

The question remains as to why William Skottowe Parker chose *Clarefield* as the name for his estate. It was initially thought that the Parkers of Passage West might have had some connection with Clarefield House in the Townland of Clarefield, Parish of Moyarta, County Clare, Ireland. The townland is situated on the western side of the entrance to Poulmasherry Bay near the mouth of the River Shannon, but it is a long way from Cork and nothing has been found to associate it with the Parker family. Their only link with County Clare appears to be through the d'Esterre family but their lands were primarily in the area just north of Limerick and no connection with Clarefield House or Townland can be found in the Griffiths Valuation or the Tithe Applotment Books. Likewise, neither the Skottowe family nor the Hayley family seems to have had any interests in any place called Clarefield.

It might be worth mentioning that around 1840 there was another farm called *Clarefield* at Falbrook near Singleton. It was owned by Michael Cuneen; but, again, there appears to be no link between him and William Parker.

Further information on the matter might emerge at some stage. Until then, the toponymy of 'Clarefield' remains an open question.

## WILLESBRO

<b>Area:</b>	1070 acres (433 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Wilson River on Bril Bril Creek – Portion 13, Parish of Cogo
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	William Henry Freeman
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Willesborough, Kent, England
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5            Shift 5.1        Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	<i>Willsbro</i> – farm off Tora Road, Rollands Plains
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Not registered

### Historical and Genealogical Notes:

William Henry Freeman, the son of Charles and Sarah Freeman, was born on 15 January 1794 at Lewes, Sussex, England and christened two weeks later at the church of St Thomas-in-the-Cliffs.<sup>1</sup> We have no record of his early life but at the time of his marriage to Emma Gorham in August 1821<sup>2</sup> he was living at Cripplegate, London.<sup>3</sup> Emma, the daughter of John and Mary Gorham, was born at the Society of Friends, Folkestone, Kent in 1801<sup>4</sup> and her wedding to William took place at Willesborough, a village in Kent known locally as Willesboro.

Over the next six years Emma gave birth to three sons—Frank,<sup>5</sup> Harry and George<sup>6</sup>—while William worked as a coal merchant in partnership with Frederick Thomas West. Their firm was located in Lambeth but in 1831, facing bankruptcy, the partnership was dissolved.<sup>7</sup>

Following the loss of his business Freeman made his first journey to New South Wales, arriving in Sydney in August 1833 on board the *Leslie Ogilvie*.<sup>8</sup> The 192-ton brig had called at the Cape Colony and Launceston, and was carrying a substantial cargo of beer, wines and spirits.<sup>9</sup> Three weeks later he re-boarded the ship for her return voyage to London via Hobart and Launceston.<sup>10</sup> It appears likely that Freeman held a financial interest in the *Leslie Ogilvie* since applications for freight or passage for the return voyage were to be made

<sup>1</sup> *England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975 index*, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/J7ZD-DT5>), William Henry Freeman, 15 Jan 1794.

<sup>2</sup> *England Marriages, 1538-1973 index*. FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/NN6S-KJ5>), William Henry Freeman and Emma Gorham, 04 Aug 1821.

<sup>3</sup> *Pallotts Marriage Index*. Canterbury Marriage Licences, 1810-1837 (online at Ancestry.com)

<sup>4</sup> *England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975 index*, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JSJ7-TBC>), Emma Gorham, 20 Mar 1801

<sup>5</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Southwark Christ Church, Register of Baptism, p92/ctc, Item 008

<sup>6</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Newington St Mary, Register of Baptism, p92/mry, Item 033.

<sup>7</sup> *Perry's Bankrupt Gazette* 12 March 1831

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 3 August 1833 p3

<sup>9</sup> *The Sydney Herald* Thursday 22 August 1833 p3

<sup>10</sup> *The Sydney Herald* Monday 26 August 1833 p2



to him directly.<sup>11</sup> However, when the ship left Launceston for London on 15 January 1834 he was the only reported passenger.<sup>12</sup>

On 9 August 1835, little more than a year after William arrived back in London, he, Emma and their children left England on the *Derwent*, reaching Hobart in late December.<sup>13</sup> Also on board was William Gorham, Emma's elder brother,<sup>14</sup> who, if not already in partnership with Freeman, would later become so. Gorham travelled on to Sydney in the *Derwent*<sup>15</sup> but the Freeman family stayed for a short time in Hobart before joining the *Orissa* for the onward voyage to Sydney which they reached on 20 January 1836.<sup>16</sup>

What persuaded the Freemans to migrate is not known but an event that might have influenced their decision was one involving a certain Thomas Gorham. At the Kent Assizes in March 1834, Gorham, a 33-year-old attorney, was sentenced to transportation for life after being found guilty of forging Bills of Exchange.<sup>17</sup> He joined 229 other male prisoners on the convict transport *Roslin Castle*<sup>18</sup> and after arriving in Sydney in September 1834 he was assigned to work for the government at Port Macquarie.<sup>19</sup> Given that he was a well educated man, he presumably worked in an administrative or clerical role and by 1845 he was employed as police clerk.<sup>20</sup> The following year he was granted a conditional pardon on the strength of a recommendation from leading local citizens including Colonel Gray JP and Lieutenant Geary JP,<sup>21</sup> and in 1848 the pardon was extended to allow him to leave New South Wales and proceed to any part of the world except Britain and Ireland.<sup>22</sup> It appears that he chose to remain in Port Macquarie but died three years later.<sup>23</sup>

Although nothing has been found to directly link Thomas Gorham with William Gorham and Emma Freeman, the circumstantial evidence suggests that they were related. It could simply be coincidental that



all came from Kent, were much the same age, shared a not very common name (Thomas being the only 'Gorham' listed in the 1837

*Willesbro – undated*  
[Port Macquarie Historical Society]

<sup>11</sup> *Colonial Times* 15 October 1833 p1

<sup>12</sup> *Launceston Advertiser* 23 January 1834 p3

<sup>13</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 29 December 1835 p3

<sup>14</sup> *England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975 index*. FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/NV2Z-68F>), William Gorham, 28 Dec 1795.

<sup>15</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 14 January 1836 p2

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 21 January 1836 p2

<sup>17</sup> Home Office - Criminal Registers 1791-1892. Class: HO 27; Piece: 47; Page: 346.

<sup>18</sup> The National Archives of the United Kingdom; Kew, Surrey, England; Convicts transported; Class: HO 11; Piece: 9.

<sup>19</sup> Home Office: Settlers and Convicts, New South Wales and Tasmania; Class: HO 10; Piece: 30.

<sup>20</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 16 January 1845 p2

<sup>21</sup> Colonial Secretary: Convict Pardons 1826 – 1870 [State Records New South Wales (NRS 1172) Ref: 4/4484 Pardon No. 46/389]

<sup>22</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 4 November 1848 p4

<sup>23</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 4 February 1851 p3

Return of Convicts in NSW<sup>24</sup>) and found themselves in a small settlement in a distant colony, but it would be more easily explicable if Thomas was closely related to the other two. In that case, his transportation for life might have helped then decide to come to New South Wales and, in particular, to Port Macquarie.

Soon after arriving in Sydney, William Freeman travelled to Port Macquarie with a view to purchasing land and establishing himself as an agriculturalist. His initial choice of three portions on Dungay Creek was refused as they lay outside the boundaries for selection, so he subsequently elected to purchase 106 acres of the sugar plantation at Rollands Plains for £355-2s-0d, and 1070 acres on the south bank of the Wilson River at Owens Plains for £494-17s-6d.<sup>25</sup> The latter was land that, along with many other portions in the Hastings region, had originally been applied for by John Burleigh Sharpe<sup>26</sup> but the deed issued in January 1837 was in Freeman's name.<sup>27</sup>

The Freeman family took up residence on the farm at Owens Plains which they called *Willesbro* after the village in Kent where William and Emma were married. William Gorham also lived on the property and entered into a formal partnership with Freeman. By 1842 they had erected a water mill there and 'Willesbro' was said to be the chief corn mart of the county.<sup>28</sup> Their eminence in the area was recognised in 1846 when William Gorham was appointed to the Macquarie District Council.<sup>29</sup> Three years later, when his term expired, William Freeman took his place on council.<sup>30</sup> Freeman was also a member of the Presbyterian Schools Board of Inspection for Rollands Plains<sup>31</sup> and in 1853 he was appointed to the magistracy.<sup>32</sup>

In October 1854, two months before his 59<sup>th</sup> birthday, William Gorham took a plunge he had never made before when he married Mrs Jane Sarah Wright Scott.<sup>33</sup> They were together for almost nine years before William died at 'Willesbro' in 1863.<sup>34</sup> Afterwards, William Douglas Scott took charge of the farm while the Freemans went to live in town. Emma died at their residence on Clarence Street in 1871, aged 70.<sup>35</sup> William outlived her by two years, dying in 1873 aged 79.<sup>36</sup>

From the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup>, 'Willesbro' was held by the Wilson family but although the area has been sub-divided, the name, shortened to *Willsbro* and attached to a property just to the east of the original estate, is still in use and reminds us of William Freeman and Emma Gorham's marriage almost two hundred years ago.

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<sup>24</sup> N. G. Butlin, C. W. Cromwell, K. L. Suthern (Eds.) *General Return of Convicts in New South Wales 1837*. Australian Biographical & Genealogical Record in association with the Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney. 1987

<sup>25</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56. [State Records NSW (NRS 907). Ref: 2/7861]

<sup>26</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 10 May 1836 p4; 11 June 1836 p4; 10 September 1836 p4

<sup>27</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 15 July 1837 p4

<sup>28</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 27 May 1842 p3

<sup>29</sup> *Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer* 11 July 1846 p2

<sup>30</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 20 July 1849 p3

<sup>31</sup> *The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser* 15 January 1851 p4

<sup>32</sup> *The Empire* 21 February 1853 p2

<sup>33</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* Saturday 4 November 1854 p3

<sup>34</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 31 July 1863 p1

<sup>35</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 1 September 1871 p1

<sup>36</sup> Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages NSW. Deaths register. Reg. No. 6481/1873

**IRVINE**

<b>Area:</b>	2560 acres (1036 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of the Hastings River – Portion 59, Parish of Cairncross
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	James Munn
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Irvine, Ayr, Scotland
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift
	5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Preserved form:</b>	N/A
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	N/A

**KILLIVINNING**

<b>Area:</b>	800 acres (324 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	West bank of the Maria River – Portion 53, Parish of Cairncross
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	James Munn
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Kilwinning, Ayr, Scotland
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift
	5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Preserved form:</b>	N/A
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	N/A

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

James Munn arrived in New South Wales in May 1824 on Robert Ralston's brig *Amity* after a six-month voyage from the Scottish port of Stranraer.<sup>1</sup> What persuaded 43-year-old Munn to migrate is uncertain. Prior to leaving Scotland he operated what appears to have been a successful ship building yard in Ropework Street, Greenock<sup>2</sup> and in 1816 at least two of his steam-boats—*Princess Charlotte* and *Prince of Orange*—were plying the River Clyde.<sup>3</sup> Whether or not the Scottish Insurrection of 1820 impacted on his business or played any part in his decision to move to New South Wales is not recorded.

Once in Sydney, Munn's reputation as a ship builder was immediately acknowledged.<sup>4</sup> He soon established a ship building business at Millers Point on Cockle Bay and before the end of 1825 he was advertising for 'a few smart Colonial Youths, from 14 to 15 years to age' to take up apprenticeships.<sup>5</sup> Over the next two

<sup>1</sup> *Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser* 16 April 1824 p2; *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 13 May 1824 p2

<sup>2</sup> *The Greenock Directory for 1815-1816. Containing a list of the Principal Merchants, Traders, Grocers, Shipmasters, Mariners, &c. &c.*, p43. Greenock, 1815.

<sup>3</sup> James Cleland. *Annals of Glasgow, comprising an Account of the Public Buildings, Charities, and the Rise and Progress of the City*. Vol. 2 p396. James Hedderwick, Glasgow, 1816.

<sup>4</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 9 December 1824 p1

<sup>5</sup> *The Australian* 24 November 1825 p1

decades Munn's expertise as a ship builder and a marine surveyor earned him great respect, and when he died in February 1848 at the age of sixty-eight, 'every vessel in the harbour had their flags half-masted.'<sup>6</sup>

Munn obtained an order for a primary grant of 800 acres within weeks of his arrival in Sydney but although he made a selection he failed to take possession and surrendered it to the Crown. However, in June 1837 he received an order for a similar amount at Port Macquarie *in lieu* of his earlier selection, and in October that year he visited the district to take possession.<sup>7</sup> The land he chose was on the western side of the Maria River downstream from its junction with the Wilson River, most of it lying within a bend of the river where the waterway turns almost a full circle before continuing its passage to the Hastings. The deed of grant, issued in April 1839,<sup>8</sup> stated that the grant was to be called *Killwinning*.

Munn's second grant in the district, comprising 2560 acres situated on the northern bank of the upper arm of the Hastings River across from Little Rawdon Island, was promised to him in 1835 'for losses sustained in being deprived of certain Ground in Darling Harbour' and Munn selected it 'for the timber alone.' The property, for which the deed of grant was issued in February 1840, was to be called *Irvine*.<sup>9</sup>

The names of both estates derive from towns and parishes in Ayr, Scotland. Although little is known of Munn's early life he was recorded as being 'a native of Irvine',<sup>10</sup> a town on the Firth of Clyde in the northern part of Ayrshire.

A contemporary description of Irvine from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century begins:

The town of Irvine is situated near the influx of the Waters of Irvine and Garnock into the Frith of Clyde, in 55° 36' 52"N. lat. and 4° 38' 9" w. lon. from Greenwich. It is about 11 miles due north from Ayr, the county town, and about double that distance in a straight line sw. from Glasgow, to which the most direct road, by Stewarton, does not, in all its windings, exceed three miles more.

This town is built on the summit of a gently rising ground on the north side of the Water of Irvine. It consists chiefly of a main street about 5 furlongs in length, of which about one half is extended in a direction almost due east, leading to Kilmarnock, and the other in a direction almost due north, leading to Kilwinning.<sup>11</sup>

The same book also describes Kilwinning, some six kilometres to the north of Irvine and home to what was once one of the grandest abbeys in Scotland. The abbey was built in the latter half of the 12<sup>th</sup> century on the site of a 7<sup>th</sup> century monastery associated with Winnin, an early apostle of Christianity in Scotland.<sup>12</sup> His name is spelt in various different, though phonetically similar, ways and *Kilwinning* (sometimes shown as *Killwinning*) might be drawn from the Gaelic term *Cill Fhinnean* meaning 'Church of Winan'.

Kilwinning is also strongly associated with freemasonry. Mother Lodge Kilwinning, number 0 on the Scottish Roll, is believed to date back to the building of the abbey, and is accepted not only as the oldest Lodge in Scotland but perhaps the oldest in the world.<sup>13</sup> The Mother Lodge had the privilege of granting

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<sup>6</sup> *Sydney Chronicle* 29 February 1848 p2

<sup>7</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 14 October 1837 p2

<sup>8</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 58/138

<sup>9</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 59/183

<sup>10</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 28 February 1848 p3

<sup>11</sup> George Robertson. *Topographical Description of Ayrshire; more particularly of Cunninghame*, p411. Cunninghame Press, Irvine, 1820

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid* p190

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid* p428; see also William Alexander Laurie. *The History of Free Masonry and the Grand Lodge of Scotland*, p46. Seton & Mackenzie, Edinburgh, 1859; and *The Mother Lodge of Scotland* (online at [www.mk0.com/index.htm](http://www.mk0.com/index.htm))

charters to other lodges and in 1677 a charter was granted to a group of Edinburgh Masons to establish Lodge Canongate Kilwinning No. 2 which, in 1787, inaugurated Robert Burns as its Poet Laureate.<sup>14</sup>

While the precise nature of Munn's association with Kilwinning is not known—perhaps it was his birthplace or maybe he was a member of the Mother Lodge—it is clear that *Killivinning*, the name recorded on Munn's deed of grant, resulted from a mis-transcription of the proposed name.<sup>15</sup> It is interesting to observe that when the property was presented for auction in 1858, ten years after Munn's death, it was initially advertised under the name *Killivinning*<sup>16</sup> but later as *Kilbwinning*.<sup>17</sup>

It is also interesting to note that the name initially chosen for the new county in the Port Macquarie-Hastings district was *Ayr*. The name appeared on Surveyor General John Oxley's 1827 map of the colony of New South Wales<sup>18</sup> and was used for some years until the County of Macquarie was designated. Whether or not James Munn was aware of the older name, and if it influenced his selections is not known.

*Irvine* and *Killivinning* are no longer in use, and from at least the 1850s the 'Killivinning' estate has been locally known as 'The Hatch', the origin of which is a matter of speculation. Several possible explanations come to mind. The shape of the portion bears a strong resemblance to that of a deck hatch on a boat, which would be appropriate for land owned by a ship builder; deep holes in the Maria River at that point serve as a breeding ground or hatchery for bream and other fish; the name was transferred from a place in Britain. No documentary evidence has been found to support any of these possibilities.

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<sup>14</sup> *Lodge Canongate Kilwinning* - online at [www.lck2.co.uk/](http://www.lck2.co.uk/)

<sup>15</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826 – 1856 [State Records NSW (NRS 907) Ref: 2/7934, Colonial Secretary to James Munn 1 March 1839]

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 2 February 1858 p6

<sup>17</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 30 November 1858 p6

<sup>18</sup> Joseph Cross. *Chart of part of New South Wales, with plans of the harbours [cartographic material] / respectfully dedicated to John Oxley, esqr, Surveyor General of New South Wales, by his most obedt. servant, J. Cross.* J. Cross, London, 1827 (National Library of Australia MAP RM 1528 – online at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm1528>)

### YARROWS

<b>Area:</b>	4595 acres (1860 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Hastings River at its junction with the Forbes River – Portions 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 Parish of Ellenborough
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Archibald Clunes Innes
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Loch of Yarrows, Caithness, Scotland
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift 5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Yarras
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Locality – Ref. No. 67240

### CLUNES LEIGH

<b>Area:</b>	640 acres (259 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of the Hastings River opposite Yarrows – Portion 3, Parish of Kindee
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Archibald Clunes Innes
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Maternal family name
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	7 Eponymous 7.1 Person 7.1.1 Other
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	<i>Clunsley</i> – a farm on the south side of the Hastings River directly opposite the original estate
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Not registered

### THRUMSTER

<b>Area:</b>	640 acres (259 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	Adjoining NW corner of Lake Innes Estate – Portion 74, Parish of Macquarie
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Archibald Clunes Innes
<b>Source of Name:</b>	‘Thrumster House’, Caithness, Scotland
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift 5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Thrumster
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Locality – Ref. No. 58736

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

Archibald Clunes Innes was born in Caithness, Scotland on 4 May 1799, the seventh child of Major James Innes and his wife Margaret, the daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon Clunes of Crakaig, Sutherlandshire.<sup>1</sup> Exactly where he was born is uncertain. Although James Innes' name is inextricably linked with Thrumster, some six kilometres south of Wick, there is evidence to suggest that he did not purchase that estate until about 1812<sup>2</sup> and that at the time of Archibald's birth the Innes family was living at Keiss, about 13 kilometres north of Wick on Sinclair Bay.<sup>3</sup> Another possibility, though less likely, is that they lived at Tannach,<sup>4</sup> around 4 kilometres north-west of Thrumster and a similar distance from Wick.

