

MATES GULLY

THE MANOR

PARK VIEW MANSIONS

WOLLUNDRY

ST ELMO

TEMPERANCE HALL



© Geoff Burch, July 2019.

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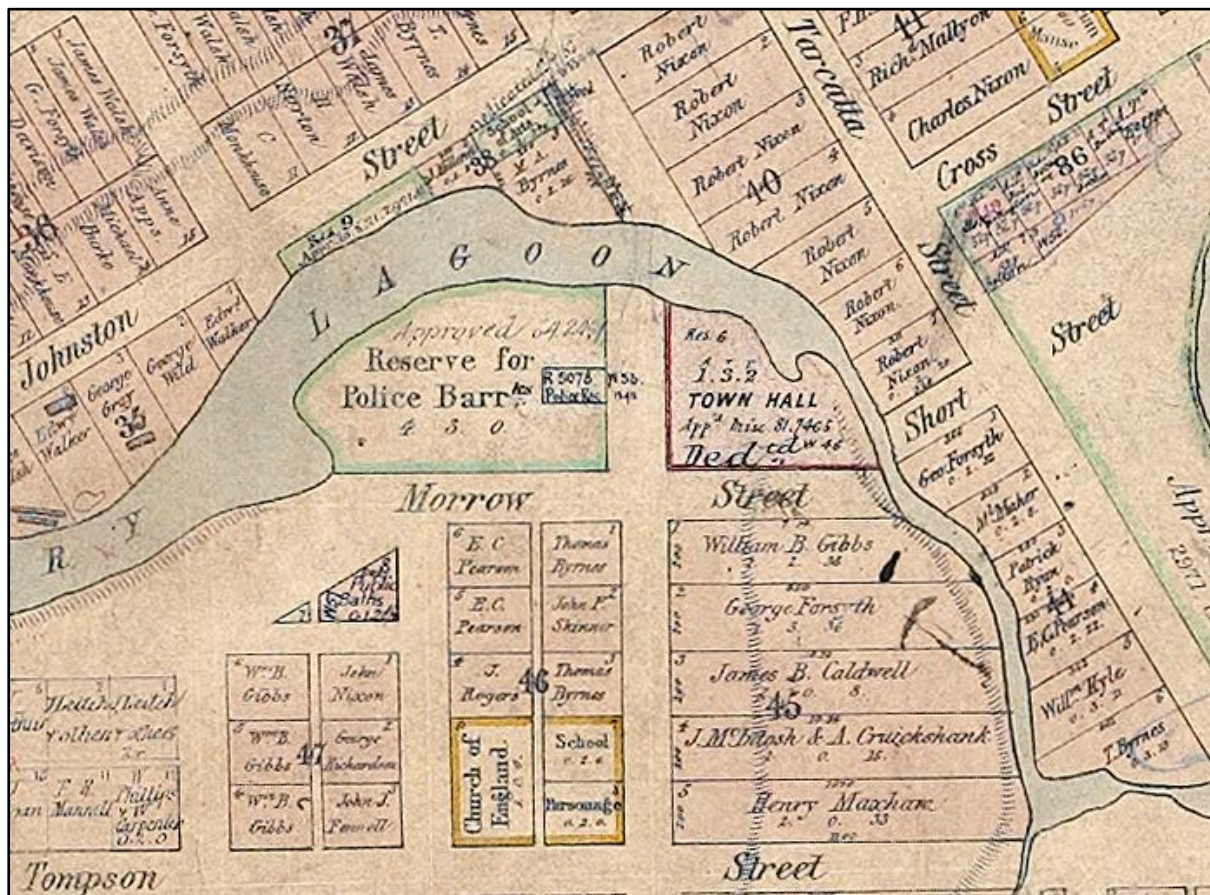
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Section 46 – Town and parish of South Wagga Wagga.



Above: Extract from 1865 map of Wagga Wagga showing the eight allotments in section 46. Courtesy State Records [SR.6030].

It can be seen, in the above map that the original purchasers of these allotments were as follows:

- Allotment 1 – Thomas Byrnes
- Allotment 2 – John F Skinner
- Allotment 3 – Thomas Byrnes
- Allotment 4 – J Rogers
- Allotments 5 & 6 – EC Pearson
- Allotments 7, 8 & 9 – Church of England

Some history of occupation for each allotment follows;¹

Allotments 1 & 2 were owned by Henry Baylis and John Skinner from 1873 to 1876. Allot.1 featured a wooden store with residence, occupied by Chinese proprietors, and a

¹ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

vacant building site.

In November 1885 a sale of various properties in the estate of William Griffith Evans eventuated. Thomas William Watkins Burgess, then a chemist, purchased allotment 1, of section 46, at the corner of Baylis and Morrow Streets and proceeded to erect a new chemist shop on the site,² which was well under way by March 1886.³ Burgess had paid £11 per foot for the property.

Allotment 1. By 1901 this allotment featured three brick shops (one with a residence), all owned by Thomas William Watkins Burgess, and one iron shop with brick residence, owned by William Smyth. The situation was slightly changed in 1905 – Smyth still owned his premises, but Burgess now owned five brick shops, one of which included a residence. On the 19th March 1907, Burgess sold the northern half of allotment 1 to Patrick Kerin - Smyth's situation was unchanged. Patrick Kerin paid £4,000 for the property and now owned the Wagga Pharmacy.⁴ The property had a frontage of 66ft to Baylis Street and a depth of 165ft, along Morrow Street.⁵ The Morrow Street frontage would have included the house immediately to the east of Tongaboo Lane.

Patrick Kerin passed away on the 9th June 1908, at the age of 65. His treating physicians were doctors Burgess and Leahy. Kerin was a well-known grazier, owning a number of rural properties, notably Avondale, near The Rock.⁶

On the 22nd February 1910, Mary Kerin, Patrick's widow, transferred the property to James Henry Foot, a chemist of Wagga Wagga. Foot paid £3,685 for the property at public auction.⁷

Allotment 2 featured two wooden shops in the 1870's – one occupied by Charles Muller and the other by Patrick Malone, both of which were owned by Henry Baylis, initially, and then Baylis & Skinner. By 1901 most of allotment 2 was owned by the Protestant Hall Company, although Henry Baylis still owned two lots – a building lot and a wooden shop. The Protestant Hall Co. lots featured four brick shops (three with residences) and a brick hall. From 1905 to 1907 the situation was virtually unchanged, although Baylis's vacant lot now featured a stone yard and shed, let to James Flemming.⁸

Allotment 3 was owned by Michael Maher from 1873 to 1876, and featured the Exchange hotel and a brick cottage. In 1901, and from 1905 till 1907 Ewen Cameron now owned the Exchange hotel and William Smyth owned the brick cottage thereon.⁹

Allotment 4 was owned by Jonathon Boon from 1873 to 1876, and featured the Retreat hotel. The hotel was closed by 1901, but the property was still owned and occupied by Jonathon Boon. By 1905, Mary Sarah Boon owned and occupied the old Retreat hotel building, and Louis Meurant owned the adjoining brick cottage.¹⁰ In 1907, Dr Burgess owned the old Retreat hotel site and was in the process of demolishing the old building in order to make way for new cottages.¹¹

² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24th November 1885, p2c4.

³ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 20th March 1886, p2c4.

⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31st January 1907, p2.

⁵ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 823, number 745.

⁶ Wagga Wagga Express. 11th June 1908, p2.

⁷ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 902, number 468.

⁸ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

⁹ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

¹⁰ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

¹¹ Wagga Wagga Express. 23rd May 1907, p2.

Allotment 5 was owned by Elizabeth Vincent from 1873 to 1876, and featured three vacant lots. This allotment was owned by John Adolphous Manton from 1905 till 1907 and still consisted of two vacant building lots.¹²

Allotment 6 was owned by Elizabeth Vincent from 1873 to 1875, and was a vacant block. By 1875 the property was owned by the Sons of Temperance and was then described as a building site. In 1901 the site featured a brick hall belonging to the Sons of Temperance. By 1905 Thomas William Watkins Burgess owned half of the allotment and had erected a brick residence thereon. The other half was owned by Bernard Ferry and featured a brick cottage.¹³

Allotments 7, 8 & 9. The southernmost allotments of section 46 were owned by the Church of England and were referred to as allotments 7, 8 & 9. The 1865 map details allot.9 as the parsonage, allot.7 as the school, and allot.8 as the Church of England. The rate books group the three allotments together and describe them as St John's parsonage. In 1901 allot.7 featured a brick hall and a building lot. This was unchanged in 1907. Allot.8 featured a brick parsonage in 1901 and 1907, while allot.9 was a vacant block.¹⁴



Left: Thomas William Watkins Burgess. Courtesy Sherry Morris.