Little is known of Archibald's earliest years, though for a period between 1801 and 1804 Major Innes of Keiss employed Robert Scott, a young graduate, as a tutor for his children. Scott left in late 1804 when he obtained his licence to preach, and later became minister of the parish of Glenbuchat in Aberdeenshire, where he compiled a collection of traditional ballads only published for the first time in 2007.<sup>5</sup>

Archibald would have been too young to gain much benefit from Scott's tutorship but he would have received a sound education before joining the army in 1813 as an Ensign in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Foot (The Buffs) and serving in the Peninsular Wars.<sup>6</sup> He became Captain in the regiment in October 1821<sup>7</sup> and the following year was appointed Captain of the Guard on the convict ship *Eliza* which arrived at Port Jackson in November 1822.<sup>8</sup> After service in Van Diemen's Land and as aide-de-camp to the lieutenant-governor of New South Wales, Innes took up the position of Commandant at Port Macquarie in November 1826, replacing Captain Samuel Wright.<sup>9</sup> However, he remained in the position for only six months before being recalled to Sydney<sup>10</sup> to replace Captain Gillman as brigade major,<sup>11</sup> an executive staff position normally held by an officer with the rank of captain. In November 1827 Innes advanced to Major by purchase<sup>12</sup> but in early 1828 he became seriously ill and was unable to fulfil his duties as Brigade Major for several months.<sup>13</sup> He eventually recovered and afterwards accepted appointment as Police Magistrate at Parramatta.<sup>14</sup> Later that year he sold out of army<sup>15</sup> and in October 1829, in a ceremony attended by the governor and other dignitaries, he married Margaret Macleay, daughter of Colonial Secretary Alexander Macleay.<sup>16</sup> Four months later Major Innes resigned his position at Parramatta<sup>17</sup> but after Port Macquarie was opened to free settlers in August 1830 he took up the position of Police Magistrate there.<sup>18</sup> Over the next few years he acquired a

<sup>1</sup> Charles Mosley (Ed.) *Burke's Peerage, Baronetage & Knightage* (107th edn). Burke's Peerage (Genealogical Books) Ltd., Wilmington, Delaware. 2003. Cited online at <http://thepeerage.com/index.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Isla MacLeod. *Thrumster House*. Online at <http://www.caithness.org/atoz/countryhouses/thrumsterhouse/index.htm>

<sup>3</sup> John Henderson. *General View of the Agriculture of the County of Caithness, with observations on the means of its improvement*. Appendix p147. B.McMillan, London. 1812

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid* p92

<sup>5</sup> David Buchan and James Moreira (Eds.) *The Glenbuchat Ballads*. University Press of Mississippi. 2007

<sup>6</sup> E. Flowers. *Innes, Archibald Clunes (1800-1857)*. Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol. 2. Melbourne University Press. 1967

<sup>7</sup> War Office. *A List of the Officers of the Army and Royal Marines on Full, Retired, and Half-Pay 1824*. p159

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 29 November 1822 p2

<sup>9</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 11 November 1826 p2

<sup>10</sup> *The Monitor* 27 April 1827 p5

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 18 May 1827 p2

<sup>12</sup> *The London Gazette* 1 January 1828 #18428 p2

<sup>13</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 16 April 1828 p2

<sup>14</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 20 June 1828 p2

<sup>15</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 29 December 1828 p1

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 17 October 1829 p3

<sup>17</sup> *The Australian* 5 March 1830 p4

<sup>18</sup> *The Australian* 10 September 1830 p2

number of large estates including ‘Yarrows’, ‘Clunes Leigh’, ‘Thrumster’ and, most importantly, the fabled ‘Lake Innes Estate’ where he built a magnificent home.

Before looking further into these estates we should consider two other members of the Innes family, George Innes and his daughter Annabella, who later became notable for the diaries she kept during the years she spent with the Innes family at Port Macquarie.<sup>19</sup>

George Innes was Archibald’s younger brother, born in 1802. He arrived at Port Jackson in November 1822 as a free immigrant on board the *Eliza*, the ship in which Archibald was serving as a captain of the guard. George soon went on the Bathurst where, in 1823, he took up 2000 acres of land on Winbourndale Brook and called it ‘Yarrow’, ‘after a place near Thrumster.’<sup>20</sup> In November 1825 he married Georgina Lorn Moreland Campbell at St John’s Church, Parramatta.<sup>21</sup> She was the daughter of ‘John Campbell, Esq. Commissioner for apportioning the Colony, and a Magistrate for the Territory,’ a useful connection for the Innes family. The first of their two children, Annabella Alexandria Campbell Innes, better known today as Annabella Boswell, was born the following year at ‘Yarrow’.<sup>22</sup>

George Innes and his family left ‘Yarrow’ while Annabella was still an infant. They moved first to the Capertee Valley, establishing a home at Glen Alice, but in 1829 went to Parramatta where Archibald Innes was serving as Police Magistrate. Subsequently they returned to Bathurst, then on to Erskine Park near Liverpool, and, in 1834, back to Glen Alice. On this occasion, however, Annabella remained in Sydney so that she could attend school. She did not see her family for a year until her father came to take her back to Glen Alice. Although that was their home, it was very remote and Annabella, with her mother and younger sister, spent months at a time living with relatives and friends on various properties including ‘White Rock’ near Bathurst.

However, in 1839, during a prolonged visit to Lake Innes at Port Macquarie, George Innes succumbed to the illness from which he had been suffering for a considerable time, leaving his wife and two daughters to fare for themselves.<sup>23</sup> They returned to Glen Alice for a time but left there in 1841 and spent the next two years at Parramatta before moving to Port Macquarie to live with Archibald and Margaret Innes at Lake Innes. Annabella was twenty-two years old when she left Lake Innes towards the end of 1848, having spent some her most formative years there and eventually making available the diaries that have since provided such a remarkable insight into what life was like for her at that time.

As mentioned earlier, from 1830 onwards Major Innes acquired extensive estates in the Port Macquarie district. The largest of these was situated on the south side of the Hastings River at its junction with the Forbes River. Covering a total of 4595 acres it comprised five adjoining portions of varying sizes granted to Innes on 9 January 1837<sup>24</sup> and was called ‘Yarrows’, a name practically identical to that used earlier by his brother George at Bathurst. When advertised for lease in 1853 the estate was said to consist of 8225 acres,<sup>25</sup> extra land having been added to it over a period of time.

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<sup>19</sup> Gwen Griffin (Ed.) *Annabella of Lake Innes Port Macquarie*. Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc. 2003, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> *ibid*

<sup>21</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* Monday 28 November 1825 p4

<sup>22</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Births Reg. No. V1826471 10/1826

<sup>23</sup> *The Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* 30 August 1839 p3

<sup>24</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 15 July 1837 p4

<sup>25</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 November 1853 p6



A little way up the Forbes River, on the eastern side of a long bend, Innes acquired a 1280 acre portion of flat to gently undulating land known initially as ‘Cow-warrall’, the indigenous name for the Forbes River, and later as ‘The Big Plain’.<sup>26</sup> On the north side of the Hastings, opposite ‘Yarrows’, he had 640 acres which he called ‘Clunes Leigh’.<sup>27</sup> This had initially been promised to Duncan Forbes Mackay but was purchased by Innes before the deed was issued in 1840. It lay adjacent to another 640-acre portion purchased by Innes and the name might have been applied to the entire property.

The other named estate we shall consider here was the 640 acre portion which Innes called ‘Thrumster’. It lay on the New England Road only ten or twelve kilometres from the town and had initially been granted to Stephen Partridge, the former Superintendent of Convicts,<sup>28</sup> from whom Innes purchased it.

In looking for the sources of the estate names we need not make too much of ‘The Big Plain’ as it seems to speak for itself. Similarly ‘Clunes Leigh’ offers little resistance, clearly having been named after Major Innes’ maternal line, although the property later became commonly known as ‘Catterbuck’, which is much more enigmatic. Our focus, therefore, will be on ‘Yarrows’ and ‘Thrumster’, two names that pose intriguing questions.

Seventeenth and early eighteenth century maps of the Scottish county of Caithness, the ancestral home of both the Innes and Macleay families, show many places with names ending in *-buster*.<sup>29</sup> They include Bilbuster, Brabuster, Howbuster, Ilbuster, Libuster, Okbuster, Robuster, Sebuster and Trumbuster, the last of which was the forerunner of ‘Thrumster’.

Commenting of these names in 1703, John Brand wrote

As we were much in the dark about the Etymology of Orkney and Zetland, so no less are we here in that of Caithness, upon which Blaw in his Geography, giveth us this Notandum, ‘That many Names of places are something strange, whose Original seem to be neither Scottish, Irish, Danish or Norwegian, But unknown uncertain, and most Ancient: Such as Orbister, Loyibuster, Robaster, Trumbuster, and Innumerable others...’

And seeing such Examples of Names which are of an unknown Original, as are given by the Historian, do all end in *ster*, I would add that most of the Names of places in this Countrey do end in *ster*, or *star*, and *go* and as between 20 and 30 in *ster* or *star*, and about 20 in *go*, as my Informer, who had been for some time in the Countrey did reckon them.<sup>30</sup>

The ‘Blaw’ whom Brand quotes was the famous cartographer Joan Blaeu (1596-1673) who published the *Blaeu Atlas of Scotland* in 1654. The above is Brand’s translation of Blaeu’s original Latin text and there are other, marginally different, translations. However, it is clear that the language from which the placenames originate, and consequently their meaning, is unknown though it has been suggested that the people who settled Caithness and its adjoining county, Sutherland, were of Germanic origin.

Nevertheless, in the latter half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the way some names were written underwent modifications. In particular, *-buster* was condensed to *-bster* or just to *-ster* and as part of this process *Trumbuster* became *Thrumster*, appearing in that form in the second edition of Thomas Pennant’s book *A*

<sup>26</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 60/189

<sup>27</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 60/157

<sup>28</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 30 November 1833 p

<sup>29</sup> see, for example, the following maps: *Cathenesia descripta ex magna ejusdem charta quam lustravit et descripsit Timoth. Pont.* Robert Gordon, 1642; Timothy Pont & Joan Blaeu. *Cathenesia*. Blaeu, Amsterdam. 1654; Herman Moll. *The Shires of Caithness and Sutherland. With Strath Naverne which is Part of Sutherland Shire*. Bowles & Bowles, London. 1745.

<sup>30</sup> John Brand. *A New Description of Orkney, Zetland, Pightland-Firth and Caithness* p146 – 147. G.M., Edinburgh, 1703

*Tour in Scotland MDCCLXIX*,<sup>31</sup> published in 1772, and on George Taylor & Andrew Skinner's map of the road from Tain to Wick, published in 1776.<sup>32</sup>

Underneath the name *Thrumster* in Taylor and Skinner's map was added *Sinclair Esq.* This is a reference to Sir John Sinclair, a local magnate who was the founder and president of the Board of Agriculture. He owned or controlled much of the land in Caithness and in 1790 David Brodie, a tenant of his, erected Thrumster House on the site of an older building. The house was applauded for its innovative features including the window sashes which were suspended 'by springs, in place of weights and pulleys'<sup>33</sup> and it appears that Brodie occupied Thrumster House well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>34</sup> However, around 1812, Sir John, wishing to raise money, sold it to Major James Innes of Keiss,<sup>35</sup> who was subsequently styled '1<sup>st</sup> of Thrumster'.

A short way from Thrumster was a stream called the Burn of Thrumster which flowed towards the Bay of Wick. On its way there it passed through two lakes, the upper of which was originally called Rosbuster Loch and the lower Trumbuster Loch. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, for whatever reason, those names were changed to *Loch Yarrows* and *Hempriggs Loch* respectively, and they are the names that remain to this day despite the fact that in the first Ordnance Survey map of the area, published in 1877, Loch Yarrows was erroneously labeled *Loch of Yarehouse*. This was replaced by *Yarrows* in subsequent editions of the OS maps.

Although *Thrumster* and *Yarrows* are still with us today, in original or variant form, their real origins and meaning remain unknown and might never be discovered.

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<sup>31</sup> Thomas Pennant. *A Tour in Scotland MDCCLXIX* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edn) p317. B. White, London, 1772

<sup>32</sup> G. Taylor and A. Skinner. *Survey and maps of the roads of North Britain or Scotland, 1776*. Plate 24 - 'The Road from Tain to Wick..

<sup>33</sup> John Henderson. *General View of the Agriculture of the County of Caithness* p26. Sherwood, Neely & Jones, London, 1815

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid* p54

<sup>35</sup> Isla MacLeod *op cit*

**HUNTINGTON**

<b>Area:</b>	1016 acres (411 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Hastings River – Portions 7 & 8, Parish of Koree
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Charles George Gray
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Huntington House, Haddington, East Lothian, Scotland
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift
	5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Huntingdon
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Locality – Ref. No. 24512

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

Charles George Gray is said to have been born in Edinburgh on 28 November 1786<sup>1</sup> though it is quite possible that the birth took place at ‘Huntington, the family’s property near Haddington, East Lothian, some 35 km east of Edinburgh.’<sup>2</sup> He was the son of Lieutenant Charles Gray, then of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot, and his wife Ann (nee Johnston). He was also a member of what was once styled the ‘the ennobled house of Gray’,<sup>3</sup> the ‘ennoblement’ having occurred six generations earlier when Jean, fourth daughter of James Erskine, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Buchan, married George Gray of Hackerton (or Halkerton) near Forfar.<sup>4</sup>

‘Huntington’ appears to have been purchased by Charles George’s grandfather, Dr George Gray, who returned to Scotland around 1760 after twenty two years of service in India as a military surgeon with the East India Company.<sup>5</sup> In 1775, a year after the death of his wife Elizabeth (née Baird),<sup>6</sup> George Gray transferred the ownership of ‘Huntington’ to Charles, at that time a lieutenant in 31<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Foot<sup>7</sup> which went on to serve in North America. In April 1786 Charles moved to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Regiment,<sup>8</sup> transferring again three years later to the 77<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot to be Captain of a Company.<sup>9</sup> The 77<sup>th</sup> was one of four regiments raised by the East India Company for service in India, and during the 1890s Charles served there alongside Lachlan Macquarie. After appointment to the newly arrived 75<sup>th</sup> Regiment around 1800 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel<sup>10</sup> and took command of the regiment before dying of fever at Brodera (now Gujerat) in 1802.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General: Historical Death Image, 1873/C498:Charles George Lewis Gray; *The Brisbane Courier* 10 September 1873 p3

<sup>2</sup> Kenneth R. Dutton. *That Gallant Gentleman: the Remarkable Story of Colonel Charles George Gray*, p1. Central Queensland University Press, Rockhampton, 2010.

<sup>3</sup> John Burke. *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*. Vol 3 p.122. Henry Colburn, London, 1836

<sup>4</sup> George Crawford. *The Peerage of Scotland: containing an Historical and Genealogical Account of the Nobility of that Kingdom*. p51. Edinburgh, 1716

<sup>5</sup> Tillman W. Nechtman. *Nabobs: Empire and Identity in Eighteenth-Century Britain* p60. Cambridge University Press, New York, 2010

<sup>6</sup> *The Scots Magazine* Vol. 36, p223. A. Murray and J. Cochran, Edinburgh, 1874.

<sup>7</sup> The Seisin Registers for Haddington (1782 – 1820), Entries #159 and #160 (information provided by the John Gray Centre, Haddington)

<sup>8</sup> *The London Gazette* 11 April 1786 p1

<sup>9</sup> *The London Gazette* 5 September 1789 p4

<sup>10</sup> *The London Gazette* 8 May 1802 p3

<sup>11</sup> *Hampshire Chronicle* 18 April 1803; *The Asiatic Register for the Year 1803*, p156. Cadell and Davies, London, 1804.

Charles George Gray followed in his father's footsteps, joining the army at the tender age of nine when an ensigncy was purchased for him in the 77<sup>th</sup> Regiment.<sup>12</sup> However, the position did not involve active service and in 1799 he was gazetted as Ensign without purchase.<sup>13</sup> The following year he purchased a lieutenancy in Captain Kingston's Levy,<sup>14</sup> transferring later to Sir Vere Hunt's Levy and living on half pay so that he could further his education. He was brought into active service in 1803 when, at the request of officers of the regiment until recently commanded by his father, he was transferred to the 75<sup>th</sup> Regiment as Lieutenant.<sup>15</sup> Charles George joined his new regiment in Calcutta in 1804<sup>16</sup> and a few months later was present at the siege of Bhurtpore where the 75<sup>th</sup> suffered heavy losses. In September 1806 Gray left India on board the *Glory*<sup>17</sup> and, after a stay at the Cape where he met his cousin, Colonel John Graham (whom we meet again when looking at 'Coulfintry', another early Port Macquarie estate) arrived in England in April 1807.

For the next year or so Gray was stationed at Haddington, close to the 'Huntington' estate but in January 1809 he entered the Military College at High Wycombe where he stayed for only a few months before joining the 95<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot (Rifle Brigade) as Captain of a Company.<sup>18</sup>

Towards the end of 1809 Gray was granted three months leave of absence but in March 1810, not long after his return to duty, he sailed with his regiment to Spain where he remained throughout the Peninsular War, receiving the Peninsular medal. Later, after Bonaparte's escape from Elba in 1815, his battalion was sent to Flanders where he took part in the Battle of Waterloo and received the Waterloo medal.

Captain Gray was promoted to Major (unattached) in January 1819<sup>19</sup> and in 1825, while stationed in Dublin, he married Jane Grogan, the eldest daughter of Colonel George Grogan.<sup>20</sup> Soon afterwards he was ordered to Gibraltar where he remained for almost a year before returning home and retiring on half pay.<sup>21</sup> During this period Jane gave birth to two daughters and one son, another son following in 1831 a few months after Charles George was recalled to the active list as Major in the 44<sup>th</sup> Regiment<sup>22</sup> stationed in India with headquarters at Cawnpore.<sup>23</sup> He spent the next five years in India and in 1836 was gazetted lieutenant-colonel in the regiment.<sup>24</sup> Later that year, after returning to Britain on leave, he sought, and received, permission to sell his commission and leave the army. In a memorandum published in *The London Gazette* it was stated that:

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles George Gray, Unattached, has been allowed to retire from the Army, selling a Lieutenant-Colonelcy, he being about to settle in the colonies.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Dutton *op cit*

<sup>13</sup> *The London Gazette* 20 July 1799 p2

<sup>14</sup> *Caledonian Mercury* 24 November 1800

<sup>15</sup> *The London Gazette* 16 July 1803 p8

<sup>16</sup> For a transcript of Gray's memoir on his India service see Dutton's *That Gallant Gentleman*. *op cit*

<sup>17</sup> *The Asiatic Register – Vol. 9 for the Year 1807*, p210. Cadell and Davies, London, 1809.

<sup>18</sup> *The London Gazette* 9 May 1809 p5

<sup>19</sup> *The London Gazette* 23 January 1819 p4; War Office. *The Army List, for July, 1829*. p13

<sup>20</sup> *Dublin, Ireland, Probate Record and Marriage Licence Index, 1270-1858* (accessed through Ancestry.com)

<sup>21</sup> War Office. *A List of the Officers of the Army and of the Corps of Royal Marines on Full, Retired and Half-Pay 1827*, p635

<sup>22</sup> *The London Gazette* 31 August 1830 p9

<sup>23</sup> Thomas Carter. *Historical record of the Forty-fourth, or the East Essex Regiment of Foot*, p126. W. O. Mitchell, London 1864

<sup>24</sup> *The London Gazette* 27 May 1836 p10

<sup>25</sup> *The London Gazette* 10 March 1837 p5

On 25 March 1837 Colonel Gray, his wife Jane, and their four children—Elizabeth Ann (Bessie), Maria, Charles and George—left Dundee as cabin passengers on the 520-ton vessel *John Barry*. Also on board were 312 free emigrants being brought to New South Wales under the Reverend John Dunmore Lang's scheme aimed at releasing Scots from poverty in their native land and improving the moral fibre of the colony.

The *John Barry* reached Port Jackson on 14 July 1837 but rumours of disease caused the ship to be held in quarantine at North Head while the matter was looked into.<sup>26</sup> It was soon discovered that the reports were exaggerated although three adults—two men and one woman—had died of fever during the voyage.<sup>27</sup> Twenty two infants had also died but their deaths were attributed to their mothers having lived on salt provisions. Accordingly, after two weeks in quarantine, the ship was permitted to proceed to Sydney Cove for disembarkation.<sup>28</sup> As *The Sydney Gazette* quaintly remarked

Among the passengers by the *John Barry* is Lieut. Col. Gray, who, we understand, intends to 'sit down' among us.<sup>29</sup>

Gray soon began his search for suitable land and although, as Dutton notes, he might at first have considered the Illawarra<sup>30</sup> his attention soon turned to the Hastings. On 23 September 1837 he boarded the steamer *William IV* for Port Macquarie<sup>31</sup> and in October he purchased his first portion at Port Macquarie, 536 acres initially acquired by Joseph Roberts, a Sydney auctioneer, the previous year.<sup>32</sup> It lay on the south bank of the Hastings River in a bend opposite Robert Ackroyd's 'Barombin' and when, in 1838, two adjoining portions of 318 acres and 698 acres were advertised Gray purchased them, eventually receiving the deeds in 1840.<sup>33</sup> Perhaps not surprisingly, Gray named the consolidated estate 'Huntington'.

The Grays appear to have lived a relatively quiet life at 'Huntington', the family increasing as three more sons arrived between 1838 and 1842.<sup>34</sup> They formed a strong friendship with the Innes family and the colonel became one of the pillars of the community. In 1838 he was appointed to the magistracy<sup>35</sup> and later became a Commissioner of the Supreme Court.<sup>36</sup> In 1843 when a District Council was formed for what was effectively the County of Macquarie, he was one of six appointed councillors,<sup>37</sup> and five years later he took on the role of District Warden.<sup>38</sup> Meanwhile, in 1846, his elder daughter, Bessie, married Robert Graham of 'Coulfintry' and left Port Macquarie to make their home in the Cape Colony.<sup>39</sup>



*Huntingdon House – undated*  
[Port Macquarie Historical Society]

<sup>26</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 14 July 1837 Evening Edition p2

<sup>27</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 15 July 1837 p2

<sup>28</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 31 July 1837 Evening Edition p2

<sup>29</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 20 July 1837 p2

<sup>30</sup> Dutton *op cit* p113

<sup>31</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 25 September 1837 Evening edn p2

<sup>32</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 3 June 1837 p4

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 8 December 1840 p4

<sup>34</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 11 September 1840 p6; 24 February 1842 p3

<sup>35</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 11 December 1838 p2

<sup>36</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 10 March 1842 p2

<sup>37</sup> *The Australian* 19 August 1843 p4

<sup>38</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 11 March 1848 p3

<sup>39</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 8 June 1846 p3

During the 1840s the rural economy was depressed and Colonel Gray was looking for a paid government position. In March 1847, accompanied by his eldest son, he sailed north to inspect Port Curtis (now Gladstone, Queensland) with a view to becoming Police Magistrate there.<sup>40</sup> However, the British government decided not to establish a penal settlement there and Gray and his son returned to Port Macquarie.<sup>41</sup>

Nevertheless, time was now closing in for the Grays at Port Macquarie. In 1853 the colonel was appointed to be Police Magistrate at Ipswich. Confident that sons Charles and George were capable of running 'Huntington', Gray moved north with his daughter Maria, leaving Jane and the younger children at Port Macquarie for the time being. However, after Maria married James Leith Hay in 1854,<sup>42</sup> Jane, with the remaining children, joined her husband at Ipswich. Colonel Gray held on to 'Huntington' for a few years but in 1858 the property was sold to Lachlan Lindsay.

Gray continued as Ipswich police magistrate until his retirement in 1867.<sup>43</sup> His wife died in 1870, aged 69,<sup>44</sup> and he followed three years later, aged 86.<sup>45</sup> A fine tribute to his life was published in *The Brisbane Courier* a few days later.<sup>46</sup>

While it is clear that Colonel Gray named his estate at Port Macquarie after his family's former home in Scotland, the question we now need to address is how that estate acquired the name.

Huntington (or 'Huntingdon', the spellings being interchangeable) was an ancient shire of England, situated in the Fen District of East Anglia. It is also a family name but that does not explain why it should have become attached to the estate at Haddington, an estate originally known as 'Nunlands' after being gifted to the priory of nuns at Haddington Abbey by Hugh de Giffard of Yester in the late 12<sup>th</sup> or early 13<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>47</sup> *Nunlands* was the name shown on maps of East Lothian up to 1744,<sup>48</sup> *Huntington* only appearing for the first time on William Roy's Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-1755. However, the change of name must have taken place some years earlier since a description of Haddington in an account of the religious houses of nuns published in 1734 contains the following statement – 'The Lands commonly called *Nunlands*, now called *Huntington*, belonged likewise to the Nuns of this Place..'<sup>49</sup>

Whether or not it was a member of the Gray family who named the estate 'Huntington' is uncertain as it is not clear when they first lived there. However, if, as Nechtman implies<sup>50</sup> and as Dutton also suggests,<sup>51</sup> Dr George Gray purchased the estate in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century with money he had made in India, then *Huntington*

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<sup>40</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 27 February 1847 p2

<sup>41</sup> *Sydney Chronicle* Wednesday 5 May 1847 p 2

<sup>42</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 3 October 1854 p8

<sup>43</sup> *The Queenslander* 12 January 1867 p5

<sup>44</sup> *The Brisbane Courier* 29 October 1870 p4

<sup>45</sup> *The Brisbane Courier* 9 September 1873 p2

<sup>46</sup> *The Brisbane Courier* 10 September 1873 p3

<sup>47</sup> James Miller. *The Lamp of Lothian; or the History of Haddington*, p379. James Allan, Edinburgh, 1844.

<sup>48</sup> John Adair. *East Lothian*, 1682; John Elphinstone. *A New and Correct map of the Lothians from Mr. Adair's observations*. Thos. Smith, Edinburgh, 1744

<sup>49</sup> Thomas Hope. *Practical Observations upon divers Titles of the Law of Scotland*, p514. A. Davidson, Edinburgh, 1834.

<sup>50</sup> Tillman W Nechtman. *A Jewel in the Crown? Indian Wealth in Domestic Britain in the Late Eighteenth Century*. Eighteenth Century Studies Vol 1 #1 p74 (2007)

<sup>51</sup> Dutton. *That Gallant Gentleman*. op cit p189

was in use well before he took possession. In any case, nothing has been found to associate the Grays with any other place or person called Huntington.

An intriguing possibility is that the name is more ancient than at first thought, stemming from 1139 when Ada de Warenne, on her marriage to Henry I of Scotland, Earl of Northumbria and Earl of Huntington, was granted the privileges of the demesne of Haddington. The earldom of Huntington had passed down to Henry from Siward on whom it had been conferred prior to the Norman Conquest of 1066,<sup>52</sup> and when Henry died in 1152 the two earldoms, as well as the kingdom, were inherited by Malcolm, his and Ada's eldest son. Malcolm granted the earldom of Northumbria to William (the Lion), Ada and Henry's second son, who later had to cede it to the English Crown. William afterwards became Earl of Huntington but when Malcolm died in 1165 and William succeeded him as king, the earldom of Huntington was passed to the third brother, David.<sup>53</sup>

The salient point of this history is that it was Ada de Warenne, Countess of Northumbria, with whose family the Huntington title was so closely associated, who founded and supported the priory of nuns at Haddington. The demesne, which became what was probably Scotland's first Royal Burgh, was her home, and on her death in 1178 it reverted to William. The priory remained there until 1567 when the Prioress, with the consent of her chapter, disposed of most of their lands.

How long Ada's descendants held on to Haddington is uncertain but it is tempting to suggest that the name *Huntington* commemorated this strong link to the earldom of Huntington. The earlier history was well preserved and *Huntington* might even have co-existed with *Nunlands* over the centuries until emerging as the preferred name in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century.

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<sup>52</sup> *The Peerage of England, Scotland, and Ireland; or, the Ancient and Present State of the Nobility*. Vol 2, p266. London, 1790

<sup>53</sup> James Miller *op cit* p11-12

## ROSEWOOD PARK

<b>Area:</b>	1280 acres
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Hastings River – Portion 17, Parish of Koree
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Anne Mary Parker (née Cross)
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Area rich in rosewood ( <i>Trichillia glandulosa</i> )
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	2        Associative 2.1      Local
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Rosewood
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Locality – Ref. No. 50086

## CROSLAND

<b>Area:</b>	1920 acres
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Hastings River – Portion 5, Parish of Koree
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	William Cross
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Named after the proprietor
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	7        Eponymous 7.1      Person 7.1.2    Other
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Crosslands
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Locality – Ref. No. 15100

### Historical and Genealogical Notes:

These estates will be considered together not only because they were adjoining portions but because both were granted to children of Port Macquarie's well-known chaplain, the Reverend John Cross.

Reverend Mr Cross, with his wife Ann (née Davis) and three children, arrived at Port Jackson on 26 June 1819 after a five-month voyage from England on the convict transport *Baring*.<sup>1</sup> Cross had been ordained the previous year at Fulham and was thirty eight years old when he reached Sydney to take up his chaplaincy.<sup>2</sup> Shortly after his arrival he was sent to Parramatta to perform clerical duties there during the absence of the Reverend Samuel Marsden,<sup>3</sup> and in December 1819 he was appointed Chaplain at St

<sup>1</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 26 June 1819 p3

<sup>2</sup> *Cross Family File*. Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc.

<sup>3</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 31 July 1819 p1



Matthew's Church, Windsor.<sup>4</sup> He and his family remained at Windsor until early 1828 when he was nominated to the chaplaincy at Port Macquarie.<sup>5</sup> On 24 February 1828, Cross conducted the first service at the new convict-built St Thomas' Church, and he continued to conduct services there until his death in August 1858.<sup>6</sup>

Over the course of thirty years 'Parson Cross', as he was affectionately known, officiated at many weddings. One of the first was in September 1829 when his 26-year-old daughter, Anne Mary, married Henry Harding Parker who had recently replaced his elder brother, William Skottowe Parker, as Superintendent of Agriculture at Port Macquarie.<sup>7</sup> In consequence of this event Anne was promised a 'marriage portion' of 1280 acres. She selected some mainly low-lying land on the southern bank of the Hastings River, naturally rich in cedar and rosewood. In earlier days the area had been known as Cedar-cutters Plains and then as Treachery Plains following an incident in which some timbergetters were speared by Aborigines.<sup>8</sup> Anne Parker, however, called her estate 'Rosewood Park', a name more in keeping with her genteel upbringing as a clergyman's daughter. The title deed, when eventually issued in 1839, long after she and her husband had taken possession, was made out to two trustees, her brother William and brother-in-law James McIntyre.<sup>9</sup>

*Rosewood Park* was, seemingly, quite appropriate. In May 1819, only eight months after John Oxley's party had first set foot in Port Macquarie, Phillip Parker King remarked on the trees covering the banks of the Hastings River 'among which was a tree of the trichillieae, natural order Jussieu (*Trichillia glandulosa*), which the colonists have flattered with the name of rosewood.'<sup>10</sup> Rosewood, principally used in furniture-making, was frequently found with the more valuable red cedar, and after the establishment of the convict settlement in 1821 both were heavily logged for local use and for sending to Sydney.<sup>11</sup> Indeed, at times the trees were logged faster than they could be used, leading one correspondent, 'Fidelity', to complain that 'no less than two thousand logs' had been left to rot on the banks of the river and in front of the settlement.<sup>12</sup>

Vessels carried rosewood from Port Macquarie to Sydney throughout the 1830s<sup>13</sup> but the supply dwindled and by the early 1840s most of the easily accessible trees on the Hastings had gone and timbergetters were moving to the Manning and Macleay Rivers. Later they were to move further north as new areas were opened.

Anne Parker's life at 'Rosewood' saw times of great unhappiness—the death of her husband on his way back to Port Macquarie from New England in 1849 and the loss of her second daughter just a few months later<sup>14</sup>—yet she remained there until her own death in 1878 at the age of 74.<sup>15</sup>

Anne's brother William, nine years her junior, received his promise of land in 1831 though the deed of grant, in which the name of the property was shown as 'Crosland', was not issued until 1839.<sup>16</sup> Like many

<sup>4</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 18 December 1819 p1

<sup>5</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 18 January 1828 p1

<sup>6</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 17 August 1858 p3

<sup>7</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 29 September 1829

<sup>8</sup> Iain McLachlan. *Place of Banishment: Port Macquarie 1818 to 1832*. Hale & Iremonger, Sydney. 1988.

<sup>9</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 35/185-188

<sup>10</sup> Phillip Parker King. *Narrative of a Survey of the Intertropical and Western Coasts of Australia – Performed Between the Years 1818 and 1822*. Vol. 1 p167 John Murray, London, 1827.

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 29 December 1825 p2

<sup>12</sup> *The Australian* 7 September 1827 p2

<sup>13</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 17 September 1833; *The Sydney Herald* 6 April 1835 p2

<sup>14</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 February 1850 p3:

<sup>15</sup> *Australian Town and Country Journal* 18 May 1878

<sup>16</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 58/249

others, William's initial interest was in the timber resources on his estate, but as the land was cleared he planted crops, sending the harvest by boat to the town.

In 1840 William married Margaret Jane Macdonald of Pitt Town,<sup>17</sup> whom he had probably known earlier during the Cross family's time in Windsor, but the following year their infant son died at only ten weeks old. An incident in 1842, in which a prisoner set fire to a barn, resulted in William losing a hundred bushels of maize as well as a boat housed in an adjoining shed.<sup>18</sup> Such were the perils of farming life on the Hastings and it might have been episodes such as this that prompted him to leave the area because by the early 1850s he had acquired land on the Lansdowne River in the Manning district.<sup>19</sup> He became a lay reader in the diocese of Newcastle<sup>20</sup> and continued in that capacity for thirty-five years until his death at Lansdowne in August 1894.<sup>21</sup>

Cross' long residence in the Lansdowne area is reflected today in Cross Creek, a tributary of the Lansdowne River, and in a property called 'Crossville' which was the home of his only surviving son, George John Cross, who died there in 1917.<sup>22</sup>

As to 'Crosland', William's estate on the Hastings River, no evidence has been found to suggest that the name comes from any source other than his own family name.

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<sup>17</sup> *The Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* 23 September 1840 p3

<sup>18</sup> *Australasian Chronicle* 11 January 1842 p2

<sup>19</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 4 March 1854 p3

<sup>20</sup> *The Maitland Weekly Mercury* 8 September 1894 p10

<sup>21</sup> *The Maitland Weekly Mercury* 18 August 1894 p2

<sup>22</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 4 July 1917 p10

## MILO

<b>Area:</b>	1267 acres (513 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of the Hastings River – Portion 19, Parish of Redbank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Thomas Constant Paggett Morton
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Unknown
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	N/A
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Preserved form:</b>	N/A
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	N/A

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

Thomas Constant Paggett Morton, the son of John and Ann Morton, was born at the small seaport of Appledore near Northam, Devonshire in 1787. He entered the Navy in 1802 as Second Class Boy on board the 44-gun frigate *Argo* on patrol along the African coast and then in the West Indies where he saw action at St. Lucie and Tobago. After further cruising in the Mediterranean and North Sea he was made Midshipman on the *Prosebyte* which, in early 1805, sailed for the West Indies as escort to a large convoy. Later that year he transferred to the 74-gun HMS *Illustrious*, initially off Cadiz and then in the East Indies where he was involved in the capture of Java. Late in 1811 he removed to the *Dasher*, returning to England in March 1812. Promoted to Master's Mate he served on the *Thistle* before transferring to the 74-gun frigate *Impetueux* operating off Lisbon. Morton was confirmed a Lieutenant on 15 October 1812 in the *San Juan* stationed at Gibraltar but in the summer of 1814 he returned home in the *Shearwater* and was retired on half-pay.<sup>1</sup>

The next phase of Morton's life is not well recorded apart from his marriage to Eliza Thomson May Chappell at Northam parish church in 1818<sup>2</sup> and the baptism there of two of their daughters, Eliza Katherine in 1820<sup>3</sup> and Ellen in 1822.<sup>4</sup> Although a lieutenant's half pay of between £50 and £75 per year would provide for the family's basic needs it is probable that Morton accepted other paid work. However, nothing has been found regarding this.

By 1832 the Morton family had moved from Northam and were living at Stoke Devonport (known also as Stoke Damerl) near Plymouth. Perhaps it was shortage of money, the unlikelihood of his being recalled to naval service during a period of peace, and the opportunities that a new country might offer, that prompted Thomas Morton to apply to the Admiralty for permission to emigrate to New South Wales.<sup>5</sup> His application

<sup>1</sup> William R. O'Byrne. *A Naval Biographical Dictionary: comprising the Life and Services of every living officer in Her Majesty's Navy, from the rank of Admiral of the Fleet to that of Lieutenant, inclusive.* p792. John Murray, London, 1849

<sup>2</sup> "England Marriages, 1538–1973," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/N2H6-2XX>), Thomas Constant Paggett Morton and Eliza Thomson, 23 Apr 1818

<sup>3</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JWXB-KT5>), Eliza Catharine Morton, 21 Dec 1820.