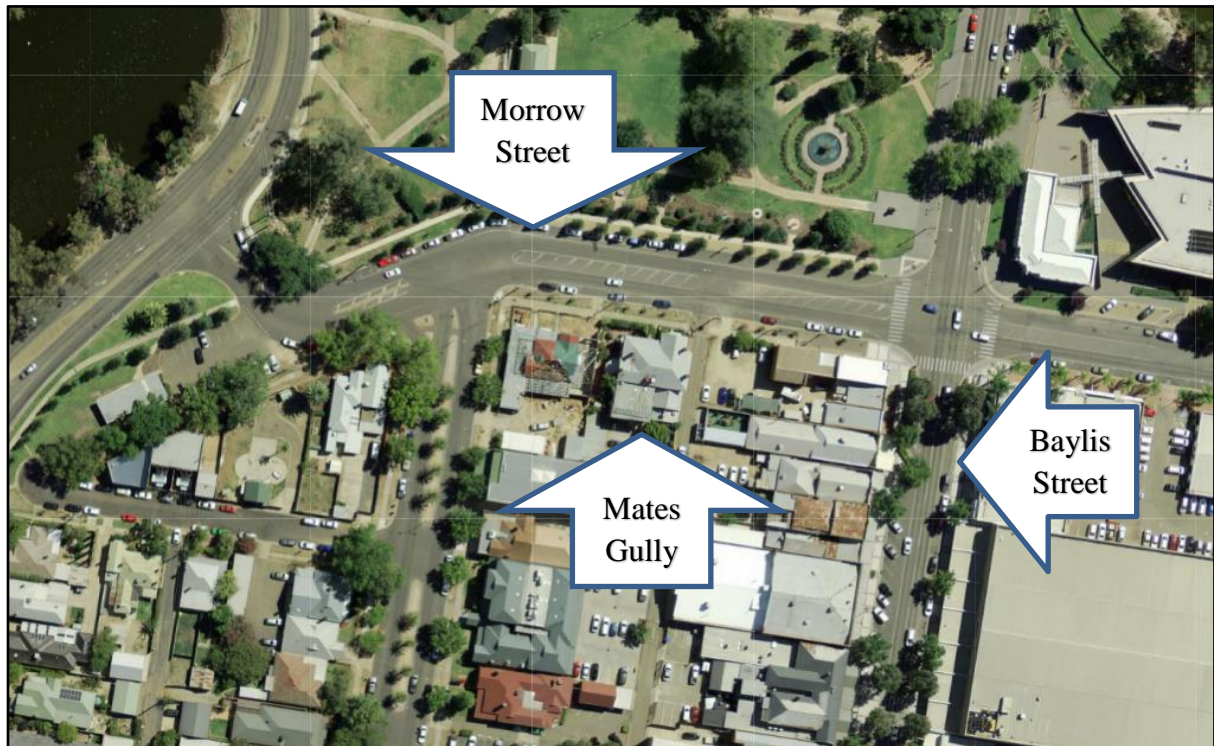
¹² Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

¹³ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

¹⁴ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

No. 38 Morrow Street- Mates Gully Boutique Accommodation, Café & Restaurant.

The Mates Gully complex, formerly The Manor, is situated on part of what was originally allotment 6 of section 46, town and parish of South Wagga Wagga.



Above: An aerial view showing the location of The Manor at the corner of Morrow Street and Tongaboo Lane.

On the 2nd April 1860, Edward Charles Pearson, purchased allotments 5 & 6 of section 46 from the crown.¹⁵ Pearson was well known as the manager of John Church's Pomingalarna run. He subsequently married Clara Best, and became the owner of Best's Wagga Wagga run. Pearson later purchased Sandy Creek Run, but lived at Flowerdale. Pearson died in 1887 and is buried in the Best Family Cemetery at Flowerdale.¹⁶

Some five years later, on the 25th April 1865, Pearson sold allotments 5 & 6 to Jonathon & William Vincent, both of Mittagong Run, for the sum of ninety pounds.¹⁷ Each of these allotments had an area of two roods.

On the 20th October 1873 the two Vincent men transferred the title for allotment 6 to Frederick Ohlsen (carter), Andrew Cruickshank (carpenter), and John Turner (tinsmith), all of Wagga Wagga and all trustees for the Spring of the Desert Division of the Sons of Temperance (No.122), Wagga Wagga. The sale price was fifty pounds and the land consisted

¹⁵ NSW Land Registry Services. Crown Plan. W.33.1345.

¹⁶ Sherry Morris. Biographical Listings. Edward Charles Pearson.

¹⁷ NSW Land Registry Services. Title deed, book 93, number 902.

of an area of one rood, with a frontage to Morrow Street of one chain and twenty five links [about twenty five metres]. The land constituted the eastern half of allotment 6 [the bit where The Manor now stands in 2019]. The lane, now known as Tongaboo Lane, existed by this time and separated allotments 6 and 1, running from Morrow Street back to Tompson Street.¹⁸ According to Ellis, *Tongaboo* was an indigenous word meaning “cold.”¹⁹

TEMPERANCE HALL.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE and friends are hereby notified that the PROCESSION in connection with the above will be formed at the Court-house, punctually at 3.30 p.m., on

FRIDAY, 26th INST.

A TEA MEETING AND SOIREE in aid of the above Hall will be held on the evening of FRIDAY, the 26th instant, in the MASONIC HALL.

Tea on the table at 5 o'clock sharp.

After tea, a SOIREE will take place. Dancing to commence at 10 p.m.

The above will be held in connection with the laying of the Foundation Stone of the Temperance Hall, and to which the public are kindly invited.

Double Tickets...	6s.
Single Tickets...	4s.
Children under 12 years, 1s. 6d., for tea only.	

Tickets to be had from any member of the Temperance Society.

The foundation stone for the new Temperance Hall in Morrow Street, was laid on the 26th January 1877. The building faced over onto the Police Barracks, and the stone was laid by Henry Baylis, the police magistrate, who was presented with a silver trowel and a wooden mallet, for his services.²⁰ The silver trowel was supplied Mr LS Joseph and featured a twisted ivory handle. The shoulders and sides of the blade were, “*elaborately engraved in scroll work.*” The main inscription read as follows,²¹

“Presented to H Baylis, Esq., by the Sons of Temperance, on the occasion of his laying the foundation stone of their hall, Wagga Wagga, on the 26th January, 1877.”

Left: An advertisement regarding the laying of the foundation stone of the Temperance Hall.²²

In March 1877, G Crowther, of Gurwood Street, sought tenders for the construction of fencing around the Temperance Hall.²³

The new hall was officially opened on the 24th May 1877, at 3pm, followed by a tea at 6pm and then dancing from 9pm. A procession of the brethren departed from the Mechanics’ Institute at 2pm and marched to the site of the new hall. A feature of the occasion was music provided by Professor Goulstone William’s Quartette Orchestra. The event was advertised in the local press by the secretary, William Minty.²⁴ From June 1877 onwards, the hall was constantly being used for a variety of community and business functions.²⁵

On the 18th November 1881, Andrew Cruickshank and John Turner, along with James Macauley (gardener), Gregory Crowther (blacksmith), and Thomas Denningaud (carrier), and John Duton (saddler), all of Wagga Wagga, conveyed the property to Thomas West (freeholder), Henry John Wilkins (store keeper), and Robert Zanker (carpenter), all of Wagga Wagga and all trustees of the Spring of the Desert Division of the Sons of Temperance (No.122), Wagga Wagga.²⁶ [Frederick Ohlsen had passed away in the intervening period]

¹⁸ NSW Land Registry Services. Title deed, book 138, number 532.

¹⁹ Bill Ellis. *The Street Names of Wagga Wagga*. 1990.

²⁰ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 27th January 1877, p2.

²¹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24th January 1877, p2.

²² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24th January 1877, p3.

²³ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 10th March 1877, p4.

²⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 19th May 1877, p3.

²⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 2nd June 1877, p4.

²⁶ NSW Land Registry Services. Title deed, book 233, number 923.

Aside from its function as a venue for the Sons off Temperance and their associated activities, the Hall was also let to various individuals and community groups, as well as for entertainment purposes. In October 1900, it was used as a girl’s high school and kindergarten, with S Newland as the principal.²⁷ All references to the hall ceased after this latter date and it is assumed negotiations were under way for the sale of the property.



Above & Below: The police barracks and Sergeant’s quarters in Morrow Street, opposite The Manor, c.1914. Courtesy Justice & Police Museum [JP88/788]



²⁷ Wagga Wagga Express. 9th October 1900, p3.



Above: The paddocks behind the police barracks, backing onto the Wollundry Lagoon, and used to accommodate the police horses. Courtesy CSU Regional Archives.