<sup>4</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/J36P-N3J>), Ellen Morton, 03 Nov 1822.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Constant Paggett Morton papers, 1812-1873 [State Library of New South Wales: Manuscript Collection Ref: A 3207]

was approved and he, his wife and daughters left Plymouth on the *Mary Ann* in late March 1833, arriving at Hobart in August<sup>6</sup> and sailing on to Sydney in November.<sup>7</sup>

In 1834 Morton successfully applied for land at Port Macquarie. He initially chose 1260 acres on the south bank of the Hastings River opposite Lieutenant Mitchell's 'Red Bank'<sup>8</sup> but afterwards changed his mind and instead selected a similar amount on the northern bank of the river immediately to the west of Edward Waterton's 'Green Bourne'.<sup>9</sup>

Morton called his new estate 'Milo' but although he and his family moved to Port Macquarie there is little evidence that they spent much time on their country estate. In 1836, after acquiring a half-acre town allotment at the corner of Clarence and Horton Streets,<sup>10</sup> Morton built a house known as 'Paget Hall' which became the family residence.

Although 'Milo' was the scene of a few incidents during the latter 1830s, including the apprehension of a gang of bushrangers there,<sup>11</sup> none appears to have involved the Morton family directly. Two events that did affect them, however, were the marriage of their elder daughter, Eliza Katherine, to Henry Betts in 1837,<sup>12</sup> and the arrival of their third daughter, Maria Chappell, in 1839 after a gap of seventeen years.<sup>13</sup>

In 1840 Morton decided to put up his estate for lease 'with immediate possession'.<sup>14</sup> It was said that the land was 'particularly well adapted for the establishment of a Dairy' and that there was 'a slabbed and weather boarded shingled House, with detached kitchen and wash-house' but only fourteen of the 1267 acres had been enclosed and tilled while the rest remained as open forest. It is not clear who took on the tenancy but ownership remained in Morton's hands.

Thomas and Eliza Morton spent the rest of their lives at Port Macquarie. In 1855 Thomas, who had remained on the Royal Navy reserve list with half-pay for all his twenty years in New South Wales, was retired with the rank of Commander<sup>15</sup> and paid 10s 6d per day (£192 per year). The payment continued, as far as is known, until his death at Paget Hall in March 1867 at the age of 80.<sup>16</sup> His widow, Eliza, was named as his sole beneficiary,<sup>17</sup> receiving all his real and personal estate, including 'Milo', as well as a naval pension of £60 per year. It proved to be of little benefit, however, for she died intestate less than seven months later, aged 73.<sup>18</sup> Letters of Administration were later granted to Eliza Katherine<sup>19</sup> who, after the death of

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<sup>6</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* Friday 16 August 1833 p3

<sup>7</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 16 November 1833 p2

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 2 August 1834 p4

<sup>9</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 6 September 1834 p5S

<sup>10</sup> *Copies of Deeds to Land Grants and Leases* [State Records New South Wales. Ref: 7/495 Town Purchases, Port Macquarie 1833 - 36]

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Monitor and Commercial Advertiser* 9 August 1839 p2

<sup>12</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 30 December 1837 p2

<sup>13</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Births Reg. No. V1839167 44/A 1839

<sup>14</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 30 September 1840

<sup>15</sup> *The Navy List corrected to the 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1858* p37. John Murray, London, 1859.

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 14 March 1867 p1

<sup>17</sup> Supreme Court. Probate packets: Thomas Constant Paggett Morton. [State Records New South Wales (NRS 13660) Series 1-7458 Ref: 14/3413]

<sup>18</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 3 October 1867 p1

<sup>19</sup> Supreme Court. Probate packets: Thomas Constant Paggett Morton. [State Records New South Wales (NRS 13660) Series 1-7263 Ref: 14/3407]

her first husband, had married Henry St. John Madden in 1857.<sup>20</sup> How the estate was distributed among the surviving family members is not on the public record.

Regarding the name *Milo*, no-one of that name has been found in either Thomas Morton's or Eliza Chappell's family. The name does not appear in any of his correspondence held by the State Library of New South Wales, nor does it seem to exist as the name of any place in England where Morton is known to have lived. One possible explanation is that it relates to Morton's naval service. In the course of his early years on HMS *Argo* he cruised the Mediterranean, and later, as a lieutenant on board the *San Juan*, he was stationed at Gibraltar. It is possible that during one of those tours he visited, and was impressed by, the Greek island of Milos, then part of the Ottoman Empire and the place where, in 1820, the statue of Aphrodite which we now know as Venus de Milo was discovered. However, this is entirely speculative and no direct evidence can be offered.

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<sup>20</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths. Marriages Reg. No. 2550/1857

## GREEN BOURNE

<b>Area:</b>	1280 acres (518 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of the Hastings River – Portion 16, Parish of Redbank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Edward Waterton
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Unknown
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	Uncertain
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Greenbourne Creek
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Creek – Ref. No. 21725

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

Edward Waterton was born in September 1798 at Walton Hall near Wakefield, Yorkshire.<sup>1</sup> He was the fourth son of Thomas Waterton and Anne Bedingfield, and a younger brother of the celebrated, if eccentric, naturalist and traveller Charles Waterton who later created the world's first wildlife park at Walton Hall.<sup>2</sup> The Watertons were staunch Catholics and Thomas Waterton had been educated at the Jesuit college at St Omer which had been founded in 1594 when Catholic education was prohibited in England. The college subsequently removed to Bruges and then to Liège as Jesuit suppression advanced in Europe,<sup>3</sup> but in 1794, thanks to the generosity of a former pupil, Thomas Weld, the college acquired a new home at Stonyhurst near Clitheroe in Lancashire.<sup>4</sup> It was there that Edward, like his brothers, was educated. Although a good deal has been written about Charles Waterton's years at Stonyhurst College, Edward's time there, from 1808 to 1815, seems to have passed unremarked. However, it would be fair to assume that he had received a sound education and adopted Jesuit values.

Edward Waterton arrived at Port Jackson in April 1830 on board the *Gilmore*.<sup>5</sup> He had been a member of Thomas Peel's contingent of emigrants to the Swan River but had decided not to remain there and instead rejoined the ship for its onward journey to Sydney, seemingly with a view to setting himself up on his own estate. Like the captain of the *Gilmore*, William Henry Geary, who established the *Glencoe* estate at Port Macquarie, Waterton quickly applied for a grant of land and was given permission to select 1280 acres. He chose two adjoining portions on the Hastings River and possession was authorised in January 1831.<sup>6</sup> Despite later assertions that he sold the land shortly afterwards, Waterton appears to have remained at Port Macquarie for more than two years and in 1833 he was appointed to the local magistracy.<sup>7</sup> Little is known of his performance as a magistrate but his support for the local Aboriginal people facing violations from

<sup>1</sup> R.A. Irwin (Ed.) *Letters of Charles Waterton of Walton Hall, Near Wakefield: Naturalist, Taxidermist and Author of "Wanderings in South America" and "Essays on Natural History."* p12. Rockliff, London. 1955

<sup>2</sup> Julia Blackburn. *Charles Waterton 1782 – 1865. Traveller and Conservationist.* The Bodley Head, London, 1989

<sup>3</sup> *The Annual Register, or a View of the History, Politics and Literature, for the Year 1800* p420. London, 1801

<sup>4</sup> Anthony Hewitson. *Stonyhurst College, its Past and Present* p28. The "Chronicle" Office, Preston, 1870

<sup>5</sup> *The Australian* 16 April 1830 p3

<sup>6</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56. [State Records NSW (NRS 907). Ref: 2/8000]

<sup>7</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 28 March 1833 p2

white settlers was probably not entirely welcome.<sup>8</sup> However, in late 1833 Waterton left the district and joined HMS *Buffalo* for a visit to New Zealand.<sup>9</sup>

What Waterton initially intended as a visit of several months turned into a prolonged stay of several years during which time William Pendray laid claim to his estate. Pendray, a bankrupted tailor and draper from Bodmin, Cornwall,<sup>10</sup> had come to Port Jackson in 1818 on board the *Neptune*,<sup>11</sup> sentenced to transportation for fourteen years after being convicted at the Devon Assizes for possession of forged bank notes.<sup>12</sup> Pendray was granted a conditional pardon in November 1821<sup>13</sup> and by 1824 had established himself as a merchant tailor and draper in George Street, Sydney.<sup>14</sup> He was allocated a number of assigned convicts, though he was not always assiduous in paying them,<sup>15</sup> and in 1826 he was found to be insolvent, resulting in his affairs being placed into the hands of trustees so that some of his estate and effects could be sold to satisfy his creditors.<sup>16</sup> Nevertheless, Pendray resurrected his business and in December 1835 he visited Port Macquarie,<sup>17</sup> presumably to look at the land previously occupied by Waterton. The following year he lodged a claim for the land,<sup>18</sup> asserting that Waterton had sold it to a Mr. Farrell from whom he, Pendray, had purchased it. The Land Commissioners, unable to contact Waterton on the matter, accepted Pendray's claim and in 1837 the land was granted to him.<sup>19</sup>

Over in New Zealand, Waterton remained blissfully unaware of these events. Although little is known about his activities there between 1834 and 1842 it may be inferred that he spent much of his time in the Bay of Islands district where he engaged in investigations into the natural history and social structures of the region. He visited Waiomio to study the unusual marble formations<sup>20</sup> and in 1842 the *Australasian Chronicle* reprinted a letter he had written to the *Kororarika Observer* deploring the effects that the Treaty of Waitangi had had on both the white settlers and the native inhabitants.<sup>21</sup> It seems that Edward, 'a gentleman of considerable observation in natural history, and brother of "Waterton the wanderer" and well known naturalist'<sup>22</sup> had undertaken similar studies earlier at Port Macquarie, though his experiences of nature clearly fell far short of those endured by his brother Charles in the course of his visits to South America. However, one thing they appear to have had in common was a taste for the macabre. In her biography of Charles Waterton, Julia Blackburn writes 'there is always the impression that Waterton enjoyed horrible accidents'<sup>23</sup> and certainly his descriptions of curare poisoning and his habit of sleeping with a foot exposed in the hope of attracting vampire bats have an unpleasant whiff about them. In Edward's case the unpleasantness comes more graphically in the form of a poem, 'An Adventure in New Zealand.' The poem is said to be founded

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 25 November 1833 p2

<sup>9</sup> *ibid*

<sup>10</sup> *The London Gazette* 11 October 1817 p2109 (online at [www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/17293/pages/2109/page.pdf](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/17293/pages/2109/page.pdf))

<sup>11</sup> The National Archives of the United Kingdom; Kew, Surrey, England; Convicts transported; Class: HO 11; Piece: 2. (access via [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com))

<sup>12</sup> Home Office: Criminal Registers, Middlesex and Home Office: Class: HO 27; Piece: 13; Page: 104 (access via [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com))

<sup>13</sup> Colonial Secretary: Registers of Conditional Pardons 16 Dec 1791 – 6 Dec 1825 [State Records NSW (NRS 1170); Ref: 4/4430]

<sup>14</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 9 September 1824 p3

<sup>15</sup> Colonial Secretary: Main series of letters received, 1788-1826 [State Records NSW (NRS 897); Ref: 4/1778 p.265g]

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 18 October 1826 p1; *The Australian* 25 October 1826 p4

<sup>17</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 15 December 1835 p2

<sup>18</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 8 October 1836 p4

<sup>19</sup> Surveyor General: Registers of Land Grants and Leases 1791 – 1924 [State Records NSW (NRS 13836) Item: 7/470]

<sup>20</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 28 December 1840 p2

<sup>21</sup> *Australasian Chronicle* 7 May 1842 p3

<sup>22</sup> John Henderson. *Excursions and Adventures in New South Wales*. Vol 2 p203. W. Schoberl, London, 1851

<sup>23</sup> Julia Blackburn, *op cit*

on fact and relates how a friend of his unwittingly participates in cannibalism in the belief that he is eating pig.<sup>24</sup> The following passage describes how, while his friend is away from the village, the feast is prepared:

Meanwhile, the heartless chief, composed and grave,  
Regarding steadfastly the boy—his slave—  
Behind him softly creeps, and aiming full,  
Uplifts a meri, strikes and cleaves his skull !  
With malice unprovoked, and crimsoned hands,  
With stern ferociousness, the savage stands  
Unmoved, surveys the child expiring laid,  
Holds to the sun the green translucid blade ;  
Just stays to wipe it, dropping brains and blood,  
And then proceeds to cook the horrid food !

On discovering what he has done, his friend is traumatised and thereafter ‘so execrates the name of pork’

That every stranger, friend, and neighbour too,  
Affect amazement, grin, and call him “Jew.”

In 1843 Edward Waterton left New Zealand and returned to Australia after an absence of almost a decade.<sup>25</sup> However, rather than proceeding to Port Macquarie he first appears to have made a short visit to Moreton Bay,<sup>26</sup> followed by what was probably a more extended one later in the year.<sup>27</sup> During the course of the latter visit he seems to have met Ludwig Leichhardt and accompanied him on an excursion into the Blackall Range.<sup>28</sup>

On eventually returning to Port Macquarie in early 1844, Waterton at last learned that, during his absence in New Zealand, his estate on the Hastings had been granted to William Pendray. Certain in the knowledge that he had never signed a deed of sale, Waterton wrote to the Colonial Secretary stating that he had been ‘beyond the seas, and this is a case in which by the law of England no forfeiture or detriment is ever incurred with respect to claims to any species of property.’<sup>29</sup> Furthermore, having learned that some of those who had obtained land at the same time as he, had since obtained additional portions, he asked that he, too, be granted an extra portion.

The Colonial Secretary was unimpressed. He considered Waterton’s claim inadmissible on several grounds— not having been in possession at the end of seven years, not having been prepared to confirm his occupation within six months after the expiration of the seven years, and a presumption of his not having made the required improvements as he sold to Farrell within six months after possession. The last, of course, was based on Pendray’s earlier assertion, though there was no official record of such a sale.

Waterton, not surprisingly, protested the decision. He wrote another letter, stating that he had lived on his land for ‘upwards of two years and a half after obtaining possession’ and that he could ‘produce most

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<sup>24</sup> Edward Waterton. *An Adventure in New Zealand – founded on fact*. In: Simmond’s Colonial Magazine and Foreign Miscellany. Vol 14 p177-178. Simmonds and Co., London, 1848

<sup>25</sup> *Australasian Chronicle* 9 May 1843 p2

<sup>26</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 11 July 1843 p2; 25 July 1843 p2

<sup>27</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 20 January 1844 p2

<sup>28</sup> M. Arousseau (ed). *The Letters of F. W. Ludwig Leichhardt* Vol 2 p795. Ashgate Publishing Company, 2010

<sup>29</sup> Colonial Secretary: Letters from individuals re Land, 1826-56. [State Records NSW (NRS 907). Ref: 2/8000]



respectable people to show that the improvements were more than sufficient.’ He also stressed that he never signed any deed of sale and reiterated his plea of absence beyond the seas.

The government relented a little, agreeing that there was nothing to support a sale to Farrell, but reminding Waterton that he had no real entitlement since his original intention had been to settle at the Swan River.

Waterton seems to have run out of steam at this point, though in February 1845, shortly after sailing from Port Macquarie to Sydney on the *Maitland*<sup>30</sup> and prior to boarding the *Everetta* for a visit to England,<sup>31</sup> he again wrote to the Colonial Secretary requesting that the governor review the case. In the event this became unnecessary, for Edward never reached England. As his brother Charles explained in a letter to an old friend, the American ornithologist George Ord:

Walton Hall, July 24<sup>th</sup> 1845

I arrived here at the end of last month but had not spirits to write to you, for, a day or two after my reaching home, I got information of the death of my poor brother Edward. He died at sea, on his passage from New South Wales and I was momentarily expecting him when the Captain’s letter conveyed to me the melancholy intelligence that poor Edward was no more. He had with him, as a present for me, two living emus, a kangaroo and a squirrel but these, without him, would have increased my sorrows. So I made a present of them to the Captain.<sup>32</sup>

With Edward Waterton’s death Pendray’s claim to ownership was unchallenged, though the property was mortgaged. In July 1847, under instruction from the mortgagee the estate—styled ‘Green Bourne’—was put up for sale,<sup>33</sup> as were the livestock currently being depastured there.<sup>34</sup>

The sale was not completed at that time and both the farm and the stock were re-advertised for sale in February 1848.<sup>35</sup> Little information has been found beyond this point except that by 1860 the creek running through the estate was known as *Green Bourne Brook*.<sup>36</sup>

As to the question of how, when and why Edward Waterton’s estate came to be called ‘Green Bourne’ (or ‘Greenburn’), unfortunately no firm answer can be offered. A ‘bourne’ in England is a small stream or brook, so it might simply be that Waterton, given his affinity for the natural world as well as his poetic tilt, used it in a descriptive sense. In Wiltshire during the time of King Charles 1<sup>st</sup> there was the Green Bourne which later became Derry Brook but Waterton is not known to have travelled in that district. It is, of course, possible that Pendray conferred the name, though this appears less likely as he was a hard-headed businessman whose interest in the land was almost certainly confined its timber resources and the prospect of gaining a profit from a future sale.

*Green Bourne* is still in use today, not only as the name of the creek but also as that of a property on Pembroke Road.

<sup>30</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 22 January 1845 p2

<sup>31</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 11 February 1845 p2

<sup>32</sup> R.A. Irwin *op cit* p45

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 19 June 1847 p8

<sup>34</sup> *The Australian* 10 June 1847 p2

<sup>35</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 28 February 1848 p4

<sup>36</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 24 May 1860 p3

## WAUCHOPE

<b>Area:</b>	3465 acres (1402ha)
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Hastings River on Kings Creek – Portions 1, 2 and 3, Parish of Koree <i>plus</i> Portion 1, Parish of Burrawan
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Robert Andrew Wauch
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Family name
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	7 Eponymous 7.1 Person 7.1.2 Other
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Wauchope
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Locality – Ref. No. 63656 Post Office – Ref. No. 63657 [Wauchope Central Park, Wauchope High School, Wauchope Public School, Wauchope Railway Station and Wauchope Technical College are also officially registered]

### Historical and Genealogical Notes:

On his death certificate it is recorded that Captain Robert Andrew Wauch was born in Norfolk, England and was 80 years old when he died in November 1866, suggesting that he was born in 1786. His parents were named as Robert Wauch, an officer in the Army, and Elizabeth Edwards.<sup>1</sup>

Although his birth under the name ‘Wauch’ could not be verified through the major online genealogical databases, Norfolk parish records show that a Robert Andrew Waugh was born at Great Yarmouth on 12 May 1787 and christened at St Nicholas’ Church on 4 July 1787. His parents are given as Robert and Charlotte.<sup>2</sup>

Although there are discrepancies between these records there is a strong suggestion that they relate to the same person. The difference between the implied and actual year of birth is of little consequence, and because ‘Wauch’ and ‘Waugh’ are homophones they tend to be used interchangeably, the latter being the default spelling and therefore heavily predominant. The only significant difference is the name of the mother, given as Charlotte in the baptism record and Elizabeth Edwards on the death certificate. However, as we shall see later, legal documents drawn up after his father’s death record his widow as ‘Mrs. Charlotte Edwards alias Wauch’.<sup>3</sup> We may therefore infer that she was Robert Andrew Wauch’s mother.

Difficulties created by the confusion between the names ‘Wauch’ and ‘Waugh’ have erupted from time to time amongst people concerned with the Wauch family history. In fact, the earliest document recovered in which Robert Andrew’s name appears as ‘Wauch’ rather than ‘Waugh’ is *The London Gazette* of 18 March 1817 which records his moving on to half-pay in the Army.<sup>4</sup> All prior documents refer to him as ‘Waugh’.

<sup>1</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Death Certificate Reg. No. 1866/004800

<sup>2</sup> *Ancestry.com*. England & Wales Christening Records – Place: Yarmouth, Norfolk, England; Collection: St Nicholas; Date Range: 1769 - 1833; Film Number: 1526328

<sup>3</sup> *Edinburgh Commissary Court*: 1818 Wauch, Robert [Ref: CC8/8/144] (ScotlandsPeople online database)

<sup>4</sup> *The London Gazette* 18 March 1817 #17232 p695

Wauch's military career began in November 1803 when he purchased an ensigncy in the Eastern Division of the Norfolk Militia.<sup>5</sup> In June 1804 he purchased lieutenantcy in the same militia<sup>6</sup> but later that year entered the regular army as an Ensign without purchase in the 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot.<sup>7</sup> He was promoted to Lieutenant without purchase in the same regiment in 1807,<sup>8</sup> and purchased a Captaincy in 1810.<sup>9</sup> He served in the Peninsular War between 1809 and 1814, and was afterwards stationed in Ireland, but on 25 February 1817 he chose to move on to half-pay and remain in Britain, rather than accompany his regiment to New South Wales where it was to undertake garrison duties.<sup>10</sup> In his official army record, in the column headed 'The Officer is here required to state, whether he is desirous of Service', he wrote:

I have no desire at present to continue the service with my present ranking unless in event of war or some other circumstances His Majesty should deem it fit to employ me.

Robt. Andw. Wauch<sup>11</sup>

Later that year Wauch's father, Robert Wauch, who will be looked at in more detail later, died at Foxhall, his estate on the River Almond at Kirkliston, Linlithgowshire (West Lothian), Scotland. It is not known if Robert Andrew was living at Foxhall when his father died, but if not he must have moved there shortly afterwards to join his mother and sisters. At first he devoted much of his time to botanical studies, becoming a member of the Caledonian Horticultural Society in 1819<sup>12</sup> and joining the Wernerian Natural History Society four years later.<sup>13</sup> He was particularly interested in the fungi growing at Foxhall and its surrounds, and was an associate of the well known Edinburgh botanist Robert Kay Greville, earning special acknowledgement 'for his liberal mycological contributions' in Greville's book on the plants of the Edinburgh region.<sup>14</sup>

As a significant landowner, Wauch was also expected to undertake some civic duties, though not, it seems, too many. In 1822 he attended a meeting of county dignitaries to consider presenting a 'Dutiful and Loyal Address' to George IV during the royal visit to Scotland,<sup>15</sup> and in 1825 he was appointed to a special jury for the retrial of an unusual court case.<sup>16</sup>

By 1825 the family at Foxhall had been reduced. Wauch's sister, Anna Sarah Rachel, died there in 1823,<sup>17</sup> and 'Mrs Charlotte Waugh (of *Fox-hall*)' was living on Grove Street, Edinburgh, listed among the nobility, gentry and clergy in *Pigot & Co's New Commercial Directory of Scotland*.<sup>18</sup> She was still there—at No. 8 Grove Street—in the 1837 edition of the directory, this time entered under both 'Wauch' and 'Waugh',<sup>19</sup> and probably remained there until her death in 1847.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>5</sup> *The London Gazette* 24 Nov 1803 #15648 p1634

<sup>6</sup> *The London Gazette* 9 June 1804 #15708 p700

<sup>7</sup> *The London Gazette* 4 December 1804 #15760 p1475

<sup>8</sup> *The London Gazette* 7 February 1807 #15998 p158

<sup>9</sup> *The London Gazette* 20 February 1810 #16344 p270

<sup>10</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 9 August 1817 p2

<sup>11</sup> War Office Records: Robert Andrew Wauch [UK National Archives, Ref: WO 25\_777\_77]

<sup>12</sup> *Memoirs of the Caledonian Horticultural Society*. Vol 4 p4 Maclachlan & Stewart, Edinburgh, 1829

<sup>13</sup> *Memoirs of the Wernerian Natural History Society* Vol 4 Part 2 p588. Adam Black, Edinburgh, 1823

<sup>14</sup> Robert Kaye Greville. *Flora Edinensis*. William Blackwood, Edinburgh, 1824

<sup>15</sup> *The Edinburgh Advertiser* 20 August 1822 p118

<sup>16</sup> *The Edinburgh Advertiser* 15 March 1825 p105

<sup>17</sup> *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* Vol. 14 No. 80, September 1823 p375. William Blackwood, Edinburgh

<sup>18</sup> *Pigot & Co.'s New Commercial Directory of Scotland for 1825-6* p48. J. Pigot and Co., London

<sup>19</sup> *Pigot and Co.'s National Commercial Directory of the whole of Scotland and the Isle of Man* p74. J. Pigot & Co., London, 1837

<sup>20</sup> *The Edinburgh Gazette* 30 April 1847 #5639 p253

As Wauch approached his fortieth birthday he was still unmarried, but his domestic situation changed on 6 September 1827 when, at a double wedding in Edinburgh, he married Mary Makin, second daughter of John Gillot Esq, while his sister, Margaret, married Robert Boog, a Solicitor of the Supreme Court.<sup>21</sup>

Over the next few years Mary Makin Wauch gave birth to three children, daughters Emily Roberta and Anna Sarah Rachel (named after her late aunt), and son Robert Arthur.<sup>22</sup> However, as time passed, life at Foxhall became less satisfactory and Wauch decided to leave Scotland and take his family to New South Wales. What prompted the move is not known, but supporting a growing family on a captain's half-pay would have been difficult, especially if the estate was generating little income at a time when the agricultural revolution in Scotland was leading to the emigration of many lowland Scots. Perhaps, too, Wauch had received favourable reports from some of his former colleagues in the 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment which had spent seven years in the colony and undertaken garrison duties in Sydney, Van Diemen's Land and Port Macquarie. Whatever the case, in May 1835 the *London Gazette* reported that

Captain Robert Andrew Wauch, upon half-pay of the 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, has been permitted to retire from the Army, with the sale of an Unattached commission as Captain, he being about to become a settler in the colonies.<sup>23</sup>

Before making the decision to retire and head for the colonies Wauch must have negotiated with the Army over the continuance of his half-pay, and with the Colonial Office regarding access to land in a new country. But once the agreements had been reached the Wauch family left Foxhall, proceeded to Leith and boarded the 402-ton vessel *North Briton* bound for Sydney.

The ship left Leith on 16 September 1835 but almost immediately encountered heavy seas resulting in damage to the bulwarks and the loss overboard of the first mate, though happily the cargo escaped undamaged.<sup>24</sup> After almost three weeks at Cork to allow repairs to be made the ship sailed on, arriving in Hobart on 17 February 1836<sup>25</sup> and remaining there for two weeks before proceeding to Sydney where she arrived on 18 March.<sup>26</sup>

Wauch's reputation as a botanist must have preceded him because within three months of his arrival he, together with nine others, was appointed as an inaugural member of the Committee of Superintendence of the Australian Museum and Botanical Garden.<sup>27</sup> The auspicious group included, amongst others, Colonial Secretary Alexander Macleay, Sir John Jamison, Phillip Parker King and Charles Sturt.

Nevertheless, Captain Wauch did not remain in Sydney very long. He already had his sights on Port Macquarie and in response to a government advertisement offering portions there he visited the district.<sup>28</sup> Before the year was out he had undertaken to purchase two portions, one of 1030 acres and the other 500 acres.<sup>29</sup> As an officer with more than twenty years service he received a discount on the purchase price and

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<sup>21</sup> *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*. Vol 22 July – December 1827 p766

<sup>22</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Death Certificate Reg. No. 1866/004800

<sup>23</sup> *The London Gazette* 15 May 1835 #19270 p946

<sup>24</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 11 February 1836 p2

<sup>25</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* 19 February 1836 p2

<sup>26</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 19 March 1836 morning edn p2

<sup>27</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 18 June 1836 p4

<sup>28</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 26 September 1836 p2

<sup>29</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 16 December 1836 p3

received the title deed for the larger portion early the following year.<sup>30</sup> It was situated on the western side of what was then known as King's River (now Kings Creek), named for Phillip Parker King who had conducted surveys there in 1819, prior to the establishment of the penal settlement at Port Macquarie. The smaller portion, which lay on the southern bank of the Hastings River, was separated from the larger portion by a 767-acre portion which Wauch also successfully applied to purchase. In addition, he purchased 1186 acres on the eastern side of King's River opposite the 767-acre portion. The total cost for the additional three portions was £1017 11s and the first of the deeds was issued in January 1841, followed by the other two in May 1841.<sup>31</sup> It was on the final two deeds, those for the 500 acre and 767acre portions, that the name of the property—'Wauchope'—was recorded.

By the time the last deeds were issued the Wauch family, including a second son, Alfred, born in 1836,<sup>32</sup> was well established on the 'Wauchope' estate. Captain Wauch had been appointed to the Port Macquarie magistracy in 1838<sup>33</sup> and was firm in his support for the Police Magistrate, William Nairne Gray, when the latter was the subject of a commission of inquiry the following year. Wauch was quoted as saying that he was 'of opinion, with regard to Mr Gray, that a more conscientious, upright, and efficient magistrate cannot be.'<sup>34</sup> In the light of an incident that occurred a few years later, and which is mentioned briefly below, he might have regretted his strong endorsement.

In 1841 Wauch was elected as one of the trustees of a subscription fund set up for the purpose of erecting a building for the Church of Scotland in Port Macquarie<sup>35</sup> and not long afterwards he joined Major Innes, Captain Geary, William Bell Carlyle, Captain Jobling and Herbert Salwey as trustees of the Port Macquarie Steam River Navigation Company, newly formed to introduce steam vessels to ply the Hastings, Wilson and Maria Rivers 'as the powerful agent of improving the navigation of the rivers, and developing the resources of their respective shores.'<sup>36</sup>

Amicable relationships within the magistracy, mentioned above, soured in 1847 following a reception to mark the visit to Port Macquarie of Governor Sir Charles Augustus FitzRoy and his wife, Lady Mary FitzRoy. After the vice-regal party had left to return to Innes House, where they were staying, most of the other guests remained behind to enjoy the rest of the evening. It was then that Captain Wauch informed the gathering that two of the men present, Captain Geary and Dr Gamack, were spying on the conduct of Police Magistrate Gray. When told that the information came from Gray himself, Gray objected, declaring 'in the presence of Almighty G-, and of his only son -, that he had never made the observations imputed to him' to which Wauch retorted 'If the Police Magistrate denies what I have asserted, he is a d-d lying scoundrel.' According to the *Argus*, a Melbourne newspaper which gleefully reported the incident

a general uproar took place, two parties were formed, and fighting, breaking of glasses, &c, &c, ensued, till the police interfered and put a stop to the disgraceful scene. Mr. Gray sent a challenge to Capt. Wauch, which was accepted, and a meeting appointed to take place on the following Monday, a few miles from the township.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>30</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 20 May 1837 p4

<sup>31</sup> Land and Property Information NSW: Register of Grants and Purchases SN 73/139, 73/171 and 73/172

<sup>32</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Births Reg. No. V18361308 21/1836

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 11 December 1838 p2

<sup>34</sup> *The Australian* 8 October 1839 Supplement p1

<sup>35</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 4 March 1841 p1

<sup>36</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 29 January 1842 p3

<sup>37</sup> *The Melbourne Argus* 23 March 1847 p2

On hearing the news Major Innes intervened and calmed things down. No duel took place but, as the *Argus* observed, ‘there is no question that all the parties concerned were greatly under the influence of the juice of the grape, which they had been imbibing.’

Wauch continued to be involved in community affairs. He was a member of a deputation formed to present a memorial to the governor to improve the road between the Hastings and New England,<sup>38</sup> and in 1852 he was appointed Warden of the District Council of Macquarie, covering the whole area between the Manning and Macleay Rivers,<sup>39</sup> a position he held until 1854 when he resigned and William Henry Freeman of ‘Willesbro’ was appointed to replace him.<sup>40</sup>

Wauch was now in his late sixties and at around that time he and his wife decided to leave ‘Wauchope’ and move to ‘Yessabah’ on the Macleay River. The property, a run leased from the government, had been taken up in 1848 by Herbert Salwey who, in 1851, married Emily Wauch.<sup>41</sup> The Wauchs went to live with their daughter and son-in-law, and remained at ‘Yessabah’ for the rest of their lives, Mary Makin dying in 1865<sup>42</sup> and Captain Wauch the following year.<sup>43</sup> Both were buried there in an enclosed gravesite with a single marble headstone.

We now come to the question of why Captain Wauch decided to call his estate ‘Wauchope’. There is nothing to suggest that he explained—at least publicly—why he chose the name, but because it was so similar to his own name perhaps it did not merit any inquiry. Indeed, so far as can be ascertained, it was not until 1940 that the question arose, though in a rather roundabout way.

What appears to have sparked the debate was a request from the Society of Australian Genealogists to *The Hastings Shire Gazette* ‘as to whether Wauchope was named after a family or one of three towns in Scotland.’<sup>44</sup> The newspaper sought information from Mr A W S (Arthur William Sherriff) Mackay who contended that Captain Wauch was really Captain Waugh, that the substitution of ‘c’ for ‘g’ was initiated by Mrs Doyle, a local schoolteacher, and that his estate had not been named after one of the Scottish Wauchopes or ‘had any connection, in any way, with any locality in Scotland of that name.’

Over the next few weeks there was a flurry of letters disputing Mackay’s claims over the spelling of Wauch’s name, two of them also offering suggestions about the name *Wauchope*. Samuel Allen thought it was derived from ‘Wauch’s Hope’<sup>45</sup> while Frances Osburne-Lilly, a Fellow of the Society of Australian Genealogists, stated that Captain Wauch named his farm ‘after a relative who belonged to the Scottish family of Wauchope of Niddrie-Merschell.’<sup>46</sup> Some years later Mrs Keene, a great-granddaughter of Captain Wauch,

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<sup>38</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 25 March 1847 p3

<sup>39</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 2 October 1852 p1

<sup>40</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 22 July 1854 p4

<sup>41</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Marriages Reg. No. V1851259 44B/1851

<sup>42</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 21 March 1865 p1

<sup>43</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 December 1866 p5

<sup>44</sup> *The Hastings Shire Gazette and General Advertiser* 25 September 1940 p7

<sup>45</sup> *The Hastings Shire Gazette and General Advertiser* 2 October 1940 p4

<sup>46</sup> *The Hastings Shire Gazette and General Advertiser* 4 December 1940 p2

observed that his full surname was Wauchope, but in Australia he had dropped the “ope” and was known as Wauch.<sup>47</sup>

The matter does not seem to have raised its head again until 1957 when, in its 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee issue, *The Hastings Shire Gazette* published a short piece on the naming of Wauchope which, since then, seems to have been accepted unquestioningly and, after being repeated many times in print and, more recently, in the electronic media, has become the definitive version. It runs as follows:

When Captain Wauch called his property ‘Wauchope’, he simply used the original form of the family name. His father was Captain Robert Wauch (1761 – 1817), who was born on the family estate, Niddrie Marischal, in the immediate vicinity of Edinburgh, quite close to Craigmillar Castle, famous for its association with Mary Queen of Scots.

Actually, this Captain Robert Wauch’s name was originally Wauchope – the true family name – but after the death of his father, a quarrel ensued over shares of the estates, and the matter finally ended in the Court of Scotland.

Losing the legal battle, the embittered Captain retired to his portion, Foxhall, and thenceforth dropped the ‘ope’, retaining the abbreviated form which he passed on to his descendants, including his son, Robert Andrew, the founder of Wauchope.

Before moving to the vicinity of Edinburgh, the Wauchopes had lived in Wauchopedale, Roxburghshire, and the family’s history through a long line of soldiers, church men and ‘country gentlemen’ may be traced back with accuracy for some seven centuries.<sup>48</sup>

The genesis of the story is unknown, and although it contains elements traceable back to the earlier correspondence [viz. the connection with Niddrie-Marischal and the dropping of ‘ope’ from the surname], it is considerably more elaborate. There was no by-line for the piece, nor were any sources cited, though general acknowledgements were extended to ‘Mr. Robert Andrew Ralph Wauch, of Sydney, grandson of Wauchope’s founder; to Mr. Philip L. Langley of Walcha, who graciously made available the results of his detailed researches into the Wauch family history; to Mr. Colin Wauch of Walcha, for providing the photo of Capt. Wauch; to Mrs. R. Waugh of Walcha, who kindly supplied details relating to the Waugh family.’<sup>49</sup> Presumably it was from amongst these that the tale emerged, but the question arises – is it true?

Fortunately the story contains enough alleged ‘facts’ to render it testable. Accordingly, research was undertaken to find evidence for the following assertions:

- Robert Wauch—Robert Andrew Wauch’s father— was born in 1761
- He was a member of the Wauchope family of Niddrie Marischal, arguably the most powerful family in Edinburghshire, and originally bore the name Wauchope
- After the death of his father there was a quarrel over shares in the family estates which was determined in the Court of Scotland
- As a consequence of the Court’s decision Robert dropped “ope” from his name and retired to Foxhall

Before looking at the findings it is important to note that there is some validity in the last sentence of the story, that ‘the family’s [Wauchope of Niddrie Marischal] history through a long line of soldiers, church men and “country gentlemen” may be traced back with accuracy for some seven centuries.’ Certainly the

<sup>47</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 29 April 1949 p2

<sup>48</sup> *Hastings Shire Gazette* 21 November 1957 p15

<sup>49</sup> *ibid* p1

main bloodline has been recorded over that period and is assumed to be accurate.<sup>50</sup> However, it is very unlikely to be complete insofar as those low in the line of succession are concerned, so the lack of a record does not mean that an individual did not exist.

Nevertheless, an extensive, if not exhaustive, search of online genealogical databases, newspaper and magazine archives, genealogical and heraldic dictionaries, and so on failed to reveal a child named Robert being born at Niddrie Marischal at any time during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The head of the family in 1761, the date given for Robert's birth, was Andrew Wauchope 12<sup>th</sup> of Niddrie Marischal who, in 1726 when only fifteen years old, succeeded to the title and held it until his death in 1784. In 1734 he married Helen, daughter of the Hon. Sir Andrew Home of Kimmerghame, and they are believed to have had up to fifteen children though only five names are recorded.<sup>51</sup> Hence, the possibility that one unrecorded child was named Robert cannot be ruled out but, if so, he must have been low in the line of succession as he would have had at least three older brothers all of whom were living at the time of their father's death. In that case he could hardly have expected to inherit any of the Wauchope estates.