In the 1890's the hall was also used by the Church of Christ for Sunday services.²⁸

A Succession of Schools

In 1891, St John's Ladies School, under the management of Mrs Brougham (the principal), was conducted in the Temperance Hall from Monday 13th April through to June 1891.²⁹

In 1891 the Wagga Grammar School was being conducted out of premises in Tompson Street.³⁰ It closed for a break over Xmas and when the school reopened on the 11th January 1892 it was now located in the Temperance Hall,³¹ but still conducted by Mr Hugh Gibson-Wylie, late principal of the Mornington Academy. Gibson-Wylie had previously been the English & Commercial Master at Hawthorn Grammar School; the English Master at Ballarat College; and for six years, the principal of the Clyde House Academy in Melbourne.³² He sought pupils in preparation for university examinations, and young boys aged from 7 to 11. He also advertised "*vacancies for boarders.*"³³ Advertisements for the school appeared regularly up until March 1893,³⁴ but then, on the 10th April, Gibson-Wylie passed away at the age of fifty three.³⁵ The school closed for a short period, then re-opened, on the 10th July 1893, in new premises, situated in Tarcutta Street (next to the Riverine Club). The new premises were said to be considerably larger than those at the Temperance Hall, and permitted an increase in the number of day students and of boarders.³⁶

Shortly after the Wagga Grammar School relocated, a Mr Steffan Jules carried on a school at the Temperance Hall, but in October 1894, he relocated to larger, more central premises in Baylis Street (between Tompson & Forsyth).³⁷ Jules' occupancy of the Temperance Hall must have been very brief, because within the period from Gibson-Wylios death until September 1894, he had conducted schools at Belmore House, and at a house in Tarcutta

²⁸ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 4th June 1891, p3.

²⁹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 9th April 1891, p3.

³⁰ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 12th December 1891, p1.

³¹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 12th January 1892, p3.

³² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 7th January 1892, p3.

³³ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 2nd April 1892, p4.

³⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 25th March 1893, p1. / Wagga Wagga Express. 6th July 1893, p3.

³⁵ Sydney Mail. 15th April 1893, p784.

³⁶ Wagga Wagga Express. 6th July 1893, p2.

³⁷ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 22nd September 1894, p2.

Street. At both of these locations, Mrs Hugh Gibson-Wylie was in charge of the domestic arrangements.³⁸

Steffan Jules – aka Prince Czelwerlinski

Steffan Jules was a very interesting character, the extent of which was encapsulated in his obituary notice, which read, in part, as follows,³⁹

“On Thursday evening, soon before 8 o'clock, died Steffan Jules, Prince Czelwerlinski, a descendant of one of the oldest princely families in Europe, but to us, plain Mr. Jules, Principal of Queen's College, a school for boys in Baylis-street. At the time of his birth his father was the owner of large estates in Russian Poland, and numerous serfs were the absolute property of the Prince, their master, for slavery was not then abolished in the Czar's dominions. Young Steffan was sent to the famous “Lycce” at Metz, a school under the control of the order of Jesuits, for his education, and there he remained until the age of 20, probably little dreaming that the learning he then acquired he was destined himself to impart for a livelihood in his mature years. But meanwhile the troubles in Poland had led to the confiscation of his father's estates, and the family, with the wreck of their former wealth, took refuge at Cracow, where the old Princess still resides. In his youth, the subject of these lines was somewhat wild, but we will not dwell on this portion of his career. He entered the Prussian army, and fought throughout the Franco-German war with skill and bravery as a captain of cavalry. Ever anxious for active service he solicited an engagement when the Russo-Turkish war gave an opportunity to so many Poles to show their undying hatred to Russia in the Turkish ranks, and Prince Czelwerlinski was appointed by the Sultan to a cavalry regiment, but he soon joined the staff of Osman Pasha, his command of languages recommending him to that great General's notice. With Osman, he went through the heroic defence of Plevna, and then made the friendship of “Charley” Ryan, the well-known Australian war correspondent and Melbourne medico. Indeed, the two men shared the same lodgings all through the siege, and many a stirring and comic adventure could Mr. Jules tell of those vigorous times. Although he was a man who was never known to boast, or even talk of his personal prowess, it is known that he distinguished himself in the field, and achieved the order of the Medjidie, accompanied by an autograph letter from the Sultan, couched in the most complimentary terms. Impelled by his passion for roving, he took a trip round the world, first stopping, for any lengthened period, at Java, there evil times descended upon him, and he made his way to Australia, landing at Rockhampton without much money, and hardly any English, but a new language was a small thing to the talented Pole, and in one fortnight, which he devoted to hard study, he had mastered the intricacies of our tough old Anglo Saxon, and soon after took a situation as tutor on a Queensland station. Afterwards coming to New South Wales he accepted an appointment at Riverview College, and also had some lucrative engagements at ladies' schools, making a good deal of money, which he lost in Queensland gold mines. He was then tutor to Dr. Chisholm, of Camden, and Mr. A. Mack, of Bingara. In 1893 he came to Wagga to take charge of the Grammar School, and was successful in greatly increasing its numbers and prestige. In 1894 he inaugurated a school of his own, at first in the Temperance Hall, and afterwards at premises in Baylis-street, which he conducted with varying success, but constant application until his death. On November 30 he had an attack of inflammation of the

³⁸ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 6th February 1894, p1.

³⁹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 21st December 1895, p2.

lungs, for which he was attended by Dr. Burgess, but his intense desire to personally I carry on the duties of his school made him a refractory patient, and strengthened the hold his illness had upon him. Although Dr. Burgess did everything that skill could suggest, and he was nursed with devoted attention by his housekeeper, Mrs. Ocock, he gradually sank, and expired in the presence of a few of his friends, on the 19th inst. His funeral took place yesterday, and was attended by many of his scholars, who ornamented his coffin with wreaths and floral tributes. Thus ended one who's talents, steadily applied, might have made a name that would have been heard of through a large portion of the world. In private life he was, before everything, a gentleman, but nervously averse to publicity. He made few friends, and rather shrunk from, than courted acquaintance. A man of real erudition, he was well versed in mathematics and classics, and spoke six modern languages with ease and fluency. He was also a brilliant chess player, and has done good service for Wagga over the chequered field. His heart and soul were devoted to his school, and parents and pupils can alike bear testimony to the excellence of his tuition."

From 1895 to 1898, there appears to have been no major tenant of the Temperance Hall. It was regularly used for entertainment events, political or social lectures, plus community and political meetings. In the middle of 1898, it was leased by the Wagga Rugby Club as a gymnasium.⁴⁰

In May 1899, the government was looking for temporary premises to house the court house, pending construction of the new court house. The Temperance Hall was one of the buildings under consideration, but this never eventuated.⁴¹

On Monday the 1st October 1900, a new term of the Girls' High School and Kindergarten commenced in the Temperance Hall. The principal was Mrs GT Newland.⁴² The school had been established in July of that year, opening on the 16th of that month.⁴³

On the 11th January 1901, Henry John Wilkins (iron monger of Wagga Wagga) and Robert Zanker (cabinet maker of Beaconsfield, Tasmania) as trustees of the Spring of the Desert Division of the Sons of Temperance (No.122), Wagga Wagga, transferred the property to Thomas William Watkins Burgess (medical practitioner of Wagga Wagga), for the sum of five hundred pounds.⁴⁴

The Temperance Hall had been a popular venue for dancing. On Friday the 14th January 1901, following the sale to Dr Burgess, the last dance held at the Hall took place. Three days later, on Monday the 18th, construction of a new building, for Dr Burgess, commenced. Parts of the old Temperance Hall were incorporated into the new two storey building, but others parts were demolished. The main room of the Temperance Hall building is still easily identified within the 2019 building. Dr Burgess' new building was to contain eighteen rooms.⁴⁵

One source claims that the building was constructed by Dr Burgess's brother, Harry, a Sydney builder.⁴⁶ Harry was in fact a brick layer and is credited with building his brother's

⁴⁰ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 30th June 1898, p3.

⁴¹ Wagga Wagga Express. 25th May 1899, p2.

⁴² Wagga Wagga Express. 9th October 1900, p3.

⁴³ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31st July 1900, p3.

⁴⁴ NSW Land Registry Services. Title deed, book 680, number 153.

⁴⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 19th February 1901, p2.

⁴⁶ Documentation held by Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte. July 2019.

chemist shop at the corner of Baylis and Morrow Streets.⁴⁷

Mr John Spies, a local building contractor and cabinet maker, was sub-contractor to Harry Burgess, and he was responsible for installing all of the cedar joinery and fittings in the building. The hand morticing machine used during the construction of the building is held by the Museum of the Riverina.⁴⁸

John Spies was an exceptionable tradesman having completed his apprenticeship with Charles Hardy & Co. He worked for that firm for many years before going out on his own. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the construction of the Roman Catholic Presbytery [Bishop's House] in Church Street.⁴⁹ John Spies passed away at Wagga Wagga, in December 1922. In 1898, John's offices were located in Baylis Street, next to the Protestant Hall.⁵⁰



Harry Burgess moved to Bowral in 1920 to reside at Cutaway Hill. He was employed for many years by Harry Fulford of Mittagong, as a brick layer.