In fact, no information at all has been uncovered on Robert Wauch's birth, either under that name or under the name Wauchope. However, it was possible to trace a certain Robert Waugh who entered the Army as Ensign in 1778,<sup>52</sup> consistent with his having been born around 1761. Waugh rose to Cornet in 1780,<sup>53</sup> to Lieutenant in 1781,<sup>54</sup> and to Captain in 1798.<sup>55</sup> Then, in 1800, for some undisclosed reason, he was reduced to Quartermaster<sup>56</sup> and by 1805 was retired on half-pay as Quartermaster in the 87<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot.<sup>57</sup>

The clinching evidence that the Robert Waugh described above was identical with Robert Wauch of Foxhall is to be found in the inventory of the latter's personal estate drawn up after his death in 1817.<sup>58</sup> The last item in the inventory reads:

Half pay due to Mr Wauch as a Reduced Quartermaster in the 87 Regiment of foot -----17 . 17 .

The entry leaves no room for doubt over Wauch's identity as the probability of there being two men with essentially the same name having occupied exactly the same position in the same regiment at the same time must be close to zero.

Other evidence indicates that Wauch purchased Foxhall, earlier known as Todshaugh, from Patrick Wishart in 1812.<sup>59</sup> It had been owned by the Wishart family from at least the 1880s and had never belonged to the Wauchopes of Niddrie Marischal as the story under investigation appears to imply. There is one rather

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<sup>50</sup> John Burke and John Bernard Burke. *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*. Vol 2 p1538 – 1539. Henry Colburn, London, 1847

<sup>51</sup> James Paterson. *Scottish Surnames; a Contribution to Genealogy* p20 – 42. James Stillie, Edinburgh, 1866

<sup>52</sup> *The London Gazette* 18 July 1778 #11893 p1

<sup>53</sup> *The London Gazette* 16 May 1780 #12084 p1

<sup>54</sup> *The London Gazette* 8 September 1781 #12223 p1

<sup>55</sup> *The London Gazette* 1 December 1798 #15085 p1154

<sup>56</sup> *The London Gazette* 9 August 1800 #15283 p913

<sup>57</sup> A List of all the Officers of the Army and Royal Marines on Full and Half Pay. 53<sup>rd</sup> Edn. p462 & 494. War Office, 1805

<sup>58</sup> *Edinburgh Sheriff Court Inventories: 1818 Wauch, Robert* [Ref: SC70/1/17] ScotlandsPeople online database

<sup>59</sup> James Bridges *op cit*



tantalising record suggesting that prior to acquiring Foxhall, Wauch might have lived at Easternewton,<sup>60</sup> a small estate not far away. However, an attempt to follow that line of inquiry proved fruitless.

After Robert Wauch died intestate in 1817 the Edinburgh Commissary Court appointed his widow, ‘Mrs. Charlotte Edwards alias Wauch’ as Executrix<sup>61</sup> and, as we have already seen, his son, Captain Robert Andrew Wauch, became the proprietor of Foxhall.

We now come to the crux of the matter; the assertion that it was a dispute within the Wauchope family over shares in their estates that led ‘Robert Wauchope’ to become ‘Robert Wauch’.

The court presiding over disputes of this kind was the Court of Session, Scotland’s highest civil court established in 1532. Fortunately, the court records, or at least comprehensive reports of the decisions of the court, are in the public domain and freely accessible. Over almost three centuries from the early 1500s to the early 1800s the court ruled on several cases involving the Wauchopes of Niddrie Marischal, the most notable being one regarding the rights to the barony of Lochture in Roxburghshire which came before the court in 1683.<sup>62</sup> We need not go into the details here but the case has no bearing on the matter with which we are concerned. An earlier case, heard in 1598 and involving Robert Wauchope 7<sup>th</sup> of Niddrie Marischal, his deceased son, Archibald, and the Laird of Edmonstone, an estate near Niddrie Marischal, is similarly irrelevant.<sup>63</sup> During the 18<sup>th</sup> century there were a few minor cases involving a Wauchope as plaintiff or defendant but none had anything to do with Robert Wauch.

Without any dispute or court decision to provide a reason for Robert to have changed his name from ‘Wauchope’ to ‘Wauch’, which in any case would have been irrational as it would have diminished rather than enhanced his status, there must be a strong inference that it is a myth. We know that when Wauch joined the Army in 1778, at about sixteen years of age, he was recorded as ‘Waugh’, and the most likely explanation is that it, or possibly ‘Wauch’, was also his birth name.

Finally, if Robert was a ‘Wauch’ or a ‘Waugh’ all along, why did his son, Robert Andrew Wauch, name his estate *Wauchope*? Was there really some undiscovered connection with the Wauchopes of Niddrie Marischal, even if it were well in the past? Alternatively, did Captain Wauch, on coming to New South Wales, decide to raise his status in colonial society by indirectly associating himself with a powerful Scottish family? Or was it simply, as first suggested, ‘Wauch’s Hope’?

Whatever the case, it is interesting to look at the inscription on his headstone:

Robert Andrew Wauch  
of Foxhall Scotland, Captain  
of the 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot  
who departed this life  
23<sup>rd</sup> November 1866 aged 80 years

It seems that, at the end, for the family at least, the connection with Foxhall was more important than that with Wauchope, suggesting that any claim he or his father may have had to the lands of Niddrie-Marischal lay in the fertile imagination of others.

<sup>60</sup> *The Caledonian Mercury* 22 October 1807

<sup>61</sup> *Edinburgh Commissary Court*: 1818 Wauch, Robert [Ref: CC8/8/144] ScotlandsPeople online database

<sup>62</sup> William Maxwell Morrison. *The Decisions of the Court of Session from its Institution until the Separation of the Court into Two Divisions in the Year 1808*. Vol. 29 – 30 p12949 – 12958. Archibald Constable and Company, Edinburgh, 1811.

<sup>63</sup> William Maxwell Morrison. *The Decisions of the Court of Session from its Institution until the Separation of the Court into Two Divisions in the Year 1808*. Vol. 11 – 12 p4661. Archibald Constable and Company, Edinburgh, 1811

## HURSLEY

<b>Area:</b>	700 acres (283ha)
<b>Location:</b>	North bank of Hastings River anabranch opposite Rawdon Island – Portion 22, Parish of Redbank
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Thomas Caswell
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Unknown
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	Y
<b>Preserved form:</b>	Hursley
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Rural Place – Ref. No. 24563

### Historical Notes:

Thomas Caswell was born on 9 September 1798 at Deptford, Kent, not far from the Royal Naval College at Greenwich.<sup>1</sup> He was the third son of John and Ann Caswell, preceded by William (b. 1789)<sup>2</sup> and George (b. 1794).<sup>3</sup> Little is known about his parents apart from the fact that John was a victualler,<sup>4</sup> provisioning ships with food, beverages and other supplies. However, none of the boys followed in his father's footsteps, all of them choosing instead to join the Royal Navy and become officers. Two, William and Thomas, later made their homes in New South Wales.

Thomas entered the navy in 1813 as a Volunteer First Class on HMS *Amphion* serving off Bermuda and the Home station.<sup>5</sup> In 1815, after progressing to Midshipman, he joined HMS *Magicienne* and sailed for the East Indies. He returned to England in 1819 and transferred to HMS *Severn*, one of the naval vessels involved in patrolling the Kent and Sussex coasts as part of the Coast Blockade for the Prevention of Smuggling.<sup>6</sup> Thomas received his commission as Lieutenant on 3 March 1820 and remained on the Coast Blockade for ten years, serving successively in HMS *Ramillies* and HMS *Talavera*. In 1832, following the amalgamation of the Coast Blockade with the Coast Guard to form a naval reserve force under the control of the Admiralty, Thomas was at last given a command but he remained in the service for only three more years before retiring on half-pay in 1835.

By that time Thomas was a family man. On 21 December 1826 he had married 35-year-old widow Mary Susanna Naylor (nee White) at the Parish church of St. Mary-le-Bone,<sup>7</sup> and afterwards Mary gave birth to

<sup>1</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/NLRG-MFN> : Thomas Caswell

<sup>2</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/J397-Y5S>), William Caswell, 08 Aug 1789

<sup>3</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/NLRL-993>), George Jones Caswell, 01 Mar 1794.

<sup>4</sup> *Free Settler or Felon* [database online at <http://www.jenwillets.com/index.htm>]

<sup>5</sup> William R. O'Byrne. *A Naval Biographical Dictionary: comprising the Life and Services of every living officer in Her Majesty's Navy, from the rank of Admiral of the Fleet to that of Lieutenant, inclusive* p178. John Murray, London, 1849.

<sup>6</sup> *Contraband County -Sussex Smuggling in the 19th Century*. Customs & Excise History Network. Newsletter No.9 November 2000

<sup>7</sup> London, England, Marriages and Banns, 1754-1921 for Thomas Caswell (online database at Ancestry.com)

four children, Fanny (b. 1828), John (b. 1832), Elizabeth Mansel (b. 1833)<sup>8</sup> and Thomas (b. 1835).<sup>9</sup> However, before continuing with his life we should take a closer look at his brothers' lives since one, and perhaps both, are germane to Thomas' story.

William, the eldest, joined the Navy in 1805 as an Able Seaman on board HMS *Fox* on the East India station where he served for six years and rose to Midshipman.<sup>10</sup> After returning to Britain in 1811 he was made Master's Mate on HMS *Maidstone* initially in the Mediterranean and then off the North American coast where, as reward for his conduct in the seizing of the American Revenue-cutter *Commodore Barry*, he was appointed Acting Lieutenant on HMS *Spartan* and subsequently Lieutenant on HMS *Plantagenet*, a 74-gun third rate ship of the line. After being seriously wounded in action during an attack on the American privateer *General Armstrong* he returned to England and took part in several campaigns including the bombardment of Algiers. In March 1825, three weeks after marrying Susan Hoddle at Westminster,<sup>11</sup> he joined HMS *Hyperion* on the Coast Blockade, serving in that capacity for three years before retiring on half-pay. His decision to leave the Navy was probably prompted by favourable reports concerning New South Wales, sent to him by his brother-in-law, Robert Hoddle, who was a surveyor in the colony. In October 1828 William, Susan and their two children, together with Robert Hoddle's wife and child, left London on the *Pyramus*, arriving in Sydney on 9 May 1829 after calling at Tristan da Cunha, Rio de Janeiro and Hobart.<sup>12</sup> By virtue of his more than two decades naval service, William soon acquired a grant of 1920 acres around ten kilometres north of Raymond Terrace, which he called 'Balickera',<sup>13</sup> as well as a 50-acre portion on the southern shore of Port Stephens where he built the family home, 'Tanilba'.

The second of John and Ann Caswell's sons, George, entered the Navy in 1808 as Second Class Volunteer on HMS *Parthian*, rising to Midshipman in 1810 and Lieutenant in 1815.<sup>14</sup> Over almost four decades he served in a number of ships on various stations—North Sea, Mediterranean, East India, West Indies, Cape of Good Hope—and was promoted to Commander in 1846. However, on 15 December 1834, twelve years before that final promotion, George, then forty years old, had married 18-year-old Louisa Anne Leigh, daughter of Commander Benjamin Leigh RN<sup>15</sup> in a ceremony conducted at St Mary's Portsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire.<sup>16</sup> It is interesting to observe that Louisa' sister, Selina, was married to Captain Thomas Mansel RN who came from a distinguishing naval family and who eventually rose, through seniority, to the rank of Admiral. 'Mansel', as we have already seen, was one of the forenames Thomas Caswell gave to his second daughter, indicative of a strong connection between the Caswell, Leigh and Mansel families through their naval service.

Let us now return to Lieutenant Thomas Caswell and his immediate family whom we left in 1835 when Thomas retired from the Navy on half-pay. At that stage they were living in Hythe on the Kent coast but with one brother, George, recently married and the other, William, already living in New South Wales the time had come for Thomas to make a decision on his future. Presumably encouraged by reports from William, the decision came down in favour of emigration to New South Wales and on 1 May 1835 Thomas

<sup>8</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JQWV-T9G>), Thomas Caswell in entry for Elizabeth Mansel Caswell, 26 Dec 1833.

<sup>9</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JS71-SRC>), Thomas Caswell, 23 Oct 1836.

<sup>10</sup> William R. O'Byrne *op cit* p178 - 179

<sup>11</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, Saint Anne, Soho: Dean Street, Westminster, Transcript of Marriages, 1825 Jan-1825 Dec, DL/t Item, 087/044.

<sup>12</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* 4 April 1829 p2; *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 12 May 1829 p2

<sup>13</sup> Surveyor General: Registers of Land Grants and Leases 1791 – 1924 [State Records NSW (NRS 13836) Item: 7/470]

<sup>14</sup> William R. O'Byrne *op cit* p179

<sup>15</sup> *The Nautical Magazine for 1835* Vol 4 p127

<sup>16</sup> "England Marriages, 1538-1973" index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/N2RM-WZZ>), George Caswell and Louisa Anne Leigh, 15 Dec 1834; see also <http://family.kearney.co.uk/familytree/families/family88.html>

sailed from London on the ship *Lloyds*, leaving his pregnant wife and three children behind. The ship arrived in Sydney on 16 September after a brief stop at Hobart.<sup>17</sup> It is interesting to note that another of the handful of passengers on *Lloyds* was Thomas White whose surname was the original name of Thomas Caswell's wife. Whether this was simple coincidence or evidence of a family relationship is not known but no continuing connection between them has been found.

At first Thomas seems to have lived at Blackbrook near Raymond Terrace, not far from his brother's home.<sup>18</sup> However, he was busy applying to purchase land and town allotments in the Port Macquarie district<sup>19</sup> and in November 1837 was successful in acquiring 700 acres on the Hastings River.<sup>20</sup> He called the property 'Hursley', a name we shall examine shortly.

Thomas' wife and four children did not join him at 'Hursley' until late 1840. They arrived in Sydney on the *Royal George* on 18 November, having sailed from London on 26 July and Plymouth on 1 August.<sup>21</sup> Yet within a few weeks of being re-united tragedy struck when their 12-year-old daughter, Fanny, died from dysentery.<sup>22</sup>

Unlike William Caswell who became a well known figure in the Port Stephens district, Thomas and his family seem to have led a relatively secluded life. There is little suggestion that 'Hursley' was run as a farm since as late as 1858, twenty years after Thomas took possession, it was still being described as rich alluvial brush land available on clearing leases.<sup>23</sup> It appears likely that the family mostly resided in the town but none of them is mentioned in Annabella Boswell's journal which records a good deal of the social life of the area during the 1840s.<sup>24</sup> Nor do they appear in Thomas Dick's 1921 series of newspaper articles on the early history of Port Macquarie.<sup>25</sup>

Occasionally their names cropped up in the contemporary press, as passengers on boats plying between Port Macquarie and Sydney,<sup>26</sup> or in family notices. Of the elder son, John, nothing has been learned apart from the fact that he died at Port Macquarie in 1888 aged 56 years.<sup>27</sup> The younger son, Thomas, who was born after his father left for New South Wales in 1835 and was christened at Cranbrook, Kent in 1836,<sup>28</sup> married Cathcart Anderson McIver in December 1861.<sup>29</sup> They had four children but Thomas died at his home at Nellingoing in 1872, aged only 37.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> *The Hobart Town Courier* 4 September 1835 p3; *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 17 September 1835 p3

<sup>18</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 27 October 1836 p3; *The Sydney Monitor* 22 May 1837 Edition: EVENING p 2

<sup>19</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 29 March 1836 p4; 17 May 1836 p4; 31 May 1836 p4

<sup>20</sup> Colonial Secretary: Returns of the Colony ('BlueBooks'), 1822-1857 [State Records NSW (NRS1286) Year 1837]; *The Australian* 1 May 1838 Supplement p1

<sup>21</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 19 November 1840 p 2

<sup>22</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 28 December 1840 p3

<sup>23</sup> *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* 13 March 1858 p1

<sup>24</sup> Gwen Griffin (Ed.) *Annabella of Lake Innes Port Macquarie*. The Port Macquarie Historical Society, 2003, 2010

<sup>25</sup> Thomas Dick. *Old Port Macquarie- fragments of its history*. The Port Macquarie News, December 1920 – December 1921

<sup>26</sup> *Australasian Chronicle* 6 October 1842 p3; *The Sydney Morning Herald* 13 December 1843 p2

<sup>27</sup> NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Deaths Reg. No. 10000/1888

<sup>28</sup> "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JS71-SRC>), Thomas Caswell, 23 Oct 1836.

<sup>29</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 3 January 1861 p1

<sup>30</sup> *Empire* 17 July 1872 p1

Very shortly after Thomas' marriage to Miss McIver there was a second wedding, that of Elizabeth Mansel Caswell to James Hadden Kemp, fourth son of the late Major Kemp, 80th Regiment.<sup>31</sup> They went to live initially at the Macleay River and later at Armidale.

As to Lieutenant Caswell, he died at Parramatta in August 1862 after what was said to be a long illness.<sup>32</sup> He was survived by Mary Susanna who died three years later at her home on Horton Street, Port Macquarie, aged 74.<sup>33</sup>

The last surviving member of Thomas Caswell's immediate family, Elizabeth Mansel Kemp, was the only one to reach the 20<sup>th</sup> century and observe the federation of the colonies to form the Commonwealth of Australia. She died at Dulwich Hill in May 1903 at the age of 70.<sup>34</sup>

We now return to their estate on the Hastings River, 'Hursley', to ask - why did Thomas Caswell choose that name? Unfortunately, no answer has been found. *Hursley* as a family name is rarely encountered, and does not show up in what is available of the Caswell genealogy. However, as a place name it is well known as that of a parish and village in Hampshire, about 7km south-west of Winchester and some 35km from Portsmouth. Hursley was for some years the home of Richard Cromwell, son of Oliver Cromwell, but in 1718, six years after Cromwell's death, the estate was purchased by William Heathcote for around £35,000.<sup>35</sup> Sir William, who was made a baronet in 1733, built a Queen Anne style brick mansion there and members of the Heathcote family lived at Hursley House until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century when it was sold to Joseph Baxendale, the owner of Pickfords.

Any suggestion of an association between Thomas Caswell and either the Heathcote family or anyone else in Hursley is, however, purely speculative. As we have seen, Thomas was born in Kent and, presumably, lived the first fourteen years of his life there before joining the Royal Navy in 1813. We can also be fairly certain that throughout the 1820s, when he served in the Coast Blockade, both before and after his marriage, Thomas was domiciled in Kent. Between entering the Navy and joining the Coast Blockade most of his time would have been spent at sea, so there seems to be little likelihood that he ever lived for any significant period in Hampshire.

Nevertheless, because the Navy's principal base was at Portsmouth, he would undoubtedly have met and known some Hampshire people, including his sister-in-law Louisa Leigh and her family. Whether or not they had some connection with Hursley has not been ascertained but it must be considered a possibility.

At this stage, this is the best explanation that can be offered for Thomas Caswell choosing to call his estate 'Hursley'. Perhaps, in the future, information will emerge that provides something more satisfactory.

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<sup>31</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 28 January 1861 p1

<sup>32</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 August 1862 p1; NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Deaths Reg. No. 5255/1862

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 December 1865 p1

<sup>34</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 13 May 1903 p6

<sup>35</sup> James Dugdale. *The New British Traveller; or Modern Panorama of England and Wales* Vol.2 p514. J. Robins & Co., London, 1819

## MAULDEN

<b>Area:</b>	300 acres (121 ha)
<b>Location:</b>	South bank of the Hastings River – Portion 1, Parish of Macquarie
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	James Ralfe
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Maulden, Bedfordshire, England
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5 Shift
	5.1 Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Preserved form:</b>	N/A
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	N/A

### Historical and Genealogical Notes:

James Ralfe was born at Southampton on 25 April 1803, the son of solicitor James Ralfe and his wife Elizabeth.<sup>1</sup>

The Ralfes were a respectable and well-educated family. In 1772 James' grandfather, the Reverend William Ralfe MA, was appointed Chaplain to the Governor of the Island of Minorca<sup>2</sup> and held the position for ten years until Britain lost the island to Spain. On returning to England he was awarded a government pension<sup>3</sup> and from 1789 until 1806 served as Vicar of St Gregory's Parish Church at Dawlish, Devon.<sup>4</sup> He then moved to Bedfordshire to become Rector of the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin at Maulden,<sup>5</sup> remaining there until his death at nearby Ampthill in 1825.<sup>6</sup>

William's son, James Ralfe Snr, was born on Minorca in 1777<sup>7</sup> and was five or six years old when he arrived in England. At the age of fifteen he embarked upon legal training and was articled to attorney Robert Serle of Petersfield, Hampshire.<sup>8</sup> He afterwards moved to London where he lived in Bartlett's Buildings off Holborn Hill while attending one of the nearby Inns of Court. In 1801 he returned to Hampshire where he married Elizabeth Tredgold at Winchester,<sup>9</sup> and when he qualified as a solicitor they made their home in Southampton. In 1814 James Ralfe Snr was appointed Steward and Auditor at St Mary Winton College, better known as Winchester College, one of England's oldest public schools founded in 1382 by William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor to Edward III and Richard II.<sup>10</sup> The Ralfe family moved

<sup>1</sup> *Hampshire baptism transcriptions*. Hampshire Genealogical Society (online via [www.findmypast.com.au](http://www.findmypast.com.au))

<sup>2</sup> *Northampton Mercury* 30 November 1772 p1

<sup>3</sup> *Reports from Committees of the House of Commons* Vol 13 p94 (1803)

<sup>4</sup> George Oliver. *Ecclesiastical Antiquities in Devon, being Observations on Several Churches in Devonshire* Vol 1 p145. W. C. Featherstone, Exeter, 1840

<sup>5</sup> St Mary the Virgin, Maulden. *List of Rectors*. Online at [www.stmarysmaulden.org/210750758647.htm](http://www.stmarysmaulden.org/210750758647.htm)

<sup>6</sup> *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* 30 May 1825

<sup>7</sup> England and Wales Census, 1851. Enumeration District: St Thomas, Winchester, Hampshire, England

<sup>8</sup> The National Archives of the UK (TNA); Kew, Surrey, England; Court of King's Bench: Plea Side: Affidavits of Due Execution of Articles of Clerkship, Series I; Class: KB 105; Piece: 6

<sup>9</sup> Hampshire: - Marriage Licences, Bishop of Winchester, 1689-1837 (online via [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com))

<sup>10</sup> Mackenzie E. C. Walcott. *William of Wykeham and his Colleges*. David Nutt, Winchester, 1852

from Southampton to Winchester and James Snr remained in the post for the rest of his life, while also running a well respected legal practice in Winchester and Southampton.

Although Ralfe's work at Winchester College was important there is no evidence that his son attended the school. As a feeder to New College, Oxford, the school was reserved for the sons of aristocrats and high-born gentlemen, not for those of paid college functionaries, however respectable. It may therefore be assumed that James received his early education either at another school, or through private tuition. Either way he must have become well versed in mathematics and went on to study surveying which, at that time, was through apprenticeship. It appears likely that, during the course of his education, he spent some time living with his grandfather and developed a fondness for the Maulden district.

By the mid-1820s, around the time that James would have completed his training, the rapidly expanding colony of New South Wales was desperately in need of surveyors. Seeing a great opportunity James secured a position and in late 1824 the 21-year-old boarded the convict transport *Hercules II* which set sail from Portsmouth four days after Christmas, reaching Sydney on 7 May 1825.<sup>11</sup> Eleven days later, and just one week before the death of his grandfather in England,<sup>12</sup> James was officially appointed as Assistant Surveyor in the Surveyor General's Department.<sup>13</sup>

What would have surprised Ralfe when he arrived in New South Wales was how vast it was and how thinly spread its population. His first official duties took him to the south-west in order to make traverse surveys of the Cookboondoon, Wingecarribee and Wollondilly Rivers, and to measure farms in the counties of Argyle and Camden.<sup>14</sup> Compared to the gently undulating and well populated country of southern England, the rocky hills, forested slopes and apparent emptiness must have appeared entirely alien, while the distances he had to travel through unmarked and unknown country were greater than any journeys he had made previously. The life of a surveyor in the new country was one of hardship and privation, but James adapted to role.

However, most of Ralfe's work in the latter 1820s was conducted to the north of the Hawkesbury River – at Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens, the Karuah, Myall and Manning Rivers. In 1828, after Thomas Mitchell succeeded the late John Oxley as Surveyor General, Ralfe was promoted to Surveyor<sup>15</sup> and despatched to Port Macquarie to survey the coast and river entrances. With few interruptions, he spent the rest of his working career in the Hastings district before moving to Tasmania late in life.

The opening of Port Macquarie to free settlers in 1830 cemented Ralfe's place in the district. In late March that year, whilst in Sydney, he and a young draftsman, Frederick Robert D'Arcy, received instructions to proceed to Port Macquarie and make a more comprehensive survey of the Hastings River, its tributaries, and the conspicuous ridges so that the land could be divided, parochial boundaries established, and areas set aside for government purposes.<sup>16</sup> Ralfe and D'Arcy got down to work and in his monthly report for May, Ralfe reported that he had commenced his explorations

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 12 May 1825 p2

<sup>12</sup> *Hampshire Telegraph* 30 May 1825 p4

<sup>13</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 19 May 1825 p1

<sup>14</sup> See: Alan E. J. Andrews. *Major Mitchell's Map 1834: the Saga of the Survey of the Nineteen Counties*. Blubber Head Press, Hobart, 1992.

<sup>15</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 7 November 1828

<sup>16</sup> Colonial Secretary: Special Bundles 1826-32: Port Macquarie – opening of settlement [State Records NSW (NRS 906) Ref: 4/4568.2; Surveyor General's Office No. 30/246]

in conjunction with Mr D'Arcy by tracing the principal Water Courses or tributary Streams of the Hastings immediately in the vicinity of the Settlement and the fresh Water Lake to the South the native Names of which are inserted on the Map.<sup>17</sup>

The next month Ralfe was contending with 'thick Scrubbs' and suffering the effects of lumbago, while D'Arcy had taken the whaleboat and was busy tracing Limeburners Creek, the Wilson and Maria Rivers, Pipers Creek, King Creek as well as other accessible streams.

D'Arcy remained in the district until the end of 1830 when he returned to Sydney, leaving Ralfe to continue the surveys. Much of Ralfe's work over the next three or four years involved measuring farms, though he afterwards undertook valuable work tracing the ranges dividing the principal river systems well to the north, south and west of Port Macquarie. Maps showing the extent of his work, and that of D'Arcy, were set out on a rectilinear magnetic north-south/east-west grid with lines at 1 mile intervals. Those that remain extant show the courses of the rivers and ranges, the names of places, including native names where these could be ascertained,<sup>18</sup> and the nature of the country. Portions already taken up were marked, and the name of the grantee or purchaser inserted.<sup>19</sup> The principal features were included in Mitchell's famous 3-sheet map of New South Wales published in 1834, though the district was excluded from the nineteen counties into which the colony was divided.

By the end of 1835 Ralfe had spent a lot of time measuring land along the Hastings for others, but he still had none he could officially call his own. However, in April 1836 he received the deed of grant for 300 acres (121 ha) originally promised to Charles Farrell from whom he had purchased it.<sup>20</sup> Farrell, a former tide-waiter in the Department of Customs,<sup>21</sup> had moved to Port Macquarie where, very shortly after the opening to free settlement, he had been granted an innkeeper's licence. Ralfe's land was on the south bank of the river and was described as adjoining the Township of Hay, a reserved area on which a town was never built. On the 1830 map the place was shown as 'Saint Rocks' and is now called Sancrox. Ralfe, however, called his estate *Maulden*, after the town in Bedfordshire where his grandfather had served so many years as Rector of St Mary's church, though the name was occasionally mis-spelled as 'Maldon', a town in Essex.

In August 1836 James Ralfe, now aged 32, married 16-year-old Charlotte Hayley in a ceremony at St Philip's Church in Sydney.<sup>22</sup> Charlotte was second daughter of William Hayley, a former stockbroker who had been transported for fraud<sup>23</sup> and had recently received his Ticket of Leave.<sup>24</sup> His family, apart from his eldest son, then a medical student, had accompanied him to New South Wales as free emigrants<sup>25</sup> and, at some time during the previous four years, they had all—Hayley, his wife, one son and four daughters—come to Port Macquarie and were living at *Maulden*, presumably because Hayley had been assigned to Ralfe.

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<sup>17</sup> Surveyor General: Letters received from surveyors 1822-55 [State Records NSW (NRS 13716) Ref: 2/1569A]

<sup>18</sup> Surveyor General: Select list of maps and plans, 1792-1886 [State Records NSW (NRS 13870) Item 3813 Plan of Macquarie District/Ralfe & D'Arcy]

<sup>19</sup> Surveyor General: Select list of maps and plans, 1792-1886 [State Records NSW (NRS 13870) Item 3653 Macquarie/Ralfe]

<sup>20</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 5 April 1836

<sup>21</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 13 June 1827 p1

<sup>22</sup> *The Sydney Herald* 29 August 1836

<sup>23</sup> Old Bailey Proceedings Online ([www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org)), June 1831, trial of William Hayley (Ref No t18310630-291).

<sup>24</sup> Principal Superintendent of Convicts: Ticket of leave butts, 31 March 1827-31 December 1875 [State Records NSW (NRS 12202); Ref: 4/4105]

<sup>25</sup> NSW Convict Indents 1788-1842. Ship *Portland*, arrived March 1832 (database accessed via [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com))



Over the first fourteen years of their marriage James and Charlotte had no children, or at least none that survived long enough to be registered. However, it must be remembered that James' work took him away from home for weeks or months at a time, conducting surveys in the field and making frequent visits to Sydney to report on his work. In 1839-40 he surveyed of a line of road from Port Macquarie to New England which, it was said, would become the main route for conveying New England wool to Sydney,<sup>26</sup> though this hope was never realised.

Ralfe's work on the New England Road did not, however, save him from being suspended from the Surveyor General's department for insubordination after having written to Mitchell some time earlier in a style and manner deemed to be disrespectful.<sup>27</sup> He was not the only surveyor to bear the brunt of the Surveyor General's sensitivity to any hint of criticism, even though Mitchell himself was never slow to criticise and browbeat not only his officers but also the various governors under whom he served. Ralfe was never officially reinstated but continued to work for department as a Licensed Surveyor under contract, still spending long periods away.

It was during one such absence in 1843 that trouble struck *Maulden* when:

...an assigned servant, named Taylor, walked into the house, and after ill-treating Mrs. Ralfe and her female servants in the most savage and infamous manner, fastened them down with cords, whilst he deliberately plundered the house of every valuable he could find; having secured his booty and taken a fowling-piece, he unloosed Mrs. Ralfe for a few moments, whilst he forced her to write him a pass.<sup>28</sup>

The story went on at some length but whether or not the perpetrator was eventually captured is uncertain.

Despite running the risk of upsetting the government, Ralfe continued to publish his views on matters relating to land and in 1846 submitted a long petition to the British House of Commons seeking radical changes to the land regulations then applying in the colony.<sup>29</sup> Whatever the response of the Commons, Ralfe's views were shared by many and he was so well regarded locally that he was made a member of the select deputation of citizens that presented the welcoming address to Governor Fitz Roy when he visited Port Macquarie in 1847.<sup>30</sup>

Soon after the governor's visit, James and Charlotte packed their bags and travelled to Sydney where they boarded the *St George*.<sup>31</sup> The ship was bound for London where James was to be involved in promoting emigration to Australia.<sup>32</sup> During their time in Britain, James is understood to have been engaged by the Australian Agricultural Company to dispose of some of its land in New South Wales,<sup>33</sup> and he selected a small farm for himself on the Manning River which he later sold.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> *The Australian* 8 February 1840

<sup>27</sup> *Australasian Chronicle* 18 August 1842

<sup>28</sup> *The Australian* 25 January 1843

<sup>29</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 24 March 1846

<sup>30</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 16 March 1847

<sup>31</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 25 March 1847

<sup>32</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 6 April 1848

<sup>33</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 29 May 1849

<sup>34</sup> *The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River Advertiser* 16 May 1855 p4

Following their return to Australia in December 1849<sup>35</sup> the Ralfes finally started a family. Sadly, a daughter born in 1851 died in infancy,<sup>36</sup> but by 1859 they had two sons<sup>37</sup> and two daughters<sup>38</sup> living with them at their 'English looking' homestead at *Maulden*.<sup>39</sup>

James Ralfe continued his work as a surveyor and estate agent, sometimes aiding and abetting prods at government on issues relating to land,<sup>40</sup> as he had in earlier years. However, his years at Port Macquarie were drawing to a close. In August 1860 *Maulden* was put up for sale with immediate possession.<sup>41</sup> It did not sell immediately and when offered again the following year it was described as follows:

MAULDEN, adjoining the town of Hay, on the Hastings River, and distant only about nine miles from Port Macquarie. It comprises 300 acres, about 40 acres of which are enclosed, and have been cleared and under cultivation, but are now chiefly laid down in clover. There is a nice young orchard and garden of about an acre, and planted with apples, oranges, peaches, &c, and an orchard of some years' growth, of about two acres, planted with choice trees, and yielding abundantly.

The buildings comprise a comfortable weatherboard cottage, containing front and back verandahs, entrance hall, and six rooms, with detached kitchen and servant's room. Also, on overseer's cottage, dairy, brewhouse, shingled buildings, and a range of stabling, cart shed, poultry house, poultry yard, stockyard, &c.

An abundant supply of water.

MAULDEN is one of the PRETTIEST HOMESTEADS in this favourite district. It is upon the navigable part of the river, steamers having gone above it, and it is only nine miles by a good road from the sea port. It is surrounded by Crown lands, so that there is a FINE RUN FOR DAIRY AND OTHER STOCK.

It has a frontage of half a mile to the bank of the Hastings, the land along which is very fine.

For a genteel family, with a limited income, Maulden would be a most desirable residence. The waters of the river abound in fish of all kinds, and the neighbouring forests and bushes with, game, so that fishing, shooting, and boating may be enjoyed at all times.

To the practical farmer the sale affords an excellent chance of securing a REALLY GOOD DAIRY FARM AND HOMESTEAD close to market, and all in good working order.<sup>42</sup>

Between 1862 and 1865 the Ralfe family seems to have been living in Sydney. Two events during that period affected the family, the birth of a second son in 1863<sup>43</sup> and the news later that year that James' father had died at his home in Winchester 'in the 87<sup>th</sup> year of his age.'<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 28 December 1849

<sup>36</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 3 February 1851

<sup>37</sup> NSW Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Births Reg. No. V18531655 39A/1853,

<sup>38</sup> NSW Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Births Reg. Nos.10373/1857, 11691/1859

<sup>39</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 14 March 1859 p5

<sup>40</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 7 May 1855 p2

<sup>41</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 27 August 1860 p8

<sup>42</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 30 March 1861 p6

<sup>43</sup> NSW Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages .Births Reg. No 12580/1863

<sup>44</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 September 1863 p8

In 1865 the Ralfes left Sydney and moved to Van Diemen's Land where 'James Ralfe, Gentleman, Hobart Town' was appointed Justice of the Peace.<sup>45</sup> What prompted the move is not known but it transpired that James' surveying days were not quite over. In 1869, with the help of his teenage son, Henry, and two other young men, he surveyed a recreational track to the Wellington Falls, and early the following year he presented a report to the committee appointed to raise funds to clear the track.<sup>46</sup> In his report he described the track and implored the government and well-heeled citizens to provide the funds necessary to form it, appealing to their better instincts by quoting the words of Sir Walter Scott:

Breathes there the man,  
With soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,  
This is my own my native land?

It is pleasing to record that the walking track survives to this day.

But times were soon to change. The death of their 13-year-old daughter, Rowena, in April 1871<sup>47</sup> must have been a devastating blow to James and Charlotte, and James himself was to follow less than two years later, dying at the age of 69.<sup>48</sup> Their elder son, Henry, went on to become a solicitor and a partner in the Sydney firm Robertson, Fisher, and Ralfe, but died of apoplexy at his home in Waverley in 1895.<sup>49</sup> Frederick Sydney, the younger son and the only one of the children who never lived at *Maulden*, developed his musical talent and became a professional singer.<sup>50</sup> As professional tenors go, he was towards the lower end of the scale but was still performing in musical comedy in Adelaide in 1922 as he approached sixty years of age.<sup>51</sup> He died in December 1942 at North Sydney.<sup>52</sup>

However, it was James Ralfe's one surviving daughter, Helen Aurora, who was left to care for her mother. She married Arthur Leslie Giblin in Hobart in 1883,<sup>53</sup> later moving to Geelong, and it was there that Charlotte, who was living with them, died in 1905.<sup>54</sup> Helen, the last surviving member of the Ralfe family to have had a direct connection with *Maulden*, died at Armadale in 1944.<sup>55</sup>

The name *Mauldon* did not survive but James Ralfe is commemorated in James Ralfe Drive, a short road at Sancrox lying outside the boundaries of the original estate.

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<sup>45</sup> *The Mercury* 18 May 1866

<sup>46</sup> *The Mercury* 27 January 1870 p2

<sup>47</sup> *The Mercury* 8 April 1871 p1

<sup>48</sup> *The Mercury* 31 January 1873 p1

<sup>49</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 26 March 1895 p 1

<sup>50</sup> *The Mercury* 21 September 1900 p 2

<sup>51</sup> *Daily Herald* 8 September 1922 p2

<sup>52</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 9 December 1942 p12; NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Deaths Reg. No. 28900/1942

<sup>53</sup> *The Mercury* 23 January 1883 p 1

<sup>54</sup> *The Mercury* 20 June 1905 p1

<sup>55</sup> *The Argus* 24 July 1944 p2

## BIGHOUSE

<b>Area:</b>	Not known
<b>Location:</b>	On the south side of the Hastings River near Huntington – exact location unknown
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	Hugh Mackay/Patrick Mackay/James Mackay
<b>Source of Name:</b>	‘Bighouse’, Sutherland, Scotland
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	5            Shift 5.1        Transfer
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Preserved form:</b>	N/A
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	N/A

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

No mention of the name can be found in the official land records or in the contemporary press but there are several references to it in Annabella Boswell’s (nee Innes) diary.<sup>1</sup> In January 1843, three years after the death of her father, George Innes, 16-year old Annabella, together with her mother and sister, moved to Port Macquarie to live with her father’s brother, Major Archibald Clunes Innes, and his family at Lake Innes.