The 1930's fire that swept through Bowral destroyed the family home along with the family photos.⁵¹

Harry Burgess passed away at Wagga Wagga on the 4th February 1952, at the age 85. He had been living at Bowral, but had returned to Wagga Wagga in more recent times to reside at 28 Slocum Street. His daughter, Mrs Harrup, lived in Wagga Wagga.⁵²

Left: Harry Burgess, and his wife, Gertrude. Courtesy James Little.

On the 23rd June 1903 John Thomas Brown (draper of Wagga Wagga) conveyed the northern

⁴⁷ Southern Mail (Bowral). 15th February 1952, p1.

⁴⁸ Documentation held by Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte. July 2019.

⁴⁹ Daily Advertiser. 19th December 1922, p2.

⁵⁰Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 8th September 1898, p1.

⁵¹ Correspondence from a descendant of Thomas Burgess to James & Barbara Little in June 2003.

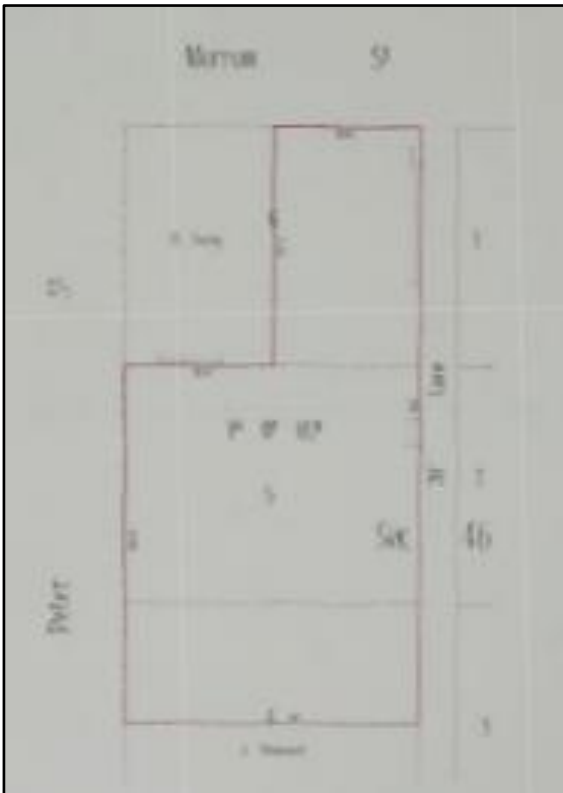
⁵² Daily Advertiser. 6th February 1952, p2.

one third of allotment 5 to Thomas William Watkins Burgess, for the sum of one hundred and thirty two pounds.⁵³ The area of this land was twenty six and two thirds perches [some 674 square metres].

On the 21st June 1906, the remaining two thirds of portion 5 was transferred to Dr Burgess by John Adolphous Manton, for the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds.⁵⁴ Manton was a well-known former publican of Wagga Wagga.

Allotment 4 of section 46 was originally granted to Jeremiah Rogers, by the crown, on the 20th April 1860.⁵⁵ On the 11th January 1864 Rogers transferred the title to James Joseph Rudd, grazier of Wagingoberembie.⁵⁶ On the 29th November 1869, Rudd conveyed the property to Thomas Henry Bollard as a trustee for Sarah Boon.⁵⁷ This was where Jonathon Boon conducted the Retreat hotel from 1872 until 1877. In the latter year he transferred the license to a property in Baylis Street, which he named the Builder's Arms. It was Jonathon's brother, Daniel that was hanged in Wagga Wagga goal for the murder of the blacksmith Alexander McMullen, at North Wagga Wagga, in January 1876.

On the 6th April 1907, Sarah Boon conveyed the title of allotment 4 to Dr Burgess, for the sum of four hundred pounds.



In June 1908, Dr Burgess converted various lots to Torrens title.⁵⁸ The new title deed was volume 1882, folio 33. This new title included all of allotment 5, part of allotment 4, and part of allotment 6 [a laneway had been carved off the eastern boundary of allotment 6 – now Tongaboo Lane].⁵⁹

Left: An extract from title deed vol.1882, fol.33, showing Dr Burgess' holdings in 1908. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services.

⁵³ NSW Land Registry Services. Title deed, book 738, number 571.

⁵⁴ NSW State Records. Primary Title deed, book 804, number 848.

⁵⁵ NSW State Records. Primary Application # 15113.

⁵⁶ NSW State Records. Primary Title deed, book 88, number 924.

⁵⁷ NSW State Records. Primary Title deed, book 117, number 193.

⁵⁸ NSW State Records. Primary Application # 15113.

⁵⁹ NSW Land Registry Services. Primary application # 15113.

Thomas William Watkins Burgess

In 1857 William Henry Burgess married Caroline Bull at Liverpool,⁶⁰ and the couple went on to have eight children, most of whom were born at Liverpool. There were three sons; Thomas William Watkins - the eldest, b.1861; Harry, b.1866; and Ralph, b.1878, at Newcastle. Both William Henry Burgess and Caroline Bull were native to Liverpool. Caroline was a descendant of Paymaster Bull of the 102nd Regiment.⁶¹

Thomas William Watkins Burgess first came to Wagga Wagga to work as an assistant chemist with HJ Williams. In July 1874 he was advertising his services as a “*pharmaceutical chemist*,”⁶² but it appears he was working for Williams up until 1884.

In February 1884 he was the proprietor of a new chemist shop in Baylis Street.⁶³ The shop had been fitted out by a local builder, John McIntosh. Burgess took exception to some of the items detailed in McIntosh’s account, considering them excessive. The two gentlemen went to court, where the verdict was delivered in favour of Burgess, reducing the account by some ten pounds.⁶⁴ The shop he occupied had previously been occupied by Mr EE Hole and adjoined Bryan Ferry’s Advance Australia hotel⁶⁵ (this shop lay within the site occupied by Myers in 2019). Holes’ shop was opposite the Protestant Hall.⁶⁶



Above: St John’s Hall [the Protestant Hall] in Baylis Street. Courtesy CSU Regional Archives.

⁶⁰ NSW BDM’s. Marriage registration # 1942.

⁶¹ Southern Mail (Bowral). 15th February 1952, p1.

⁶² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 1st July 1874, p5.

⁶³ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 26th January 1884, p3. / 30th September 1884, p2.

⁶⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 22nd July 1884, p2.

⁶⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 26th January 1884, p3.

⁶⁶ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31st August 1886, p2.

By January 1885 Burgess was also offering to extract teeth, without pain.⁶⁷

In November 1885 Burgess purchased allotment 1, section 46, at the corner of Morrow and Baylis Streets,⁶⁸ and by August 1886 had moved his chemist shop to this new location.⁶⁹ Allotment 1 was a vacant block when purchased by Burges and he spent some £1,500 in erecting a building on the site.⁷⁰

In December 1888 it was reported that Burgess had sold his chemist business to Mr AG Kebblewhite of Sydney,⁷¹ and before the end of that month Kebblewhite was advertising his services as a chemist and dentist.⁷²

Burgess then went to England to study medicine and returned to Wagga Wagga in January 1895 to set up a practice, as a physician and surgeon, in Baylis Street, opposite the Town Hall.⁷³ This was his old chemist shop building at the corner of Morrow and Baylis Streets.⁷⁴

While studying in England, Thomas met and married Arabella Whittley, on the 22nd August 1894. Their first child was born at Wagga Wagga in 1895.⁷⁵ It is of interest that Thomas's brother, Harry, married Arabella's sister, Gertrude.⁷⁶

Thomas and Arabella had four sons (no daughters): William GW (b.1895, d.1895); Thomas Whittley (b.1896, d.1976); Ormonde Clifford (b.1900, d.1943); and Neale Brunton (b.1904, d.1982).⁷⁷ The first born son died in infancy.⁷⁸

In March 1898 Dr Burgess gave preliminary notice of a new private hospital to be opened shortly, in Morrow Street. An existing cottage was being enlarged and improved to accommodate the new facility.⁷⁹ This building would have been his then residence, *Chichele*. The new hospital was opened for business on the 2nd May 1898. It featured wards similar to what would be found in the leading hospitals of England and America, and had the services of a skilled nurse.⁸⁰ The nurse in charge was Sister Brown, formerly of the Women's Hospital in Melbourne.⁸¹

One of the earliest deaths at the hospital, if not the first, was that of 38 year old George P Irvine, who passed away in the hospital on the 1st June 1898. The deceased was the brother of David Irvine, of the firm, Messrs Heath & Irvine. The case was tragic, in that Irvine's eldest son, a ten year old boy had been close to death for the past fortnight, as a consequence of being struck down with typhoid fever. Irvine had recently taken up a position as the manager of the Sandy Creek Station, and before that had managed the Oberne Station for some six

⁶⁷ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 15th January 1885, p4.

⁶⁸ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24th November 1885, p2.

⁶⁹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31st August 1886, p2. / 21st September 1886, p3.

⁷⁰ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 13th September 1888, p2.

⁷¹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 1st December 1888, p2.

⁷² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 20th December 1888, p2.

⁷³ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 15th January 1895, p2.

⁷⁴ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24th January 1895, p2.

⁷⁵ NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 17626.

⁷⁶ Daily Advertiser. 4th June 1919, p2.

⁷⁷ NSW BDM's. Birth registrations, no's 17626, 35348, 17388, 17404 (in chronological order).

⁷⁸ NSW BDM's. Death registration. # 14539

⁷⁹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31st March 1898, p3.

⁸⁰ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 19th April 1898, p2.

⁸¹ Wagga Wagga Express. 26th May 1898, p2.

years. He was survived by his wife and four young boys.⁸² His son, James, subsequently passed away on the following day.⁸³



Above: Dr Thomas Burgess, his wife Arabella, and their three children c.1908. Courtesy Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte.

⁸² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 2nd June 1898, p2.

⁸³ NSW BDM's. Death registration # 7388. / Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 4th June 1898, p2.

By 1898, Dr Burgess was the senior medical officer, at the Wagga Hospital, and his duties and responsibilities in this role, may have influenced the decisions he made in relation to his private circumstances.

Dr Burgess planned further additions to the site and in June 1898 he sought tenders for, “*the erection and completion of semi-detached cottage hospital in Morrow Street.*”⁸⁴ George Sheppard was the local architect.

In February 1899 Dr Burgess gave notice that he had removed to St Elmo, next to his old residence, “*Chichele.*”⁸⁵ The hospital was still receiving patients up until the end of February 1899,⁸⁶ but the advertisements for the hospital ceased from the end of that month and there were no further references to patients at the hospital. It appears that the hospital [*Chichele*] was closed by March 1899 and that St Elmo, as Burgess now termed the Temperance Hall building, then served as a residence and doctor’s surgery. Construction of the new two storey premises did not commence until January 1901.⁸⁷

William Horace Shorter, a Wagga Wagga dentist, was bankrupt in March 1900, and one of his creditors was Dr Burgess, who had lent him money. Shorter had a gambling problem, which had brought about this situation. Shorter’s representative requested that his client be allowed to retain his wearing apparel and the instruments of his profession. Dr Burgess moved that he be allowed to retain his clothes but not his tools of trade, and this was carried.⁸⁸

At the end of December 1905, Dr Burgess purchased a new car, which made quite an impression. It was a De Dion-Bouton Z type (8 horse power), with seating for two people. The car was assembled in Wagga Wagga by Messrs Bennett & Wood.⁸⁹ It was one of the earliest motor cars purchased in Wagga Wagga, and possibly the most impressive, in its time. A photo of the car still hangs in one of the guest rooms at Mates Gully boutique accommodation.

In September 1908, Dr Burgess continued his affection for vehicular transport and purchased, through Messrs Bennett & Barkell’s Wagga branch, a 1908 Triumph motor cycle. It was normal for these bikes to be started by running the cycle along, but Mr McArthy, the manager of the local branch of Bennett & Barkell, had invented a bracket, which when fitted to the cycle, lifted the rear wheel, allowing the motor to be started by pedaling. Once started, the rider could lean forward and the bracket would flip up allowing the cycle to move off.⁹⁰

In January 1908 Mrs Chessells opened a private hospital in Dr Burgess’ new cottage in Peter Street.⁹¹ This would have been located on either allotment 5 or allotment 4 [probably allotment 4 in one of the two new cottages erected by Dr Burgess]. An advertisement proclaimed it as “*Mrs Chessell’s Maternity Home,*” and it appears its main clientele were expectant mothers, with a number of births at the hospital reported in 1908.⁹² No references could be found in 1909 and it is assumed the venture was short lived.

⁸⁴ Wagga Wagga Express. 4th June 1898, p2.

⁸⁵ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 23rd February 1899, p2. / 30th March 1899, p2.

⁸⁶ Wagga Wagga Express. 28th February 1899, p4.

⁸⁷ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 19th February 1901, p2.

⁸⁸ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 8th March 1900, p2.

⁸⁹ Wagga Wagga Express. 2nd January 1906, p2.

⁹⁰ Wagga Wagga Express. 22nd September 1908, p2.

⁹¹ Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 7th January 1908, p2.

⁹² Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 7th January 1908, p2. / 7th April 1908, p2. / 24th November 1908, p2.



Above: Dr Burgess' 1905 De Dion-Bouton model Z 8 HP car. Courtesy Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte.



Above: A 1908 Triumph motor cycle, similar to that which Dr Burgess purchased.

In June 1919, Dr Burgess's mother in law, Mrs Whittley [widow of the Rev. W Whittley, of London] passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs Harry Burgess, in Kogarah. At the time Dr & Mrs Thomas Burgess were living at "Wollundry" in Morrow Street.⁹³

In April 1920, Burgess subdivided the property transferring parts of the land to his children and his wife Arabella, but retaining that portion on which The Manor was situated (lot 1 of DP.9966).⁹⁴ He promptly leased these premises out to Dr Cecil Roy Quinn, in June 1920.

In February 1924, James Hounsell and his wife Elizabeth were residing at St Elmo, when Elizabeth passed away, at the age of sixty nine. She had been a maternity nurse for some thirty years, and was old and esteemed member of the Salvation Army. Her funeral consisted of a Salvation Army service, held in St Elmo. The body was then conveyed to the Methodist section of the Wagga Wagga Cemetery.⁹⁵ The cortege was led by the Army Corps band who played a collection of "sacred music."⁹⁶ Elizabeth had in fact conducted a maternity hospital at the corner of Crampton & Beckwith Streets, which, in 1912, she called St Elmo Nursing Home.⁹⁷ She was still conducting St Elmo at this same address in August 1913.⁹⁸ In 1915 Elizabeth was registered to conduct a maternity hospital at St Elmo in Morrow Street.⁹⁹ Elizabeth's daughter in law, Alice Elizabeth Hounsell [the wife of Albert William Hounsell], passed away some three years and three months later, on the 9th May 1927, at the age of thirty eight. Like her mother in law, she was a devoted member of the Salvation Army. Her late residence was listed as 34 Morrow Street, and it is assumed that she and her immediate family lived in the house known as *Chichele*.¹⁰⁰

Saint Erasmus of Formia, also known as Saint Elmo, was a Christian saint and martyr, who died c. 303. He is venerated as the patron saint of sailors and abdominal pain. After years of extreme torture his final death was attributed to being disemboweled, by order of the Roman authorities. The various hospitals known as St Elmo may or may not have been named in his honour.

In 1925 a Mrs Trengrove leased "Wollundry" and conducted a boarding house for the next thirteen years.¹⁰¹ In 1938, Mrs Trengrove was still conducting the boarding house at 38 Morrow Street, and the premises were still referred to as "Wollundry."¹⁰² Shortly after the business closed and Mrs Trengrove auctioned off the contents of seven furnished flats.

When he passed away in December 1929, Dr Burgess was living at Vaucluse in Sydney, where he had practiced after leaving Wagga Wagga. His health was seriously affected by the pneumonic influenza epidemic in 1919, which disease he contracted while treating patients in Wagga Wagga. Dr Burgess was survived by his wife and three sons, Whittley, Clifford and Neale. His eldest son, Whittley, also practiced medicine at Vaucluse. The family home was located in Coolong Road, Vaucluse and was named "Wollundry."¹⁰³

⁹³ Daily Advertiser. 4th June 1919, p2.

⁹⁴ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1882, folio 33.

⁹⁵ Daily Advertiser. 14th February 1924, p2.

⁹⁶ Daily Express. 15th February 1924, p4.

⁹⁷ Daily Advertiser. 24th May 1912, p3. / 2nd April 1912, p3.

⁹⁸ Daily Advertiser. 20th August 1913, p3.

⁹⁹ NSW Medical Directory. 1915.

¹⁰⁰ Daily Express. 10th May 1927, p4. / Daily Advertiser. 14th May 1927, p5.

¹⁰¹ Riverina Leader. 20th October 2004, p18.

¹⁰² Daily Advertiser. 13th September 1938, p4.

¹⁰³ Daily Advertiser. 19th September 1928, p5.