The Major, a former commandant at the settlement, was the district’s leading citizen and well known for his lavish entertainment. Among the frequent visitors to Lake Innes—and great favourites of Annabella—were three brothers, James, Patrick and Hugh Mackay.

According to Annabella the Mackay brothers lived ‘about twenty miles inland on the way to New England, at a place they called *Bighouse* after their old paternal home in Sutherlandshire.’ The exact location is not specified but Annabella indicated that it was near Colonel Gray’s *Huntington* on the southern side of the Hastings River. Early in 1841 an estate adjoining *Huntington* was advertised for lease under the name ‘Hastings Park’<sup>2</sup> and it is possible that this was the one taken up by the Mackay brothers and temporarily re-named.

As Annabella noted, the Mackay brothers called their home *Bighouse* after their estate at Strathalladale near Melvich, Sutherland, in the far north of Scotland. The estate had been held by a branch of the clan Mackay since 1598 when King James VI formally confirmed the lands of Bighouse to William Mackay.<sup>3</sup> The Mackays of Bighouse were closely intertwined with other Mackays, especially the neighbouring Mackays of Reay, including Sir Donald Mackay who, in 1627, was created the first Lord Reay.

In 1818 *Bighouse* came into the possession of Lieutenant-Colonel Colin Campbell Mackay of the 78<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot. He inherited the estate when his elder brother, Hugh, a merchant, died in Antigua without issue.<sup>4</sup> Lt-Col Mackay’s wife, Margery-Gerard Cruickshank, whom he married in 1815, bore nine

<sup>1</sup> Gwen Griffin (Ed.) *Annabella of Lake Innes Port Macquarie*. Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc. 2003, 2010

<sup>2</sup> *The Australian* 13 May 1841 p2

<sup>3</sup> Robert Mackay. *History of The House and Clan of Mackay. Containing, for connection and elucidation, besides accounts of many other Scottish families, a variety of historical notices, more particularly of those relating to the Northern Division of Scotland during the most critical and interesting periods; with a genealogical table of the clan*. Andrew Jack & Co., Edinburgh. 1829.

<sup>4</sup> Sir Bernard Burke. *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland* (4<sup>th</sup> edition) Part 2 p.942-943. Harrison, Pall Mall, London. 1863.

children—five sons and four daughters. The eldest son, George, was born at Bighouse in 1817 and he was followed by James-Cruickshank (b.1818), Patrick (b.1820) and Hugh (b.1822). All four were christened at Reay, across the county border in Caithness. The fifth son, named Colin Campbell after his father, was born at Edinburgh in 1830, the same year that Lt-Col. Mackay sold his lands at Strathalladale to the Marquis of Stafford, George Granville Leveson-Gower, who afterwards was made Duke of Sutherland. Leveson-Gower played a leading role in the Highland Clearances, evicting tenants from his lands in order to pursue new agricultural and industrial opportunities.

After selling his estate in Sutherland, Mackay purchased Allandale, an estate in the Parish of Edrom, Berwickshire, which he re-named *Bighouse*.<sup>5</sup> The Mackays remained in Berwickshire at least until 1841 when Colin Campbell senior died. A plaque to his memory was afterwards erected in the Edrom Parish Church. However, by then the family had begun to disperse.

Patrick and Hugh Mackay are thought to have arrived in New South Wales in 1840 and by November 1841 they had made their way to Port Macquarie and established themselves, at least temporarily, at *Bighouse*.<sup>6</sup> In 1843 they were joined by James-Cruickshank who shared their home, on and off, for the next few years before they all moved to Queensland where they took up properties on the Burnett River, including ‘Old Cannindah’ and ‘Dalgangal’ stations. However, James, at least, must have visited Port Macquarie from time to time as in 1859 he married Major Innes’ elder daughter, Eliza Clunes Innes.<sup>7</sup>

By then the Mackays had been re-united with their younger brother, Colin Campbell Mackay, the nineteen-year-old having arrived at Port Jackson via the *Anglia* in February 1850.<sup>8</sup> Colin became one of the first to reach the Fitzroy River district where, in the mid-1850s, he established Morinish Station.<sup>9</sup> According to Colin’s own account, the station was ‘named after an estate of my brother George, in Scotland.’<sup>10</sup> Morinish afterwards became a name for the locality and Colin Campbell Mackay called his own place *Bighouse*.

Patrick and Hugh Mackay seem to have remained in the Burnett district for some ten years, though James later returned to Britain where he died at Exmouth, Devon in 1866.<sup>11</sup> Colin, however, stayed on at *Bighouse*, Morinish, Queensland, for almost seventy more years until his death in 1924 just short of his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday.<sup>12</sup>

Hence, the name ‘Bighouse’ followed the Mackays wherever they went, testimony to their loyalty if not to their ingenuity. *Bighouse* at Strathalladale, the ancestral home, had been in the family for nine generations and 232 years before being sold in 1830. Subsequently, the name was used by Colin Campbell Mackay senior in Berwickshire, by James, Patrick and Hugh in Port Macquarie, and by Colin Campbell Mackay junior at Morinish in Queensland.

‘Bighouse’ might also have been re-used by George Mackay, the oldest of the five brothers and the only one to remain in Scotland. Some time after the death of his father, probably during the mid- to late 1840s, he acquired an estate at Morinish (or Mornish) on the Isle of Mull. Sir Bernard Burke, writing in 1863, records ‘MacKay, George, Esq. of Bigghouse (sic), Isle of Mull, co. Argyll, J.P., late 7th fusiliers, b. 19 March, 1817’, describing his seat as ‘Bigghouse, Morinish, Isle of Mull, co. Argyll.’ Likewise, the 1868 edition of *The County Directory of Scotland* contains the entry ‘Morinish : *Tobermory*, Oban : Capt. Geo Mackay of

<sup>5</sup> *The New Statistical Account of Scotland. No.6. Containing part of the County of Inverness, with map, and the conclusion of the County of Berwick.* William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh 1835.

<sup>6</sup> *The Australian* 20 November 1841 p2

<sup>7</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 13 May 1859

<sup>8</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 23 February 1850 p4

<sup>9</sup> *The Capricornian* 4 August 1923 p56

<sup>10</sup> *Morning Bulletin* 6 December 1924 p12

<sup>11</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 21 April 1866

<sup>12</sup> *Morning Bulletin* 17 May 1924 p8

Bighouse<sup>13</sup> while an item in the National Archives of Scotland (NAS) contains ‘Legal accounts due by Captain George Mackay of Morinish, later of Bighouse 1862 – 1888.’ The expression ‘later of Bighouse’ is hard to interpret. If, as it might be assumed, George resided at Morinish, it probably implies that George changed the name of the Morinish Estate to Bighouse. Yet it could also suggest that he left Mull and went elsewhere. Perhaps the answer lies in the documents already mentioned or in others entitled ‘Correspondence concerning claims by Mackays of Bighouse to the estates and title of Lord Reay, and to the estates of Campbell of Lochnell 1829 – 1875’ also held by the NAS. However, no attempt has been made to follow this up.

Before concluding we might take a moment to consider the meaning of the name *Bighouse*. Does it mean simply ‘Big House’ or is it derived from another, earlier word? A footnote in Robert Mackay’s *History of the House and Clan of Mackay* alludes to a document which speaks of ‘Rory Murray of Biggoueis’. The document—a Privy Council Record—is dated September 1592, six years before the lands were formally confirmed to William Mackay. It is also interesting to note that, prior to John Cary’s 1801 map of Scotland on which ‘Big House’ is shown<sup>14</sup>, the name, if it appears at all on a map, is shown variously as *Begos*, *Bergos* or *Bregos*.<sup>15</sup> Although this avenue has not been explored it raises the possibility that *Bighouse* is a corruption of, or derived from, some other word and might not mean what is naturally assumed.

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<sup>13</sup> W. W. Halliburton (Ed.) *The County Directory of Scotland*. p227. R. Grant & Son, Edinburgh. 1868.

<sup>14</sup> John Cary. *A new map of Scotland from the latest authorities*. J. Cary, London. 1801

<sup>15</sup> see, for example, the following maps accessible online at <http://maps.nls.uk/> : Timothy Pont & Joan Blaeu. *Strath-navernia*. Blaeu, Amsterdam. 1654; Herman Moll. *The Shires of Caithness and Sutherland, with Strath Naveru which is part of Sutherland Shire*. Bowles and Bowles, London. 1745; James Dorret. *A correct map of Scotland from new surveys*. 1751; Thomas Kitchin. *A new and complete map of Scotland and islands thereto belonging*. R. Sayer & J. Bennet, London. 1773; James Meuros. *A new and accurate map of Scotland divided into shires from the most authentick surveys*. James Meuros, Kilmarnock. ca. 1780

## COULFINTRY

<b>Area:</b>	Not known
<b>Location:</b>	North of Wilson River near Telegraph Point
<b>Proprietor/Nomenclator:</b>	William Mackenzie /Robert Graham
<b>Source of Name:</b>	Mackenzie of Coul/Graham of Fintry
<b>Proposed ANPS Typology:</b>	7 Eponymous 7.3 Non-living entity 7.3.2 Other
<b>Name preserved (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Preserved form:</b>	N/A
<b>NSW Geographical Names Board:</b>	Not registered

**Historical and Genealogical Notes:**

*Coulfintry* was a property whose precise boundaries cannot be pinned down. For some years it was the residence of William Mackenzie and Robert Graham to whom Annabella Innes made a number of references in her journal.<sup>1</sup> Annabella wrote that ‘Mr. Robert Graham was an older resident’ and that when she saw him at Lake Innes in 1839 she ‘admired him at a humble distance.’ Graham’s partner was ‘Mr. William M’Kenzie, (afterwards Sir William M’Kenzie of Couls)’ and they ‘called their place on the Maria River *Coulfintray*.’ However, when advertised for lease in 1843 the property was said to be ‘situated at the head of the navigation of the River Wilson’.<sup>2</sup> Much later, in 1911, when the ‘balance of the “COALFINTRY” ESTATE, consisting of 700 acres (more or less)’ was offered for sale, it was stated that the proposed railway station at Telegraph Point was alongside the land.<sup>3</sup> The same advertisement also offered another ‘112 ACRES (more or less)’ of the same estate said to be ‘fronting the main Kempsey-Port Macquarie road.’ A few years later ‘Coalfintry’ was mentioned as being near Cooperabung.<sup>4</sup>

Taking all these descriptions into account, and assuming their accuracy, *Coulfintry* might have been the 1100 acres purchased by Charles Steele in 1837.<sup>5</sup> The land was bounded on the south by the lower Wilson River at Telegraph Point and stretched northwards for a little over three kilometres to its northern boundary in the Cooperabung Range. Alternatively *Coulfintry* could have been in the area known as Johns Plains which lay immediately to the east of Steele’s estate. This section was originally set aside for a village reserve but in 1836 it was offered for sale<sup>6</sup> and later subdivided.

William Mackenzie, as Annabella Innes mentioned, later became Sir William Mackenzie of Coul, a family founded seven generations earlier in the 17<sup>th</sup> century by Alexander Mackenzie. The Coul estates were in the county of Ross and the baronetcy was created in 1673 for Kenneth Mackenzie, Alexander’s son.<sup>7</sup>

William was the second son of the seventh Baronet of Coul, Sir George Steuart Mackenzie FRS, Vice-president of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.<sup>8</sup> Born at Coul House on 20 May 1806 he was educated in

<sup>1</sup> Gwen Griffin (Ed.) *Annabella of Lake Innes Port Macquarie*. Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc. 2003, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> *The Australian* 5 October 1843 p1

<sup>3</sup> *The Port Macquarie News and Hastings River Advocate* 1 July 1911 p5

<sup>4</sup> *The Port Macquarie News and Hastings River Advocate* 13 October 1917 p4

<sup>5</sup> *The Australian* 1 May 1838 p1S

<sup>6</sup> *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* 10 May 1836 p4

<sup>7</sup> William Anderson. *The Scottish Nation or the Surnames, Families, Literature, Honours and Biographical History of the People of Scotland*. Vol 3 p21. A. Fullarton & Co., Edinburgh. 1867.

<sup>8</sup> Charles Mosley (Ed.) *Burke's Peerage, Baronetage & Knightage*. 107th edn. Vol. 1 p990. Burke's Peerage (Genealogical Books) Ltd, Wilmington, USA. 2003

Edinburgh where he attended the university. In 1826 he joined the East India Company and subsequently served in the Bombay and China service, becoming renowned both for his navigation skills and for the speed and safety of his voyages.<sup>9</sup> He seems to have arrived in New South Wales in late 1837 or early 1838 though the exact date is uncertain. However, by June 1838 he was either residing at, or visiting, Port Macquarie<sup>10</sup> and around 1840 he formed a partnership with Robert Graham. It seems that it was his intention, at that stage, to establish himself as a pastoralist as in November 1840 it was reported that he had visited the area between the Macleay and Nambucca Rivers with the intention of selecting a sheep station.<sup>11</sup> Although the country proved unsuitable for that purpose, Mackenzie, who clearly had a good knowledge of geology, made some valuable scientific observations and forwarded to the government a sample of slate which he thought might be indicative of coal deposits.

According to Annabella Innes, William Mackenzie left Port Macquarie in 1846 and returned to China. During the Crimean War he commanded the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steam transport ship *Manilla*, and shortly afterwards, in January 1856, he succeeded his elder brother, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, as the ninth baronet, becoming Sir William Mackenzie of Coul.<sup>12</sup> The following year he was appointed deputy-lieutenant of Ross, and in 1858, at the age of fifty-two, he married for the first time. His bride was Agnes, the second daughter of B. Ross Thompson Smyth Esq., of Ardmore, County Londonderry.

Sir William died at Coul House on 21 December 1868, aged sixty two. As he left no children, his younger brother Robert Ramsay Mackenzie, a former Treasurer and Colonial Secretary of Queensland, became the tenth Baronet of Coul and afterwards returned to Scotland.

We now have the first part of the name *Coulfintry*; to learn more about the source of the second part we turn to the man with whom Mackenzie shared the property.

Robert Graham was a member of an ancient family, the Grahams of Fintry.<sup>13</sup> He was born on 16 January 1816 in the Cape Colony where, ten years earlier, his father, Colonel John Graham 13<sup>th</sup> of Fintry, had served in the 93<sup>rd</sup> Regiment at the recapture of the Cape and its return to British rule. In July 1812 Colonel Graham married Johanna Catharina Cloete of Westervoort (Great Westerford) and two months later they sailed to England. However, they returned to the Cape in 1815 and Colonel Graham assumed command of the Eastern Cape. He again saw action in the so-called Kaffir Wars and was subsequently recognised for his service when the capital of the Eastern Provinces of the Cape Colony, Grahamstown, was named after him. When he died in March 1821 he was succeeded by his five-year-old son Robert, who thereby became the 14<sup>th</sup> of Fintry.

Despite the ongoing use of the expression 'of Fintry' the Graham family were no longer in possession of the lands they had held in Scotland since 1460 when Robert Graham of Strathcarron was made Laird of Fintry in the Scottish county of Stirling. In 1656 the Stirling lands were exchanged for land in Angus (Forfarshire) which the Grahams renamed 'Fintry.' The estate lay in the Parish of Mains, a short distance north of the town of Dundee and the residence there was called Fintry Castle. However, in the early 1800s

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<sup>9</sup> George Edward Cokayne. *Complete Baronetage*. Vol. 4 p298 W. Pollard & Co. Ltd. Exeter. 1904

<sup>10</sup> *The Sydney Monitor* 11 June 1838 p 2

<sup>11</sup> *The Australian* 17 November 1840 p4

<sup>12</sup> *The Register and Magazine of Biography*. Vol 1 p111. Nichols & Sons, Westminster. 1869

<sup>13</sup> John Guthrie Smith. *Strathendrick and its inhabitants from early times*. Chapter 7 – 'The Grahams of Fintry'. James Macle hose & Sons, Glasgow. 1896.



Robert Graham 12<sup>th</sup> of Fintry, a friend of Robert Burns,<sup>14</sup> sold the land to David Erskine conditional upon his family retaining the title of Graham of Fintry.<sup>15</sup> As a consequence the estate reverted to the older name of Lumlathen (now Linlathen) and Fintry Castle became Mains Castle, a name still used today.

At Port Macquarie, Robert Graham, laird of the non-existent Fintry lands, attached his ancestral title to that of William Mackenzie to make *Coulfintry*. However, in 1846, the year that Mackenzie left for China, Graham married Eliza Ann Gray, the daughter of Major Charles George Gray.<sup>16</sup> This was not the first link between the Graham and Gray families. Robert's paternal grandmother, Margaret Elizabeth Graham (née Mylne), the wife of Robert Graham 12<sup>th</sup> of Fintry, was the granddaughter of Dr George Gray of Huntington near Edinburgh, while her uncle, Colonel Charles Gray, was Eliza Ann's paternal grandfather.

A few days after the wedding, the newly married couple boarded the steamer *Maitland* and made the short voyage to Sydney.<sup>17</sup> There they joined the *Samuel Boddington* and left for Calcutta<sup>18</sup> before proceeding to the Cape of Colony where Graham was subsequently employed in the colonial service. In the Kaffir War of 1851-52, he raised a cavalry troop, and from 1862 he served in a number of high-level positions including civil commissioner and resident magistrate of Albany,<sup>19</sup> collector of customs, and governor's deputy in British Kaffraria. He died at The Mains—named after the old Forfarshire castle—at Wynberg, Cape of Good Hope on 28th September 1887.<sup>20</sup>

William Mackenzie and Robert Graham spent only a few years at Port Macquarie and were never granted the land on which they lived. However, *Coulfintry*, the estate named for their ancestral Scottish lands, was a name that, with very minor variations, remained in use for decades until eventually abandoned in the 1920s.

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<sup>14</sup> The Ettrick Shepherd and William Motherwell (Eds.) *The Works of Robert Burns*. Vol.1 p191. Archibald Fullarton & Co., Edinburgh. 1834; *The Sydney Morning Herald* 8 May 1926 p11

<sup>15</sup> Louisa Grace Graeme. *Or and Sable: a book of the Graemes and Grabams* p616 – 640. William Brown, Edinburgh. 1903

<sup>16</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 8 June 1846 p3

<sup>17</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18 June 1846 p2

<sup>18</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* 26 June 1846 p2

<sup>19</sup> William C. Sargeant and Arthur N. Birch. *The Colonial Office List for 1862* p55. Edward Stanford, London. 1862

<sup>20</sup> *The Graphic* 8 October 1887 p387



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