In 1930, the house (in Morrow Street, Wagga Wagga) was described as a block of brick flats. Tenants at that time were Harold Gordon Mildwater, a vulcaniser; Harry Mitchell, a teacher; Thomas James Trengrove, a salesman; William Harrison Millar, an electrician; and Mrs Alice Sandon, another teacher.¹⁰⁴

From 1932 to 1934, the property was owned by the estate of Thomas William Watkins Burgess, and James Thomas Trengrove, a draper, was a tenant.¹⁰⁵

In January 1931, the Permanent Trustee Company of NSW became the legal owner of The Manor property,¹⁰⁶ and they conveyed the property to his children in May 1945.¹⁰⁷ Lot 1 [The Manor], consisted of an area of approximately one rood.

His beneficiaries in 1945 were: Thomas Whittley Burgess (a medical practitioner) and Nancy Stewart Bond (one third share between them); Thomas Whittley Burgess (a one third share in his own right); and Neale Brunton Burgess (one third share).¹⁰⁸ Nancy was the wife of Robert Louis Bond, a brewer of Melbourne, and the daughter in law of Dr Burgess [and the widow of Ormonde Clifford Burgess]. The lands transferred consisted of multiple lots, including DP.1.9966.



Above: The Burgess family later in life. It is assumed that the gentleman on the extreme right is the Rev. Whittley, Arabella's father. Courtesy Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte.

¹⁰⁴ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1930, p146.

¹⁰⁵ Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1931-1934.

¹⁰⁶ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3388, folio 188.

¹⁰⁷ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3388, folio 188.

¹⁰⁸ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3388, folio 188.

During World War 2, the premises were occupied by a variety of service women. I am indebted to Sherry Morris for the following account:

Service Women's Hostel

“During the Second World War women were eager to serve in the armed forces. The Women's Australian National Service (WANS) was formed at a public meeting in the Sydney Town Hall on 25 June 1940 after an address by Lady Wakehurst, the wife of the Governor of New South Wales. In the following month, Lady Wakehurst addressed a women's rally in the Capitol Theatre in Wagga Wagga about the objectives of the newly-formed WANS. Although reluctant at first, the Federal Government eventually bowed to pressure and accepted the assistance of women but insisted that the women were to be subsidiary to men and their assistance was to be only a temporary measure. The Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF), the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS), Women's Emergency Signaling Service (WESC) and the Australian Women's Land Army (AWLA) were later formed.

Many of these women trained in Wagga Wagga. Kapooka was used from 1942 to 1946 as a transit camp for some members of AWAS who acted as orderlies, drivers and hospital staff. It was also the only base for the First Australian Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Training Regiment which at its height had four hundred women, recruited from all over Australia, but mostly from Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. By 1943 it was decided that a leave house was needed for service women in Wagga Wagga. The New South Wales Regional Committee of the YWCA, the Australian Comforts Fund and the Wagga Wagga Mayor's Patriotic Fund contributed to the refurbishment of the hostel (at a cost of £2000) so that it could cater for service women and trainees.



Above: L to R: Fleur, Dawn, Michael, “Bess,” & Willie, in June 1944. Courtesy James Little.

The Wagga Wagga Service Women's Hostel was officially opened on 3 April 1943 by Lady Gowrie, the wife of the Governor-General in the company of the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Alderman R.J. Bartley, and other distinguished visitors. The opening was preceded by a march of the women's services down Baylis and Fitzmaurice Streets, with Lady Gowrie taking the salute outside the Town Hall.



Above: March of service women prior to opening of the Service Women's Hostel. Courtesy Sherry Morris.

Lady Gowrie commented that service women after resting at the hostel would 'feel like girls again' and no longer return to their homes 'hard-faced' after their training and service.

The first and only matron at the hostel from its inception was Mrs Elizabeth Duncanson, fondly known to friends and associates as 'Bess'. Born in Scotland on 22 March 1900, she arrived in Sydney in the 1920s and married Tommy Duncanson (in 1931) after working as a housekeeper in the country. She opened a small shop in Botany but closed it after her husband died and obtained a position in the canteen at Snows, a large Sydney Department Store. She became the matron at the Service Women's hostel in Wagga Wagga on 2 March 1943. A very caring person with a heart of gold, she had great rapport with the young and endeared herself to the ladies using the hostel. She was ably assisted by Mrs Curtis whose husband was serving in the Army.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁹ Recollections of Elizabeth Duncanson. Recorded by Olive Jardine and detailed in correspondence dated the 14th December 1995. Courtesy James Little.



Above: Matron of the Women's Services Hostel, Mrs Elizabeth ('Bess') Duncanson, with Dot Stebbing and Michael, the Red Setter. Courtesy Sherry Morris.



Above: A group of service women, inside the hostel, with Bess Duncanson on the extreme right of photo. Courtesy James Little.

The hostel had rooms of varying sizes both large and small. It had about thirty beds but in emergencies could accommodate twice as many women. The army undertook to complete any repairs required.



Above: An internal dormitory in June 1944. Courtesy James Little.

Members of the Land Army, the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (W.A.A.A.F.), the Australian Women's Army Service (A.W.A.S.), in fact all Service women, were accommodated. Even female members of the English navy spent their leave at the Hostel. The overnight accommodation cost two shillings and sixpence (twenty-five cents) and the ladies were treated to a breakfast of tea and toast which was taken up to them in their bedrooms in the morning. Washing and ironing facilities were provided. There was always plenty of hot water for showers and in winter there was an inviting fire in the lounge room. The young ladies could meet their boyfriends there but on their return had to be left at the front gate before the curfew of twelve o'clock, midnight.

Two wedding receptions were held at the hostel which was an excellent setting being just across the road from a beautiful park (the Victory Memorial Gardens).”

When Matron Duncanson left and moved back to Sydney, she was forced to leave Michael behind, as he was not allowed in her new place of residence. Michael went to a farm in the country.¹¹⁰

An official, Mr CT Docker, visited Wagga Wagga in December 1942, to appraise the camp at Kapooka and to try and finalise the arrangements for the women's hostel. Arrangements were being made through the mayor's Patriotic Fund, and the Mayor, Alderman HE Gissing,

¹¹⁰ Recollections of Elizabeth Duncanson. Recorded by Olive Jardine and detailed in correspondence dated the 14th December 1995. Courtesy James Little.



Above: Another photo of Matron Duncanson, with an English Navy service woman, and of course, Michael - on the western side of the building. Courtesy James Little.

explained that, “*the changeover of Parkview Mansions as a hostel for women of the Services was proving a complicated matter.*”¹¹¹ Park View Mansions was the former residence of Dr Burgess, in Morrow Street, and had been known by this name for many years.¹¹² The building contained twenty one rooms and overlooked the Victory Memorial Gardens.¹¹³

Alterations and modifications to the premises at the end of 1942, were carried out by council staff.¹¹⁴ The hostel was opened by 13th March 1943.¹¹⁵

With the end of the war in 1945 there was a push from the local citizens for the Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) to take over the hostel, and a public meeting was held in December 1945 to encourage such a development.¹¹⁶ The Mayor’s Patriotic Fund was being wound up in January 1946 and it was indicated that the YWCA would take over the hostel on the 26th January.¹¹⁷ In the same month the YWCA commenced advertising accommodation for young women, and inviting applications to the matron,¹¹⁸ and the hostel was soon up and running, including the establishment of a management committee.¹¹⁹

The hostel struggled financially and in January 1947 it was reported that the centre currently housed thirty five girls, with a long waiting list of applicants. The committee were still paying off the cost of the furniture and effects that were handed over from the mayor’s Patriotic Fund, and the secretary, KA Ferguson, pleaded for financial donations.¹²⁰ The president of the YWCA in 1947 was Miss Christine Watts.

In October 1951, the hostel had been without a supervisor [matron] for some nine months, but a local single woman, Miss Griffith was now the matron, or supervisor, of the hostel, she being some forty or forty five years of age. No doubt the girls had enjoyed the absence of strict discipline during those nine months. The hostel had a permanent cook, and several women helped with its management in that interim period. The president of the Wagga Wagga branch of the YWCA, Miss Watts, collected the board each week.¹²¹

The hostel constantly struggled for funds and in November 1954 an editorial decried the lack of support from the public, following a similar charge from Alderman Condon. At the time the hostel housed thirty eight single girls, and according to the editorial the hostel had, “*filled a vital need in Wagga for many years.*”¹²² The hostel committee also had plans to raise the necessary funds to allow them to purchase the freehold of the business, but this would take some years.

¹¹¹ Daily Advertiser. 14th December 1942, p2.

¹¹² Daily Advertiser. 21st December 1942, p2. / . 13th March 1943, p2.

¹¹³ Daily Advertiser. 13th March 1943, p2.

¹¹⁴ Daily Advertiser. 25th December 1942, p6.

¹¹⁵ Daily Advertiser. 13th March 1943, p2.

¹¹⁶ Daily Advertiser. 8th December 1945, p7.

¹¹⁷ Daily Advertiser. 15th January 1946, p2.

¹¹⁸ Daily Advertiser. 17th January 1946, p5.

¹¹⁹ Daily Advertiser. 15th April 1946, p2.

¹²⁰ Daily Advertiser. 21st January 1947, p2.

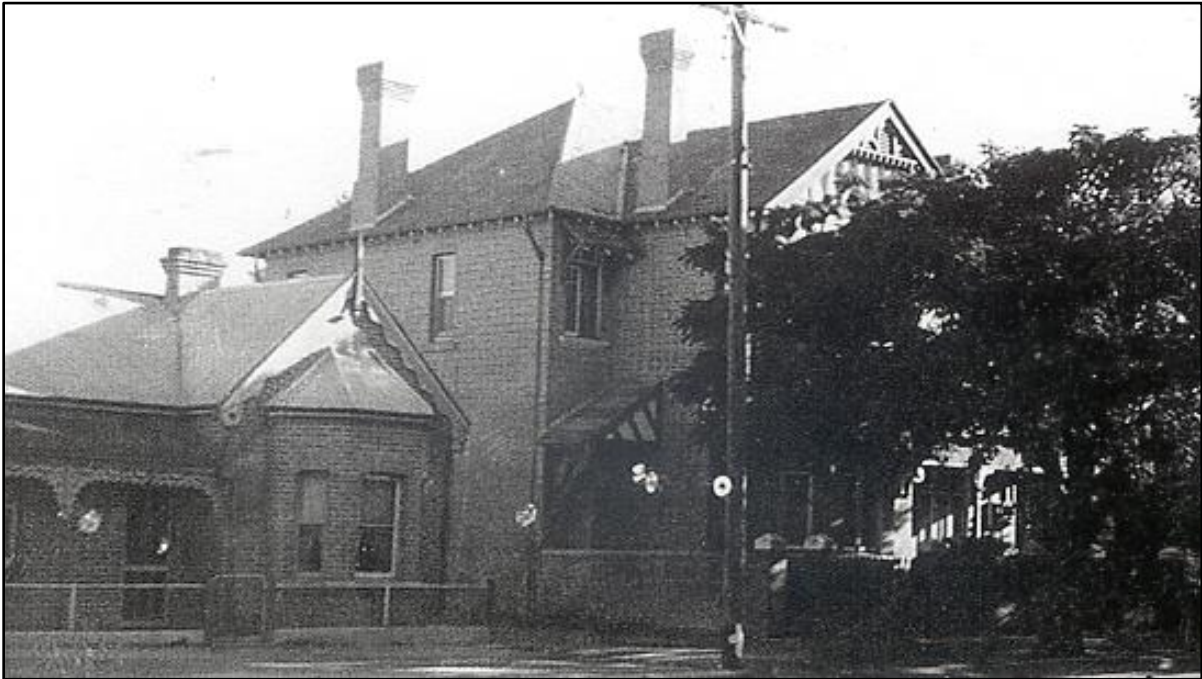
¹²¹ Documentation held by Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte. July 2019.

¹²² Daily Advertiser. 25th November 1954, p2.

In July 1957 the Trustees Executors and Agency Company Ltd became the legal owners of the hostel property, having purchased the same from the Burgess family members.¹²³ The title now covered DP.1.9966 only and no other lots.

In May 1965 the aforementioned owner transferred the property to the Young Women's Christian Association National Board.¹²⁴

In 1966 a reunion was held in Wagga Wagga under the banner of "*Miss Ruth Griffith's Old Girl Reunion.*" Mrs Griffith had been the matron at the YMCA for a period of some eleven years and was very fondly remembered by the many girls that stayed at the hostel during that period. Other reunions were held, subsequent to 1966, including one in 1984, when Mrs Griffith was eighty seven years old.



Above: The hostel building with another beautiful building [*Chichele*] to the left [a car park in 2019]. Courtesy Sherry Morris. There was a lane way between the two buildings and both buildings still stood in 1944, but *Chichele* was gone by 1971.

The NOW Ministry

On the 8th September 1976, Peter Bertram Allard, Leonard Widdowson [aka Charles], Elvie Maxina Milne, and Brian Michael Jolly, religious workers, of Koorungal, were now the legal owners.¹²⁵ By September 1980 the group were now called the Wagga Wagga Christian Workers, and the joint tenants were Peter Bertram Allard, Maureen Barbara Allard, Elvie Maxina Milne, Brian Michael Jolly, and Ross Graeme Knight. [all of the aforementioned persons were representatives of the NOW Ministry]

¹²³ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 5582, folio 241.

¹²⁴ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 7355, folio 155.

¹²⁵ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 7355, folio 155.

The Rev. Peter Allard was the leader of the Ministry and instrumental in acquiring the property. The YWCA were compelled to sell the hostel for financial reasons, but were also bound by a moral obligation to maintain affordable accommodation for young people, and it was a non negotiable condition of sale that the new owner should maintain such a facility. A primary objective for the Ministry was to provide accommodation and a learning centre for a dozen students training for the Ministry. Continuing to provide accommodation for young people did not conflict with this principle, and was compatible with the Ministry's philosophy.

The YWCA had provided a home for many young girls from the districts surrounding Wagga Wagga. Many of them lived and worked in town during the week, then travelled home for weekends. To their credit, the NOW Ministry continued to provide affordable accommodation for young people.

The first house parents were Fred and Coral Jacobsen. The couple had previous experience in such services, having managed the Gumly Gumly Boys Home. At that time there was a mix of male and female occupants – sixteen young men on the lower floor and twenty one young women on the first floor [all aged between seventeen and twenty five]. At the peak some forty five people lived in the hostel. The Jacobsens continued as house parents for several years before retiring.

In September 1977, following on from the Jacobsens, Keith Rowe and his wife, Sandra Rowe, moved into the home as house parents, overseeing the dozen or so students who were training to be disciples of the NOW Ministry, and the numerous young boarders, who depended on the Ministry for affordable accommodation.

Improvements were made to the kitchen and a group of volunteer cooks, including Louise Gambley, Maurice Herron, Michael Johnson and Margaret Hinch, provided nourishing "*home cooked meals.*" The services and accommodation provided were exceptional, for the relatively modest tariff applied, and to the boarders, the hostel was affectionately referred to as, "*The Manor.*"

Keith and Sandra moved on to Thoona in Victoria and were replaced by Jonathon Wade from South Australia, who, like his predecessors, did a fine job. It was around this time that the NOW Ministry relocated their administrative offices in Baylis Street, to the hostel. They also made some improvements to the old Temperance Hall, in order to accommodate lectures, and like events. The Ministry was always aware of the architectural significance of the building. Sandra Rowe's brother was an architect and he in fact provided paid advice on maintaining the heritage aspects of the building. Another member of the Ministry, Ross Knight, lived on the premises for some four years, in his capacity as a general handyman, and was responsible for much of the building maintenance, over a period of six years.

In time, the requirements of the Ministry changed, and the decision was made to sell the property.¹²⁶

¹²⁶ Ross Knight. 24th August 2019.



Above: Settings for a banquet in the function room.



Above: Another early photo of the building. Courtesy Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte

Restoration

New owners took possession of the hostel in July 1983, specifically James Stephen Little and Barbara Elizabeth Little.¹²⁷ It was the Littles who renovated the house and restored it to its former glory, and then establishing its new role as a restaurant and a bed & breakfast establishment, called The Manor.



Above: Left to Right - Barbara Little, Chris Little (son) and James Little, in front of The Manor.

A number of additions had been made to the rear and to the right of the main structure, at various times over the years. The original back wall and the associated verandah are still clearly visible in 2019.

It should be noted that the marble fireplaces, of which there are ten,¹²⁸ in different rooms, are all slightly different colours, and are all original Italian marble.

¹²⁷ NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 7355, folio 155.

¹²⁸ Riverina Leader. 20th October 2004, p18



Above: A photo showing the small building on the western edge of the main building, with its antique glass windows. Courtesy James Little.

Under the auspices of James & Barbara, the cedar timberwork, which had been painted over, was stripped back to its natural surfaces and stained. The cedar paneling and timber work is all part of the original circa 1901 building. The front fence that had mostly disappeared was restored, and the house was repainted in suitable heritage colours, throughout. The room on the western side of the house had been demolished before the Littles purchased the building, but James constructed the existing gazebo, on original footings, in the mid 1980's.

The different phases of construction can be partly identified by the variations in the brick work on both the eastern and western sides of the building.



Left: Relaxing with a chilled white, enjoying the ambience and grandeur of the historic home.



Above: The building as it was in 1983 when the Littles took possession. The white outline on the western wall marks the location of the small room alluded to on the opposite page. Courtesy James Little.



Above: The gazebo constructed by James & Barbara in the mid 1980's. Courtesy James Little.



Above: A photo showing the restoration of the verandah openings back to their original status – the added windows and partitions that were installed to create additional rooms have been removed. Courtesy James Little.



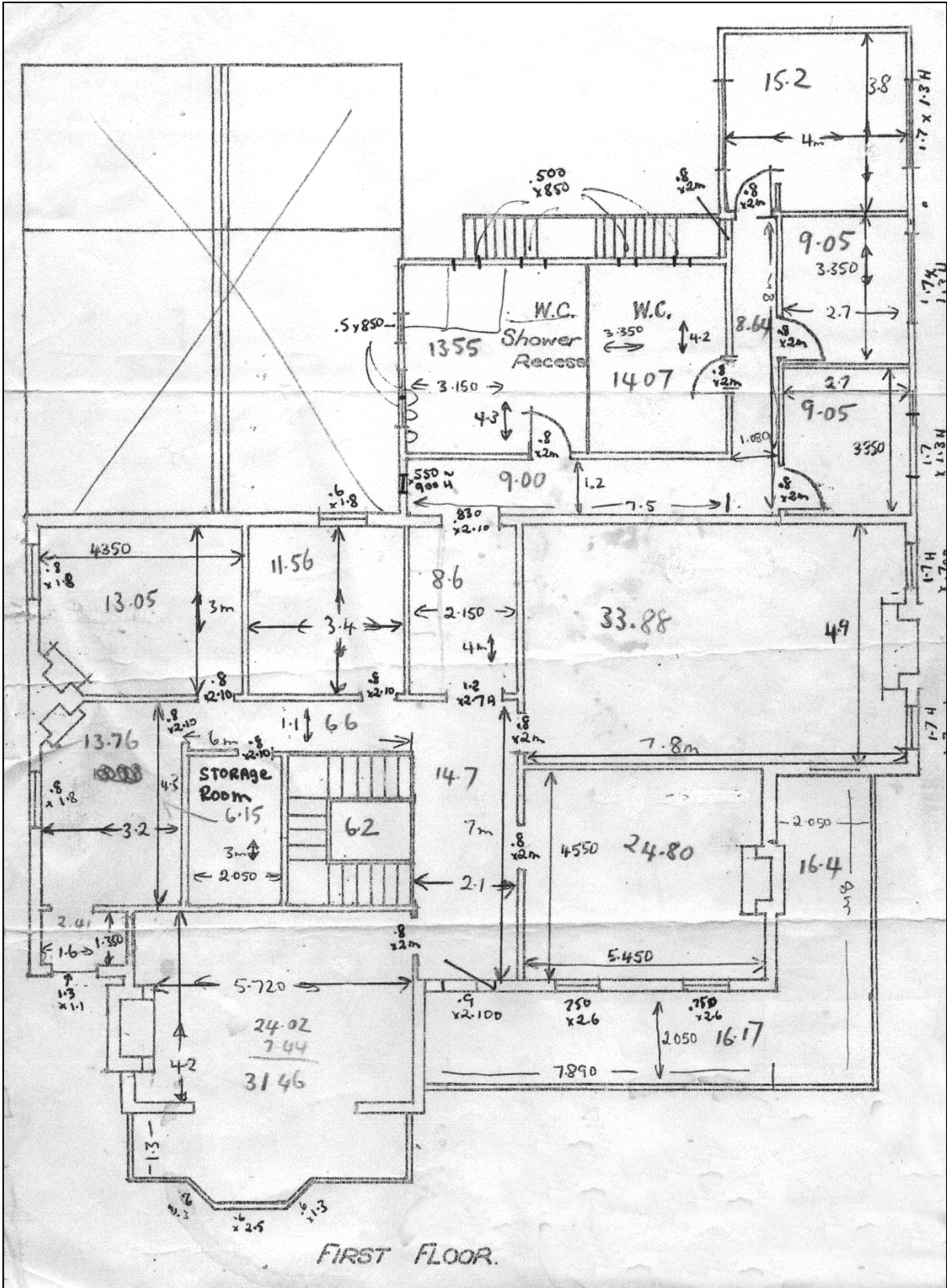
Above: The Manor in mid 1980's, with new fence, reconstituted verandah and a new gazebo.



Above: The front fence as it was when the Littles took over. Courtesy James Little.



Above: The Manor with its new fence and the verandah fully restored to its original beauty.



Above: A first floor plan of the building as it was in the 1980's.¹³⁰ Courtesy Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte.

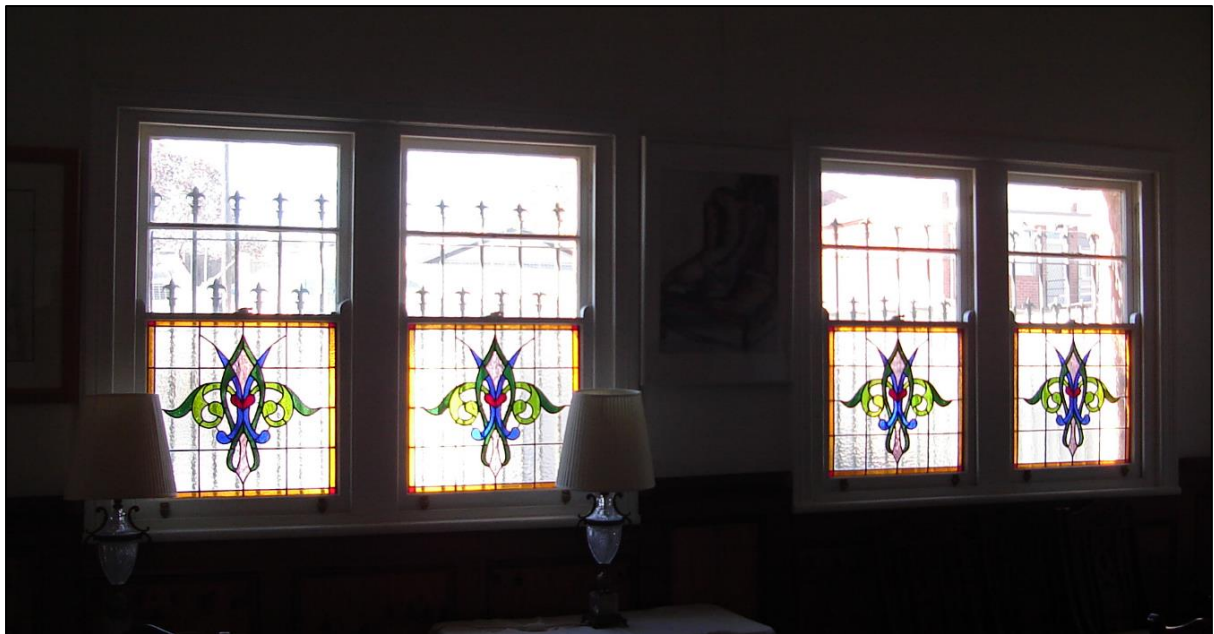
¹³⁰ Documentation held by Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte. July 2019.



Above: The beautiful staircase leading to the first floor. The door at the end of the hallway on the right of this photo leads to what was the doctor's office. This latter room would have been accessed by patients through a front door on the eastern side of the building. On the right immediately preceding the visible door is another door that leads into the historic Temperance Hall section of the building.



Above: The Temperance Hall section of the building, with its unique timber ceiling. Used as a function room in 2019.



Above: The stained glass windows in the Temperance Hall room. None of the leadlight glass is from the original circa 1901 building, or from the earlier Temperance Hall building.

In 2011 the restaurant at The Manor was called Thyme Out.¹³¹ In 2010 this restaurant was named Restaurant of the Year for southern NSW.¹³²

In October 2015 The Manor changed hands, with a prominent Wagga Wagga business couple, Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte, taking over the freehold. The value of the property was estimated at around \$1.5 million. The vendors were James & Barbara Little.¹³³

At the time the complex featured seven bedrooms, five ensuites, a bathroom, kitchen, and lounge or library (all upstairs); a ballroom, two dining areas, a bar, toilets and a commercial kitchen (downstairs).¹³⁴

In 2019 the building exists as the Mates Gully boutique accommodation, cafe and restaurant.

The title deed was later converted to a computer folio, which is also the current plan, DP.1.9966 (in 2019).



Above: The Manor viewed from the North West.

¹³¹ Daily Advertiser. 31st August 2011. Ben Higgins.

¹³² Daily Advertiser. 23rd August 2010. Ben Higgins.

¹³³ Daily Advertiser. 21st October 2015. Shane Manning.

¹³⁴ Daily Advertiser. 20th April 2015. Nicole Barlow.



Above: Marcia McCoy and Paul Nolte – owners of Mates Gully boutique accommodation, café and restaurant. Courtesy Daily Advertiser.



Above: One of the guest rooms at Mates Gully, in 2019.



Above: The Manor in 2012. The large trees that once stood at the front of the building are now gone.



Above: The Manor in May 2015. Courtesy Google Earth.



Above: The nostalgic entry with the beautiful cycad. Enjoy a wine or coffee, inside or outside [on the porch or down the side].